

# TRIED AND TESTED ROUTES

## SOUTHMERE LAKE TO GALLIONS REACH PARK AND BACK

LEVEL-BEGINNER

**The Route** (click on the [links](#) to see locations on Google Street View)

At the [Southmere Lake meeting point](#) turn right on Bazalgette Way and cycle along the road until you get to an entrance for the [Ridgeway path](#). There are multiple points to join the Ridgeway path along this road. To save cycling up a big hill, our ride will join the path at the last entrance which is opposite the Erith Marshes path. When you join Ridgeway please follow the path which veers right and leads under the flyover bridge. We are going to follow this path until we get to the [Thames Path by Crossness Pumping Station](#). Please note there is a bicycle barrier halfway down the Ridgeway path which is quite tight. Once past this barrier turn right and continue to the next barrier which comes out on the Thames. Turn left on the Thames Path, cycling towards London, and follow all the way to the [entrance of Gallions Reach Park](#). Our group rides will finish at point and return to the starting point return along the same path back. On your return, please make sure at the half-way point on the Ridgeway path you turn left and go back through the bike barrier (as the other way loops back round!).

For self-guided rides you can easily adapt this ride into a loop using the multiple cycling paths in Thamesmead or continue along the Thames path to get to Woolwich Royal Arsenal.

Link to "On the Go" map: <https://onthegomap.com/s/hdep7lkn>

Distance: 6.3 miles

**Points of interest:**

- Southmere Lake- Picturesque lake with opportunities for fishing. The lake has also been used for numerous filming locations, most famously Stanley Kubrick's Clockwork Orange and Channel 4's TV programme, Misfits.
- Lakeside Centre- Will be the home to a new cultural centre run by Bow Arts. The centre will have creative workspaces, a nursery and enterprise kitchen. The centre also has a new café, which is perfect for post-ride refreshments!
- Look out for the old military pillbox located on the Thames Path
- Climb to the highest peak in Thamesmead in Gallions Reach Park which has a 226ft high lookout over the river.

**Starting point** (Click on text link to go to location on google maps)

Group and self-guided Rides

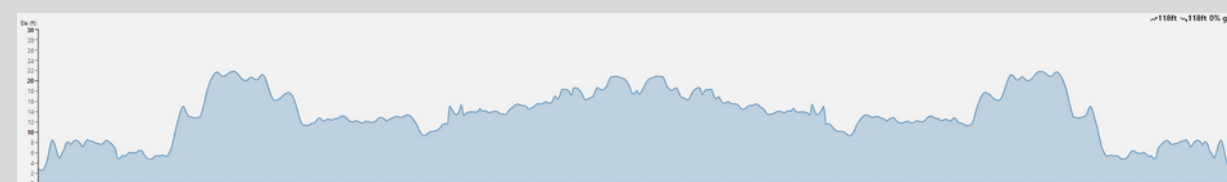
Meeting point- Southmere Lake, Thamesmead. North entrance to the lake on Bazalgette Way, by the bridge over the lake (exact location, click [here](#))

Parking- On street parking on [Bazalgette Way](#) or there is a small car park by the lake.

**Route considerations**

- This section of the Ridgeway path can be a little muddy in places. You will need appropriate tyres and you may want to consider using mudguards. There are also bike barriers to go through, one of which is quite tight to get through.
- After the Ridgeway Path, this section of the Thames Path is reasonably flat and an easy ride to Gallions Reach Park.
- Along the Thames Path be aware at points it can split into separate cycle and walking paths. Please follow all signage for cyclists.
- There is a café at the Lakeside Centre on Southmere Lake.

**Ride elevation mapping:**



Please note this route plan is for guidance only. We cannot be held responsible for route changes that may be beyond our control. We advise you check the route and latest travel advice before setting off.