

CIRCULAR CYCLE RIDES

Central
Bedfordshire

Clophill – Mix of On/Off Road

A 24km (15 mile) ride on the sandy, well-drained Greensand soils. Starting at Maulden Church with its mausoleum to the Bruce family, the route takes in the picturesque Maulden Woods and the village of Haynes with its many 'Ends', Campton and Upper Gravenhurst. The ride also passes the nationally important Wrest Park; a mansion with 300 year old landscaped gardens and well worth a visit.

Starting from the car park at Maulden Church descend the short, steep hill to Maulden village and turn left by the school.

Continue along the Maulden – Clophill road and take the small turning on the left to the small hamlet of Green End. Follow the small road and bear round to the left between the cottages and cycle up the track into Maulden Wood (short, steep hill here) on the concrete pathway.

Continue along the gravel track past the picnic site and then turn right just before the small, thatched, keepers cottage and follow the bridleway along the edge of the wood. After approx 350m follow the bridleway by turning left into the wood. Cycle carefully through the wood and then turn left onto the surfaced ride riding through the wood adjacent to the A6 layby. As always on forest tracks, please ride considerately and be aware of other users.

Turn left here and continue along the lay-by road to the A6. Bear left and follow the A6 (very carefully) past the bus stop and then turn left to Haynes West End. Follow the road through Haynes West End until you come to the A6 again.

Cross over the A6 VERY carefully, using the painted boxes marked on the road and turn right towards Haynes Church End.

Continue past Haynes Park and Church End and follow the road past Appley Corner. At this point carefully turn right across the road and through the small car parking area at the entrance to Chicksands Wood.

From here follow the bridleway (BW7) through the bridlegate and cycle towards the edge of Rowney Warren.

Stay on the bridleway and follow it until Lodge Farm then right then left following the bridleway alongside a ditch. Follow the route and bear right away from the ditch.

Continue on the bridleway around the perimeter of the camp and over the bridge crossing the River Flit. Follow the path through the woodlands of Lower Alders and Campton Wood, bearing right toward the A507 Ampthill Road. Cross here using the pelican crossing and head straight down Priory Road towards the village of Campton.

At the crossroads turn right along the High Street then turn right at the T-junction on to Gravenhurst Road. Continue along the road and up the hill to the village of Upper Gravenhurst. Continue through the village, past the old Green Dragon PH and along the High Street past the church on the right. Turn right at the T-junction, up the hill, along Clophill Road and then, past the last of the housing on the left, turn left along the bridleway (BW11 then BW13).



Continue along the bridleway, past Gravenhurst Lodge, and down the slope with Wrest Park on your left. Continue past Wrest Park House and adjacent buildings, cross over the A6 (on a bridge) and into the village of Silsoe.

Go past the church (on your left) and turn right at the T-junction and travel along Silsoe High Street. Turn first left up Ampthill Road and follow this around the village. Bear right then left and out of Silsoe, up the hill and past Beaumont Farm on your right.

Bear right and across Hollington Basin to the T-junction on the A507 Ampthill- Maulden bypass. It is probably safest to dismount here and cross the road VERY CAREFULLY to the other side and through the small gap to the sharp bend on the road leading towards Maulden.

Head straight along this lane, up the hill and in to the village of Maulden. At the crossroads head straight across and up the short, steep hill to Maulden Church and finish!

Shortcuts/additions

Instead of cycling through Green End and Maulden Wood, stay on the Maulden – Clophill road and towards the A6 and Clophill – you will now be on the Greensand Ridge Cycle Route and can follow the route through Clophill and Haynes (see the Clophill Circular Cycle ride map and GSR Cycle Route maps for more information).

OS Map: Explorer 193 and 208

Remember when cycling:

Please DO NOT cycle on footpaths.

Always keep to the waymarked routes and do not enter private land.

Always ride in single file when roads are narrow and never ride more than two abreast.

Make sure you are visible to others.

Always use lights after dark or in poor visibility.

Plan your route according to the weather and daylight hours.

Be aware of animals, other cyclists, pedestrians, horse riders and car drivers when cycling.

Keep your speed down and give way to walkers and other path users.

Be polite and considerate towards landowners and farmers.

Keep away from farm machinery or farm/forestry operations.

Contact us...

by telephone: 0300 300 8085

by email: recreational.routes@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk
on the web: www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/travelling/your-travel-choices/cycling

Write to Central Bedfordshire Council, Priory House, Monks Walk, Chicksands, Shefford, Bedfordshire SG17 5TQ

