

# STAGE 7: HARROGATE TO RIPLEY



### KEY

- Slow Tour route
- On-road / Traffic-free
- National Cycle Network
- On-road / Traffic-free
- National Cycle Network route number
- Café / Toilets
- Supermarket / Shop
- Historic attraction
- Railway with station
- Access point
- Cycle hire / Cycle parking
- Take care here
- Portrait bench / Picnic spot
- Bus stop

## ENJOY THE SLOW TOUR ON THE NATIONAL CYCLE NETWORK!

The Slow Tour is a guide to 21 of the best cycle routes in Yorkshire. It's been inspired by the Tour de France Grand Depart in Yorkshire in 2014 and funded by the Public Health Team in North Yorkshire County Council. All routes form part of the National Cycle Network - more than 14,000 miles of traffic-free paths, quiet lanes and on-road walking and cycling routes across the UK.

**This route is part of National Route 67, so just follow the signs!**

## TAKE CARE!

- 1 Crossing busy Bower Road into Asda and going through the car park to the start of the greenway.
- 2 Share the path. Give way to pedestrians and wheelchair users.
- 3 Take care with small children crossing the narrow cattle grid by the A61 toucan crossing, and the steep descent from it to the edge of the road on the way back.
- 4 Take care with the short steep descent after the A61 on the way back to the riverside towards Harrogate.

## TAKE A BREAK!

- 1 Wide selection of cafés, bars and restaurants in Harrogate, including the legendary Bettys
- 2 The Gardener's Arms on Bilton Lane
- 3 Ripley has a variety of cafés and pubs including Ripley Castle Tearoom, The Boar's Head and World Famous Ripley Ice Cream Shop

## BIKE HIRE

Big Red Bike Shop in Harrogate, a few minutes' walk from the station.  
[www.bigredbike.co.uk](http://www.bigredbike.co.uk)

Bike & Go at Harrogate station  
[www.bikeandgo.co.uk](http://www.bikeandgo.co.uk)

## THINGS TO SEE AND DO

**Harrogate**  
 A stylish Spa town with cafés, boutiques, Turkish Baths and parks. Check out The Stray, 200 acres of open grassland, a short cycle ride from the station signposted on National Route 67.  
[www.visitharrogate.co.uk](http://www.visitharrogate.co.uk)

**Nidd Viaduct and Gorge**  
 The Nidd viaduct was built in 1848 as part of the abandoned railway line which ran to Ripon and Pateley Bridge. Ancient broadleaf woodland covers the steep cliffs and slopes of the gorge which it spans is home more than 80 species of bird and 30 different kinds of mammals, reptiles and amphibians.

**Sculptures**  
 Check out the Portrait Bench shortly after Bilton Lane, and the stone sculpture near Ripley that was created for the Grand Depart of the 2014 Tour de France.

**Ripley Castle and Village**  
 A Grade I listed 14th-century country house in historic village setting owned and occupied by the Ingilby family for over 700 years. Gardens, deer-park, guided tours and plenty of cycle parking.  
[www.ripleycastle.co.uk](http://www.ripleycastle.co.uk)



# HARROGATE TO RIPLEY

**Harrogate to Ripley** Return 10 miles, about 2 hours

This lovely ride takes you from the stylish spa town of Harrogate with its cafés, boutiques, turkish baths and parks, along the Nidderdale Greenway to Ripley. The route follows an old railway line over a dramatic viaduct, then along the Greenway to finish at the charming village of Ripley with its 14<sup>th</sup> century Castle and famous ice cream shop. Flat and almost entirely traffic-free, it's perfect for families and those new to cycling!

- Exit Harrogate Station adjacent to the multi-storey car park, and follow National Route 67 signs for the Nidderdale Greenway to Ripley. The first short (10 minute) part of the route is on-road using cycle lanes until you pick up the start of the traffic-free path at the far side of Asda's Car Park.
- Keep following the blue 67 signs to Ripley, to the start of the Nidderdale Greenway.
- Pause at the Portrait Bench depicting local cycling campaigners, then at the Nidd Gorge Viaduct and its seven arches. Admire the spectacular views of the River Nidd valley.
- Continue along the Greenway to Ripley, passing by wooded riverside and across open country with lovely views.
- Emerge from the Greenway near Ripley, cross the main A61 road at the toucan crossing and continue along the path into Ripley village centre where there's plenty of cycle parking.
- Retrace the route back to Harrogate, or carry on down the Greenway through Holly Bank Woods to Fountains Abbey and Ripon.



CYCLING THE GREENWAY



STAGE 7

## Harrogate to Ripley

**SLOW TOUR**   
**OF YORKSHIRE**  
ON THE NATIONAL CYCLE NETWORK



ENJOY A GREAT  
CYCLING DAY OUT...  
AT YOUR OWN PACE!

**The Slow Tour is a guide to 21 of the best cycle routes across Yorkshire on the National Cycle Network.**

The routes have something for everyone, whether you are a family, new to cycling or a regular cyclist. You can take public transport to the start of most routes and hire bikes there too.

**Tourist attractions ● heritage sites  
cafés and pubs ● picnic spots ● canals  
museums ● playgrounds ● artwork  
and more!**

**If you like this route, try out the other 20!**

Download your free maps at  
[WWW.SUSTRANS.ORG.UK/SLOWTOUROFYORKSHIRE](http://WWW.SUSTRANS.ORG.UK/SLOWTOUROFYORKSHIRE)



**Harrogate to Ripley is part of  
the National Cycle Network**



Photography: Cover Ripley Castle  
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