



Merton Cycle Quest is a 17 mile circular leisure route, designed to give a purpose to your cycling. It tours a London borough rich with history and deceptively rural in places. The Quest challenges you to visit 10 places of interest and answer a question to prove you were there. It is neither a treasure hunt nor a race. The ride can easily be done in a day by fit cyclists or over a couple of days for the casual rider or families. There are plenty of stations along the way to help break your journey, although it should be noted that you cannot currently take your bike on the Tramlink. The ride is designed to be ridden in two clockwise loops from Wimbledon station but feel free to start wherever you like. The map isn't to scale so it is strongly recommended you obtain the free London Cycle Guide map No 14 from the web address given overleaf. Once you have visited all 10 Quest Points, write your answers on this leaflet or on a plain piece of paper and post together with your name and address to Crodon Cycle Quest, New Horizon Centre, South Lodge Avenue, Mitcham CR4 1LT. Entries received before 30th June 2007 will be entered into a prize draw.

The Ride Explained



- 1 **Wimbledon Park** - Find Heritage Trail board No 9. Who landscaped the area in 1765?
- 2 **Buddhist Temple** - What colour are the two deers on the wall outside?
- 3 **Wimbledon Windmill** - Which famous book was written in the Mill House?
- 4 **Cannizaro Park Fountain** - Who commissioned the fountain?
- 5 **Former house of John Innes** - According to the blue plaque, what was the former name of the building that is now Rutlish School?
- 6 **The Canons** - How many former Saxon farms comprise the Canon's estate? The answer is on the plaque.
- 7 **Merton Abbey Mills** - Find the millstone near the bridge. In what year was it discovered?
- 8 **Deen City Farm** - What reason is given for closing the gate?
- 9 **Mitcham Windmill** - Who was the first miller to erect a windmill on the common?
- 10 **Cannizaro House**

The 10 Quest Points

What To Expect

The Cycle Quest route explores the London Borough of Merton using the quietest roads available and several stretches of traffic-free cycling through parks or alongside the river Wandle. There's an option to visit the attractive Mitcham Common but cycling is currently prohibited, so you'll need to walk your bike.

Most of the route is flat. The only hills to be found are around the Wimbledon Park area but they are short and can be walked up for those who don't fancy riding. Take your time and enjoy your ride. Explore the Quest Points at your leisure and perhaps take lunch at the halfway point. On the way, you'll encounter two windmills on two commons, the Wandle Trail which stretches from Carshalton to the Thames at Wandsworth, the rich history of Merton Abbey Mills which now hosts a busy craft market at weekends, the nearby Chapter House ruins underneath Merantum Way and an amazing Buddhist temple hidden away in a suburban road.

Listen out for the Sound Memory post on the Wandle Trail just north of Choucer Way. As you cycle past, it plays a sound associated with the area such as the roar of the Wimbledon crowd at the old Plough Lane football stadium or the panting of a steam train as it pulls out of the station.

Whether you choose to ride all or part of the route, have fun, enjoy your surroundings and happy pedalling!

Getting There



Merton is in South London. Wimbledon is well served by trains from all over the south of England. Cars can be parked at Wimbledon Common or Merton Abbey Mills.

Useful Contacts

- Pollards Hill Cyclists www.pollardshillcyclists.org.uk
- Sustrans (National Cycle Network) www.sustrans.org
- Cyclists Touring Club www.ctc.org.uk
- London Cycle Maps www.tfl.gov.uk/cycles/routes



www.mertoncyclequest.co.uk