Chilterns Cycleway
Wendover Loop (14 miles)

Steep gradient on narrow road with gravel wash-out.

If coming from Wendover direction, take right fork at this point.

Pubs (referred to in text)
Caution
Car Park (Wendover)
Information Centre
Wendover is a bustling market town and the perfect start point for this day ride as you are quickly out into country lanes. The route takes you through wooded, rolling countryside with some stunning views. You will pass through a rural landscape of small hamlets and ancient commons, with many traditional country pubs along the way.

**Distance:** 14 mile circular route.
(15.2 miles if you include the Lee spur.)

**About the route:** The route is hilly, with a few steep climbs. The route is on-road except for two off-road stretches, see below. These are suitable for hybrid and touring bikes, but not for road bikes with super-slick tyres.

- A 1.2 mile (2km) section of bridleway between Wendover and Kingsash through magnificent beech woodlands, a bit of a climb up from Wendover! There are a couple of short sections which are a little rutted, but in general the bridleway is in good condition.
- A 400m (0.6km) section of bridleway near Hazeldene Farm. This is bumpy and can be muddy at the bottom.

The route can be cycled clockwise or anti-clockwise. Between Wendover and Cholesbury you will be following the Chilterns Cycleway which is signposted.

**Start/End point:** Wendover. There is a car park just off Wendover High Street. All day parking costs £4. Alternatively there is a lay-by near Hale Lane which has parking for three cars.

For those coming by train, Chiltern Railways operates a regular service from London Marylebone and bikes are allowed on trains outside rush hour (space permitting).

**Sights along the way**

- **Wendover** is a picturesque market town nestled into the edge of the Chiltern Hills and surrounded by woodland. It offers a selection of cafes, restaurants, pubs and speciality shops. Visit www.wendover-pc.gov.uk for a full listing of what’s on offer.

There is a tourist information centre on the High Street, Tel 01296 696759.

- **Wendover Woods** is a mixed coniferous and broadleaved woodland managed by the Forestry Commission. It has a café, Go Ape and an off-road cycle route. It can be accessed via bridleways off the Hale.

- **Cholesbury Fort** consists of a large ditch with ramparts crowned by beech trees. It covers an area of 10 acres, within which is situated St Lawrence Church.

- **Cholesbury Common** runs through the village either side of the road. There is a windmill on the common which was first built in 1863 as a smock mill but was rebuilt in the style of a tower mill in 1883. Close by are two large ‘pudding’ stones, which are a geological feature of the area.

- **The Lee** is a quintessential English village, often used as a film set. It has a 700 year old tiny church hidden behind the larger Victorian building, as well as a pub, manor house and brick and flint cottages grouped around the village green.

**Refreshments**
There are some excellent pubs along the route. Here is a selection of popular country pubs which have bar menus suitable for hungry cyclists!

1. **The White Lion.** A traditional country pub with dining in the hamlet of St Leonards, surrounded by glorious countryside. Tel 01494 758387

2. **The Full Moon** is a 17th century coaching inn on Hawridge Common, popular with walkers and cyclists. Tel 01494 758959

3. **The Blue Ball,** Asheridge. Pub, dining and B&B. Tel 01494 758305

4. **The Bell** at Chartridge, freehouse country pub and restaurant situated next to the pond and village green. Tel 01494 782878

5. **The Old Swan,** Swan Bottom. Dating from the 16th century, this free house still retains all of the character of days gone by. Tel 01494 837239

6. **The Cock and Rabbit** pub, the Lee. The Cock & Rabbit was rebuilt and re-sited in 1907 by Arthur Liberty during his re-construction of the village green. It replaced a much older pub that allegedly obscured the view from his manor house! Tel 01494 837540

**Further Information**
Visit www.chilternsaonb.org for information on the Chilterns Cycleway, walks, rides and attractions in the Chilterns.