

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 many of the quiet lanes 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. They 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 at www.cyclesolihull.org.uk.

This is one of a series of cycle ride 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.

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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 5 and 15 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 Cyclesolihull routes will be followed with a mixture of ride lengths during each month. In autumn and winter there are more shorter rides to reflect the reduced daylight hours. Our shorter 'S' routes are an opportunity to try a Cyclesolihull ride without going very far and are an ideal introduction to the rides, especially for new cyclists and children.

Evening Explorer Rides are weekly 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 from a varying start point. The rides are about 30 miles long, are at a faster pace and do not follow a fixed route, so are suitable for more experienced cyclists.

Cyclesolihull rides have a refreshment stop for 20 to 30 minutes. We recommend you bring your own refreshments on our rides but where possible the stop is at a pub or cafe.

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

cyclesolihull.org.uk



M2

medium route from
Knowle

CycleSolihull

Explore your borough by bike



**16 miles via Chadwick End,
Lowsonford and Packwood**

Have fun and get fit exploring your local area with this self-guided cycle ride using cycle paths and quiet roads. This guide contains a map and detailed directions to enable you to easily follow the route.

Revised 2024

Route M2 Knowle to Lowsonford & Packwood

Distance: 16 miles (95-120 mins). **Start:** Knowle Parish Church in the centre of the village B93 0LN SP182767 [///desire.finds.tennis](https://www.google.com/maps/place/52.454545,-1.154545).

Route Summary: A route mainly on very quiet country lanes. There is a very short optional section along a canal towpath which avoids a difficult right turn on the A4141.

Refreshments: In addition to the facilities in Knowle, there are several pubs along the route.

Parking: Car park behind the church (vehicle entrance at other end of High Street next to the Greswolde).

The Route

A From outside the church, turn L down **Kenilworth Rd** soon crossing the **Grand Union Canal** at Knowle Locks.

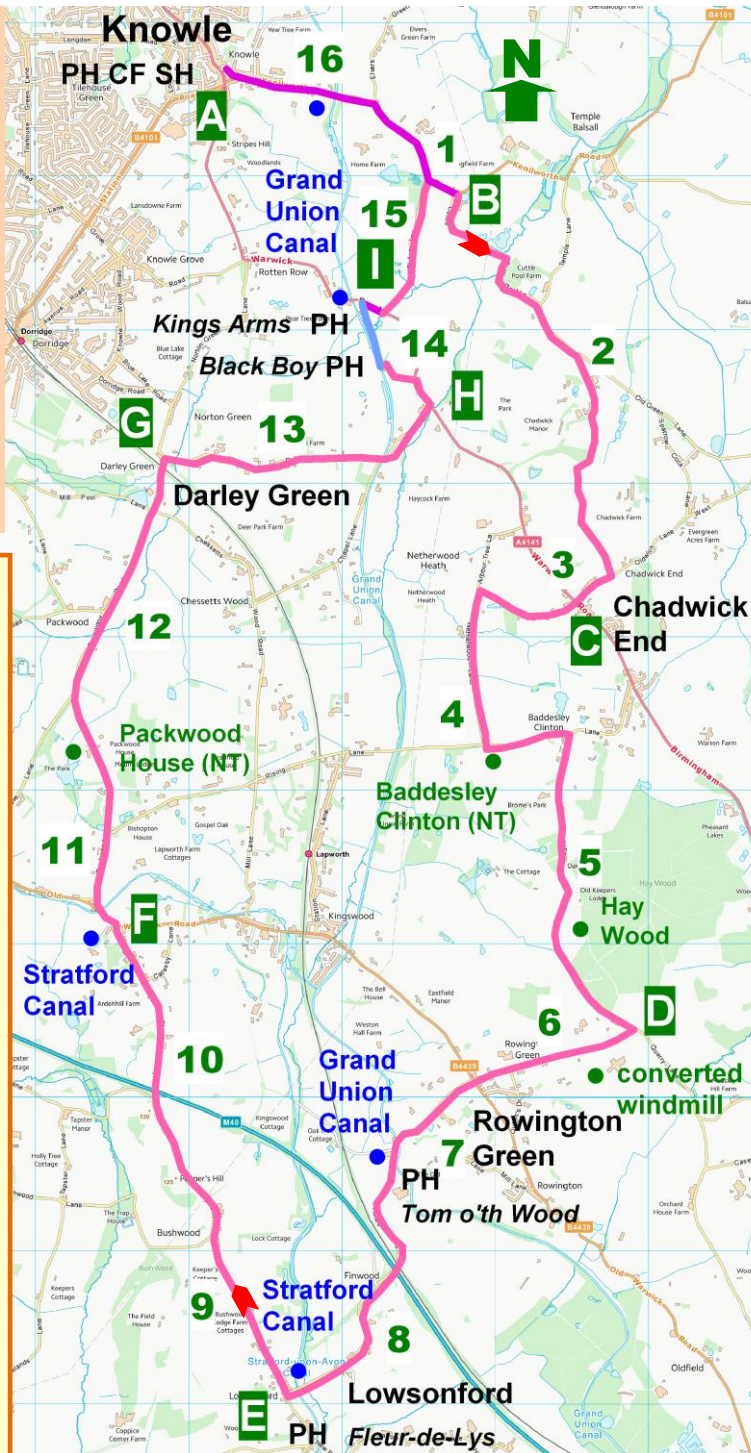
B Turn second R into **Cuttle Pool Lane** and follow this lane up the hill to the end. Turn R towards **Chadwick End** and bear R again at the next junction. Follow this winding narrow lane for 1 mile. At the end turn R, towards **Chadwick End**.

C At the **A4141 Warwick Road** go SO into **Netherwood Lane**. At the end turn L and at the end of this lane turn L again, opposite the entrance to **Baddesley Clinton (NT)**. Turn next R towards **Hay Wood**. Follow this narrow lane for 1.3 miles, passing **Hay Wood** picnic area.

D Turn next R towards **Rowington**. Look out for the **old windmill** (now a house) on the L. At the **B4439** go straight-on towards **Lowsonford**, passing the **Tom O' The Wood** pub. In the next mile you will pass over two canals, a railway and a motorway!

E At the end of the lane turn R in the village of **Lowsonford** towards **Lapworth** (go L for 200 yards for the **Fleur-de-Lys** pub). Follow this road for 2.4 miles.

F At the **B4439** turn L and then first R (**CAUTION - busier road**) towards **Packwood House (NT)**. Turning L at the next junction, follow signs to **Packwood House** (and continue along this road for 1.6 miles until you pass under the railway).



Key to Map

- A B** Start and route reference point
- 1, 2** Mileage from start point
- Quiet road
- Busier road
- Traffic-free path
- Path with rough surface
- Canal towpath
- Significant hill climb (in direction of travel)
- Z P T S** • Zebra/pelican/toucan/ signals/ roundabout
- PH/CF** Public House/café or tearoom
- SH** Shop selling drinks, sweets etc
- +** Notable church
- ● Place of interest/water feature
- Rail station near the route

Abbreviations used in the route description:

To cycle this route, memorise the instructions between each green 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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G Turn immediately R into **Bakers Lane** and follow this road, eventually crossing the **Grand Union Canal** and reaching the **A4141**.

H Turn L along the main road for 200 yards (**CAUTION - busier road**) and first L into the **Black Boy** pub. Behind the pub go onto the towpath of the **Grand Union Canal** and turn R. Leave the canal at the next bridge (by the **Heron's Nest** pub – caution there are a few steps here) and turn R onto the main road for 250 yards (a footway is available if you prefer to walk this section).

*An alternative route avoiding the Black Boy pub and canal towpath is to continue along the main road and turn right into Watery Lane at **I**. The main road, which can be quite busy, also leads directly back to Knowle.*

I Turn first L into **Watery Lane**. At the end of the lane turn L to retrace the outward route back to Knowle.