

Cross Country Mountain Biking at Cannock Chase

Cannock Chase is home to two dedicated, waymarked, mountain bike trails.

Follow the Dog

The Midlands first dedicated mountain bike trail. Follow the Dog is a red graded 7 mile intermediate mountain bike trail aimed at competent mountain bikers. Opened in 2005 the trail was completely designed and built by Chase Trails and more recently additional sections have been added including the all new Tackeroo descent which was built as part of the contractor works to the Monkey Trail and was opened in April 2010.

The Monkey Trail

Opened in April 2010 the Monkey Trail is an optional extension to Follow the Dog. Again it's a red graded trail but this time it's a far more technically challenging and demanding trail. It includes bigger climbs, more technical descents and optional black graded lines. The trail is intended for experienced and technically competent rider.

The Monkey Trail can be ridden by starting Follow the Dog to approximately half way and then turning off to ride a further 7 mile trail before returning to complete Follow the Dog. A mix of machine built trail and handbuilt trails created by our volunteers, the Monkey Trail provides a superbly engaging ride.

Both trails are free to ride and open all year round. Please observe and follow any sign posted diversions which are necessary from time to time for trail maintenance or other safety reasons.

Ample parking and visitor facilities are provided by the Forestry Commission at Birches Valley Visitors Centre and cycle hire and support is also available at the site courtesy of Swinnerton Cycles Forest Centre.

Groups with younger children or novice riders are advised not to ride the trails but to choose one of the green way marked Leisure Trails.