

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.

CSXL5-0519

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.



XL5

extra long route from
Meriden

CycleSolihull

Explore your borough by bike



26 miles via Old Arley,
Hartshill & Corley

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

Route XL5 Meriden to Old Arley, Hartshill & Corley

Distance: 26 miles (130 to 195 mins)

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

Route Summary: A hilly ride to **Hartshill Country Park** passing through some attractive countryside with scattered former mining settlements.

Refreshments: There are a number of pubs en-route and a seasonal kiosk serving drinks at the country park. It is also possible to access the facilities at the M6 Corley Services.

The Route

A From **The Green** turn R towards the roundabout. Go SO towards **Maxstoke** and R at the next roundabout, again towards **Maxstoke**. Cross over the **A45** and after 1 mile turn R to **Green End**. Follow the lane for about 1 mile.

B Turn first L to **Green End**, passing under the M6. At the end of the lane turn L towards **Maxstoke**.

C Turn second R into **Hardingwood Lane**. At the end of the lane turn R towards **Fillongley**. After 0.8 miles, at the junction opposite a lodge, take the second lane on the L.

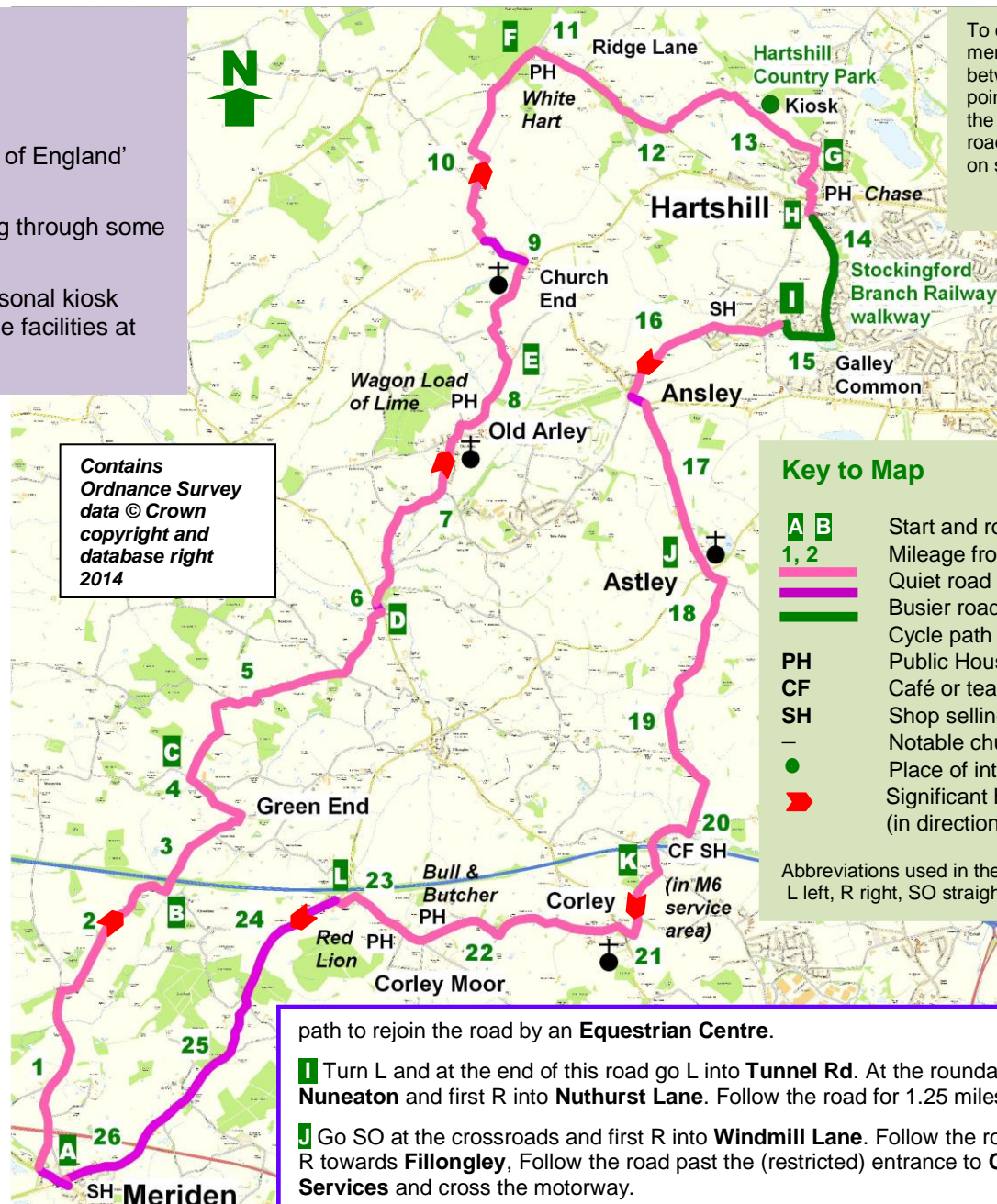
D At the main road turn L and immediately R to **Old Arley**. Follow the road under the railway and for about 1 mile into the village passing the church and **Waggon of Lime**.

E After 0.7 miles go first L into a narrow lane. At the triangular junction bear R, eventually reaching the main road by **St Lawrence's Church**. Turn L and, after 0.3 miles, R, towards **Birchley Heath**. Follow the road through the hamlet.

F Turn first R by the **White Hart** towards **Hartshill**. Turn second L towards **Hartshill Hayes Country Park**. The park entrance is 1 mile on the L. Go SO past the entrance.

G After 0.5 miles turn first R down **Moor Rd** and then second R (still Moor Rd). At the end turn L. At the main road turn L and immediately R by **The Chase** PH into **Plough Hill Rd**.

H Turn second L into **Waggstaff Drive**. After 50 yards turn L on to a narrow path between metal railings. Negotiate the gate (tip: lift the bike onto the rear wheel) to join the path along the former **Stockingford Branch Railway** which served local mines. Follow this path for about a mile passing under a high bridge. Turn next R to follow a path between the housing on your R and an open area. Go SO for 500 yards following the path around the housing and at the fork bear R to pass through a further gate. Turn L onto a further



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 | Public House |
| CF | Café or tearoom |
| SH | Shop selling drinks, sweets etc |
| + | Notable church |
| ● | Place of interest |
| | Significant hill climb (in direction of travel) |

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

path to rejoin the road by an **Equestrian Centre**.

I Turn L and at the end of this road go L into **Tunnel Rd**. At the roundabout turn L to **Nuneaton** and first R into **Nuthurst Lane**. Follow the road for 1.25 miles.

J Go SO at the crossroads and first R into **Windmill Lane**. Follow the road until the end. Turn R towards **Fillongley**. Follow the road past the (restricted) entrance to **Corley Motorway Services** and cross the motorway.

K Turn first R into **Rock Lane**. Turn first R into the narrow lane and at the main road go R and immediately L to **Corley Moor**. Follow the road into the village and turn R by the **Bull & Butcher** towards **Fillongley**, passing the **Red Lion**.

L At the **B4102** turn L to **Meriden**. Go SO for 2.75 miles to return to **The Green** on the L.