

Chilterns Cycleway off-road sections; alternative road routes
(last updated 3rd May 2013)

- 1) The main off-road section is from Pirton to just south of Little Offley, following a bridleway which has really deteriorated over the winter and is in very poor condition at the moment (large ruts and potholes). This is approximately 4km (2.5 miles) in length. We would not recommend cycling along the B655, it is a fast road with poor sightlines. The safest alternative is to take the minor road south of Higham Gobion to Great Offley (ie missing out the Apsley End/Pirton section of the route).



2) Section of the Grand Union Canal through Berkhamsted



Follow the road parallel to the High Street (named Charles Street, off the A416, or Granville Road at the Northchurch end)

- 3) Section through the Ashridge Estate along Duncombe Terrace (from the Monument and visitor centre to the road near Ivinghoe), about 3km. Some of this is a good hard surface (designed for mobility scooters), but there are some sections near Ivinghoe with a softer surface. There is a good alternative on the B4506 Ringshall Road as shown below.



- 4) The Chilterns Cycleway follows the Chiltern Heritage Trail through Chesham, the surfacing for this is fairly good but there sections which can be uneven or slightly rutted, particularly after rain. The alternative road is busy (and there are some rather large pot-holes in places at time of writing) but takes you directly into Chesham. From Chesham follow the A416 Amersham road, re-joining the Cycleway at Amersham.



- 5) The Lea Valley Walk (from Whethampstead to Harpenden) and the Nickey Line (from Harpenden to Redbourn along a former railway line) have variable path surfaces, but are generally good. We would not recommend using the busy B653 as an alternative road route.