

cycling

# The Great North Way



32 mile cycle route between  
**Potters Bar & Letchworth**  
via Welwyn, Stevenage and Hertfordshire countryside

**GREAT  
NORTH  
WAY**

# The Great North Way

Hertfordshire has some great countryside to explore... and what's more you don't need your car to find it. Get in the saddle and ride the Great North Way! This cycle route takes you from town into countryside using quiet lanes and traffic free sections.

The Great North Way is the latest in a succession of transport routes linking London with northern England & Scotland. Riding the route, you will cross above and below these earlier constructed road and rail links: the medieval Great North Road, The A1 and the East Coast Mainline railway.

The Great North Way (Route 12) forms part of the National Cycle Network. Conceived by the charity Sustrans, it is one of many safe cycle routes making up part of an ambitious countrywide network. When completed Route 12 will link London with Grimsby via Peterborough.

In Hertfordshire it takes you from Potters Bar (Hadley Wood) to Letchworth and Baldock - a 32 mile ride. You may not want to cycle all of the route, but why not ride part of it? You could even cycle one way and take the train back. See the Bike / Rail section on the back cover for more information.

The map also contains information on interesting places to visit along the route, with an emphasis on free and less expensive attractions. Take a diversion down one of three old railway line cycle routes, expand your mind in Mill Green or Letchworth Heritage museums, explore woodlands or take a trip around Letchworth on their recently opened Greenway. Refreshments can be found in the pubs and cafes shown.

If you live and work along the route, why not use this map to plan a cycle ride to work? Nearby schools are also shown to help find a safe way of cycling in on school days.

**The Great North Way is surfaced to a good standard throughout so is suitable for cyclists of all ages and abilities.**



## Local Cycling Contacts

### For the North Herts area...

**North Herts District Council** - Tel: 01462 474000  
[www.north-herts.gov.uk](http://www.north-herts.gov.uk)

**Letchworth Heritage Foundation** for the Letchworth Greenway - Tel: 01462 476000, [www.greenway.org.uk](http://www.greenway.org.uk)

### For the Stevenage area...

**Stevenage Borough Council** for Stevenage Cycle Map  
Tel: 01438 242242, [www.stevenage.gov.uk](http://www.stevenage.gov.uk)

### For the Welwyn Hatfield area...

Contact **Pedal Point** at **Welwyn Hatfield Council** for more maps in this series - Alban Way, The Ayots, Cole Green Way & Welwyn Hatfield.

Tel: 01707 357551, [www.welhat.gov.uk/pedalpoint](http://www.welhat.gov.uk/pedalpoint)

### For the Hertsmere area...

**Hertsmere Borough Council** for **Watling Chase Greenways**  
Tel: 020 8207 2277, [www.hertsmere.gov.uk](http://www.hertsmere.gov.uk)

### Other Contacts

**Hertfordshire County Council:**  
[www.hertsdirect.org.uk/cycleweb](http://www.hertsdirect.org.uk/cycleweb)

**Sustrans:** [www.sustrans.org.uk](http://www.sustrans.org.uk)

**Transport for London** for cycle routes in London  
[www.tfl.gov.uk/cycling](http://www.tfl.gov.uk/cycling)

**Bedfordshire County Council:** [www.bedfordshire.gov.uk](http://www.bedfordshire.gov.uk)

## Cycle Safety

Consider wearing a helmet & bright or fluorescent clothing during the day. Wear reflective clothing and use lights at night and in poor visibility.

On traffic free sections be considerate to other users, and use a bell to warn them of your approach.

Check our website for more information & news:  
**[www.greatnorthway.org.uk](http://www.greatnorthway.org.uk)**

For more copies of the map please phone 01707 357551 or email [pedalpoint@welhat.gov.uk](mailto:pedalpoint@welhat.gov.uk)


## Public Transport

The Great North Way is easily accessible by rail at several stations along the route.



Why not cycle one way and take the train back? The route passes near to several railway stations and these are clearly indicated on the map.

Regular trains serve the stations between Hadley Wood and Baldock from London, Cambridge & Peterborough.

There are no restrictions at weekends and bank holidays for taking your bike on the train (although tandems are not permitted). For further information, and train times: [www.wagn.co.uk](http://www.wagn.co.uk) 

### National Rail Enquiries

Tel: 08457 48 49 50, [www.nationalrail.co.uk](http://www.nationalrail.co.uk)

Here are some potential cycle rides that can be made between various railway stations:

Hadley Wood – Hatfield	
10 miles	1hr 10mins
Welwyn Garden – Stevenage	
10 miles	1hr 10mins
Stevenage – Baldock	
7.5 miles	50mins

(Estimated times are based on an av. speed of 9mph).

### Bus timetable information

**Traveline** Tel: 0870 608 2 608,  
[www.traveline.org.uk](http://www.traveline.org.uk)

**Intalink** at [www.intalink.org.uk](http://www.intalink.org.uk)



Hertfordshire Rural Transport

Partnership



01707 357551

09 [pedalpoint@welhat.gov.uk](mailto:pedalpoint@welhat.gov.uk)

09 [www.welhat.gov.uk/pedalpoint](http://www.welhat.gov.uk/pedalpoint)

- all cycling issues in the Welwyn Hatfield area
- route maps
- maintenance issues
- information



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Cartography, photography\*, leaflet design and lots of cycling by Stephen Wragg - Wragg Art House: [www.wah.co.uk](http://www.wah.co.uk)

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\*all photos by Stephen Wragg except: Welwyn Roman Baths legionary & Baldock Market - with thanks to Hertfordshire County Council, Knebworth Park deer - with thanks to Knebworth House, Stanborough Park sailing - with thanks to Finesse Leisure Partnership.