

Bakewell

An historic market town at the heart of the Peak District National Park, Bakewell sits in a lovely setting on the banks of the River Wye surrounded by spectacular countryside. With mellow stone buildings, gardens and little courtyards the town offers a great place to base yourself for a few days or longer break.

From the surrounding rolling hills and limestone dales to the high heather clad moorlands, this is ideal countryside to explore slowly by bike. The town and villages have a wealth of cafes and pubs to refresh yourself on route and don't forget a famous Bakewell Pudding or Tart to take home.

Bakewell's former railway station, once a busy stop on the Midland Railway line between London and Manchester, is now a tranquil place to start a bike ride along the line, now known as the Monsal Trail. With no traffic, just walkers, cyclists and the occasional horse rider, the sounds are mainly birdsong.

The town also boasts a wide range of outdoor clothing shops for walkers and cyclists to stock up, plus a popular Visitor Centre situated in the old market hall.

Following the routes

The four routes in this cycle guide offer you some of the best places to visit with stunning views, quiet lanes, minimal traffic and an abundance of cycle friendly places to stop for refreshments. All rides can start in the centre of Bakewell or on the outskirts at old Hassop Station where there is plentiful parking.

You can cycle them on a road, hybrid or mountain bike as they use quiet tarmac roads and a former railway line. Please take special care along any stretches of main road and at road crossings.

Each route is highlighted on the map with arrows showing the suggested way round and added directions at numbered points help with navigation.

All distances are approximate. It is also a good idea to have the **OS Explorer Map 24** with you so that routes can be extended or shortened as required.

Cycling in the Peak District

One of the best and most enjoyable ways to enjoy your time in the Peak District is out cycling.

It's fun and free, and you'll be able to explore further than you would imagine!

If you're out exploring though it always pays to be prepared, especially if you're not familiar with the roads you're riding on. Rural roads, especially in the Peak District, are often narrow with sharp bends and steep descents, so do take heed of road signs. Unsure of what lies ahead? Then take it easy - you're not in a race! Ride well within your abilities and expect the unexpected - whether that's oncoming traffic or a pothole at the bottom of the hill. Any potholes you do find, make sure to report them via www.fillthahole.org.uk

We're all out to enjoy ourselves in the Peaks, so when out riding be nice, say hi! Give plenty of warning to horse riders you're approaching and space when overtaking, and remember when cycling off road to give way to walkers, wheelchair users and horse riders if there's not enough space for you to pass.

Care for the environment and if possible try to reach the start of your journey with public transport or by cycling. Follow the country's code of: Respect, Protect, Enjoy and you won't go wrong!

You're allowed to cycle on roads, byways, bridleways and cycle paths, so please avoid riding on public footpaths.

It's always best to be prepared, particularly if you're heading into remote sections where mobile reception can be patchy.

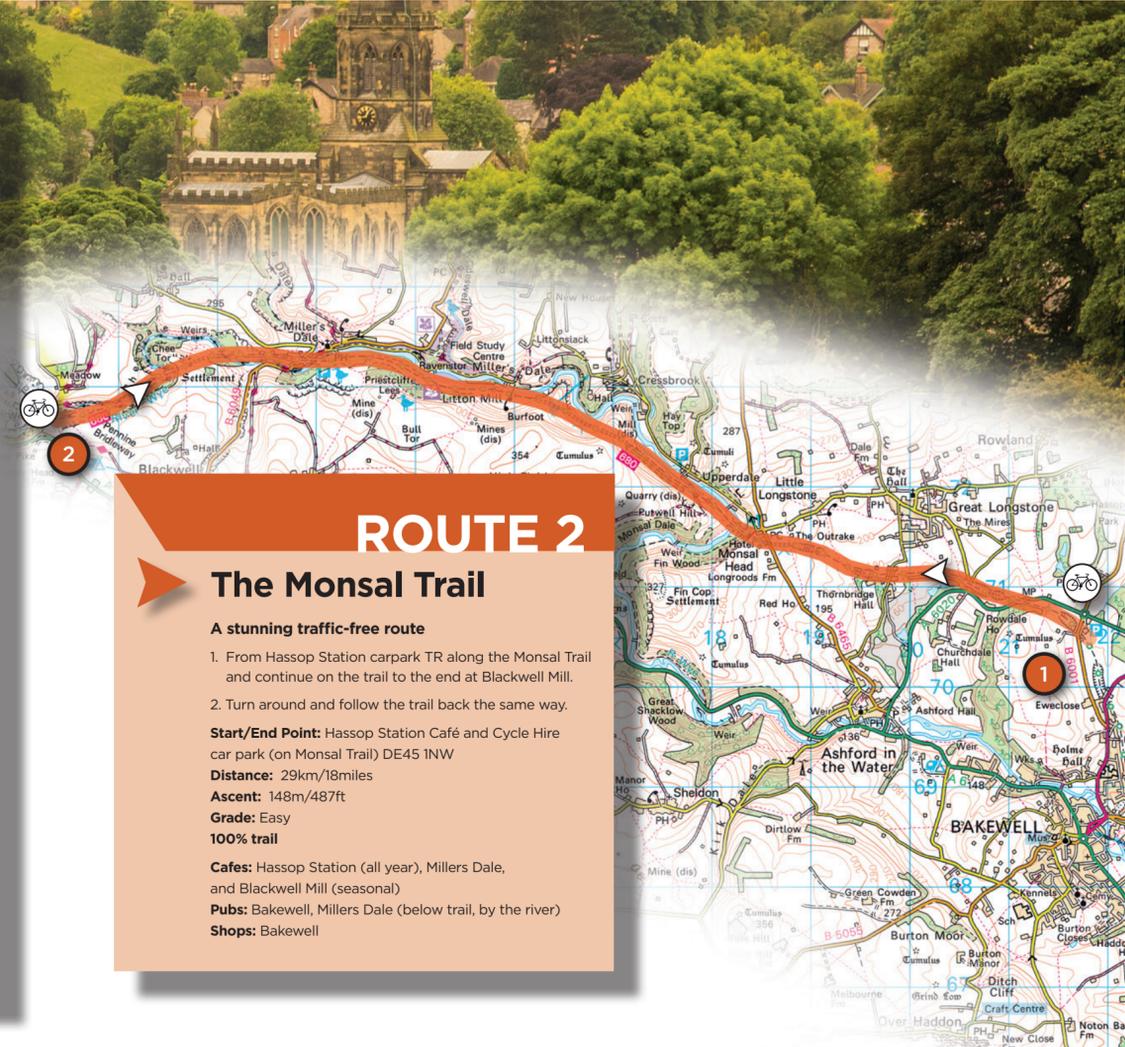
- Snacks and water
 - A map
 - Tool, pump and a spare inner tube in case of a puncture
 - Front white light and rear red light
 - Waterproofs
- Also check your bike beforehand to make sure the brakes are working, the tyres are pumped and your gears are shifting smoothly.
- Above all - enjoy your ride!



Cycling around Bakewell

Five journeys of discovery on quiet lanes, tracks and trails in the Peak District

1:50,000 Scale Map
Includes Cycle Hire, Refreshments and Visitor Centres



ROUTE 2

The Monsal Trail

A stunning traffic-free route

1. From Hassop Station carpark TR along the Monsal Trail and continue on the trail to the end at Blackwell Mill.
2. Turn around and follow the trail back the same way.

Start/End Point: Hassop Station Café and Cycle Hire car park (on Monsal Trail) DE45 1NW
Distance: 29km/18miles
Ascent: 148m/487ft
Grade: Easy
100% trail

Cafes: Hassop Station (all year), Millers Dale, and Blackwell Mill (seasonal)
Pubs: Bakewell, Millers Dale (below trail, by the river)
Shops: Bakewell

ROUTE 1

Chatsworth Loop

Stately homes and standing stones

1. From Hassop station car park go onto the Monsal Trail and TR
2. Leave the trail at the first road crossing exit and TR uphill
3. At T-jct TR (signpost Rowland and Hassop). Continue downhill to join the main road B6001. TL then immediately R by Eyre Arms PH (signpost Baslow 2 miles), taking care crossing the road.
4. At T-jct TR. Continue on B6012 past Edensor, Chatsworth and Beeley. Take care as busy road.
5. A T-jct TR onto the A6, over river then TL (signpost Stanton in Peak and Caudwell's Mill). Follow the road round to the right, past the football field and steeply uphill.
6. At small crossroads go SA towards Stanton in Peak.
7. TR at T-jct and down past the church and Flying Childers PH to B5066. TR. After about 50m TL (signs for Harthill Hall), then TR at T-jct, go downhill over a small bridge into Alport, follow road to L, then turn L along the main road towards Youlgreave.
8. TR at the George PH opposite the church (signpost Over Haddon) At next T-jct TR downhill to Conksbury river crossing and continue steeply uphill.
9. Continue and at next T-jct TR downhill into Bakewell. TL onto the A6 (one way) and immediately take 2nd exit at roundabout, taking care through the town centre.
10. Cross the River Wye SA. Take second L signposted Hassop to return to the start.

Start/End Point: Hassop Station Café and Cycle Hire car park (on Monsal Trail) DE45 1NW
Distance: 29km/18miles
Ascent: 674m/2211ft
Grade: Hard
97% road/3% trail

Cafes: Hassop Station, Baslow, Edensor, Chatsworth, Beeley, Rowsley
Pubs: Great Longstone, Hassop, Baslow, Beeley, Rowsley, Stanton in Peak, Youlgreave
Shops: Bakewell, Great Longstone, Baslow, Rowsley



For more information about cycle friendly accommodation and places to eat and drink visit:
www.visitorpeakdistrict.com
www.cyclistswelcome.co.uk

Disclaimer:

All routes are followed at a rider's own risk. These routes are intended to be general guides; please observe all road signs, waymarks and other specific on-route instructions. Neither the PDNPA nor partners can be held responsible for any errors or consequences that arise from using this route information.

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Supported by the European Regional Development Fund, Peak District National Park Authority, Derbyshire Dales District Council and Marketing Peak District & Derbyshire.

ROUTE 3

A Limestone Loop

Experience a typical White Peak landscape

- From Hassop Station car park take 1st L at roundabout towards Bakewell. At T-jct TR into Bakewell.
- At roundabout take 3rd exit signposted Buxton and TL immediately after Rutland Hotel onto North Church Street. Follow the road up until it becomes Stanedge Road and go past St Anselms School.
- TR at T-jct signposted Ashford and continue along the road.
- At T-jct TL uphill and immediately R signposted Sheldon. Continue uphill past the Cock & Pullet PH through village.
- At T-jct TL and first R. Descend into Monyash.
- At T-jct TL. SA at crossroads by village green and Bulls Head PH.
- TL follow brown sign for Arbor Low. Continue past Long Rake spar works and take the left fork. Continue downhill to Conksbury Bridge and river crossing. Take care as steep and loose gravel. Steep uphill following the road to Bakewell.
- At T-jct TR down the B5056 past church to roundabout and Bakewell town centre. TL (one way) then immediately take 2nd exit at the roundabout, cross bridge and continue up hill.
- Take 2nd left to Hassop (B6001).
- At roundabout take 4th exit to return to Hassop Station.

Start/End Point: Hassop Station Café and Cycle Hire car park (on Monsal Trail) DE45 1NW

Distance: 29km/18miles

Ascent: 540m/177ft

Grade: Hard

100% road

Cafes: Bakewell, Monyash

Pubs: Bakewell, Sheldon, Monyash

Shops: Bakewell

ROUTE 4

Hassop to Monsal Head

Journey to the iconic view across Monsal Dale

- From Hassop Station car park go onto the Monsal Trail and TR. Follow the trail to Thornbridge station (you will see former station master's house on the left). Double back at end of platform on your right and through a gate to leave the trail.
- TL at road. TL into Great Longstone.
- At the Crispin PH T-jct TL. Follow the road up through Little Longstone, past the Packhorse PH to the B6465 road.
- TR then immediately L into car park (take care crossing road) for view at Monsal Head.
- Exit car park and TR downhill to Ashford-in-the-Water. TL at T-jct at Ashford Arms PH.
- R onto A620 then immediately L on old road adjacent to cricket pitch (take care crossing road) and cross over the river.
- TL onto A6 towards Bakewell. TL over packhorse bridge before reaching Bakewell fire station.
- TR down Holme Lane with riverside meadow on your right. At T-jct (A619) TL.
- Take first L to Hassop (B6001). Take 4th exit at roundabout into Hassop Station car park.

Start/End Point: Hassop Station Café and Cycle Hire car park (on Monsal Trail) DE45 1NW

Distance: 11km/7miles

Ascent: 193m/633ft

Grade: Easy

71% road/29% trail

Cafes: Hassop station, Monsal Head, Ashford-in-the-Water, Bakewell

Pubs: Great Longstone, Little Longstone, Monsal Head, Ashford-in-the-Water, Bakewell

Shops: Ashford-in-the-Water, Bakewell, Great Longstone

ROUTE 5

Wheston and Tideswell Loop

Hills, dales and trails

- From Hassop station car park go onto the Monsal Trail and TR.
- Continue on trail to Millers Dale station.
- TL out of car park up hill on road.
- Pass through Wormhill and past Hargate Hall on your R, then TR signposted Peak Forest.
- TR and pass through Wheston. Take care on steep descent into Tideswell. TL and then first R up Church Lane (signpost Litton), taking care when crossing the road.
- In Litton TR at end of village green signposted Cressbrook. Take care on steep descent into Cressbrook Dale.
- SA then steep uphill to Monsal Head.
- At the Monsal Head Hotel go straight across (signpost Great Longstone and Little Longstone).
- Follow the road through the villages and rejoin the trail by the bridge before the A6020.
- TL on trail to Hassop Station.

Start/End Point: Hassop Station Café and Cycle Hire car park (on Monsal Trail) DE45 1NW

Distance: 32km/20miles

Ascent: 537m/1763ft

Grade: Hard

66% road/34% trail

Cafes: Hassop station, Millers Dale station, Tideswell, Litton

Pubs: Millers Dale, Tideswell, Litton, Monsal Head, Little Longstone, Great Longstone

Shops: Tideswell, Litton and Great Longstone

Key

-  Instruction
-  Footpath (No Cycling)
-  Bridleway
-  Cycle Hire
-  Other Tracks
-  Primary Route
-  Main Road
-  Secondary Road
-  Minor Road
-  Gradient: 14-20% (arrow points downhill)
-  Railway line/Station
-  National Park Boundary
-  Visitor Centre
-  Special Care Needed

Route Instructions Abbreviations

- L left
- R right
- TR turn right
- TL turn left
- SA straight ahead
- NCN National Cycle Network

