

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



M7

medium route from
Brueton Park

CycleSolihull

Explore your borough by bike



**15 miles via Monkspath,
Illshaw Heath 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 M7 Brueton Park to Ilshaw Heath & Packwood

Distance: 15 miles (90-110 mins). **Start:** Brueton Park car park, Warwick Rd B91 3HW. SP163790
///live.circle.trip.

Route Summary: A ride from the heart of Solihull to explore the quiet countryside to the south and returning via quiet suburban roads between Knowle and Dorridge.

Refreshments: The main en-route pub is the Railway near Dorridge.

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 **Brueton 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.

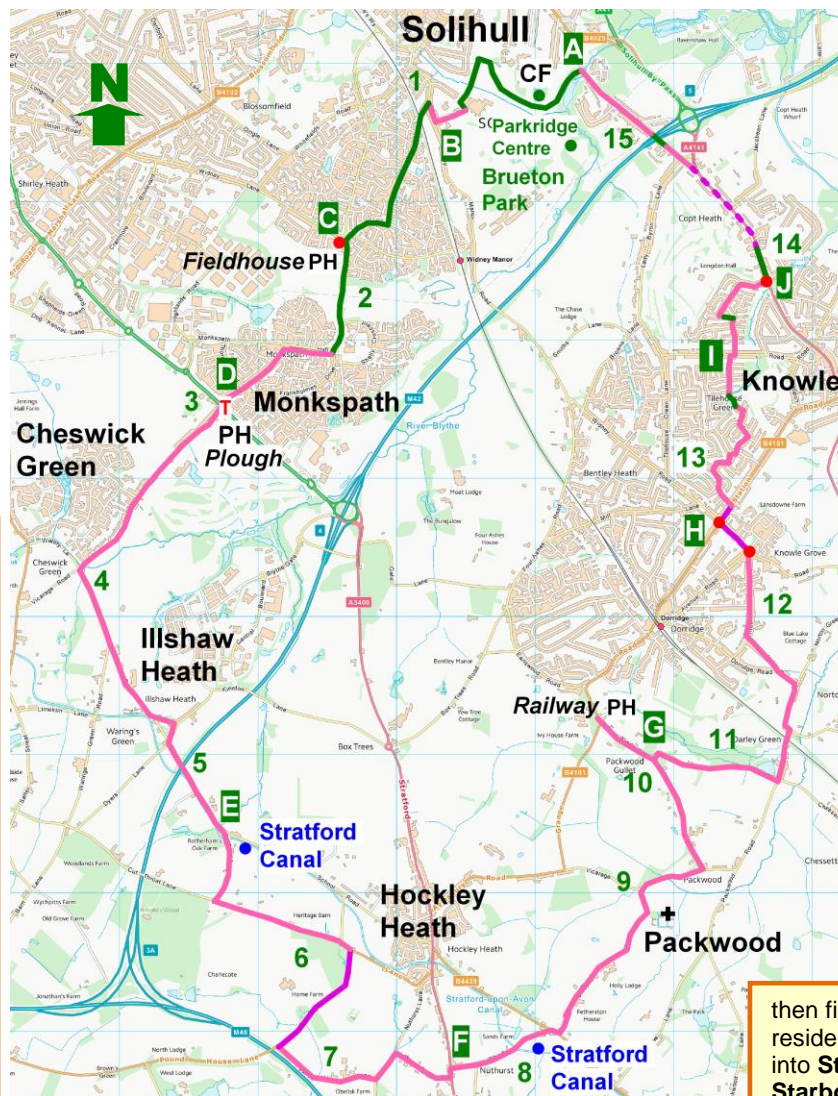
B At the main road turn R and after 150 yards turn L into **Hillfield Rd**, passing under the railway. Follow this closed road (which becomes **Fielding Lane**) going SO across two residential roads. At the end of the path turn R into Libbards Way, eventually reaching a roundabout.

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

D Cross via the toucan crossing and go L 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**. Bear L into the one-way road. At the end turn R and first L into **School Rd** passing under the motorway.

E After 0.4 miles turn second R into **Rotherhams Oak Lane**, passing over the **Stratford Canal**. At the end turn L. On reaching the **B4101** turn R to **Tanworth**. Turn next L just before the motorway. At the end of the lane turn L and first R to reach the A3400.

F Turn L and immediately R (CAUTION – fast and busy road).



Key to Map

- A B** Start and route reference point
- 1, 2** Mileage from start point
- Quiet road
- Busier road (dashed- with cycle lane)
- Traffic-free path
- Path with rough surface
- ➔ 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:
L left, R right, SO straight on.

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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Go SO passing over the **Stratford Canal** and on reaching the **B4439** turn R and immediately L to **Packwood**. Follow this road to the end, passing **Packwood Church**. At the end of the lane turn R and first L into **Windmill Lane** and after 0.5 miles reach the junction with **Millpool Lane**.

G To visit the **Railway** pub go SO for 500 yards and turn R. Otherwise turn R down **Millpool Lane**. At the crossroads turn L, passing under the railway. Turn next L into **Blue Lake Rd**. At the end turn R into **Knowle Wood Rd**. At the roundabout turn L.

H At the next roundabout turn R with care towards **Knowle** and

then first L into **Barcheston Rd**. Follow this winding residential road to the end and turn R and immediately L into **Starbold Crescent**. Turn third R and first L (all still **Starbold Crescent**). At the far end take the short path L to reach another residential road. Go SO to the end.

I Turn R and immediately L into **Copt Heath Drive**. Go third R into **Holbeche Rd** and use the narrow path between the houses on your L (CAUTION – poor visibility!). This leads to a residential close. At the end turn R.

J At the roundabout at the end of **Langfield Rd** turn L to join the cycle lane and path along the main road. After 0.6 miles turn L onto a cycle path (signed to **Solihull town centre**). Go SO at the crossroads and at the end SO up the ramp and across the M42 pedestrian bridge (dismount if necessary). Turn R and go SO for 0.5 miles to return to the start point.