Welcome to Cycling UK’s first off-road update! It’s great to have you on board.

These updates will be heading your way four times a year with news about off-road access, the latest on the Great North Trail and other long-distance routes, ride inspiration, opportunities to get involved and more.

We hope you enjoy this issue, and as it’s brand new we’d welcome your comments or suggestions for anything else you’d like to see.

Don’t forget, if you’re a Cycling UK member you have until the end of January to grab some top discounts - 50% off subscription to Singletrack magazine and 15% off all Restrap products.

Best wishes,

Sophie Gordon, Cycling UK

PS - if you have a friend who’d be interested in these updates, let them know they can sign up here.

Are you up for Cycling UK’s 2020 bikepacking challenge?

Cycling UK is encouraging everyone to get out and enjoy a night out under the stars at least once a month during 2020 – with great prizes to win every month, like a Findra neck warmer and Restrap frame bag. Are you in?

Cycling UK’s Sam Jones undertook the challenge in 2019 and is planning on giving it a go in 2020 as well. He said:

“Every month throughout the year I knew I always had a little trip to look forward to. It’s been a damp start to the year so far, but I’m looking forward to carrying on the
challenge and seeing where 2020 will take me and everyone else who gets involved!

Get involved and share your stories on social media using #12nightsoutin1year.

FIND OUT MORE

Why the Great North Trail could be even better (it's nothing to do with the weather)

Are you planning to ride the Great North Trail this year? Cycling UK’s 800-mile off-road trail is a fantastic adventure - but the route isn’t perfect. In this video Cycling UK’s head of campaigns Duncan Dollimore explains why, and what we’re doing about it.

FIND OUT MORE

70 years on: Has the National Parks Act achieved its purpose?

December 2019 marked seventy years since the legislation was passed which led to the creation of National Parks and National Trails. We discuss what's happened in that time, and whether we need to refocus on the original vision to encourage more people to explore the outdoors.

FIND OUT MORE
Creating a Ridgeway Riding Route

The Ridgeway National Trail follows an ancient route that runs for 87 miles through the Chilterns and the North Wessex Downs.

The western half of the route, from Avebury to Goring-on-Thames, uses rights of way open to cyclists, so you can pedal freely along. Past Goring however, there are sections of footpath, which cyclists don’t have a right to use. This frustrates the dream for many of being able to ride the whole length of the National Trail.

However, change is in the pipeline as Cycling UK is involved in developing a new Ridgeway Riding Route – and the Ridgeway Partnership want to hear your thoughts.

Mountain biking in snow and ice

If recent years are anything to go by, we could well get a blast of cold weather heading our way in the next couple of months – or even as late as March.

Don’t let it stop you getting out with our top tips for riding in winter conditions.
10% off tickets to the Adventure Travel Show

When the rain and storms hit, sometimes the best place to be is sat in the warm planning fantastic future adventures.

If you want some inspiration, come and join us at the Adventure Travel Show this weekend. We’ll be talking about the Great North Trail and plans for our newest long-distance trail this summer – plus you can hear from legendary travellers like Sir Ranulph Fiennes and Julia Bradbury.

Cycling UK members can enjoy a 10% discount on tickets.

FIND OUT MORE

Get involved!

Our work to increase access to the countryside for everyone to enjoy is only possible thanks to our members and supporters.

If you want to play a part in helping more people discover the joy of cycling in our forests, glens and moors, we’d love you to get involved.

FIND OUT MORE

cyclinguk.org/offroadcampaigns

Sophie Gordon
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