

Getting Started

Corby has a good network of cycling routes, so using a experience needed to cycle along each road. If you are a beginner or are worried about traffic, you should build up roads, where traffic is lighter and speeds are low. As your

Bridleways are also permitted for use by cyclists, although their surfaces can often be muddy and may not be suitable for cycling during the winter.

information about getting into cycling, including different types of cycling, cycle training and tips on looking after





Cycle Shops in Corby

If you need advice about maintaining your bicycle, or choosing a new one, contact your local bike shop. Visit www.cyclenorthants.co.uk for information and links to information on choosing, setting up and maintaining a bike.

1 Richardsons

113 Rockingham Road, Corby NN17 1JW **tel:** 01536 403707

web: www.richardsonsonline.co.uk 2 Motorsavers

centre of Corby.

70 George Street, Corby NN17 1QE

tel: 01536 202729 web: www.a1motorstores.co.uk

have paths that are suitable for cycling.

Cycle routes and places to visit

places is convenient by bike, including to sites of

With the wide cycle network in Corby, travelling to many

employment such as Earlstrees, Weldon and Oakley Hay

Thoroughsale Wood are easily accessible by cycle routes

Industrial Estates and, for recreation, Hazel Wood and

from many areas of the town. The woods themselves

Corby is surrounded by beautiful countryside and

there are many nearby attractions that can be visited

on the map and are a short cycle ride away from the

A little further afield, Fermyn Woods Country Park and

easily reached by bike on safe, mainly off-road routes.

To the north-east of Corby, Fineshade Wood and

and exciting mountain bike trails.

visit www.cyclenorthants.co.uk

Journey Planner

www.cyclestreets.net

the National Trust property Lyveden New Bield are both

Wakerly Wood respectively boast quiet family cycle routes

For those into BMXing and showing off their skills on the

skate and BMX park. See www.adrenalinealley.co.uk

For further details of cycle routes in and around Corby,

For further journey planning help, or for routes further

afield, the Cycle Streets route planner can help you get

to your destination by bike, giving options of choosing

the quietest or fastest route, or a balance of the two,

A Cycle Streets app is also available for journey planning

on the move. Simply search for Cycle Streets in your

depending of your level of cycling confidence:

ride Pump Track is available at West Glebe Park.

ramps, Adrenaline Alley is a Europe-wide renowned indoor

for full details of what is on offer. In addition a new learn to

conveniently by bike. Just outside the town East Carlton

Park and the stunning Rockingham Castle are all shown

3 Wilco 10/12 The Jamb, Corby NN17 1AY tel: 01536 202288

4 Halfords

Unit 2B, The Peel Centre, Corby NN17 5DT **tel:** 01536 446970 web: www.halfords.com

web: www.wilcodirect.co.uk/category/cycling

not evidence of a right to use any road or path, or of its legal status. duestion, so, although care has been taken in preparation, this map is The right to cycle on a particular road or path can be a complicated

it to us via our Street Doctor website at: If you spot a road or cycleway problem, please report Reporting problems

or call the county council's customer service line on

www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/streetdoctor

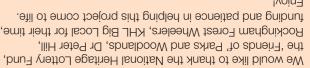
Northamptonshire Highways







0300 126 1000



Go to corbyleisure.co.uk for a PDF map of all the routes

colour of the route you have chosen. directional waymarkers across the town, just follow the historic information at your fingertips! You will also find clear routes and, as you follow the app, you will have further

Simply scan either of the QR codes to choose one of 5 Park and West Glebe Park. Thoroughsale Woods, King's Wood LNR, Weldon Woodland Coronation Park, East Carlton Countryside Park, Hazel and opportunity to visit 6 beautiful woodlands and parks including green corridor across Corby. On your travels you have the both the industrial and natural heritage by providing a safe

is designed for all and will improve visitors understanding of

heritage trail across the green spaces within Corby. The trail



Lorby Heritage Trail

Corby Town Centre

combination of roads and the off-road cycle tracks and shared-use pathways shown on this map, it should be possible to plan a suitable journey between any two points around the town. The road network has been graded on this map according to the degree of skill and your confidence and basic skill on the yellow or green cycling skills and confidence increase, you can begin to explore the higher graded routes.

Visit www.cyclenorthants.co.uk for advice and





Why cycle?

There are many reasons why people choose to cycle and many reasons why you should consider it. Cycling, for whatever purpose, has proven health benefits, helping to ensure both your physical and mental wellbeing. There is also a wealth of other benefits, not just for individuals, but also to the wider community.

Health benefits

- People who cycle regularly suffer less from ill-health and the risk of serious illness such as heart disease, strokes, cancer, diabetes, obesity and stress is
- Mental health and sense of well-being are improved through regular exercise.

Time and cost benefits

walking – and parking is FREE!

- Cycling is the cheapest form of transport aside from
- It is often the quickest option for many journeys, particularly through towns during rush-hour.
- Cycling as part of your daily routine means you can get regular exercise without the additional cost and time needed in going to the gym.

Environmental benefits

• If more people replaced car journeys with cycling, the number of cars on the road would decrease, helping to reduce congestion and CO₂ emissions and improve air quality.

Other reasons to cycle

beam of car headlights.

 Cycling is a great way to simply get fresh air and visit parts of town and countryside you wouldn't necessarily see by car.

When cycling in the dark, it is a good idea to wear clothing

other road users. Especially important at night is to include a reflective component that will make you stand out in the

It is also worth considering high-vis or fluorescent colours,

especially at dawn and dusk when the light is flat and not

all cars will have their lights on. A brightly coloured

rucksack or bag cover will help to add extra visibility.

or accessories that help you to be seen more easily by

You can take cycling further by using it to achieve

fitness goals, join a cycling club or take part in a sportive or cycling challenge.

• It is an activity that you can either undertake on your

enjoy it with family and friends, as a social activity.

own if you fancy a spot of peace and quiet, or you can

Purchasing a bike

Brand new

The general rule of thumb when buying brand-new is the more you pay, the better the bike. That said, a goodquality new adult bike can cost from as little as £200-£250. Anything less than this and the bike is likely to have poor quality parts with the potential for safety to be compromised. Ultimately, a cheaper bike could lessen your enjoyment and put you off cycling all together.

We, therefore, recommend buying a brand-new bike from a reputable specialist. There are many independent cycle shops and cycling specific chain stores in Northamptonshire that can offer expert advice on choosing the right bike for you.

They will also be able you help make sure the bike is set up correctly so you can maximise your enjoyment of cycling. If you suffer from any discomfort from riding your bike, it usually means something on the bike needs adjusting and it could put you off cycling altogether.

Visit our website www.cycenorthants.co.uk for more details of where to find your nearest cycle shop.

Second hand

It is also possible to buy a good-quality second hand bike for the fraction of the cost of a new one. Look out too for them on sale online or at auctions. Recyclemart in Corby hold regular auctions often with huge stocks of bikes for

Running a bike

Bicycle maintenance Like any machine, a bicycle will work better and last longer if you care for it properly. Get in the habit of checking your bike regularly; simple checks and minor maintenance can help you stay safe whilst riding and help to avoid costly repairs. Having a perfectly running bike will help you enjoy cycling more: there is nothing worse than having skipping

Key areas to check to ensure your bike is running safely:

gears, annoying knocking noises or a slow puncture.

- Wheels and tyres secure, not buckled and tyres inflated
- Brakes good operation
- Handlebars secure and straight
- Pedals and cranks secure
- Drive train (chain and gears) clean, lubricated and running smoothly
- Saddle and seat-post secure and at correct height

Do-it-yourself

Learning to maintain a bike yourself is an invaluable skill to have. You will be amazed at how easy it is to pick up and, as your confidence increases, you will find yourself being able to fix more and more.

Visit the 'Running a Bike' page of our website www.cyclenorthants.co.uk for tips and links to basic maintenance techniques.

Specialist bike shops

If you are unsure then your local bike shop will be able to undertake repairs and servicing. Alternatively look out for occasional Dr Bike sessions at events across the county where you will be able to get your bike checked over for free.

Cleaning

One of the most important aspects of maintaining a bike is keeping it clean. Dirt and grit soon build up on a bike's moving parts. Add to that water penetrating into the chain and gears, and components can soon wear at an alarming rate leading to potentially costly repairs.

Make sure to clean and lubricate your bike's chain and gears regularly to keep them running smoothly. Particularly important after riding in wet weather is to dry your bike off as much as possible and spray your chain and drive-train components with a water displacement spray (e.g. GT85).



Corby Heritage





Your guide to cycle routes in Corby







Cycle route for use by cyclists and pedestrians together

Cycle route for use by cyclists and pedestrians on separate sides of path

Cycle route for use by cyclists only Route reserved for use by cyclists only

(road marking) Cycle route ahead

Cyclists should walk at this point Recommended route for cyclists to use (usually

Direction signs showing recommended

route for cyclists

on road with no provisions for cyclists)

Shared cycle and bus lane on road ahead

Cycle lane on the road ahead

Cycle lane on the road for use by cyclists in the same direction as the other traffic

Cycle lane on the road for use by cyclists in the opposite direction to other traffic (usually on one-way roads)

Advisory contraflow sign

Warning sign for pedestrians that there is a cycle lane ahead or that there is a cycleway crossing the road ahead

No cycling

No motor vehicles

Staying safe on the road

you to see and be seen.

Cycling Safety

• When cycling on the road, ride in a strong and confident position well clear of the kerb – it will help

• Be assertive and prepared to ride in the middle of the lane, also known as primary position, if you need to. This encourages vehicles to stay behind you when it may be unsafe for them to pass.

 Signal your intentions clearly and well in advance of making your move.

• Try to make eye-contact with drivers at junctions to

lights and don't cycle on the pavement unless it is a

be sure they have seen you. Be considerate of other road users – respect them

as you would like to be respected in return. • Above all, follow the Highway Code - don't jump red

Using shared-use routes

designated cycle-way.

When using shared-use cycle/footways, it is important that you are considerate to all users and remember you may have to cycle slower than you would on the road.

Ring your bell

Remember to:

- · Pass slowly
- Say thanks

Lights and visibility

Fit good quality lights to your bike, in case you need to cycle at night or in overcast conditions or mist.

help reduce the risk of a head injury in an accident. They are particularly recommended for young children. If you do decide to wear a helmet, it is important to ensure it is fitted correctly.

Whilst wearing a cycle helmet is not compulsory, it can

Accessories

Helmets

Aside from a bike, you don't need much else in the way of fancy gear to get you started. There are a few things, however, that you may find worth the investment:

- A good-quality bike lock is essential when leaving your bike unattended.
- Your bike should be fitted with a bell to warn others of your presence.

• Lightweight water-proof clothing can be indispensable

Of course, there is huge range of fantastic cycling gadgets,

accessories and clothing on the market in case you really

especially during the winter months. • And gloves are a must for riding in the cold.

get bitten by the cycling bug!

