

## Abbeys and Priors – 32 miles

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### *The Good Cycling Code*

- *Be courteous! Give way to pedestrians*
- *Remember that some people are hard of hearing or visually impaired. Don't assume they can see or hear you.*
- *Carry a bell and use it.*
- *Where there are wheelchair users and horse-riders please give way.*
- *Follow the country code. Respect other land management activities, such as farming or forestry and take litter home.*
- *Keep erosion to a minimum if off road.*
- *Be self sufficient – in remote areas carry food, repair kit and waterproofs*
- *Be safe, wear a helmet and cycle within your capabilities*

*Happy Cycling!*

**Route: Worthington – Osgathorpe – Grace Dieu – Thringstone – Oaks in Charnwood – Woodhouse Eaves – Markfield – Stanton Under Bardon – Ellistown – Donington le Heath – Snibston – Ravenstone – Coleorton Moor – Coleorton – Outwoods – Newbold.**

**Start/Finish: Worthington (Cloud Trail car park)**

**Distance: 32 miles in total (hilly)**

**A challenging ride but rewarded with stunning scenery**

1. Exit the Cloud Trail car park and follow the Cloud Trail cycle route for 100 yards. Take the right turn and go half a mile climbing the hill. Turn left and continue along the trail passing the Rock Drill sculpture then climb another hill until the trail meets the road. At the road follow the Garendon Trail along Breedon Lane for about one mile to Osgathorpe. Cross the B5324 Ashby Road and go into Osgathorpe. Just before the church turn right into Chapel Lane and then left on Snarrow's Road and continue for about half a mile to the A512 Ashby to Loughborough Road. Go right and left across the road and on the other side go through the gate to join the "Grace Dieu Trail". Follow the trail past the remains of Grace Dieu Priory and the Iron Madonna sculpture. Beyond the second gate turn right after going under the viaduct and continue along the line of the old railway. After the bridge across the stream turn left. At the end of the trail ignore the road immediately left and proceed next left along Gracedieu Road for about a quarter of a mile. After the Hare and Hounds pub turn left onto Loughborough Road. Go past the Man within Compass (locally known as Rag & Mop) pub and continue along Oaks Road for about one and a half miles, passing Mount St. Bernard's Abbey. At the T-junction dogleg left and right and continue along Oaks Road to Oaks in Charnwood. Turn right at the T-junction into Charley road, signposted to Woodhouse Eaves. Pass under the M1 and go straight across the B591 (take care when crossing). After about another mile, turn left at the T-junction and go about two miles, going straight on at the crossroads and past Beacon Hill, eventually descending the steep hill into Woodhouse Eaves. Turn right on Main Street towards Swithland and into the village (11 miles). **Stop off: "Rock Drills" sculpture on Cloud Trail; Roesia de Verdon "Iron Madonna" sculpture on Grace Dieu Trail; Mount St. Bernard's Abbey – toilet facilities in car park (The Abbey was the first Catholic Abbey to be founded in this country**

**after reformation and is still functioning as a monastery); Beacon Hill; Woodhouse Eaves shops and pubs.**

2. Go through Woodhouse Eaves village. Continue up Church Hill and Brand Hill past the Wheatsheaf pub. Turn right towards Swithland and right again after about 300 yards signposted to Bradgate Country Park. Go about one mile to the Roecliffe crossroads. Go straight over and continue 1.5 miles along Warren Hill, past Bradgate Park car park and down Sharpley Hill towards Newtown Linford. Just before Newtown Linford turn sharp right onto Ulverscroft Lane. Go about one mile to the Roecliffe crossroads. Go straight over and continue 1.5 miles along Warren Hill, past Bradgate Park car park and down Sharpley Hill towards Newtown Linford. Just before Newtown Linford turn sharp right onto Ulverscroft Priory. Turn left and up the steep hill. Continue about 2 miles and turn left at the T-junction. Cross the A50 and turn left into Ashby Road. After about a quarter of a mile turn right into Main Street Markfield (18 miles).

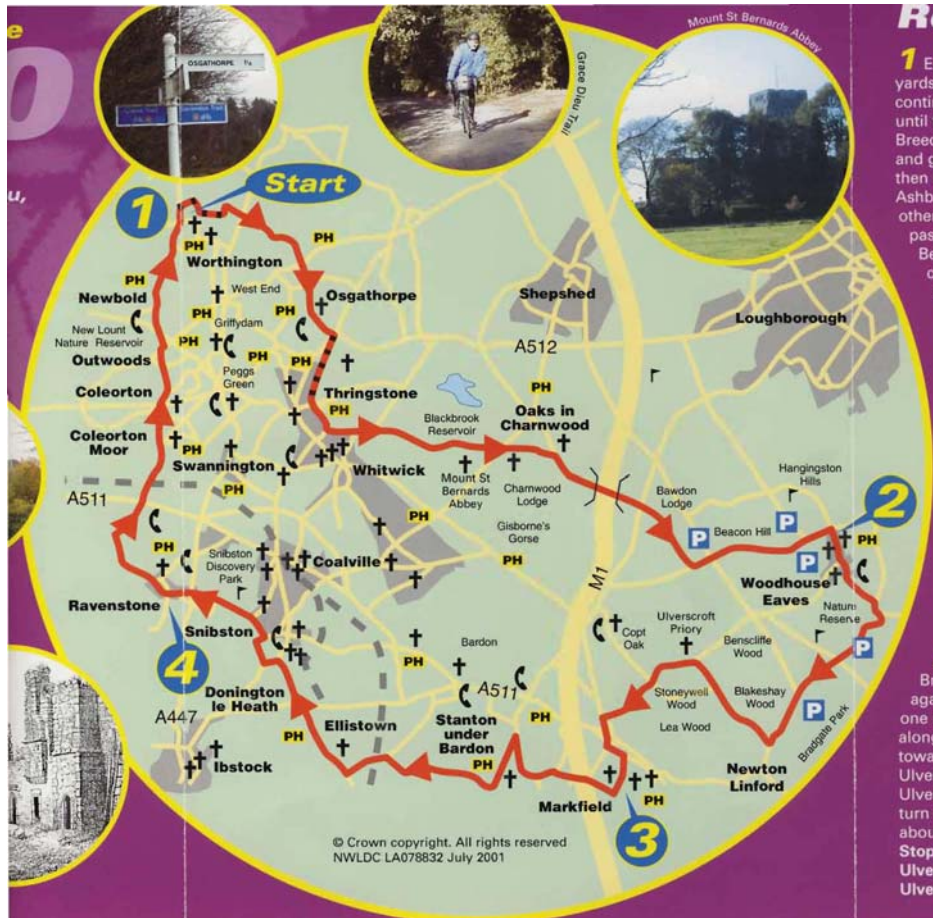
**Stop off: Bradgate Park and “Old John”; Newtown Linford shops and pubs; Ulverscroft Priory (straight on down the farm track at the junction between Ulverscroft Lane and Priory Lane); Markfield shops and pubs.**

3. At the end of Main Street Markfield turn right at the T-junction into Forest Road. Cross the M1 and continue on Stoney lane to the roundabout. Turn left and after about one mile turn left again into Main Street, Stanton under Bardon. Go through the village to the T-junction at the end of Main Street and turn right towards Ellistown. Continue about one and a half miles to the T-junction with the B585. Turn left and continue about three quarters of a mile. At the next T-junction turn right into Ellistown Terrace Road (taking care when turning) and go through Ellistown. After about one mile, when going down the hill in Hugglescote, turn left on the Green towards Donington le Heath. Turn right on Manor Road after The Corner Pin pub. Continue up the hill past Donington le Heath Manor House. At the T-junction turn left on Ashburton Road and continue through Snibston to the cross roads on the A447. Go straight across and into Ravenstone (26 miles).

**Stop off: Stanton Under Bardon shop and pub; Ellistown shops, Village Feature and pubs; Donington le Heath; Beesley’s Garden Centre, Tea room; Ravenstone pubs and village sign.**

4. Continue through Ravenstone on Ashby Road, passing the old Ravenstone Hospital on the right. Go about one mile to the junction with the ‘old’ A50 at Alton Hill. Turn right towards Sinope and Coalville and go a quarter of a mile to the A511 Ashby to Coalville Road. Turn right and go a quarter of a mile to Sinope (take great care as this is a very busy road), and turn left into the Moorlands towards Coleorton and continue through Coleorton Moor. After about one and a quarter miles turn right on the A512 and immediately left into Lower Moor Road, Coleorton (take care when crossing). At the end of Lower Moor Road, turn right on the B5324 and then immediately left on Melbourne Road. Turn right into School Lane Newbold and continue for about one and a half miles along Worthington Lane and Newbold Lane to Worthington. Go straight on at the crossroads into Breedon Lane and back to the Cloud Trail car park (32 miles).

**Stop off: The Old Ravenstone Hospital; Coleorton Wood recreation area (on the site of former Coleorton Colliery, Pitt Lane, off the Moorlands); Coleorton Village Sign, New Lount Nature Reserve (on the site of former New Lount Colliery, Newbold), Cross Key Inn at Newbold, Plough Inn at Ravenstone, Angel Inn/Kings arms Coleorton, Malt Shovel, Worthington Lockup, Worthington.**



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