

Busy road	Suggested local routes	Signalled crossing	School
Take care	Traffic-free / On-road / Busy road	Zebra crossing	Parks, pitches and green spaces
Fair weather route only	Pedestrian streets / Footpaths	Library (C4)	Industrial areas
No cycling. Useful walk your bike links	Cycle parking	Post office (C4)	Urban areas
Cycle parking	Busy junction. Take care.	Church	Shopping areas
Busy junction. Take care.	Museums and attractions	Toilets	Car parks
Museums and attractions	Community centres	Supermarket	
Community centres		One way street	

Local walks

- Chatteris Town Trail
- A Stroll Around Hive End
- Chatteris Quirks and Curiosities Trail
- Little Acre Pocket Park Circular Walk

For more information of local walks, please visit:
www.visitcambridgeshirefens.org/town-walks

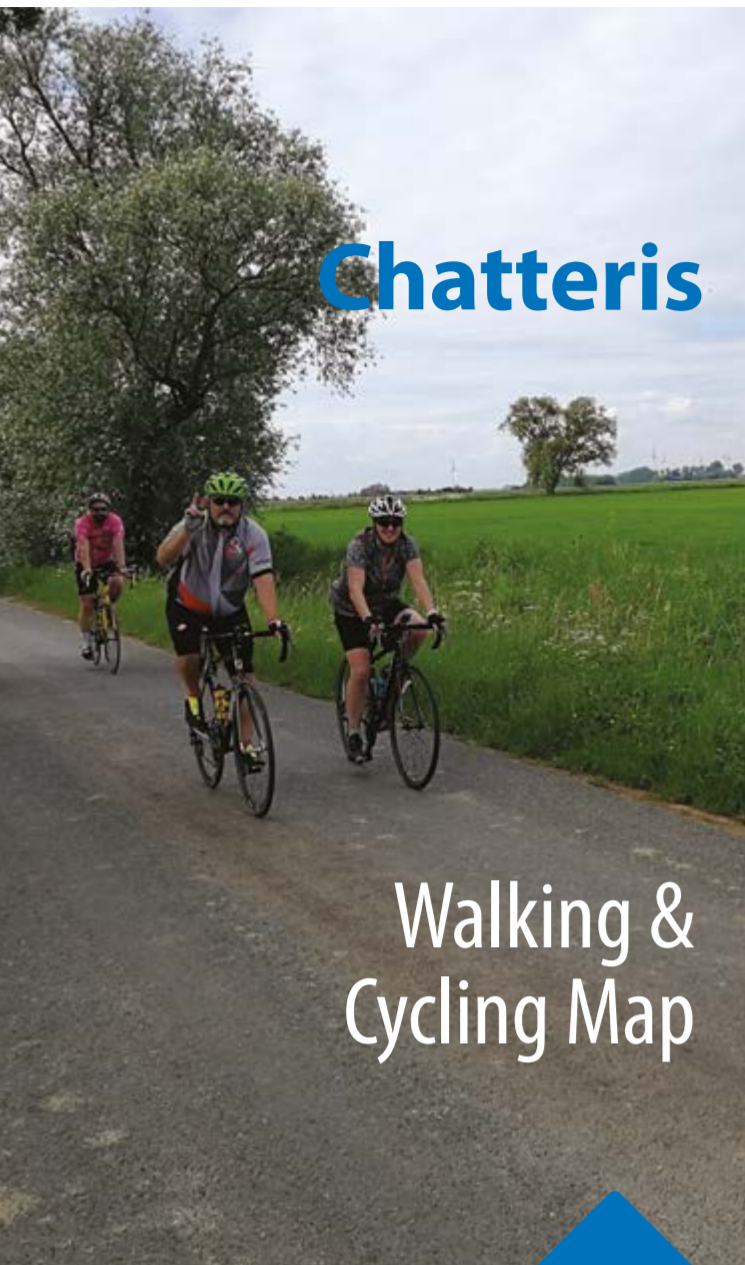
Chatteris Cycling Club

www.chatteriscycling.com

Chatteris Cycling Club was founded in 2015 and attracts cyclists of all ages and disciplines.

For more information, please contact using the contact form found on the above website, join their community Facebook page, or just go along to the Chatteris War Memorial at 8:30am (9:00am during winter months) on a Sunday morning and join one of their rides.





www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/cycling

A GUIDE TO WALKING & CYCLING AROUND CHATTERIS

Useful information and numbers

Highway Maintenance
 To report potholes, faulty traffic signals, overhanging vegetation, winter gritting etc:
www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/travel-roads-and-parking/roads-and-pathways/roadworks-and-faults

Cycling UK
 To find out more about how Cycling UK champions the cause for cyclists, as well as finding out information about local routes and events, visit:
www.cycling.org/about

Sustrans East of England
eastofengland@sustrans.org.uk
www.sustrans.org.uk

Fenland Tourism
www.visitcambridgeshirefens.org

Chatteris Library / Hub / Information Centre
 Car parking nearby, offering a great selection of reading material plus a hub for information, including details of local services and amenities, clubs and groups, and health and wellbeing information. The website / social media pages have more details.
 0345 045 5225
 2 Furrowfields Road PE16 6DY
www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/directory/listings/chatteris-library

Cambridgeshire County Council: Cycling
Transport.delivery@cambridgeshire.gov.uk
 Cycling information and online maps: www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/cycling

Rights of Way
 To report a problem: highwaysreporting.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/
 Queries about public RoW: highwaysassetmanagement@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Fenland Policing Team
 101 (non-urgent)
www.cambs.police.uk

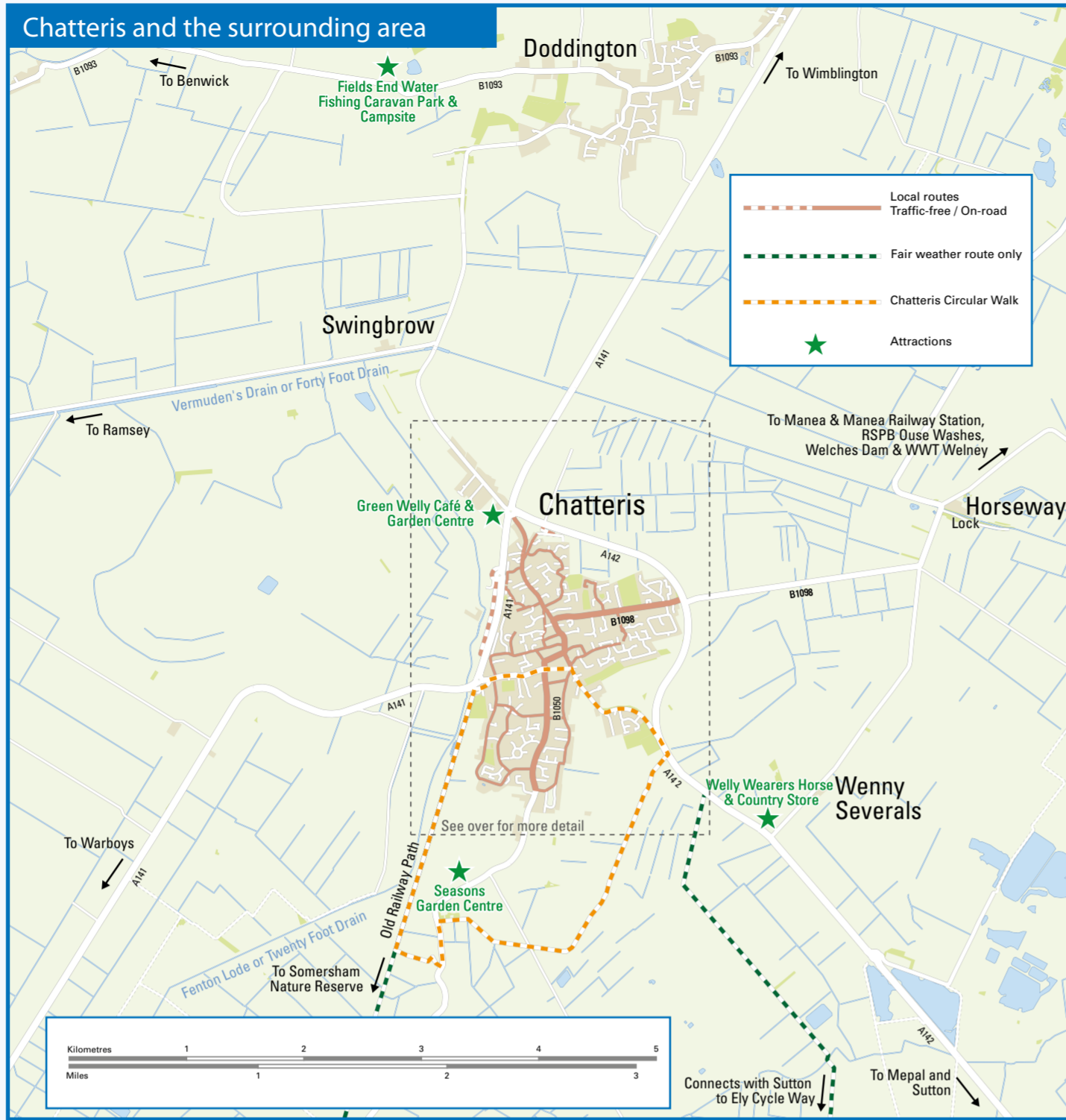
Bus Services
 For the latest bus information and operators etc. please visit:
www.fenland.gov.uk/article/15121/Local-Transport-Services

Produced by Cambridgeshire County Council in partnership with Fenland District Council and working in collaboration with Chatteris Town Council March 2023

Designed by FourPoint Mapping for Fenland District Council. Whilst every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of these maps, Fenland District Council, their partners, OpenStreetMap cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions.

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Chatteris

Chatteris is a thriving market town, strategically positioned between Huntingdon, March and Ely, in the very heart of The Fens.

Covering approximately 6,099 hectares, much of Chatteris' early history was spent as a raised island in the wetlands of the flooded Fens.

Since the draining of the Fens, between the 17th and 19th Centuries, Chatteris emerged as a thriving centre of commerce for agricultural and associated industries. Additionally, in 1864, with the birth of the Stainless Metalcraft site in the town came new employment opportunities. Metalcraft continue to be one of the town's largest employers to this day, recently building and operating an Apprenticeship College on the outskirts of town.

The peaty land surrounding the town is drained by several large ditches and dyke's and there are two large drainage rivers near the town – The Forty Foot Drain (Vermuyden's Drain) and The Sixteen Foot Drain, and these are still key in supporting the local drainage system.



A Fenland drain at sunset – where the land is flat and the skies are big ...

Much of the land surrounding the town is lower than sea level. However, the highest point in the Fens is situated within the town's boundaries and is 36 feet above sea level.

Chatteris offers a thriving community with a wide variety of food and drink outlets, including cafés, tea rooms, takeaways, restaurants, and fast-food shops. There are also a variety of options for local guest accommodation in the town, making it an ideal base for exploring the Fens.

In addition to a state-of-the-art Leisure Centre, Chatteris offers an array of clubs for those who enjoy football, cricket, tennis, or bowls. All-weather pitches are also on offer.

Chatteris Market is held each Friday (on Park Street) and offers a selection of locally grown fruit and vegetables plus fresh fish every other week.

Chatteris hosts several significant festivals throughout the year and these include The Midsummer Festival – a colourful and vibrant carnival event with attractions for all ages. During the festive season, Chatteris Christmas Lights illuminate the town – they are undoubtedly one of the best displays in the area and people travel from far and wide to walk or drive through Chatteris Lights and enjoy the spectacle: www.chatterischristmaslights.co.uk

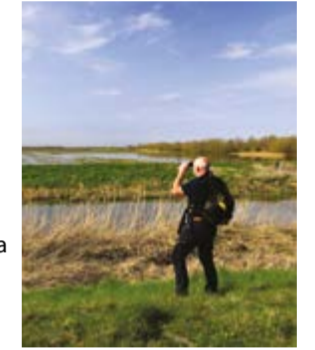
Chatteris In Bloom / Street Pride Group meet regularly and work hard month on month and continue to have success each year with gold awards on the Anglia In Bloom awards, most recently winning gold in the "Best Town" category: chatterisinbloom.webs.com

For those wishing to venture further afield and explore the local area and specifically unique flora and fauna, then Somersham Nature Reserve is located along a 6-mile trail along the Old Railway Line and opportunities to spot various butterflies, frogs and toads, birds and an array of wildflowers are possible.

For further information on the reserve, visit: www.somersham-pc.gov.uk/Somersham_Nature_Reserve_34987.aspx

To the east of Chatteris lies The Ouse Washes Nature Reserve, the largest area of washland in the UK.

The Welney Wetland Trust occupies over 1000 acres at the northernmost part of the Ouse Washes and is a mecca for those wishing to enjoy a variety of wildlife species, including resident Skylark, Marsh Harrier, Godwit and Avocet, to name but a few. In Winter, many thousands more species join the residents and the area is home to thousands of migrating wintering birds including Bewick and Whooper Swans – the night-time Swan Feeds are quite an experience; not to be missed.



Details of the reserve, plus opening times, and events etc can be found on the website: rspb.org.uk/reserves-and-events/reserves-a-z/ouse-washes

Walking and cycling

Why walk or cycle?

- The Fens naturally lend themselves to walking and cycling much more easily and to the less-abled as they are relatively flat and provide easy terrain for all abilities.
- Walking and cycling are both great for your health and can often be quicker than other modes of transport, especially around town.
- Parking your cycle is free and there is ample space to park up whenever you feel like it!
- The vast open Fenland landscapes and big skies are easily enjoyed when walking or cycling and, as well as the many formal routes which are set out, due to its easy navigation, Chatteris and the surrounding villages can also provide walkers and cyclists with easily enjoyable "off-route" trails.

Tips / general rules

- Always give your bicycle the "once over" before going out - check that tyre pressures are correct, the pedals turn easily, brakes and gears are in good working order and that the saddle is the right height.
- Wear a quality, well-fitted cycle helmet – whilst this would not prevent an accident, it would certainly minimise injury.
- Ride confidently – secure your spot on the road, well away from the kerb, and stay there; do not swerve to make room for vehicles to pass, as this can be a danger and is difficult for other road users to predict.
- Be aware of parked / stopped vehicle doors opening as you pass them.
- Check behind you regularly when planning to turn right or overtake and make sure you can do this confidently and without wobbling.
- Remember that large vehicles have blind spots on the inside, so don't try and overtake them on the left.
- During hours of darkness (including cloudy and less bright days), ensure you can be seen – hi visibility clothing and lights are essential for trips out at these times.
- Remember to be considerate to pedestrians, especially in areas of shared use; they have priority on shared paths. Use your bell if necessary.
- Road rules apply to cycles too - do not ride on pavements (unless blue signs indicate that it is allowed) and always ride the correct way up one-way streets etc.
- Remember that weather conditions can change quickly, and especially in the Fens. The nature of some of the roads, which are very straight and open and often run alongside deep open dykes, means that windy conditions for example, can make for hazardous walking or cycling, so please be mindful of this before venturing out.
- Please remember to check the forecast and allow sufficient time if walking any distance, to return in the event of changing weather.
- Also, due to the peaty nature of the ground in the Fens, ground conditions can often be heavy, even after only a little rain, and so appropriate footwear is essential.
- Please take care when using roads to walk on and be especially careful when crossing sections of the busy main roads around Chatteris.

Know your signs

 **No Entry** signs always apply to cyclists too ...

 ...unless there is an exception shown underneath, or ...

 ... you can bypass No Entry signs if there is a gap alongside with this **route for cyclists** sign.

 **No cycling**
Typically used on a footpath away from a road. You can still wheel your bike.

 **No motor vehicles**
A cycle is not a motor vehicle. Cyclists are allowed to pass these signs where motorists cannot.

 **Shared route for cyclists and pedestrians together**
The only time cyclists are allowed to ride on a pavement alongside a road is where you see this sign...

 ... or this one indicating a **segregated route**, where you must keep to the side designated for cyclists.

Places to visit

Chatteris Parish Church – The Church of St Peter & St Paul (map square C4)

The Parish Church is Chatteris' old Grade I listed building. Bishop Nigel of Ely gave the church to the Chatteris nuns in 1162. In the 14th century, a stipend paid for a parish priest. The church was destroyed by fire shortly after this award but was rebuilt in 1352. The oldest parts of the church date back to this time, and the church also saw renovation and alteration in 1910. The church tower houses a clock (which chimes on the quarter-chimes and on the hour) and also the church bells and there is an active community of campanologists who ring the bells on Sundays, at practise sessions, and for special occasions.



Chatteris Parish Church – St Peter & St Paul

Chatteris Museum (map square C5)

A local gem of a museum housing collections relative to Chatteris from The Stone Age, Bronze Age, Iron Age, Roman Times and right through to World War II. A new project working specifically on Chatteris in the 1920's era is being undertaken. A run of cabinets displays a collection of items from each era depicting the development of the town through the times. The "Quirks and Curiosities Trail" is also available from the museum – a short local walk highlighting some of the otherwise hidden and unusual features in Chatteris.

Check the website for opening times: www.chatterismuseum.wordpress.com
 The museum is free of charge to visit, but donations are welcome. Car parking is available nearby and the museum is accessible. More information of the town's history can be found at: www.chatteris.ccan.co.uk

The Museum of Armed Policing (map square C5)

This unique museum (one of a kind in the UK) charts the history of Armed Policing through the ages.



Some of the exhibits within The Museum of Armed Policing
 The curator (a retired police officer) guides visitors around the exhibits, dating back from the 1600's to the latest present day events. Tours culminate in participation in an electronic judgement range where visitors are faced with the split-second decisions encountered by armed officers on a daily basis.

The museum is open by pre-booked visit only, so please check the website for opening times and tour bookings.
www.pfoa.co.uk/about-us/museum-of-armed-policing

Chatteris Leisure Centre (map square C6)

Offering a host of equipment, facilities and activities to suit all abilities as well as for health referral programmes.

A well-equipped gym with the latest equipment and fully-qualified



Chatteris Leisure Centre
 fitness instructors to guide you through, plus a full and varied programme of fitness classes for all abilities. Check the website for membership details and programmes.
www.freedom-leisure.co.uk/centres/chatteris-leisure-centre/

Little Acre Fen Pocket Park (map square A7)

A lovely green space located just outside of the town and offering a peaceful haven for those wishing to sit on one of the benches and enjoy the local wildlife and peace or simply watch and wait for one of the stunning Fenland sunsets. A collection of fruit trees and shrubs are housed in the park, along with a wet and dry pond and benches for picnicking on.



Family activities can be enjoyed in the park. In the background, the Fen Tiger Statue which was created by apprentices at Stainless Metalcraft

For a gentle stroll, a circular walk of an easy 1.4 miles is possible incorporating the Pocket Park and the Old Railway Line footpath. A good starting point is the Huntingdon Road end of the footpath where there is a small car park and the return leg is via West Street.

www.facebook.com/people/Friends-of-Little-Acre-Fen-Pocket-Park/100067441736085/

For more suggestions of local walking and cycling routes as well as things to see and do, please visit:
www.visitcambridgeshirefens.org/town-walks

Social walking group

For details of local social groups offering planned walks and trips etc, visit Chatteris u3a:
u3asites.org.uk/chatteris/welcome



u3a group walk Little Acre Fen Pocket Park