

Cyclesolihull Routes

Cycling is a great way to keep fit whilst at the same time getting from A to B or exploring your local area.

This series of routes, developed by Cyclesolihull will take you along most of the network of quiet lanes, roads and cycle paths in and around Solihull, introducing you to some places you probably didn't even know existed!

The routes have been carefully chosen to avoid busier roads so are ideal for new cyclists and children learning to cycle on the road with their parents.

You can cycle the routes alone, with family and friends, or join other people on one of the regular Cyclesolihull rides.

Route Lengths and Route Numbers

There are over 50 routes in this series which are grouped by distance using a route letter:

T (Taster) routes are about 5 miles.

S (Short) routes are about 10 miles.

M (Medium) routes are about 15 miles.

L (Long) routes are about 20 miles.

XL (Extra Long) routes are about 25 miles.

The route number indicates the starting point – for example routes S2, M2 and L2 all start from Knowle. There are over twenty different starting points. A full list is available from www.cyclesolihull.org.uk.

This is one of a series of cycle route leaflets produced by Cyclesolihull which is a voluntary organisation which aims to encourage people in the Solihull area to cycle more. Cyclesolihull organises free cycle rides, promotes routes like this one and provides information about cycling.

CSL7-0519

Cyclesolihull Rides

Cyclesolihull offers regular opportunities to join with others to ride many of the routes in this series of leaflets. The rides are organised by volunteers and typically attract between 10 and 20 riders. To get involved, just turn up and ride!

Sunday Cycle Rides take place most Sunday afternoons at 2 pm from April to September and at 1.30 pm from October to March. One of the routes will be followed with a mixture of route lengths being ridden during each month. In autumn and winter there are more shorter rides to reflect the reduced daylight hours. One Sunday each month in spring and summer the ride is a 5 mile **Taster Ride**. This is an opportunity to try a Cyclesolihull ride without going very far and is an ideal introduction to the rides, especially for new cyclists and children.

Evening Explorer Rides are on a midweek evening from early May to mid-August starting at 7 pm. These rides all follow the shorter "S" routes so are about 10 miles long.

Saturday Stretcher Rides take place weekly on most Saturdays, starting at 9.30 am. They are about 30 long, are at a faster pace and do not follow a fixed route, so are suitable for more experienced cyclists.

All Cyclesolihull rides have an en-route refreshment stop of 20-30 minutes at a family-friendly pub or tearoom.

For ride dates, routes and starting points download the current Ride Programme from:

www.cyclesolihull.org.uk

or pick up a copy on one of the rides.



L7

long route from
Brueton Park

CycleSolihull

Explore your borough by bike



21 miles via Illshaw Heath,
Packwood & Barston

Have fun and get fit exploring your local area with this self-guided cycle ride.

Route L7 Brue-ton Park to Ilshaw Heath and Packwood

Distance: 21 miles (130 to 170 mins)

Start: Brue-ton Park car park B91 3HW, SP163790

Route Summary: A ride from the heart of Solihull to explore the quiet countryside to the south.

Refreshments: There are several pubs en-route.

Parking: There is free parking for 3 hours at the park (no restriction on Sundays) and on-street along Warwick Rd south of the park.

The Route

A Take the cycle path through **Brue-ton Park** passing the **Parkridge Centre**. At the path junction by the tennis courts go L. Follow the path, crossing a narrow bridge to reach the access road to the **Solihull Sixth Form College**. Turn R.

B At the main road turn L and after 100 yards turn L into **Hillfield Rd**, passing under the railway. Follow this closed road (which becomes **Fielding Lane**) going SO across two residential roads. At the end of the path turn R into Libbards Way, eventually reaching a roundabout.

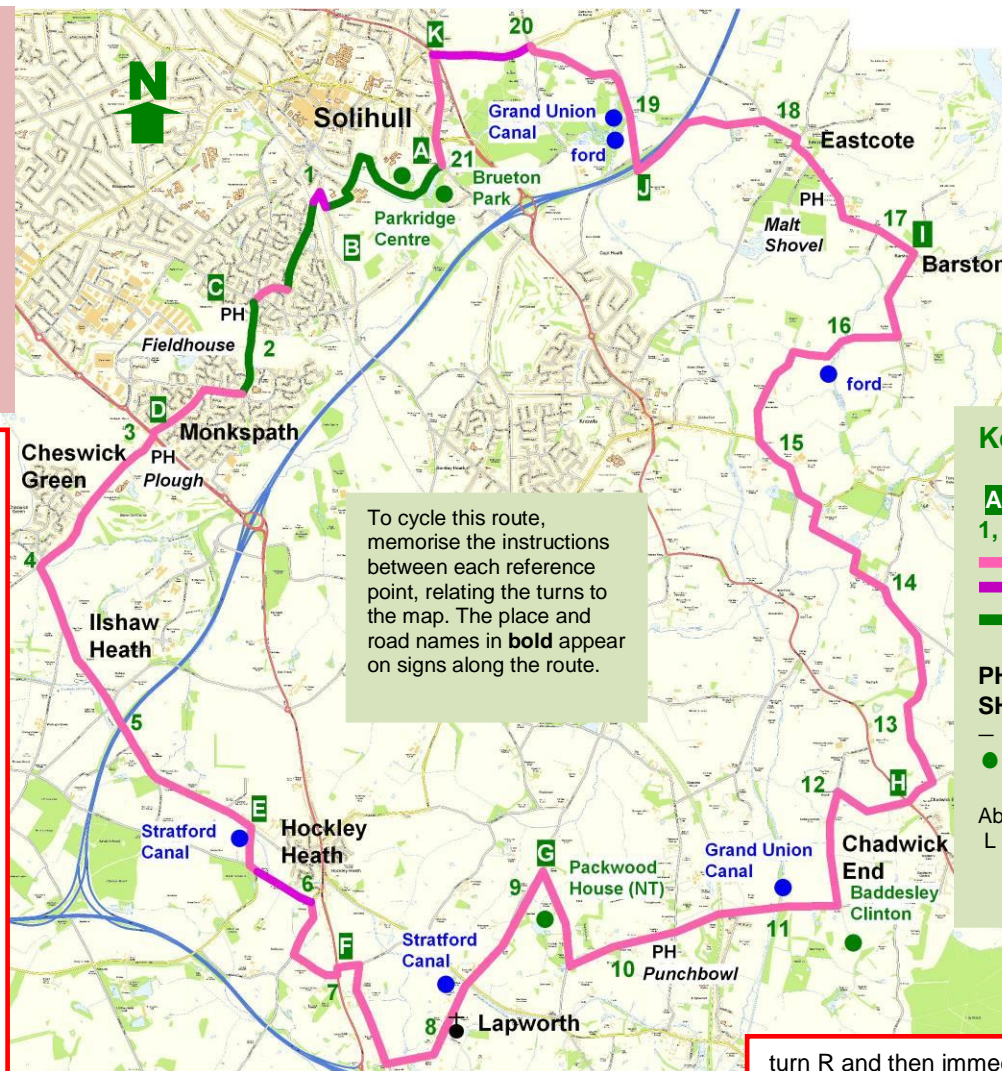
C Follow the cycle path across two arms of the junction and go left past the **Fieldhouse** pub. Follow the roadside cycle path crossing the road at the second toucan crossing. Bear R to cross **Frankhomes Drive**, following the cycle route signposted to **Monkspath**. At the end of **Hay Lane** turn L. At the crossroads follow the cycle route SO, eventually reaching the busy Stratford Road.

D Cross via the toucan crossing into **Creynolds Lane** opposite passing **The Plough** pub. At the next crossroads turn L into **Ilshaw Heath Rd**. At the next junction bear L towards **Ilshaw Heath**. Go SO at the crossroads and under the motorway.

E Turn second R into **Sadlerswell Lane**, passing over the **Stratford Canal**. At the end turn L and L again towards **Hockley Heath**. After 400 yards turn R by the church (caution – the turn is on a bend with poor visibility). Turn first L to reach the A3400.

F Turn L and immediately R (CAUTION – fast and busy road) and first R into **Spring Lane**. Follow the road for 1 mile to **Lapworth Church**. Continue straight ahead to cross the **Stratford canal** again and then cross the **B4439** going SO into **Grove Lane**.

G At the end of the lane turn R. Pass **Packwood House (NT)**, and at the end of the lane turn L towards **Baddesley Clinton**.



To cycle this route, memorise the instructions between each reference point, relating the turns to the map. The place and road names in **bold** appear on signs along the route.

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Key to Map

- A B** Start and route reference point
- 1, 2** Mileage from start point
- Quiet road
- Busier road
- Cycle path
- PH/CF** Public House/café or tearoom
- SH** Shop selling drinks, sweets etc
- Notable church
- ● Place of interest/water feature

Abbreviations used in the route description:
L left, R right, SO straight on.

At the crossroads next to the **Punchbowl** pub. Go SO for 1 mile passing over the railway and canal and turn first L into **Netherwood Lane** (opposite **Baddesley Clinton (NT)**). Go first R to reach the **A4141**.

H Go SO with care and turn first L towards **Temple Balsall**. After about 1 mile turn L towards **Knowle**. At the **B4101**, again turn L towards **Knowle**. Turn first R with care into **Elvers Green Lane** towards **Barston**. Go through the ford (or use the footbridge) and after 400 yards follow the road L at the junction towards **Barston**.

I At the end of **Hob Lane** turn L towards **Hampton in Arden** passing the **Malt Shovel** pub. At the staggered crossroads

turn R and then immediately L, continuing along **Barston Lane**. Follow the road round to the L, ignoring the R turn into **Friday Lane**, until the road runs alongside the M42 motorway.

J Take the next R turn under the motorway (still **Barston Lane** but becoming **Henwood Lane**). Cross the **River Blythe** ford (a footbridge is available) and then the **Grand Union Canal**. Turn second L into **Berry Hall Lane**. At the end go R and L on to the main road (Hampton Lane). CAUTION! This section can be busy.

K Go SO at the traffic lights into **Marsh Lane**, continuing SO at the small roundabout. Close to the end of the road, bear L and join the short length of cycle path to reach Warwick Rd. Cross Warwick Rd with care and join the short length of cycle path into the road which leads back to the car park.