

RALLY ROUTES

THE AREA

The area around Greetham is essentially rural and the roads used should not be unduly busy. The A1 lies just to the east but is only crossed at safe locations. To the south lies Rutland Water the largest surface area reservoir in England, which has a dedicated cycle route circumnavigating it. Rutland is not flat so all routes are undulating. It's possible to see the profile of the rides on the RideWithGPS links.

NAVIGATION

We no longer consider it appropriate to provide detailed turn by turn instructions. For each route there is a GPX track. The information below shows a clear outline of each route plus brief details of cafes/pubs or other useful information. If you do not have a GPX device please use the links to the RideWithGPS website (Register for a free account if necessary.) and trace the route onto any appropriate map. The area is covered by Landranger 129, 130 and 141. In general navigation is relatively straightforward except in Oakham, Uppingham, Stamford or Melton.

LAYOUT OF THE ROUTES

There are two routes in each of 4 separate directions. A short of approximately 40-50k, and a medium of approximately 60-65k. The South and East routes are similar, but not identical, to those used in 2015. There are no fixed days for any route so the decision where to go is entirely yours. The medium routes are shown in purple on the maps below. Where the short route departs from the medium route this is shown in red.

Please note that all distances are metric to match the Landranger grid, however all cycle computers and Sat Navs are easily set to km.

SURFACES

The routes are mostly on road with the exception of the two south routes. These use part of the cycle path round Rutland Water which in places uses a well established gravel path. This is regularly ridden by cyclists on a range of cycles without any undue difficulty but some sections can be muddy after heavy rain. The south routes also cross an attractive area of parkland just after Exton where the tarmac surface is broken up in places. Again this is quite rideable with a modest degree of care or is easily avoidable. (See map.)

CAFES & PUBS

The maps and route information indicate the position of some cafes and pubs. If you are relying on either for refreshment stops then please check that cafes are open Easter Weekend and, if required, the pubs are open lunchtime and serving sandwiches. Some routes have limited facilities.

AGM

On Saturday whichever route you choose please try to be back at Greetham in time for the AGM at Greetham Community Centre. Doors open at 4:30pm, the AGM starts at 5pm.

SOUTH ROUTES (ANTICLOCKWISE)



SOUTH SHORT 39k <https://ridewithgps.com/routes/41479434>

A pleasant ride through the market town of Oakham to Rutland Water. The cycle path to the west of Rutland Water can be muddy after rain but generally the gravel track is fine.

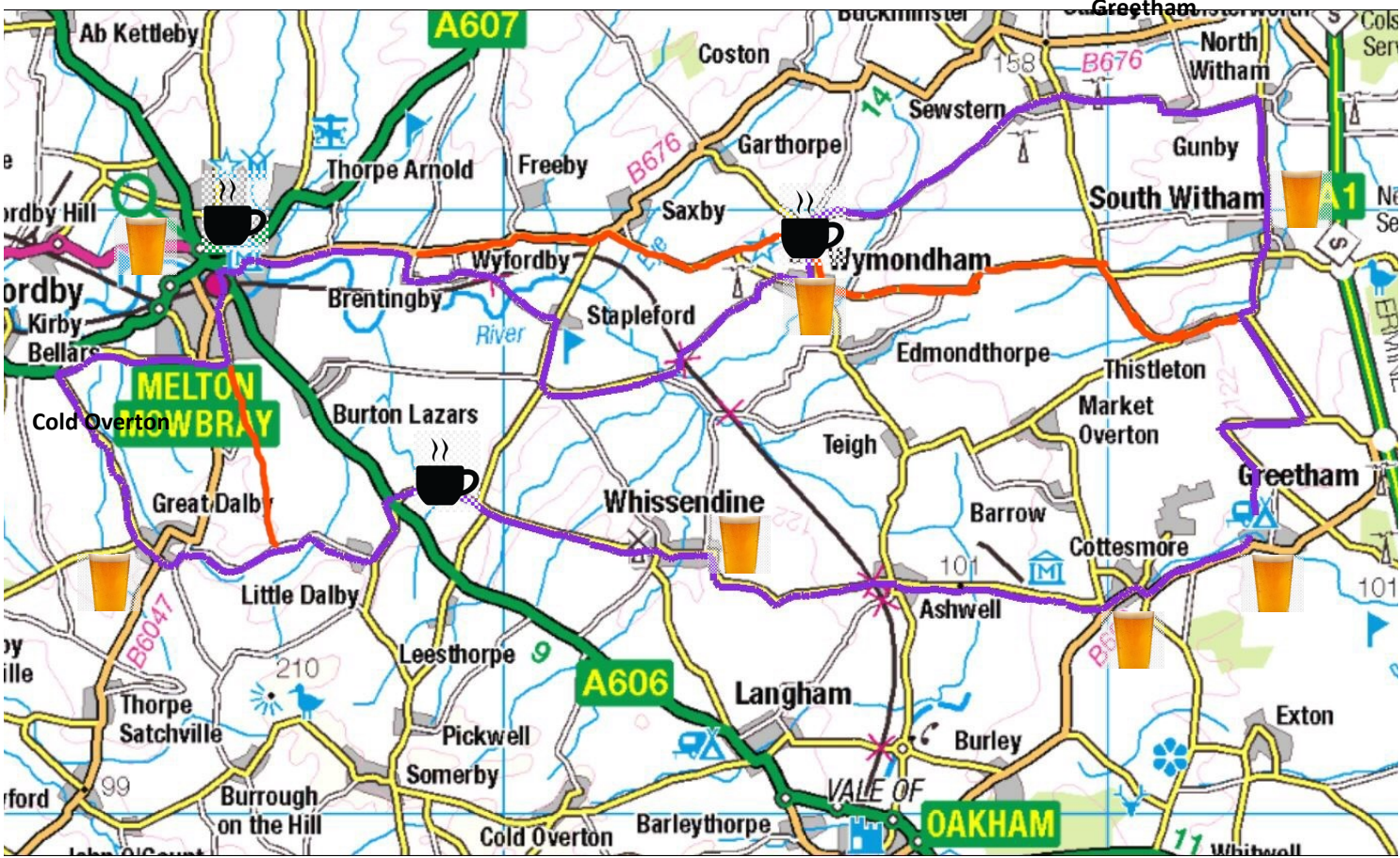
DIST (km)	NOTES
2.7 /6.3	Cottesmore/Ashwell
8.3	Rutland Garden Village cafe
11.4	Oakham - Plenty of cafes & pubs. Then direction STAMFORD towards Rutland Water Cycle path on right.
14.6	Egleton
18.4	Horse & Jockey pub, Manton.
26	Normanton café (& church beside reservoir in 400m)
30	Empingham - Pub (Fairly steep climb from village.)
33.8	Beautiful village of Exton (with pub) . At end of village follow tarmac bridle path (occasionally rough) through estate.
35.7	Hambledon Bakery on right. (Excellent for bread and buns)
38.5	Greetham

SOUTH MEDIUM 63k <https://ridewithgps.com/routes/41479464>

A hilly route nearly all on quiet pretty lanes to the west of Oakham via Uppingham onto the south of Rutland Water. **Take care on short section of A47 just after Uppingham.**

DIST (km)	NOTES
2.7 /6.3/10.7	Cottesmore/Ashwell/Langham
14.3	Cold Overton - Café at Gates Garden Centre.
15.9	Knossington - pub.
24.2/27.4	Loddington/Belton-in-Rutland
30.2	Sweethedges Farm Cafe
35.6	Uppingham - Café and pubs
37.1	R onto A 47 and next L (Care - can be busy)
42.3	Horse & Jockey pub, Manton.
49.7	Normanton café (& church beside reservoir in 400m).
53.9	Empingham - Pub (Fairly steep climb from village.)
57.9	Beautiful village of Exton (with pub) At end of village follow tarmac bridle path (occasionally rough) through estate.
59.9	Hambledon Bakery on Right. (Excellent for bread and buns.)
62.5	Greetham

WEST ROUTES (CLOCKWISE)



WEST SHORT 49k <https://ridewithgps.com/routes/41479497>

The longest short ride to the market town of Melton Mowbray where you may be able to purchase their world famous 'Pork pies'. There are plenty of cafes, pubs and shops and the cattle market also has a café. **Note that the GPX track does not go right into the centre of Melton.** You could cycle into Melton but walking with time to look around is recommended.

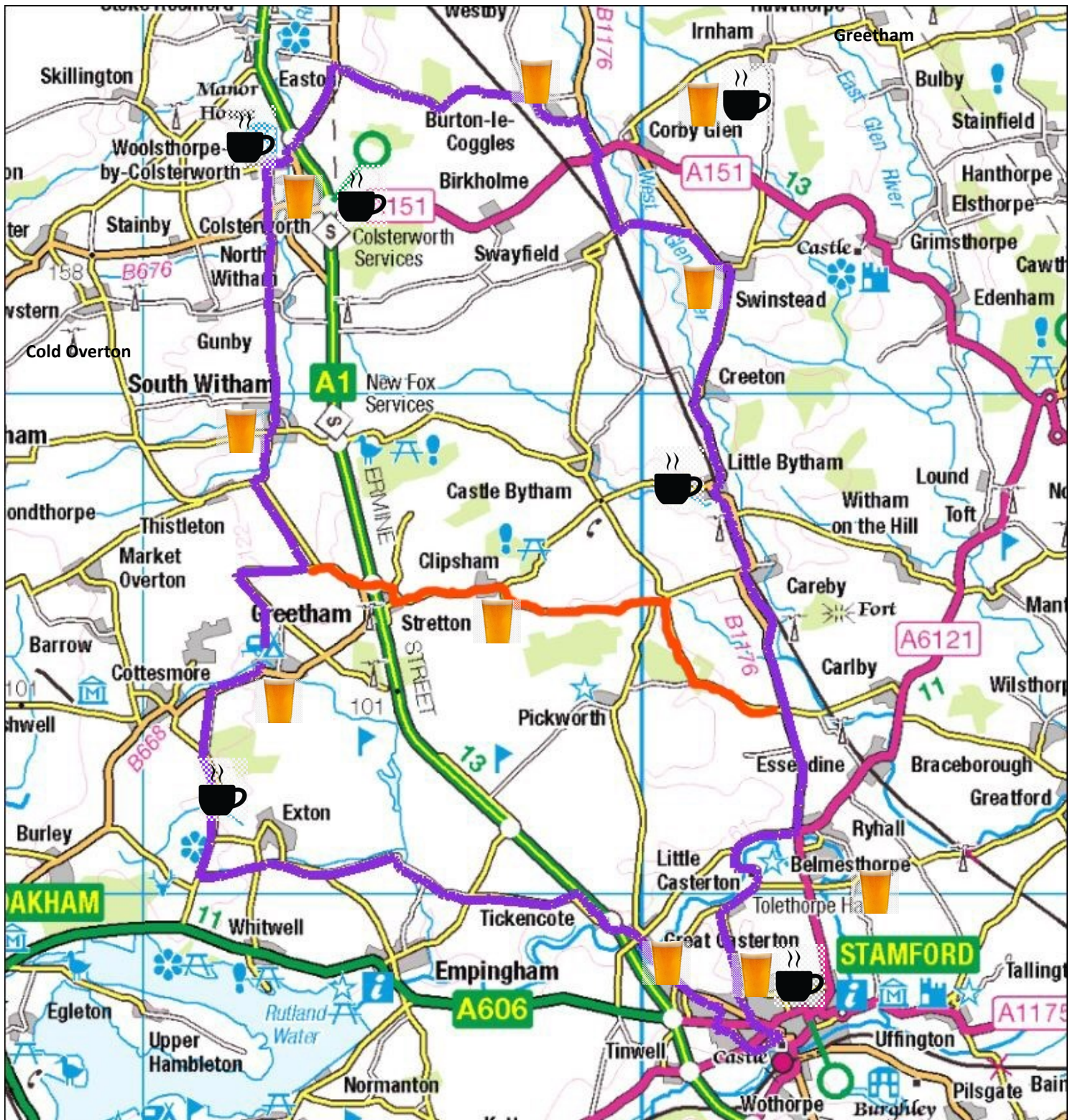
DIST (km)	NOTES
2.7 /6.3	Cottesmore/Ashwell
10.7	Whissendine: White Lion Inn & lovely windmill on leaving village (may be open for visits).
14.6	Dairy Barn café
19.3	Right through gate onto tarmac Sustrans route. Short 200m climb may involve walking. However this leads to a very pleasant ride into Melton Mowbray.
24.4	Melton - GPX track goes only to St Mary's church on L and then retraces 50m to Mill Street. This avoids busy one way system. Take a short walk into town for cafes/pubs/shops.
24.5	Retrace to Mill Street on L and follow round to pick up B676.
35	Wymondham Windmill - Excellent cycle friendly café or Pub in village.
48.8	Return to campsite from north.

WEST MEDIUM 61k <https://ridewithgps.com/routes/41490548>

An undulating ride but with few steep hills to the market town of Melton Mowbray where you may be able to purchase their world famous 'Pork pies'. There are plenty of cafes, pubs and shops and the cattle market also has a café. **Note that the GPX track does not go right into the centre of Melton.** It departs from the short route three times with a particularly nice section after leaving Melton past Stapleford park and a really quiet lane into Wymondham.

DIST (km)	NOTES
2.7 /6.3	Cottesmore/Ashwell
10.7	Whissendine: White Lion Inn & lovely windmill on leaving village (may be open for visits).
14.6	Dairy Barn café
19.3	Short route turns R. Go straight on through Great Dalby (Pub) to rejoin short route just south of Melton.
29.5	Melton - GPX track goes only to St Mary's church on L and then retraces 50m to Mill Street. This avoids busy one way system. Take a short walk into town for cafes/pubs/shops.
29.6	Retrace to Mill Street on L and follow round to pick up B676.
43.2	Wymondham Windmill - Excellent cycle friendly café - Pub in village.
61.4	Through North Witham and South Witham (Pub) to north entrance of campsite.

EAST ROUTES (ANTICLOCKWISE)



EAST SHORT 43k <https://ridewithgps.com/routes/41479487>

This route visits the beautiful town of Stamford, **Burghley House, Gardens and Park are about 1.5 km south of the town** with free entry to the park and café. Booking needed for visiting the house. **The GPX track also goes to an interesting church at Tickencote.**

DIST (km)	NOTES
4.6	Rutland Garden Village cafe
13.7	St Peters Church, Tickencote (dates back to 12 Century)
19.4	Stamford - Café & pubs
35.7	There is a Michelin starred pub at Clipsham. The only other options for a stop on the way back would be a short detour to Belmsthorpe or go via Little Bytham (Café at Rasell's Nurseries) adding about 2.5 km. (See Map)
42.9	Return to campsite by north entrance

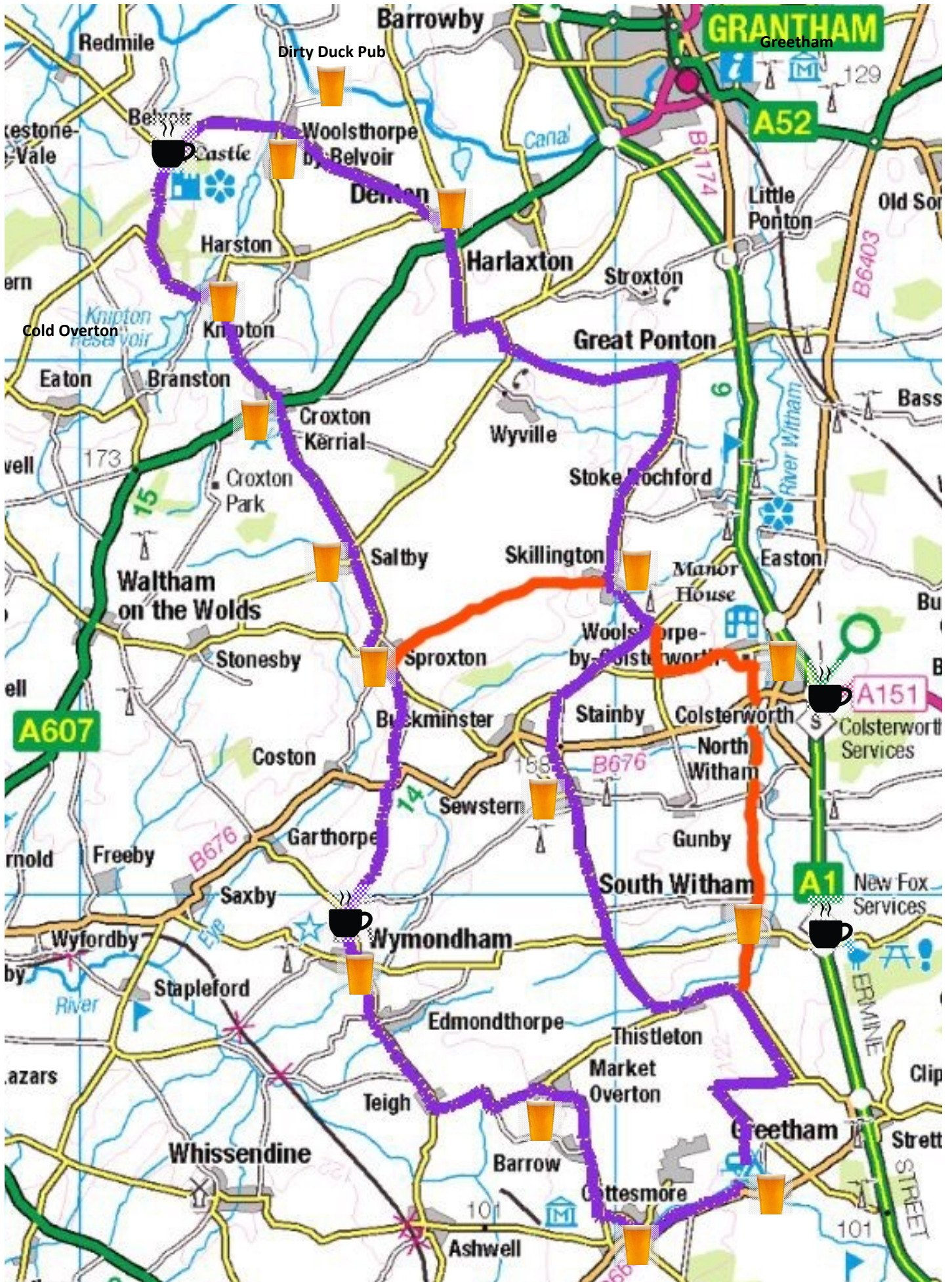
EAST MEDIUM 64k <https://ridewithgps.com/routes/41479493>

This route visits the beautiful town of Stamford, **Burghley House, Gardens and Park are about 1.5 km south of the town** with free entry to the park and café. Booking needed for visiting the house. **The GPX track also goes to an interesting church at Tickencote.**

Later on we pass **Woolsthorpe Manor (National Trust) birthplace of Isaac Newton. Booking may be needed and there is £5 to get into the gardens science centre and cafe.**

DIST (km)	NOTES
4.6	Rutland Garden Village cafe
13.7	St Peters Church, Tickencote (dates back to 12 Century)
19.4	Stamford - Café & pubs
33.2	Little Bytham (Café at Rasell's Nurseries)
44.3	Burton le Coggles - Pub (or via Corby Glen for Café/Pub)
52.0	Woolsthorpe Manor (National Trust) with café, also pub & Coop in Colsterworth
63.9	Through North Witham and South Witham (Pub) to north entrance of campsite

NORTH ROUTES (ANTICLOCKWISE)



NORTH SHORT 39k <https://ridewithgps.com/routes/41498104>

A relatively easy route mostly on quiet roads. There are plenty of pubs but limited cafes although there are options. (See notes below.) We also pass **Woolsthorpe Manor (National Trust) birthplace of Isaac Newton, which has a coffee shop. Booking may be needed and there is £5 to get into the gardens science centre and cafe.**

DIST (km)	NOTES
0	Leave campsite to the north
6.8	South Witham - 2 pubs
11.0	At crossroads you could go R for Pub or Coop in Colsterworth or Truck stop on A1.
11.8	Woolsthorpe Manor (National Trust) with café (booking may be required)
15.7	Skillington - Pub
20.3	Sproxton - Pub
25.9	Wymondham Windmill - Excellent cycle friendly café or Pub in village.
32.2	Market Overton - Pub (At top of steepish climb.)
36.3	Cottesmore - Pub
38.7	Greetham

NORTH MEDIUM 64k <https://ridewithgps.com/routes/41495796>

Mostly on quiet roads towards the Vale of Belvoir. You could detour to **Woolsthorpe Manor (National Trust) birthplace of Isaac Newton, which has a coffee shop** or you may wish to visit **Belvoir Castle, a popular East Midland tourist attraction** at about the half way point. **For Woolsthorpe Manor follow North Short to Skillington.**

DIST (km)	NOTES
0	Leave campsite to the north
16.4	Skillington - Pub
27.7	Denton - Pub
31.3	Woolsthorpe - Pubs Or R at crossroads and first R to good Dirty Duck Pub (Adds 2k)
33.6	Belvoir Castle (bookings may be required) Sometimes café in carpark L or large Café R.
37.3	Knipton - Pub (followed by steepish climb)
40.0	Croxton Kerrial - Pub
43,4	Saltby - Pub
45.4	Sproxton - Pub
51.2	Wymondham Windmill - Excellent cycle friendly café or Pub in village.
57.5	Market Overton - Pub (At top of steepish climb)
61.5	Cottesmore - Pub
64.0	Greetham