

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 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.

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 ridden during each month. In autumn and winter there are more shorter rides to reflect reduced daylight hours. One Sunday of the 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 points. 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 about 30 minutes at a family-friendly pub or tearoom.

For ride date, routes and starting points download our current Ride Programme from:

www.cyclesolihull.org.uk

or pick up a copy on one of the rides.



S7

short route from
Malvern Park

CycleSolihull

Explore your borough by bike



9 miles via Catherine-de-Barnes,
Henwood & Ravenshaw

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

Route S7 Malvern Park (Solihull town centre) to Catherine-de-Barnes & Ravenshaw

Distance: 9 miles (45-60 mins). **Start:** Malvern Park car park (next to the play area), off New Road near Solihull Town Centre B91 3EA SP156793.

Route Summary: A ride through Solihull's town centre parks and then on mainly quiet country lanes, crossing the River Blythe and Grand Union Canal several times. There are two short lengths on busier roads but no difficult turns to make.

Refreshments: In addition to the facilities in Solihull Town Centre there is a café at the Parkridge Centre and Boat Inn at Catherine-de-Barnes.

Parking: There is limited parking at the park playground. More parking is available at **B**

The Route

A From the car park join the segregated cycle/pedestrian track heading through the park. At the junction of the cycle tracks go L and continue past the **Parkridge Centre** and through the car park to reach the old Warwick Rd at **B**

B Turn R along Warwick Rd which is now a quiet cul-de-sac, and follow the road to the end. Go up the spiral ramp on the L and over the M42 pedestrian bridge. Continue SO crossing Lady Byron Lane to reach the main A4141 Warwick Rd.

C Carefully cross Warwick Road, turning R and joining the cycle lane for 300 yards. CAUTION! Warwick Road can be busy so cross and cycle with care.

D Turn next L into **Jacobean Lane**. Follow the road for 1.5 miles, ignoring the first L turn (under the motorway).

E Take the next L into **Friday Lane**. At the roundabout turn L with care into **Catherine-de-Barnes** and cross the **Grand Union** canal, passing **The Boat Inn** on the L.

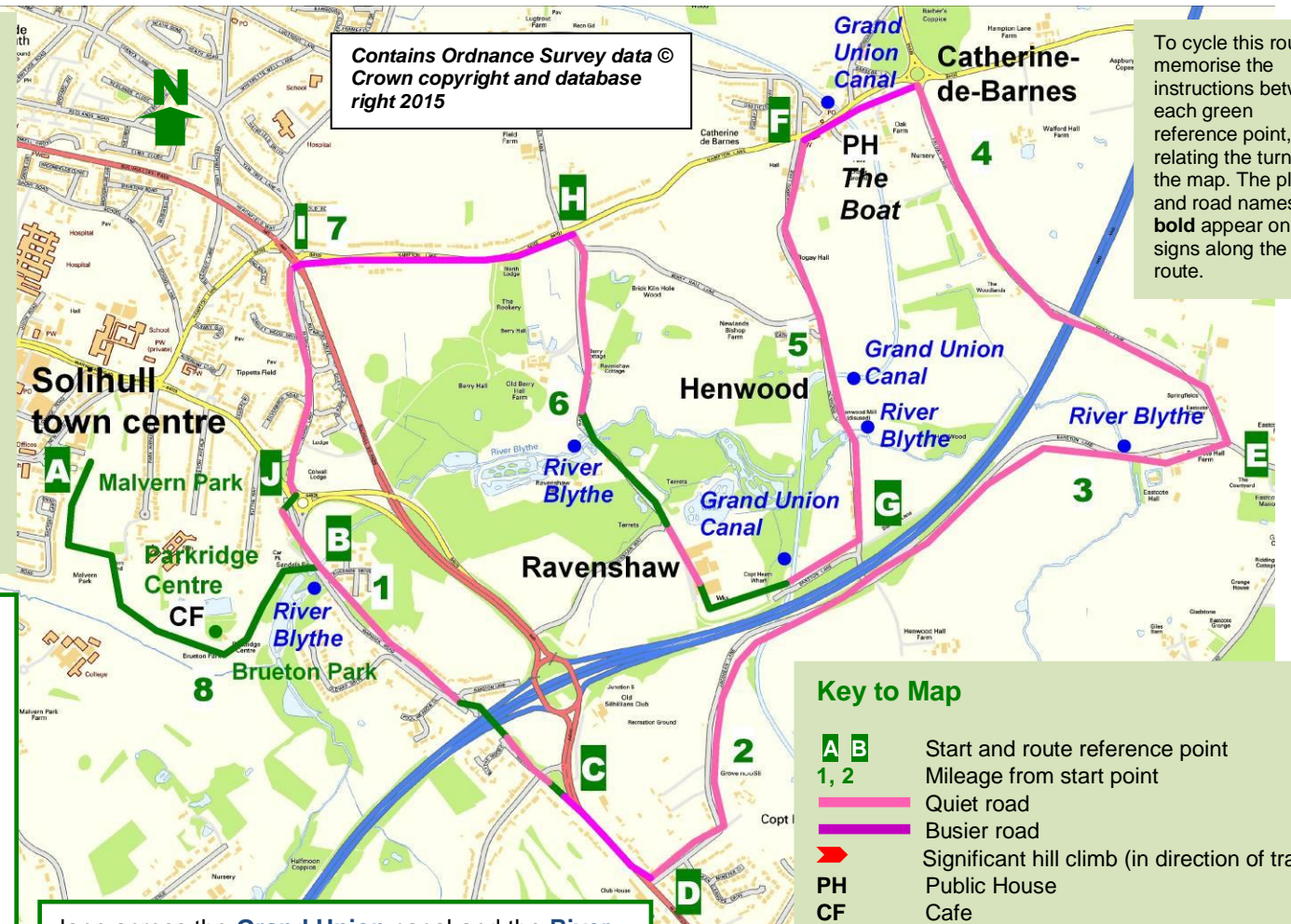
F Take the next L into **Henwood Lane** and follow the

lane across the **Grand Union** canal and the **River Blythe** ford (an alternative bridge is available).

G Just before the motorway bridge turn R. Follow the road across the canal until it becomes a path. Follow the path past **Whale Tankers** (note the castle made from tanks in the lake). Where the road bends to the L turn R eventually crossing the **River Blythe** again. Continue SO along the narrow lane to reach the main road.

H Turn left into Hampton Lane. CAUTION! This section can be busy. There is a cycle path on opposite side of the road which can be used.

I Go SO across the **Solihull Bypass** at the traffic



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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.

Key to Map

- A B** Start and route reference point
- 1, 2** Mileage from start point
- Quiet road
- Busier road
- ▶ Significant hill climb (in direction of travel)
- PH** Public House
- CF** Cafe
- Place of interest
- Water feature

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

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.

J Cross Warwick Rd with care and join the short length of cycle path into the road which leads back to the car park. Go through the car park and re-trace your route using the cycle path through **Brueton Park** back to the start.