Charlbury & the Secret Forest Circular Ride
Whole route 17 miles/27 km approx. Map 1

1. From start at the crossroads (GR364138) take the lane going eastwards past The Bungalow and then, after 250 metres where the lane forks (left to Shakenoak Farm only), take the right fork along North Leigh Lane.

2. FL at New Yatt (GR 374135) and enter North Leigh via Green Lane. Pass “The Woodman Inn” and take the second turning left into Church Road, passing the Church and riding down the hill to the T-junction with Boddington Lane.

3. TL passing Fishill Cottage and ride 500 metres along the track to a bridleway on the right (GR 386143) alongside Holly Court Farm. Continue along the bridleway which follows the stream to its junction with the River Evenlode where you BR.

4. You join the road and TR to cross the Ashford Bridge (river). Head north up the hill to Bridgefield Bridge (railway) after which TR and follow the road, which turns sharply north, for 1.5 Km.
Charlbury & the Secret Forest Circular Ride
Whole route 17 miles/27 km approx. Map 2

1. Continue for 1.5km, passing Spratt’s Farm on your right before reaching a T-junction.

2. Cross over to the bridleway opposite (GR 386173) and follow this for 300 metres before turning left to Hill Barn Farm Cottages where you take the left fork and join the Oxfordshire Way. Follow for 2.5Km towards Charlbury until it joins the B4437 Woodstock Road, via Stonesfield Lane.

3. TL and follow Woodstock Road for 400 meters to its junction with Sturt Road (B4022). Cross the road, TR and then immediately TL into Park Street, which bends to the right at the Church where it becomes Church Street. The Bell Hotel in Church Street is “horse friendly”, has a hitching rail, grassed area and provides good food.

4. At the junction with Market Street, TL and then first left again into Dyers Hill which then becomes Forest Road (B4437).
Charlbury & the Secret Forest Circular Ride
Whole route 17 miles/27 km approx.  Map 3

Cross Dyer’s Hill Bridge over the river and then over the railway bridge at Charlbury Station. Up the hill, TR onto the track signed Walcot; pass a farm on your right and ride due west along the bridleway.

At the minor road (GR319196) TL and, after about 100 meters, TR onto the bridleway leading to Ascott d’Oyley.

Upon reaching the road TR and, almost immediately, TL, passing Shorthampton on your right and riding south west to Chilson.

Take the lane into Ascott-under-Wychwood and at the T-junction TL and ride up the hill.

Cross the B4437 with care, and then head southwest then south on a minor road (Wychwood Way) which is heavily populated with pheasants. The road twists and turns downhill, passing Kingstanding Farm.

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Charlbury & the Secret Forest Circular Ride
Whole route 17 miles/27 km approx. Map 4

Continue along the Wychwood Way, passing the ancient Wychwood Forest. This is the subject of “The Secret Forest” by Mollie Harris and it was this forest which once covered much of Oxfordshire. The track eventually meets Hatching Lane where you TR to approach and enter Leafield at Lower End, at a T-junction.

TL and proceed for 400 meters before reaching The Navy Oak Inn (this is now being refurbished as a Chinese Restaurant). Then TR into Greenwich Lane.

After 400 meters at Greenwich Lane Farm take the left fork, signed to Pay Lane (Pay Lane Path) and follow the green lane for 1.7 meters to the B4022 at New Found Out Farm (GR345145).

Cross the B4022 (WITH CARE as this is a very fast road with restricted visibility) directly opposite into bridleway St John’s Lane. Alternatively instead of taking St John’s Lane you could take the minor road left to reach “The Royal Oak” pub at the central crossroads in Ramsden.

St John’s Lane terminates where Turley Lane meets Blackbird Assarts Lane (GR356140). Cross into the minor road opposite, pass Gigley Farm on your right and, at Whitings Lane, TL to return to the crossroads from where you started your ride.