



Welcome to your free Cycling **Guide for Stratford-upon-Avon**

Cycling is a quick, economical and healthy way to travel for local journeys around Stratford-upon-Avon. The town is relatively flat and compact, making cycling an ideal choice for journeys to work, college, the station and other local destinations. It usually takes less than 10 minutes to cycle two miles, which can be faster than using your car!

This Cycling Guide includes a map showing the dedicated cycle routes in Stratford-upon-Avon, as well as a network of advisory routes which provide useful links avoiding busy roads and difficult junctions as far as possible. There is also a range of other useful information about cycling to help you make more of your local journeys by bike.

For further information about travel in Warwickshire or to request further copies of this map, please contact:

> Transport Planning Unit Communities Group Warwickshire County Council PO Box 43, Shire Hall, Warwick CV34 4SX Telephone: (01926) 410410 Email: tpu@warwickshire.gov.uk

www.warwickshire.gov.uk/travel





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Leisure cycling

There are plenty of opportunities for leisure cycling in the countryside surrounding Stratford-upon-Avon, whatever your ability or fitness level.

The Greenway

The Greenway is a 5 mile traffic-free route, ideal for family cycling, extending along the disused rail line from the Seven Meadows car park in Stratford to Long Marston, ideal for family cycling. There are two cafés and a picnic area along the route. More details on the Greenway are available at

www.countryparks.warwickshire.gov.uk



Countryside cycle routes

There are a number of leisure cycling routes in the countryside around Stratford-upon-Avon, mainly using scenic country roads.

Stratford-upon-Avon - Ilmington - Hidcote Manor -Welford-on-Avon

Two circular routes: 12 and 24 miles long, including the

Stratford-upon-Avon - Redditch

Five circular routes – between 11 and 26 miles long

Warwick - Leamington Spa - Wellesbourne 25 mile circular

These routes are signed and leaflets are available at 50p each, plus postage. Please email parks@warwickshire.gov.uk or phone 02476 305592.

Feldon and Ironstone Villages Cycle Route (Shipston-on-Stour to Southam)

Cotswold and Feldon Cycle Route (Shipston-on-Stour - Brailes)

Two Towns Cycle Route (Shipston-on-Stour to Moreton-in-the-Marsh)

These leaflets are available at Stratford Visitor Centre and other local outlets or can be downloaded from www.discover-stratford.com

Sustrans & the National Cycle Network

Sustrans is a leading UK charity that's enabling people to travel by foot, bike or public transport for more of the journeys we make every day. Sustrans is behind many groundbreaking projects, including the National Cycle Network (NCN) which now covers more than 14,000 miles of safe, traffic-free, quiet lanes and on-road walking and cycling routes across the UK. The maintenance and development of the National Cycle Network and Sustrans' other projects relies on local authority partnerships, volunteer rangers and the kind donations of supporters.

National Routes 5 & 41 of the National Cycle Network



National Route 5 runs from Oxford to Birmingham, passing through Stratford on mainly

traffic-free paths and canal towpaths.



National Route 41 links Stratford to Warwick, via Wellesbourne and Loxley,

mainly along quiet country lanes.

For maps and further details on National Cycle Network routes and other Sustrans projects, visit www.sustrans.org.uk

Stay in touch with Sustrans on:









Advice for cyclists

Out on the road

- Ride assertively but with care: ride well clear of the kerb and always look and signal before you pull out
- Keep your bike in good condition: check the brakes, tyres and other major components regularly
- Obey traffic and cycle signs and signals
- Ensure you are visible: wear bright clothing or reflective clothing, especially at night and always use lights after dark or when visibility is poor
- Do not cycle on pavements unless signs show it is allowed
- It is advisable to wear a helmet.

Cycle security tips

- Always use a good quality, solid lock and try to secure your bike's frame to a solid object
- If the wheels can be easily removed, take off your front wheel and lock it to the back wheel and frame, using a second lock if necessary
- Remove any accessories, such as lights or panniers, and take them with you
- Keep a record of the frame number, model, colour and
- other identifiable features of your bike



Cycling on shared use paths

- Give way to pedestrians and wheelchair users and take care around horse-riders leaving them plenty of room, especially when approaching from behind
- Be courteous and patient with pedestrians and other path users who are moving more slowly than you shared paths are for sharing, not speeding
- Slow down as needed when space is limited or if you cannot see clearly ahead
- Be particularly careful at junctions, bends, entrances onto the path, or any other 'blind spots' where people (including children) could appear in front of you without
- Keep to your side of any dividing line
- Carry a bell and use it or an audible greeting avoid surprising people, or horses
- However, don't assume people can see or hear you - remember that many people are hard of hearing or visually impaired
- In dull and dark weather make sure you have lights so you can be seen
- For more information about cycling on canal towpaths, visit www.canalrivertrust.org.uk
- See Signs & lines panel for more information.

Advice for drivers

- Give cyclists plenty of space when overtaking
- Be particularly aware of cyclists at roundabouts and junctions
- Look out for cyclists when you are turning left or right
- Always check for cyclists before opening your
- Do not park your car in a cycle lane, cycle track or on the pavement.

Cycle signs & lines



Shared Use Paths (un-segregated) for pedal cycles & pedestrians only

Shared Use Paths (segregated)

keep to the correct side)



Cycle path



for pedal cycles & pedestrians only (please

Cycle lanes

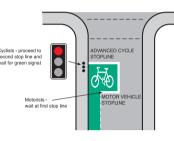


Cycle route crossing the footway (warning sign for pedestrians)





Cycle route ahead



Advanced Stop Lines

These provide cyclists with a safe, visible space to wait signalled junctions allowing them to move off in front of other vehicles.



Toucan crossing

Signalled crossing for use by both cyclilsts & pedestrians (cyclists must dismount to use other types of crossing).

Bikes and trains

For longer journeys, cycling and rail travel is an ideal combination. Covered cycle parking facilities are available at both Stratford Town Station and Stratford Parkway Station. Cycles can be carried on trains but each train operator has different policies.

- Chiltern Railways allow cycles on their trains, subject to space being available and at the discretion of their staff, with the exception of the busiest peak hour services. Visit www.chilternrailways.co.uk for more information.
- London Midland carries cycles free of charge when accompanied by a valid ticket holder, subject to availability. However, there are restrictions into London in the morning peak and when leaving in the evening peak. Visit www.londonmidland.com for more information

For train timetables, visit www.nationalrail.co.uk or www.warwickshire.gov.uk/travel Telephone National Rail Enquiries on 08457 48 49 50.



Folding cycle hire at **Stratford Parkway Station** Brompton folding bikes are available to hire from Brompton Dock at Stratford Parkway Station 24 hours a day, accessed via your mobile phone. These bikes are ideal for commuter and

business trips, as they are

compact and portable when

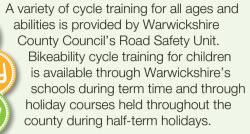
Visit www.bromptondock.co.uk for details of how to register with the scheme and hire a Brompton.

Useful contacts

Travel information

Visit www.warwickshire.gov.uk/travel for all the information you need on getting around in Warwickshire, whether by bike, on foot or using public transport. A free on online cycling journey planner can be accessed from this site, providing you with the quickest, quietest or most recreational cycle route to your destination, including a predicted travel time.

Cycle training (child and adult)



For adults, from novice to experienced, a wide range of bespoke cycling courses are available for small groups, organisations or on a oneto-one basis.

For further information visit

www.warwickshire.gov.uk/cycletraining or call 01926 412776.

Problems on the roads or cyclepaths?

To report problems such as potholes or faulty street lighting, contact Warwickshire County Council Highways Tel: 01926 412515 or email countyhighways@warwickshire.gov.uk

Local cycling groups

Stratford cycle forum

Local group meeting regularly to seek improvements for cyclists in Stratford. Email: stratford.cycle.forum@gmail.com

Stratford-upon-Avon Cycling Club Visit www.stratfordcc.co.uk

Visit **www.goskyride.com** for details of free, guided cycle rides in your area.

National cycling organisations

Sustrans

Sustainable transport charity (see panel left) Visit www.sustrans.org.uk

CTC (Cyclists' Touring Club)

National cyclists' organisation which gives cyclists a louder voice locally and nationally on issues which are important to cyclists

Visit www.ctc.org.uk **British Cycling**

Cycle shops

Governing body of cycle sport in the UK. Visit www.britishcycling.org.uk

The Cycle Studio

Guild Street, Stratford-upon-Avon Tel: 01789 205 057

The Traditional Cycle Shop The Chandlery, Stratford Marina, Stratford-upon-Avon Tel: 01789 290703

or visit www.traditionalcycleshop.co.uk

Maybird Centre, Birmingham Road, Stratford-upon-Avon Tel: 01789 265510

Cycle hire

Stratford Bike Hire

Stratford Greenway, Seven Meadows Road, Old Town, Stratford-upon-Avon CV37 6GR Tel: 07711 776340 or visit www.stratfordbikehire.com

The Traditional Cycle Shop Pashley Cycle Hire

The Chandlery, Stratford Marina, CV37 6YY Tel: 01789 290703

or visit www.traditionalcycleshop.co.uk Email: info@traditionalcycleshop.co.uk

Choose how you move around Warwickshire

Visit www.warwickshire.gov.uk/travel for an easy way to plan your journey and receive live travel updates on your smartphone or tablet.



