

Learn a Route! Otmoor Loop

Route: www.strava.com/routes/5044401

Distance: 28 miles

Elevation: 726 ft



How to prevent getting lost

- Get your bearings – know which direction is north/south/east/west
- Google street view the route in advance
- Do the route one weekend with a friend when there are no time pressures
- Practice makes perfect, do it more than once!

What to do if you get lost

- Don't panic. On a short ride like this you are never that far away from home
- Let the rest of the group know that you're not sure where you are. Chances are that others in the group do know and can help
- If you have a smart phone, get Google maps up and pin point your location
- Retrace your steps if you think you missed a very recent turn
- Or keep going until the next road sign and work it out from there
- Call a friend/taxi to come rescue you!

Key Turns outside the Oxford ring road



Stop and decide



Means you will be forced to stop (e.g. a T junction) so you have time to look and decide



On the fly



Means some other road layout where you could ride by the junction if you were not paying attention or take a wrong turn (e.g. left turn)



Turn	Name	Type	Direction	Google Street View
1	Woodeaton turn	On the fly	Left	 <p>This comes straight after you come over the ring road. If you miss this you will end up on Elsfield hill!</p>

Turn	Name	Type	Direction	Google Street View
2	B4027 to Islip	Stop and decide	Left	 <p data-bbox="884 699 1966 730">Follow the sign left to Islip. We go through there both on the way out and on the way back.</p>
3	Islip Bridge	On the fly	Right	 <p data-bbox="884 1225 1279 1257">Go over the bridge and turn right</p>

Turn	Name	Type	Direction	Google Street View
4	Out of Islip	Stop and decide	Right	 <p data-bbox="882 659 1805 691">Right again to get out into the open and a very long straight up to Ambrosden</p>
5	Ambrosden	Stop and Decide	Right	 <p data-bbox="882 1117 1995 1182">You are now at the furthest point away from home, and need to make a couple of turns to do the loop</p>

Turn	Name	Type	Direction	Google Street View
6	Mini Roundabout	On the fly	Right	 <p>Right at the mini roundabout. Look out for the aeroplane!</p>
7	Fencott Road	Stop and Decide	Right	 <p>The sign pointing left says Oxford but we don't want that one. It takes you up Panshill, a rather cheeky little climb. Instead turn right towards Charlton-on-Otmoor (Otmoor loop, remember?!)</p>

Turn	Name	Type	Direction	Google Street View
8	Oddington cut through	On the fly	Left	 <p data-bbox="878 616 1998 683">Turn left at the graveyard. If you miss it, don't worry you can carry on and take the next left to bring you back onto the same road</p>
9	Back to Islip	Stop and decide	Left	 <p data-bbox="878 1114 1281 1145">Follow the road left round to Islip</p>

Turn	Name	Type	Direction	Google Street View
10	Islip	On the fly	Left	 <p data-bbox="882 662 1346 699">Back through our little Islip cut through</p>
11	Islip Bridge	Stop and decide	Left	 <p data-bbox="882 1134 1514 1171">Left over the bridge and the longish climb up to Noke</p>

Turn	Name	Type	Direction	Google Street View
12	Woodeaton turn	On the fly	Right	 <p data-bbox="882 574 1814 606">Important: this next turn is at the bottom of a descent and can be dangerous.</p> <p data-bbox="882 646 2004 710">Pro tip – before you descend to this turn, stop near the junction where you see the Noke sign - remind everyone to take it easy. You will need to regroup anyway after the climb!</p> 

Turn	Name	Type	Direction	Google Street View
13	Back to the Marston	Stop and decide	Right	 <p data-bbox="884 703 1527 730">Finally, the last turn back to the ring road and home 😊</p>