

# Sustainable Travel Pack for Skylark

Travel Information Pack



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## What is a Travel Plan?

A travel plan is a package of measures for reducing the number of vehicle trips to the site. It aims to encourage more sustainable travel choices where possible. The Sustainable Travel Pack has been designed for you, to give you first-hand information on your travel options to and from your home at Skylark.

### Overall aims of the Skylark Travel Plan are to:

- Provide people with information on travel choices;
- Create a sustainable community which promotes a range of lifestyle and travel choices and reduces reliance on the private car;
- Create a high-quality place in which people want to live and work.

### Travel Plan Coordinator

As the Travel Plan Coordinator for Skylark, we have the responsibility of implementing the hard and soft measures and monitoring the progress and success of the travel plan by undertaking bi-annual travel surveys each year.

### Who are smart journeys?

**smart journeys** are a consultancy team of Travel Planners working across Cambridgeshire and beyond to provide knowledgeable advice, practical support, and innovative tools and services to help new residents with their sustainable travel from their new home.

**smart journeys** have been appointed by Platform Housing Group to produce this travel pack specifically for Skylark residents. We are your first point of call for any local travel/transport-related queries you may have. Your feedback and comments are fundamental to the way we implement the travel plan – we will be running bi-annual surveys to collect your feedback, with the first being in Summer 2024. If you have any feedback or comments you would like to pass on now, please fill in our online feedback form - <https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/Skylarkfeedback/>.

# Welcome to Skylark!

Dear Resident,

On behalf of Platform Housing Group, we would like to welcome you and your family to Skylark!

This travel pack has been put together to make your move a smooth one. Within this pack you will find a wide range of local travel options, including walking and cycling routes and public transport services.

This handy guide is for you to refer back to with any travel needs. We hope that you will find it helpful and enjoy exploring Skylark and the surrounding villages, choosing a more sustainable mode of travel where possible.

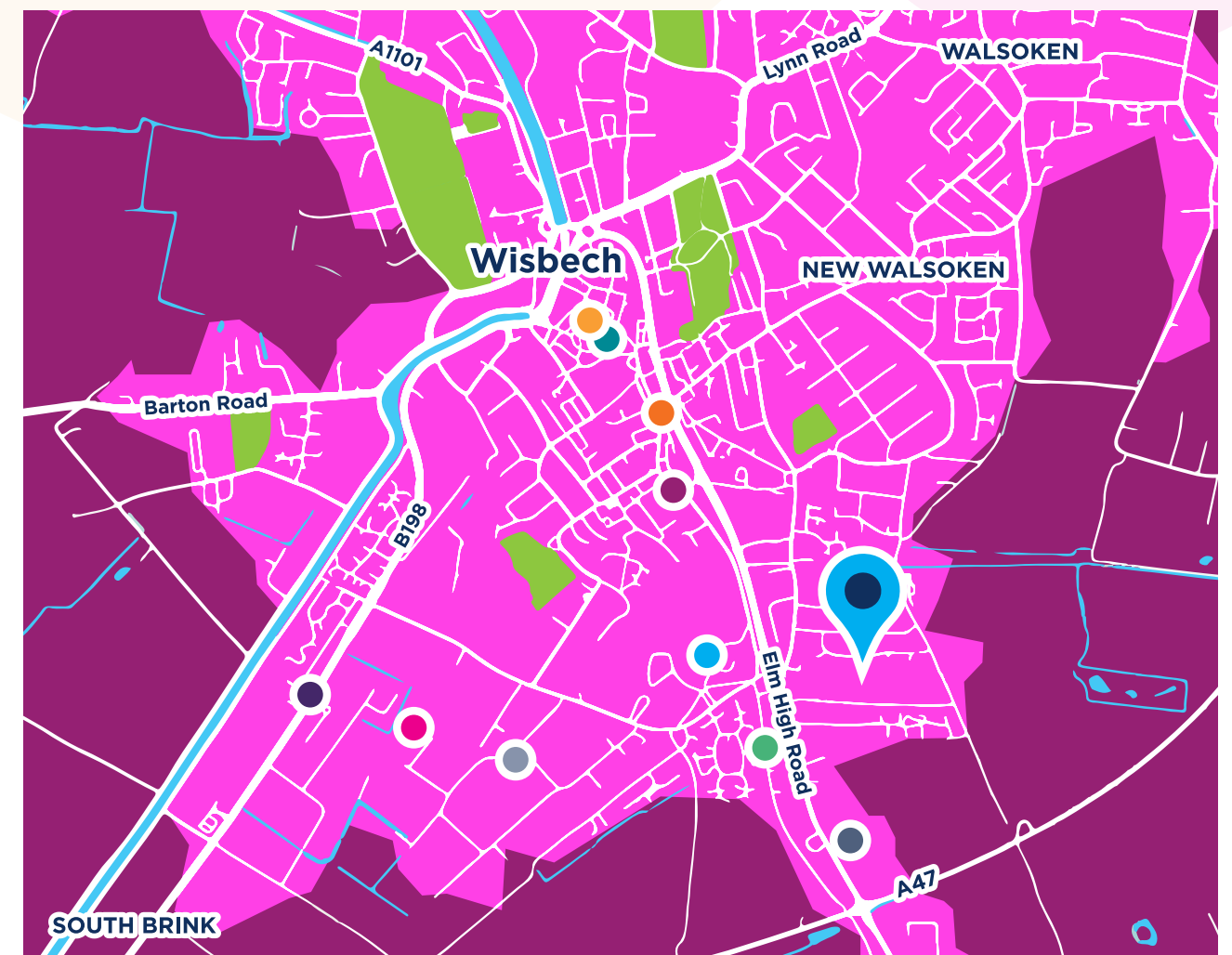
If you have any questions, concerns or suggestions about transport or traveling in the area, please email us: [info@smartjourneys.co.uk](mailto:info@smartjourneys.co.uk)

Kind regards,

**Your Travel Plan Coordinator**  
**smart journeys**

# Skylark and the local area

Most of your local amenities can be reached on foot or on your bike, including supermarkets, a post office, dentist, schools, and a doctor's surgery.



- Thomas Clarkson's Academy Secondary School - Corporation Rd, Wisbech PE13 2SE
- Elm Road Primary School - Elm Rd, Wisbech PE13 2TB
- Morrisons - Elm High Rd, Wisbech PE14 0DQ
- Museum Square Dental Centre - 4 Museum Sq, Wisbech PE13 1ES
- Paddons Veterinary Surgeons - 214 Elm Low Rd, Wisbech PE14 0DF
- Post Office - Norwich Rd, Wisbech PE13 2LE
- Ironworks Gym - Unit 24 Europa Way, Wisbech PE13 2TZ
- Fenland Gymnastics Academy - 21 Algores Way, Wisbech PE13 2TQ
- Barclays - Library, Ely Pl, Wisbech PE13 1EU
- Lidl - Cromwell Rd, Wisbech PE14 0RG

# Walking

Walking is the best way to explore your local area, is great for the environment and your health. Many of your local amenities are only a short walk away, and a huge benefit is walking is free!

## Benefits of Walking

Walking for just 30 minutes every day can:

- Increase energy levels;
- Burn calories and lose weight;
- Boost your immune system;
- Reduce stress, improve your mood and fight depression;
- Lower blood pressure and cholesterol;
- Increase cardiovascular fitness; and
- Reduce the risk of heart disease, stroke and some cancers.

## Useful Apps



**Strava:** tracks physical activity and incorporates social network features.



**Active 10:** this app was developed by Public Health England to get you active by walking briskly.



**Ramblers:** find walks by area or group walks anywhere in Great Britain from the UK's largest community of walkers. To download the app, you will need to be a Ramblers member.



**Map My Walk:** as you walk, you can see the elapsed time, distance, pace, speed, elevation and calories burned. Your speed is determined by the GPS.



**Outdooractive:** find and navigate routes for walking and save maps offline.

## Journey on Foot

**START**

Entrance to Skylark

5

MINS

Paddons Veterinary Surgeons - 214 Elm Low Rd, Wisbech PE14 ODF

7

MINS

Thomas Clarkson's Academy Secondary School - Corporation Rd, Wisbech PE13 2SE

9

MINS

Morrisons - Elm High Rd, Wisbech PE14 ODQ

12

MINS

Elm Road Primary School - Elm Rd, Wisbech PE13 2TB

15

MINS

Fenland Gymnastics Academy - 21 Algores Way, Wisbech PE13 2TQ

15

MINS

Post Office - Norwich Rd, Wisbech PE13 2LE

20

MINS

Barclays - Library, Ely Pl, Wisbech PE13 1EU

20

MINS

Museum Square Dental Centre - 4 Museum Sq, Wisbech PE13 1ES

22

MINS

Ironworks Gym - Unit 24 Europa Way, Wisbech PE13 2TZ

27

MINS

Lidl - Cromwell Rd, Wisbech PE14 ORG

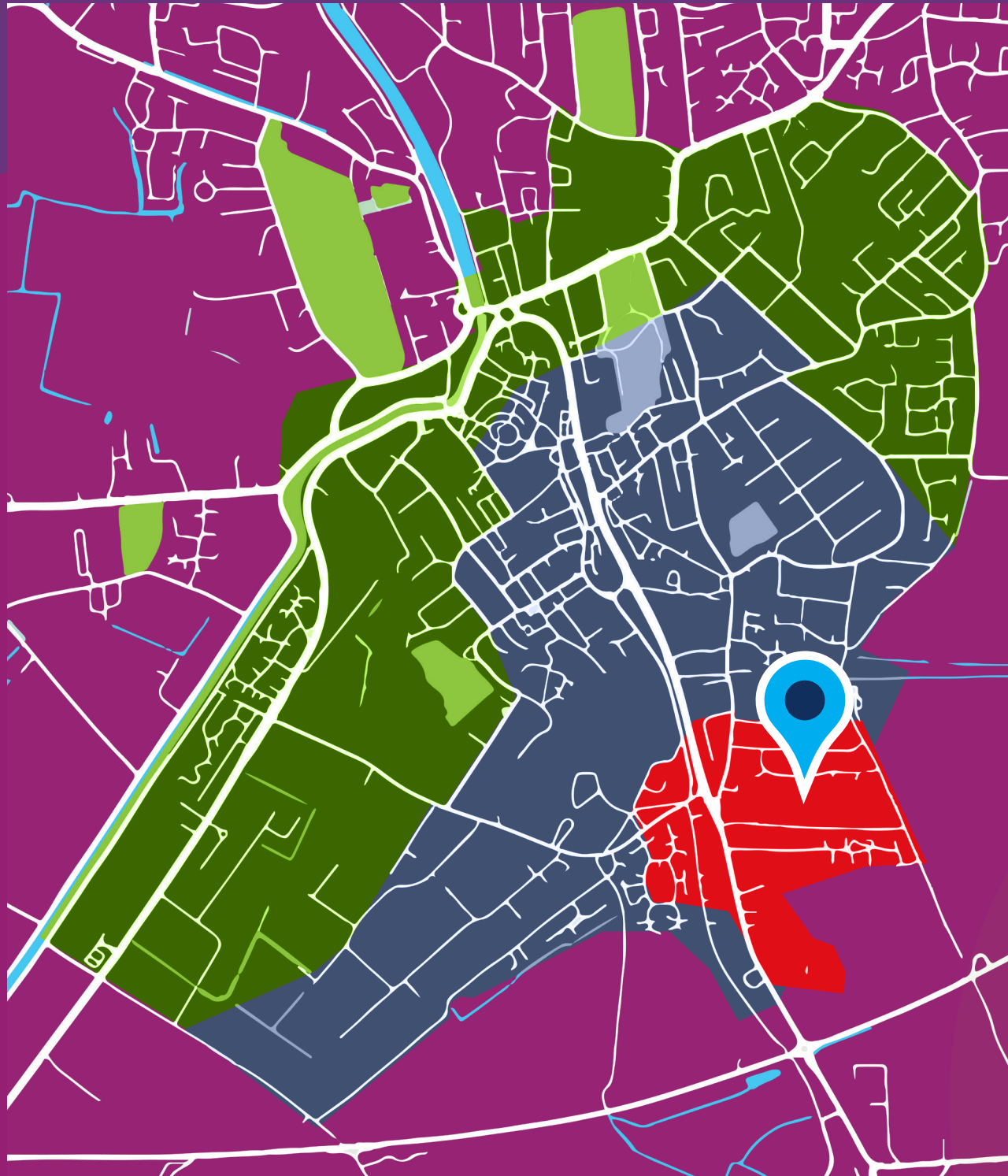


## Approximate Walking Zone Map

10 minutes

20 minutes

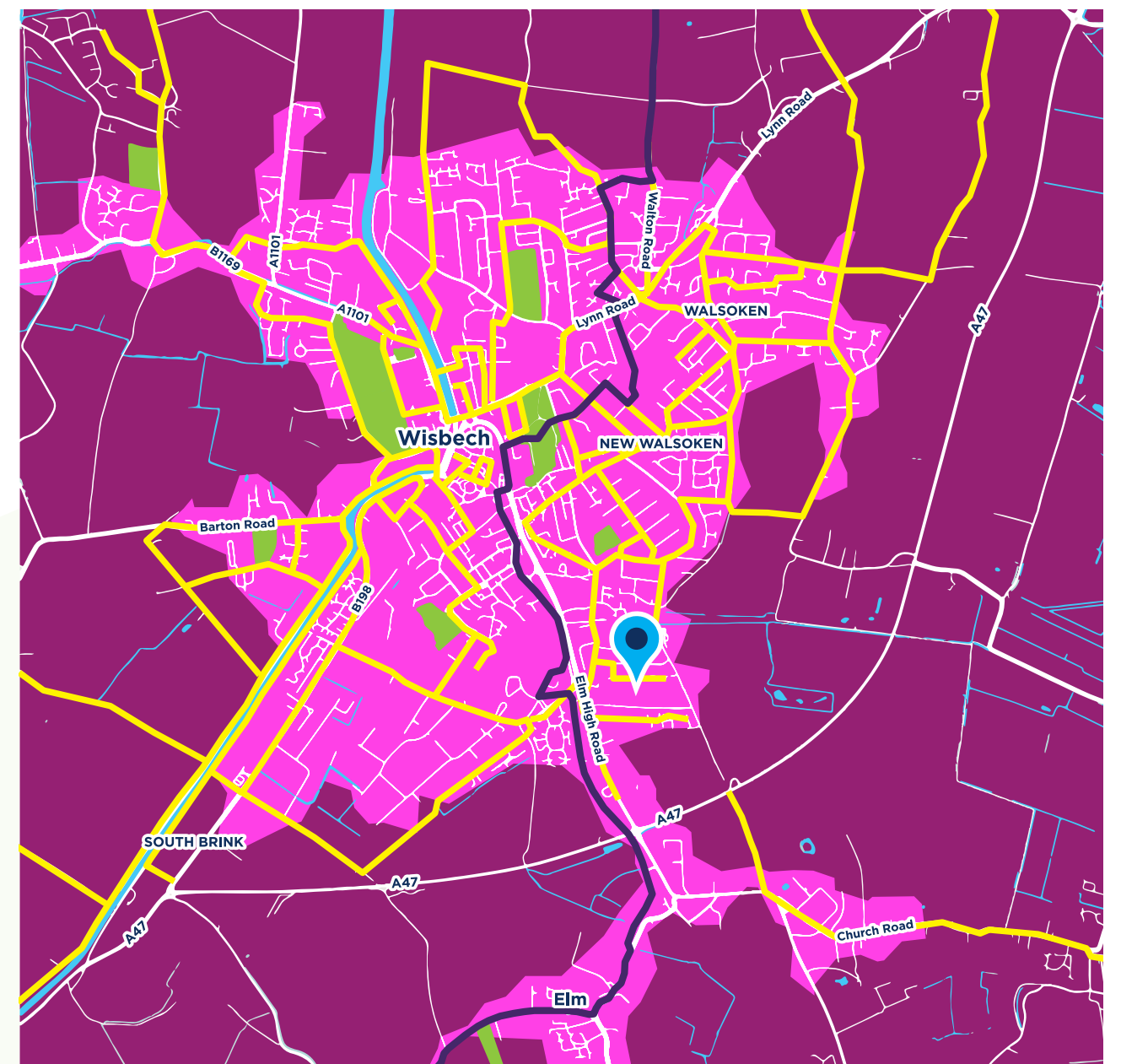
30 minutes



## Cycling

Cycling is a healthy, low-impact exercise that can be enjoyed by people of all ages, from young children to older adults. It is also fun, cheap and good for the environment.

Riding to work or your local shops is one of the most time-efficient ways to combine regular exercise with your everyday routine. Around the world one billion people ride bicycles every day - for transport, recreation and sport. Below is a cycle route map of Wisbech to help you plan your commute or leisurely cycle!



National Cycle Network route
  Suggested local routes

## Benefits of Cycling

- It helps to protect you from serious diseases, such as stroke, heart attack, some cancers, depression, diabetes, obesity and arthritis;
- It improves your overall fitness level and helps build core strength;
- It reduces your stress level;
- It improves the air quality and
- It's more cost-effective than car ownership.

Did you know?

**20 BICYCLES  
CAN FIT IN  
THE SPACE  
OF 1 CAR**

## Bike Servicing

Bike servicing is key to keeping you and your bike safe and roadworthy. Why not take your bike down to College of West Anglia 'Repair Café' to have your bike serviced for free – more information can be found here: <https://cwa.ac.uk/news/events/event/171-repair-cafe> (donations are greatly appreciated for the service).

There is also a Halfords located on Cromwell Road, and Discount Cycles on Norfolk Street who are an independent local bike shop providing bike servicing, along with selling bikes and cycling accessories.



## Useful Apps



**Cycle Streets:** created by Cambridge-based cyclists this app allows you to plan cycle routes from A to B. It provides you with journey time, distance, calories burned, CO2 avoided and photos of the route.



**Sustrans:** a charity who work for and with communities, helping them come to life by walking, wheeling and cycling to create healthier places and happier lives for everyone.



**Strava:** you can see the progress in terms of distance, speed, calories burned and elevation gained. It allows users to record activity and compare performances over time.



**Better by Bike:** Find the quickest, quietest or most balanced cycle routes and leisure rides around.

**Cycling Maps:** looking to explore cycling routes on the weekend? Why not visit Cambridgeshire County Council Cycle Routes and Maps website for a wide selection of hard copies of maps of Cambridge and surrounding areas to download on your phone. <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/travel-roads-and-parking/cycling/cycle-routes-and-maps>



# Bus Travel

Wisbech is well connected by bus links with a number of stops close to Skylark. Your nearest bus stop is located on Queen Elizabeth Drive. There is also Horse Fair Bus Station in the centre of the town with a number of services to King's Lynn, Long Sutton, March and Manea.

**Stagecoach Bus 46:** Wisbech - Horse Fair Bus Station, Wisbech St Mary - Sand Bank, Guyhirn Post Office, Rings End Church, March - Peas Hill Road

**Stagecoach Bus 50:** Wisbech - Horse Fair Bus Station, Wisbech Asda, Leverington - Leverington Common, Gorefield - Allens Drove, Fitton End - Roman Bank, Newton - Colville Road, Tydd St Giles - Hockland Road, Tydd St Mary - Village Store, Tydd Gote - 3 Long Road, Foul Anchor - Front Street, Sutton Bridge - Bridge Hotel, Long Sutton - Market Court

**Stagecoach Bus 55:** Wisbech - Horse Fair Bus Station, Emneth B&Q, Elm - Begdale Road, Friday Bridge - Well End, Coldham - Station Road, March - Railway Station, March - Station Road, Town End - Neale Wade College, Wimblington - Addison Road, Boots Bridge Farm, Manea - Park Road, Manea - Fallow Corner Road

**First Bus Excel route:** Peterborough, Thorney, Wisbech, Walton Highway, Terringon St Johns, Kings Lynn, Narborough, Swaffham, New Scarning, Dereham, Hockering, Easton, Cringleford Bus Interchange, Norwich

Up to date bus timetables and routes can be found on Fenland District Council's website - [www.fenland.gov.uk/article/15121/Local-Transport-Services](http://www.fenland.gov.uk/article/15121/Local-Transport-Services)



## Did you know?

Buses operating in the UK are equipped with power outlets and Wi-Fi connectivity. A great way to get some emails done before you reach work!

## Useful Apps



**MyBusTrip:** Provides accurate and up-to-date information for buses throughout the UK - the app also provides journey planning.



**UK Bus Checker:** provides passengers with free direct access to real-time bus information, including bus location, route map, nearby stops and services, journey information and bus operators.





# Train Travel

March train station is a 30-minute bus ride from Skylark. The station is served by Greater Anglia, Cross Country and East Midlands Rail with routes to Birmingham, Cambridge and Stansted. There are 60 cycle parking spaces with CCTV, and 31 car parking spaces.

## Benefits of Digital Railcard

- Save a third on advance, off-peak, standard and first-class tickets.
- Railcards are stored on your app, meaning no more 'where-did-I-leave-it?!' worries.
- It costs £30 for a whole year of discounted travel. (After a few journeys, your railcard will have paid for itself.)
- Applicable for 16-25-year-olds, 26-30-year-olds, families and seniors.

Visit [railcard.co.uk](https://railcard.co.uk) to find out more or to purchase a railcard.

## Flexi Season Ticket

If you are travelling to London or other cities for work a few days a week at peak times, why not travel with a Flexi Season Ticket? A Flexi Season Ticket offers eight days of unlimited travel in 28 days at any time between two named stations.

Visit [thetrainline.com/season-tickets/flexi](https://thetrainline.com/season-tickets/flexi)

## Hereward Community Rail Partnership

Hereward Community Rail Partnership (HCRP) consists of local councils, train operators, railway user groups, station adoption groups and local residents who look after the Hereward Line in Fenland. The HCRP engage with train operators to improve services for local residents, allow people to have a say about railways and rail services in their communities and promote and encourage rail travel. More information about HCRP can be found here: <https://herewardcrp.org/>

## Bikes on Trains

You can also take your own non-foldable bicycle or foldable bicycle free of charge with you on the train. Please see the Greater Anglia, Great Northern and CrossCountry Trains websites for restrictions applying on their services.

# Taxi Travel

Taxi services have distinct advantages over other forms of transportation. Unlike owning your own car, there are no ongoing maintenance or insurance costs to worry about. Some of the other key benefits include:

- Booking a travel time that's convenient for you;
- No parking stress, saving you time;
- Being driven, so you can use the journey for other things;
- Privacy so you don't have to share the journey with strangers; and
- Receiving a door-to-door service.

**Able Taxis:** provide local trips around Wisbech and the surrounding area. For more information, call [01945 582413](tel:01945582413) or email [abletaxis2017@gmail.com](mailto:abletaxis2017@gmail.com)

**BC Private Hire:** available 24/7, 7 days a week. The service includes travel to airports. For more information call [07593 291493](tel:07593291493) or email [brendanprivhire@hotmail.com](mailto:brendanprivhire@hotmail.com)

**Hosier Xecutive Limited:** available 24/7, 7 days a week, servicing Wisbech and surrounding villages. For more information call [07503 490799](tel:07503490799) or email [hosierxec@gmail.com](mailto:hosierxec@gmail.com)





# Car Travel

## Eco Driving

Sometimes we have no choice but to drive to make that journey. Eco-driving is a method of driving with the goal of using less fuel and having less of an impact on the environment. Here are seven helpful eco driving tips that can make a difference to your journey:

1. Service your vehicle regularly to maintain energy efficiency.
2. Check the tyre pressure of your car once a month and before long journeys.
3. Lose any unnecessary baggage from the boot to save fuel.
4. Try combining multiple trips in one, and plan your route ahead of time. Stay tuned to traffic reports and roadworks if possible.
5. Never exceed the speed limit.
6. Switch off the engine at short stops, e.g. at a traffic light or a railway crossing.
7. Maintain a steady speed. Increasing your speed from 45 mph to 55 mph every 18 seconds increases the fuel consumption by 20%.

## Electric Vehicle

If you are thinking of switching your car, why not consider an electric vehicle? Reduce your carbon dioxide emissions and help protect the environment. Battery electric vehicles produce zero CO2 from tailpipe emissions.



## Car Sharing

Car sharing, also known as carpooling or ride sharing, is where regular common journeys are shared between two or more people in one vehicle. Sharing your car journeys with friends, neighbours or colleagues can help you:

- Save money on fuel;
- Reduce congestion and improve local air quality;
- Reduce carbon emissions; and
- Improve your health and wellbeing.

Introduce yourself to your neighbours to see if anyone drives a similar route to you and start from there.

Joining the scheme is simple and completely FREE. For liftsharing across Cambridgeshire join the Camshare scheme via <https://liftshare.com/uk/community/camshare> and for liftsharing across Norfolk join via <https://liftshare.com/uk/community/norfolk>

Visit [liftshare.com/uk](https://liftshare.com/uk) for more information.

## Did You Know?

The average car in England is driven just 4% of the time and parked at home 73% of the time.

*Source: RAC Foundation*



# Personal Travel Planning

It can be time consuming and confusing to understand all the different travel options available and where to find the information. Let us help you and we'll take care of your next journey!

We can create a Personal Travel Plan to help you understand all your sustainable travel options between your home and another destination, such as your workplace or your child's school. The plan will outline different options and the health benefits of each. Just tell us your destination, and your arrival and departure times, and we'll take care of the rest.

Email [info@smartjourneys.co.uk](mailto:info@smartjourneys.co.uk) for more information.

Train journeys can be planned using the Traveline website -  
<https://www.traveline.info/>

You can also plan your bus journey via the County Council -  
<https://www.cambridgeshirebus.info/>

## Contact Us

If you have any questions or need local travel or transport advice, please get in touch.

**Email:** [info@smartjourneys.co.uk](mailto:info@smartjourneys.co.uk)

**Website:** [smartjourneys.co.uk](https://smartjourneys.co.uk)

**Facebook:** [@smartjourneys](https://www.facebook.com/smartjourneys)

You can also access this pack online by visiting:  
[www.platformhomeownership.com/elm-high-travel](http://www.platformhomeownership.com/elm-high-travel)



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