There is nothing really wild about the countryside on this ride - it is just gently undulating and free of motor traffic. But it does take us to the Hamerton Wildlife Park and past a nature reserve, which may offer a break from riding.

At Leighton Bromswold, you can see the fascinating gateway to a castle which was never built. There is also a Hundred stone - a meeting point in medieval times for the collection of taxes and the dispensation of justice. Huntingdonshire had four “Hundreds” or groups of parishes, and three of the Hundred stones survive, all featured in these rides.

A number of short cuts are described, but all of the lanes within the main circuit can be used for pleasant cycling.

Points of Interest

Hamerton (A)
- The Wildlife Park, open all year, specialises in rare, endangered and unusual species and is a wildlife conservation sanctuary. The church has traces of medieval wall paintings. The late 16th century manor house is now a farm.

Coppingford (F)
- Coppingford stands on the site of a destroyed medieval village. The church and moats of a large manor house can still be traced. Charles Stuart slept here one night in 1646 when making a secret visit to the religious community at Little Gidding.

Archers Wood (G)
- As you enter Sawtry, there is a nature reserve opposite St Judith’s Lane, which is open to the public. This 45-acre wood is a prominent feature in the landscape lying at the foot of aoulder ridge close to the fen edge of Huntingdonshire visible from the A1. An extensive path and ride system allows good access to all of the four woodland compartments.

Sawtry (H)
- This large village has plenty of places for refreshment. We do not know when the village of Sawtry was founded, but three churches were mentioned at Sawtry in the Domesday Survey of 1086. The three parishes were Sawtry All Saints, Sawtry St Andrews and Sawtry Judith.

- The Cistercian Abbey of Sawtry was founded by Simon de St. Liz, Earl of Northampton in 1147 and was situated in the North East corner of the village. The three parishes were consolidated in the 19th century and in 1879 a new church was erected and dedicated to All Saints and St Andrew.

Old Weston (B)
- The somewhat scattered village stands mainly on the north side of the stream, but the church is detached from the village and is on the south-west side of it. The village is said to have extended south of the church but was burnt down. The church has a north doorway from about 1200, and a sundial on one of the buttresses. Inside are 14th century wall paintings of St. Margaret, St. Catherine and John the Baptist.

Leighton Bromswold (C)
- To the rear of the church is a 15th century moated gatehouse, with a tower at each corner. It is now a private residence. A castle was to have been built, but only the gatehouse was constructed.

In front of the church is a Hundred stone, thought to be 1,000 years old. It was a sort of judgement and of tax collection. Other Hundred stones are at Iseley and the Norris Museum at St. Ives.

Getting Here...
- Rail Enquiries: 08457 484950
- Bus & Coach Enquiries: 08705 808080
- Traveline (bus/coach/raill): 0870 6082608

Huntingdon Tourist Information
- Tel: 01480 385588 Fax: 01480 385591
- Email: Hunts.TIC@huntsdc.gov.uk
- St Neots Tourist Information Centre
- The Old Court, 8 New Street
- St Neots, Cambs PE19 1AE
- Tel: 01480 388788 Fax: 01480 388791
- Email: StNeots.TIC@huntsdc.gov.uk
- Electronic Tourist Information Kiosks:
  - Huntingdon St Benedict’s Court, Huntingdon
  - Ramsey Great Whyte, Ramsey
  - St Ives Market Hill, St Ives

For details of accommodation vacancies, contact Huntingdon or St Neots Tourist Information, or Huntingdonshire Association for Tourism’s Vacancy Line Tel: 0870 2254858 (national rate call).

If you require a large print version of this information, please contact Huntingdon Tourist Information.

Huntingdonshire

www.huntsleisure.org

This leaflet has been produced by Huntingdonshire District Council in 2006. Every effort has been made to ensure accuracy in this publication, but no liability can be accepted by the District Council for any omission or inaccuracies. As changes can occur after publication date, it is advisable to check the information with the establishments concerned.

Huntingdonshire District Council 2006 ©
The Route

1. Sawtry to Winwick

- From the public car park in St. Judith's Lane continue to the end of the lane and then turn left at the centre of the village and at the crossroads turn left into Gidding Road.
- Continue for about 1 mile to Hamerton. About 1 mile past Hamerton church turn left and immediately right to pass the church and arrive at a T-junction. Here turn right and immediately left to Winwick.

2. Winwick to Old Weston

- At the T-junction, turn left on the B660 to Old Weston.
- Old Weston to Sawtry

- At the south end of the village, at the bottom of a descent, turn left to Leighton Bromswold. About a mile beyond Leighton Bromswold turn left (towards Barham) and immediately right. Cross the road (i.e. turn left and immediately right) and after about 1 mile, turn left at a T-junction and then turn right at an off-set crossroads (no signpost) to Barham and then turn left to rejoin the main ride in section 3.

3. Old Weston to Sawtry

- At the T-junction just past Hamerton church turn left for about a mile. Then, at an off-set crossroads turn right and immediately left for another mile towards Leighton Bromswold. Turn left (no signpost) to Barham and then turn left to rejoin the main ride in section 3.

Possible short cuts

1. From Hamerton to Coppingford to give a 9m/14km circuit:

- After turning left in Hamerton keep forward for a little over 1 mile then turn left to Coppingford to rejoin the main ride in section 3.

2. From Howson's Lodge to Broke Lodge to give a 15m/24km circuit:

- About 2 miles past Winwick where the B660 bends right near Howson's Lodge turn left for about 3 miles, just before a right bend turn left to rejoin the main ride in section 3, heading for Coppingford.

3. From Hamerton to near Leighton Bromswold to give a circuit of 12m/19km:

- At the T-junction just past Hamerton church turn left for about 1 mile. Then, at an off-set crossroads turn right and immediately left for another mile towards Leighton Bromswold. Turn left (no signpost) to Barham and then turn left to rejoin the main ride in section 3.

Enjoy the panoramic view which opens out past beyond hill top farm on the right and above the tower of Coppingford church beyond the traffic of the A1(M). Descend the hill (i.e. to return to Sawtry). The best entry to the village is to turn left at the foot of the hill about ½ mile before the village. This road has no support, but is signed to prohbit large vehicles. This lane to St. Judith's Lane, and returns to the car park house with pleasant views at the entrance to the village.