The Great North Way

32 mile cycle route between Potters Bar & Letchworth via Welwyn, Stevenage and Hertfordshire countryside



The Great North Way

Hertfordshire has some great countryside to explore... and what's more you don't need your car to find it. Get in the saddle and ride the Great North Way! This cycle route takes you from town into countryside using quiet lanes and traffic free sections.

The Great North Way is the latest in a succession of transport routes linking London with northern England & Scotland. Riding the route, you will cross above and below these earlier constructed road and rail links: the medieval Great North Road, The A1 and the East Coast Mainline railway.

The Great North Way (Route 12) forms part of the National Cycle Network. Conceived by the charity Sustrans, it is one of many safe cycle routes making up part of an ambitious countrywide network. When completed Route 12 will link London with Grimsby via Peterborough.

In Hertfordshire it takes you from Potters Bar (Hadley Wood) to Letchworth and Baldock - a 32 mile ride. You may not want to cycle all of the route, but why not ride part of it? You could even cycle one way and take the train back. See the Bike / Rail section on the back cover for more information.

The map also contains information on interesting places to visit along the route, with an emphasis on free and less expensive attractions. Take a diversion down one of three old railway line cycle routes, expand your mind in Mill Green or Letchworth Heritage museums, explore woodlands or take a trip around Letchworth on their recently opened Greenway. Refreshments can be found in the pubs and cafes shown.

If you live and work along the route, why not use this map to plan a cycle ride to work? Nearby schools are also shown to help find a safe way of cycling in on school days.

The Great North Way is surfaced to a good standard throughout so is suitable for cyclists of all ages and abilities.



Local Cycling Contacts

For the North Herts area...

North Herts District Council - Tel: 01462 474000 www.north-herts.gov.uk

Letchworth Heritage Foundation for the Letchworth Greenway - Tel: 01462 476000, www.greenway.org.uk

For the Stevenage area...

Stevenage Borough Council for Stevenage Cycle Map Tel: 01438 242242, www.stevenage.gov.uk

For the Welwyn Hatfield area...

Contact Pedal Point at Welwyn Hatfield Council for more maps in this series - Alban Way, The Ayots, Cole Green Way & Welwyn Hatfield. Tel: 01707 357551, www.welhat.gov.uk/pedalpoint

For the Hertsmere area...

Hertsmere Borough Council for Watling Chase Greenways Tel: 020 8207 2277, www.hertsmere.gov.uk

Other Contacts

Hertfordshire County Council: www.hertsdirect.org.uk/cycleweb

Sustrans: www.sustrans.org.uk

Transport for London for cycle routes in London www.tfl.gov.uk/cycling

Bedfordshire County Council: www.bedfordshire.gov.uk

Cycle Safety

Consider wearing a helmet & bright or fluorescent clothing during the day. Wear reflective clothing and use lights at night and in poor visibility.

On traffic free sections be considerate to other users, and use a bell to warn them of your approach.

Check our website for more information & news: www.greatnorthway.org.uk

Public Transport

The Great North Way is easily accessible by rail at several stations along the route.



Why not cycle one way and take the train back? The route passes near to several railway stations and these are clearly indicated on the map.

Regular trains serve the stations between Hadley Wood and Baldock from London, Cambridge & Peterborough.

There are no restrictions at weekends and bank holidays for taking your bike on the train (although tandems are not permitted). For further information, and wac train times: www.wagn.co.uk

National Rail Enquiries

Tel: 08457 48 49 50, www.nationalrail.co.uk

Here are some potential cycle rides that can be made between various railway stations:

| Hadley Wood – Hatfield | |
|---------------------------|------------|
| 10 miles | 1hr 10mins |
| Welwyn Garden – Stevenage | |
| 10 miles | 1hr 10mins |
| Stevenage – Baldock | |
| 7.5 miles | 50mins |

(Estimated times are based on an av. speed of 9mph).

Bus timetable information

Traveline Tel: 0870 608 2 608. www.traveline.org.uk

Intalink at www.intalink.org.uk

For more copies of the map please phone 01707 357551 or email pedalpoint@welhat.gov.uk



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Cartography, photography*, leaflet design and lots of cycling by Stephen Wragg - Wragg Art House: www.wah.co.uk

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*all photos by Stephen Wragg except: Welwyn Roman Baths legionary & Baldock Market - with thanks to Hertfordshire County Council, Knebworth Park deer - with thanks to Knebworth House, Stanborough Park sailing - with thanks to Finesse Leisure Partnership.



120 acres of beautiful parkland and an 11 acre sailing lake are a mecca for wildfowl and anglers alike. There is also the opportunity for watersports and a paddling pool and play area for children.

Fairlands Valley Park

Fairland: Valley Park Valley Park

Broadwater Crescent

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Stevenage

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Knebworth Golf Course

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Old Town

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Stevenage

childhood home of E M Forster & inspiration for his novel Howard's End. Stevenage changed drastically after being designated the first new town in 1946 following which six neighbourhoods were constructed around the Old Town. The town also features an impressive cycle path

Old Stevenage was the site of an original

Saxon settlement and has been influenced by

every great period of history since. Picturesque

Middle Row was rebuilt after a major fire in 1807 including the White Lion pub where prisoners from the Napoleonic war were rested in the cellars on their way to northern camps. Along Rectory Lane can be found the quaint St Nicholas Church & Rooks Nest House - the

network which is an inspiration. Remember to keep an eye out for those **12** signs as you admire the roundabout cycle underpasses!

Langley



Knebworth House was purchased by Sir Robert Lytton in 1490 after he served King Henry VII in London. This Tudor manor house has been in the family ever since. For more information log on to www.knebworthhouse.com. In Old Knebworth itself can be found the Lytton Arms pub where you can enjoy a drink and an outdoor game of chess!



Rabley Heath

Knebworth Country Park

Old

Knebworth

Park

Pottersheath

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Knebworth House

Codicote

Codicote

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THE GOAT

Kimpton Road

Codicote Kimpton Road Bottom Though mentioned in the Doomsday Book of 1086 the present village probably dates from 1267. Today Codicote Village has a number of village shops and pubs all of which provide food.

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Welwyn Heath

Oaklands

Old Welwyn

Old Welwyn was of strategic importance because of its

Woolmer Green

Knebworth

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