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Cycling

Gary Copping writes: Since 2003 when I moved back to the village, I have been cycling both on-road and off-road around Addingham, and have come across many wonderful rides with incredible views. Doing some of these rides during the lockdown, I began to wonder how many people, both from Addingham and outside of the village, were aware of them. So I thought why not put some of these rides on a website to share with anyone who is interested.

Hence www.addinghamcycleroutes.co.uk came into being. There are currently six rides on the site but I have many others, some much longer, which I will continue to add as and when I have the time.

All rides start and finish in the centre of the village at the Swan. Johnny and Amy at the Swan will allow you to park your car in their car park as long as you visit the pub and have a drink or order some food. Each route has photographs from the ride, a textual description, and a GPX file for those using the technology. I hope you enjoy these routes as much as I do.

Here is an example of one ride taken from the website.

Cocking Lane, Silsden, Roman Road 12.7 miles, 2200 feet of ascent

A ride, passing through Silsden, with beautiful views over the Aire and Wharfedale valleys

Start by riding down the village and then up over Addingham Moorside via Cocking Lane. Then turn left to follow Lightbank Lane under White Crag along the ridge towards Silsden. This is followed by a long down-hill stretch through High Brunthwaite and Brunthwaite to a cemetery where the route meets up with Howden Road for the final descent into Silsden. There are a number of pubs and cafes here if you want to stop for a break. Cycle up the main road in Silsden before turning left up Bradley Road for another climb past Raikes Head and over Silsden Moor, past Woofa Bank and up onto Draughton Moor.

Where the road meets the Dales High Way at High Edge turn right onto the bridleway

to descend on the old Roman Road before meeting up with the main road to take you all the way back into Addingham. Here there are beautiful views of Wharfedale, Chelker Reservoir and Beamsley Beacon.

The first half mile of the bridleway is suitable for mountain and hybrid bikes but will be very rough for touring or road bikes; after that the bridleway is tarmac. If you don't want to use the bridleway, either carry on to meet the Skipton Road to cycle back into Addingham, or backtrack to meet the Silsden Road at Cringles to drop down into Addingham.





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