

All about Selly Park

Selly Park is the area of Birmingham located between the Bristol Road (A38) in the west and the River Rea in the east. The Pershore Road (A441) runs through the district on its eastern side with the Bourne Brook and the Birmingham Nature Centre at its northern boundary and the Dogpool Lane junction at its southern boundary.

Selly Park was named initially after the park around Selly Hall, now preserved within Selly Convent, and the land to the west of the Pershore Road was laid out for development in the mid nineteenth century with spacious plots and tree-lined streets, where development is still restricted by covenant. On the other side of the Pershore Road, between it and River Rea are several streets of superior 19th and early 20th century terraced housing.

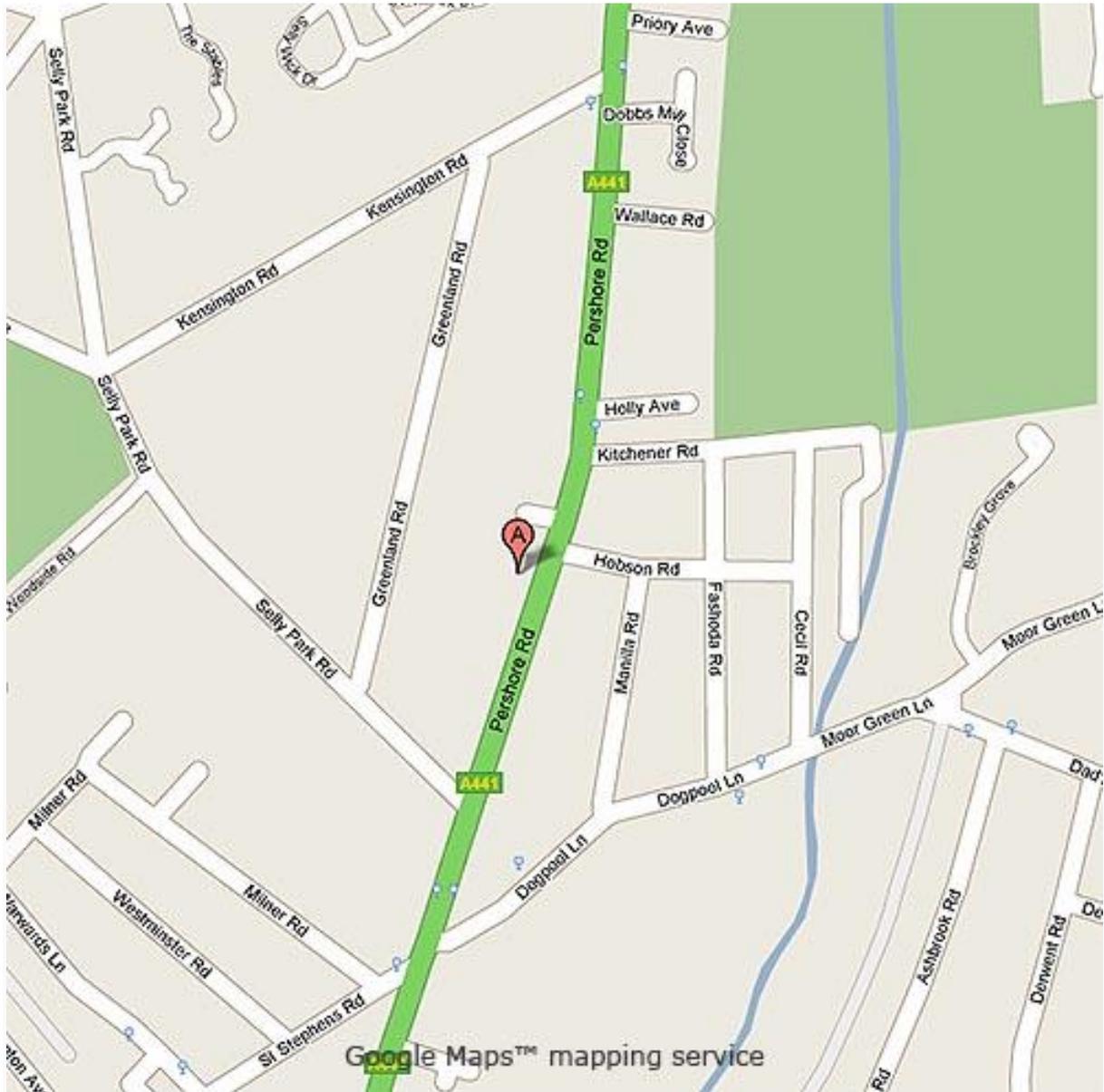
Much of the housing in Selly Park is owner occupied along with a smaller proportion of privately rented accommodation. Selly Park forms part of the Selly Oak Ward of Birmingham City Council and is part of the Selly Oak Constituency. Selly Park is essentially a pleasant part of the inner suburbs of Birmingham, situated 4km (2½ miles) south of the City Centre. The neighbourhood of Selly Park South consists of some 700 households situated in the south eastern part of the district (see Your Forum page for further locational information).

Selly Park is well served by public transport. The Travel West Midlands No 45 and 47 bus route forms the main link with the City Centre, services operating every few minutes during the daytime and every fifteen minutes during the evening. The First National No 146 route from Redditch also follows the Pershore Road. The TWM No 69 route forms a link between Weoley Castle, Selly Oak, Selly Park, Kings Heath and Solihull. Bournville and Selly Oak railway stations on the Cross City Line are within reasonably easy reach.

A completely "green" transport route also passes through Selly Park, namely the Rea Valley Cycle Route. This links the City Centre with the southern suburbs of the city, continuing south via Stirchley, Kings Norton, Northfield and Longbridge to Frankley. Much of this route is via purpose built, asphalt surfaced, traffic-free cycle tracks. The Selly Park section follows this type of route (which is shared with pedestrians) through Cannon Hill Park and the playing fields to the south and then takes to the side roads of Kitchener Road and Cecil Road to pass into Stirchley south of Dogpool Lane. The Rea Valley Cycle Route is part of the long distance National Cycle Route 5 which runs from Reading to Anglesey! For those who do not wish to cycle quite that far, The Rea Valley Route provides a good opportunity for local, safe leisure cycling as well as for commuting to and from work in the City centre!

The area has a number of local shops, hotels, places to eat including inns, schools, churches and medical and dental practices. Larger shopping centres (such as Kings Heath), further services and the Selly Oak and Queen Elizabeth hospital complex are only a short distance away. Birmingham City Centre is likewise within easy reach taking approximately 15 minutes on the 45 or 47 bus.

Selly Park, as the name suggests, has extensive local parkland which lies along the green corridor of the River Rea Valley. Cannon Hill Park in the north consists of formal parkland, grassland and various leisure facilities including boating lakes and children's playgrounds. The Birmingham Nature Centre lies adjacent to the Park on Pershore Road. Further south the parkland becomes less formal with mixed woodland and grassy areas and also the extensive playing fields including football pitches to the north of Kitchener Road. On the eastern side of the River Rea, just over the Ward boundary into Moseley is a cricket pitch, an all weather playing surface and the Holders Lane Woods.



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