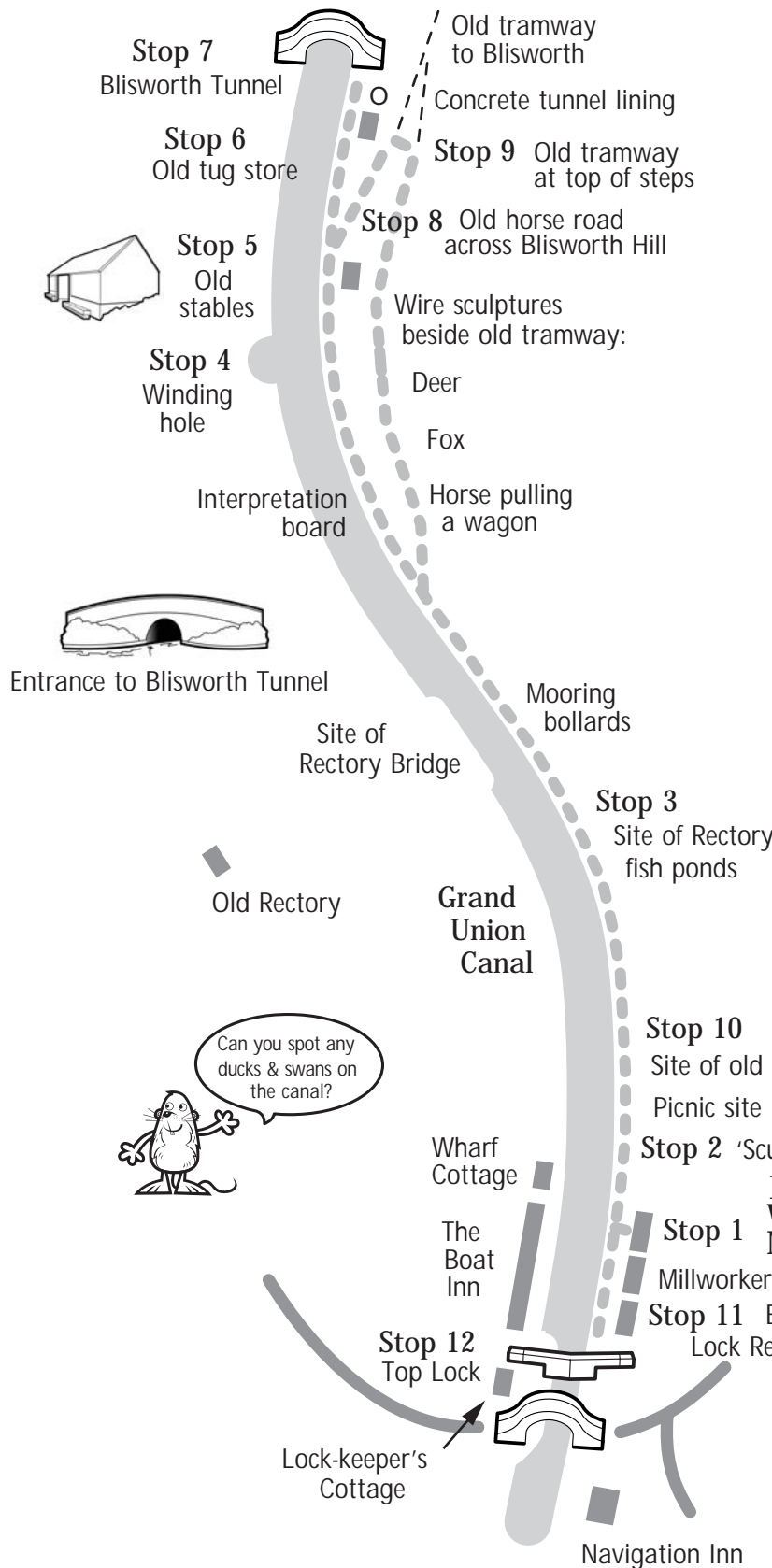


Stoke Bruerne Trail

Grand Union Canal

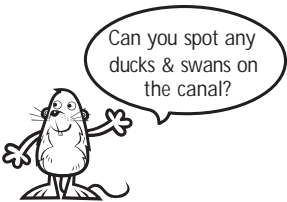


This WOW children's trail follows the same route as the Audio Guide issued FREE with tickets to the National Waterways Museum.

It covers Stops 1 - 12 of the Audio Tour and takes approx. 45 minutes. Look out for the numbered plaques on the trail.

The trail can be completed while adults follow the Audio Guide, or quite independently of it.

The trail is wheelchair accessible.



www.wow4water.net

Stop 5: Old Stables

Horses that towed narrowboats were stabled in this building.



Why is the entrance so wide? _____

Why were horses unhitched before boats went through Blisworth Tunnel? _____

Stop 6: Old Tug Store

At first, boats were 'legged' through the tunnel by men who lay on their backs and pushed with their feet on the side of the tunnel. From 1871 to 1936, steam-powered tugs pulled boats through the tunnel. Equipment for the tugs was kept in this store. It also housed a small forge for repairing iron parts.

Can you spot: The chimney above the old forge?



Stop 7: Blisworth Tunnel

At 3km (1.75miles) long, the tunnel was the longest in the country when it was built. The central part of the tunnel was re-built in the 1980s.



Can you spot: One of the large concrete rings used to re-line the middle section of the tunnel?



Stop 8: Old Horse Road

Walk back to the path that leads diagonally uphill.

Children used to lead the canal horses along this track over the top of Blisworth Hill to re-join their narrowboats on the other side of the tunnel.

Follow the track for 100m, then turn right up the steps.
(You can follow the path another 100m to avoid the steps.)

Stop 9: Old Tramway (Turn right at top of steps)

This path follows the line of a tramway that was built across Blisworth Hill in 1800 before the tunnel was completed in 1805.

Goods were unloaded at the wharf at Stoke Bruerne and carried on horse-drawn wagons that ran on 'L' shaped iron rails.

Can you spot: The wire sculptures alongside the track?

Deer Fox Horse pulling a wagon

Look out for real wildlife as you walk back to the museum!

Stop 10: Site of Old Coal Wharf

The picnic area was laid out on the site of an old coal wharf. Coal was unloaded for the boilers at the steam-powered mill.

Can you spot: The edges of the old dock showing through the grass?

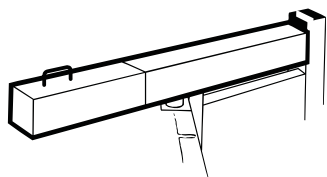
Stop 11: Bruerne's Lock Restaurant

The restaurant occupies the former home of Sister Mary Ward who ran a surgery here for boat people for over 30 years. Mary was awarded a medal for her work in 1951. She died in 1972.

Stop 12: Stoke Bruerne Top Lock

The canal became so busy that a second lock was built to speed up traffic. This working lock is the duplicate lock built in 1836.

Can you spot: The old lock (not used today)?



Balance beams to make pushing open the lock gates easier?

When were the lock gates replaced? _____

You can check your answers on the WOW website at www.wow4water.net/nc_resource/stokebruerneanswers.pdf