

Wisbech and neighbouring villages

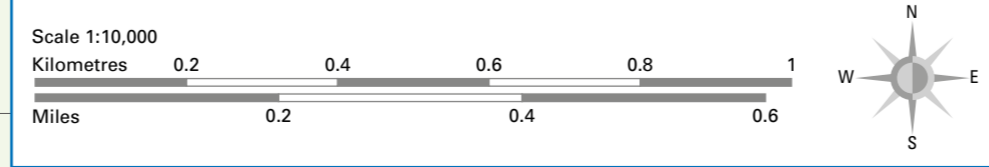
- National Cycle Network route
- Traffic-free / On-road
- National Cycle Network route number
- Busy road
- Suggested local routes
- Take care
- Traffic-free / On-road / Busy road
- Pedestrian streets / Footpaths
- No cycling. Useful walk your bike links
- Busy junction. Take care
- Light controlled crossing
- Cycle parking
- Cycle lockers (new cycle lockers are planned for Spring 2023)
- Cycle shop (F5, D8 and inset)
- Clarkson Memorial (F5 and inset)
- Museums and attractions
- Community centres
- Theatre (F5 and inset)
- Cinema (F5, D7 and inset)
- Hospital (F5 and inset)
- Library (F5 and inset)
- Post office
- Church
- Toilets
- Supermarket
- Bus station (F5 and inset)
- One way street
- School / College
- Market Square closed to traffic daily between 7:00am-4:00pm. Controlled access (via a barrier) for delivery vehicles between 7:00am and 10:00am. Cycling permitted
- Parks, pitches and green spaces
- Industrial areas
- Urban areas
- Shopping areas
- Car parks

Please check Wisbech Town Council website for latest information - www.wisbechtowncouncil.gov.uk/public-toilets

Wisbech town centre



Scale 1:5,000
Metres 50 100 150
Yards 55 110 165



Cycle parking

Wisbech has lots of cycle parking facilities, located at various points across the town and these can be seen as marked on the map. Sadly, cycle theft is common. Always lock your bike to a fixed object, with a good lock, even for the briefest of stops.

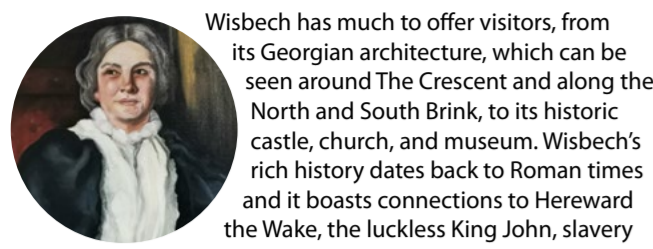
Cycle shops

Discount Cycles (F5)
115 Norfolk Street, Wisbech, PE13 2LD.
Telephone: 01945 474635

Halfords (D8)
Unit D, Cromwell Road, Wisbech, PE14 0SL.
Telephone: 01945 580756

Wisbech, known as "The Capital of the Fens", is a thriving market town with great historical importance and character. It is located 25 miles to the north-east of Peterborough and is a parish in the district of Fenland in Cambridgeshire.

Wisbech is an inland port with the tidal River Nene running through its centre and it has, within close proximity of the town, county boundaries with both Norfolk and Lincolnshire.



Octavia Hill was much to offer visitors, from its Georgian architecture, which can be seen around The Crescent and along the North and South Brink, to its historic castle, church, and museum. Wisbech's rich history dates back to Roman times and it boasts connections to Hereward the Wake, the luckless King John, slavery abolitionist Thomas Clarkson, and, as well as, in more recent years, Octavia Hill, pioneer of social housing and founder of the National Trust (her birthplace, on the South Brink, is open to visitors).

Landowners in Wisbech grew wealthy when the Fens were drained for the final time during the 1820's. They built rows of houses along the banks of the River Nene facing each other across the water - North Brink and South Brink.

Tourist attractions

Church of St Peter and St Paul (F5 and inset)

Cycle parking available opposite.

St Peter and St Paul is set in the heart of Wisbech. People have worshipped here since the 12th Century. A Norman stone castle was built to replace the original wooden building and its unique double nave under one roof and clerestory windows fill the church with light and reflect the wealth and power of the medieval guilds who built it.



On 17th July 1951, the church became the first Grade 1 Listed building in Wisbech. The church boasts beautiful gardens which are a feast for the eye across the seasons.

Clarkson Memorial (F5 and inset)

This Gothic Tower, built in 1881 by Sir George Gilbert Scott, stands tall in the centre of town and commemorates the remarkable life of Thomas Clarkson (1760 - 1846) who dedicated his whole life to the anti-slavery cause. Clarkson travelled the world, raised hundreds of petitions, and promoted the trade in African goods rather than slaves.

Elgoods Brewery, Gardens and Visitor Centre (D6) Elgoods is a traditional family-run brewery. Founded in 1795, it was one of the first Georgian breweries outside of London - if you are looking for an example of how traditional English beer is made, then a visit here is a must!

www.elgoods-brewery.co.uk

Octavia Hill Birthplace (E5 and inset)

The house celebrates the life of a most extraordinary woman. Born in Wisbech in 1838, Octavia Hill dedicated her life to helping London's poorest people by pioneering the social housing system. She used her love of the life enhancing virtues of "pure earth, clean air and blue sky" to campaign, save green spaces and open landscapes. Her tireless work led to her lasting legacy, the formation of the National Trust which continues to protect property and landscapes.

www.octaviahill.org

Wisbech General Cemetery (E4)

Three acres of spectacular and atmospheric Victorian cemetery are located in the heart of the town and are available for visitors to walk around during daylight hours. Special events happen throughout the year - check the website for details.

www.wisbechgeneralcemetery.org

Wisbech Park (F4 and inset)

Over 11 acres of large open green fields and mature woodland areas to enjoy. Recently, the park has welcomed a new "SplashPad" wet play area for youngsters to enjoy too. The park is home to the Richard Young Memorial Column (Grade II listed, 1872) and Wisbech Bandstand (Grade II listed, 1908) which hosts a programme of outdoor summer concerts as well as other regular events, including Park Run.

www.wisbechpark.co.uk



Wisbech General Cemetery

Peckover House and Gardens (E5 and inset)

Cycle parking available on the south west corner of Town Bridge.



Peckover House

The house is open for pre-booked tours only and the gardens open freely to visitors during opening hours, check website for opening times. Tea room, second-hand bookshop and plant sales are also open during selected times.

www.nationaltrust.org.uk/peckover

Wisbech and Fenland Museum (F5 and inset)

Cycle parking available in The Square.

The museum opened in 1847 and continues to collect, care for and interpret the natural and cultural heritage of Wisbech and the surrounding Fens. The museum houses collections of natural sciences and local flora and fauna plus a substantial archive including local parish registers, local government records and maps etc. In 1868, the museum was bequeathed the original manuscript of Charles Dickens' Great Expectations and, more recently, it has become home to a collection showcasing 100 years of Wisbech Town Football Club.

www.wisbechmuseum.org.uk

Wisbech Castle (F5 and inset)

Cycle parking available in The Square.

The Castle is a Grade II listed Regency villa on the site of a former Norman villa, a Bishop's Palace and a mansion built for Cromwell's Secretary of State, John Thurloe. After a period of decline, the Castle was reborn and is today managed by Wisbech Town Council and local volunteers who open it for special events and for private hires including wedding ceremonies. Public visits are available by appointment only, check website for details. The gardens and a cafe are also open on selected days throughout the year and details can also be found on the website.

www.wisbechcastle.org

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, Wisbech and the surrounding villages can also provide walkers and cyclists with easily enjoyable "off-route" trails.

Cycling 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 on one-way streets etc.

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.



Direction sign showing National Cycle Network route.



www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/cycling

Leisure routes around Wisbech



Index to streets and places on main map overlay

Table listing street names and their corresponding map grid coordinates (e.g., 1st Avenue G5, 2nd Avenue G5, etc.)

A GUIDE TO WALKING & CYCLING AROUND WISBECH

Useful information and numbers

- Highway Maintenance Report photos, overhanging vegetation, winter gritting etc. www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/travel-roads-and-parking/roads-and-paths/roads-roads-and-paths/roadworks-and-faults
Cambridgeshire County Council Fault Reporting (paths and roads) www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/travel-roads-and-paths/roads-roads-and-paths/roads-roads-and-paths/roadworks-and-faults
Cambridgeshire County Council Cycling Information www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/travel-roads-and-parking/cycling
Wisbech Policing Team 101 (non-urgent) www.cambps.police.uk
Sustrans East of England 01733 319 981 eastofengland@sustrans.org.uk www.sustrans.org.uk
Fenland Tourism www.visitcambridgeshirefens.org
Wisbech Information Centre 7 York Row Wisbech PE13 1EB 01945 232456 opens Monday to Friday 10am-1pm
Wisbech Library www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/directory/listings/wisbech-library Ely Place Wisbech PE13 1EU

Produced by Cambridgeshire County Council in partnership with Fenland District Council November 2022

National Cycle Network Routes

The National Cycle Network is made up of more than 12,000 miles of traffic-free walking and cycling paths, quiet lanes and on-road cycling routes that are often a great way to get to work, school, the shops or just for exercise and fun.

The Network is available to everyone and passes within a mile of over 55% of the population.

Founded by Sustrans, the sustainable transport charity, the network itself only owns around 2% of the network; the rest is owned by private landowners and is cared for by local volunteers and Sustrans staff who help to maintain, develop, and create new and existing routes.

Wisbech is easily accessible from the National Cycle Network's Route 1 which weaves its way from Dover to the Highlands of Scotland) and Route 63 which weaves its way to Wisbech from Burton-on-Trent.

Routes 11, 12 and 51 also pass-through Cambridgeshire. For more details visit www.sustrans.org.uk

Cycle training

The County Council recommends Bikeability, a cycle training scheme (for all ages) designed to increase confidence and cycling skills, as well as improving your health!

Check the website for details: www.bikeability.org.uk

Wisbech Wheelers

An all-inclusive cycling club welcoming all abilities (including under 14's if accompanied by an adult). This local group are active, social and competitive cyclists.

For more information, visit their Facebook Page: Wisbech Wheelers Cycling Club.