

Six cycle routes in and around PRINCES RISBOROUGH using local roads, lanes and bridleways



Princes Risborough
fit for a prince

About the Rides

The rides will take you through the countryside around Princes Risborough within a radius of 5 miles (8km). Mountain bikes are recommended but some of the rides can be made on ordinary road bikes. Each ride has a distance, grading and time applied, but these are only approximate. It is recommended that cyclists carry the appropriate Ordnance Survey Explorer Maps. The conditions of the pathways and trails may vary depending on the weather and time of year.



Overlooking Princes Risborough - View from Brush Hill

There are plans to put further rides on our website for the future – happy riding.

www.risboroughaction.org

Information about places to eat, accommodation and attractions: www.visitbuckinghamshire.org or www.chilternexperience.org

Please remember the Countryside Code: -

- Be safe - plan ahead and follow signs
- Leave gates and property as you find them
- Protect plants and animals, and take your litter home
- Keep dogs under close control
- Consider other people.

Off road cycle routes and bridleways

To use off-road routes (mainly bridleways, which can be uneven and slippery) you will need a suitable bike, such as a mountain bike. Mountain bike enthusiasts will find the trails around the Risborough area quite challenging and the Phoenix Trail also offers all types of bike riders the opportunity to cycle away from traffic. If you ride off-road please leave gates as you find them and keep to public rights of way, which should be waymarked as follows:

- Footpaths (walkers only)
- Bridleways (horseriders, cyclists and walkers)
- Byways (open to all traffic)



Please show consideration to walkers and horse riders by slowing down and making sure they know you are coming. Please also bear in mind that some bridleways can become very muddy during the winter.



Local Cycle Information

Local cycle groups organise regular rides in the Chiltern countryside. You are very welcome to join these groups – contact them for details of start points, times and distances.

The Chiltern Society:
www.chilternsociety.org.uk or 01949 771250.

South Bucks Cyclist Touring Club:
www.southbuckscycling.org.uk or 01949 815642.

Oxfordshire Cyclist Touring Club:
www.oxonctc.org.uk or 01235 527628.

Bike Sales and Hire:

Risborough Cycles
Lloyds Bank Gardens, off Market Square, Princes Risborough, HP27 0AN. Tel: 01844 345949.



The Phoenix Trail

The Phoenix Trail is part of the National Cycle Network (Route 57). It runs for 7 miles on a disused railway track between Thame and Princes Risborough. It is a flat route shared by cyclists, walkers and horse riders. The trail was established by Sustrans a few years ago and has proved very popular and ever more so with the rise in the promotion of cycling for the health of the nation. There are new links being planned from the trail in the Princes Risborough area, one of which is the new route (R50) which will cross the Phoenix Trail and run from Aylesbury to Wycombe.



How to get there

By Road: Princes Risborough lies on the A4010 between High Wycombe and Aylesbury, situated south-east of Thame and 21 miles from Oxford. London is 38 miles away.

By Rail: The station is ¼ mile from the town centre, served by Chiltern Trains, London to Birmingham and Aylesbury services. For train times and fares call National Rail Enquiries on 08457 484950 or www.chilternrailways.co.uk

By Bus: Princes Risborough is well served by buses with half-hourly services between Aylesbury and High Wycombe passing through the town centre. For time tables call 0870 6082698 www.traveline.org.uk

Sustrans produces a Phoenix Trail leaflet which is available from the Risborough Area Information Office.



Sustrans contact details:-
Tel 0845 1130065 or www.sustrans.org



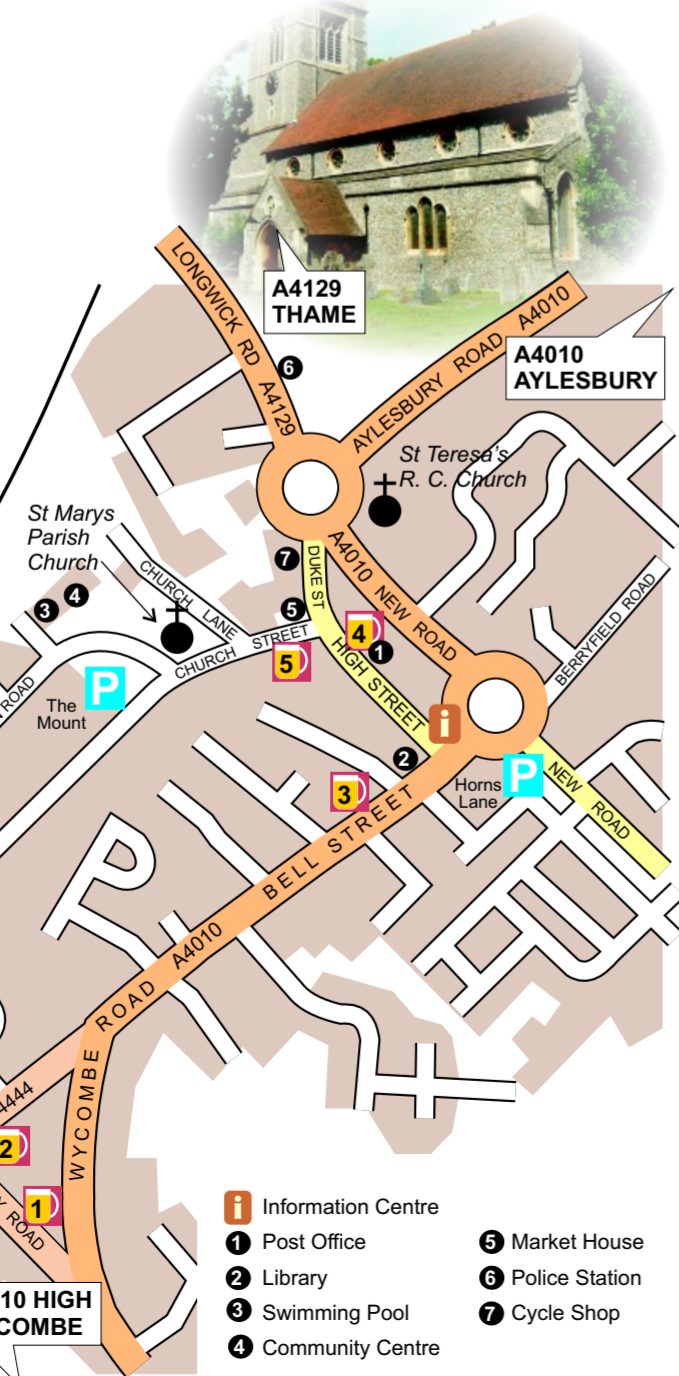
Visitor Information

Princes Risborough is an historic market town. The Chilterns here command some of the finest panoramic views obtainable in the Home Counties extending over the Thames into Berkshire, westwards to Oxford and north-westwards across the Midland shires.



The High Street is still lined with 18th century houses. The town is served by Chiltern Railways from London Marylebone, Birmingham and Aylesbury and is at the meeting point of several roads.

Town Centre



- Information Centre
- Post Office
- Library
- Swimming Pool
- Community Centre
- Market House
- Police Station
- Cycle Shop

Refreshments / Accommodation

Cafes, Restaurants and Takeaways

Crumbs Too	café & takeaway	High Street
Le Café Vert	café & takeaway	High Street
House of Spice	restaurant & takeaway	High Street
Top Wok	restaurant & takeaway	High Street
Godwins Patisserie	takeaway	High Street
No 28	coffee shop	High Street
Princes Fish & Chips	takeaway	Market Square
Risborough Beijing	restaurant & takeaway	Church Street
Istanbul Galata	café & restaurant	Duke Street
Jaflong Tandoori.	restaurant & takeaway	Duke Street
Fired Up	café	Duke Street
Tandoori Lodge	takeaway	Wycombe Road
Golden House	takeaway	Wycombe Road
Jon Bon	takeaway	Monks Risborough
Coco Tamarind	restaurant & takeaway	Askett
Kasturi	restaurant & takeaway	Little Kimble

Public Houses, Inns and Hotels

Black Prince Hotel	Wycombe Road
The Bird in Hand PH	Station Road
The Bell PH	Bell Street
George & Dragon PH	High Street
The Whiteleaf Cross PH	Market Square
Red Lion PH	Whiteleaf village
Plough at Cadsden	Cadsden
Three Crowns PH	Askett
Bernard Arms Hotel	Great Kimble
The Pink & Lily PH	Parslows Hillcock
Red Lion PH	Longwick
Lions of Bledlow PH	Church End, Bledlow
The Whip PH	Lacey Green
Black Horse	Lacey Green
The Swan PH	Great Kimble
Hampden Arms	Hampden Common

Bed and Breakfast

The Old Station *****	Bledlow	01844 345086
Coppins ****	New Road	01844 344508
Solis Ortu ***	Askett	01844 347777
Drifters Lodge ***	Picts Lane	01844 274773
Manor Farm Cottage ***	Henton	01844 353301
Hunters Gate	Saunderton	01494 481718
Ridgeway Lodge	Saunderton	01844 355438
Windmill Farm	Henton	01844 353901

For more information visit the Risborough Area Information Centre in Horns Lane, Phone 01844 274795 or visit www.chilternexperience.org or www.risboroughaction.org

For more information about places to eat, accommodation and attractions: www.visitbuckinghamshire.org

Outlying Villages

Alscot: Alscot is a small hamlet mid way between Longwick and Princes Risborough. It is also the smallest conservation area in the Parish.

Horsenden: Horsenden is a delightful village about one mile from the railway station, at the end of a narrow country lane. The Manor House was rebuilt in 1810 on the site of an earlier tudor manor house, part of which still remains. It is adjacent to the small church of St. Michael, which consists of a chancel built from the remains of a previous, larger building.

Monks Risborough: The parish of Monks Risborough is the oldest recorded in England - registered in AD 903 when the land at East Risborough was conveyed to Aethelgyth by the royal saxon court. The ancient Black Hedge still survives today as the boundary of this saxon estate and the corresponding charter document of AD 903 is the oldest documented boundary surviving in England. This land later passed into the possession of monks of Christ Church, Canterbury, and from this ecclesiastical association is derived the first part of its present name.



Cadsden: At the foot of Longdown Hill, the tiny hamlet of Cadsden with its pub, The Plough, makes a pleasant stopping point on the Ridgeway Path, before the ascent to Whiteleaf Cross.

Whiteleaf: The name of this village is reputed to be derived from White Cliffe, possibly relating to the chalk scar that forms the base of the White Cross carved on the hill.

Askett: This hamlet was a renowned centre for lace making in the 19th century. Many of its thatched cottages are built of brick and flint and have been modernised sympathetically. Conservation came too late for the old manor house which, sadly, had to be demolished in 1969, but was until then probably the oldest house in the county.

Great & Little Kimble: St Nicholas parish church at Great Kimble is surrounded by ancient earthworks and overlooked by the iron age hillfort, Pulpit Hill. An event at the church that triggered the English Civil war in the C17 is recorded by a plaque. Nearby All Saints parish church in Little Kimble contains a remarkable collection of C13 wall paintings.

Great Hampden: Hampden House, an historic country house with features dating back to the 1300s and probably of Medieval origin. The unusual external appearance is an example of Gothic revivalism and is dated at around 1754. For many years this was the seat of the Hampden family and notably John Hampden, forever associated with the C17 English Civil war which many say was triggered by his declaration not to pay Ship Tax to the Crown, an event recorded in Great Kimble church.

Lacey Green and Speen: This hilltop village enjoys stunning views across the Vale. In nearby Speen, the grave of pioneering artist, designer and sculptor Eric Gill can be found in a chapel churchyard to the south of the village. His work adorns BBC's Broadcasting House in London and many buildings and structures on London's underground network.



What to look out for!

Chequers - The house dates back to the C16 but was remodelled in the early 1900s by Lord Lee of Fareham. Sitting in a landscaped park below Coombe and Beacon Hills, the estate has been the country residence of British Prime Ministers since the 1930s.

Lacey Green Windmill - The smock windmill, visible from many miles, was originally moved from Chesham around 1821 and has been restored to working order by the Chiltern Society. The mill is open to the public at certain times of the year.

Whiteleaf Cross - The dramatic chalk-cut cross above the town is the Chilterns most recognizable landmark. First recorded in the early 1700s, it may not be an ancient feature but is surrounded by historical sites that take us back thousands of years.

Kop Hill - Between 1910 and 1925, Kop Hill was the venue for major national motoring events. The top racing drivers of the time, including Malcolm Campbell, Frazier Nash and Count Zborowski frequently pitted their skills on the Kop Hill climb.

Pink and Lily PH - This public house set in the hamlet of Parslows Hillcock within the beechwoods above Princes Risborough has an association with the WW1 poet, Rupert Brooke, who stayed in the inn in the 1930s while studying at Oxford. The pub and surrounding landscape are immortalized in his work.

Brush Hill Nature Reserve - The reserve sits half mile above Princes Risborough, where you will find spectacular views over the landscape, see wonderful flora and fauna and rub shoulders with nature in all its forms.

Hampden House - see Great Hampden above

Grim's Ditch - Grim's Ditch is a pre-roman archaeological feature that can be traced through the Chilterns from Pitstone to Wallingford. Impressive sections survive in the woods above the town but its purpose is still a mystery.

Icknield Way - The Upper and Lower Icknield Ways were important highways before the Roman invasion, exploiting the dry chalk hills to connect East Anglia with southern England and Wessex. The Romans adopted the lower route to connect their towns such as Dorchester and St Albans. In recent times, the Ridgeway Path, created as a long distance footpath in the 1970s, utilised part of the ancient Icknield Way south of the town.

Imer Ride

Distance 18km Grade - Easy
Ride time - 1.5 - 2hrs

OS Explorer Map 181 & 171
From Horns Lane Car Park follow Bell Street (south west) into Wycombe Road A4010.

At the Fork after 400m bear right into Station Road, continue for 300m and bear left into Picts Lane (R57). Follow Picts Lane through to the railway bridge and just over it turn sharp right into Horsenden Lane.

Follow the lane (R57) and onto the Phoenix Trail. From the bridge at the start of the trail go for 3.9km and turn off right after Penn Farm.

Follow path north for 300m and then turn right onto the brideway leading (NE) to Imer, approx 2.2km.

At Imer follow the lane under the railway and after 750m go straight across the A4129 into Green Lane/Swans Way.

Follow this brideway and after 1km turn right at junction to Owlswick.

Follow the lane for 2km and at the junction with the B4009, turn left then right into Mill Lane. After 850m turn right just past the railway bridge into Place Farm Way. Take the first right into Westmead and right again at junction with Wellington Road to meet the Longwick road. Take a left and follow straight over Tesco's roundabout, back to Horns Lane Car Park.

Bledlow Ride

Distance 21km Grade - Medium
Ride time - 2hrs

OS Explorer Map 181 & 171
From Horns Lane Car Park proceed up New Road then into Brimmers Road, after 2km at the junction turn right into Wardrobes Lane, follow the lane for 900m bearing left at Woodway up the hill then bear right after 300m at Loosley House through Loosley Row and into Little Lane.

Where the lane meets the A4010 turn right then after 150m turn left into Lee Road. Follow Lee Road for 2km past the Golf Course then left at the first cross roads into Upper Icknield Way.

After 1km cross Bledlow Ridge Road onto the Ridgeway Trail and after 1.2km turn right at the houses on the Swans Way trail and through into Bledlow.

Pass the Lions Pub, going north for 800m until reaching the B4009. Turn left then right onto the lane towards Skittle Green, after 500m bear left at Skittle Green (Forty Green) and follow the lane until reaching the Phoenix Trail.

Turn right onto the Trail (R57) at Hinton Crossing and follow the route 57 markers which takes you into Horsenden Lane then left at the bridge into Picts Lane.

At the junction with Station Road go straight ahead until reaching the A4010 then bear left back to Town and the Horns Lane Car Park.



Bledlow Church

Kimble Ride

Distance 15km Grade - Easy
Ride time - 1.5hrs

OS Explorer Map 181
From the Horns Lane Car Park go through the High Street and then Duke Street to Tesco's, then take the Longwick Road A4129 and after 100m turn right into Wellington Avenue.

Turn left after 80m into Westmead and at the T-junction with Place Farm Way bear left and go straight across at the next junction into Crowbrooke Road.

Follow this road past the railway halt through to Aslett village. At the T-junction turn left and go over the railway and keep following the lane for 900m until reaching the B4009. At the B4009 turn left for 100m then turn right into Stockwell Lane. Continue on this lane past Meadle and after 1.6km turn right before Stockwell Lane Farm into the lane that heads NE to Kimblewick.

After 1.5km at Kimblewick, proceed straight ahead into Kimblewick Road and follow this winding lane. After 1km bear right past the road for Marsh and keeping on the Kimblewick Road follow for a further 2km till reaching the B4009 at Great Kimble (Black Swan, Pub).

Cross over the B4009 opposite the pub and go straight

through Great Kimble village (Smokey Row) reaching the A4010 after 900m. Turn right and cross over the A4010 to keep to the roadside path for 600m, then take a left to use the Byway through to Cadsden Road.

Cross over this road and follow the lane through Whiteleaf passing the Red Lion pub and after reaching Peters Lane (1km) keep straight on the trail until reaching New Road after a further 1km.

Turn right into New Road and follow it down the hill back to the Town Centre and the Horns Lane Car Park.

Chequers Ride

Distance 16km Grade - Medium
Ride time - 2hrs

OS Explorer Map 181

From Horns Lane proceed up New Road crossing the Ridgeway Path and turn left into Kop Hill, ascending to the top.

At the T-junction turn right and then after 150m, left onto the brideway at Green Haileys Farm. Bear right at the farm and continue along the brideway for 2.6km through broadleaf and then conifer woodland, to open out to and pass Hampden House onto the lane north of Great Hampden.

Continue over the crossroads and follow the lane as it bears left descending for 1km to a T-junction.

Turn right for 200m, then left up towards Little Hampden, passing Manor Farm and at the Rising Sun pub, bear left onto the South Bucks Way.

Follow the brideway skirting to the left of common before it bears right into woodland and then descends for 300m, taking care not to miss the left turn at the brideway junction, continue to the foot of the hill.

At the main road bear left and follow the Riders Route skirting the edge of the field passing the Chequers entrance. Cross the road and take the brideway straight ahead for 500m to the hilltop, bear left at the brideway junction and drop to just above the roadway. Bear right before road and follow brideway to NT roadside car park.

From National trust roadside car park follow brideway NW as it descends for 1.4 kilometres, crossing the Ridgeway Path. When you reach the A4010 bear immediately left onto the byway to Cadsden and Whiteleaf.

Proceed straight across onto the Icknield Way, continuing through Whiteleaf and joining the Ridgeway path for 1km, before turning right back down New Road to Horns Lane

Hampden Ride

Distance 18km Grade - Hard
Ride time - 2hrs

OS Explorer Map 181

From Horns Lane, proceed up New Road 200m turning left onto the Ridgeway path.

Follow the path through to Peters Lane, cross over and continue through Whiteleaf until reaching a junction with Cadsden Road.

Go straight across and follow the trail to the A4010, bearing right and follow roadside path for 500m.

Just past the cottage and visitors point turn right onto a brideway climbing and then bearing right through woodland for 1.8km before a right at a brideway junction drops to just above the roadway. A quick right then a left follows a twisting brideway to descend to Pulpit Hill Car Park.

Sharp left to cross the road and follow a brideway for 1.3km to the top of the hill, passing through a gate and turning left onto a brideway continuing for 3km through broadleaf and conifer woodland to open out to and pass Hampden House onto a lane. Turn right and follow the lane through Great Hampden taking second left after the Hampden Arms pub to descend to a crossroads. Take the brideway just across the road and follow through conifer woodland for 1.3km crossing Lily Bottom Lane and continue on a descent to a junction with Kiln Lane.

Go right for 700m and right again onto a brideway which climbs over the hill and drops down to Lily Bottom Lane where a left turn brings you to the Pink and Lily pub.

Opposite the pub continue into Wardrobes Lane for a distance of 500m and then turn right into Brimmers Road, follow this road all the way into New Road and down the hill to the Horns Lane Car Park.

Speen Ride

Distance 17km Grade - Medium
Ride time - 2hrs

OS Explorer Map 172 & 181

From Horns Lane Car Park, proceed up New Road into Brimmers Road and after 1km turn off right onto a brideway before Brimmers Farm.

Follow path past the 'Old House' to Wardrobes Lane (1km), then turn left into the lane and follow it climbing to the Pink and Lily pub.

Head straight across the road into Lily Bottom Lane and after 500m turn right near Lily Bank Farm onto the brideway. Follow the brideway for 1km and then turn left after a sharp descent along Kiln Lane. Go past Kingswood House and continue until the lane meets a sharp bend on the Speen Road. Continue up into Speen passing the 'store' and head downhill for 500m turning left into Spring Coppice Lane.

Climb over the brow of the hill taking care on the sharp descent to the junction with Bryants Bottom Road, then turn left and after 300m, right heading towards Great Hampden. Follow the lane climbing until at the first road junction, 300m, the route takes a sharp right up a lane to the top of the hill and then the first sharp left until a junction with Hampden Road.

Turn left and after 600m left again at the crossroads, continue and leave the road where it bears left to head through a gate to Hampden House / Church and join a brideway.

Follow the brideway for 2.6km through conifer woodland and just before Green Haileys Farm turn right through a gate onto a brideway and after 250m bear left at the brideway junction to continue and meet the path to Whiteleaf Hill.

Turn right along the path, continue over Whiteleaf Hill and through a gate to follow a sharp descent, taking care not to miss a left turn just before reaching the Golf Club and a descent into Whiteleaf village.

Turn left following the road past the Red Lion pub and after reaching Peters Lane keep straight on to take the trail that will meet New Road and then turning right down the hill back to the Car Park at Horns Lane.

Described Routes
Other Bridleways/Cycleways

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