

Please note that cycle hire at Melksham station will be available from 2021.

www.nationaltrust.org.uk
 www.visitwiltshire.co.uk
 www.gps-routes.co.uk
 www.connectingwiltshire.co.uk
 www.sustrans.org.uk

Below are a few links that provide a wealth of information on cycling options in Wiltshire. Our proposed bicycle routes are just that, and these websites may help you to map out an adventure to suit you. Outdoor activities involve a degree of risk. Please use your own judgement when using the suggestions.

Helpful Links

Route 482 - Chiseldon to Marlborough.

Route is a part of this.

Marlborough and the Kennet & Avon Canal, North Wiltshire Rivers Wessex Downs and Savernake Forest, linking Chippenham to

Route 403 - National Route 403 is 42 miles crossing the North through Wiltshire.

Route 45 - National Route 45 (sometimes referred to as The Mercian Way) travels 219 miles from Chester to Salisbury passing through Wiltshire.

west from London to West Wales. Between Reading and Bath it includes Devizes and Bradford on Avon along the Kennet & Avon Cycle Route.

Route 4 - National Route 4 stretches about 450 miles east to

Route 24 - National Route 24 is also known as Colliers Way.

National Cycle Networks:

Wiltshire Cycleway is a network of 160 miles and links with

Cycle Routes Information

Visit www.melkshamhub.co.uk/home for more information.

Melksham Train Station Hub.

• Why not hire a bike? Electric bicycle hire is offered at the 0845 700 0125. South West Trains 0845 600 0650 (option 4).

• You can reserve a space at the station or contact the train operators at least 24 hours in advance. First Great Western

but it is a good idea, particularly at peak times.

• For rail services in Wiltshire you do not have to reserve a space, as well.

• FREE - a limited number of full size bicycles can be carried placed in the usual luggage racks.

• FREE - folding bicycles can be taken on any train service and

Train travel with a bicycle

Facts & Fiction

Swindon

- ★ STEAM Museum tells the story of the men and women who built, operated and travelled on the Great Western Railway.
- ★ Richard Jefferies, author of The Bevis books based 'The New Sea' on Coate Water.
- ★ The largest group of Iron Age cauldrons in Europe was discovered close to the centre of Chiseldon village.

Chippenham

- ★ The poet Samuel Joseph Coleridge lived in Calne.
- ★ Black Dog Halt railway station was a private stop for Lord Lansdowne of Bowood House.
- ★ Alexander Keiller Museum in Avebury has one of the most significant prehistoric archaeological collections in Britain.

Melksham

- ★ Melksham was a Spa town in the 19th century.
- ★ Lacock Abbey is known as the birthplace of photography. The Fox Talbot Museum here celebrates this.
- ★ Melksham has a long history of Quakerism.

Trowbridge

- ★ The Kennet & Avon Canal is 87 miles long and has 104 locks.
- ★ Caen Hill Locks is a remarkable flight of 29 locks on the Kennet and Avon Canal.
- ★ Grand Avenue in Savernake Forest was designed by the great English 18th century landscape architect - Lancelot (Capability) Brown.

Westbury

- ★ The Westbury White Horse is the largest of the remaining 8 White Horses in Wiltshire.
- ★ Cley Hill by Longleat is a famous UFO hotspot.
- ★ Devizes has more than 500 listed buildings.

passes visit GWR.com

For further ticket information and how you can save on fares &

staffed station, a train conductor or by telephone: 03457 000 125

holidays. Available to purchase online at GWR.com from any

Mon to Fri: Valid from 09:30 No restrictions at weekends or bank

Time Restrictions

PRICES	
1 Day	£24.00
Adult	£34.50
Child	£21.60
Railcards	£62.10

For further information - www.GreatWestWay.co.uk

travel in most areas is also included to many areas.

Unlimited off-peak travel for either 1 day or 7 consecutive days

Westbury – Frome

Westbury – Pewsey

Chippenham – Trowbridge via Melksham

Bristol Temple Meads – Salisbury via Westbury

Bristol Temple Meads – Swindon

travel on the following rail routes:

The Great West Way@ Discoverer West Pass ticket allows you to

using the Great West Way@ Discoverer pass.

Get around the Great West Way on the rail and bus network

elegant towns.

routes, roaming through idyllic countryside, quaint villages &

route between London, Bath and Bristol, based on ancient

Having a staycation? The Great West Way is a 125-mile touring

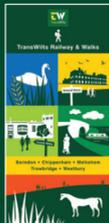
Great West Way@ Discoverer Pass

Download our free departure app

For live departure information on GWR services in Wiltshire, download our TransWiltis app from the Apple App Store, Google Play Store.

Download on the App Store

GET IT ON Google Play



Also available: Transwiltis Railway & Walks

A Green Day Out

national rail network. improved connectivity between our local services and the wider of the railway to our local communities and economy, promoting service line. We seek to demonstrate and develop the importance In Wiltshire, TransWiltis supports the Swindon to Westbury

About TransWiltis

Our mission is to: "carry on activities which encourage and promote increasing community usage of our local rail stations for the benefit of those living and working in Wiltshire, and to represent the interests of local rail users."

You can plan your own routes at your own pace.

Our Helpful Links page will direct you to further information so

a lunch in one of many traditional pubs along the way.

Take advantage of the countryside for a picnic, or treat yourself to

kesters, skylarks, Adonis butterflies, water voles and even otters.

variety of flora and fauna including slow worms, herons, red kites,

country side. There is a good chance to catch glimpses of a wide

to stately homes and romantic gardens nestled in this serene

impressive canal architecture, through chocolate box villages

The routes we've put forward will lead you by some

Cycle Routes.

& traffic-free rides. Many of them link up with National

railway paths which have an added perk of providing peaceful

the trails embrace pedalling along canal towpaths and disused

more occasional cyclists and their families & friends. Many of

There is cycling for all levels, from the lycra-clad brigade to the

of prehistoric Britain, druids and kingdoms.

admire this charming, green & lush ancient county with its history

Wiltshire designated as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty,

suitable as either day trips or as a longer staycation. With half of

and Westbury make excellent starting points for your adventures

the station itself. Swindon, Chippenham, Melksham, Trowbridge

your own bike, or hire from town or at Melksham hire a bike from

explore Wiltshire combining local train travel & cycling. Bring

TransWiltis bring you this guide to serve as an inspiration to



TransWiltis Railway & Cycling

Connecting Wiltshire's Communities

Email: info@transwiltis.org

www.transwiltis.org

Registered address: Dryfields House, Bristol Road, Chippenham, Wilts. SN14 6LG
 Community Interest Company
 (Company number 9397959 registered in England and Wales)



Swindon • Chippenham • Melksham
 Trowbridge • Westbury

Share your stories

We would love to hear from you.



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www.taylorandperez.com

All information on this leaflet correct at time of print - September 2020



Swindon cycle rides

Chiseldon - 5.4 miles

45 →→ Start at train station

The Swindon to Marlborough Railway Path NCR 45 is sign posted to the right from the station. As you cycle down through Coate Water Park note the impressive distinctive feature - a tall art deco diving board which rises majestically out of the 56 acre reservoir. This gentle, peaceful & traffic-free old railway path, takes you to Chiseldon passing pretty scenery. Return the same way, or as you reach Coate Water Park go left still on NCR 45 through Croft Wood & back via Rushy Platt Nature Reserve to the station.

Malborough - 12.7 miles

45 482 →→ Start at train station

Follow signage to the right from the train station on the designated cycle paths to Coate Water Park. On the south side of the park, pedal along the traffic-free path NCR 45 to Chiseldon. Here, cycle east on New Street, and right back onto NCR45. Continue south on the NCR 482, cycling via the North Wessex Downs, passing through the pretty Ogbourne villages, before arriving in Marlborough.

Avebury - 12 miles

45 →→ Start at train station

From the station take the NCR 45 on the left. This takes you along the canal past Rushy Platt Nature Reserve. Follow the route all the way to Avebury - where you will find some of the greatest marvels of prehistoric Britain. The village of Avebury is world famous for its spectacular stone circle.

DISCOVER: Richard Jefferies Museum • Chiseldon Museum • Rushy Platt Nature Reserve • Alexander Keiller Museum

Swindon



Chippenham



Melksham



Trowbridge



Westbury



KEY

	Leisurely		Picnic area
	Moderate		Cafe/restaurant
	Challenge		Cycle hire
	Pub	NT	National Trust

NATIONAL CYCLE ROUTES

4	Kennet & Avon Canal Towpath
24	Colliers Way
45	Swindon to Marlborough Railway Path
403	North Wiltshire Rivers Route
482	Chiseldon to Marlborough Railway Path
BBRP	Bristol & Bath Railway Path

Check out the Helpful Links page to help plan your cycle route

Chippenham cycle rides

Calne - 6 miles

403 →→ NT Start at train station

From the train station, head southwest & left on to Cocklebury Road cycling past Wiltshire College & University Centre. Take a left on to Eastern Avenue, and pick up the NCR 403 trail, a disused railway path with some pretty riverside runs - a part of the North Wiltshire Rivers Route. In Calne arrive at Castlefields Canal & River Park and explore this historic little town which sits on the banks of the River Marden on the edge of the North Wessex Downs.

Bowood House - 15 miles

403 Start at train station

From the train station, as above head to Calne along the NCR 403 a disused railway path with some pretty riverside runs. In Calne cross Castlefields Park and head southwest along the route towards Bowood House - the route leads you on the outskirts of this estate around Bowood Lake and up via Derry Hill then Stanley & back northwest crossing the River Avon to Chippenham.

Avebury & Marlborough - 21 miles

403 →→ NT Start at train station

This route takes you to historic towns and villages, along picturesque rivers, and through Wiltshire's Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Cycle along the NCR 403 to Calne as above, and continue on this pleasant & relaxing ride eastward passing the pretty village of Cherhill, where the 2nd largest white horse can be seen in the distance & also visited. Arrive in Avebury known for its Neolithic stone circle. The final stretch takes you to the splendid thriving market town of Marlborough that sits on the River Kennet.

DISCOVER: Calne Heritage Centre • Bowood House • Cherhill White Horse (NT) • Black Dog Halt

Melksham cycle rides

Lacock - 4 miles

403 →→ NT Start at Murray Walk

Leave the station by way of Bath Road, turning left onto Beanacre Road, then turn onto Scotland Road, which becomes Murray Walk. Cross the River Avon to follow NCR 403 all the way to the unspoiled village of Lacock & its handsome Abbey.

Bath - 16.5 miles

4 403 →→ NT Start at Murray Walk

Cross the River Avon at Murray Walk and head south along NCR 403 Millennium Riverside Walk through King George V Park. Leave the park to Lowbourne Road. Keep cycling south along the 403 route until you reach Semington Bridge, where you switch westward on NCR 4. This quiet ride leads along the Kennet & Avon Canal Towpath and is traffic-free, passing through picture perfect Bradford on Avon, and some important historic aqueducts before then arriving in Bath via Pulteney Bridge.

Bristol - 33 miles

4 403 BBRP →→ Start at Murray Walk

Cycle to Bath (as above) southward on NCR 403 and picking up NCR 4 at Semington Bridge to cycle west to Bath along the Kennet and Avon Canal Towpath. Just before the Avoncliff Aqueduct cross the River Avon to continue pedalling along the towpath. In Bath make your way south to Bath Spa station (cycling by Green Park). At the end of the path at Nelson Villas the BBRP is on the left. It's now traffic-free all the way to Bristol along a disused railway path.

DISCOVER: Fox Talbot Museum • Lacock Abbey • The Courts Garden (NT) • Bristol Harbourside

Westbury cycle rides

Westbury White Horse - 3 miles

→→ Start at train station

From the station turn right onto Station Road and stay on it until a left takes you on to the Market Place and King Alfred Street. Here turn onto Gibbs Close southbound to Newtown. This soon becomes Long River Road, and it's a left turn off here (just after a horse riding centre) to the White Horse Car Park. Park your bike, & walk the short climb to this striking and legendary Wiltshire feature.

Frome to Longleat - 4.5 miles

→→ **24** NT Start at train station

From Westbury train station hop on a short train journey to the fine looking and independently-minded town of Frome. From Frome train station cycle west towards Station Approach & then right. Take a slight left onto NCR 24 then left onto Lockhill (NCR 24). Staying on the route takes you left onto Keyford, then shortly after a left onto Feltham Lane. This quiet lane takes you all the way to Longleat Estate House.

Devizes - 11.5 miles

→→ **4** Start at train station

From Westbury train station jump on a train to Trowbridge. A lovely cycle ride awaits you, traffic-free along the Kennet & Avon Canal Towpath. See Trowbridge cycle rides

DISCOVER: Longleat Estate • Frome Independent Market • Cley Hill (NT)

Trowbridge cycle rides

River Biss & Biss Meadows Country Park - 2 miles

→→ Start at Trowbridge Park

This bike ride starts in Trowbridge Park, a few minutes east of the train station. Leave the station taking a left to Station Approach and cycle round via Hill Street, Church Street and Silver Street to bring you to Trowbridge Park. By the pond you'll go under the busy County Way (still on a path) which then brings you out by the tree-lined River Biss. Keep southeast on the path, hugging the river until you reach your destination - home to an abundance of wildlife.

Devizes - 11.5 miles

4 →→ Start at train station

Leave the station direction northwest towards Langford Road - you should be cycling parallel to the train tracks. Turn left onto Brick Lane and cross over the bridge then right onto the Kennet & Avon Canal Towpath. This is traffic-free and will take you all the way to Devizes. On route you'll cycle by many locks including the pretty Seend Locks and the impressive Caen Hill Locks. The town deserves your time; it has plenty of independent shops and some great riverside and town places to eat.

Marlborough via Great Bedwyn - 40 miles

4 403 →→ NT Start at train station

This cycle ride takes you along the Kennet & Avon Canal Towpath all the way east to the idyllic village of Great Bedwyn. Cycle through this lush countryside flanking the edge of the North Wessex Downs an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. The final stretch at Great Bedwyn leads you onto the NCR 403 north which takes you through Savernake Forest to Marlborough, which sits on the River Kennet. Marlborough has a great selection of independent eateries to refresh at.

DISCOVER: Trowbridge Museum • Caen Hill Locks • Wiltshire Museum • Lockeridge Dene & Piggledene (NT)