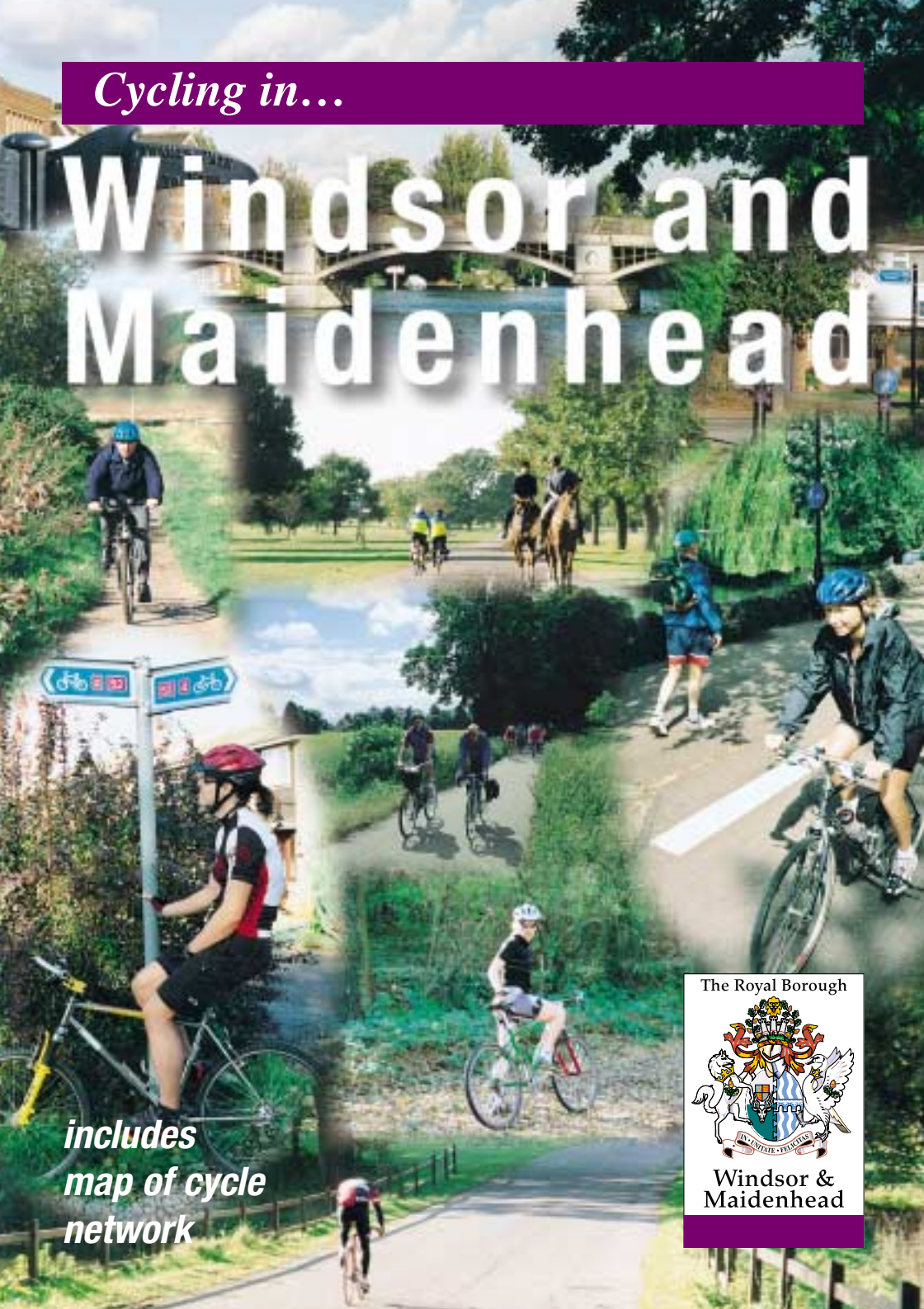


*Cycling in...*

# Windsor and Maidenhead



*includes  
map of cycle  
network*

The Royal Borough



Windsor &  
Maidenhead

# Cycle routes in the Royal Borough



Windsor Great Park

There are nearly 200 km (125 miles) of signposted cycle routes in the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead. These are essentially a family of four distinct but inter-connected networks, parts of which are shared by more than one member of this family of routes.

The **Local Cycle Network** is concentrated in the town centres of both Windsor and Maidenhead, linking the central shopping areas and railway stations to the suburbs, schools, leisure and recreational facilities. There are also inter-urban routes along segregated or traffic-calmed corridors.

The **National Cycle Network** (NCN Route 4) passes through the Borough from Egham and Staines in the east, via Windsor Great Park, Eton, Dorney Common, Bray and Maidenhead, eventually linking to Henley in the west and with spurs to Slough and Burnham. The National Cycle Network in the Royal Borough (NCN Route 4) marks a significant achievement made possible with support and financial commitment from the Local Authority and grant money from the National Lottery Millennium Commission. With the Borough's continued support, it is hoped that the network will expand into the new millennium providing long term benefits for the whole community.

The **Round Berkshire Cycle Route** is, as the name suggests, a leisure route linking many of the main

towns, attractions and countryside of this diverse County. The Round the Borough Cycle Route also follows much of this route within Windsor and Maidenhead Borough.

The **Round the Borough Cycle Route** is the premier recreational route in the local area. A tour of this route, which is about 70km (44 miles) in length, will take you to or past many of the sites and sights for which the Borough is world famous. It's an ideal one-day circuit for experienced riders, but why not split it into two or three stages, giving ample opportunity to discover what the Borough has to offer. The broad outline that follows offers a few pointers, but you can't beat the real thing. Just pack up a picnic or aim for one of the many pubs, inns, restaurants or cafes you'll find along the way. Try it soon!



Woodland Trail, Knowl Hill

The north end of Windsor and Eton Bridge is a good starting point, close to two railway stations and Eton College.

Re-crossing the Thames at Clewer Village the route winds through west Windsor and Oakley Green to Fifield, then via byroads to Bray, famous for its Vicar 450 years ago and admired today for its sublime old half-timbered cottages, fine waterside houses and St Michael's Church with its medieval gatehouse. Bray Studios, home to the famous "Hammer" horror films of the 1960s and 70s, was based nearby and used many local sites as locations.

Skirting the eastern edge of central Maidenhead you are able to see Brunel's remarkable "Sounding Arch" railway bridge before reaching Boulter's Lock, perhaps the most famous on the Thames. From here the route heads north to Cookham, a lovely riverside village all but surrounded by National Trust owned countryside. Take a walk and explore the backwaters of Odney Common immediately east of the village. From here the wooded heights visible across the Thames surround Cliveden mansion and park.

Cookham is where the ancient annual "Swan Upping" ceremony takes place each July. The ceremony allocates ownership of swans on the Thames to the Queen and the Vintners' and Dyers' Livery Companies. On High Street is the Spencer Art Gallery (in the Kings Hall), which houses many works by the renowned artist Sir Stanley Spencer. You may recognise scenes he painted as you cycle via Winter Hill (fine woods and views up the Thames) and Cookhamdean Common to Pinkney's Green and the nearby Maidenhead Thicket, with its prehistoric earthworks and nearby Courage Shire Horse centre.

Looping round via Ashley Hill Forest to Hurley, it's well worth diverting to the riverside here to view the busy lock. Nearby is the Old Priory, where the sister of Edward the Confessor is said to be buried. Less than a century after her burial, the Old Bell Inn was established in 1135, it's one of England's oldest

pubs. South of Hurley, the route climbs to the peaceful hamlets and woods of Bowsey Hill before tracing bridleways and lanes to White Waltham, where the ancient farmhouse near the church was home to Prince Arthur, elder brother to Henry VIII. Nearby are the old village stocks and whipping post.

Re-entering the western side of Windsor, the route strikes south into the vast parkland of Windsor Great Park. One of Europe's largest parklands, its myriad of wildfowl ponds, statues, gardens, ancient oaks and remnants of the Norman hunting forest, complete with herds of deer, would take days to fully explore! Just outside the Park lie Old Windsor and Runnymede, where Cooper's Hill and the Thames-side water meadows host poignant memorials to the British Commonwealth Air Forces, President John F Kennedy and to the sealing of the Magna Carta in 1215. Crossing the Thames, the route winds past Datchet station to return to Windsor Bridge, passing right beside the precincts of Eton College as a fitting final flourish to this tour of the Royal Borough.



National Cycle Network - route signs

# *Cycling for pleasure...*

The gentle hills, extensive commons and parklands, open woodlands and network of lanes which lace together the towns and villages of the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead are the ideal location for unhurried, easy-going leisure cycling.

The network of signposted and well maintained cycle routes have been chosen to offer increased safety and ease of use to individuals, families and groups intent on enjoying one of England's fastest-growing activities. Many of them are on lesser-used lanes, bridlepaths and dedicated cycleways, helping ensure that fumes from passing traffic are kept to an absolute minimum. Linking railway stations to visitor attractions and town to countryside, well over 100 miles of cycle routes thread through the



Windsor Great Park

Borough. Some of them are part of the rapidly developing National Cycle Network, nearly 8,000 miles of quiet or segregated cycling routes throughout Britain.

## *Good for you - good for the environment*

As the local network develops, increased emphasis will be put on linking in to schools and to centres of employment, enabling many Borough residents to benefit from the proven health-enhancing qualities that cycling offers. Medical research suggests that regular exercise increases lung capacity, improves blood circulation, strengthens the heart, enhances muscle tone and helps control fat retention, all helping to improve your physical health and mental well-being. Cycling is one of the most enjoyable and accessible ways of getting fit, is suitable for all the family and can be enjoyed at the pace at which you wish to travel!



By cycling regularly you can help reduce the number of vehicles on the roads; reaching school or work by bicycle will cut down on rush hour congestion and school-run bottlenecks. Reduced exhaust emissions mean a cleaner, clearer environment, whilst fewer car journeys means less noise and visual pollution. Don't forget, every little helps!

# Cycling groups and organisations

## **CTC**

*(Cyclists' Touring Club)*  
*Britain's biggest and longest established cycling organisation.*  
Peter England  
53 Station Road  
Marlow  
Bucks  
SL7 1NW  
Tel: 01483 417217  
[www.ctc.org.uk](http://www.ctc.org.uk)

## **Maidenhead Cyclists**

Paul Messing  
Keith Lodge  
Oldfield Road  
Maidenhead  
Berks SL6 1TX  
Tel: 01628 789567

## **Cycle Training**

Royal Borough of  
Windsor and Maidenhead  
Tel: 01628 796574

## **Sustrans**

*'Sustrans' stands for sustainable transport. It's a charity working on practical projects to encourage people to walk and cycle more.*  
35 King Street  
Bristol  
BS1 4DZ  
Public Information Line  
Tel: 0117 929 0888  
[www.sustrans.org.uk](http://www.sustrans.org.uk)

## Cycles by rail

Accompanied bicycles are carried free of charge on most rail services, subject to space being available, however, restrictions do apply at peak periods.

For example, Thames Trains timed to arrive at Paddington Station between 7.45 am and 9.45 am will not accept bicycles, even for parts of the journey. Similarly trains scheduled to depart Paddington between 4.30 pm and 6.30 pm will not accept bicycles.

Some trains operated by South West Trains also have restrictions at peak times. Normal and folding cycles are usually accepted at other times. Tricycles, tandems, motorised bikes and mopeds etc. are not allowed.

Telephone prior to travelling for further information.

## **National Rail Enquiries**

Tel: 08457 484950

## **Thames Trains**

Customer Services Tel: 0118 957 9453

## **South West Trains**

Customer Services Tel: 020 7620 5620



Windsor Riverside, Barry Avenue

# Cycling safely

We want you to enjoy cycling in the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead. Taking a few minutes to carefully consider your plans for the day will help ensure that your day goes smoothly.

We recommend that uppermost in your mind should be SAFETY. Cycling safety is basically common sense, but if you bear in mind the advice given below, then we're sure that you'll soon become hooked on this healthy and enjoyable way of visiting some of England's finest towns, villages and countryside.

## **Always:**

- Ensure your bicycle is mechanically sound and fit a bell.
- Cycle within your capabilities - don't be too adventurous.
- Always follow the Highway Code.
- Don't speed.
- Don't cycle on pavements unless signs or markings allow you to.
- Wear a protective helmet and bright clothing.
- Use your bell whenever approaching other cyclists or walkers from behind - remember, many people are hard of hearing or visually impaired; don't assume that they can automatically hear you approaching.

## **On cycle trails and shared use paths:**

- Ride slowly.
- Respect other users (walkers and pony/horse riders).
- When overtaking, warn of your presence politely and pass in single file.
- Keep to your side of any dividing line.
- Take particular care at bends, junctions and entrances.
- Give way to pedestrians.

## **On roads and country lanes:**

- Keep in single file.
- At bends, be prepared for oncoming traffic, keep left.
- Hazards to look out for: Sudden descents, tight bends, pot-holes, mud and loose gravel on the road.
- Apply gentle pressure to both brakes on descents.

## **At junctions:**

- Signal your intention to drivers behind you.
- When turning right **take great care**. After checking behind you and signalling, move to the right, just left of the centre of the road and turn when it is safe to do so.



Learning to cycle safely

# Road markings and signs for cyclists

Here are a few of the key road signs relating to cycling that you should know. As a cyclist you may find it helpful to obtain a copy of The Highway Code which includes advice and information for cyclists and all other road users.



Route for pedal cycles only



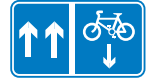
Pedal cycle route ahead



Riding of pedal cycles prohibited



Shared route for pedal cycles and pedestrians only



Contra-flow pedal cycle lane



Route recommended for pedal cycles



With-flow pedal cycle lane ahead



With-flow pedal cycle lane



Separated track and path for pedal cycles and pedestrians

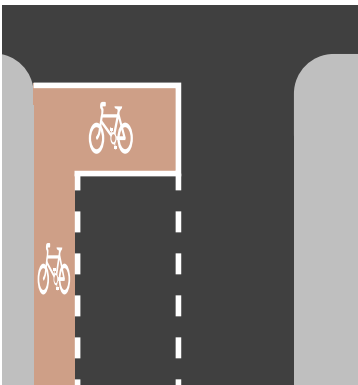


Parking place for pedal cycles

Some junctions have advanced stop lines or bus advance areas to allow cycles and buses to be positioned ahead of other traffic (see below).

Motorists must wait behind the first white line reached, and not encroach on the marked area.

This is to allow cyclists and buses time and space to move off when the green signal shows.



Pedal cycle lane road markings



## Local cycle shops

## Cycle hire

### **LPA Cycles**

17 Rise Road  
Ascot  
Berkshire SL5 0BH  
Tel: 01344 623699

### **T D Cycles**

Bishop House/Bath Road  
Taplow  
Maidenhead  
Berkshire SL6 0NY  
Tel: 01628 660053

### **Stows**

209 Dedworth Road  
Windsor  
Berkshire SL4 4JW  
Tel: 01753 862734

### **Wellington Trek**

London Road  
Sunningdale  
Ascot  
Berkshire SL5 0EP  
Tel: 01344 874611

### **Windsor Roller Rink and Cycle Hire**

Alexandra Gardens  
Alma Road  
Windsor  
Berkshire SL4 3EZ  
Tel: 01753 830220



### **Royal Windsor Information Centre**

Telephone 01753 743900  
*email:* windsor.tic@rbwm.gov.uk

### **Maidenhead Information Centre**

Telephone 01628 796502  
*email:* maidenhead.tic@rbwm.gov.uk

### **For further information**

*email:* travelwise@rbwm.gov.uk

THE ROYAL BOROUGH OF  
WINDSOR AND MAIDENHEAD

Town Hall  
St Ives Road  
MAIDENHEAD  
Berkshire SL6 1RF  
Telephone 01628 798888  
Website [www.rbwm.gov.uk](http://www.rbwm.gov.uk)

