

Key Info

Start and finish: The Boat House,
14 Bridge St, Barrow upon Soar,
Leicestershire LE12 8PN



Scan or visit bit.ly/barrow-loop-trail
to find the map in Mapometer and
download the GPX file

Distance: 2.5 miles
Time: 1-2 hours
Locks/Portages: 2

OS Map: OS Map is Explorer
246 Loughborough



- ① Starting from the Boat House Pub, head left, under the road bridge and turn left into the canal. You are now on the Soar Navigation and after 100m a portage at the left bank is required. Go over the service road and relaunch onto the canal on the right hand side.
- ② After 600m you will see the Navigation Pub and Barrow Boating and café; both have toilet facilities. After another 200m reach Barrow Step Weir on your right. The portage point is before the weir and re-launch is from the small beach below the weir.
- ③ If you choose to shoot the weir, the barrier has an open section in the middle for experienced and suitably equipped paddlers. An inspection should be made from the footbridge running across the top of the weir to assess conditions.
- ④ You now follow the natural course of the River Soar as it twists and turns. At around .75 miles you come to a metal footbridge. In very high water clearance can be restrictive and an inspection will be needed to inform the need to portage.
- ⑤ This picturesque part of the river takes you past Quorn Hall at around two miles. The hall was originally built for the Quorn Hunt before being commandeered during the Second World War. Past the hall continue straight on, under another A6 road bridge, past many residential houseboats, back to the start of your trip.

Find more
paddling trails at:
gopaddling.info



For assessing the water level on the river use the Pillings Lock gauge. The Environment Agency App gives a good indication of river level for the loop. This can be downloaded from the app store or found through the link <http://apps.environment-agency.gov.uk/>

Please find time for a drink or meal at the pub in return for hospitality. Toilets and boat hire are available. The Barrow Boat House – contact 01509 412260

An alternative start point is Barrow Boating who also hire boats. Barrow Boating can be contacted via <http://www.barrowboating.co.uk/>



Navigation pub at point 2



Bridge near point 1



Lock and pub at point 2

Safety and Licenses

We want you to enjoy a safe trip, so here are a few tips for staying safe and paddling responsibly.

Paddle Safe:

Be prepared and take the right kit:

- Wear a correctly sized buoyancy aid
- Mobile phone – in a waterproof case
- Whistle – to attract attention in case of emergency
- Map and / or route description
- Appropriate clothing for the weather conditions + spares in a dry bag
- Food, drink & suncream!

Paddle Responsibly:

Respect the natural environment and other users:

- Respect other waterway users #sharethespace
- Be environmentally aware, minimise your impact
- Ensure you have the correct licence if required
- Observe navigational rules – keep right and give other users space
- Check, Clean, Dry after every trip!

Licences: The waterways in this trail are managed by Canal and Rivers Trust, and require paddlers to hold a licence. British Canoeing membership includes a full annual license for this waterway – please take your membership card with you as this acts as your license. Non-members can either purchase a British Canoeing membership from www.britishcanoeing.org.uk or buy licenses direct from www.canalrivertrust.org.uk

