

Otley Safer Cycling routes guide

We want to encourage more local residents, particularly families, to enjoy using bikes to get around Otley for both leisure and utility use.

Our recommended routes avoid busy main roads so you can get out on quiet roads to build confidence; almost all the roads in Otley, including some of the town centre, are now 20mph speed limit.

Please be courteous to pedestrians where a route is shared such as in **Manor Garth**.

Off road options are especially good for younger children to practice bike handling skills. A flat grass area in a local park is good for children starting to learn to ride a bike. The old railway line off Bradford Road, to be part of the future Wharfedale Greenway, is flat except for one short steep section halfway along. For a longer ride this could be connected to West Busk Lane.

Outside of the town, **Otley Chevin Country Park** has cycling trails along wide bridleways on the Danefield side. Yeadon Tarn has a BMX circuit next to the car park which is fun.

Cycling is a great way to be fitter and healthy, it can reduce traffic congestion and air pollution in our beautiful market town! Get out on your bikes and enjoy!



Cycling tips

Wear a helmet and comfortable clothes

Be seen: wear bright high visibility clothes and consider using lights even when it's not dark

M safety checks for each bike before starting. Pump up soft tyres (correct psi is on tyre) see Sustrans link: <http://bit.ly/2hCypH4>



Plan your route ahead for safety & enjoyment

For a longer ride carry some basic tools just in case: pump, spare inner tube & tyre levers (3) to sort a puncture and a simple set of Allen keys e.g. to adjust seat height

When on a road always keep young children in front of or level with you so they are always in view and can hear you give any instructions

A right turn is the most difficult maneuver on a bike, if you can't check behind clearly then it's safer to stop at the side of the road & walk across when it's clear

Lock your bike up securely in town, use a cycle stand, see map U

Be a courteous cyclist; the revised Highway Code creates a hierarchy of users with those most at risk at the top. For shared use paths like Manor Garth, control your speed & give walkers warning of your approach by a bell or polite call out. Some people may be hard of hearing.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/the-highway-code-8-changes-you-need-to-know-from-29-january-2022>

If you would like some cycling training or to do a basic bike maintenance session <https://www.cyclenorth.co.uk/home>

We have a range of E-Bikes available to hire at Otley Town Council, to enquire about booking get in touch by email:

bikes@otleytowncouncil.gov.uk or call 01943 466335



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Otley TOWN COUNCIL

