

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

The 19 **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 one of the regular **Community Cycle Rides**.

Cycle^{to}Solihull Day

Sunday 13 September 2009



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. More details at:

www.cycletosolihullday.org.uk

This is one of a series of ride leaflets devised by Solihull Cycling Steering Group which is helping Solihull Council to increase the amount of cycling in the area and consists of representatives from: Cyclists Touring Club, Pushbikes, Solihull Cycling Club, Solihull Care Trust, Solihull Residents Association and Sustrans.

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 during 2008 nearly 900 people (including over 100 children) took part in over 40 rides. To get involved, just turn up and ride!

Sunday Cycle Rides take place most Sundays* throughout the summer starting at 2 pm from one of 13 different starting points. "S" (short) routes are about 10 miles long, "M" (medium) routes are about 15 miles long and "L" (long) routes about 20 miles long.

Evening Explorer Rides are on alternate Wednesdays from mid-May to mid-August starting at 7 pm from one of 8 different starting points. They follow the short "S" routes so are about 10 miles long.

Saturday Stretcher Rides take place on the first Saturday of every month at 10 am from one of 4 different starting points. They are 20 to 25 miles long and do not follow a fixed route, so are suitable for more experienced cyclists.

Taster Rides are an occasional opportunity to try a Cyclesolihull ride without going very far. They are about 5 miles long starting at 2 pm from one of 3 different starting points – an ideal introduction to the rides for new cyclists and small children.

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

** all except those weekends when there is a Saturday Stretcher or Taster Ride.*

For full details of current rides go to:

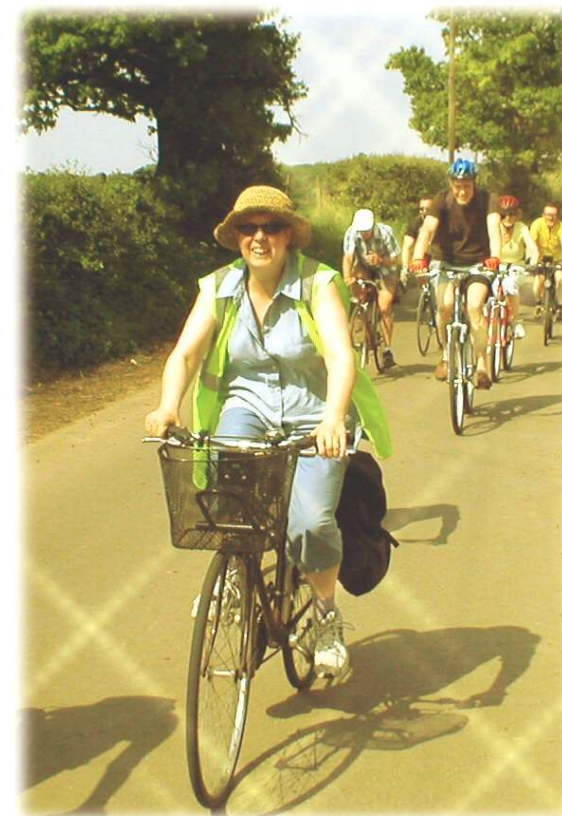
www.cyclesolihull.org.uk

or pick up a copy of the **Cyclesolihull 'Ride Together'** leaflet on one of the rides or at local libraries and cycle shops.

Route L1

CycleSolihull

Explore your borough by bike



Balsall Common to Kenilworth & Beausale (19 miles)

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

Route L1 Balsall Common to Burton Green, Kenilworth & Beausale

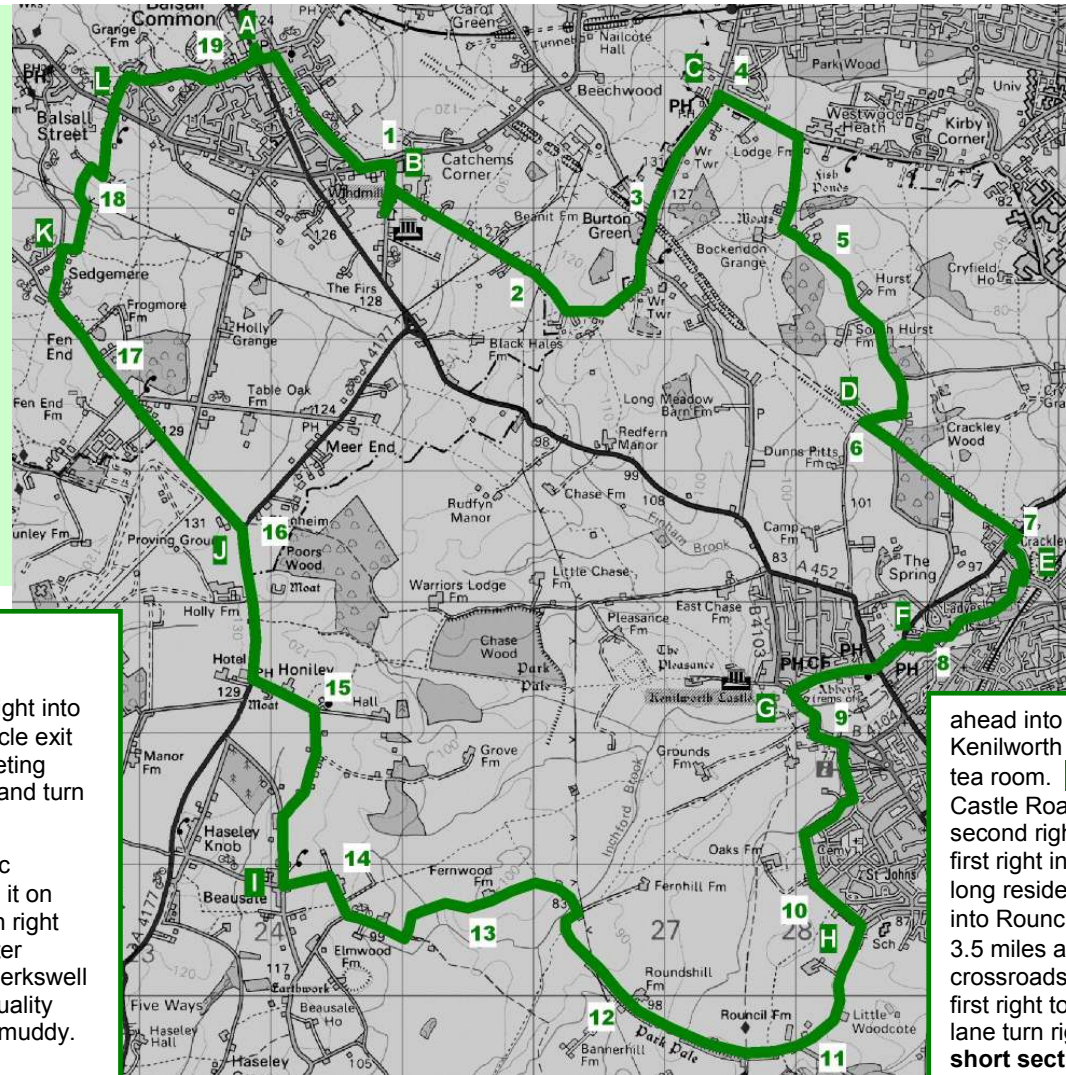
Distance: 19 miles (100 to 140 mins)

Start: The Library, Kenilworth Road. Balsall Common CV7 7EL, SP238772.


Parking: There is a car park behind the library. The entrance is via the narrow entrance off Station Road *immediately after* the blue "P" sign.

Route Summary: A ride to historic Kenilworth Castle along mainly quiet lanes. Includes a short section on the A4177.

Refreshments: Pub in Burton Green. A cafe and several pubs in old Kenilworth.



Key to Map

- A** Reference point
- 1, 2** Mileage from start.
- PH** Public House
- CF** Cafe/Tearoom
-  Historic building

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The Route

A Facing the library go through the cut-through to the right into the car park at the rear. Leave the car park via the vehicle exit and turn left on to Station Road. Turn first right into Meeting House Lane. Follow this traffic-calmed road to the end and turn left.

B Turn next right into Windmill Lane. To visit the historic Berkswell Windmill continue for 400 yards until you see it on your left. Then retrace your route for 200 yards and turn right down Hob Lane. Follow this lane for 3 miles. Shortly after passing Red Lane on the right you will cross over the Berkswell Greenway. This walkway is being upgraded to a high quality cycleway but at present this section is rough and often muddy. Therefore continue through Burton Green.

C Turn first right into Westwood Heath Road and then first right into Bockendon Road. Follow this narrow lane for 1.5 miles. Turn first right into the very narrow Hollis Lane. **D** Go under the former railway bridge and turn right up the ramp. **WARNING:** There is at present a cycle unfriendly gate at this point which is difficult to negotiate and you may need to lift your bike. Go right on to Kenilworth Greenway. Follow the Greenway to the present end at the Coventry Road. **Note: the Connect2 scheme will extend the path across the Coventry Road and into Kenilworth during the next few years.** For now turn right (caution: this road may be busy) and then first left into

residential Woodland Road.

E At the end turn right into Common Lane. After 100 yards turn left onto a shared pedestrian/cycle path across Kenilworth Common. **Caution: this path is steep downhill and not surfaced – please give way to pedestrians and if in doubt dismount.** At the bottom, turn right into the end of Lower Ladies Hills (do not go across the footbridge on the left). At the end turn left and then immediately right into Manor Road.

F At the end of the road turn left into New Street. Go straight across at the crossroads into the High Street and continue straight

ahead into Castle Hill which ends at Kenilworth Castle where there is a pub and tea room. **G** Turn left from Castle Hill into Castle Road. Cross the bridge and turn second right into Brookside Avenue and then first right into Fishponds Road. Follow this long residential road to the end. **H** Turn right into Rouncil Lane. Follow this country lane for 3.5 miles and turn first right. **I** At the crossroads in Beausale turn right and then first right towards Honiley. At the end of the lane turn right on to the A4177. **Note: this short section of A road can be busy, particularly on weekdays.** **J** After 0.75 miles turn first left into Honiley Lane towards Fen End. Follow this road for over a mile and then turn right into the Long Brook Lane. **K** At the isolated crossroads turn right into Fernhill Lane and follow this winding lane to the end. **L** At the B4101 go across into Needlers Lane on your left. Follow this suburban road to the end and turn left. This road leads to a roundabout on the A452 in Balsall Common and the library is across the road to your left.