

# A Scenic Shrewsbury Ride

Starting in Shrewsbury, sections 1 to 4 are along traffic free and very quiet roads, but do run alongside deep water. *Please take care, particularly with young children.* The whole ride is 20 miles long. If you prefer a shorter trip; the section from the Quarry Park to Uffington is 10 miles return.



## Start here:

- 1 Shrewsbury Quarry Park.** Follow the cycle track from the Porthill footbridge keeping the River Severn on your right until you reach the weir (follow signs for National Cycle Route 81)



**The River Severn** is 220 miles long, making it the longest river in Britain. Kingfishers and Otters have been spotted living in the river banks.

- 2** Continue along Sydney Avenue around the left bend and then turn right into Darville. Pass through the housing estate.
- 3** At the Millers Green T-junction, turn right. At the end of this road, pass between 2 houses rejoining the cycle track. Continue through the underpass, bear right to follow the old canal.

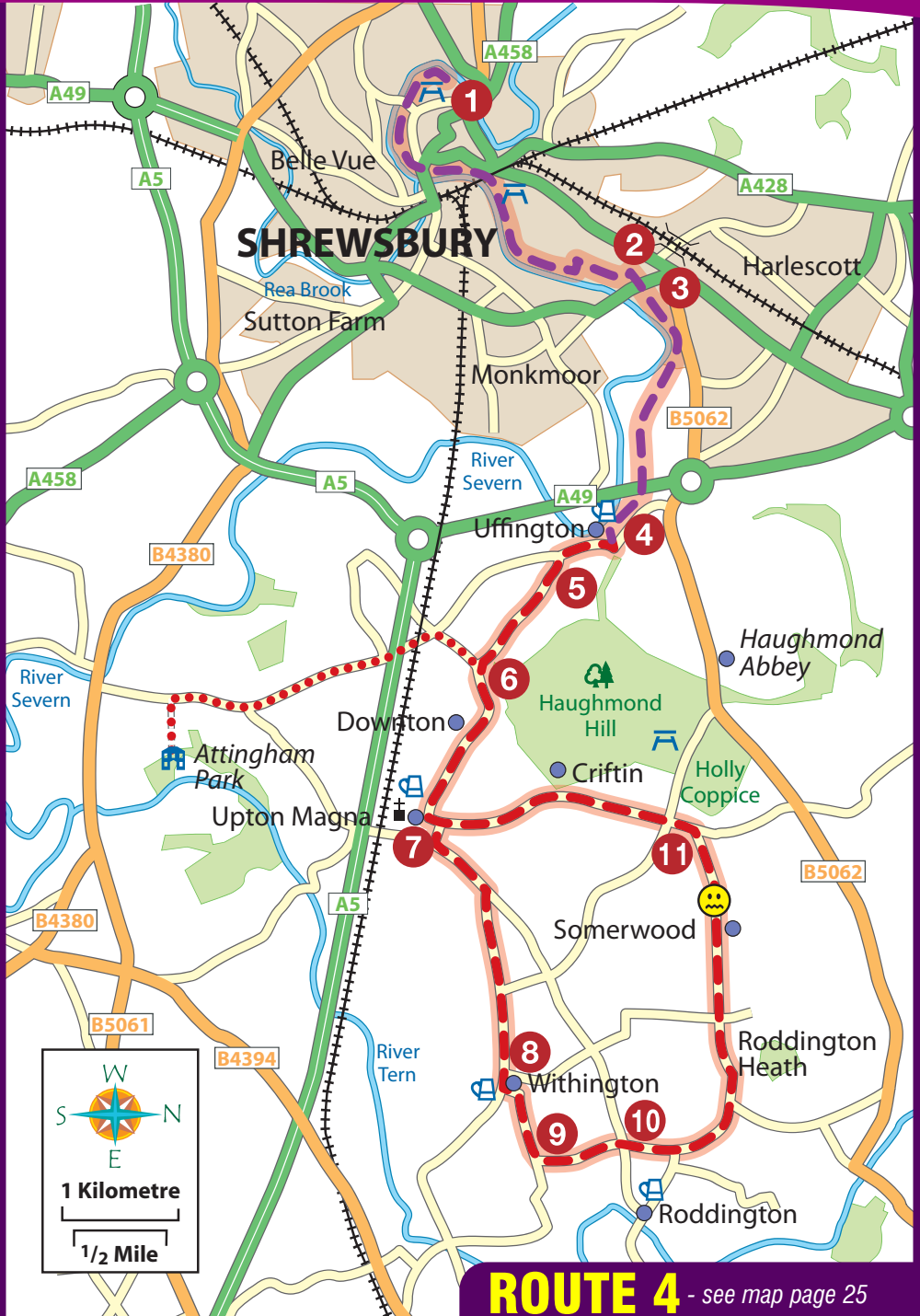
**The Shrewsbury Canal** was built from 1792 to 1796 by Thomas Telford. The canal had the world's first iron aqueduct and lock gates that opened upwards instead of outwards. The canal closed in 1921.

- 4** At **Uffington**, turn right and continue through the village.
- 5** Take the left turn (signposted Upton Magna) and continue to the next T-junction



To leave the route and visit **Attingham Park**, turn right at this junction, then left at the next T-junction. Follow the road down through **Berwick Wharf**, turning left into the grounds (take care, this road can be busy). There is cycle parking in the main visitor car park. The House has baby-changing facilities and tea rooms with highchairs. The park has a play area for children. Free entry to house and grounds for those arriving by cycle. For more details visit [www.nationaltrust.org.uk](http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk) or telephone **01743 708123**.

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**ROUTE 4** - see map page 25

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- 6 Continue through **Downton** to **Upton Magna**. Follow the flow of the road (follow signs for Route 81) through Upton Magna.
- 7 Turn left at the T-Junction, signposted Wellington (the Corbet Arms is directly in front of you). Continue to Withington following the S bend through the village.

- 8 There are good views of **The Wrekin** as you exit the village. (Stop following signs for Cycle Route 81 at this point).

A Welsh Giant, bearing a grudge against Shrewsbury, set out with a spadeful of earth to dam the Severn and drown the town. He got lost and asked a cobbler near Wellington for directions. The clever cobbler showed his bag full of shoes. "I've worn out all these shoes travelling from Shrewsbury, it's so far away." In despair, the Giant dumped his spade of earth, then scraped his boots. The pile of earth became the Wrekin and the boot scrapings became the Ercall.



- 9 Take the left turn at the crossroads by the white farmhouse signed Rodington, Roden.
- 10 The road eventually forks left to Rodington Heath and then climbs to Somerwood.
- 11 At the main crossroads take the left turn towards Crifftin and Upton Magna. On entering Upton Magna there are tea rooms and an off-licence on the left. Continue out of the village. Follow signs for Route 81 to Shrewsbury.
- 12 At the T-Junction, turn right towards Uffington, passing the pub (also called the Corbet Arms).
- 4 At the next sharp left bend, leave the road and turn left onto the cycle track. Continue along the old canal, past Pimley Manor. Just before the main road, go left, through the underpass 3, then follow the path left, then right into the track between 2 houses and quiet roads.



- 2 Turn left onto Millers Green, take the next left onto Darville. At the T-junction, turn left onto Sydney Avenue. Follow Sydney Avenue around to the Weir, then rejoin the riverside path back to the Quarry.