

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** 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.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 community rides, publicises routes and provides information about cycling.

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 (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* there is a 5 or 6 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 Xtra rides take place monthly starting at 9.30 am from different starting points. They are similar to the Sunday rides but about 25 miles long. **Saturday Stretcher rides** are also monthly starting at 9.30 am from different starting points. They are faster rides of about 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 early May to late August starting at 7 pm and following 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

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



S19 short route from
Olton

CycleSolihull

Explore your borough by bike



12 miles via Solihull town centre,
Catherine-de-Barnes & Elmdon

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

Route S19 Olton to Solihull and Catherine-de-Barnes

Distance: 12 miles (70-90 mins). **Start:** Olton Park Brackleys Way B92 8QE SP141826.

Route Summary: A varied, largely urban, ride using mainly quiet roads, park paths and off-road cycle routes.

Refreshments: There are a number of cafés and pubs along the route.

Parking: Ample on-street parking along Brackleys Way.

The Route

A Facing the park go L along **Brackleys Way** past the education centre and join the narrow path at the end (please give way to pedestrians). At the end of the path turn L into the residential road. At the staggered crossroads turn R into **Castle Lane**.

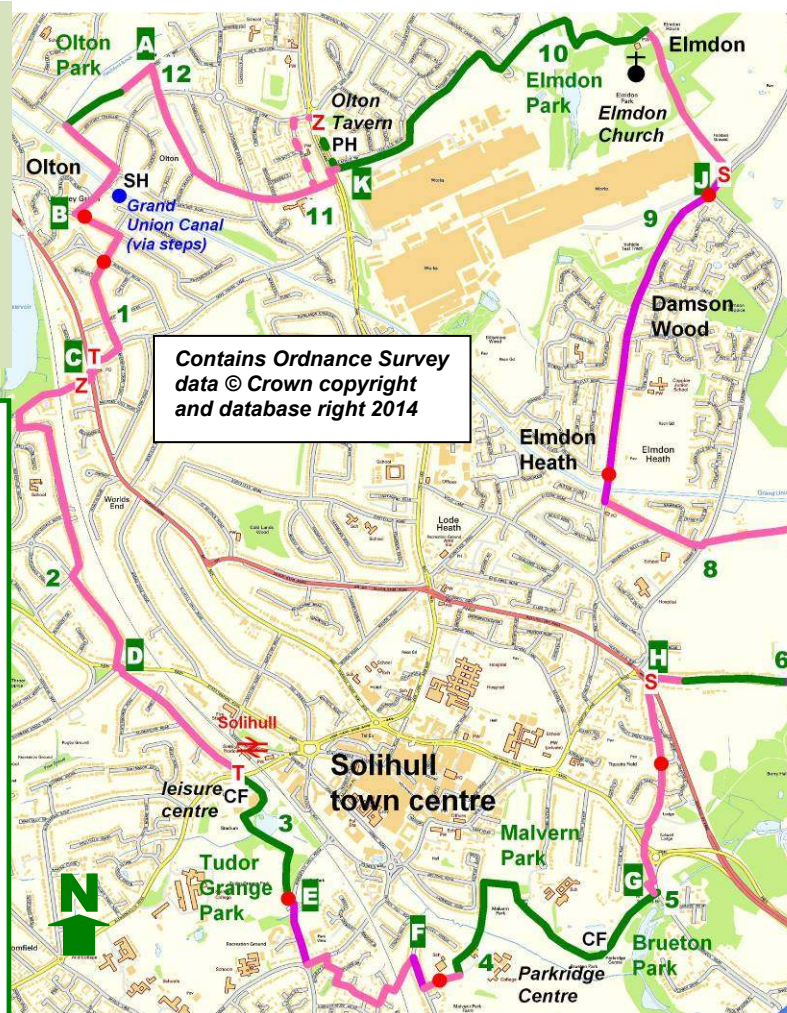
B At the mini-roundabout turn L into **Ulverley Green Rd** and first R into **Bourton Rd**. Go SO at the mini-roundabout and SO at the first crossroads. At the next crossroads with **Dove House Lane** turn R.

C At the main **Warwick Rd** bear left to use the pelican crossing and join **Grange Rd** opposite on your L at the zebra crossing. Turn second L into **Greswolde Rd** and immediately L into **Bryanston Rd**. At the crossroads turn L into **Stonor Park Rd**.

D At the main road turn L and immediately R into **Dorchester Rd** (caution! this junction can be busy). At the end turn L to use the toucan to cross onto the cycle path opposite. Follow the path around the L side of the leisure centre and to the R of the lake. At the next path junction turn L over the bridge and follow the path past the playground and, turning R, the cycle circuit.

E Leave the park, turning R at the roundabout. After 200 yards on a busier road, turn L at the next roundabout. Go first R and then turn R, L, and R following the signed cycle route along **Huntley Drive**. Leave the cycle route where it turns R into **Mayfield Close**. Instead go L and turn R onto the narrow path beyond **Langford Croft**. At the end turn L and follow the path under the railway to join **Hillfield Rd**.

F At the main road turn R and, after 100 yards, L into the **6th Form College**. Just before the gatehouse go L on to the cycle path which leads into **Malvern Park**. At the main path junction turn R passing the tennis courts on your L. Follow the path for 0.5 miles passing the **Parkridge Wildlife**



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the lane. At the end turn R, passing over the **Grand Union Canal**. Go SO for 1 mile passing a mini-roundabout.

J At the large roundabout outside the **Landrover** entrance (caution busier junction!) go SO and then immediately L after the traffic lights towards **St Nicholas Church**. Turn next L by the church into the **Elmdon Park** car park. Follow the wide path down into the park (caution steep hill!), bearing R at the bottom and L past the playground. Cross the quiet road into the narrow path opposite (please give way to pedestrians and dismount if necessary). Follow this path for about 0.6 miles.

K On reaching the main road bear R and cross, with care, to the central reservation and turn L into the service road opposite. Turn first right into **Rodney Rd** which eventually becomes **Summerfield Rd**. At busy times you may wish to use an alternative route to cross Lode Lane: turn R onto the

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.

roadside cycle path passing the **Olton Tavern** pub and use the zebra crossing to cross the main road into **Castle Lane** opposite. Turn next L into **Faulkner Rd** and at the end turn R into **Rodney Rd** which becomes **Summerfield Rd**.

Continue along Summerfield Rd and at the next crossroads go SO to return to the start point.

Centre, eventually reaching the **Brueton Park** car park.

G Leave via the vehicle exit and go L and immediately L again into the stub of the old **Warwick Rd**. At the end use the cycle path and central island to cross the main road and reach Marsh Lane. Continue R up Marsh Lane going SO at the roundabout.

H At the traffic signals go SO into **Hampton Lane** and join the roadside cycle path on the L for 0.3 miles before rejoining the carriageway. Turn next R into **Ravenshaw Lane**. Caution busier road – you may find it easier to bear L into **Field Lane** and cross **Hampton Lane** from there. Go next L into the narrow lane. At the end of Berry Hall Lane turn L to eventually rejoin Hampton Lane.

I Go SO into **Lugtrout Lane** (to visit the **Boat Inn** divert R for 100 yards). Continue SO for 1 mile. Cross (caution – busier road!) **Damson Parkway** to the gap opposite, following the continuation of

Key to Map

- A B** Start and route reference point
- 1, 2** Mileage from start point
- Quiet road
- Busier road
- Cycle path
- Z P T S** ● Zebra/pelican/toucan/ signals/ roundabout
- Significant hill climb (in direction of travel)
- PH/CF** Public House/ café or tearoom
- SH** Shop selling drinks, sweets etc
- ⊕ Notable church
- ● **Water feature/place of interest**

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