



Bengo Trails 11: Five footpath circular from The Avenue

This trail incorporates 5 [public rights of way](#), one of which leads down to the western edge of the [Bengo Neighbourhood Plan](#) Area and the last of which rises steeply uphill to Bengo's residential streets. It was produced by the [Love Bengo Community Group](#).

Starts and finishes: The Avenue shops, SG14 3DU (next to the community noticeboard)

Distance: 1m/1.5km

Conditions: Pavements and footpaths, which can be muddy and icy during wet or cold weather. Steep downhill and uphill sections.



The [Hertford Town Council](#) noticeboard, next to The Avenue shops, displays a range of Bengo community information.



With The Avenue shops on your right, walk a short way along until the road bears right onto Cowper Crescent. Immediately cross to the other side. Turn left onto [Restricted Byway 10](#), signposted 'North Road ¼'. In the early 1950s, Byway 10 was a longer path, extending east to Bengo Street.

This short path merges onto Public Footpath 11 (not signposted), a pretty hedge and tree-lined path which ends with Molewood Hall on the right and opens out onto Byway 12 (not signposted).





At the beginning of Byway 12, walk along the verge on the right. An area of Great Mole Wood is on the right. Although there's a gate onto the woodland, this part of Great Mole Wood doesn't seem to be publicly accessible. The [Herts and Middlesex Wildlife Trust](#) hold the leasehold to Great Mole Wood further north, near Waterford Heath and Marsh.

When the woodland on the right ends, the final stretch of Byway 12 curves steeply downhill. Although it's a quiet road, there's vehicular access, and there's no verge or pavement here.

At the bottom of Byway 12, turn left onto North Road - the edge of the Bengeo Neighbourhood Plan Area at this westerly point.

Walk a short way along and, immediately after the brick bridge, turn left onto Public Footpath 93 (part of the [Hertfordshire Way](#)) signposted 'Little Mole Wood ¼'.



Before passing under the railway bridge, you'll see a large metal gate on the right, next to a meadow. The meadow has [Local Green Space](#) designation through the Bengeo Neighbourhood Area Plan, giving it additional protection from development. It's one of eight green areas with this designation in the Neighbourhood Plan.

Continue under the railway bridge. The image, right, was taken looking back through the bridge.



Continue along Public Footpath 93 and, with the Molewood Pumping Station (constructed in 1888 on the site of a former corn mill) in front of you, turn left, over the bridge, and immediately right onto Public Footpath 73 (not signposted at the lower end).



Passing woodland areas to the right, and open meadow to the left, the path rises steeply, with tree roots underfoot. Near the top, the path levels out. Exit the footpath onto The Avenue, cross over, and go left, continuing on The Avenue, and take the first right into Lys Hill Gardens.

Remaining on the right of Lys Hill Gardens, continue until you reach a gap in the houses where you'll see the Bengoe Water Tower on the right. The floor of the tank is 75ft above ground level. The Bengoe Neighbourhood Area Plan lists the tower as one of ten buildings and structures of local historic or architectural importance.



Continue to the end of Lys Hill Gardens. The Avenue shops, where this trail ends, are opposite.

Route Map: Bengoe Trails 11 - Five footpath circular from The Avenue

Map produced using openstreetmap.org

