

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



S7

short route from  
Malvern Park

# CycleSolihull

Explore your borough by bike



9 miles via Catherine-de-Barnes, Henwood and Ravenshaw

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 2023

## Route S7 Malvern Park (Solihull town centre) to Catherine-de-Barnes & Ravenshaw

**Distance:** 9 miles (55-70 mins). **Start:** Malvern Park car park (next to the play area), off New Road near Solihull Town Centre B91 3EA SP156793  
///likes.fuels.habit.

**Route Summary:** A ride through Solihull's town centre parks and then on mainly quiet country lanes, crossing the **River Blythe** and **Grand Union Canal** several times. There are two short lengths on busier roads but no difficult turns to make.

**Refreshments:** In addition to the facilities in Solihull Town Centre there is a café at the Parkridge Centre and the Boat Inn at Catherine-de-Barnes.

**Parking:** There is limited parking at the park playground. More parking is available at **B**

### The Route

**A** From the car park join the segregated cycle/pedestrian track heading through the park. At the junction of the cycle tracks go L and continue past the **Parkridge Centre** and through the car park to reach the Warwick Rd at **B**

**B** Turn R along Warwick Rd which is now a quiet cul-de-sac, and follow the road to the end. Go up the spiral ramp on the L and over the M42 pedestrian bridge. Continue SO crossing Lady Byron Lane to reach the main A4141 Warwick Rd.

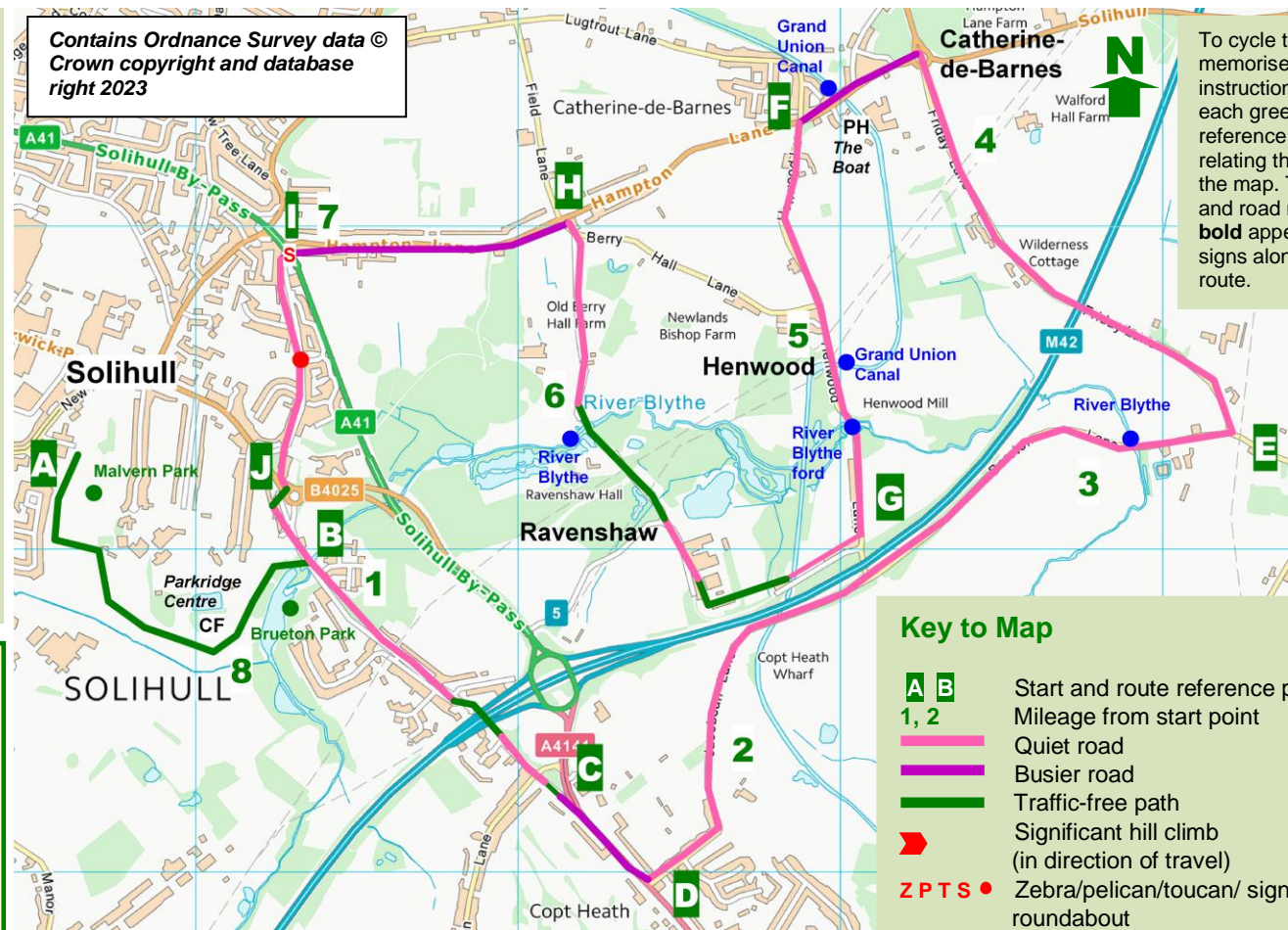
**C** Carefully cross Warwick Road, turning R and joining the cycle lane for 300 yards. CAUTION! Warwick Road can be busy so cross and cycle with care.

**D** Turn next L into **Jacobean Lane**. Follow the road for 1.5 miles, ignoring the first L turn (under the motorway).

**E** Take the next L into **Friday Lane**. At the roundabout turn L with care into **Catherine-de-Barnes** and cross the **Grand Union Canal**, passing **The Boat Inn** on the L.

**F** Take the next L into **Henwood Lane** and follow the

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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
- 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.

lane across the **Grand Union Canal** and the **River Blythe** ford (an alternative bridge is available).

**G** Just before the motorway bridge turn R. Follow the road across the canal until it becomes a path. Follow the path past **Whale Tankers** (note the castle made from tanks in the lake). Where the road bends to the L turn R eventually crossing the **River Blythe** again. Continue SO along the narrow lane to reach the main road.

**H** Turn left into Hampton Lane. CAUTION! This section can be busy. There is a cycle path on opposite side of the road which can be used.

**I** Go SO across the **Solihull Bypass** at the traffic signals into **Marsh Lane**, continuing SO at the

small roundabout. Close to the end of the road, bear L and join the short length of cycle path to reach Warwick Rd.

**J** Cross Warwick Rd with care and join the short length of cycle path into the road which leads back to the car park. Go through the car park and re-trace your route using the cycle path through **Brueton Park** back to the start.