

## River to Ridge

An enjoyable 35 km/22 mile ride from the River Dee through pretty Cheshire villages up to the Peckforton Hills and back.

Grade	Circular
Distance	35 km/22 mile
Time	4 - 5 hours
Start	Farndon Picnic Area
Map	OS Explorer Map 267
Terrain	Quiet country lanes
Barriers	N/A
Toilets	Farndon Picnic Area
Contact	Cheshire West and Chester Council Tel: 01606 271736



## Route Details

The ride starts in Farndon by the River Dee, a natural border between England and Wales. The impressive sandstone bridge was built by the monks of St Werburgh's Abbey in Chester in the 14th century.

Soon you reach the pretty village of Churton, once the boundary between the manors of Aldford and Farndon and a possible smuggling route. Look out for the ancient pollarded oaks in the field just beyond Coddington, thought to be 600 years old. Tattenhall is an ideal stop for some refreshment.

From here you are drawn to the Peckforton Hills, the dramatic ridge of sandstone that dominates this part of Cheshire. The ruins of Beeston Castle, built in Medieval times, stands proudly on an outcrop while close by is Peckforton Castle, built much later as a country house for the first Lord Tollemache.

It's well worth the steady climb up to Higher Burwardsley for the excellent views across the plain. Enjoy the exhilarating descent before another short climb to the top of Harthill with its distinctive buildings.

The ride circles Larkton Hill, an impressive area of heathland owned and managed by the National Trust. You can still see the earthworks of Maiden Castle, an iron age hillfort built on top of the hill.

Look out for the stocks Tilston, once a feature of every village.

Stop and enjoy the tranquility at Stretton Mill, an 18th century corn mill built to harness the power of Carden Brook. From here a gentle ride along quiet, tree-lined lanes takes you back to Farndon.

## Directions

1. Turn right out of the car park up the hill.
2. Turn left into Churton Road.
3. Turn right down Pump Lane and follow the road to Coddington.
4. Turn left by the Parish Hall. Follow the road and turn right at the next junction, signed to Clutton
5. Turn left at the T junction.
6. Cross the A41 with care.
7. Turn right at the T junction in Tattenhall and follow the road to Burwardsley.
8. Turn left up the road by the Post Office.
9. Turn right at the top towards Cheshire Workshops.
10. Turn left at the T junction.
11. Turn left again at the next T junction and go up to Harthill.
12. Fork left down the second road on the left.
13. Cross the A534 with care.
14. Turn right before the church into Goldford Lane and follow the road around Larkton Hill.
15. Go straight over the crossroads and carry on to the A41. Cross with care.
16. Follow the road to Tilston.
17. Turn right at the T junction and right again just after the Fox and Hounds pub towards Carden.
18. Turn left at the T junction and carry on past Stretton Mill.

19. Turn left at the T junction and then first right to Crewe-by-Farndon.
20. Go straight over into Crewe Lane South (signed No Through Road).
21. Cross the A534 with care.
22. Turn left at the T junction and follow the road back into Farndon village.