



Longer Bike Rides

8 cycle routes between 12 and 31 miles through South Gloucestershire towns and villages



Castle Combe



Thornbury



Pilning and Severn Beach



Bradley Stoke



Severnvale



Stoke Gifford



Wotton-under-Edge



River Severn Loop



Introduction

These longer cycle routes are aimed at regular cyclists, who like to get out and about on their own or with a group of friends. Cycling offers a great opportunity to experience the countryside and discover new places within South Gloucestershire.

The routes vary in length and difficulty. A grading system has been used to determine the ability level required to cycle these routes, however this is only a guide.

If you would like to try some gentler rides, why not try our Leisure Rides leaflet.



Ability Levels

- 1** For all users including inexperienced or beginner cyclists. Any hills will be very gentle and any on road cycling will be on quiet roads.
- 2** For the slightly more experienced cyclists or those who may feel a bit more confident. There may be the occasional steep hill (don't be afraid to get off and push!) and occasional short stretches on busier roads.
- 3** For the reasonably competent cyclists. The rides will be longer, with some steep hills and with cycling on or alongside busy roads for long stretches.

The times given to cycle a route may vary depending on fitness level and the number of breaks and stops.

Full directions can be found online at www.betterbike.info
It is recommended that you take a map with you when cycling.

Advice

It pays to be prepared with puncture repair equipment, waterproofs, food and drinks in case of mishap or the shops being closed. These routes incorporate off road sections that are shared with pedestrians. Please cycle with consideration for all users. When cycling on the roads take necessary care and if you don't feel confident on busy sections then get off your bike and push it.

Comments

Whilst every effort has been made to check that these routes are suitable, changes may occur. If you have any comments, suggestions or recommendations about these routes or possible future routes, please let us know on cycleforum@southglos.gov.uk

Key to directions



Café



Toilets



Pub



Station



Parking

Refer to this key for all route maps

If a nameplate appears in **bold** type it is on the route eg **Charfield**

Key to directions: R=right / L=left / SO=straight over / T=T junction
X=cross roads / sp=sign posts / TL=traffic lights / !=take care

Visit:
www.betterbybike.info
for advice,
maps and general
information about
getting cycling.





Whilst every effort has been made to check that these routes are correct, changes may occur.

1	Castle Combe Loop	30 miles 3-4 hours 3 ability level
2	Pilning & Severn Beach Loop	12 miles 1-1.5 hours 2 ability level
3	Severnvale Loop	27 miles 3-4 hours 3 ability level
4	Wotton-under-Edge Loop	25 miles 3-3.5 hours 2 ability level
5	Thornbury Loop	23 miles 3-3.5 hours 3 ability level
6	Bradley Stoke Loop	23 miles 3-3.5 hours 3 ability level
7	Stoke Gifford Loop	31 miles 3-4 hours 3 ability level
8	River Severn Loop	24 miles 3 hours 2 ability level





Cycle from the Bristol to Bath Railway path through Cotswold villages and along meandering, rural roads with beautiful countryside views through Castle Combe; the prettiest village in England.

Page 6-9

A lovely ride through the countryside towards the River Severn taking in beautiful landscapes and views of the impressive Severn Bridges.

Page 10-13

Follow rural roads to cycle through the beautiful countryside around Thornbury and through the quaint villages situated along the Severn Estuary Valley.

Page 14-17

Follow the Cotswold Escarpment and enjoy the idyllic countryside as you cycle through pretty towns and villages to the historic market town of Wotton-under-Edge.

Page 18-21

Cycle around the historic town of Thornbury, surrounded by picturesque countryside, down rural roads to the bustling town of Bradley Stoke.

Page 22-25

Starting in Bradley Stoke, cycle through this family town to enjoy countryside views before cycling back into suburban life.

Page 26-29

Take in the idyllic sights of South Gloucestershire, cycling through numerous towns and villages including Chipping Sodbury, Tytherington and Wickwar past beautiful views and nature reserves.

Page 30-33

Cycle along the River Severn and over the old Severn Bridge taking in the panoramic views. Complete the loop cycling through the rural villages of Olveston, Tockington, and Easter Compton.

Page 34-37

If you have any comments, suggestions or recommendations about these routes or possible future routes, please let us know on cycleforum@southglos.gov.uk



Castle Combe

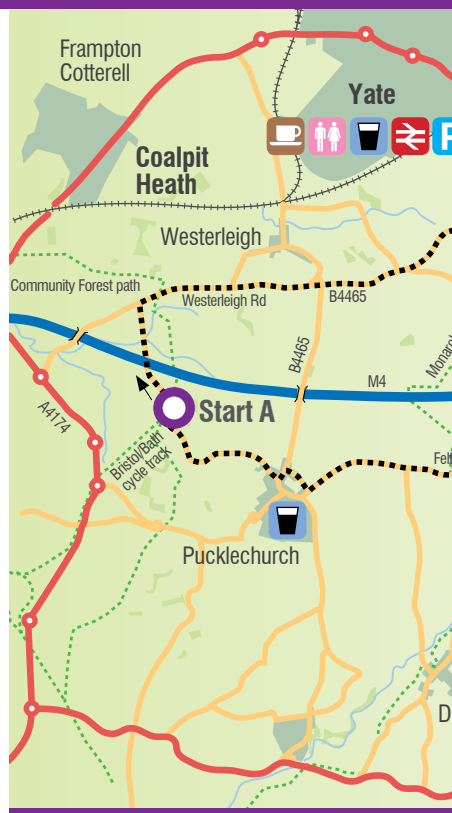
START A (BS16 9NL)

- From Yate spur of Bristol-Bath Railway Path turn L down hill and underneath motorway
- Turn R at X (!) into Westerleigh Road. Follow road for 2 miles up hill, across junction
- Take the 2nd L (sp Chipping Sodbury) after the junction with the B4465
- Take the 3rd R (sp Dodington). At T, turn L (sp Old Sodbury) and continue up hill
- Turn R at T onto A432 (!). SO at TL (!) (sp Malmesbury, Chippenham) onto B4040
- After 1½ miles, turn R (effectively straight on) where road bends to L
- At T, turn L onto Tormarton Road to **Acton Turville**
- At T (Fox and Hounds pub), turn R then L into The Street (sp Malmesbury, Sherston)

- Take 1st R (sp Chippenham, **Castle Combe**) onto Littleton Drew Road
- Follow the road through Littleton Drew and, just as you're leaving turn L. Turn L at T
- Turn R at X in **Grittleton** (sp Yatton Keynall). Take 1st R (sp **Castle Combe**)
- Turn L at T, then immediately R (sp **Castle Combe**). Turn R at T into **Castle Combe**

START B (SN14 7HU)

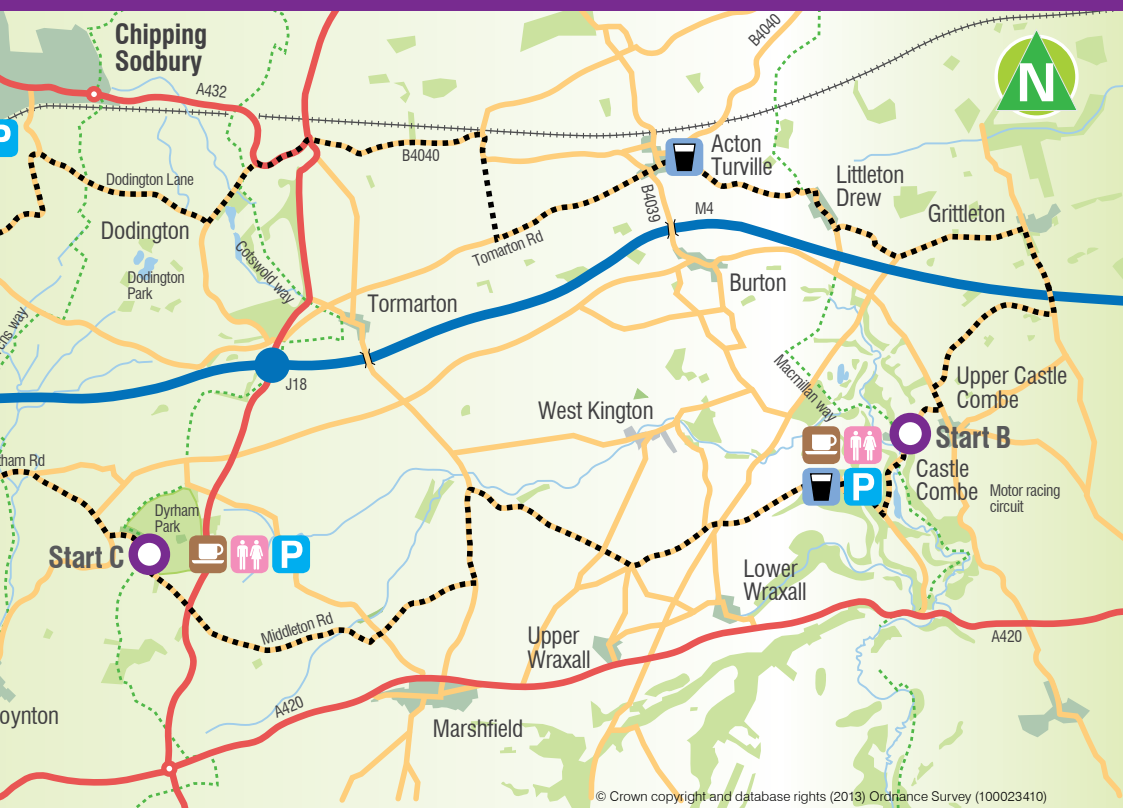
- Continue through village and up hill. Take 1st R (sp North Wraxall and West Kington)
- Go SO at X. Turn R at X (sp Tormarton) and go SO at next X (sp Tormarton). Turn L at T





30 miles
2 to 3 hours
3 ability level

The start is easily accessed by bike from anywhere in Bristol or Bath by picking up the Bristol and Bath Railway Path or the Avon Ring Road (A4174) cycle track. Alternatively start at Dyrham Park or The Street, Castle Combe



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- After you've passed house on L then another on R, take the 1st R into narrow road
- Go SO at X. Turn R at next X. Turn R at T onto A46 (!) then turn L (sp Dyrham, Doynton)
- Follow road down hill and turn R (sp Cotswold Way, St Peter's Church)

START C (SN14 86R)

- Follow the road past Dyrham Park until you come to T where you turn R
- Turn L at T (sp **Pucklechurch**, Mangotsfield) and follow the road to **Pucklechurch**
- In Pucklechurch, turn R into Castle Road. At end of road turn L at T
- Take 1st R (at the green) into Parkfield Road. Bear right by sign for Kings Lane
- Follow road round to L until the entrance to Bristol-Bath Railway Path



Interesting facts

- Castle Combe has been named as one of the prettiest villages in England. The Normans built a castle over the Roman fort in the village which has since fallen into ruin and now only the earthworks remain.
- Castle Combe is a popular setting for filming and can be seen in the 1966 'Doctor Doolittle', and more recently 'Stardust' and 'The Wolf Man'.
- The name Pucklechurch is said to have originated from the early British (Celtic) and Anglo-Saxon interest in the supernatural. The word 'Puca' means goblin and the area was thought to have been the home of elves and goblins. On 26th May 946, Edmund King of England was stabbed to death by a local thief when attending a banquet in Pucklechurch.
- Along the route is Dyrham Park, a National Trust site, including a beautiful 17th century home and deer park set in the glorious Cotswold countryside.



Castle Combe





Pilning & Severn Beach

START A (BS35 4DR)

- | From White Hart pub, **Olveston**, turn L and follow road towards **Aust** for ½ mile
- | Turn L (sp **Severn Beach**). Follow road for 2 miles through lngst and continue until T
- | Turn L (sp Severn Beach). Turn R into Northwick Road. At White Horse pub, turn L down cycle path
- | Follow cycle path parallel to motorway across bridge and continue to end of path
- | Turn L out of cycle path and L up hill over motorway
- | At mini roundabout, turn R. Go over motorway bridge. Turn R into Beach Road
- | Take L fork (effectively straight on). At T, turn R (children's play area on right)

START B (BS35 4PQ)

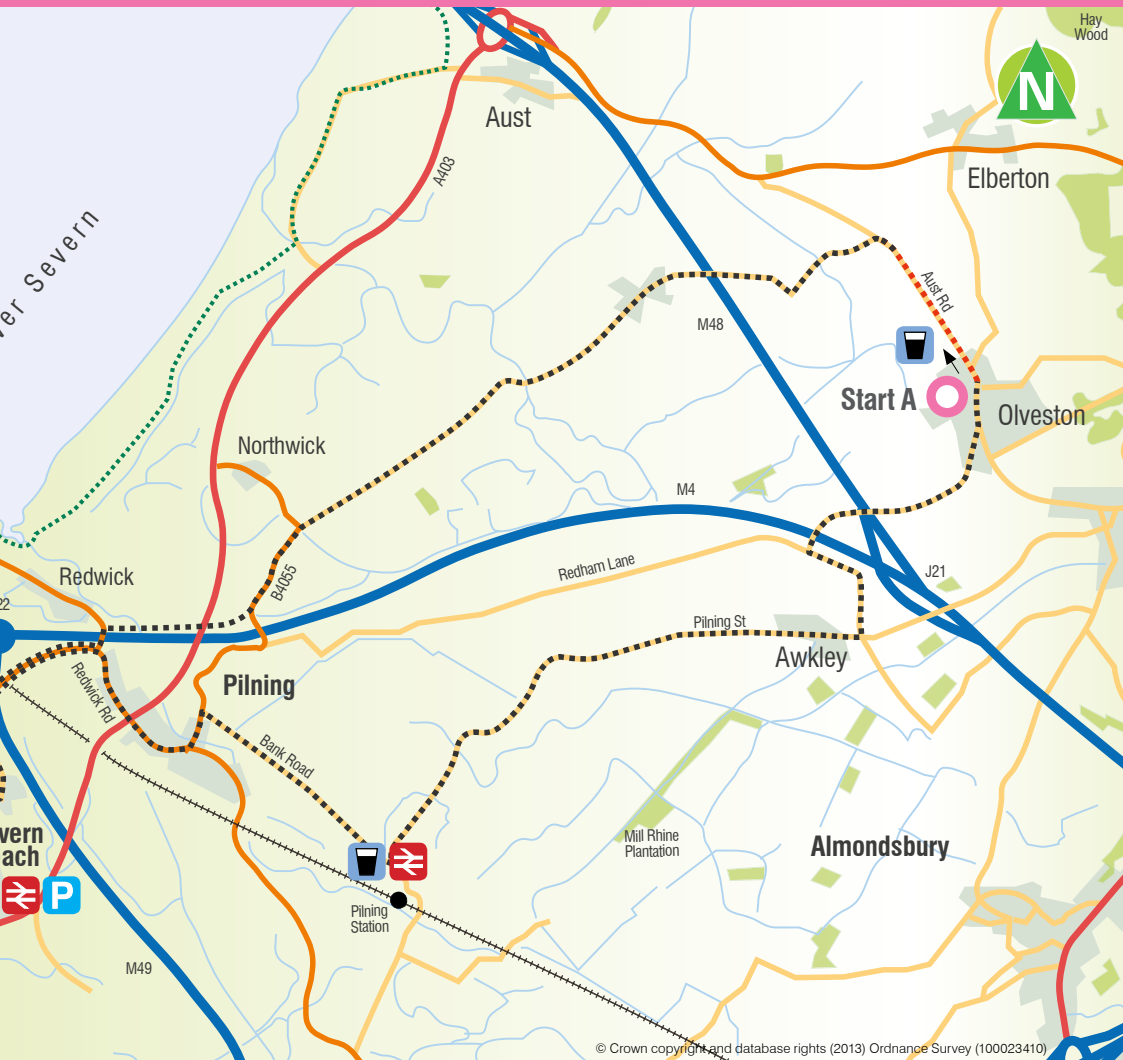
- | Continue along Beach Road to one-way system and turn L
- | Turn L into Station Road, then L at mini roundabout and immediately R into Church Road
- | Follow around a sharp L bend
- | Where the road bends sharply to R go straight ahead. At T, turn R. Turn R again and over motorway bridge
- | At mini roundabout, turn R (sp Bristol B4064). Cross the A403 at TL (!)
- | Turn L opposite Cross Hands pub
- | Go over hump back bridge and immediately turn R (sp **Easter Compton, Tockington**)
- | Follow road to T and turn L (sp **Tockington**)
- | Follow the lane for 2 miles. Turn L into Awkley Lane before the motorway bridge
- | Take the 1st R (sp **Olveston**). Continue past duck pond. At T, turn L to White Hart pub





12 miles
1 to 1.5 hours
2 ability level

Start outside the White Hart pub in the village of Olveston, which is on the junction of The Street (B4461) with Church Hill opposite St Mary's church, or on Beach Road, Severn Beach



..... This part of the route is busy take care

Interesting facts

- | 50 years ago, Severn Beach was the popular weekend destination of hundreds of Bristolians and people from the Midlands. Some beach cafés and children's playgrounds still exist as evidence of its past.
- | There is a Severn Bridges Visitor Centre, open at weekends and by appointment on weekdays.
- | A ferry crossing existed at Aust for approximately 2000 years in various locations. The Aust ferry closed in 1855 after a major incident. It reopened in 1924 until the opening of the M48 toll bridge in 1966.
- | There is a cliff above the village of Aust that, after a rockfall or a storm, is popular with fossil collectors.



Severn Beach





Severnvale

START A (BS36 1RJ)

- From Swan Inn, turn L. Turn L into Swan Lane
- At T, turn R and continue until next T
- At T, turn R (sp Chipping Sodbury, Yate) then immediately L
- Follow road for 2 miles into village of **Tytherington**
- Follow road to T in **Tytherington**, turn R then L into Baden Hill Road
- Turn R at 1st T and then L at next T junction (sp **Cromhall**)
- Follow road into **Cromhall**. At X, turn L onto B4058 (sp Charfield, Wotton-under-Edge)
- Take 2nd L into Knapp Lane. Continue until T, turn R up hill and turn L at next T
- Shortly after Leyhill Open Prison turn L into entrance of Tortworth Court Hotel
- Halfway down drive turn R through gate marked 'Arboretum'
- Climb hill to walled area. For the **Leyhill Garden Centre** turn L at walled area past greenhouses

START B (GL12 8HH)

- Turn L up hill to T with B4059. Turn L, go through TL (!) over motorway until T
- Turn L onto A38. Take 1st R into Sundayshill Lane
- At T, turn L, follow road for 1 mile before turning R at fork
- Turn R at T. Where road bends sharply to R, turn L (effectively straight)
- At T, turn R (sp Cowhill, Oldbury). Around sharp bend to L (sp Cowhill, Littleton)
- Pass Anchor Inn on L and Oldbury-on-Severn Primary School on R
- Pass St Arild's church. Continue along road until petrol station on R. Take the 1st R
- Take 2nd L to **Littleton-on-Severn** (sp Elberton, Olveston)
- Follow to **Elberton**. Turn R at T (sp Severn Bridge, Aust) then immediately L
- At T turn L into **Olveston**. Follow Fern Hill to A38 and turn R. Turn L into Hortham Lane
- Turn R at T (sp **Winterbourne**, Frampton Cotterell), then take 1st L
- Turn R at T onto B4461. Swan Inn is approximately $\frac{3}{4}$ mile on R





27 miles
2-2.5 hours
3 ability level

Start in the village of Winterbourne at the Swan Inn, which is on the B4058 from Bristol to Yate. The Swan is in the northern part of Winterbourne. Alternatively start at Leyhill Garden Centre



Interesting facts

- 'Cromhall' is derived from the Old English words 'crumb' and 'halh' meaning bent and a nook or corner of land. It is likely that this refers to the crooked course of the stream at the west of the church, almost enclosing the land where the early settlement may have been built.
- The Medieval St Andrew's Church in Cromhall was originally built in the 13th or 14th century, however it is believed that there was an earlier Cromhall church. The history for this church is vague but it is known that there was a Christian presence during the Dark Ages when the Cromhall hermit traditionally lived in a crude cell at Abbotside where many old ruins still exist.
- As you pass through Tytherington, keep an eye out for New House Farm. As part of a community project, the owner of New House Farm invited 26 families to plant their own tree in his orchard which was already home to two pear trees which are a hundred years old.





Severnvaie



Wotton-under-Edge loop

START A (BS37 9U2)

- | Turn L. Go SO at TL. !. Turn R into Chaingate Lane, then R at T junction
- | Take 1st L into Tanhouse Lane. Go SO at X. !. Into Mapleridge Lane
- | Turn L at T and continue into **Horton**. Take second L (sp Avon Cycleway) into King Lane
- | Cross a cattle grid and continue until the T, turn R
- | Cross another cattle grid, climb up the hill and take 1st L
- | Continue into **Hillesley**. Turn L at T
- | Continue through Alderley, Wortley and into Wotton-under-Edge
- | Shortly after a sharp bend to R, turn L into Ludgate Hill. Turn L into High Street

START B (GL12 7JJ)

- | At end of High Street go straight over X into Bradley Street
- | When Bradley Street bends round to R, turn L into Ellerncroft Road
- | At end of road, pass bollards into lane
- | At end of lane, join road where you turn L down the hill. !
- | Turn L at T. At next T, turn R. !. Go SO at roundabout towards Charfield
- | Continue into Charfield and, after crossing railway bridge, take 1st L
- | Follow road to a T where you turn L. At next T turn L onto B4509
- | Turn R immediately after a L turn (sp Wickwar Parish Church)
- | Turn L by 1, Clock Cottages (sp Hallend, Rangeworthy)
- | Turn R at T opposite Elm Croft. At X, turn L into Lilmkln Road
- | Continue until T where you turn R. Take 1st L (sp Avon Cycleway 10)
- | After sharp bend to L, turn R, then at the next T, turn R. Go SO at the X into Lodge Road
- | At end of road, follow cycle path
- | At end of path, cross over main road and continue straight into another lane
- | At end of lane, turn R and immediately L into Bridge Road
- | Turn R at 1st T and continue until Iron Acton, turn R at T





25 miles
2 to 2.5 hours
2 ability level

**Start in the village of Iron Acton at the Lamb Inn,
just south of the B4059 Iron Acton Bypass or on the
High Street, Wotton-under-Edge**



Interesting facts

- Wotton-under-Edge is situated underneath the escarpment edge looking over the Severn Valley within the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.
- One of the most important architectural examples in Wotton-under-Edge is the Parish Church of St Mary the Virgin. Three groups of almshouses can also be found, dating from 1638, all of which are still in use today.
- Horton Court is situated between Horton and Hawkesbury and comprises of a 12th century rectory. It is open to the public between July and August.
- A Roman villa lies in the back garden and fields behind a cottage in Wortley, discovered when the land owner dug a hole for a fence post. The site was excavated between 1983 and 1996.



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VISITORS ARE WELCOME
TO WALK AROUND THE COURTYARD AND SEE THE CHAPEL





Thornbury

START (BS35 2BQ)

- From Castle Court Car Park, turn L onto High Street. Turn L onto Castle Street, past the church
- Follow road as it bends sharply to R. Turn R onto Whitfield Road
- At end of road turn L onto Gloucester Road. Turn R opposite the Anchor pub into Severn View Road
- Continue SO onto Easton Hill Road. At end of road, turn L onto Knapp Road
- Continue straight. Ignore junction for Knapp Road on L
- At end of road, turn R (sp **Bristol, Gloucester**) then immediately L into Hacket Lane
- Follow Hacket Lane uphill for 1 mile. At fork in road turn R up Hacket Hill
- Turn L onto A38. Turn R onto Cuttsheath Road! (sp **Milbury Heath, Cromhall**)
As you go through Milbury Heath there are clear views across the river Severn to Wales and a public bench should you wish to stop and admire the view
- Follow Cuttsheath Road as it bears R. Go across bridge over M5. Follow road to L
- Turn R at end of road (sp Avon Cycleway). Turn R onto Baden Hill Road
- At end of road turn R onto Stidcot Lane and on into Duck Street, then L opposite the church onto Itchington Road, passing the Swan and Village shop on your left.
- Follow Itchington Road, bear L as it turns into Earthcott Road
- Continue for 1 mile to end of road. Turn R onto Church Road (sp **Thornbury, Rudgeway**)
- Turn L onto Old Gloucester Road (sp **Hambrook**) and follow for 3 miles
- At TL turn R onto Winterbourne Road. At RB, turn R onto Bradley Stoke Way
- Go SO the next two roundabouts. At the third roundabout (by the Willow Centre) take a R into Fiddlers Wood Lane
- Follow the cycle path on your L into Savages wood, cricket ground will be on your R. You will pass a bridge on your L, at the second bridge, turn L over the bridge and keep L where the path forks
- Take the fourth path on your R, which will lead you up onto Ellicks Close. Turn L and at mini RB turn R

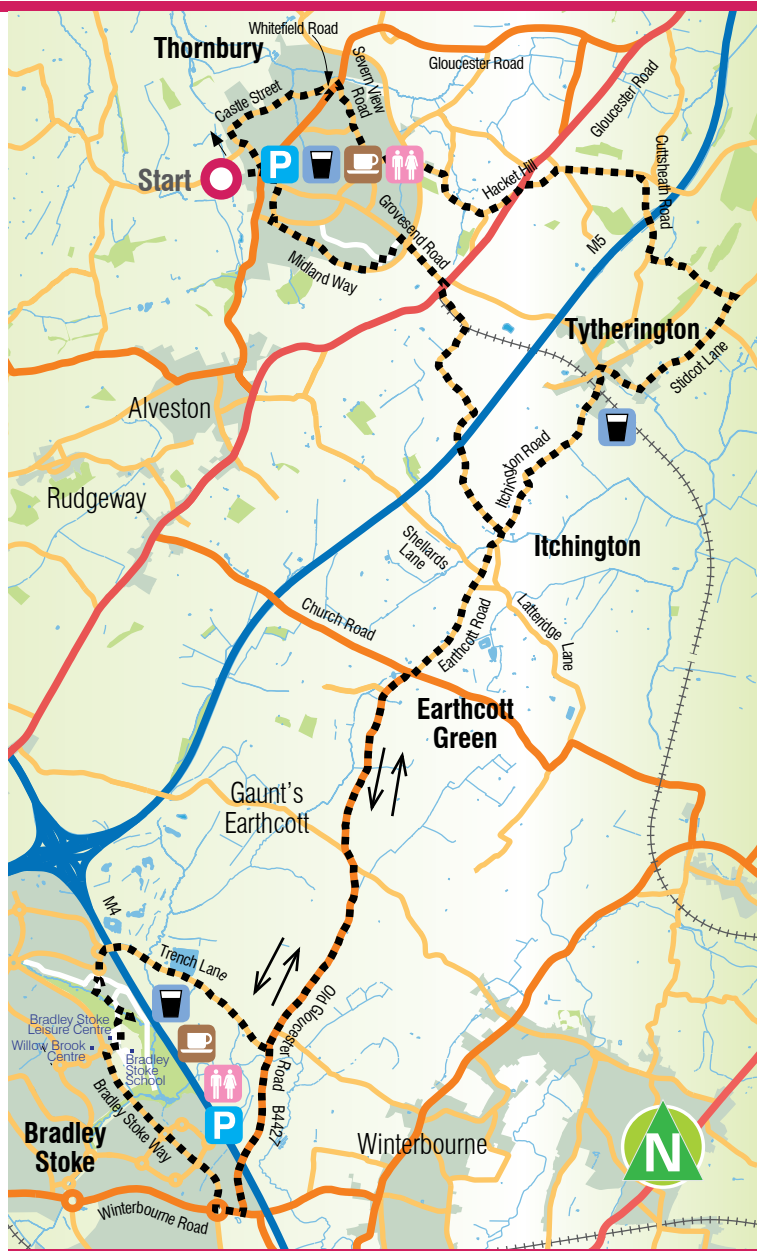




25 miles
3 to 3.5 hours
3 ability level

**Start in Castle Court Car Park,
which is off the main High Street in the Thornbury.**

- At the next mini RB go SO into Trench Lane. Then at mini RB go R still on Trench Lane, over the motorway
- Go over M4. At end of road turn L onto Old Gloucester Road. Follow to end of road
- Turn R onto Church Road (sp **Chipping Sodbury, Yate**), then L onto Earthcott Road
- Turn L onto Itchington Road (sp **Grovesend, Thornbury**). Continue, over M5
- Turn R onto Gloucester Road then L at TL onto Grovesend Road
- Go SO at RB then L onto Avon Way. Go L at RB
- Follow path to immediate R. When path joins Midland Way, turn R
- At RB, turn R up Rock Street. Follow Rock Street around into Quaker Lane
- Turn L at RB onto the Plain, follow the road around to the L back onto High Street. Turn R back into Castle Court.



Interesting facts

- Thornbury is a medieval town founded in the 9th century and remnants of medieval walls can still be seen throughout the town.
- Thornbury Castle is the only Tudor castle in England to be opened as a hotel. King Henry VIII and Anne Boleyn once stayed in the castle. The vineyard is 500 years old and Thornbury Castle produces its own wine from the grapes.
- Thornbury is home to medieval fishponds. It is believed that these were created in the 13th century and are made up of eight interconnecting ponds of varying size and depth. Fish were popular during the medieval period during fast days when it was forbidden to eat red meat. These ponds were used to breed, raise and store freshwater fish for this purpose. The fishponds were registered under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 in 2011 by English Heritage, protecting them from development.
- Stokefield Close in Thornbury, Oldbury-on-Severn nuclear power station, and Tytherington quarry were all used as locations for a four part Doctor Who episode named The Hand of Fear in 1976.



Thornbury

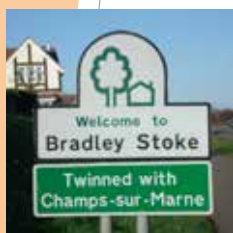




Bradley Stoke

START (BS32 8EF)

- | At Three Brooks pub turn L on Savages Wood Road. Turn R at RB
- | Follow Bradley Stoke Way across two RBs. At 3rd RB, turn L
- | At TL turn L onto Old Gloucester Road
- | At end of road, turn R then turn L onto Earthcott Road (sp Memorial Woodlands)
- | Take 2nd L onto Shellards Lane (sp **Alveston**). At end of road turn R onto A38 (!)
- | At TL turn L onto Thornbury Road. Take 1st L onto Down Road. Turn R onto Vattingsstone Lane
- | Turn L (sp Avon Cycleway) after 2 miles. Follow road to R then L onto Elberton Road
- | Follow road past school on L to end of road, turn L onto The Street
- | Just after Olveston Stores, turn R onto The Green. Follow road to L
- | Follow road and over M48 and M4. Turn L onto Awkley Lane (sp **Alveston, Tockington**)
- | At end of road turn R (sp **Pilning**). Follow road past the Plough Inn and under bridge
- | At end of road turn L onto Blackhorse Hill (sp Avon Cycleway)
- | Follow road into Easter Compton. Turn R onto Bowstreet Lane (sp Avon Cycleway)
- | At end of road turn L onto Hollywood Lane (sp **Cribbs Causeway**)
- | Go under bridge and up onto cycle path to L. At end of path cross road and turn L.
- | Follow path round corner and cross road. Turn L follow path up Highwood Lane past Tile Flair. Cross road and continue SO
- | Just past RB cross over Lysander road, turn L and immediately R into Pegasus Road, past Hobbycraft on the R and Wickes on L
- | Cross over Centaurus Road turn L and cross again to pick up the L side of Pegasus Road continue past Halfords and Toys R Us.
- | Go SO at next two RB. Continue to end of road. Turn L onto Highwood Road
- | After 1 mile, turn R onto Callicroft Road. At end of road turn R beside A38
- | Follow path down A38 under flyover. Cross over turn L, then take next L down Gipsy Patch Lane





23 miles
3 to 3.5 hours
3 ability level

Start at the Three Brooks pub beside the Willow Brook Centre.



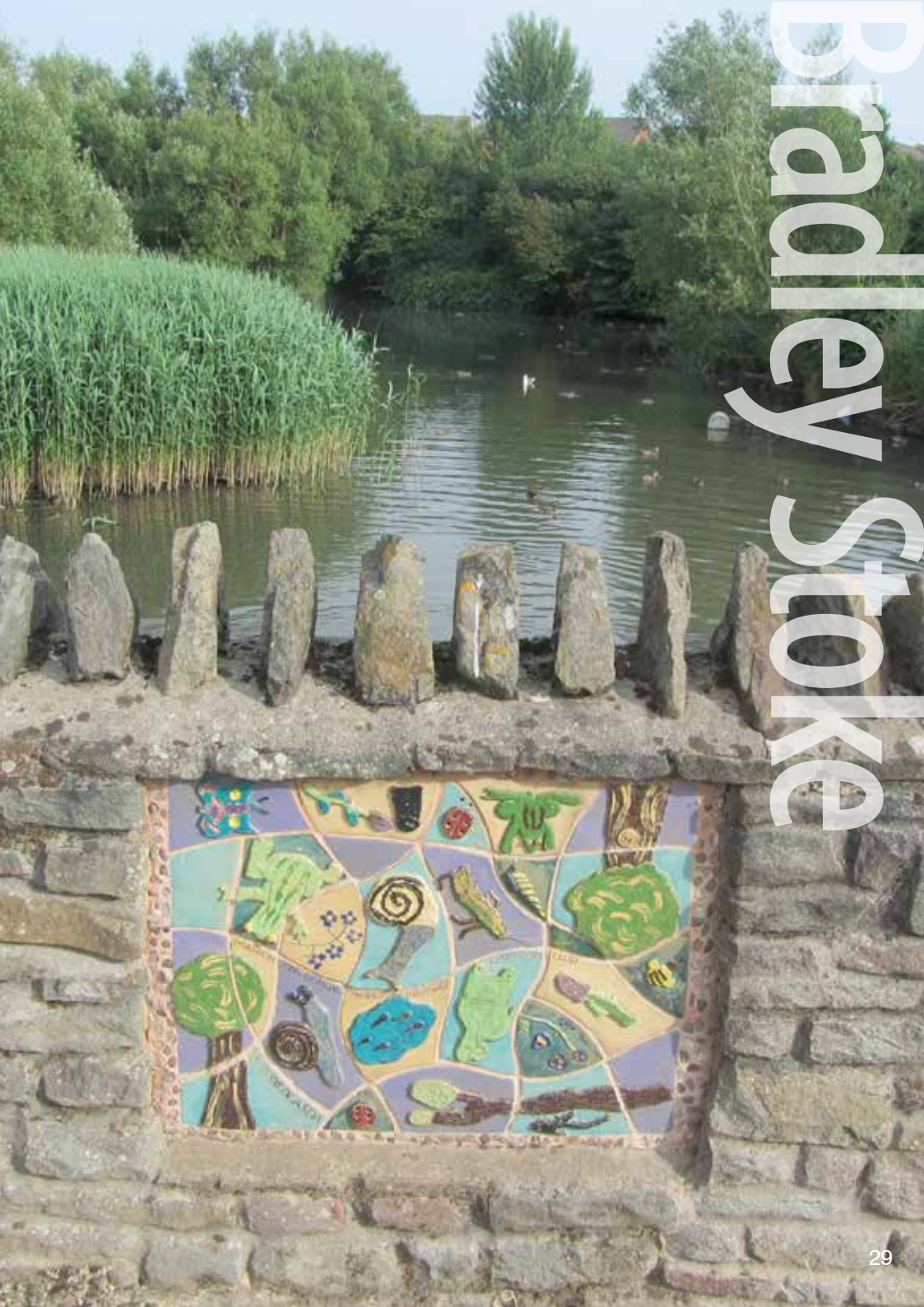
- Go SO over RBs and under bridge. Continue straight. At next RB turn L into Hatchet Lane (sp **Bradley Stoke**)
- Go over RB (sp **Bradley Stoke**) onto Orpheus Avenue
- At RB turn L onto Brook Way. Just after mini RB turn R, into nature reserve
- Follow path and take 1st L. Follow path onto Diana Gardens. Turn R onto Snowberry Close
- Pick up cycle path on your L. Turn L when the path reaches Savages Wood Road back towards Three Brooks pub.

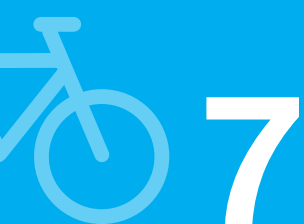
Interesting facts

- | The Willow Brook Centre is the new heart of Bradley Stoke, opening in 2008. The shopping centre is home to various shops, restaurants and coffee shops. There is a pleasant town square to sit in and ample cycle parking.
- | Bradley Stoke is built around the Three Brooks Nature Reserve. The Nature Reserve is a lovely place to walk or cycle and look out for wildlife. It is made up of three brooks, a lake, woodlands, a marsh and grasslands. Near the lake is the Tump, meaning 'hillock' or 'mound'. The Bradley Stoke Tump was created by the spoil left over from creating the second Severn Bridge Crossing.
- | Along this cycle route you will come across The Mall at Cribbs Causeway. The Mall opened in March 1998 and since then has been a bustling centre for shopping and socialising. It is home to some of the best in retail including Marks and Spencer and John Lewis as well as numerous places to eat and coffee shops. Next to the Mall is the Venue, entertainment complex and two retail parks.
- | Patchway was once farmland with a few cottages and Victorian houses. Development started at the end of the 1930s and continued into the 1960s. Patchway became a parish, separate from the Parish of Almondsbury, in 1953 and in 1997 the parish became a town to reflect the growing population.



Bradley Stoke





Stoke Gifford

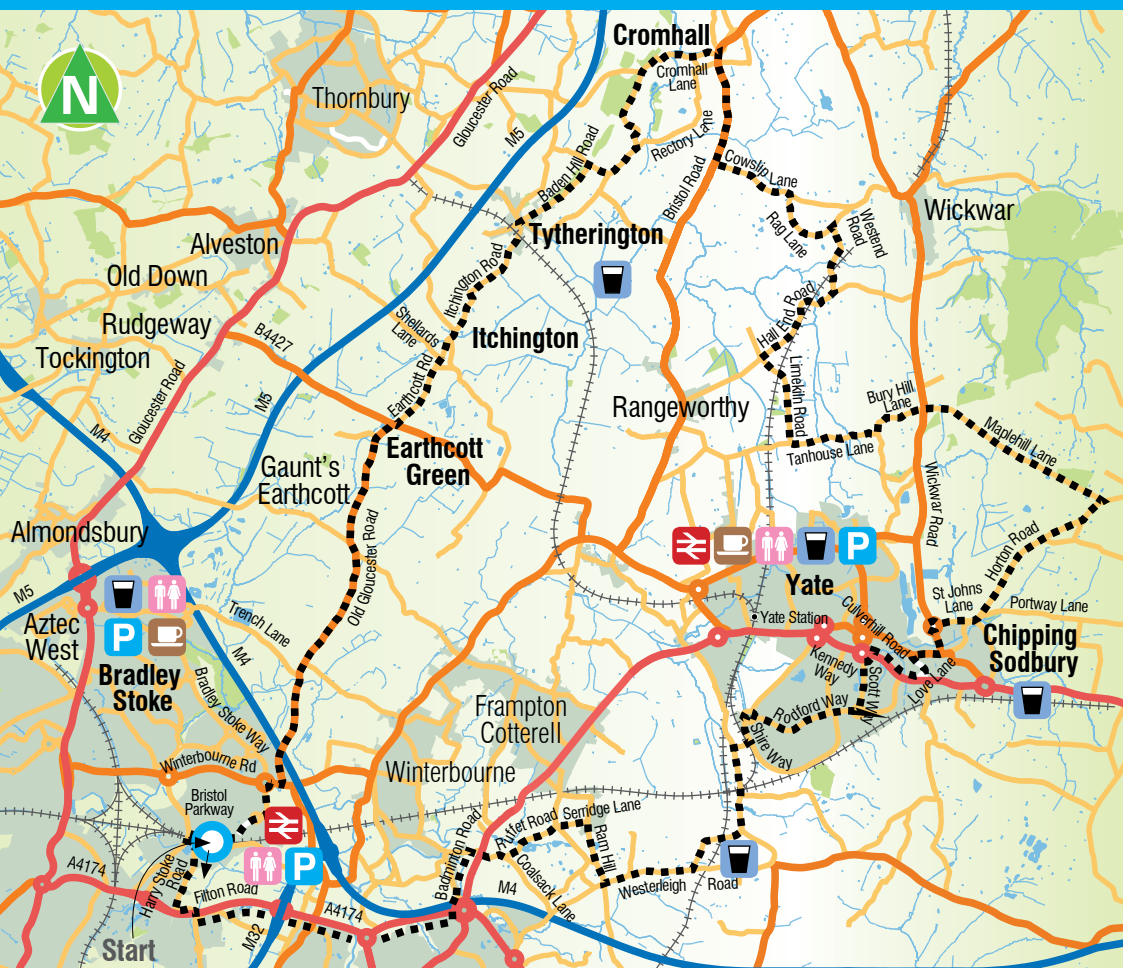
START (BS34 8PU)

- From Parkway Station, turn L onto Brierley Furlong, then immediately L again onto Church Rd
- Take L turn onto Westfield Lane and when road bends to R, keep L onto Harry Stoke Rd. When you reach ring road, A4174, cross to cycle path on opposite side
- Go SO the next two RBs. At the third RB, take L into A432, Badminton Road
- After approx ½ mile take R signed Ruffet road leading onto Coalsack Lane, then first L onto Ruffet Road
- At junction go SO to Serridge lane then take R down Ram Hill, at junction carry SO into Henfield Road
- At junction turn L onto Westerleigh Rd. B4465, follow the road past Oakleigh Green Farm and take next L up Westerleigh Rd. At the green turn L
- Follow Westerleigh Rd, under the railway bridge and take L on to Shire Way, at RB take R onto Rodford Way
- At the next RB turn L onto Scott Way then R onto the off road cycle path running alongside Kennedy Way. At end of cycle path turn L into Love Lane
- Turn L onto Culverhill Road, at RB turn R onto Rounceval Road leading uphill into **Chipping Sodbury**, High St. Halfway along High St take L onto Wickwar Road
- At second mini RB take R onto St John's Way then L onto Portway Lane, over a cattle grid!
- Take L fork up Horton Rd then L onto Mapleridge lane, signposted **Wickwar**
- Go straight across Wickwar Rd, B4060, to Bury Hill Lane. When road bends to L take R along Tanhouse Lane, then turn R onto Limekiln Rd towards Wickwar and Rangeworthy
- At crossroads turn R onto Hall End Lane, where road forks turn L onto West End Road. Take a L along Rag Lane turn L when you join Cowship Lane
- At the junction with Bristol Rd turn R toward Cromhall. At second crossroads take L along Cromhall Lane
- Where Cromhall Lane bends to R, go SO, (sp Filton link). When you get to junction take R, then R again onto Cuttsheath Rd followed by first L onto Baden Hill Road



31 miles
3 to 4 hours
3 ability level

**Start at Parkway Station, which can be found off
Hunts Ground Road in Stoke Gifford.
Parkway Station start is easily accessed by bike, bus or train.**



- As you enter **Tytherington** take R then immediately L past pub into Itchington Road. Stay on this road as it changes to Earthcott Road
- When you reach the B4059 turn R. and immediate L onto Old Gloucester Road
- When you reach the junction with Winterbourne Rd, B4059, turn R, then, at first RB turn L into Great Stoke Way
- Stay on this road, going right at first RB and straight on at second to take you to the back entrance of Parkway Station.

Interesting facts

- The town of Stoke Gifford is home to Parkway Railway Station. Parkway was built in the 1970s to give Bristol a station on the South Wales to London railway. In 2001 a new building opened, making Parkway the modern building that it is today. The station offers fast trains and a large car park for the growing population in North Bristol.
- In 946 the village of Westerleigh was given to monks to pray for the soul of King Edmund who was killed in Pucklechurch. At this time it is likely that Westerleigh was simply a clearing with a church but it was recorded in the Domesday book. Westerleigh has since grown into a prosperous village.
- In January, 1987, gas was smelt in Wickwar High Street. The local residents were evacuated and the next day the gas main under the High Street exploded. One house was destroyed and another 2 damaged but no one was seriously hurt. It is thought the heavy quarry lorries travelling down the High Street cause the pipes to crack. Heavy vehicles are now banned from the High Street.
- Just above the village of Cromhall is the Bloody Acre Camp; a Hillfort named after a Civil War massacre but dating much further back and evidence of a Roman villa has been found at the site. This fort is now covered in woodland but the main defences, steep slopes and ditches can still be seen. It is best accessed from Gambril Lane which connects Falfield to Cromhall.



Stoke Gifford





8



River Severn Loop

START (BS35 4PQ)

- From Severn Beach Station turn L, cycle to the end of the road and up onto the Sea Wall to join the Severn Way path
- Turn R and follow the path till you come to the old Passage House Hotel. Turn R passing around a gate and continue SO up Passage Road
- As the road starts to climb take the cycle path to your L, SP 41/4. When the path forks keep right then take the next path on your R. SP 41/4
- At the end of the path turn R, passing the White Horse on your left. At the junction with Northwick Road, turn L
- Just before the junction with the A403 turn on to the cycle path on your R. SP 4. Follow the cycle path to the end then cross the A403! Into Passage Road SP Aust Warth
- Continue SO with the river on your L and on up the hill. After approx. 1 mile turn L, SP Severn Bridge
- Keep L following the cycle route signs to join the path on the South side of the Severn Bridge. Cycle over the bridge
- When you reach the end of the cycle path turn R through the underpass, then turn immediately L. At the top of the slope turn L again to pick up the cycle path on the North side of the Severn Bridge. Don't forget to stop and take a photograph
- When the path reaches the RB, cross over and keep L up the B4461, SP Thornbury. Continue SO. Where the road forks, turn R into Aust Road towards Olveston
- Continue SO through the village. Passing the church, White Hart and Olveston Stores on your R until you reach the green triangle in **Tockington**
- Turn R after the green, passing the Swan on your L then turn R up Hardy Lane
- Follow Hardy Lane SO for approx. 4 miles into Pilning Street and then Station Road. When you reach the junction with Marsh Common Road turn L towards **Easter Compton**
- Go SO through the village passing the Fox on your R. Then take the second turning on your R into Bowstreet Lane, SP Avon cycleway





31 miles
3 to 4 hours
3 ability level

Start at Severn Beach Station. Bikes can be carried on the Severn Beach line, check with train staff which carriage to use.

- Take the first R into Farm Lane. SP All Saints' Church and follow to end onto cycle path. When you reach the Western Distribution Park, take the path on your L over the rhine and cross road to rejoin cycle path on the opposite side
- Turn R and continue SO crossing Collins Drive and following cycle path till you reach the junction with the A403. Cross the road and pick up the cycle path opposite
- When you reach the junction with Church Road turn L. SP **Severn Beach**. At the junction with Gorse Cover Road turn L
- When you reach the mini RB, turn R back towards the station.





Interesting facts

- The River Severn is the longest in the UK at 354 km from its source in Plynlimon, Powys in the Cambrian mountains.
- Tides along the river can rise and fall over 14 metres, creating fast flowing water, currents and the famous Severn Bore. The shape of the Severn estuary funnels the incoming tide into an increasingly narrow channel creating a large wave known as a bore.

The river Severn is around five miles wide at Avonmouth. By the time the river reaches Minsterworth in Gloucester it is less than 100 yards. Along with width the river also decreases in depth, adding to the funnelling effect.

The best time to see a Severn bore is during the high tides that co-incide with the Spring and Autumn equinox.

- The original Severn Bridge was completed in 1966 to replace the Aust to Beachley car ferry. The remains of the slipway can be seen as you cycle around Aust Warth.
- The Second Severn Crossing was completed 30 years later in 1996 to meet the rising demand of traffic.
- Mudflats along the Severn estuary are protected as they provide home to a variety of wildlife and migrating birds. See if you can spot Little Egret, Red Kite, Golden Plover, Kingfisher or Mediterranean Gulls to name a few.



River Severn



More cycling leaflets which may be of interest

- | Leisure Rides
- | Bristol and Bath Railway Path
- | Cycling Bristol
- | South Gloucestershire Cycling Map
- | Bristol Cycling Map
- | North Somerset Cycling Map
- | Bath and North East Somerset Cycling Map
- | Cycling Around Yate
- | Cycling Around Bradley Stoke
- | Cycling Around Cribbs Causeway and Patchway
- | Concorde Way and alternate routes from Lockleaze to Cribbs Causeway

These are available to download on:

www.betterbybike.info

Or can be requested by contacting:

transportservices@southglos.gov.uk

Do you want to plan a route by bike?

Then use the cycle trip planner, available on:

www.betterbybike.info

Cycle training for children and adults is available during term time and school holidays. For further information please contact:

cycle_training@southglos.gov.uk







If you need this information in another format or language please contact 01454 868009

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