

## 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](http://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. 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 children and new cyclists.

**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.

All 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 café.

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

[cyclesolihull.org.uk](http://cyclesolihull.org.uk)



M1

medium route from  
Dorridge

# CycleSolihull

Explore your borough by bike



16 miles via Tanworth,  
Earlswood & Illshaw Heath

*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.*

New Route for 2023



## Route M1

### Dorridge to Tanworth and Earlswood

**Distance:** 16 miles (120 to 150 mins).

**Start:** Dorridge Railway Station B93 8JA SP169749.

**Parking:** Free station car park (rail users), paid car park behind petrol station and restricted parking on nearby streets.

**Route Summary:** A route mainly on quiet roads to Tanworth and Earlswood Lakes, returning via Illshaw Heath and the Blythe Valley (Business) Park.

**Refreshments:** There are a number of pubs enroute and a café at the bakery in Illshaw Heath.

### The Route

**A** From **Dorridge rail station** entrance turn L down **Station Approach**. At the bottom turn L under the railway bridge. After 0.5 miles you will pass the **Railway** pub on the L. Turn immediately L into **Windmill Lane**. Follow this narrow lane for 0.9 miles.

**B** At the end of the lane turn R into **Vicarage Lane** and then after 300 yards turn first L into **Glasshouse Lane**.

**C** After 0.7 miles cross the **B4439** (turning R and then immediately L) into **Wharf Lane**. Go over the narrow bridge across the **Stratford Canal** to eventually reach the main road.

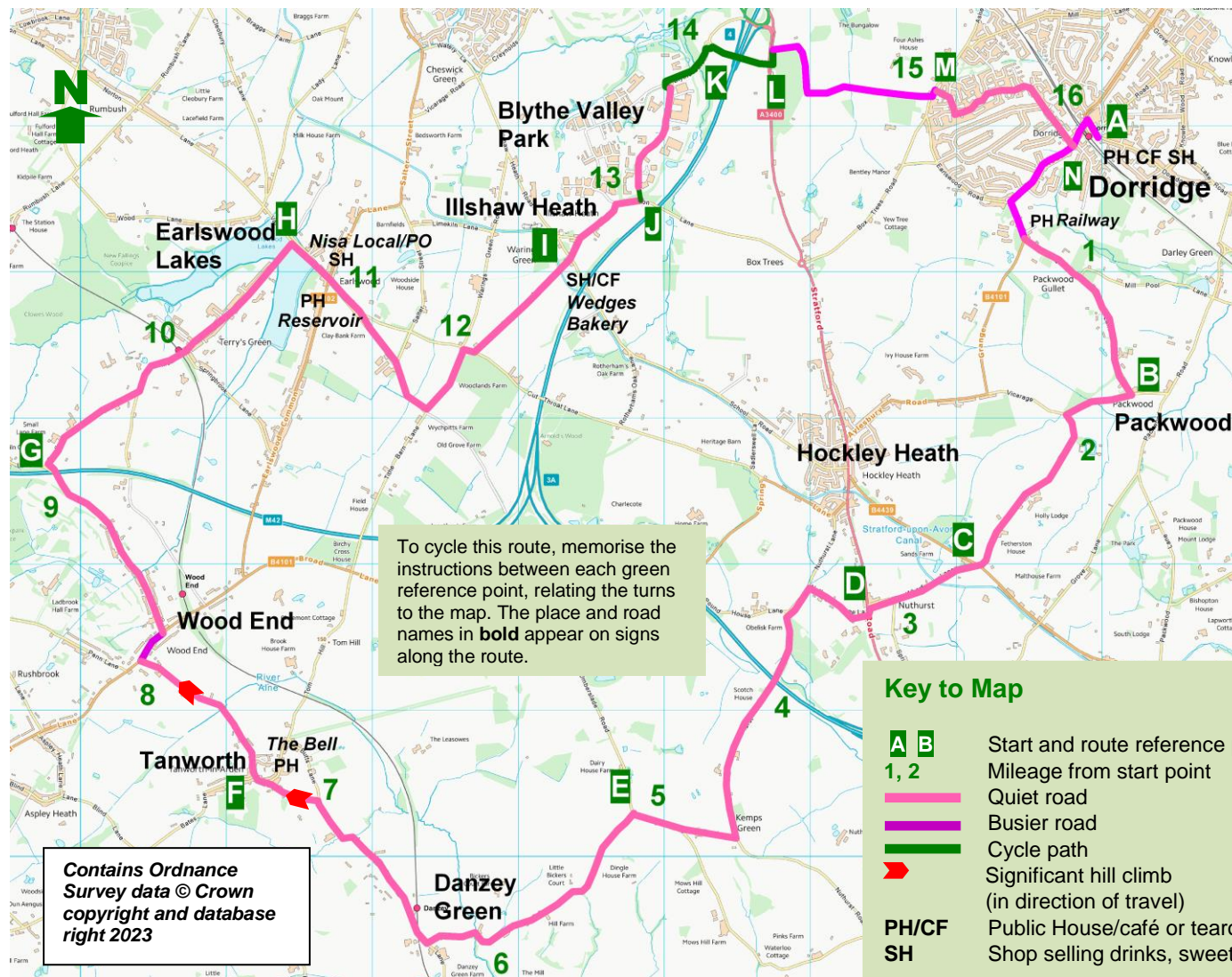
**D** Taking extra care turn L and then immediately R down **Nuthurst Grange Lane** (note you may find it easiest to dismount and use the footway L and then cross this fast and busy road on foot). At the end of the lane turn L and bear L at next junction. Go over the motorway and at the end of the lane turn R towards **Kemps Green**.

**E** After 1.25 miles turn second L into **Pigrot Lane** towards **Danzey Green**. Follow the narrow winding road to the end. Turn R towards **Tanworth**, continuing SO up the steep hill to the church in the village centre.

**F** Go SO past the village green following the main road for 1 mile. On reaching the **B4101** turn R towards **Hockley Heath** and, after 200 yards, L into **Poolhead Lane**.

**G** Follow the lane over the M42 and turn immediately R. Continue past the rail station to **Earlswood Lakes**.

**H** At the end of the lane turn R along the dam. Join the road below the dam and then go SO at the crossroads. At the end of the road turn L. At the crossroads turn R and first L into **Dyers Lane**.



**I** Continue SO over the canal and through **Illshaw Heath**. At the end of the lane go R.

**J** After 200 yard turn L on to the path leading into **Blythe Valley (Business) Park**. Go SO along the road. Approaching the second roundabout use the path on the L to cross the L arm of the roundabout and join the wide cycle path on the far side of the roundabout, going R.

**K** After the next roundabout cross the one-way entry and exit roads to join the cycle path alongside the exit road.

**L** At the end of the path cross **Stratford Rd** using the pedestrian signals and turn L along the path and immediately R into **Gate Lane**. Follow the lane for 0.8 miles (CAUTION

### 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

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

Narrow and busier road!). At the end cross into the entrance opposite and turn L use the footway for a short distance (please dismount) and go R through the gap into **Denton Croft**.

**M** At the end turn of the road turn R and follow the road, bearing L into **Glendon Way**. Go third R into **Manor Rd**. Go SO at the mini-roundabout.

**N** At the end turn L passing under the railway bridge and turn first R back to **Dorridge Station**. CAUTION busier road and