

Points of Interest

Atherstone - A small market town situated on the Roman Watling Street at the eastern edge of the Warwickshire Forest of Arden, between Tamworth and Nuneaton. Set against the wooded hills of the Merevale Estate, the picturesque town centre dates from mediaeval times and is unspoiled by modern development. The visitor will find a wealth of small friendly shops and cafes, together with a library and Tourist Information Centre. Markets are held on Tuesdays and Fridays. Parking is free.

Austrey - Renowned for its thatched inn the 'Bird in Hand', which also has a mediaeval plinth and victorian cross outside its door. The village is surrounded by fields and open views, from which you can see the spire of the village church.

Twycross Zoo - Set in 50 acres of parkland, the zoo houses a large collection of animals, including many rare and endangered species. There is a world renowned collection of primates, a sea lion pool, penguin pool, pets corner and an adventure playground. Tel: 01827 880250.

Newton Regis - This former estate village, now a conservation area, retains much of its original character. Charles I is thought to have prayed at the village church before the battle of Seckington.

Cycle Shops

Atherstone Cycle Shop

Long Street, Atherstone 01827 716504

Pedal Pushers

Market Street, Atherstone 01827 720406

Gascoigne Brothers

122 High Street, Coleshill 01675 463586

Safety

- Wear something bright and, if you might not make it home before dark, carry lights.
- On main roads cycle about 2ft or 600mm from the kerb.
- Look behind you and signal before making a manoeuvre. Be aware and be alert.
- On country roads, keep to your own side and don't cycle too fast around bends.
- Put young children in front where you can keep an eye on them.
- Cycle helmets are recommended.
- Make sure your bike is well maintained, with sound tyres and efficient brakes.
- Carry a cycle repair kit at all times
- Carry a first aid kit, identification and loose change in case you need to use a public telephone.
- Ride in single file, particularly on busy roads.
- Let somebody know your planned route and when you expect to be home.

Cycle training is available from Warwickshire County Council's Road Safety Section

Tel: 01926 413419

Other Rides

This is the third in a series of leisure cycle routes. Once you are used to cycling you can use local maps to explore the area and create your own rides.

The Northern Warwickshire Cycleway is a 35 mile signposted route around the Borough. Contact 01827 872660 for further information.

Cyclists Touring Clubs

Birmingham & Midland District Association

H. Child: 0121 353 5814

Coventry & Warwickshire District Cycle Association

Bob Timley: 01203 542676

Cycling in North Warwickshire

Polesworth Cycle Route

