

Further information

www.cleoburycountry.com

Nearest Visitor Information Centres

LUDLOW: Castle Street. 01584 875053. Open all year.
BEWDLEY: Guildhall Museum. 01299 404740. Open all year.
CALLOW HILL: Wyre Forest Visitor Information Centre.
01299 266944. Open all year.
BRIDGNORTH: 14 Whitburn Street. Open all year. 01746 763257
SEVERN CENTRE: Highley. Open all year. 01746 860000
CLEOBURY MORTIMER VIC: New Market Hall, Church Street
Open weekends April to October.

Travel Information

Nearest mainline stations: Ludlow & Kidderminster
For Rail travel call 08457 484950 www.nationalrail.co.uk
Severn Valley Railway: Highley & Areley stations **01299 403816**
For bus travel (including Highley Explorer for Stottesdon)
Call **0871 200 22 33**

Ordnance Survey Map

Landranger 138 Kidderminster & Wyre Forest

Cycling Contacts

Pearce Engineering Hire, sales & repairs, Fishmore Road, Ludlow
01584 879288 www.pearcecycles.co.uk
Triple Treat Mountain bike hire Prizeley Farm Cleobury 01299 270412
Sustrans Mercian Way, Route 45 in Wyre Forest
www.sustrans.org.uk
Shropshire Hills Cycling Stottesdon, mountain bike hire, guided rides,
pick up and collection. 01746 718 436
www.ovac.co.uk

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 farm lanes, mountain bike tracks in woods and forests.

Other Publications

www.shropshire.gov.uk/cycling.nsf
Shropshire Council 01743 253008

With thanks to Colin Purdy who devised the original routes & Cleobury Country Tourism Group whose local knowledge and experience has proved invaluable in the production of this leaflet.

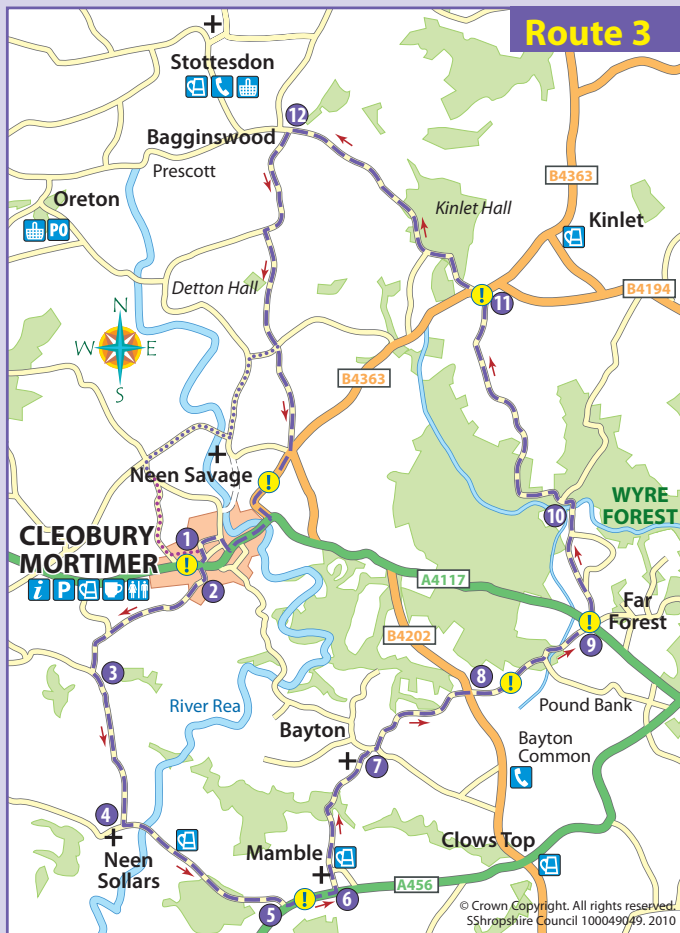
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Cleobury
Country



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- 9 In 2 miles STOP and TAKE EXTREME CARE before turning left onto busy A4117 and immediately turn right on blind bend signposted 'Wyre Forest' and 'Furnace Mill Fisheries'.

Detour: TAKE CARE turn right on busy A4117 for ½ mile uphill to Far Forest Village Stores/Post Office and The Plough PH – meals.

- 10 Continue downhill to the river. Turn left signposted 'Furnace Mill Fisheries'.
11 Turn left onto busy B4363 TAKE CARE and turn first right signposted 'Bagginswood 2'.

Detour: Turn right 1½ miles to Kinlet. Turn left 1 mile for Hall built in 1727 for William Lacon Childe, now a prep school. Nearby St. John the Baptist church is much earlier with renowned alabaster tombs of Blount Family. Fine 13th century churchyard cross and views. Turn right in village for National Cycle Route 45 The Mercian Way and Areley Station on Severn Valley Railway.

- 12 At Bagginswood cross roads turn left signposted Cleobury Mortimer 3.5 miles and continue straight on to Six Ashes picnic area, junction with B4363.



NOTE: You can return by the alternative at Barbrook cross roads 2 miles into point 12 to avoid the steep descent and busy A4117

- 13 At crossroads signposted Cleobury Mortimer 1¼ mile TAKE CARE turn right on fast descent downhill to A4117.
14 TAKE CARE turn right at T-junction signposted Ludlow A4117. After ½ mile DISMOUNT before crossing to turn right into The Hurst (phone box on the corner), then take third turning left into Langlands Road past play park to return to Sports Centre Car Park.

Route 4: The Clee Challenge

**Total distance: 35 miles (56 Km) OR
24 miles (38.4 Km) taking the shortcut.**

A challenging ride with considerable climbs towards the Cleees (along the edges of the Shropshire Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty), returning via remote lanes with long descents to Cleobury.

- 1 From the Sports Centre Car Park walk along the footpath on the south side of the school to new housing at Catherton Road. Turn right and continue to the first cross roads (Stone House)
2 Turn right downhill for Neen Savage. Cross the River Rea – footbridge RECOMMENDED to T-junction.
3 Turn left up long winding hill to T-junction.
4 Turn left signposted 'Nethercot ¼ mile' Continue on narrow lane to pass:

Detton Manor Hall and Farm

Medieval village site and Hall with Elizabethan star shaped chimneys. Built in two ranges, stonework older than timber framed part. Grade 2* listed. (Best view after right hand bend beyond hall)

- 5 At T-junction take slight left to Bagginswood 1 mile.
6 Turn left at T-junction and almost immediately right signposted 'Harcourt ¾ mile'.
7 Turn left on steep downhill for Stottesdon (opposite lane to Harcourt Farm).
8 At T-junction turn right signposted 'Chorley and Billingsley'.

Detour: ½ mile Stottesdon Village for Fighting Cocks pub and Shop

- 9 On brow of hill turn left signposted 'The Highlands 1¼'
10 At Y junction fork left signposted 'The Overtons 1¼' and next left signposted 'Oldfield 1½'
11 At T-junction turn left signposted 'Walkerslow' to descend steeply to cross bridge over Winterburn Brook.
12 At Baytree Cottage turn right signposted 'Cleobury North'.

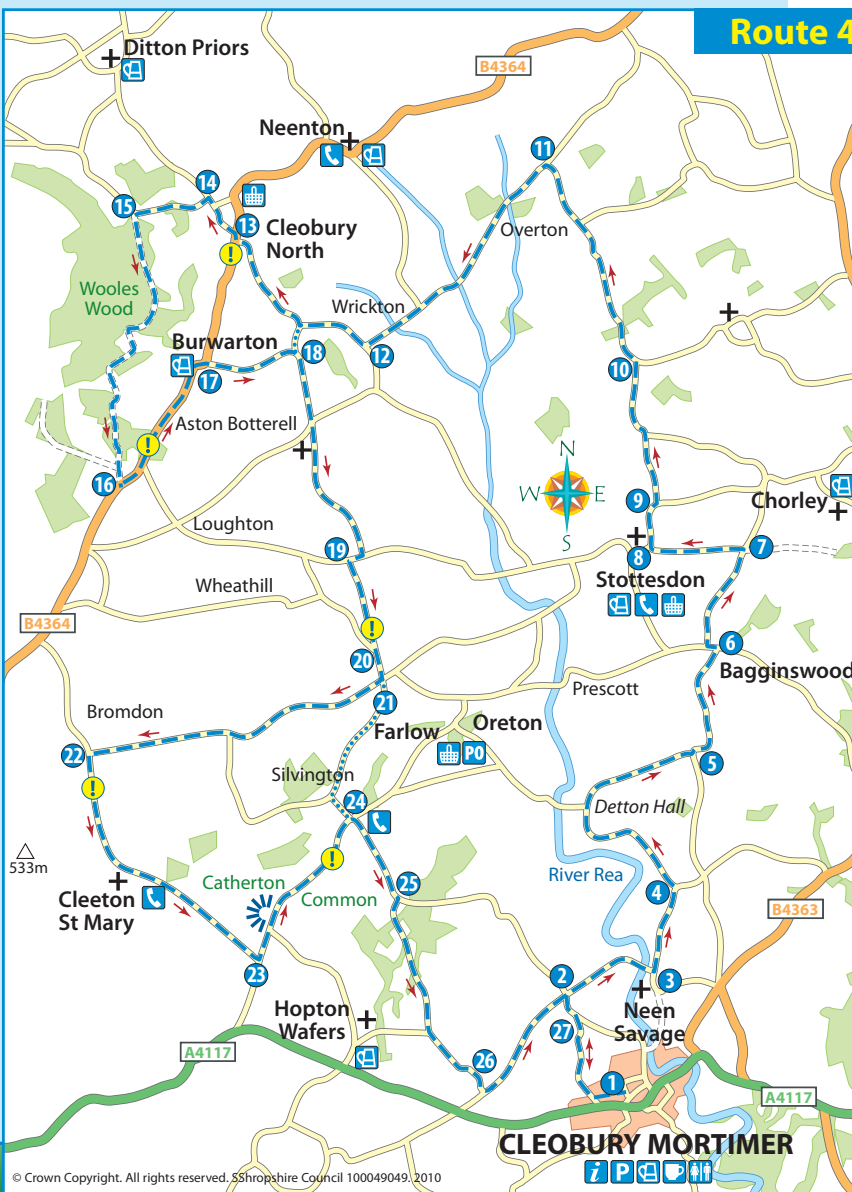


Shortcut

Turn left on right hand bend signposted 'Aston Botterell' to join main route at point 17. This saves 6 miles or 9.6 Km but misses the high route with glorious views through private Burwarton Estate.

Detour: Turn right for 100 yards TAKE CARE on busy B4364 to Cleobury North Village Stores and picnic area and toilets when hall open.

- 13 TAKE CARE straight on at cross roads 'Ditton Priors 2'. Fork left at end of one way system.
14 Turn left in signposted 'Abdon 3½ mile'.
15 At the top of a steep climb, just before right hand bend, turn left on bridleway and over the cattle grid. This starts as a rough stony track



but soon improves to a road. Continue on the bridleway through the private Burwarton Estate owned by the Boyne family (Keep to the signed bridleway route and TAKE CARE, animals and on the cattle grids) to re-emerge onto the B4364.

- 16 Sharp turn left TAKE CARE down B4364 to village.

Burwarton Village

Burwarton House Grade 11 listed, English Heritage. On left Georgian Burwarton Arms pub, meals. Village hosts annual one day agricultural show in August, over 100 years old.

- 17 Turn right, after the bend past the pub, signposted 'Aston Botterell 2'.
18 Turn right after 1 mile signposted Aston Botterell

Aston Botterell +

A market town in Henry III's reign but population of 74 in 2001. St. Michael's Church built of local stone has magnificent memorials of Botterell family whose 13th century family seat was at Aston Farm.

- 19 Turn right at T-junction signposted for 'Loughton'. Just past the farm turn left signpost 'Gobbetts Rare Breeds Farm'

Gobbetts Rare Breeds is a poultry farm displaying rare breeds and selling chicks and also perennials nursery.

- 20 On steep descent, turn left at T-junction TAKE CARE.
21 At next T-junction turn right signposted 'Silvington' towards Titterstone Clee Hill.

Shortcut

Turn left signposted 'Farlow' to cross roads at point 24 where go straight on, saves 4 miles.

- 22 At T-junction turn left signposted 'Cleeton St. Mary' TAKE CARE steep descent. Cross cattle grid onto open common up to village.

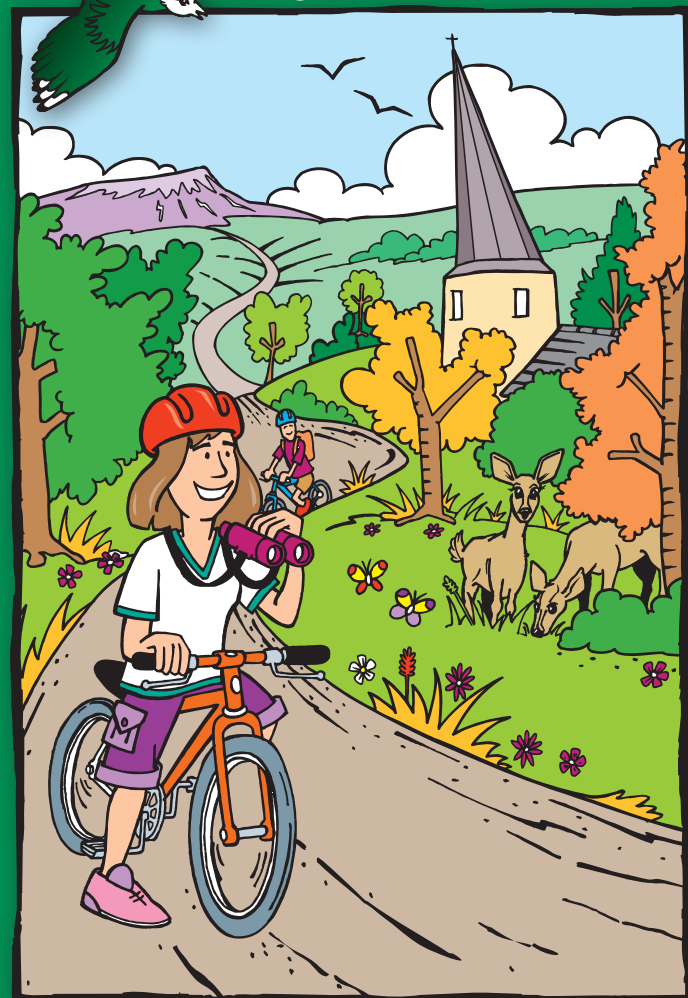
Cleeton St. Mary

Situated under Titterstone Clee with old bell coal pits. Spring at Grid ref. 606782 is a holy well. 19th century Church built of Oretton sandstone has well sited picnic bench. Telephone box in village.

- 23 Continue across open common to T-junction turn sharp left signposted 'Oretton'. TAKE CARE for sheep
24 At crossroads turn right (Shortcut joins here) signposted 'Cleobury Mortimer 3½'
25 Turn right before the wood signposted 'Hopton Wafers'.
26 At the T-junction turn left to descend to Stonehouse crossroads passing Hollywaste waterworks on right.
27 Turn right at the cross roads signposted 'Cleobury Mortimer 1½'. Keep to right at Y junction going straight on past caravan park to turn left onto footpath to walk back to the Sports Centre Car Park.

FREE

Cleobury Mortimer Cycle Rides



**Four cycle routes following quiet lanes
and bridleways through Cleobury Country**

From 10 – 35 miles (16 – 49km)

www.cleoburycountry.com

About the cycle rides

Experience a different pace of life in the hilly countryside around Cleobury Mortimer known as Cleobury Country and into the foothills of the Clee Hills along four graded routes of increasing difficulty:

Route 1 – Rea figures of eight explores the valley of the river Rea north of Cleobury. An excellent summer evening ride with one particularly steep descent to watch out for.

Routes 2-4 are suitable for more experienced cyclists

Route 2 – Southwest Hamlets a delightful short but testing circuit along quiet lanes southwest of Cleobury. Discover 4 churches set in ancient hamlets.

Route 3 – Edge of the Wyre Forest: ride through the hamlets of route 2 and across to the fringes of the Wyre Forest (you may see deer and lapwing).

Route 4 – The Clee Challenge a tough ride with dramatic views. Take all day to enjoy this ride. Two possible shortcuts miss the best sections.

Where to start all four routes start from Lacon Childe School Sports Centre where there is ample parking, lockers, showers and refreshment machines (phone 01299 271317 to check opening times outside of school hours).

Cycling with care

- ♦ Watch out for other vehicles especially tractors
- ♦ Always wear a helmet and high visibility clothing
- ♦ Ride in single file when the road is narrow
- ♦ Follow the Highway Code and take extra care at road junctions

Cleobury Mortimer

The small market town at the centre of the ancient industrial and farming hamlets of Cleobury Country, gained its market charter in 1253. The distinctive twisted spire of St. Mary’s church is a landmark view tempting you back into Cleobury whichever route you take. The town’s Information Point centrally located in the Market Hall, alongside the Church, is open at weekends between April and October. Use it to check out its’ interactive maps of Cleobury Country or to pick up a wide range of tourist leaflets, including a town trail and restaurant guide.

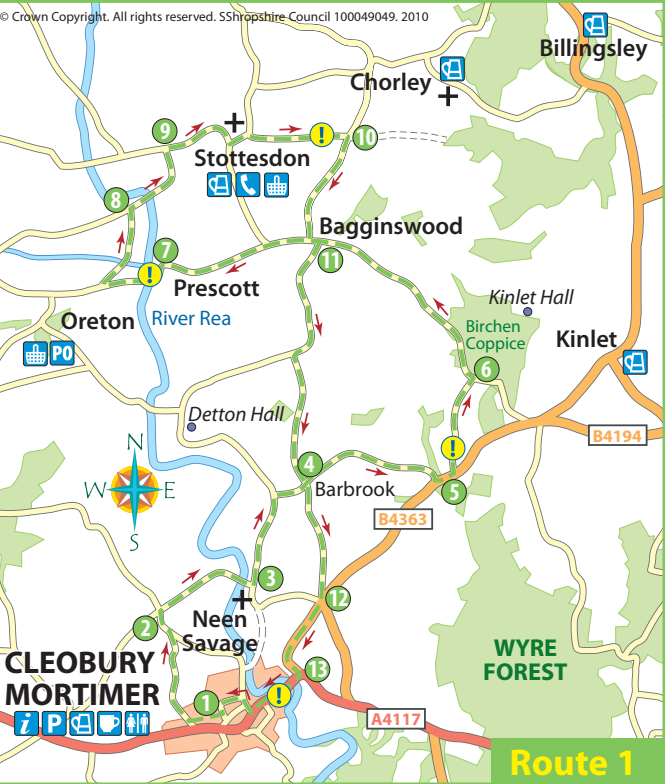
The town itself has ‘an airy curving street of brick Georgian houses’ (John Betjeman) some now the ground floor of its wide variety of small shops and restaurants. Many pubs have histories as ale houses over two hundred years old although Hobson’s ale started brewing locally in 1993 and is available in most pubs along the routes. Do stop long enough to explore the town and enjoy the pace of Cleobury Country to the full!



Route 1: The Rea Figures of Eight

Total distance: 16 miles or 26Km

Good ride in a double figure of eight, making short cuts possible.



- 1 From the Sports Centre Car Park walk along the footpath on the south side of the school to new housing at Catherton Road. Turn right and continue to the first cross roads (Stone House)
- 2 Turn right downhill for Neen Savage. Cross the River Rea – footbridge RECOMMENDED.

Detour right after ford for Neen Savage Church in ¼ mile

St. Mary’s given to Wigmore Abbey by Hugh de Mortimer in 1179 Restored carved rood screen, 16th century porch, roof rafters have Tudor rose tie beams. Adjacent hall: WI wall hanging.

- 3 Turn left uphill to T-junction. Turn right to cross roads (telephone box opposite). **
- 4 Straight on signposted Baveney Lane to T-junction with B4363.
- 5 TAKE CARE turn left onto main road, after 50 metres turn left again up stony track (bridleway). Go past ‘Old Forge Cottage’ and continue for 1 mile to Birchen Coppice opposite T-junction.
- 6 Turn left and continue straight on for 3 miles to ‘Country Treks’ sign.

ROUTE 1 Profile

- 7 TAKE CARE steep downhill with sharp bends to cross Rea at Prescott Mill and after ¼ mile turn sharp right (signposted warning for horses). TAKE CARE crossing Farlow Brook ford (narrow footbridge).
- 8 Turn right at T-junction opposite farm heading for Stottesdon. At next T-junction turn right uphill into Stottesdon.

Stottesdon Village

You pass 14th century Hall Farm and Grade 1 St Mary’s church built 1050. 19th century Fighting Cocks pub, meals evenings and lunches weekends. Shop at the Cocks open daily.

- 9 Turn left signposted Chorley and Billingsley. Past school turn right signposted Harcourt ¾ mile.
- 10 At the T-junction (with Harcourt Farm ahead) turn right TAKE CARE uphill for Bagginswood.
- 11 At T-junction turn left and almost immediately right signposted Cleobury Mortimer 3½ miles. Straight on until Six Ashes picnic area, junction with B4363.

NOTE: You can return by the route you came at the cross roads ** 2 miles into point 11 to avoid the steep descent and busy A4117

- 12 At crossroads signposted Cleobury Mortimer 1¼ miles TAKE CARE turn right on fast descent downhill to A4117.
- 13 TAKE CARE turn right at T-junction signposted Ludlow A4117. After ½ mile DISMOUNT before crossing to turn right into The Hurst (phone box on the corner), then take third turning left into Langlands Road back to Sports Centre Car Park.

Route 2: Southwest Hamlets

Total distance: 13 miles (21 km) in total or 10miles (16Km) taking the short cut.

A clockwise right handed circuit to maximise your views. Some steep descents and plenty of uphill sections.

- 1 Leave Sports Centre through exit at top of car park, bear left onto Love Lane and Langlands Road down to the T-junction. Turn right downhill into the Hurst. TAKE CARE at main road to cross straight over down Barkers Lane.
- 2 At T-junction turn right then first left crossing Rowley Brook and the Rea (TAKE CARE steep descents) Continue into Bayton.

Bayton Village

12th Century St Bartholomew’s church with interesting interior and great views from the churchyard to the Clee. Doorstep Green – wooden sculptures.

- 3 At T-junction in the centre of Bayton turn right signposted Mamble. Continue on this road 1½ miles to Mamble.

Mamble Village

13th century St. John the Baptist church original wooden spire and belltower, some 14th century stained glass and 16th century ruined Catholic chapel built for the Blount family. Sun and Slipper pub originally the 16th century coaching inn, meals except Mondays.

- 4 Turn right at T-junction beside the pub then right again on the main road, A456 TAKE CARE signpost Tenbury 7 miles.
- 5 In ¼ mile turn right TAKE CARE signposted Neen Sollars 2. Downhill past Live and Let Live pub and cross Rea into Neen Sollars.

ShortCut

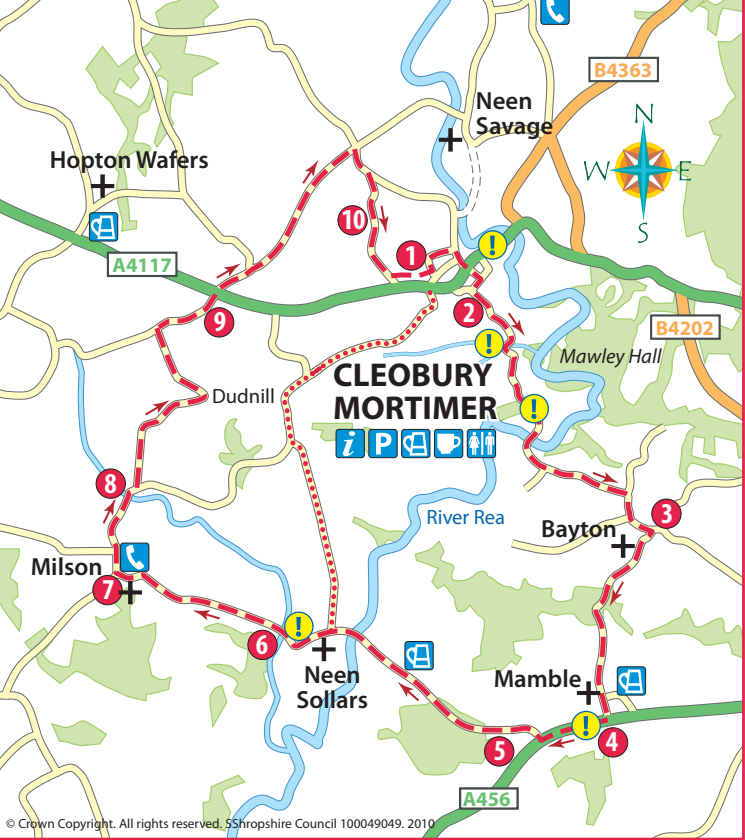
Just before the church turn right signposted Cleobury Mortimer. Turn right at next T-junction and straight on at cross roads TAKE CARE crossing straight over A4117 into Love Lane, turn left at min roundabout, to return to Sports Centre Car Park.

Neen Sollars Village

Many old black and white houses notably Church Farm near 14th century almost unaltered All Saints Church with famous Humphrey Conyngsby monument. Live and Let Live pub, originally 13th century house, meals.

- 6 Go straight on signposted Milson 2 miles. TAKE CARE after first climb on steep descent to Millbrook.

Route 2



Milson Village +

12th century St. Georges church with Norman font and fine carved pulpit. Tower with pyramid roof. Large churchyard with 1500 year old yew.

- 7 At T-junction turn right signposted Cleobury Mortimer 3½ miles (phone box on right)
- 8 Downhill over Millbrook bridge and turn immediately left signposted Hollywaste 2.
- 9 After 2 miles uphill go straight on at cross roads. TAKE CARE at busy A4117 signposted Neen Savage 2.
- 10 After 1 mile turn right at cross roads signposted Cleobury Mortimer. Keep to right at Y-junction going stright on past the caravan park and turn left onto footpath to walk back to the sports centre car park.

Route 3: On the Edge of the Wyre Forest

Total distance: 19 miles or 30.4 Km

Despite several testing hills on the first half of the ride, the second half after a difficult main road right turn is easier riding.

- 1 Exit right from the Sports Centre car park and turn right at mini roundabout to reach the High Street.
- 2 TAKE CARE to cross straight over A4117 signposted ‘Neen Sollars 2¼’.
- 3 After 1½ miles at bottom of the steep hill turn left signposted ‘Neen Sollars 1¼’ straight on into the village.

Neen Sollars Village +

Many old black and white houses. All Saints Church with famous Humphrey Conyngsby monument. Live and Let Live pub, home cooked meals, except Mondays.

- 4 Turn left at T-junction signposted ‘Mamble 2¼’ over river Rea and uphill past Live and Let Live pub.
- 5 After 2 miles turn left at T-junction onto A456 TAKE CARE signposted ‘Bewdley’.
- 6 After ¼ mile turn left into Mamble village and left again past the Sun and Slipper pub signposted ‘Bayton Village 1’.

Mamble Village +

Old cottages opposite 13th century St John the Baptist church belltower with original timbers. Nearby Hall Farm (formerly Craft Centre) with great views to the Clee.

- 7 In Bayton go straight on, signposted to Cleobury Mortimer.

Detour: ½ mile left past old cottages turn left again to to Bayton Church. Straight on to Shakenhurst house and estate 18th century. 17th century houses around 12th century church with fine interior and 20th century Risen Christ in Glory stained glass window.

- 8 After 1 mile go straight on at the cross roads signposted ‘The Forest’ and ‘Beach Hay’. TAKE CARE bends on descent to Beach Hay.

CONTINUED OVERLEAF