

# Tees Valley Map 1

# Walking & cycling in **Darlington**







Let's Go Tees Valley

Let's Go Tees Valley wants to get people out of cars and into life. We work with Darlington Borough Council to encourage more people to walk, cycle, car share and use public transport.

Our travel advisors help people travel greener, healthier and cheaper wherever they are going.

We'd like you to try walking, cycling, travelling by bus and train or car sharing more often. Together we can be healthier, happier, live in a cleaner and quieter town, and save money.

Visit our website www.letsgoteesvalley.co.uk for information on ways to travel, tips, local walking maps, cycling routes and resources.



Darlington cycle routes

# Choosing to cycle as an alternative to driving is a great way to keep fit and help the environment.

It is however important to be aware of basic road safety to keep you and other road users safe.

Cycling safely in Darlington

#### You SHOULD You MUST ✔ Protect yourself. Wear a cycle helmet ✔ At night your bike MUST have a

- to protect your head from injury.
- ✓ Help yourself be seen. Wear light coloured or fluorescent clothing during the day or poor light and reflective clothes and accessories in the dark.
- ✓ Use cycle routes, advanced stop lines, toucan crossings and cycle lanes as these can make your journey safer. It is however not compulsory.
- ✓ Where cyclists and pedestrians share the same space, on an unsegregated cycle track, take care when passing pedestrians.
- ✓ Be careful overtaking buses or other long vehicles and on leaving a bus lane as you will be entering a busier flow of traffic.
- ✓ Think ahead and look out for obstructions. Anticipate what other road users and pedestrians might do.
- ✓ Show drivers what you plan to do. Always look and signal before you move away, stop or turn, taking
- extra care on dual carriageway. ✓ Show consideration when riding or parking your bike.

white front and red rear light, lit. It must also be fitted with a red rear reflector and amber pedal reflectors if manufactured after October 1985.

✓ Keep to the cycle side of a segregated pedestrian / cycle track. ✓ Obey all traffic signs and traffic light signals, including the green lights at toucan and cycle-only crossings.

#### You MUST NOT X Cycle on the pavement. This

- includes pedestrian only areas in our town centre. ✗ Pass between the kerb and a bus or
- long vehicle when it is at a stop. 🗶 Carry a passenger unless your bike
- is built or is adapted to take one. ✗ Hold onto a moving vehicle or
- trailer 🗶 Ride in a dangerous, careless or
- inconsiderate manner. ★ Ride when under the influence of
- drink or drugs including medicine. ★ Ride across equestrian, puffin or

# Walking & cycling in Tees Valley



This map covers the Darlington area and includes cycle routes and Public Rights of Way. You can find downloadable walking and cycling routes in Darlington and links to walks across Tees Valley on our website www.letsgoteesvalley.co.uk. Walking and cycling are both greener, healthier and cheaper ways to

travel locally. If you are going somewhere further afield or want to reach a particular

walking route you can plan your car free journey using the Connect Tees Valley journey planner www.connectteesvalley.co.uk or via our website.







Blackwell

# **Cycling tips**

Locking your bike To make your bike as secure as possible, follow the tips below: • Always use a lock and make sure it is tightly fastened and not hanging

centre.

- zebra crossings.

# Training & advice



Darlington Borough Council offers free Bikeability training for adults through its Road Safety Team. You can arrange up to four one-to-one sessions with a qualified instructor to help you improve your confidence and skills on the road. Call 01325 40 66 96 for more information.

If you're new to cycling or want to take part in gentle, organised local rides please check our website **www.letsgoteesvalley.co.uk** or contact us on 01325 40 50 40.

• Use cycle parking. There are over 100 cycle parking spaces in the town

• Do not lock your bike where it will cause an obstruction. • Remember to secure your bike at home too; most theft takes place from the home.

# **Basic maintenance checklist**

• **Daily** – Check lights and reflectors are still working and bright and brakes are still efficient.

• Weekly – Check tyres are inflated to the pressure shown on the rim of the tyre and the chain is properly adjusted and lubricated.

• Monthly – Check gears are working correctly.

• **Six-monthly** – Check that you can rock the front of the bike by the handlebars with the front brake on without movement of the headset (the bolt your handlebar slots into).



There are a number of cycle routes in and around Darlington that you may use.



Each radial route is named after the area of Darlington it starts in and provides links to the Town Centre. West Park Cycle Route Mowden Cycle Route Hummersknott Cycle Route **Blackwell Cycle Route** Haughton Cycle Route Morton Park Cycle Route Harrowgate Hill Cycle Route Each route has a colour associated

with it which can be seen on the signs opposite. Individual route cards are available covering each of the routes and give more information. The radial routes use off road cycle paths or quiet residential streets.

### **Circular Route**

21 mins 3 mins

Morton Park Route 6 mins

The circular route connects each of the radial routes and also provides a route around Darlington. The route is ideal for leisure rides but also connects to other useful places such as workplaces and schools.



# Where can I cycle in the town centre?



Whilst in the town centre, cyclists should be considerate to others and be aware of the traffic.

Cycling is allowed at all times in the traffic-free areas (coloured green on the map) and on traffic-free cycle paths.

Cycling is not permitted in the Wynds or Yards as they are too narrow. Do not cycle on pavements.

Access to Darlington's town centre for delivery vehicles is permitted before 10am and after 5pm Monday to Saturday, and before 10.30am and after 5pm on Sundays.

# Bondgate

and leave the town centre at the just past the entrance to Abbotts Yard car park. Enter via the cycle route to the side of the No Entry sign.

# Northgate

Cyclists should cycle on the road from Northgate roundabout into the town centre following the one allows cyclists to cycle against the flow of traffic. Cyclists should enter junction with Crown Street and exit this area using the cycle bypass.

# Priestgate

Cyclists can travel along all of Priestgate but should follow the one way system from Crown Street into the town centre. Cyclists can then continue on road along Prebend Row bollard to Skinnergate is a one-way and Tubwell Row or join the pedestrianised area, with care, near Joseph Pease statue. This one-way route is predominantly used by buses and taxis.

# Cycle both ways on the road. Enter entrance to the pedestrianised area,

way system. A contraflow cycle lane the pedestrianised area, just past the

#### **Crown Street**

Cyclists can travel both ways on road along Crown Street between Tubwell Row and East Street. At the roundabout junction with East Street cyclists can turn right and join the cycle route alongside the ring road. Cyclists must not turn left at this roundabout. This is clearly marked with a No Entry sign. Cyclists can

enter Crown Street from Northgate following the one-way route.

## Blackwellgate

Cyclists can travel in both directions to enter the town centre. Traffic can travel from the Skinnergate junction towards High Row before 10am and after 5pm.

### **Duke Street**

Cycle both ways on the road. Enter and leave the town centre at the bollard on Duke Street. From the route for traffic with a contraflow for cyclists.

#### Skinnergate

Skinnergate is one-way for all traffic including cyclists between Duke Street and Bondgate. From Duke Street to Blackwellgate, Skinnergate is one-way for traffic with a contraflow for cyclists.

# The code of conduct for cyclists

#### When cycling through Darlington town centre:

- 1. Have consideration for pedestrians cycle slowly and dismount if there are a lot of pedestrians. Cyclists should be aware that not all people will be able to hear or see them and they should give all pedestrians appropriate room to move around.
- 2. Park bikes at the designated cycle parking stands, not against railings, lighting columns, or other street furniture – there are over 100 spaces in the town centre. Do not leave bikes lying on the ground as they can cause people to trip.
- **3.** Do not cycle on the ramps or steps either push your bike or use another route.
- 4. Do not cycle on pavements. Where there is a pavement outside of the pedestrianised area either push your bike or cycle on the road.
- **5.** Cycle on roads with care and with awareness of other traffic and consideration for other road users, in particular pedestrians.
- **6.** Cyclists must dismount at No Entry signs unless a cycle bypass has been provided. Cycle bypasses are at the entrances to the town centre at Blackwellgate, Bondgate and Northgate outside Boots.
- 7. The one-way system that the buses use in the town centre can also be used by cyclists. You must cycle in the direction of traffic except on the section of Northgate outside Boots to the roundabout where a contraflow cycle lane is located. This allows cyclists to travel in the opposite direction to the other traffic.
- **8.** Cyclists should not cycle directly in front of shop doorways as this could increase risk of injury to the cyclist and pedestrians.

If you would like to report an incident regarding cycling that has occurred in the town centre or cycling on pavements please email info@ letsgoteesvalley.co.uk or call 01325 40 50 40. If you have an incident to report please include details of date, time, location and nature of the incident so that information can be verified using CCTV footage.