

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.

CST4-0519

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.



T4

An easy 'Taster' route from
Dickens Heath

CycleSolihull

Explore your borough by bike



5 miles via Tidbury Green & Earlwood

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

Route T4 Dickens Heath to Tidbury Green & Earlswood

Distance: 6 miles (50 to 60 mins)

Start: Dickens Heath library, village centre B90 1SD SP112763.

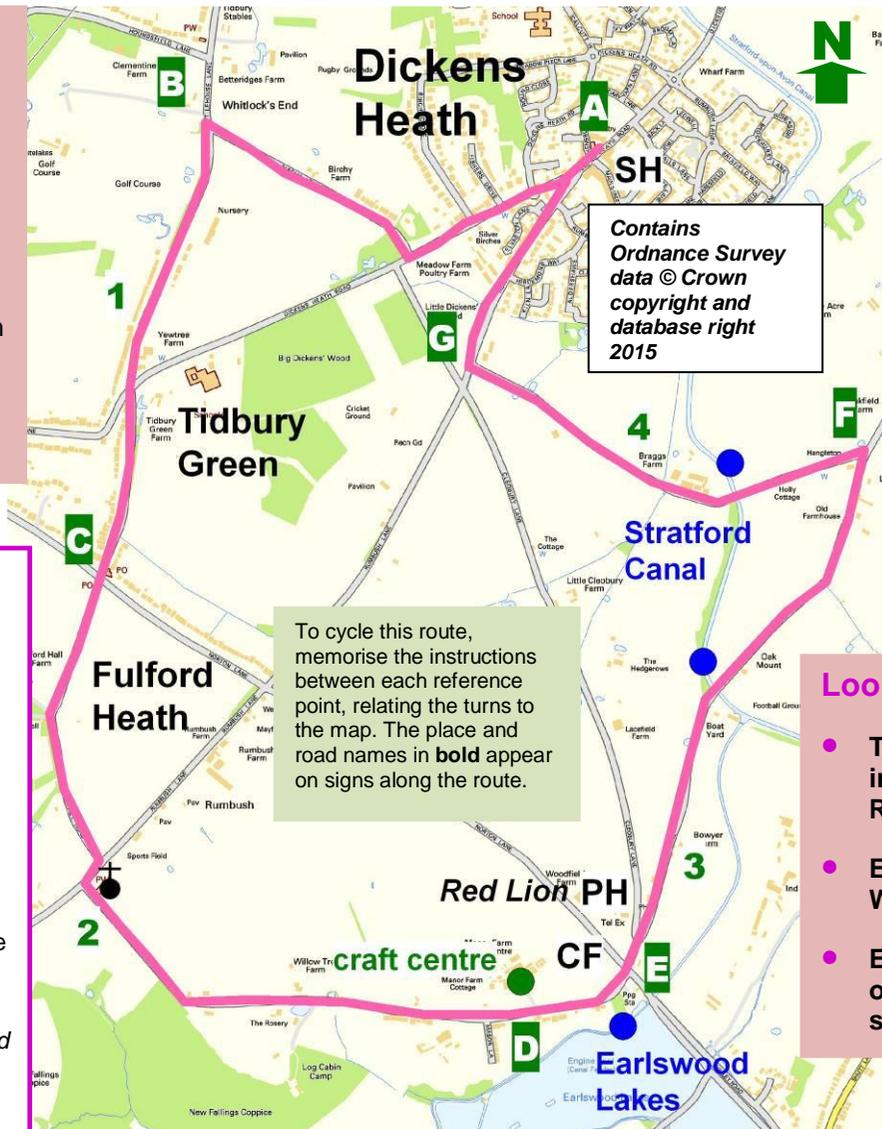
Route Summary: An easy ride on country lanes to Earlswood Craft Centre and Earlswood Lakes.

Refreshments: Tea room at the craft centre or the Red Lion pub.

Parking: There is free parking in Dickens Heath behind the shops on Main Street.

The Route

- A** From the library go R past Tesco. Go SO at the small roundabout and, with care, turn next R into **Birchy Leasowes Lane**.
- B** At the end turn L into **Tilehouse Lane** and go SO at the next crossroads.
- C** Cross the busier road at the next crossroads into **Fulford Hall Road** heading towards **Earlswood**. At the end turn R into **Rumbush Lane** and then immediately L by the **Earlswood Methodist Church** into **Wood Lane**.
- D** Explore **Earlswood Lakes Craft Centre** which is passed on the L. **There** is also a car park with access to **Earlswood Lakes** on the R.
- E** At the crossroads go SO into **Lady Lane**. **CAUTION!** Busier road to cross. Follow the road, passing to the R of the **Red Lion** pub. Cross over the **Stratford Canal** (access available to the towpath)
- F** Turn next L into **Braggs Farm Lane** and cross over the canal again (access available to the towpath).
- G** At the end of the lane turn R into **Rumbush Lane**. Where the road bends to the R go SO. At the road closure go R to return to the library which is ahead.



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.

Key to Map

- A B** Start and route reference point
1, 2 Mileage from start point
 Quiet road
 Busier road
 Cycle path
- 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.

Look out for...

- The Stratford-upon-Avon Canal opened in 1796 to connect Birmingham to the River Avon.
- Earlswood Lakes built in the Napoleonic Wars to provide water for the canal.
- Earlswood Lakes Craft Centre – a range of outlets including a tea room and sweet shop.

Want to go further?

There are over 50 Cyclesolihull routes for you to ride, with distances ranging from 5 to 25 miles. You can download free route leaflets like this from www.cyclesolihull.org.uk.

Cyclesolihull also organises regular free rides along many of these routes – download the latest Ride Programme from www.cyclesolihull.org.uk.