

L into **Lugtrout Lane**. Go through the road closure at the end of the road and, with care, cross **Damson Parkway**, continuing along **Lugtrout Lane**. At the crossroads turn L passing the **Boat Inn**. Cross the **canal** and turn immediately L into **Bickenhill Lane**. At the end join the cycle path L and continue SO for 1.25 miles. At the end turn L into the minor road and at the end turn R up the ramp and L to cross the A45 bridge and into **Birmingham Airport**. At the roundabout go SO on the cycle path.

L After 100 yards cross the dual carriageway and follow the cycle path to emerge alongside another dual carriageway (Bickenhill Lane). Follow the cycle path for 1 mile, passing two roundabouts and traffic signals. At the next roundabout turn L onto the path through the trees. At the end go R on to a quiet lane. After 500 yards turn L on to another cycle path.

M At the road go L into **Birmingham Business Park**. After the roundabout go third L into **The Crescent**. After 200 yards turn L on to a cycle path towards **Chelmsley Wood**. At the end use the toucan crossing to join the cycle path on **Chelmsley Rd** opposite. Follow this to the end and cross L at the roundabout, continuing on the roadside cycle path towards **Marston Green**.

N After 0.75 miles bear L into a park. Follow the path across the brook and turn next R to reach a residential road. Turn L and at the crossroads go SO into **Elmdon Rd**. Turn first R into **Land Lane** and at the end turn R to return to the start.

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.

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 Cycle Rides

Cyclesolihull offers regular opportunities to join with others to ride 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 throughout the summer* starting from one of a number of different starting points. "S" (short) routes are about 10 miles long, "M" (medium) routes about 15 miles long and "L" (long) routes about 20 miles long. On some Sundays there 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.

Saturday Xtra & Saturday Stretcher rides take place monthly on Saturday mornings. They are 25 to 30 miles long and are aimed at more experienced cyclists. Xtra rides are at a similar pace to the longer Sunday rides and Stretcher rides a little faster than this.

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

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

For details of the current programme go to:

www.cyclesolihull.org.uk

or pick up a copy of the **Cyclesolihull Ride Programme** on one of the rides.

** There is a reduced programme rides from October to March with Sunday rides starting at 1.30 pm.*



L12 long route from **Marston Green**

CycleSolihull

Explore your borough by bike



20 miles via Yardley, Elmdon Catherine-de-Barnes

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

Route L12
Marston Green to Yardley, Elmdon & Catherine-de-Barnes

Distance: 20 miles (120 to 150 mins)

Start: Marston Green (Centro car park off Elmdon Lane) B37 7DL SP167854

Route Summary: A varied ride using cycle paths and quiet suburban roads which visits three parks.

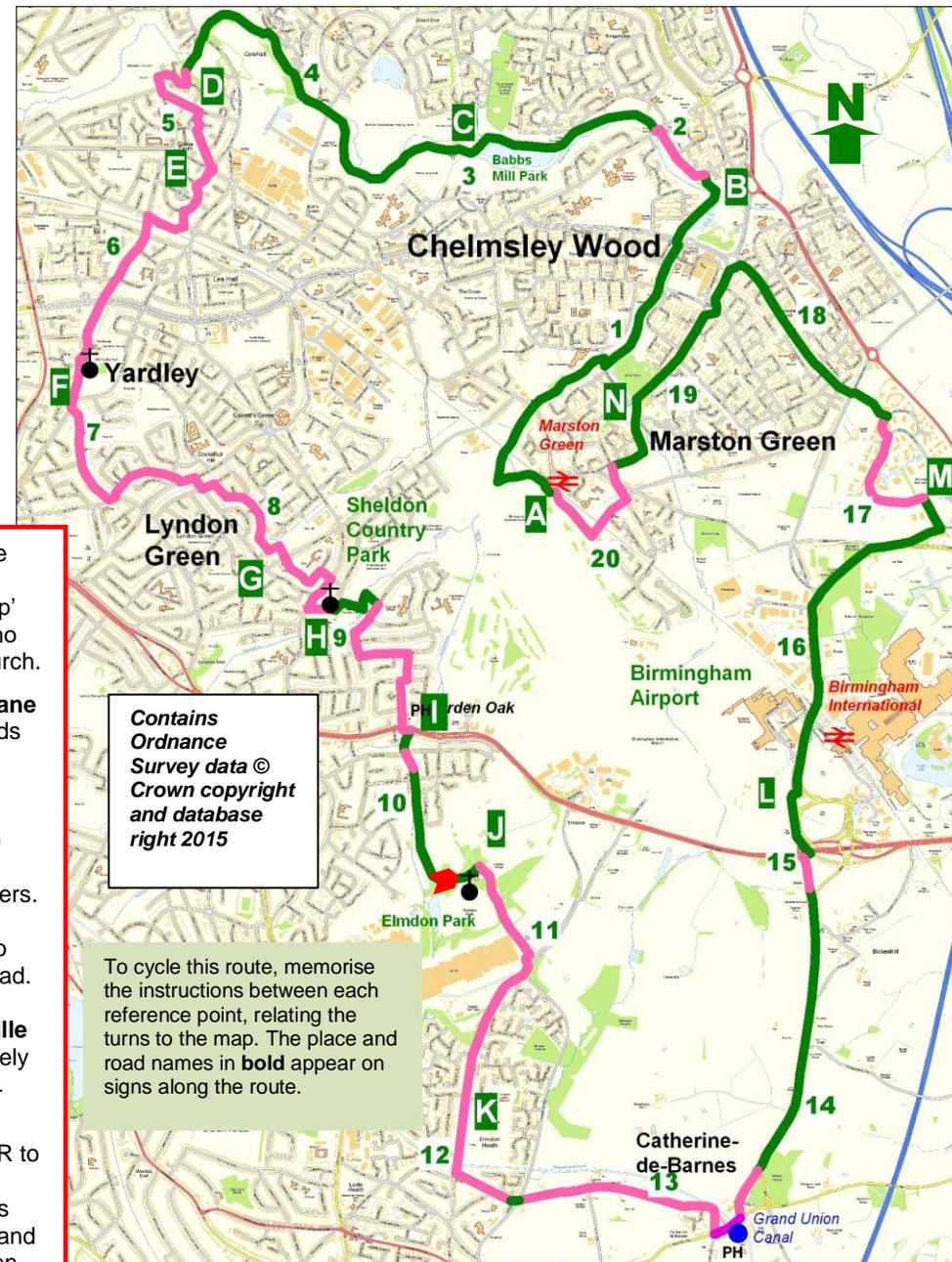
Refreshments: The main refreshment points are in Sheldon Country Park and Catherine-de-Barnes.

Parking: There is a free car park at the start. If full with rail users (mainly an issue Monday-Friday), further on-street parking is available in Elmdon Lane.

Key to Map

- A B** Start and route reference point
- 1, 2** Mileage from start point
-  Quiet road
-  Busier road
-  Cycle path
-  Significant hill climb (in direction of travel)
- 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.



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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.

The Route

A Follow the cycle path into **Sheldon Country Park**. Cross the brook and take the first path R passing under the railway. At the end cross the road at the toucan crossing. Follow the path SO until the end. Turn R into Gloucester Way and first L to rejoin the path on the other side of the brook. Bear R approaching the 2nd over bridge to go on to the bridge. Cross using the toucan and join the path on the other side of the brook. Continue SO.

B Cross the **Rover Cole** and bear L to reach a residential road (Forth Drive). Go left and follow this road until the end. Turn L to cross the road at the zebra into **Babbs Mill Park**. At the next path junction turn L and go SO for 1 mile, passing the playground and keeping the lake on your L.

C At the far end of the lake, before reaching the bridge and buildings, turn R onto the **Cole Valley** path. Follow the main path SO for 0.75 miles to reach Packington Avenue. Cross over to rejoin the main path for a further 0.75 miles. Cross the main road at the toucan and take the next path L across the **River Cole** and turn R alongside the recreation ground, eventually emerging in a residential area.

D At the end of **Vintage Close** turn R. Follow the road around to the L, past the playground and turn first L into **Bushbury Rd** and second R into **Tirley Rd**. Go L around the large grass circle and turn second L into **Peplow Rd**. At the roundabout take the third exit into **Kempe Rd**.

E At the end go L and third L into **Elmore Rd**. At the

end turn R and at the crossroads turn L, crossing the railway. Go SO at the mini-roundabout, eventually reaching **Meadway**. Cross with care to the cycle 'gap' and continue along **Church Rd** (which becomes a 'no through road') through **old Yardley**, passing the church.

F Go next R into **Blakesley Rd** and cross **Stoney Lane** to visit historic **Blakesley Hall** (150 yards). Afterwards return to this point and turn R. Turn second L into **Barrows Lane**. At the end turn L and immediately L again into **Bilton Grange Rd**. At the end turn L onto **Garretts Green Lane** and first R, by the school, into **Horrell Rd**. Go L at the roundabout and first R into **Boyne Rd**. Follow the road for going SO at the barriers.

G At the end of the road turn L and follow the road to the R, around the grassed area to reach the main road. Cross over into **Fallindale Rd** passing **Sheldon Library**. Follow the road around to the R into **Stanville Rd**. Turn R into **Church Rd** for 250 yards. Immediately after passing **Sheldon Church** on your L, turn first L into **Ragley Drive** to reach the park **Visitor Centre**.

H Go SO on the path past the playground and bear R to join a path that goes through the housing to reach a residential road. Turn R and go SO at the crossroads into **Dovercourt Rd**. Turn first L into **Whitcroft Rd** and 2nd R into **Shepherd Rd**. At the end, turn R and then first L into **Arden Oak Rd**. Just before reaching the A45 Coventry Road join the footway L to reach the toucan crossing. Cross the A45.

I Go R into the service road and after 50 yards go L down the narrow footpath. At the end go SO into **Streamside Way**. At the end of the road join the path into **Elmdon Park**. Follow this path SO keeping the

stream on your R. After 0.5 miles take the second path L, up the steep hill to the upper car park.

J From the car park turn R, passing **Elmdon Church**. At the end of the lane turn R to reach the traffic signals. With care go R and then immediately SO at the roundabout into **Damson Lane**. Continue SO for 0.9 miles.

K Go SO at the mini-roundabout, cross the **Grand Union Canal** and turn first