

# The Haxey Strip

12 stages | 13 mi (20 km) | Ride Well

This circular route takes you through open arable farming countryside with fine views, quaint small villages and historic sites.



## Highlights

### Epworth

Along this route keep an eye out for the strip farming which was once prolific in the Isle of Axholme. A relic of medieval farming, the narrow strips covered almost all the cultivated ground. Each owner had several strips around the parish, giving everyone a variety of soils. Up to the 1970s much of the system survived but now most are joined into wider areas more suitable for modern machinery.

### Epworth Turbary

A Lincolnshire Trust nature reserve. Here, landowner John de Mowbray, through the Mowbray Deed gave commoners the right to cut peat for fuel.

### Graizelound

A small village where several surviving narrow farming strips can be seen, most used for market garden crops.

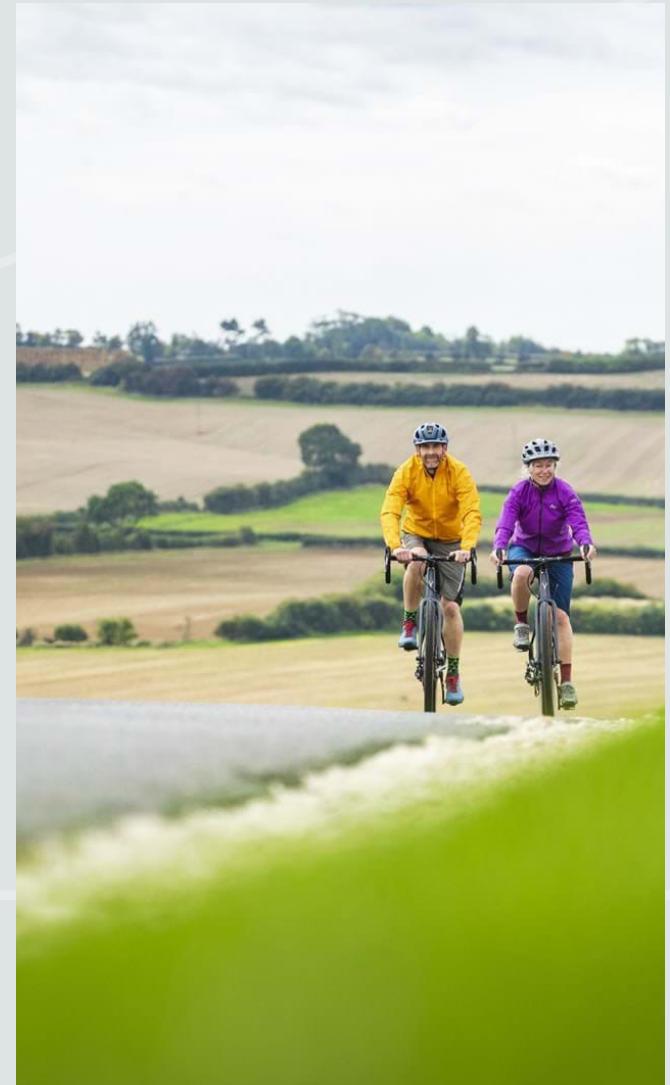
### Rider Information

Road surface is constructed of tarmac and is in a reasonable state of repair. However, watch out for small potholes that pepper the roads. (Notice that there is a stretch of road, just after turning off Idle Bank, onto Cove Road, that the road has a significant dip, which will only deteriorate and requires repairing).

Suitable for all types of bike.

### The grades for cycle rides

Ride easy, ride steady, ride well and ride strong have been developed by British Cycling to help cyclists to decide whether a particular route is appropriate for their ability.



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## Directions

**Epworth** is a small town situated South West of Scunthorpe; North West of Gainsborough; and East of Doncaster.

- 1 Start/Finish: Junction High Street and Church Street Epworth
- 2 Head North West on the High Street for half a mile. Then turn left onto Battle Green.
- 3 Follow the road onto Studcross, and then take your second left onto Carrside, which takes you out of town.
- 4 The road comes to a T-junction, turn right onto Wroot Road. Follow it to the end and then turn left onto Idle Lane.
- 5 After about 2 miles, turn left onto Cove Road, for Westwoodside. The road leads into Commonside after a sharp right-hand bend.
- 6 At the T-junction, turn right onto the B1396.
- 7 At the roundabout, take the first exit onto Akeferry Road, to Graizelound.
- 8 At the crossroads with the A161, go straight on, making sure you give way to priority traffic.
- 9 Follow the road all the way to Owston Ferry.
- 10 You will come to a T-junction, where you turn left and then immediately right onto Epworth Road. Stay on this road all the way to Epworth.
- 11 At the T-junction, turn left onto Rectory Street, and then take the 4th right onto Albion Hill.
- 12 Take the 3rd right onto Church Street and follow to start/finish.



## Refreshments

- ★ **Mowbrays**  
www.facebook.com/mowbrayscafe  
01427 754945  
mowbrayshaxey@gmail.com
- ★ **Lemon Tree Tea Rooms** – a little off route but great opening times, plenty of space and good car park  
www.facebook.com/HolmesandGardens.  
LemonTreeTeaRoom  
01427 872282  
holmesandgardens1@hotmail.co.uk
- ★ **The Cosy Cake Shop**  
www.facebook.com/TheCosyCakeShop  
01427 873228
- ★ **Mojo Coffee Lounge**  
www.facebook.com/Mojo-Coffee-Lounge-Epworth-226169690860159  
07858 420471
- ★ **Hatty's Tea Room**  
info@hattystearoom.co.uk  
01427 875507
- ★ **Albion Bakery & Café**  
www.facebook.com/AlbionBakery  
01427 872529
- ★ **The Crooked Billet**  
www.the-crooked-billet-owston-ferry.business.site  
07546 855899
- ★ **The Epworth Tap** – Evenings/Restaurant  
www.theepworthtap.co.uk/  
01427 873 333  
info@theepworthtap.co.uk

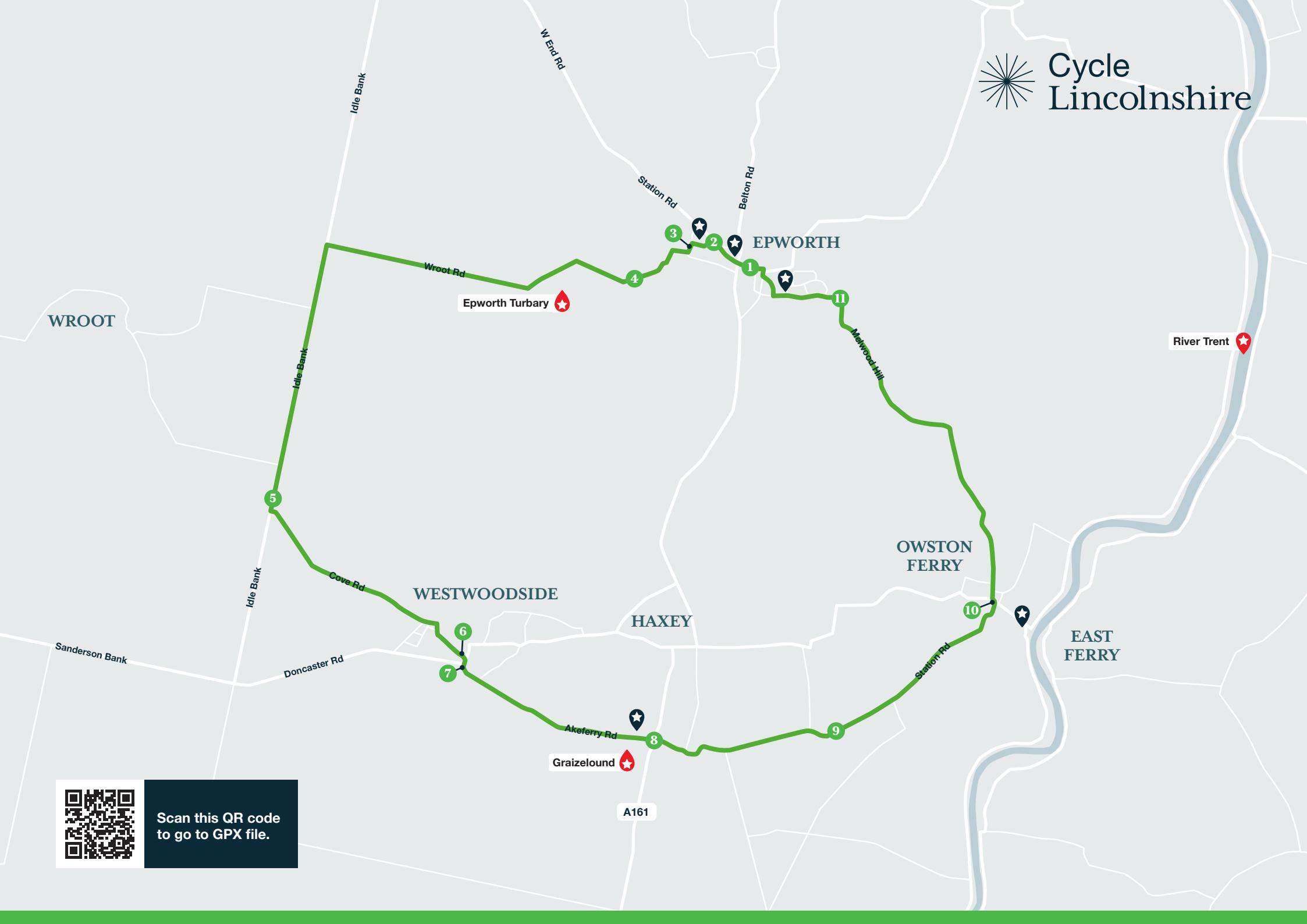
- ★ **Red Lion Steakhouse** – Evenings Monday to Friday  
www.redlionepworth.co.uk  
01427 872 208  
redlionepworth@btinternet.com

- ★ **White Bear Pub**  
www.thewhitebearpub.co.uk  
01427 872 544  
info@thewhitebearpub.co.uk

- ★ **The Old School Inn** – Evenings/Restaurant  
www.theoldschoolin nepworth.co.uk  
01427 875835  
theoldschoolin nepworth@gmail.com

- ★ **Koko Leaf** - Evenings  
www.facebook.com/KokoLeafEpworth  
kayleigh@kokoleafepworth.co.uk  
Tel 01427 872422





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