

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 **Community Cycle Rides**.

## CycletoSolihull Day



A chance to join other cyclists in Solihull town centre for a cycling afternoon. Join one of the special rides or simply head to the town centre on your bike. For details of this year's event go to:

[www.cycletosolihullday.org.uk](http://www.cycletosolihullday.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 community rides, publicises routes and provides information about cycling.

## Community Cycle Rides

**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 30 riders. To get involved, just turn up and ride!

**Sunday Cycle Rides** take place most Sunday afternoons at 2 pm throughout the summer\* 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\* there 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.

**Saturday Stretcher Rides** take place twice-monthly\* on Saturdays, starting at 9.30 am from one of 6 different starting points. They are 25 to 35 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 mid-May to early August starting at 7 pm from one of 12 different starting points. They follow the shorter "S" routes so are about 10 miles long.

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

For details of the current programme go to:

[www.cyclesolihull.org.uk](http://www.cyclesolihull.org.uk)

or pick up a copy of the **Cyclesolihull 'Ride Together'** leaflet on one of the rides.

\* There is a reduced programme rides from November to February with Sunday rides starting at 1.30 pm.



**M14**

medium route from  
**Shirley**

# CycleSolihull

*Explore your borough by bike*



**15 miles via Hollywood,  
Forhill & Dickens Heath**

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







## Route M14 Shirley to Hollywood & Forhill

**Distance:** 15 miles (90-115 mins). **Start:** Shirley Park (park car park behind Aldi supermarket) B90 3AG. SP118792.

**Route Summary:** A varied ride via Hollywood into the countryside and narrow lanes of Worcestershire around Forhill. There are a few steep hills in this area.

**Refreshments:** There are a number of pubs on the route and shops a short distance off route in Hollywood and Dickens Heath.

### Key to Map

<b>A B</b>	Start and route reference point
<b>1, 2</b>	Mileage from start point
	Quiet road
	Busier road
	Cycle path
	Significant hill climb (in direction of travel)
<b>PH</b>	Public House
<b>CF</b>	Café or tearoom
<b>SH</b>	Shop selling drinks, sweets etc
	Notable church
	Place of interest

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

### The Route

**A** Start in the car park behind Aldi. Go through the gap in the hedge and follow the cycle path to the L through the park. At the end of the path turn right on to the residential road (Grenville Rd). Follow the road to the end and turn L then first R into **Hazeloak Rd**.

**B** At end of the road turn R and first L into Loxley Avenue. Follow the road to the end. Turn left into Neville Road and then immediately R to reach the main road. Turn R and go under the railway bridge.

**C** At the end of **Bills Lane** turn L. Turn next R just before **The Drawbridge** pub (take extra care with this turn). Cross the **Stratford Canal** bridge bearing L. At the end of the lane turn left.

**D** Take the next turning on the R into **Truemans Heath Lane** towards **Hopwood** and **Wythall**. After 0.75 miles go SO at the roundabout by the Jet garage. Take the first turning R into **May Lane**.

**E** At the end of the road go SO past the **Pack Horse** pub. At next crossroads go SO, soon passing over the A435. At the end of **Packhorse Lane** turn R towards **Kings Norton** on to **Middle Lane** and then first L into **Bell Green Lane** toward Northfield.

**F** At the end of the lane turn L on to **Icknield Street** towards **Wythall**. At the end of the road turn L and then first R following the cycle route sign to **Redditch**. Immediately turn R keeping **The Peacock** pub on your L. Go down the steep hill.

**G** Bear L at the next two junctions and follow the road for a mile. At the end of **Watery Lane** turn L.

**H** Follow the road, past the crossroads and **The Coach and Horses** pub then up a short very steep hill to a crossroads. Carry SO.

**I** Take first L into **Chapel Lane** towards the large church. Follow the road R and at the end of the lane turn L passing the cemetery.



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**L** At the end turn L and then first right into **Tythebarn Lane**.

**M** Follow the road until it bends to the R. From here bear L to continue along **Tythebarn Lane** which becomes a cul-de-sac. Go through the road closure at the **Stratford Canal** bridge, and turn L on to the cycle path. Follow this path, turning L past the **Miller and Carter** pub into **Tanworth Lane** and then L at the next junctions (still **Tanworth Lane**).

**N** Turn first L into **Stretton Rd**. Follow the road past the supermarket.

**O** At the end turn R and then first L into **Shottery Rd**. At the end turn L and then immediately R in to **Portia Avenue**.

**P** At the main road turn R and immediately L into **Shirley Park Rd**. At the end of the road turn R and rejoin the outward cycle path through **Shirley Park** back to the car park.

**J** At the small roundabout turn R into the very narrow **Willmore Lane**. Go over bridge and turn L. At end of the lane turn R into **Silver Street** towards **Drakes Cross**.

**K** Go SO at the crossroads next to the **White Swan**. After 0.75 miles cross **Hollywood Lane** continuing along **Houndsfield Lane** towards **Shirley**, crossing the ford and going under the railway.