



(National Route 1)

7.5 miles (12km), mainly traffic-free Disused railway line from University of Kent, Canterbury to Whitstable

RAILWAY

There are railway stations at either end of the route. Canterbury has two stations; Canterbury West is the closer to the start of the trail. For train times call: **08457 484950**

BIKE HIRE

Canterbury, **Downland Cycle Hire**. Will collect and deliver within a 15 mile radius by arrangement tel: **01227 479643** www.downlandcycles.co.uk

TOURIST INFORMATION

Canterbury: **01227 378100**
Whitstable: **01227 275482**
www.kenttourism.co.uk

MAPS & GUIDES

Ordnance Survey Explorer 150 & Landranger 179 cover this area, please telephone KCC on **08458 247 600** or email: env.publications@kent.gov.uk to order.

Interactive cycle mapping and free downloadable leaflets at www.sustrans.org.uk

Additional information about cycling in Kent www.kent.gov.uk/cycling

www.kent.gov.uk/explorekent

*a guide to cycling
in the Kent countryside*

crab and winkle way



The Crab and Winkle Way is a terrific 7.5 mile (12km) mainly traffic-free route between Canterbury and Whitstable. Opened in 1999, it forms part of National Route 1 and takes its name from the railway line that once ran between the two towns until 1952. It's mostly flat, running partly on the old railway path, but also on woodland and Forestry Commission tracks.

It's a great family day out with plenty of interesting stop-offs along the way, from modern sculptures to medieval earthworks.

From Canterbury West station, head up to the university campus where you'll pick up the start of the trail, about half of which is on the disused railway. Once in Whitstable, enjoy the oysters while taking in the stunning views across the bay, especially at sunset.

Incidentally, the Crab and Winkle Line was the World's first passenger railway line when it opened in 1830. But the steam locomotive Invicta couldn't cope with the gradients and was soon replaced with cables driven by a winding steam engine. But cyclists today shouldn't experience any problems with the short climbs!

