

Hollypiece House. Turn first R on to the path leading to the pelican crossing and cross into **Greenwood Ave** opposite. At the crossroads, go SO with care. At the end bear L and turn L again. Turn second L into **Starcross Rd** and L again into **Hyron Hall Rd**.

L Go SO at the main road and turn R into Victoria Rd which leads to the Warwick Rd. Turn R for 150 m (use crossing and walk if necessary) and go L into **Woodcock Lane**. Go SO and cross the railway using the narrow one-way bridge. Continue SO through the road closure across the **Grand Union Canal** and at the mini-roundabout turn R into **The Vineries**. At the crossroads go SO into **Barn Lane**. Turn second L into **Amberley Rd** and go SO at the crossroads into **Thurleston Ave**.

M At the end go L. At the end go R and left at the mini-roundabout into **Melton Ave**. Go into the service road on the L. At the end follow this left and cross to the cycle track using the pelican crossing. Go L and R into **Jilcott Ave**. At the end go R and second L into **Valley Rd**. Continue for 0.3 miles and turn L on to a narrow path opposite **Streamside Way**. Follow this path up to the main A45 (you may need to dismount for pedestrians).

N Cross using the toucan and go L and R into **Arden Oak Rd**. At the end turn R and L into **Shepherd Rd**. At the end turn R and follow the road for 0.5 miles. At the end (**Mapledene Rd**) join the cycle path straight ahead. Turn R at the first path junction on to the main path through **Sheldon Country Park**. Follow this path up the hill to retrace the outbound route back to the car park.

Cycling is a great way to keep fit whilst at the same time getting from A to B or exploring your local area.

The Cyclesolihull routes in this series of leaflets will take you along most of the network of quiet lanes 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. You can cycle the routes alone or with family and friends, or join other people on one of the regular Cyclesolihull rides.

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 community rides, publicises routes and provides information about cycling. CSM12 -0615

Cyclesolihull offers regular opportunities to join with others to ride the routes in this series of leaflets. The rides are organised by volunteers and typically attract between 10 and 25 riders. To get involved, just turn up and ride!

Sunday Cycle Rides take place most Sunday afternoons at 2 pm throughout the summer (1.30 pm and less frequently in winter) starting from one of a number of different starting points. "S" (short) routes are about 10 miles long, "M" (medium) routes about 15 miles long and "L" (long) routes about 20 miles long. On the second Sunday of the month in the summer there is a 5 or 6 mile **Taster Ride** along a "T" route like the one featured in this leaflet. A Taster Ride is an ideal introduction to Cyclesolihull rides, especially for new cyclists and children.

Saturday Xtra rides take place monthly starting at 10 am from different starting points. They are similar to the Sunday rides but about 25 miles long and follow the "XL" routes.

Saturday Stretcher rides are also monthly starting at 9.30 am from different starting points. They are faster rides of about 30 miles long and do not follow a fixed route, so are suitable for more experienced cyclists.

Evening Explorer Rides are on a midweek evening from early May to mid August starting at 7 pm and follow the shorter "S" routes so are about 10 miles long.

Refreshment Stops All Cyclesolihull rides have an en-route refreshment stop for about 30 minutes at a family-friendly pub or tearoom.

For details of the current programme go to:

www.cyclesolihull.org.uk

or pick up a copy of the **Cyclesolihull** ride programme on one of the rides.



M12 medium route from **Marston Green**

CycleSolihull

Explore your borough by bike



16 miles via the Cole Valley to Sarehole Mill & Acocks Green

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

Route M12 Marston Green to Sarehole Mill

Distance: 16 miles (100-130 mins). **Start:** Marston Green (Centro car park off Elmdon Lane) B37 7DL SP167854.

Route Summary: A varied route, outbound mainly along paths in the Cole Valley, returning on quiet urban roads.

Refreshments: There is a tearoom at Sarehole Mill (restricted opening) and a number of pubs and shops along the route.

Parking: There is a free car park at the start. If full with rail users (mainly an issue Monday-Friday), further on-street parking is available in Elmdon Lane.

The Route

A Follow the cycle path into **Sheldon Country Park**. Cross the brook and take the first path R passing under the railway. At the end of the path cross the road at the toucan crossing. Follow the path SO until the end. Turn L into **Gloucester Way** and immediately L into **Chapelhouse Rd**. At the end turn L.

B At the end, again turn L into **Tile Cross Rd** and immediately R into **Burleton Rd**. At the end go R into **Haywood Rd** and then R and first L into **Gerardsfield Rd**.

C Go SO, with care, at **East Meadway** into **Sheldon Hall Ave** and first L into **Hawkesford Rd**. Go SO across the other side of **Sheldon Hall Ave**. At the end, **Gressell Lane** turn R and immediately L into **Leycroft Ave**.







D At the end join the Cole Valley path straight ahead. Cross over the **River Cole** and turn L on to the main path. Continue on the main valley path for 2.5 miles following the signs to **Stechford**, keeping to the R of the river and en-route crossing **Packington Ave** and **Cole Hall Lane** (toucan).

E At the end the path there is a very busy roundabout. It is recommended you walk your bike for this short section. Use the adjacent pelican crossing and turn L. Go around the corner and another the pelican crossing. Bear L and, with care cross **Cotterills Lane** and rejoin the off road path SO.

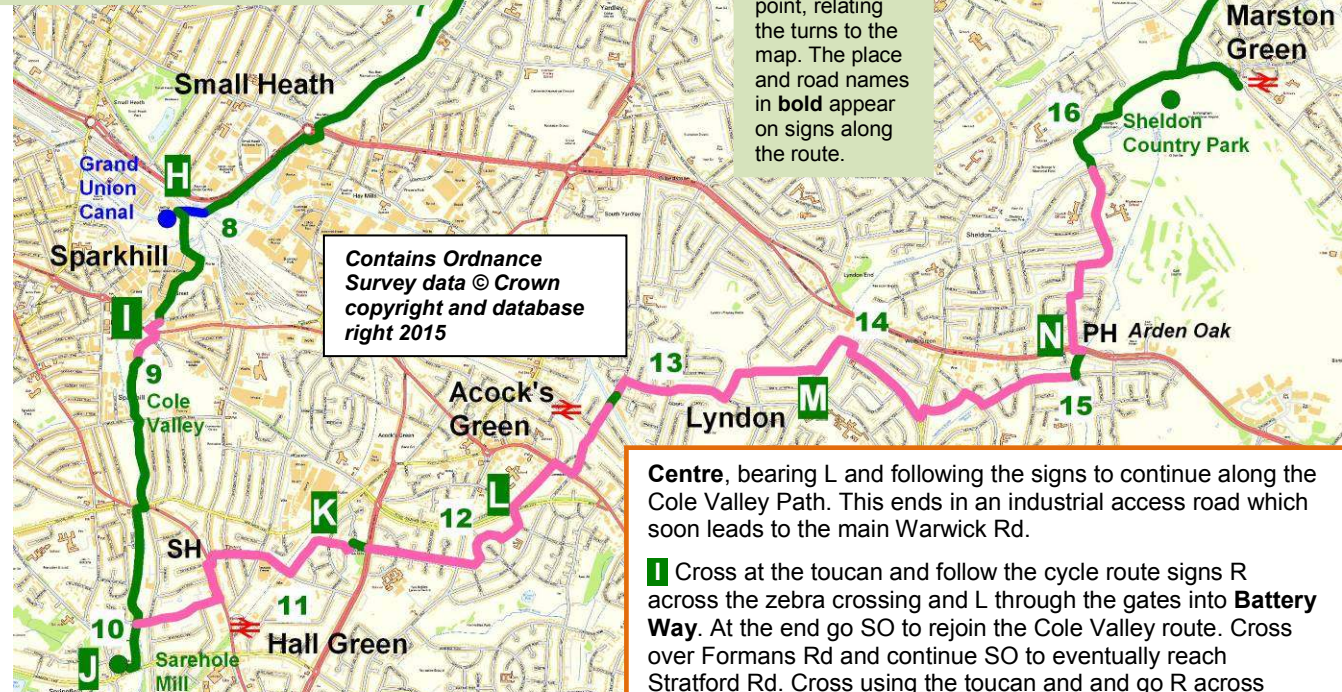
F At the end of the main path turn R by **St Cuthbert's School** on to an access road. At the end (**Gumbleberrys Close**) turn L on to a main road. At the mini-roundabout go L under the railway and L again into **Eastfield Rd**. Go SO under another (signalised) railway bridge) and turn first L to re-join the Cole Valley path going R.

G Cross **Yardley Green Rd** and continue along the Cole Valley path for a further 0.6 miles, crossing **Hob Moor Road** en-route

Key to Map

- A B** Start and route reference point
- 1, 2** Mileage from start point
-  Quiet road
-  Busier road
-  Significant hill climb (in direction of travel)
- PH** Public House
- SH** Shop selling drinks, sweets etc
-  Notable church
-  Access to canal or river
-  Place of interest

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



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.

eventually reaching the main A45 road. Cross at the pelican and turn R. Wheel your bike across **Fordrough** and a short distance along the pavement alongside the dual carriageway to reach the continuation of the Cole Valley route on your L.

H At the towpath of the **Grand Union Canal** turn R. Go under the railway and go onto the next bridge (CAUTION STAIRS UP) to cross the canal. Follow the path (CAUTION VERY STEEP HILL) down to the **Ackers Adventure**

Centre, bearing L and following the signs to continue along the Cole Valley Path. This ends in an industrial access road which soon leads to the main **Warwick Rd**.

I Cross at the toucan and follow the cycle route signs R across the zebra crossing and L through the gates into **Battery Way**. At the end go SO to rejoin the Cole Valley route. Cross over **Formans Rd** and continue SO to eventually reach **Stratford Rd**. Cross using the toucan and go R across **Sarehole Rd**. Walk across the bridge and rejoin the Cole Valley route on the L. Continue SO for x miles crossing a road next to a ford (**Green Lane**) to eventually reach **Sarehole Mill**.

J From **Sarehole Mill** return to the ford and turn R. Continue SO along **Green Rd** to reach the main **Stratford Rd**. Turn L in to the service road and cross at the 2nd pelican crossing. Turn L and go around the corner to join **York Rd**. Go SO at the mini-roundabout, cross the railway and turn left into **Hollyhock Rd**.

K At the end go SO and follow the road around the back of