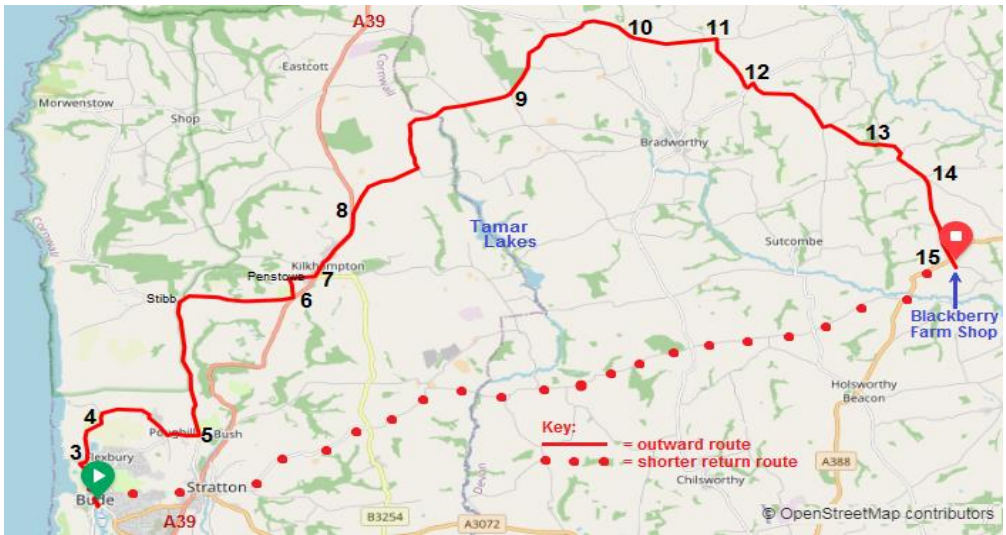


Crescent to Blackberry Farm Shop northern route

This ride takes you to Blackberry Farm Shop (with café/restaurant and scenic fieldside tea-garden) near Milton Damerel, mainly on quiet roads/lanes.

The attractive outward 19½ mile (31km) route loops north above Bradworthy to avoid the climbs in the rivers Tamar and Waldon valleys.
(See later for return options)



1 Start at the Tourist Information Centre in the Crescent car park. Ride across the car park to the exit (beside a ticket machine) opposite the Crescent Stores.

2 Ride to Sainsburys (at the north edge of the town). Two options:

either a) - for less traffic - turn left from this exit and then immediately right into Ergue Gaberic Way (or push your bike over the traffic island and into Ergue Gaberic Way). Cycle along to the junction at Bude light and turn right to go past the recreation ground to Nanny Moores Bridge. Cross the river and turn left to cycle through Summerleaze car park and turn right to cycle up the car park exit slope. At the T-junction at the top turn left and then fork left to Sainsburys .

or b) - more traffic - turn right at this exit and cycle to the roundabout. Turn left there and cycle along the Strand to the bus shelter, then veer right and cycle up Belle Vue (Bude's main shopping street). Ignore sideroads until the hill flattens out, there fork left to Sainsburys.

3 From Sainsburys go on down Crooklets Road towards Crooklets car park. Follow the road round to the right and, at the next crossroads, turn left into Maer Down Road. After 30m turn right into Maer Lane (brown sign for Bude Holiday Resort). Cycle 1.4km along this scenic lane to the T-junction at Grenville Gate.

4. At Grenville Gate turn right and cycle 1.6km up this lane to a give-way T-junction beside a stone bus shelter at Poughill.

[Note: a more direct (less scenic and more traffic) alternative uses Golf Course Road & Poughill Road to get from Sainsburys to Poughill.]

5 At this junction turn left and cycle up the road, past the church and pub, to a T-junction. Here turn left (signed 'Stibb 2') and follow this road for 3km to a T-junction at Stibb. Turn right (signed 'Kilkhampton 1¾') and (ignoring a road off left shortly after) ride 2.3km to a T-junction with the A39.

6 There confident cyclists can turn left (signed 'Kilkhampton 1½') onto the A39 and ride the 750m up to the main junction (with the B3254) in Kilkhampton. Those wanting a quieter ride should instead go through the big stone gateway on the left into Penstowe holiday park and ride 400m to a T-junction. Turn right and ride up the slope to exit the park and on 250m to the A39/B3254 junction in Kilkhampton.

7 Now ride north up the A39 (towards Bideford) for 1.7km through Kilkhampton (*it is 30mph, then 40mph restricted most of the way*). About 150m after leaving the 40mph restriction is a minor road going off to the right (signed 'Bradworthy 5').

8 Turn right to take this road (*caution - fast A39 traffic may be coming over the hillbrow ahead*). From now on the roads are all minor country lanes. Ride this road for 2km to a T-junction; turn left and ride 2.2km (crossing the still very small Tamar river into Devon) to a crossroads (Trentworthy Water). Go straight on there to the next crossroads (Trentworthy X - *but not labelled*).

[Note: most road junctions in North Devon have a name, usually written vertically on the front face of a white finger post.]

9 Go straight on (signed 'Loatmead 1¼') and ride 1.7km (ignoring a lane off right after 700m) to the junction at Loatmead X. There veer right (signed 'Bradworthy') and ride past the farm to take a turning left (signed 'Bradworthy 3'). After a further 500m there is an angled junction; veer right (signed 'Bradworthy 2¼'). Follow this road for 1km (ignoring a lane going off left after 800m) to Quoit Gate X. There the road you are on goes round a righthand bend but you go straight on into a little lane (signed 'Bideford 14').

10 This little lane dips then rises to pass a Trig point then dips again. It reaches a junction (Whitely X) where you go straight on but shortly after there is a 2nd junction (Ashdown X) where you turn right.

11 Follow this new lane for 1.3km (*caution: it often has potholes*) to a T-junction. Turn left onto this road (signed 'Bideford 13') and ride 130m to the next junction (Silworthy X) where you turn right (signed 'Milton Damerel').

12 Take this lane for 2km (ignoring a lane off to the left after 1.6km) to Wheelers X. Turn left (signed 'M. Damerel 3½') and ride 130m to Thriverton X where you turn right (signed 'Milton Damerel 3½'). Ride 1.1km to a T-junction (Sanders X).

13 Turn right (signed 'Holsworthy') and follow this road (passing lanes going off left at Worden X and off right at Roseland X) to the junction at Five Lanes X.

14 At Five Lanes X take the 2nd of the two right turnings (signed 'Milton Damerel 1½').

15 Follow this lane for 1.8km (ignoring one lane off right at Derworthy X after 1.1km) to an offset crossroads with the A388 at Venn Green.

16 Cross over the A388 into the lane opposite. Blackberry Farm Shop and Café/Tea-garden is on the right after 130m.

Return

The shortest (13 mile, 21km) route back is to take the A388 south for 1.5km and turn right just after crossing Waldon bridge. Follow this lane (going straight at all junctions) until the church in Stratton. From there go to the main A3072/A39 junction, cross over into the lane to the primary school car park and take the bridleway to Broadclose Hill. Cycle down Broadclose Hill to meet Landsdown Road opposite Ridelt cycles. *This route is shown dotted on the map.*

An alternative (18 mile, 29km) is to ride the 'Crescent to Blackberry Farm southern route' (*documented separately*) in the reverse direction. This uses quiet lanes through Milton Damerel and Woodacott X to Holsworthy cemetery, then via Holsworthy Golf Club to Derril, then NCN3 back to Bude Crescent car park.