

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.

CSM18-1022

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. These rides are about 30 miles long, 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, usually at a location where drinks are available to purchase.

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

cyclesolihull.org.uk



M18 medium distance route from
Castle Bromwich

CycleSolihull

Explore your borough by bike



15 miles via Castle Vale, New Hall Valley & Water Orton

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

Revised edition

October 2022

Route M18 Castle Bromwich via New Hall Valley to Over Green & Water Orton

Distance: 15 miles (90-120 mins). **Start:** Castle Bromwich Parish Church, Chester Road B36 9DE, SP142899 (next to Castle Bromwich Hall) Gardens.

Route Summary: A varied ride using quiet suburban roads, off-road paths and country lanes to explore the area north of Castle Bromwich.

Refreshments: There is a pub at Over Green and a number of shops and other pubs en-route.

Parking: There is on-street parking at the start point.

The Route

A With the church on your L follow the road and join the path at the end. Cross the busy main road using the two toucans and turn R onto the shared-use path.

B Go under the M6 and cross the main road at the first toucan and continue along the roadside path. After passing the next toucan turn R onto the first path. Follow the path to the end and join the residential road (Cadbury Drive). Follow this road for 800 yards.

C Near the end of the road (just before the mini-roundabout) turn R onto the roadside path. At **Wellington Way** cross the main road and join the wide path between the shops. Follow this path (marked by black bollards), going approximately SO through the housing, emerging at the end of **Sheridan Walk**. Cross the road and go R, following the path to the first entrance of **Castle Vale Park**. Go though the park to the main exit opposite.

D Leave the park, cross the road and turn R onto the roadside path. Turn first L into **Innsworth Drive** and follow this winding road to the end. At the mini-roundabout cross with care to the signed cycle route opposite.

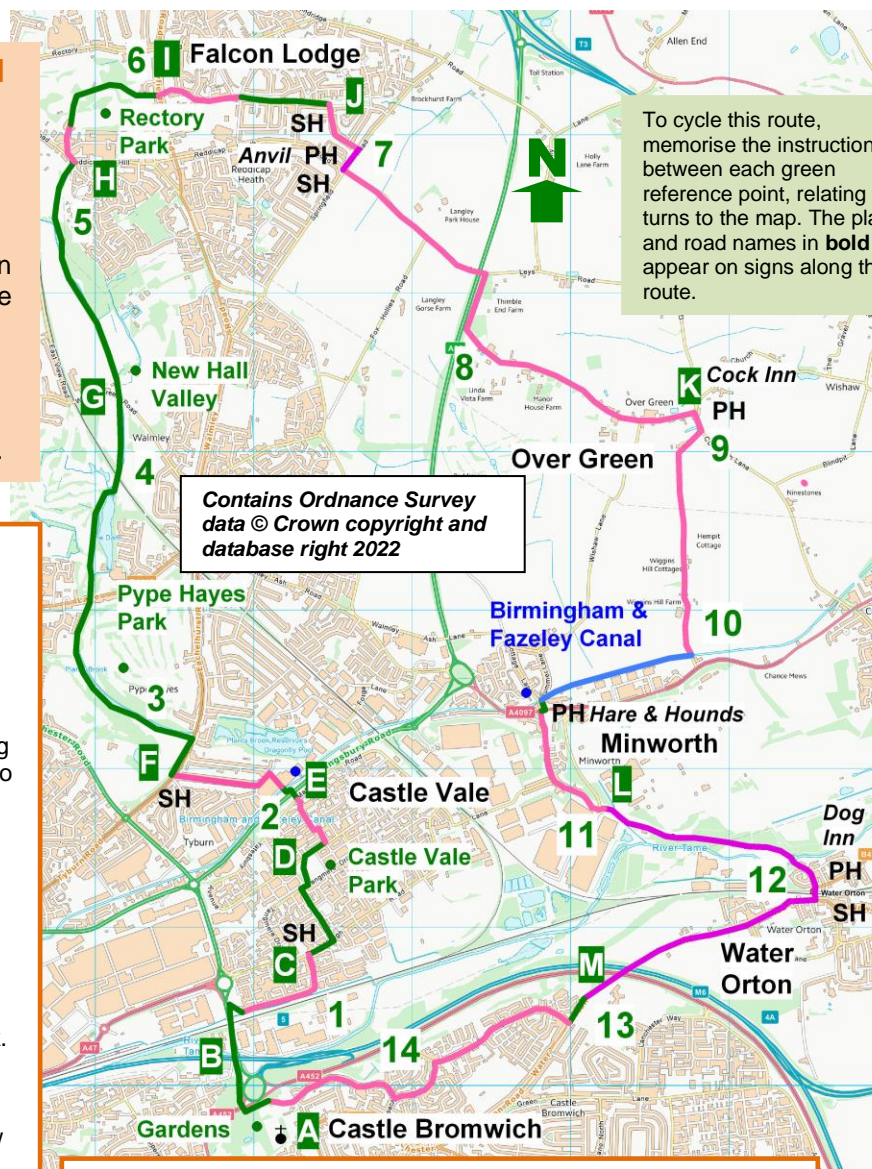
E Cross the A38 at the pelican. Take the narrow path L between the buildings and cross the **Birmingham & Fazeley Canal**. Turn first L into **Woodlands Farm Road**, following signs for National Cycle Network Route **534**.

F Cross the main road at the toucan and follow the cycle route R and next L into the park. Continue along the cycle route **534** for nearly 2 miles, crossing a road and a going under a railway.

G At the next road, cross to the path opposite and go L and R down the narrow path just before the bridge. Continue along the main path until a reaching a main path junction. Bear R towards **Falcon Lodge**.

H At the next road cross at the toucan and go L and R into **Reddicap Trading Estate** and first L into **Broomie Close** which leads to **Rectory Park**. Follow the main path, bearing R at the car park.

I At the road cross using the toucan and go L and R into St



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
- Cycle path
- PH** Public House
- SH** Shop selling drinks, snacks etc.
- Place of interest
- Water feature

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

Chad's Rd. At the end go R and immediately L into **Churchill Rd** and join the roadside cycle path.

J After 0.3 miles and after passing the shops, turn R into **Fowler Rd**. At the end turn R and L at the mini-roundabout into **Ox Leys Rd**. Follow this country lane for nearly a mile. Pass over the A38 and turn immediately R into **Bulls Lane**. Follow this lane for 1.25 miles to reach the **Cock Inn**.

K Turn R and then first R into **Wiggins Hill Rd**. Follow the lane for x miles to the canal bridge. Join the canal via the shallow steps and turn L onto the towpath. At the next bridge leave the towpath via the **Hare & Hounds** car park. From the car park, cross the main road (Kingsbury Rd) via the pelican crossing and go R and immediately L into **Water Orton Lane**.

L At the large roundabout go SO (CAUTION busier road) towards **Water Orton**. Continue SO across the narrow bridge. At the end turn R, going over the railway by **Water Orton Station**. At the end turn R towards **Castle Bromwich** (If busy use the zebra on L to cross). Follow this busier road for 1 mile, passing over the M6.

M Join roadside cycle path at **Park Hall Academy** and use the zebra to cross over and go next R into **Parkfield Drive**. Turn first L after the shops into **Beechcroft Rd** and 2nd R into **Kingsleigh Drive**. Go SO to return to the church and starting point.