

## What to expect

### Route 1:

Market Rasen to Caistor

**Starting/Finish point:** Market Rasen

**Distance:** 54 km / 33.5 miles

**Assent:** 371.4 m / 1,207 ft

### Route 2:

Market Rasen to Wickenby

**Starting/Finish point:** Market Rasen

**Distance:** 40 km / 25 miles

**Assent:** 261.8 m / 851 ft

# Cycle Lincolnshire

## Getting there

Market Rasen is a market town situated on the A631, adjacent to the Lincolnshire Wolds AONB – 17 miles north of Lincoln.

A train service is also available from Lincoln that connects from Nottingham.



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# Cycle Lincolnshire



## Edge of the Lincolnshire Wolds

**Route 1:** 22 stages | 54 km / 33.5 miles

**Route 2:** 21 stages | 40 km / 25 miles



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Caistor Arts and  
Heritage Centre





# Directions: Route 1 Market Rasen to Caistor

RT = Right turn LT = Left turn



**This journey will take you through 1,000 years of history with the highlight being Caistor, a Roman town with outstanding Georgian housing. Along the way, you will pass through Middle Rasen, a village once divided into two parishes by the River Rase.**

At Kingerby, a small village that once boasted a castle on the site of the Hall, and a little way out of the village, is Cross Tree where there is a memorial plaque with thanks from Thomas Young in 1850 for the safe delivery of his cattle during a bout of cattle plague.

Cycling towards North Owersby you will pass Kingerby Beck Meadows, where wildflowers grow in abundance, including the Frog Orchid. At South Kelsey, Moortown grew up thanks to transportation, with the canal terminating there. The railway at one time had a toll road to Brandy Wharf. High above Claxby, on the scarp are the remains of the notorious iron ore mine that is reputed to have had accidents and even deaths on a weekly basis.



The route follows mainly quiet country roads, but there is a short stretch along the A46 where there is no cycle path. The signs to the villages are well marked.

**1** From the market place in the centre of Market Rasen head west along Kings Street and out of the town. Just past the leisure centre there is a shared cycle path that leads to the A46.

**2** **LT** At the A46 turn left into Middle Rasen. The shared cycle path continues along the route.

**3** **RT** When you reach the crossroads turn right onto Church Street and stay on this road passing the village stocks until you reach a T-junction.

**4** **RT** At the junction turn right and follow this road around a couple of bends for just over half a mile where there is the next turning.

**5** **LT** Turn left and head down a slight hill. At the crossroads head straight on again dropping down a gentle hill.

**6** **LT** At the next T-junction turn left which will eventually take you through Osgodby village. After passing through Osgodby you will enter Kirkby.

**7** **LT** At the bottom of the short hill don't go around the corner but instead carry straight on. This will take you into Kingerby, which for a small village has a lot of interest.

**8** **RT** Turn right at this junction and keep on this road for just over 2 miles. Until you reach a T-junction at North Owersby.

**9** **LT** Turn left at the T-junction and keep on this road for 3 miles. On the way you will pass through Thornton le Moor and eventually reach South Kelsey. At the crossroads carry straight on heading toward North Kelsey.

**10** **RT** As you reach the last of the houses in North Kelsey, turn right down Station Road signposted to North Kelsey Moor and Caistor. From here the road is nearly straight all the way into Caistor, a hint of one of the earliest occupiers of the town. Be wary of the T-junction with the B1434. Continue on this road into Caistor.

**11** **RT** When the road starts to climb more steeply, after the series of bends look out for a turning on the right up Castle Hill. This narrow lane climbs steeply, winding through the back streets of the town passing Georgian houses and Saint Peter and Saint Paul church along the way. The road will bring you out in the market square in the centre of Caistor.

**12** **RT** Turn right down Plough Hill and keep on this road as it heads downhill towards the A46.

**13** **RT** As you reach the A46 there is a shared footpath leading down to Nettleton. Turn right onto this and follow it alongside the main road.

**14** **RT** When you reach Moortown Road turn right and follow this road for 2.5 miles until you reach Moortown.

**15** **LT** At the crossroads in Moortown turn left towards Holton le Moor.

**16** **RT / LT** At the A46 turn right and then almost immediately turn left. Head down the hill towards Claxby.

**17** **RT** At the bottom of the hill, turn right and follow this road through Claxby and back to the A46.

**18** **LT** Turn left onto the A46 and follow for 0.6 miles.

**19** **LT** When you reach the crossroads turn left to join quieter roads again.

**20** **RT / RT** In Walesby take the first turning on the right and at the end of this short road turn right again. Keep on this road for 2.75 miles until you reach a T-junction.

**21** **RT** At the junction turn right and follow the road back into Market Rasen.

**22** **RT** At the traffic lights turn right and keep on the road until you reach your starting point.

## Extending the route

These two routes can be ridden individually or joined together to make a longer ride of 53 miles and covers roads north and south of Market Rasen. If you wish to extend the ride, it is better to ride to Caistor first, as Route 2 can be shortened at various points along the way to allow for time and energy.

From Route 1, after stage 21, you will descend a short hill. At the bottom of the hill, you need to turn left sign-posted to Tealby and North Willingham. This is stage 4 of Route 2.

# Edge of the Lincolnshire Wolds

To Caistor: **Starting/Finish point:** Market Rasen | **Distance:** 54 km / 33.5 miles  
To Wickenby: **Starting/Finish point:** Market Rasen | **Distance:** 40 km / 25 miles



Scan to download the GPX files for Caistor route



Scan to download the GPX files for Wickenby route



**Parking**

There are a number of pay and display car parks in Market Rasen (first 2 hours free). There is also parking available in Caistor. Please be aware there may be an increase in traffic on market days.

**Public toilets**

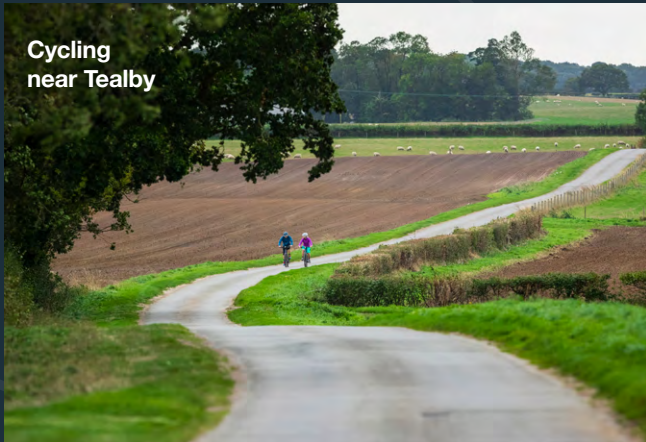
These can be found at Caistor Town Hall car park (access to the right up a ramp in the Coop car park), and John Street Car Park in Market Rasen.

**Cafes and restaurants**

Both market towns cater nicely for when you need refreshments. Find out more at [www.lovelincolnshirewolds.com](http://www.lovelincolnshirewolds.com).



# Directions: Route 2 Market Rasen to Wickenby



This ride takes you through 11 villages, some of which are just a cluster of a few houses and keeps mainly to quiet country roads where traffic is light. It can be shortened at various points to allow for ability and time available.

The route gently undulates along the edge of the Lincolnshire Wolds giving views towards forestry land, and high above you is the escarpment of the Wolds themselves.

On the approach to Walesby, All Saints Church (or as it is more commonly known, The Ramblers Church), can be seen. It served the people of Walesby until the village moved further down the hill. Look out for the deer and the Lincolnshire Longwool sheep grazing on the side of the hills. A folly on Castle Farm can be seen which was built to mock Bayons Manor in Tealby. Bayons Manor's story can be found on the information board after leaving Tealby.

In Tealby there is The Kings Head which is said to be the oldest thatched roof pub in Lincolnshire, built in 1367, where a refreshing drink and food can be found.

Another worthy stop is at Wickenby Airfield where there is a café and a small museum dedicated to the servicemen who were based at the airfield during WW2. A pleasant time can be had watching the light aircraft take off and land while being refreshed. Please check opening times before setting off.

1 From the cobbled Market Place at the heart of Market Rasen head East along Queen Street until you reach the traffic lights at the crossroads.

2 At the traffic lights turn right down Jameson Bridge Street and head towards Tealby and Walesby.

3 After about half a mile take the left-hand fork signposted to Walesby and keep on this road for nearly 2 miles.

4 As you approach Walesby turn right down Catskin Lane. Follow this road for 1.5 miles until you reach a T-Junction.

At the junction the route can be shortened to a 7.3 mile ride by turning right and heading back to Market Rasen. The road will take you back to the traffic lights near the start of the ride.

5 To continue the route turn left up the hill for 0.3 of a mile.

6 Take the right hand turn down Cow Lane into Tealby Village. Follow the road through the village. The climb through the village is fairly steep but worth the effort. In wet

weather if you wish to miss the off-road part of the ride, turn right before reaching The King's Head and head toward Tealby Thorpe. You will pick the route up when the main route joins the tarmac again at point 8.

7 At the Tennyson d'Eyncourt Memorial Hall turn right down the steep descent on Beck Hill. At the bottom of the hill you will meet a ford across the River Rase. After the ford, the routes' surface becomes compacted stone which can be ridden by most bikes.

8 Still on the stone track, at the crossroads turn right. At the crossroads there is an information board explaining the chequered history of Bayons Manor. Keep on the track back to the tarmacked road. Back on the route keep on this road for 1.25 miles until you reach the A631.

Here the route can be shortened to 10 miles by turning right and returning to Market Rasen. Although this is a main road there is a shared pedestrian / cycle path all the way back to the outskirts of the town.

On the way back you will pass Willingham Woods which has numerous walks in it.

9 The longer route turns left and heads up towards North Willingham. There is a shared pedestrian / cycle path alongside the road up to the village.

10 At the bend in the road turn right towards Sixhills. It is best to go right to the apex of the bend before crossing so you are able to see traffic coming both ways.

11 Continue the gentle climb for nearly a mile until you reach a right-hand turn to Little London and Legsby. After all the climbing this is your reward as the road gently descends for nearly all of the way to Little London.

At Little London the ride can be shortened again to 13 miles by turning right towards Market Rasen. Follow the road past Market Rasen racecourse until you reach Willingham Road and turn left to take you back to the traffic lights.

12 On the main route turn left and keep on this road for nearly 3.5 miles until you reach East Torrington. On the way you will have passed through Legsby.

13 At the crossroads in East Torrington turn right towards West Torrington.

When reaching West Torrington a more direct route back to Market Rasen is to turn right and follow the road, ignoring the left hand turn. Continue all the way back to Market Rasen.

14 To continue on the full route turn right at the T-Junction and then shortly afterwards turn left to Holton cum Beckering.

15 When you reach the end of the road turn left, and follow the road around a bend. Take the next turning right signposted Wickenby Airport.

If you wish to shorten the route to 22.5 miles turn right and then at Lissington turn left. Take the next right hand turning to Middle Rasen and you will pick up the main route at point 20.

16 Take the next right hand turn and keep on this road past Wickenby Airfield.

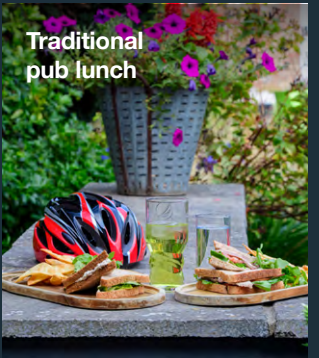
17 At Westlaby turn right towards Wickenby and Friesthorpe.

18 In Wickenby turn right and then almost immediately turn left. At this point you will have joined the NCN Route 1.

19 Continue to follow the NCN 1 signs and turn right after crossing the manned level crossing and Wickenby Woods signposted to Linwood.

20 After following this lane for nearly 2 miles turn left towards Middle Rasen and keep on this road for 2.5 miles.

21 At the crossroads in Middle Rasen, turn right onto the A46 and then turn right again onto Gainsborough Road that will lead you back into Market Rasen and your starting point. If you prefer, at the crossroads there is a shared pedestrian/cycle path on the right-hand side of the road. This will help you miss the filtered junction. The shared path continues along the left-hand side of Gainsborough Road until the towns' boundary.



## Extending the route

These two routes can be ridden individually or joined together to make a longer ride of 53 miles and covers roads north and south of Market Rasen.

The best way is to ride Route 1 first as Route 2 gives options to shorten the ride if necessary. After turning at the junction stage 20, go down the short hill and turn left onto Catskin Lane, this is stage 4 on Route 2.

RT = Right turn LT = Left turn