

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.

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 new cyclists and children.

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.

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 cafe.

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

cyclesolihull.org.uk



S5

short route from
Meriden

CycleSolihull

Explore your borough by bike



**10 miles via Maxstoke,
Kinwalsey and Eaves Green**

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.

Revised Route 2023

Route S5

Meriden to Maxstoke & Kinwalsey

Distance: 10 miles (60 to 75 mins).

Start: Meriden Green (with the village cross marking the 'Centre of England' and the cyclists' war memorial) CV7 7LN SP239823.

Parking: On-street around The Green.

Route Summary: An undulating route using mostly quiet country lanes, passing through Maxstoke, Kinwalsey (site of the John Wesley Oak) and Eaves Green.

Refreshments: The Queens Head is close to the end of the ride and there are pubs and shops in Meriden.

The Route

A From the Green turn R towards the roundabout. Go SO towards **Maxstoke** (along **Birmingham Rd**).

B At the next roundabout continue towards **Maxstoke**. Use the cycle path L, soon crossing over the A45. Rejoin the main carriageway at **Shepherds Lane**. Follow the road for a further 2.3 miles, eventually passing under the M6.

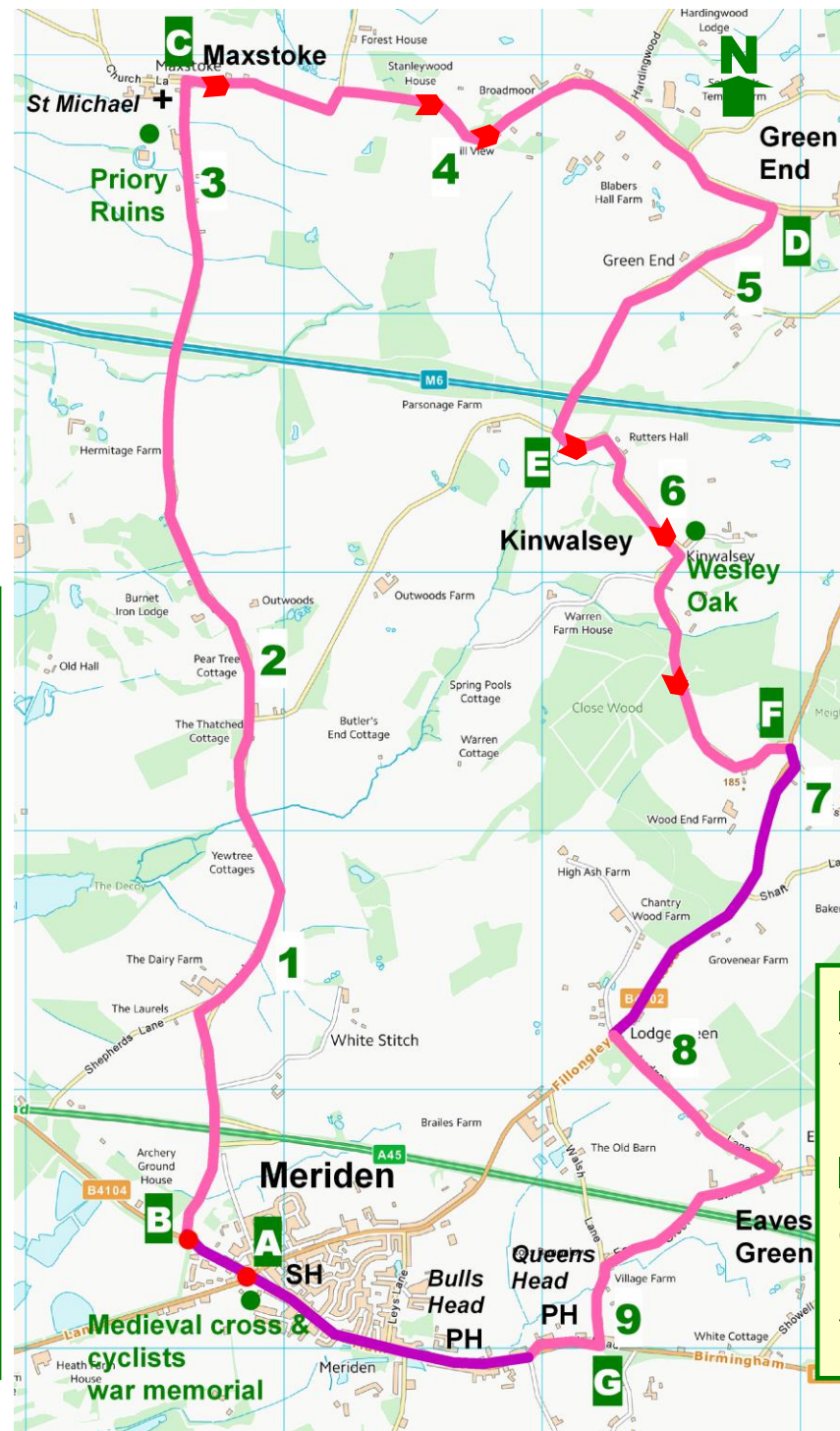
C At the end of the road turn R by **Maxstoke Church** and the **Priory ruins** towards **Fillongley** (go L for 100 yards to view the ruined priory gatehouse). Follow the road for 1.6 miles, passing a radio mast on the R.

D Turn next R into a narrow lane towards **Packington**, eventually passing under the M6.

E At the end of the lane turn L towards **Meriden** and follow the narrow lane for about 1 mile passing the **John Wesley Oak** on the L. Here a plaque marks the stump of a large tree where the founder of Methodism is believed to have preached.

F At the end of the lane turn R onto the **B4102** towards **Meriden**. Follow the road for 1 mile taking the 3rd turning L into **Lodge Green Lane**. At the end turn R eventually passing under the A45.

G At the end follow the road R past the **Queens Head** pub. This short section is the original road which was bypassed by Telford's improvements to the **London to Holyhead Road**. At the end turn R into **Main Rd** to return to the Green at the top of the hill.



Key to Map

- A B** Start and route reference point
- 1, 2** Mileage from start point
-  Quiet road
-  Busier road
-  Traffic-free path
-  Significant hill climb (in direction of travel)
- Z P T S •** Zebra/pelican/toucan/ signals/ roundabout
- 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.

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.