

**Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council -**

[www.tmbc.gov.uk](http://www.tmbc.gov.uk) Tel **01732 844522**

**Penshurst Place and Gardens -**

[www.penshurstplace.com](http://www.penshurstplace.com) - Tel **01892 870307**

**Tonbridge Castle Tourist Information Office -**

[www.tonbridgecastle.org](http://www.tonbridgecastle.org) - Tel **01732 770929**

**National Cycle Network visit**

[www.nationalcyclenetwork.org.uk](http://www.nationalcyclenetwork.org.uk)

Tel **0845 113 0065**

**Cycle Hire - Cycle-ops,**

148 High Street Tonbridge -

[www.cycle-ops.co.uk](http://www.cycle-ops.co.uk) - Tel **01732 500533**

**Tonbridge Train Station -**

for train times call **08457 484950**

Cycle code - Be seen and heard - Always give way to walkers and children - Use plenty of sunscreen - Carry water - Cycle Helmets are recommended. Warning - Part of the route crosses the Medway flood prevention scheme so care should be taken, particularly during winter months.

**Parking** - Tonbridge and Haysden Country Park car parks have 2m height restrictions barriers in place, which means that bicycles carried on roof racks will have to be removed before entry.

**Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council** -Leisure Services, **Penshurst Place and Gardens** - Ian Scott, **Cartography** - Tom Burslem, Cycle City Guides, **Writer** - Nick Cotton, **Photos** - Mark Mercer, David Young/Sustrans, Chris Walker, Ian Scott, Rod Edwards/VisitKent/britainonview.com **Design** - Paul Baker, **Project Management** - David Young, Sustrans

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**CYCLE FROM**

## PENSHURST PLACE TO TONBRIDGE CASTLE



**MAP AND GUIDE**



**CYCLE FROM**

## TONBRIDGE CASTLE TO PENSHERST PLACE



**MAP AND GUIDE**





**Regional Cycle Route 12 between Tonbridge Castle and Penshurst Place offers an excellent, almost entirely traffic-free ride from the heart of Tonbridge alongside the River Medway, out into the countryside as far as the glorious buildings of Penshurst Place, some 5 miles to the west.**

This wonderful cycle ride takes you past playing fields on the edge of Tonbridge and into Haysden Country Park, running around the edge of Barden Lake with its wide variety of birdlife. Shortly after passing beneath the A21 you enter a delightful secret kingdom of lush broadleaf woodland carpeted with wildflowers in the spring and a delight in autumn as the colours change.

The one noticeable climb of the day comes between the bridge over the River Medway and Well Place Farm giving you wide-ranging views of the surrounding countryside and setting you up for a fine descent past two lakes to arrive at Penshurst Place, the finest and most complete example in England of 14th-century domestic architecture.

### **ROUTE INSTRUCTIONS – follow the blue Regional Cycle Route 12 road signs.**

From the entrance to Tonbridge Swimming Pool car park go to the far end of the overflow car park, keeping the rugby clubhouse to your left. Follow the cycle path around the edge of the playing fields, pass under a railway bridge and turn left at the T-junction of tracks to cross the bridge over the river. Shortly turn left again and pick up cycle route signs, re-crossing the river to emerge at Barden Lake.

Keeping the water to your right, turn left and follow the outer of two parallel tracks around the edge of Barden Lake. At the end of the lake turn left to go under a railway bridge then at the T-junction, with the car park to the right, turn left. At the next T-junction, at the end of the drive to Haysden Country Park, turn right. Follow this lane through the village of Lower Haysden, passing the pub.

Go under the A21, turn first right then first left onto a stone track passing through lovely broadleaf woodland. At the end of the track, at the T-junction with Ensfield Road, turn right, then 150 metres after crossing the bridge turn left at the route 12 sign and proceed onto the concrete track through the Penshurst Estate. Climb on this broad track and then descend past Well Place Farm towards the magnificent buildings of Penshurst Place.



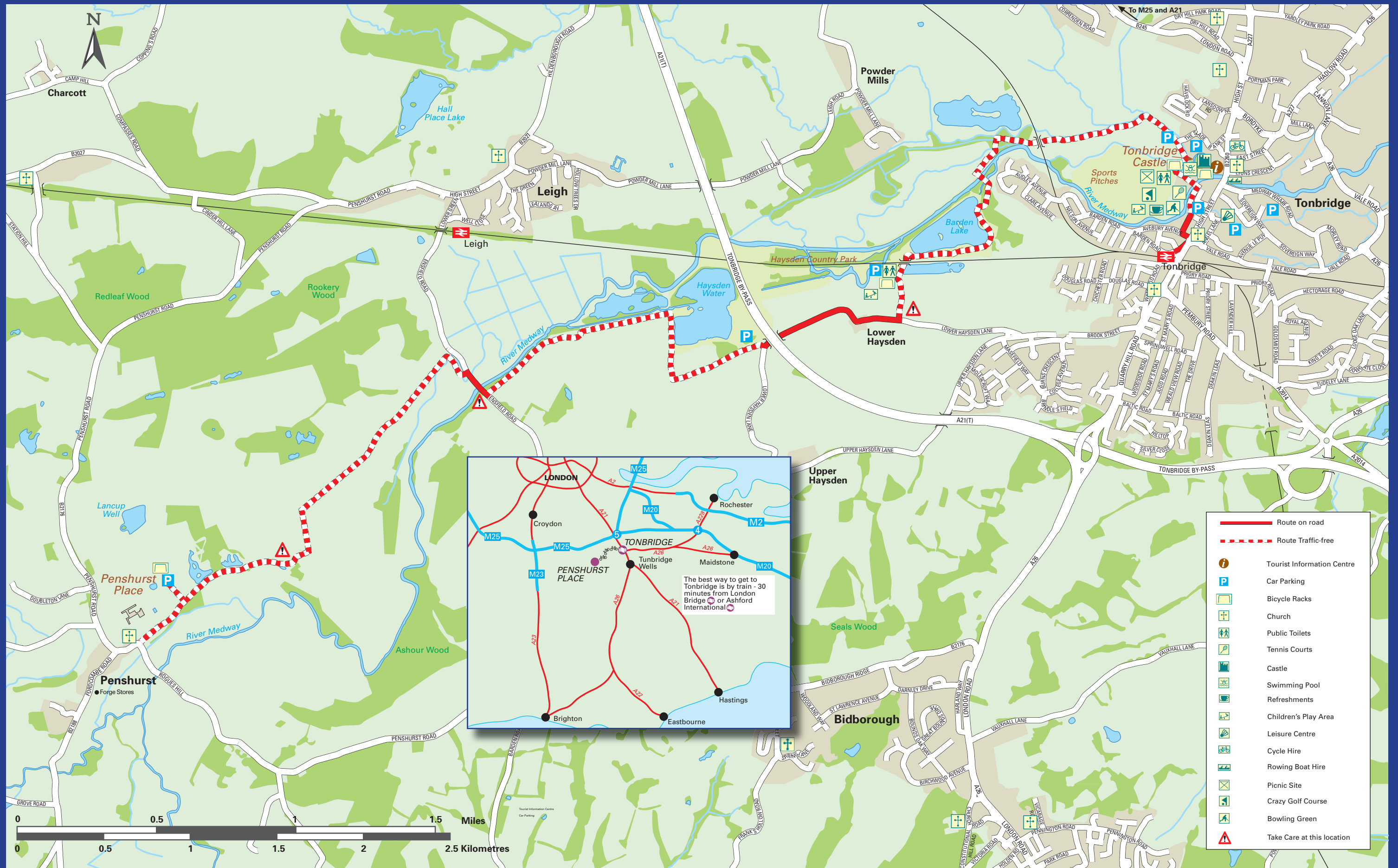
**Tonbridge Castle** Reputedly England's finest example of a motte & bailey castle, dating back to medieval times. An audio tour is available of the dramatically lit 13th century gatehouse, which provides an enjoyable visit, whatever the weather.

**Haysden Country Park** – Covers some 165 acres of woodland, meadow and open water and supports a wealth of wildlife throughout the year. Website [www.tmbc.gov.uk/HCP](http://www.tmbc.gov.uk/HCP)

**Penshurst Place and Gardens - The Place to Visit**  
Discover the beauty and tranquillity of the historic home of Viscount De L'Isle; with a medieval Baron's Hall, staterooms and 11 acres of Tudor walled gardens. For children, a traditional Adventure Playground and Woodland Trail. Garden Tea Room and kiosk, picnic areas available and Gift Shop (open all year). Season tickets available. **Bike racks outside visitor entrance.**







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PENSHURST  
PLACE  
AND GARDENS

