



 **BETTER
BY BIKE**

Cycling **South Gloucestershire**





10 short leisure routes between 3 and 12 miles



10 Leisure Rides



Key

- • • route (route shown in relevant colour)
-  Cafe
-  Pub
-  Toilets
-  Station

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100023410

Refer to this key for all route maps



Introduction

These routes are aimed at all levels of cyclists and their families. Cycling offers a great opportunity to discover new places and views in South Gloucestershire. We hope that you enjoy cycling these routes and that it encourages you to get your bike out more often.

The routes vary in length and difficulty. A grading system has been used to determine the ability level required to cycle these routes. However this is only a guide.

Ability Levels

- 1 For all users including inexperienced or beginner cyclists. Any hills will be very gentle and any on road cycling will be on quiet roads.
- 2 For slightly more experienced cyclists or those who may feel a bit more confident. There may be the occasional steep hill (don't be afraid to get off and push!) and occasional short stretches on busier roads.
- 3 For the reasonably competent cyclists. The rides will be longer, with some steep hills and with cycling on or alongside busy roads for longer stretches.

The distances given do not take into account any return journey unless the route is circular. The times given to cycle a route may vary depending on fitness level and the number of breaks and stops.

Advice

These routes incorporate off road sections that are shared with pedestrians. Please cycle with consideration for all users. When cycling on the roads take necessary care and if you don't feel confident on busy sections then get off your bike and push it.

For advice, maps and general information about cycling visit:
www.betterbybike.info



1	Three Brooks Nature Reserve Loop ➡	3 miles 0.5 hour 1 ability level
2	Thornbury Loop	10.8 miles 2.5-3 hours 2 ability level
3	Emersons Green to Warmley Loop	6.7 miles 2-2.5 hours 1 ability level
4	Wickwar Loop*	12 miles 2.5-3 hours 3 ability level
5	Chipping Sodbury and Yate Loop* ➡	9.3 miles 1.5-2 hours 2 ability level
6	Marshfield to Bathampton Loop	12.4 miles 2.5-4 hours 3 ability level
7	Severn Beach Loop ➡	12.5 miles 2.5-4 hours 2 ability level
8	Aust to Chepstow	5 miles 1.5-2 hours 2 ability level
9	Bristol to Bath Railway Path	6 miles 2-2.5 hours 1 ability level
10	Frampton Cotterell to Henfield Loop	4.4 miles 1-1.5 hours 1 ability level

Whilst every effort has been made to check that these routes are correct, changes may occur.

* These routes can be joined together via Horton Road

➡ These routes are accessible by train



Ride around the north end of Bradley Stoke through the nature reserve and past the Three Brooks Lake and Community Orchard.

PAGE 6

Ride through the rural surroundings of Thornbury, through Oldbury-on-Severn and Rockhampton.

PAGE 7

Starts at the shops in Emersons Green and goes through green areas, and along quiet residential paths, through Mangotsfield to Warmley and back up to Emersons Green.

PAGE 8

Starting at Wickwar the route goes around the Wetmoor Nature Reserve brushing past Yate and Rangeworthy.

PAGE 10

Cycle through the historic town of Chipping Sodbury and neighbouring Yate and along nearby quiet rural roads.

PAGE 12

Although this route is fairly narrow and steep, it offers amazing views of the countryside and a chance to get away from urban life.

PAGE 14

Take a trip alongside the river and experience the local countryside.

PAGE 16

Cycle into Wales along the Severn Bridge and enjoy beautiful views and the historic town of Chepstow.

PAGE 17

Enjoy this classic pretty route along the Bristol to Bath Railway Path. Look out for wildlife along the way.

PAGE 18

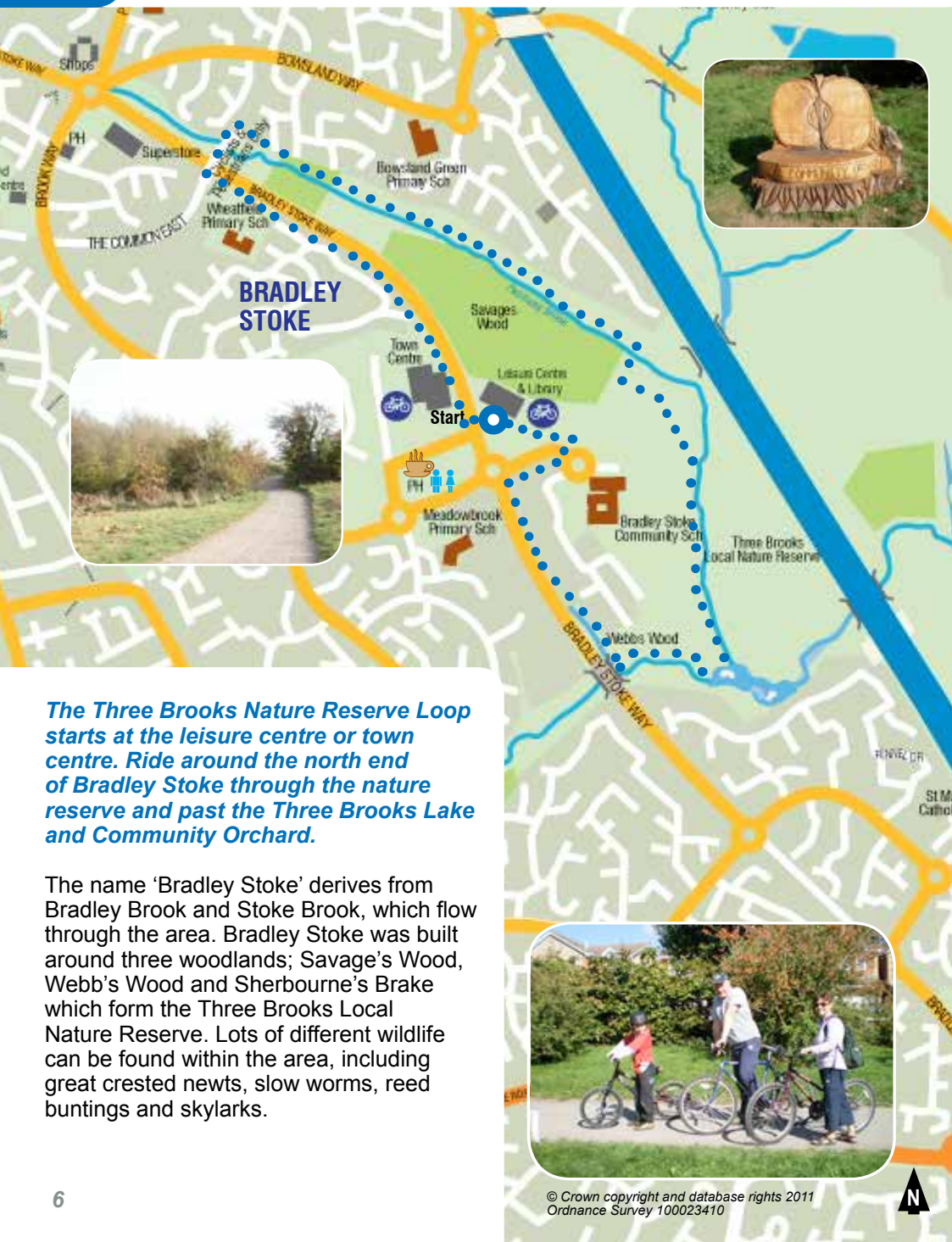
Take a ride around the pretty and historic village of Frampton Cotterell and through rural roads towards Henfield.

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If you have any comments, suggestions or recommendations about these routes or possible future routes, please let us know on cycleforum@southglos.gov.uk.

1 Three Brooks Nature Reserve

3 miles
0.5 hour
1 ability level



The Three Brooks Nature Reserve Loop starts at the leisure centre or town centre. Ride around the north end of Bradley Stoke through the nature reserve and past the Three Brooks Lake and Community Orchard.

The name 'Bradley Stoke' derives from Bradley Brook and Stoke Brook, which flow through the area. Bradley Stoke was built around three woodlands; Savage's Wood, Webb's Wood and Sherbourne's Brake which form the Three Brooks Local Nature Reserve. Lots of different wildlife can be found within the area, including great crested newts, slow worms, reed buntings and skylarks.





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A ride through the edge of Thornbury Town Centre and out into the countryside, along mostly wide rural roads and through pretty villages with glimpses of the Severn and finishing back in Thornbury past the picturesque St Marys church.

Thornbury was a prosperous Medieval town renowned for its cloth industry and became a market town in the eighteenth

century up until the 1950/60s. Market days are still held every Thursday and Saturday. Thornbury Castle was built over previous manor buildings. Edward Stafford, Duke of Buckinghamshire, started building the existing castle in 1507. It was not completed until 1521 as Henry VIII had the Duke sentenced to death for high treason. In 1535, Henry VIII and Anne Boleyn stayed in the castle.

Emersons Green to Warmley Loop

6.7 miles
2-2.5 hour
1 ability level



Emerson's Green

Emersons Green Lane

St James Street

Mangotsfield Road

Cosham Street

B4465

Mangotsfield

Rodway Hill



Downend

This route starts at the shops in Emersons Green and goes through green areas, and along quiet residential paths, through Mangotsfield to Warmley and back up to Emersons Green.

Emersons Green was built during the 1990s on what was once farmland. The area also has a mining history and along the cycle path you will find Church Farm Colliery Engine House. This operated successfully until 1981 and this striking structure stands as a reminder of the area's history.

A4174

Warmley Forest Park

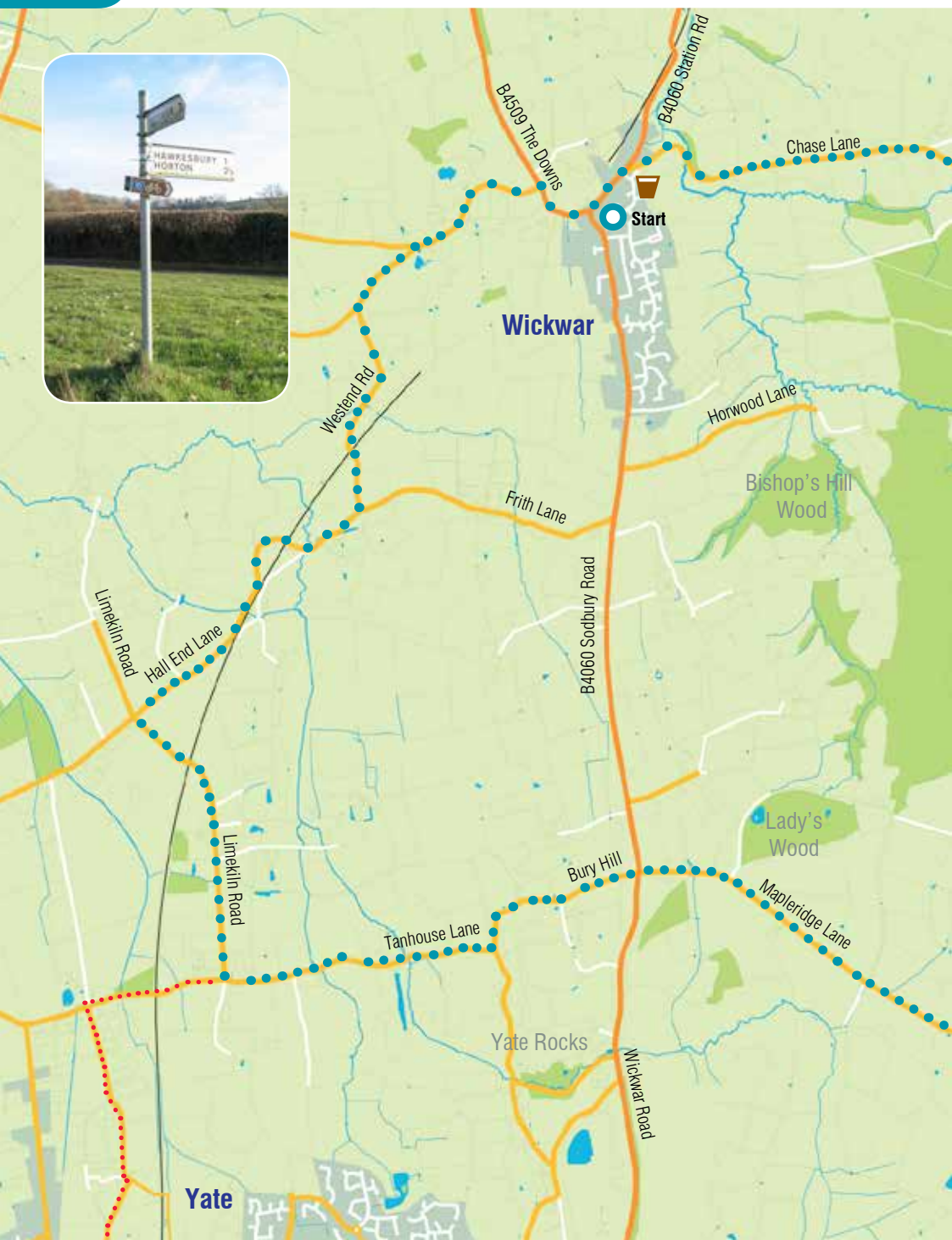
High Street

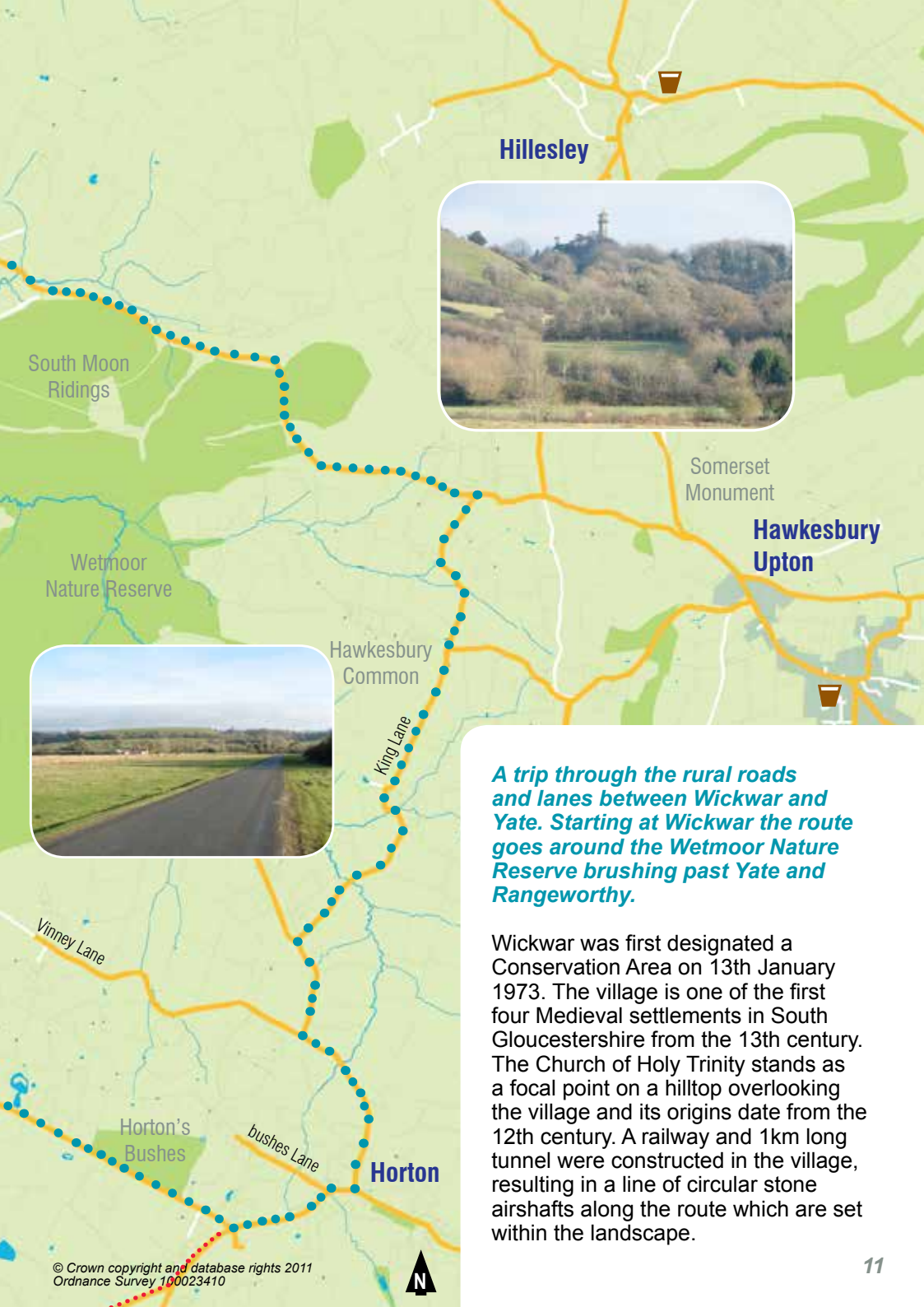




Wickwar Loop

12 miles
2-3.5 hours
3 ability level





Hillesley



Somerset
Monument

Hawkesbury
Upton

Hawkesbury
Common

King Lane

Vinney Lane

Horton's
Bushes

bushes Lane

Horton

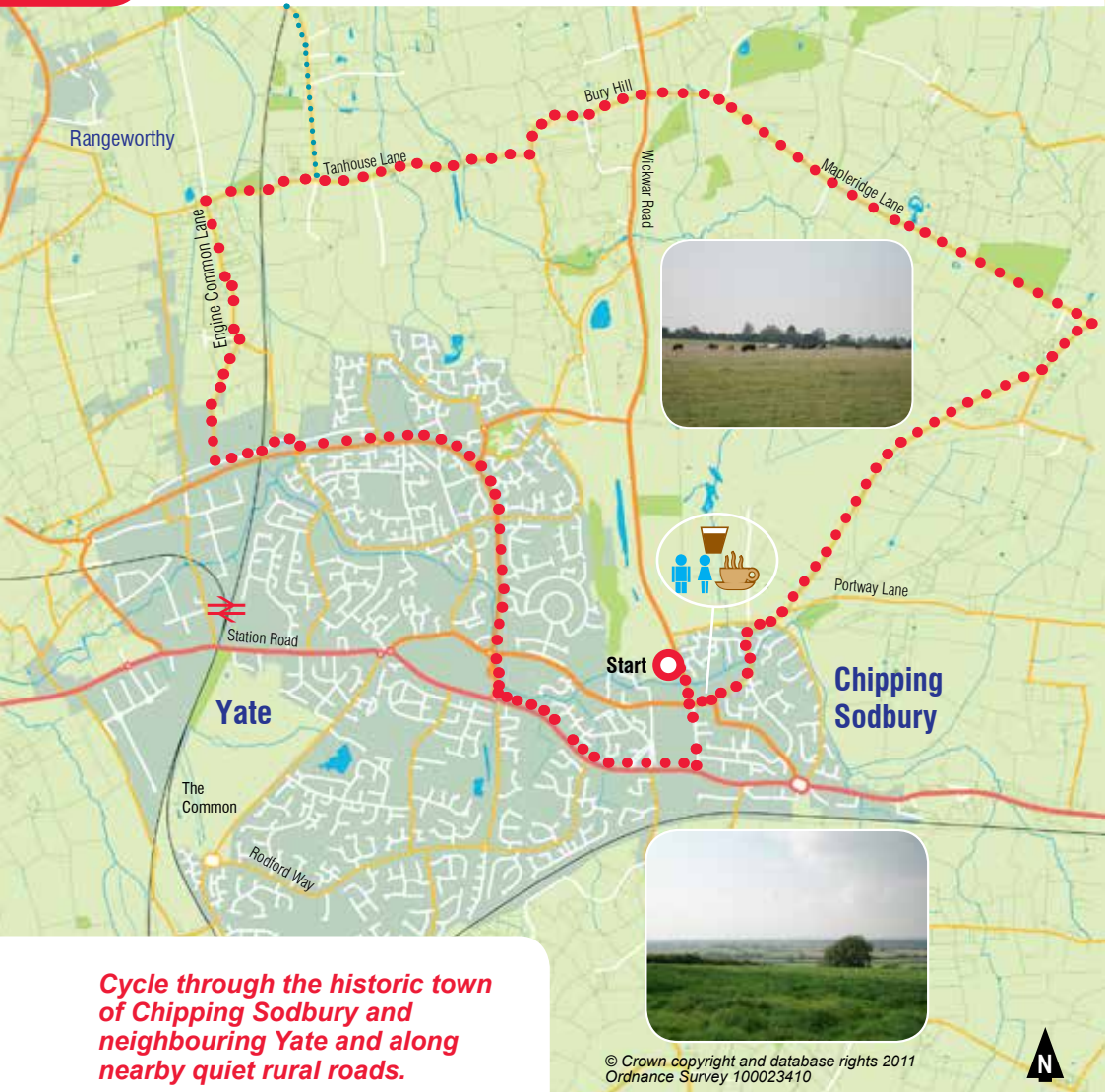
A trip through the rural roads and lanes between Wickwar and Yate. Starting at Wickwar the route goes around the Wetmoor Nature Reserve brushing past Yate and Rangeworthy.

Wickwar was first designated a Conservation Area on 13th January 1973. The village is one of the first four Medieval settlements in South Gloucestershire from the 13th century. The Church of Holy Trinity stands as a focal point on a hilltop overlooking the village and its origins date from the 12th century. A railway and 1km long tunnel were constructed in the village, resulting in a line of circular stone airshafts along the route which are set within the landscape.



Chipping Sodbury and Yate Loop

9.3 miles
1.5-2 hour
2 ability level



Cycle through the historic town of Chipping Sodbury and neighbouring Yate and along nearby quiet rural roads.

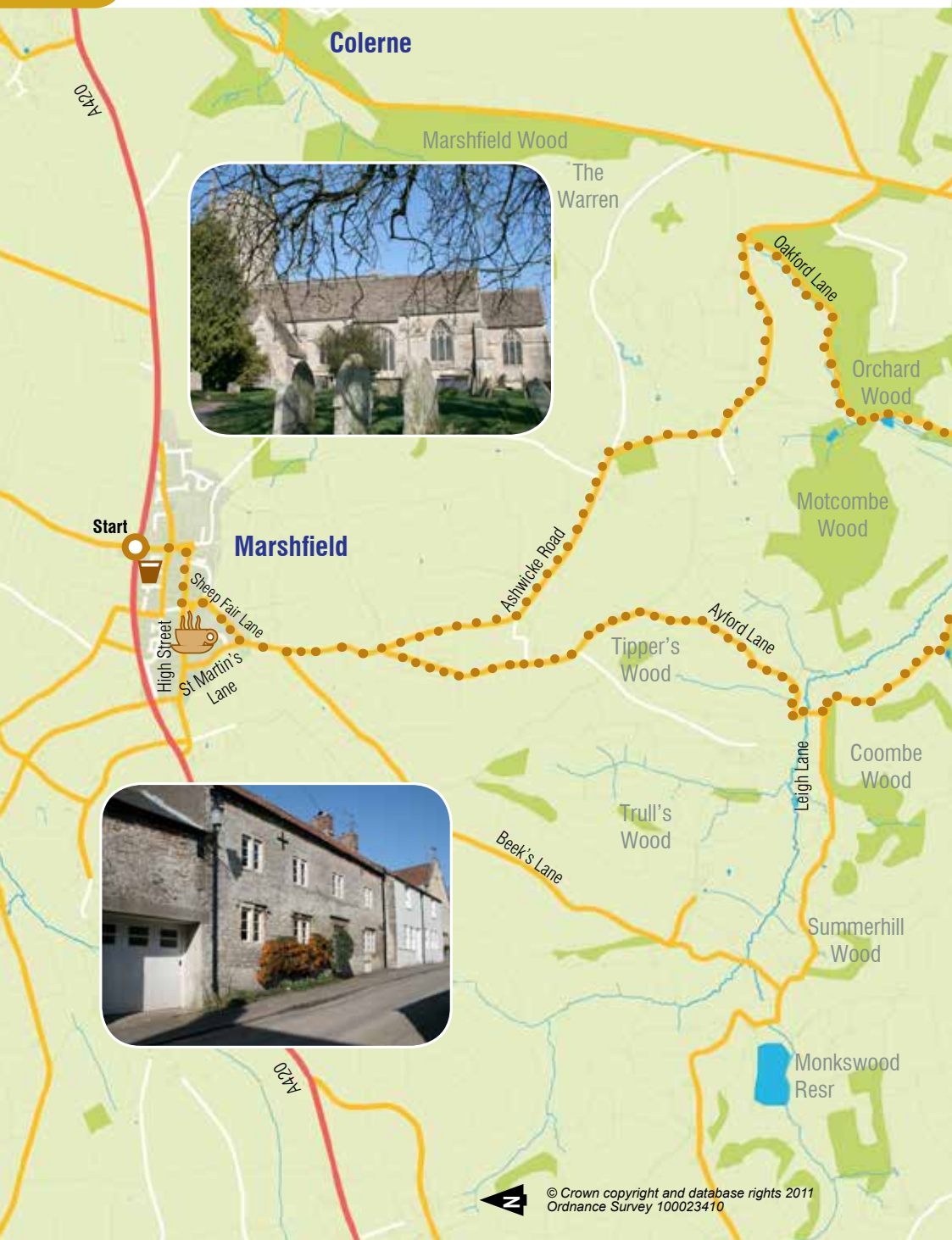
During the 19th and 20th centuries limestone, coal and celestine (spar) were mined from beneath Yate. This led to the building of Yate Station which was founded by a wealthy collier to transport his coal to Bristol. This was the first railway into Bristol. Chipping Sodbury is one of the 4 original market towns in South

Gloucestershire. Some properties within Chipping Sodbury still own parts of Sodbury Common, which dates back to when parts of the common made up a park, recorded in the Domesday book. This allows owners to keep animals on the common during certain times of the year.



Marshfield to Bathampton Loop

12.4 miles
2.5-4 hour
3 ability level





Although this route is fairly narrow and steep, it offers amazing views of the countryside and a chance to get away from urban life.

Marshfield was an important market town and by 1334 was the 4th most prosperous town in the area. At the western end of the village there are some almshouses dating to the 17th century which have recently been renovated. In the 18th century, further development was stimulated by trade in wool, candles and malt. Many of the former malthouses and storage buildings can still be seen. Marshfield is also the home to Marshfield Farm ice cream which can be purchased in the local shops.



Severn Beach Loop

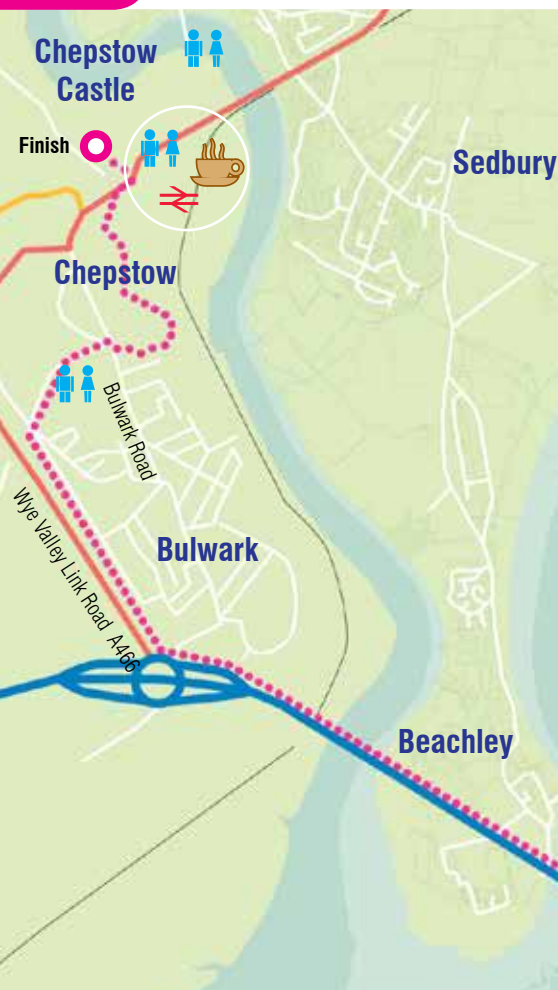
12.5 miles
2.5-4 hour
2 ability level



Take a trip alongside the water and experience the local countryside.

By the end of the 17th century there were two ferry crossings across the Severn, from New Passage and Old Passage in Aust, the latter of which dates back to the Roman times. The Severn Bridge was opened in 1966 and replaced the ferry crossing from Aust to Beachley. Traffic across the bridge increased and the bridge often had to close due to high winds. The second bridge was built and finished in 1996.

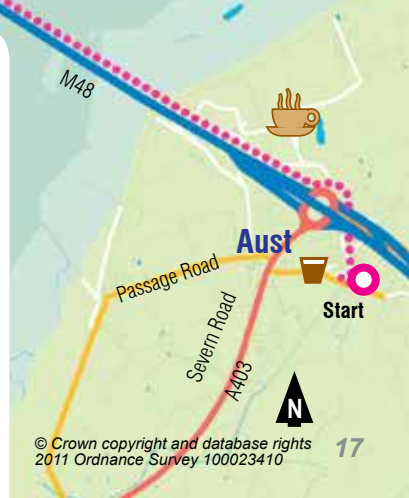




Cycle into Wales along the Severn Bridge and enjoy beautiful views and the historic town of Chepstow.

The Chepstow Town Gate originally dates back to the late 13th century. It has had many different functions including prison, local constable quarters, guard room, workshop and museum. It now houses the Town Council.

Other sights include The Port Wall, Chepstow Racecourse and Chepstow Castle which is set on cliffs overlooking the River Wye and dates back to 1067. The castle is open the public daily throughout the year.



Bristol to Bath Railway Path

6 miles
2-2.5 hour
1 Ability level



Enjoy this classic pretty route along the Bristol to Bath Railway Path. Look out for wildlife along the way.

The Bristol to Bath Railway Path was constructed between 1979 and 1986 and follows the former Midland Railway. Avon Valley Railway restored Bitton Station after it fell into disrepair when Midland Railway closed in 1971. New track was laid and now locomotives, wagons and a picnic area can be found here. The path also leads to the Avon Valley Country Park where families can enjoy the beautiful countryside and learn more about the local wildlife.



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Lansdown



A431 Bath Road

Kelston Road

Newbridge Road

Lower Bristol Road

Newbridge Hill

Combe Park

Weston Road

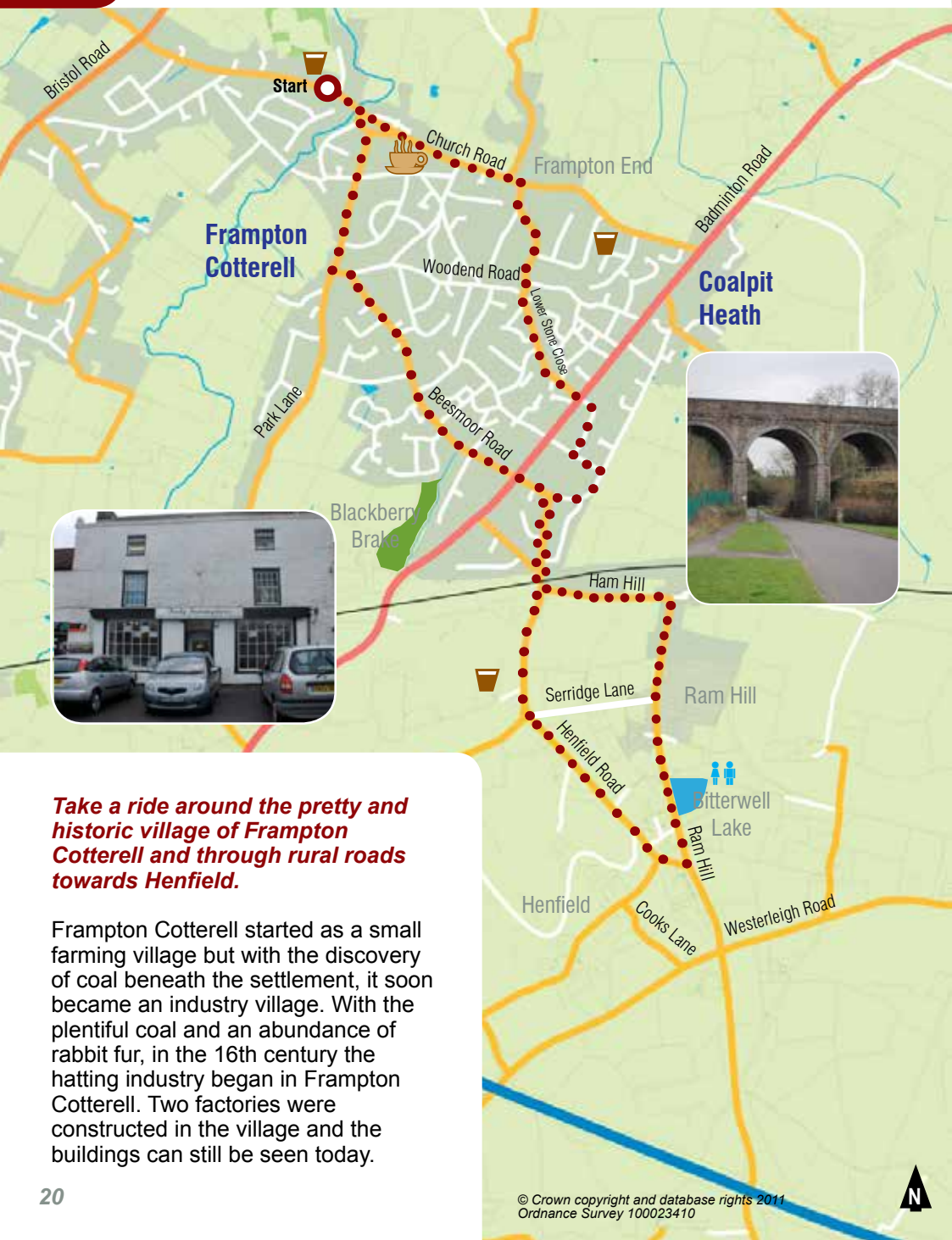
Royal Victoria Park

Park Lane

Upper Bristol Rd

Bath

Finish



Take a ride around the pretty and historic village of Frampton Cotterell and through rural roads towards Henfield.

Frampton Cotterell started as a small farming village but with the discovery of coal beneath the settlement, it soon became an industry village. With the plentiful coal and an abundance of rabbit fur, in the 16th century the hatting industry began in Frampton Cotterell. Two factories were constructed in the village and the buildings can still be seen today.



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- Cycle training for children and adults is available during term time and school holidays. For further information please contact **cycle_training@southglos.gov.uk**
- Cycle rides across Bath and North East Somerset, Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire
- Information on local bike repair shops
- Information on where to find public cycle pumps
- Cycle to work schemes





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and South Gloucestershire region.