

Further information

www.cycleshrewsbury.co.uk

Nearest visitor information centre

Shrewsbury: Rowleys House, Barker Street 01743 281200

Travel information

Nearest mainline stations: Shrewsbury


For rail travel call 08457 484950 www.nationalrail.co.uk


For bus travel call 0871 200 22 33 www.transportdirect.info


Ordnance survey maps


Landranger **126** Shrewsbury and Oswestry

Cycling contacts

Dave Mellor Cycles – cycle sales, repair and hire. 9a New Street, Shrewsbury, SY3 8JN. 01743 366682 

Stan Jones Cycles – cycle sales and repairs. 17a Hills Lane, Shrewsbury, SY1 1QU. 01743 343775 

Hawk Cycles – cycle sales and repairs. 15 Castle Street, Shrewsbury, SY1 2BB. 01743 344554 

Shrewsbury Cycles – cycle sales and repairs. 43 Ditherington Road, Shrewsbury, SY1 4BE. 01743 232061 

Jack Davies Cycles – cycle sales and repairs. 20a Chester Street, Shrewsbury, SY1 1NX. 01743 353093

Halfords – cycle sales and repairs. Unit 10, Meole Brace Retail Park, Shrewsbury, SY3 9NB. 01743 270277

Spokes Cycle Hire – cycle hire. 07745 587770

 = Cycle Shrewsbury discount card accepted.

Discover Shropshire by bike

It's great to get out and about on a bike in Shropshire. Discover hundreds of miles of National Cycle Network routes along quiet lanes, explore traffic-free trails along old railways and waterways, follow the cycle rides from historic towns and get muddy on mountain bike tracks in woods and forests.

www.shropshirecycling.co.uk

www.shropshire.gov.uk/cycling.nsf

Cycle Shrewsbury 01743 253008

Acknowledgements

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Leaflet artwork by www.macrecreative.co.uk

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- 1 Start at Shrewsbury Abbey.** Follow directions in route 2, points 6 to 14 to leave Shrewsbury.
- Continue until you reach a fork in the road, at this point bear left signed to Berrington. Continue straight on at next crossroads signed Berrington past the entrance to Berrington Hall on left. Turn right at T junction into and through hamlet of Berrington. (**Take care – narrow road with a poor surface**).
- Continue straight on at crossroads signed Boretton and continue to Boretton Ford. Use the footbridge to cross the ford. Turn left at T junction to Condover.
- In Condover turn left at T junction signed Frodesley and, after crossing bridge, left again signed Cantlop. Continue straight on to Cantlop crossroads.

Condover Hall

An elegant Grade I listed three storey Elizabethan sandstone building, described as the grandest manor house in Shropshire. American writer Mark Twain stayed here in 1873 and 1879. It was used as a residential school between 1979-2009.

- Turn right at crossroads signed Pitchford. After 1 mile, Pitchford Hall can be seen on the right. Continue through Pitchford to Acton Burnell.

Pitchford Hall

A magnificent Tudor hall with a Grade II listed orangery, Roman remains and a 300 year-old tree house. It is one of the oldest treehouses in the world, and even boasts an oak floor and gothic windows. (The hall is not open to the public).

- Turn left at the crossroads at the top of the rise, continue for a short distance to Acton Burnell Church and Castle. Retrace your steps back to the crossroads and turn right to return to junction at edge of village.

Acton Burnell Castle

Acton Burnell Castle is a ruin of a fortified manor house built in the 13th century (1284) by Robert Burnell, a powerful landowner and friend of King Edward I. It was built of red sandstone and is one of the oldest remains of its type in the country.

- Turn right signed Kenley.

SHORTCUT

This cuts out the steepest climb and shortens by about 6 miles.

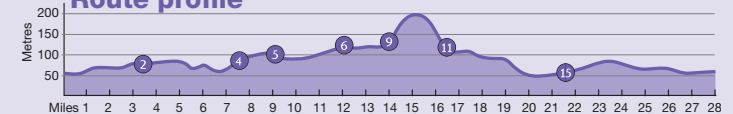
- Take the next left signed Acton Pigott. Continue through hamlet.
- Bear left signed Cound. Continue past Golding on left and down hill to Upper Cound.
- Turn left at T junction signed Berrington. Turn right at next T junction signed Cross Houses. Rejoin longer route at Cound Bridge, near point 14.
- Continue on this lane for 2½ miles climbing steeply for the last bit up to the T junction near Kenley. (**Take care - steep and narrow road**)
- Turn left signed Harley
- Continue descending for about 1 mile (**take care steep and narrow road**). Then turn sharp left signed Harnage Grange and Cressage (**take care steep descent and narrow road**).
- Turn left again signed Harnage Grange.
- Take the next right by Harnage Grange Farm (this is not signed) and go straight over the next crossroads to Harnage.
- Descend to Cound. Turn left shortly after church at the T Junction signed Pitchford to arrive in Upper Cound. Turn right at the T junction signed Pitchford.
- Turn right at the next T junction signed Cross Houses and continue over Cound Bridge.

Venus Pool Nature Reserve

About ½ mile past the bridge you will see the entrance to Venus Pool Nature Reserve on the right. This site, owned and managed by Shropshire Ornithological Society, is well worth a visit – particularly if you have some binoculars with you! There are several hides – 3 for public use.

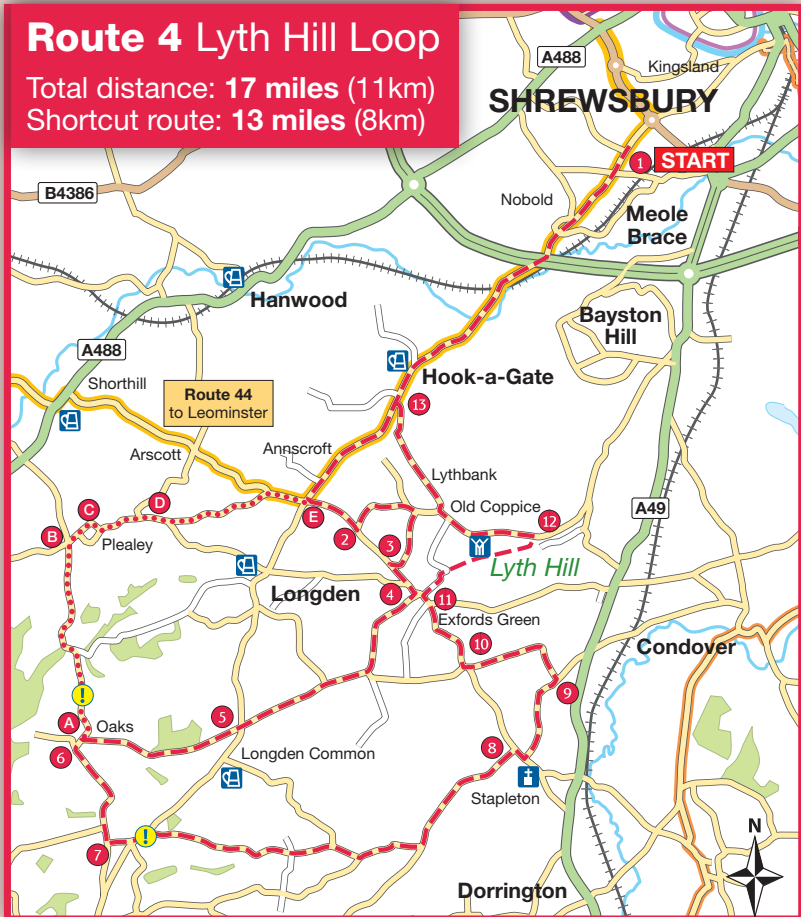
- Turn left at the T junction onto A458 towards Cross Houses for a very short distance and take next left again to Berrington passing the church on your right.
- Turn right at grass triangle in Berrington (there is no sign here) to rejoin outward route. Take the next left signed Betton Abbots retracing your route to Shrewsbury.

Route profile



Route 4 Lyth Hill Loop

Total distance: 17 miles (11km)
Shortcut route: 13 miles (8km)



1 Start at Roman Road Sports Centre on Longden Road.

Turn left out of car park. Follow this road for 3 miles through Hookagate and Annscroft

2 Turn left at crossroads, after leaving Annscroft, signed Exfords Green.

3 Take next left to Great Lyth. Turn right at the hall on the corner in Great Lyth, and then turn left to return to road to Exfords Green.

4 Continue straight on past one right turn and then turn right in Exfords Green signed Lower Common.

5 Continue straight on at crossroad signed Oaks and climb steadily to Oaks.

View from Oaks

This is the highest point on the route (220m) with spectacular views over Shrewsbury, the Wrekin and Haughmond Hill

SHORTCUT

A Turn right at T junction signed Plealey (*take care – steep descent*)

B Turn right at the T junction in Plealey, signed Longden/Annscroft

C Continue straight on past Plealey Villa.

D Continue straight on at junction signed to Longden/Exfords Green (route 44)

E Turn left at crossroad signed Annscroft/Hookagate/Shrewsbury (route 44) and retrace your route through Annscroft and Hookagate returning to Roman Road Sports Centre.

6 Turn left at T junction signed Wrentnall and follow lane through the hamlet keeping left until you come to a T junction on the main road.

7 Turn left signed Longden/Shrewsbury then in 50m bear right signed Stapleton (take care crossing main road). Continue straight on for 3 miles keeping left at two junctions until arriving at the T junction in Stapleton.

8 Turn right, signed Dorington and in 100m turn left opposite the church.

Stapleton Church

St John Baptist Church is unusual in that it was originally of two storeys, with the nave over an undercroft. The floor was taken out in 1786. The tower was added c.1840.

9 Take next left to Chatford passing through the hamlet until you come to a staggered crossroads.

10 Turn right to return to Exfords Green

Alternative route avoiding rough track

If you do not wish to climb up Lyth Hill you can continue back to Exfords Green and retrace your steps back to Shrewsbury via Great Lyth, Annscroft and Hookagate.

11 Turn right down a track marked Shropshire Way shortly after post box. Continue past the Shropshire Venison Farm on your left and go through a gate to Lyth Hill Country Park. Follow bridleway up steep track (you may wish to walk this section of the route). Pass through another gate continuing on rough track

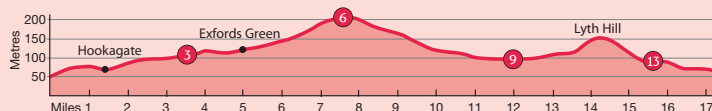
Lyth Hill

Lyth Hill provides some of the best panoramic views of the South Shropshire Hills; from The Wrekin in the east to Wenlock Edge in the south-east and the Stiperstones in the south-west. The site has areas of woodland, scrub, and open grassland providing a wildlife refuge on the outskirts of Shrewsbury.

12 Take a sharp left turn after some houses onto tarmac to descend Lythbank for about a mile until you rejoin outward route.

13 Turn right at T junction signed Hook-a-gate/Shrewsbury and retrace your route through Hookagate eventually returning to Roman Road Sports Centre on your right.

Route profile



FREE

Shrewsbury Cycle Rides



Four rides into the countryside around Shrewsbury

Following quiet lanes and bridleways from 10–29 miles (16–46 km)



About the cycle rides

Route 1 Home Farm Highlights

Gentle route following *Route 81* through Uffington and Upton Magna to Home Farm, Attingham. Option to extend to Rodington.

Route 2 Around Attingham

This ride combines some places of interest in Shrewsbury with visits to Attingham Park and Home Farm.

Route 3 Acton Burnell Adventure

A longer ride for more experienced cyclists with great views of Wenlock Edge, The Wrekin and visits to Acton Burnell Castle and Venus Pool Nature Reserve

Route 4 Lyth Hill Loop

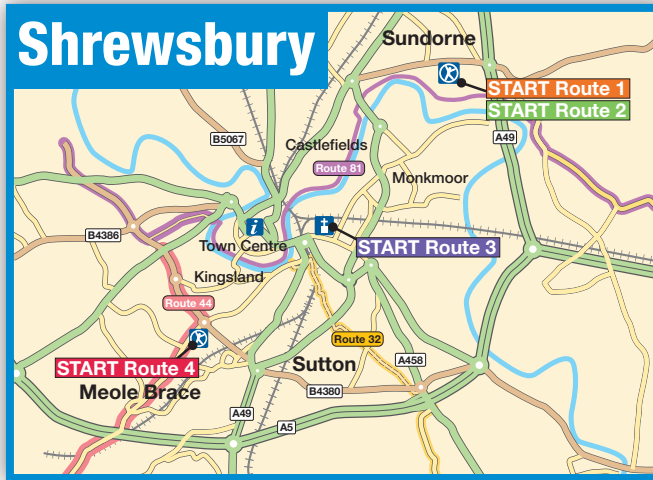
A rewarding ride, with a few challenging climbs offering wonderful views over the Shropshire hills and taking in Lyth Hill Country Park.

Cycling code

- ◆ Always follow the Highway Code
- ◆ Be considerate to other users, and give way to pedestrians and horse riders
- ◆ Take particular care at junctions, when cycling downhill and on loose surfaces
- ◆ Ride in single file on narrow or busy roads
- ◆ Consider wearing a helmet and high visibility clothing

Key to maps

- | | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|---------------|
| Cycle route 1 | Cycle route 2 | |
| Cycle route 3 | Cycle route 4 | |
| Short cut / alternative route | | |
| Café | Public house | Shops |
| Nature reserve | Place of worship | Sports centre |
| Country park | Historic building | Picnic area |
| Car park | Museum | Take care |



Shrewsbury is a very attractive historic market town nestled in a loop of the River Severn. The town centre has a largely unaltered medieval street plan and features several timber framed 15th and 16th century buildings.

The town was founded around 800AD and has played a significant role in British history, having been the site of many conflicts, particularly between the English and the Welsh. William the Conqueror gave the town to Roger de Montgomery who founded Shrewsbury Castle in 1074 and Shrewsbury Abbey in 1083. Both these historic buildings can be visited by the public.

Shrewsbury was also the birthplace of naturalist Charles Darwin, one of the most influential scientists of the nineteenth century. He was educated at the famous Shrewsbury School, which was also attended by Michael Palin and DJ John Peel.

Nowadays, Shrewsbury is famous as a 'town of flowers'. The town hosts one of the oldest and largest horticultural events in the country, Shrewsbury Flower Show, and is known for its floral displays.

Shrewsbury is a lively town with frequent markets and street fairs and festivals. There are plenty of wonderful places to eat and stay, as well as some great shops. There are also some beautiful, peaceful green places to explore such as the town's stunning Quarry Park, the River Severn path and the Reabrook Valley nature reserve.

Cycle Shrewsbury

In the summer of 2008 Shrewsbury was awarded Cycling Town status. Between 2008 and 2011 there will be lots of improvements to cycle routes and facilities in Shrewsbury which will make it easier and quicker to cycle around the town. To find out more about Cycle Shrewsbury, for more recommended routes or to join the Cycle Shrewsbury campaign visit our website www.cycleshrewsbury.co.uk.

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Route 1 Home Farm Highlights

Total distance: 1 loop **10 miles (16 km)**
2 loops **16 miles (25 km)**

- 1 Start at the Sports Village on Sundorne Road. From here follow route 81 signed town centre. Turn left at T Junction on route 81 signed Uffington/Wellington.
- 2 Carry straight on at Pimley Manor, signed route 81 Wellington/Telford/Uffington.
- 3 At junction with road, turn right signed Wellington/Upton Magna (**Take care turning onto main road**).
- 4 Bear left at the next junction following route 81 to Upton Magna signed route 81 Wellington.
- 5 In Upton Magna, continue following route 81 signed to Wellington.

Upton Magna

This picturesque village with its thatched cottages and quaint church has a certain old world charm. The Corbet Arms pub serves a varied selection of snacks and drinks and welcomes cyclists. It is open daily except Mondays.

- 6 To do the extra loop of 6 miles then at the T junction opposite the Corbet Arms pub turn left and follow route 81 signed to Wellington. Alternatively to go directly to Home Farm turn right signed route 45 Atcham and follow these directions from number 14.



- 7 After leaving Upton Magna, bear left at next junction, signed Rodington/Roden.
- 8 Turn left at the second crossroads by the egg farm, Hollowdene, unsigned.
- 9 Turn right at the cross roads, unsigned. After leaving Somerwood continue straight on signed to Rodington/Walcot/Wellington.
- 10 Carry straight on at the cross roads, signed to Walcot/Wellington.
- 11 Carry straight on at the crossroads in Rodington Heath, signed Withington/Walcot.
- 12 Turn right on the bend signed Withington/Upton Magna.
- 13 In Withington turn right onto route 81 signed Upton Magna, continue on route 81 to Upton Magna.
- 14 Carry on straight past the Corbet Arms pub on the left signed route 45 Atcham.
- 15 Turn left at the T junction signed route 45 Atcham (**take care busy road**).
- 16 After approximately ½ mile, turn left signed Home Farm only, across a cattle grid then left again to Home

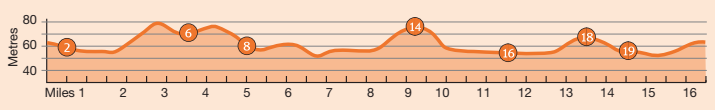
Farm. After spending time at Home Farm you can either retrace your steps back to Upton Magna and the Sports Village or return to route 81 using the slightly shorter route along a busier road outlined in points 17-19 below.

Home Farm

Home Farm at Attingham Park is a working farm open to the public. As well as being able to look around the historic farm and see the animals, you can visit the tearooms or buy home-made ice cream. There are seasonal opening times from late March to December.

- 17 Turn right out of Home Farm turning and keep left when you reach Berwick Wharf junction.
- 18 Continue straight on at the cross roads.
- 19 At the next junction rejoin route 81 and retrace your steps to the Sports Village.

Route profile



Route 2 Around Attingham

Total distance: 16 miles (25 km)

- 1 Start at the Sports Village on Sundorne Road. From here follow route 81 signed town centre.
- 2 Follow the route of the old canal until you reach Telford Way (inner ring road). Cross the road via the underpass, signed route 81, or via the toucan crossing. About 20 metres beyond the crossing turn left signed town centre and Sundorne to rejoin route 81.
- 3 Carry on along route 81 along Sydney Avenue and past the weir.
- 4 Continue along the river towpath, go under footbridge and turn right immediately, signed Monkmoor via footbridge. Dismount to walk over footbridge then continue along cycle track.
- 5 Turn right at the end of the cycle track into Underdale Road/Holywell Street. Continue straight under railway bridge until you reach the T junction.
- 6 Turn right into Abbey Foregate and follow cycle lane passing Shrewsbury Abbey on your right (**take care – busy road**).

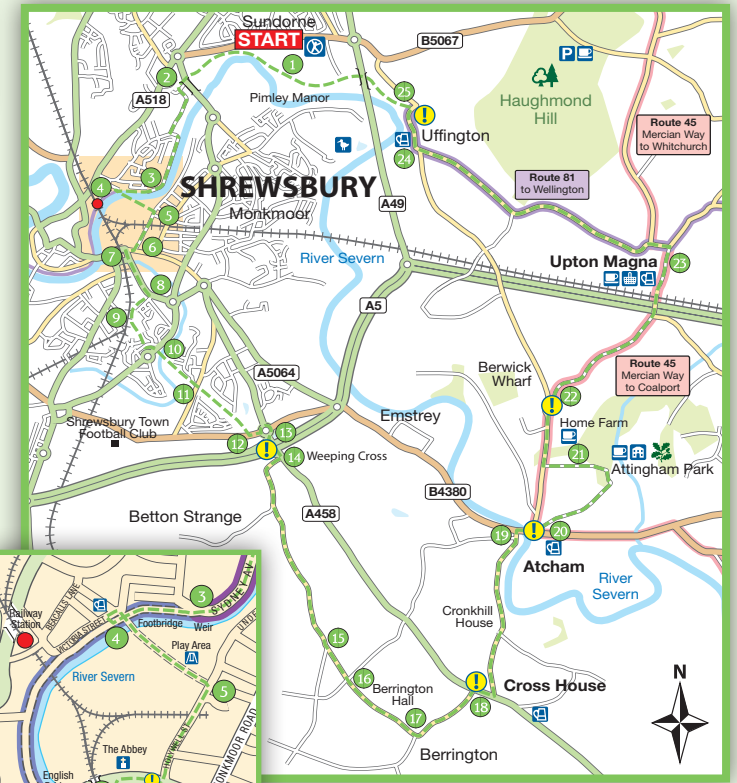
Shrewsbury Abbey

This Abbey Church of SS Peter and Paul was found by Roger de Montgomery, a relative of William the Conqueror, in 1083.

- 7 Join the cycle track outside the entrance to Shropshire Wildlife Trust. Turn left, signed to Belle Vue/Longden Coleham and continue on cycle track past the supermarket.
- 8 Continue past the cinema on your left and cross the road via crossing point into Scott Street. Turn right immediately and continue straight on, signed except cycles.
- 9 Turn left on the railway bridge, signed Reabrook, Sutton, & Meole Brace
- 10 Turn left and then right across the road at the roundabout signed Reabrook/Sutton. After crossing the road follow cycle signs to Sutton along the disused railway path.
- 11 At the next road junction cross the road on the zebra crossing and continue straight on, signed to Shrewsbury Business Park.
- 12 Turn left signed Shrewsbury Business Park
- 13 Rejoin the carriageway, turn right at the roundabout and follow the short section of main road A458 Bridgnorth, crossing over Shrewsbury bypass. (**Take care**).
- 14 Turn right signed to Acton Burnell.
- 15 Continue until you reach a fork in the road, at this point bear left signed to Berrington
- 16 Continue straight on at the crossroads signed to Berrington
- 17 As you enter Berrington, turn immediately left signed to Cross Houses.
- 18 Turn right at the main road junction (**take care**) and left at the next roundabout, signed to Atcham.
- 19 Dismount and walk over the old bridge to Mytton & Mermaid hotel.

Old Atcham Bridge

This seven-arched bridge is made from sandstone. It was designed by John Gwynne, a founder member of the Royal Academy, and constructed in 1771.



- 20 Cross the road (**take care busy road**) and enter the grounds of Attingham Park. Watch out for cattle grids. Ride through the park (one way system) to the car park and ticket office.

Attingham Park (National Trust)

Elegant 18th Century mansion with regency interiors set in extensive deer park. The National Trust offers free entry to the park to people who arrive by bicycle. Shop open year round, café has seasonal opening times check website for more details.
www.nationaltrust.org.uk/main/w-attinghampark

- 21 Continue through the car park following the one way system to Home Farm. On leaving Home Farm, turn right on busy main road for a short stretch
- 22 Turn right at next junction signed to Upton Magna route 45 (**take care – limited visibility**).
- 23 Turn left opposite Corbet Arms pub signed route 81 and route 45 at Upton Magna. Follow road round to left past church signed route 81 to Shrewsbury.
- 24 Turn right and continue on route 81 through Uffington.
- 25 Turn left onto cycle track and carry straight on crossing the road at Pimley Manor until you reach right hand turn back to Sports Village.

Route profile

