Explore West Lancashire's Countryside by bike

Cycling is a great way of exploring West Lancashire. Most of the area is flat and there are many quiet lanes, which are attractive to cycle on with pubs and cafes on the way. To the east the countryside is hillier but there are also splendid views over the West Lancashire Plain.

The hills to the east of Skelmersdale are popular with top riders, including Bradley Wiggins.

Leeds-Liverpool Canal

You can cycle along Leeds-Liverpool Canal in West Lancashire, though parts can become muddy in winter and you should give way to walkers, especially on narrow sections. You can use the towpath to get to Wigan or Burscough.

Pier to Pier (Route 562)

Follow the Pier to Pier Cycle Route from Southport Pier to Wigan Pier. From Southport the route takes you along minor roads to Burscough and then the canal to Wigan.

Cheshire Lines (Route 62)

Though called the Cheshire Lines, this traffic free path on the old railway is in fact in Lancashire. The railway was opened in 1884 by the Cheshire Lines Committee to link their railway at Aintree with Southport. It is now a traffic-free cycle path from Maghull to Formby and a great place to cycle with children.

It is part of the Trans-Pennine Trail from Hull to Southport.

Southport Sea Front and Sefton Coast

You can now cycle along the seafront in Southport and down the Sefton Coast to Crosby.

Cycle hire is available from Southport Railway Station, the Eco Centre on the seafront and Crosby Lakeside.

Lancashire Cycleway (Routes 90 and 91)

The Lancashire Cycleway is a 270 mile cycle tour of the county. It skirts the north of Skelmersdale. You could use the West Lancashire section to make a cycle tour of the area.

Kilometres 0 1 2
Miles 0 1 2
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N
BLACKPOOL
Pleasure Beach
Blackpool Airport
LYTHAM ST ANNE'S
RSPB Centre
KIRKHAM
Wesham
Wrea Green
Newton-with-Scales
Clifton
Lea Town
Freckleton
Warton
Broughton
Grimsargh
PRESTON
Penwortham
Hutton
Longton
New Longton
Longton Brickcroft Nature Reserve
Walmer Bridge
Much Hoole
Hesketh Bank
West Lancs Light Railway
Becconsall
Tarleton
Bretherton
Croston
Sollom
Mere Brow
Holmeswood
Rufford
Rufford Hall
Mawdesley
Eccleston
Euxton
Buckshaw
Whittle-le-Woods
LEYLAND
Worden Park
Cuerden Valley Park
BAMBER BRIDGE
Lostock Hall
Brockholes Wetlands Nature Reserve
BMX Track
Cycle Race Track
Guild Wheel
Grand Union Canal
River Ribble
Ribble Estuary
River Douglas
Leeds & Liverpool Canal
Lancashire Cycleway
Pleasure Beach
Botanic Gardens
Meol's Hall
RSPB Marshside
Banks
SOUTHPORT
Leisure Lakes
Windmill Farm
Mere Sands Wood Nature Reserve
Martin Mere Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust
Bescar Lane
Bescar
Scarisbrick
Shirdley Hill
Ainsdale
Nature Reserve
Discovery Centre
Ainsdale National Nature Reserve
Woodvale Airfield
Canal Wharf
Burscough
New Lane
Pinfold
Cycle Hire
Hoscar
Parbold
Parbold Beacon
High Moor
Craft Centre
Newburgh
Appley Bridge
Shevington Vale
Shevington
Halsall
Haskayne
ORMSKIRK
View Point
Clieves Hills
Edge Hill University
See overleaf for Ormskirk Map
See overleaf for Skelmersdale Map
Westhead
Roby Mill
Prince's Park
SKELMERSDALE
Up Holland
ORRELL
WIGAN
Wigan Pier
Wigan Flashes Nature Reserve
Haigh Hall
Astley Hall
CHORLEY
Charnock Richard
Coppull
Adlington
STANDISH
Camelot Theme Park
FORMBY
Farm Park
Raven Meols Hill Nature Reserve
Cheshire Lines Trans-Pennine Trail
Aughton
Lydiate
Hightown
MAGHULL
Bickerstaffe
Mountain Bike Trails
Crawford
RAINFORD
KIRKBY
BILLINGE
CROSBY
to Liverpool
to St Helen's
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M6
M65
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