

The Kingfield Arms Cycling Club

Ride to Ryde

Ridden April 12/13 1998

To get a good start, the ride starts out from Woking along main roads through Guildford and Godalming. (If you wanted to shorten the ride slightly, Guildford station would be a good alternative starting point.) Our route from Godalming follows the old Godalming to Chichester turnpike road. It starts as the B2130 for a one-mile climb out of the town before turning off to the right onto the road to Hambledon. Here we leave the turnpike for a couple of miles – it continues through the woods as a bridleway, much of which is easily rideable but parts at the Hambledon end can be exceptionally muddy – and join the A283 through Northbridge (where we rejoin the course of the turnpike), Chiddingfold and Ramsnest Common, then up Cripplecrutch Hill.

At the top of the hill the old turnpike veers off to the right as a bridleway once more. We rejoin it by continuing on the main road for another half mile, and then turning off to the right. We follow it as far as its junction with the A272, passing through the little settlements of Lickfold and Lodsworth, then, crossing the busy A272, we follow a back route into Midhurst.

From Midhurst there's a choice of two routes to reach Elsted. Either leave Midhurst on the A286 but turn off onto the Bepton road by the site of the old station; from Bepton a narrow, winding lane runs along the very foot of the South Downs to Elsted. Alternatively, leave Midhurst on the A272 for two miles to Stedham Common, then turn left for Elsted. The two routes then combine for the run to South Harting.

At South Harting we join the B2146 heading south past Uppark. Then we can either continue south through Compton (pretty pub) to West Marden, where we turn off for Rowland's Castle, or we can turn off earlier at Littlegreen and follow a slightly more direct route to Rowland's Castle. From Rowland's Castle we follow a back route into Havant, from where we head out onto Hayling Island, to catch the ferry across to Portsmouth. A run along the seafront brings us to Portsmouth Harbour for the crossing to the Isle of Wight.

After a loop round the eastern half of the Island, taking in the picturesque village of Godshill and the steam railway base at Havenstreet, we return to Ryde to get the ferry back to the mainland., where we catch the ferry across Portsmouth Harbour to Gosport. We then take a route via Lee-on-Solent, Stubbington, and Titchfield to get to Wickham, where we join the A32 Meon Valley road towards Alton. Although a main road, this offers surprisingly good cycling.

To avoid using the very busy A31, we turn off before reaching Alton and follow a network of small lanes along the top of the ridge overlooking the Wey Valley to get to Farnham, from where it is not a great distance to either Woking or Guildford. (Farnham also has a direct train service to Woking and London if time is of the essence.)

0.0	Woking Station	take A320 to
6.4	Guildford	take A3100 to
10.5	Godalming	TL at traffic lights onto B2130 Brighton Road (sp Hascombe) to

11.2	Busbridge Church	FR into Hambledon Road. At Home Farm Road (dead end) cross over into continuation of Hambledon Road. Continue through
14.5	Hambledon	to A283, then TL through Chiddingfold. Half a mile past B2131 junction, TR (sp Lurgashall Winery) then at next on L (opp phone box) TL (also SP Lurgashall Winery) into Jobsons Lane. Continue through
23.6	Lickfold	and Lodsworth to
26.5	A272	TL then immediately R (sp Selham) then take next on R at start of village to South Ambersham. At TJ at end, TR then at triangular junc TL. to West Lavington and on to
31.2	Midhurst	TR to reach town centre

OPTION 1A

Midhurst	Leave town on A272 (westbound) to
Stedham Common	TL into Elsted Road to Elsted

OPTION 1B

Midhurst	Leave town on A286 (southbound). When A286 bends L, branch R into Bepton Road. At Bepton TJ, TR for Didling. At Didling TJ, TL for Treyford. After Treyford, TL for Elsted. At Elsted TJ, TL
----------	--

BOTH ROUTES

36.4	Elsted	continue to
38.6	South Harting	join B2146 for Uppark

OPTION 2A

at Littlegreen	TR (sp Finchdean), then at TJ Idsworth church, TL into Finchdean. At far end of village FR into Dean Lane, under railway then TR to Rowlands Castle.
----------------	--

OPTION 2B

at Littlegreen	keep SA and continue on B2146 through Compton to West Marden, then TR up hill for Dean Lane End and Rowlands Castle.
----------------	--

BOTH ROUTES

46.1	Rowlands Castle	Continue under railway and past green. TL at B2149, then FL onto B2148 (for Emsworth). After 1¼ mile TR into Bartons Road then L into East Leigh Road. Continue past
49.5	Warblington Stn	At TJ at end TR into Green Pond Corner towards
50.4	Havant	In East Street at old railway bridge join Hayling Billy cycle trail: TL to Langstone Bridge. Cross bridge on A3023.

52.1	Langstone Bridge	<p>at far end of bridge either:</p> <p>TR onto Hayling Billy path (rough in parts). At end of path continue SA to seafront and TR for ferry</p> <p>or: TL onto lane through Northney, and North Hayling. At A3023 again (Stoke), TL then R into Daw Lane. At TJ at end TL into West Lane. At TJ at end TR then R again back onto A3023. At roundabout at far end TR and continue past Sinah Common to ferry.</p>
58.6	Hayling Ferry Eastney	<p>Catch ferry to</p> <p>Follow Ferry Road towards Portsmouth, (it soon becomes Fort Cumberland Road), then FL into Melville Road. At XR bear left onto Esplanade. Stay on Esplanade past South Parade Pier and past Southsea Common to roundabout at Clarence Pier. TR into Pier Road, then TL at B2154 Museum Road. Follow through to</p>
63.6	Portsmouth Harbour Ryde Pier Head	<p>station for Wightlink passenger ferry to Ryde.</p> <p>ride down vehicle pier to the Esplanade then TL onto A3055 along sea front. Follow A3055 throughout to Sandown (suggested overnight stop).</p>
70.0	Sandown	<p>Continue on A3055 for almost one mile as far as Lake post office, then TR onto A3056 (Newport Road). Continue for 1½ miles to Apse Heath, then TL into Ventnor Road at XR. Keep SA at next XR, then at A3020 TR to</p>
75.7	Godshill	<p>Continue on A3020 for just over one mile then TR into Merstone Road through Merstone. At A3056 TR for half a mile, then TL into Downend Road. At roundabout FR into Briddlesford Road for one mile, then TR (sp Haventreet/Isle of Wight Steam Railway) and TR again. Continue under railway bridge and through</p>
82.3	Havenstreet village	<p>At next XR, continue SA into Stroud Wood Road (Round the Island cycle route) to Upton. At XR in village TL into Upton Road for one mile into and through the outskirts of Ryde, then TL into West Street. Continue to A3054 (SA at junc), then follow via West St, Lind St and Union St to Esplanade. Up pier to</p>
86.5	Ryde Pier Head Portsmouth Harbour Gosport	<p>for ferry to</p> <p>catch Gosport Ferry to</p> <p>From ferry terminal TL onto B3333 South Street. Follow through Gosport to Lee-on-Solent. At junc with B3382 (on sea front at site of old pier) continue SA into Marine Parade West. At end of sea front follow road round to R (now Stubbington Road). Continue to B3334 at</p>
92.5	Stubbington	<p>TL onto B3334 for 2 miles to Titchfield. TL onto A27 then almost immediately TR (take great care) into Mill Lane. Continue under railway and then motorway (becomes Fontley Road then Titchfield Lane). Continue over another railway until A334. TR into</p>

99.9	Wickham	<p>TL into The Square. At top end of square follow round to R (Bridge Street) to A32 and TL. Follow A32 through Droxford, Exton, to West Meon.</p> <p>Note: a cycle way parallels the A32 between Wickham and West Meon along the course of the former Meon Valley Railway line. It can be joined by continuing SA at the top of Wickham Square into Station Road. However, it is unsurfaced and after wet weather it can be very muddy in places.</p>
110.0	West Meon	Keep SO at A272 (West Meon Hut).
118.3	Lower Farringdon	TR off A32 just before Royal Oak pub, then next L (Church Road) past Upper Farringdon village hall and church, the SA into Gaston Lane. Keep SO at B3006 to West Worldham, then TL to East Worldham. At B3004 TR then L for 2¼ miles through Wyck. At XR TR through Binsted and Blacknest (SA at XR) to A325. TL for Farnham. At A31 roundabout go SA into
132.5	Farnham	town centre (follow one-way system). Leave town on A325 (East Street then Guildford Road). At Shepherd & Flock roundabout (A31) take first exit A325 then at next roundabout TR onto B3208 (Water Lane). Continue through Badshot Lea (becomes Monkton lane then Badshot Lea Road. After 2 miles, at A323 TR, then SA at next two roundabouts for
136.8	Ash	<p>Pass church and over level crossing. At next roundabout TR, still on A323.</p> <p>For Guildford: continue on A323 (approx 7 miles from Ash)</p> <p>For Woking: after ½ mile fork L onto A324 and continue for 3 miles to Royal Oak pub. TR shortly after onto B380 (Ash Road). At next TJ TR into Fox Corner. Follow road round to R to roundabout, then TL onto A322, but after 300 yds fork R onto B380 Berry Lane (sp Old Woking). At Mayford roundabout (A320) TL into</p>
146.1	Woking	End of ride

KEY

TL	Turn Left
TR	Turn Right
FL	Fork Left
FR	Fork Right
SA	Straight ahead
TJ	T-Junction
XR	Cross roads