



This section will take you from the flat Bedfordshire clay lands to the Pegsdon Downs chalk hills. From Pirton the route goes southwards on unsurfaced tracks.

Route information: From Pirton there is a 2.5 mile stretch of uphill bridleway which is not surfaced and rutted in places (it is not suitable for road bikes with slick tyres). **Take extreme care crossing the B655 and cross one cyclist at a time.**

Section 13 Apsley End to Great Offley

8.8km (5.5 miles)

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Amenities and Attractions

1 The historic village of Pirton with its church, pub and village green is a popular starting point for walks and

rides in the area. In the 19th century plaiting straw for the Luton hat trade provided a livelihood for many people in Pirton. Near the Church you can see Toot Hill, a large mound or Motte that was once part of a 12th century Norman castle.

The Motte and Bailey pub, tel 01462 712 641

2 **Pegsdon Hills** - With stunning views from the top of the hills, this is one of the most spectacular reserves owned by Bedfordshire Wildlife Trust.

3 **Great Offley** appeared in The Domesday Book as Offelei or Offelgi, and is named after King Offa of Mercia, who died here shortly after he founded St Albans Abbey in 793.

The Red Lion (pub and B&B) Tel. 01462 768281

The Green Man pub, Tel. 01462 768256