# 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.

# 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.







## 17 miles via Ullenhall, Henley & Lowsonford

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

### Route M11 Hockley Heath to Ullenhall & Henley

Distance: 17 miles (100-130 mins). Start: Hockley Heath Post Office B94 6QT SP153727

**Route Summary:** A varied ride to historic Henley, with the option of a section on the Stratford Canal towpath. There is a short length on the busier but still reasonably quiet A4189 at Henley.

**Refreshments:** There are pubs in Ullenhall and Lowsonford plus a full range of facilities in Henley.

**Parking:** There is on-street parking in nearby side roads. Please do not park in spaces provided for shoppers.

### The Route

From outside the post office go R down **School Rd** and after 0.5 miles turn L into **Saddlers Well Lane**. Cross the **Stratford Canal** and at the end of the lane turn L and then immediately R onto the **B4101** towards **Tanworth**.

■ Immediately before the motorway, turn L down **Spring** Lane. Go up the steep hill, past the **obelisk** and at the end of the lane turn R. Follow the lane over the motorway.

At the end of the lane turn R towards **Kemps Green**. Pass **Mow Hill Lane** on the L and after 300 yards turn L down **Pig Trot Lane** towards **Danzey Green**.

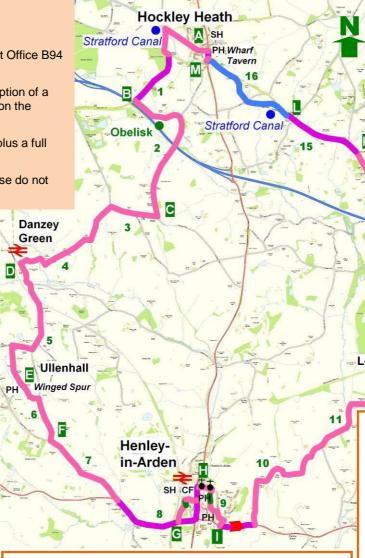
At the end of the lane turn L into Danzey Green Lane towards Ullenhall. Take the next R, again towards Ullenhall, going under the railway. Go next R down Gentlemens Lane and next L turn into Perry Mill Lane.

■ For the Winged Spur pub (250 yards) go next R down Watery Lane and at the end of the lane turn right and then right again at the War Memorial. Otherwise continue SO along **Perry Mill Lane**. At the end turn R to Henley.

At the end turn L to Henley. After 0.8 miles turn L onto the **A4189**, eventually passing under the railway.

For a quiet route into Henley, turn first L into **Brook End Drive**. Turn next R by the green and then L into the access road to the garages. Join the narrow path on the R and go through the gap on the R (NOT into Milking Lane) which leads to a residential road (School Lane). Follow this road down to the Henley Ice Cream shop and tearoom.

Otherwise continue along the A4189. At the traffic signals turn L into the High St. There are many shops and pubs

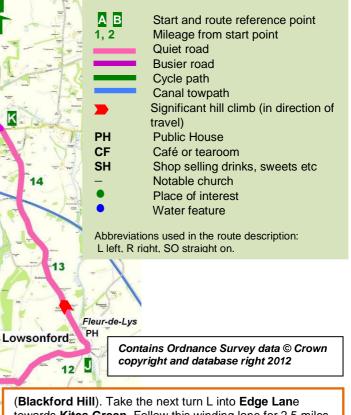


including the Henley Ice Cream shop 300 yards on the left.

Continue, going down the side of **St John's Church** 200 yards further up the High Street. Pass **St Nicholas' Church** on the L and follow the road around to the R into **Alne Close**. At the end of the road use the short footpath link SO to reach another residential road. Follow this, eventually going around to the L. At the end of **Riverside Gardens** turn R. At the end of **Meadow Rd** turn R again.

At the main road (A4189) turn L. There is a short steep hill

### Key to Map



towards **Kites Green**. Follow this winding lane for 2.5 miles to **Lowsonford**, ignoring all the side roads.

At the end of the lane turn L towards **Rowington**. The **Fleur de Lys** pub ahead on the R. Follow the road, eventually crossing the motorway.

At the end of the lane turn L towards **Hockley Heath** (B4439).

After 0.5 miles there is a crossroads. Go SO and, after 50 yards, turn L onto the **Stratford Canal** towpath. Turn R (canal on L).

 $\square$  After 1 mile, go under bridge 25 and then R into the car park behind the **Wharf Tavern**. At the main road turn L and the post office is a short distance on the L.

#### Alternative road route avoiding canal towpath

From **C** continue along the road for 1 mile. On reaching the **A3400**, turn R. The post office is on the L.