

MEDINA ESTUARY CIRCULAR WALK



THE MEDINA ESTUARY CIRCULAR WALK IS APPROXIMATELY 9 MILES/ 14KM LONG AND AT A FAIRLY BRISK PACE CAN BE COMPLETED IN APPROXIMATELY 4 HOURS.

MEDINA IS THE LATINISED FORM OF ITS SAXON NAME 'MEDENE' MEANING 'MIDDLE RIVER'.

THE MEDINA IS HOME TO MANY DIFFERENT CREATURES BUT IS A KEY SPOT FOR WADING BIRDS AND WATERFOWL, ESPECIALLY IN THE WINTER. KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR LITTLE EGRET, OYSTERCATCHERS, CURLEW, BLACK TAILED GODWITS, GREY HERONS AND REDSHANK.

THE TREE LINED CYCLEWAY IS A GREAT PLACE TO CATCH A GLIMPSE OF RED SQUIRRELS.

PLEASE TAKE CARE - PARTICULARLY ON THE PATHS CLOSEST TO THE ESTUARY - THEY MAY BE MUDDY!

LOOK OUT FOR THE BLADES! A FEATURE OF THE ESTUARY SINCE 2000, VESTAS () TRANSPORT THEIR WIND TURBINE BLADES ON A SPECIALLY DESIGNED BARGE WHICH CAUSES VERY LITTLE WASH AND THEREFORE LESS DISTURBANCE TO THE RIVER BANKS AND THE WILDLIFE.

THE CYCLEWAY ALONG THE OLD RAILWAY LINE IS VERY POPULAR SO LOOK AND LISTEN OUT FOR CYCLISTS!

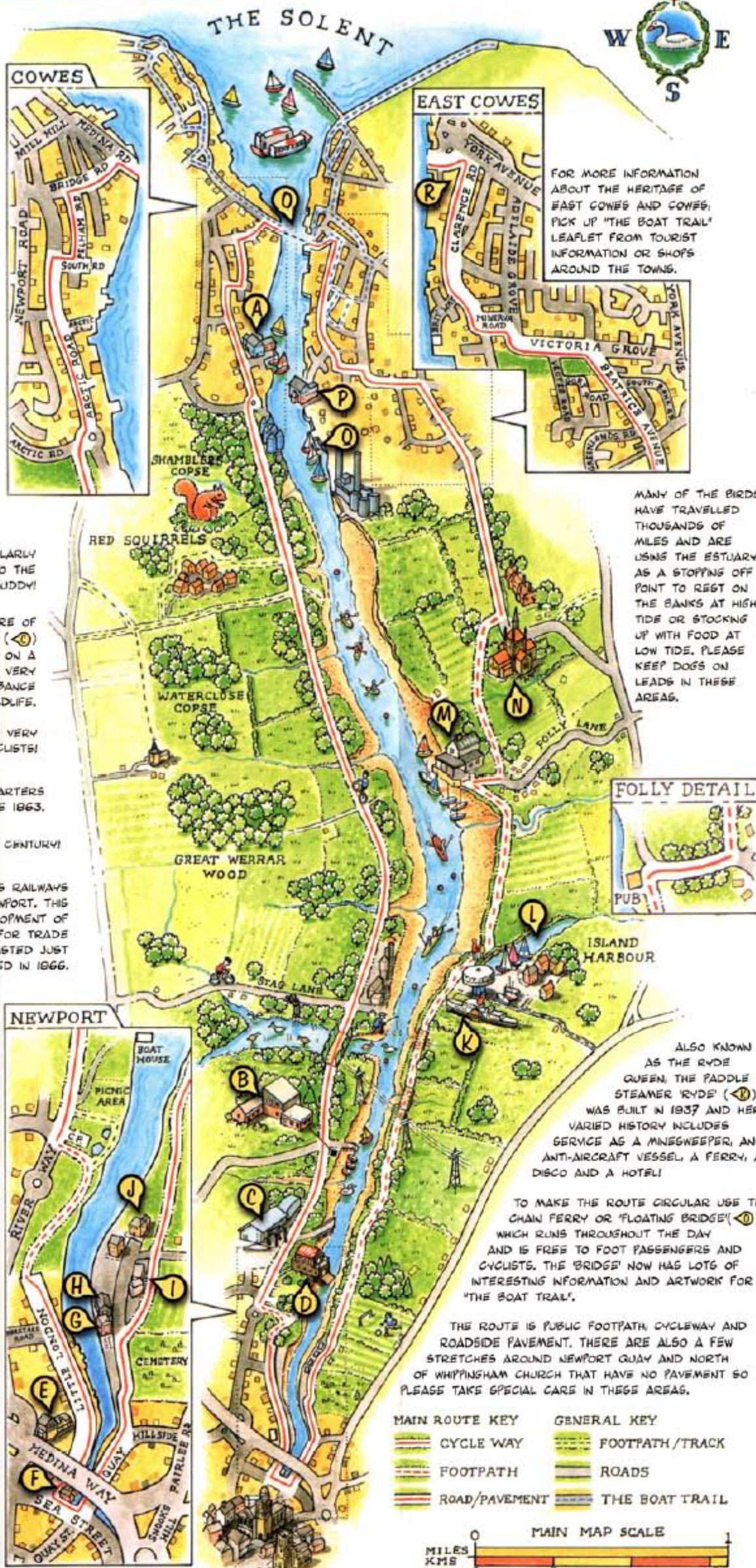
NEWPORT ROWING CLUB HEADQUARTERS () HAS BEEN HERE SINCE 1863.

NEWPORT WAS A FLOURISHING PORT BY THE 15TH CENTURY!

IN 1862 THE FIRST OF THE ISLANDS RAILWAYS WAS OPENED BETWEEN COWES AND NEWPORT. THIS WAS A KEY FEATURE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE MEDINA AS A MAJOR WATERWAY FOR TRADE AND TRANSPORT. THE RAILWAY LASTED JUST OVER 100 YEARS AND WAS CLOSED IN 1866.

KEY TO FEATURES

- UK SAILING ACADEMY **A**
- MEDINA VALLEY CENTRE **B**
- VESTAS BLADES **C**
- NEWPORT ROWING CLUB **D**
- BARGEMAN'S REST (PH) **E**
- QUAY ARTS CENTRE **F**
- JUBILEE STORES **G**
- BUS MUSEUM **H**
- CLASSIC BOAT MUSEUM **I**
- MEDINA QUAY (PH) **J**
- PADDLE STEAMER 'RYDE' **K**
- ISLAND HARBOUR **L**
- FOLLY INN (PH) **M**
- WHIPPINSHAM CHURCH **N**
- THE FLOATING BRIDGE **O**
- THE LIFEBOAT (PH) **P**
- EAST COWES MARINA **Q**
- THE HERITAGE CENTRE **R**



FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE HERITAGE OF EAST COWES AND COWES, PICK UP 'THE BOAT TRAIL' LEAFLET FROM TOURIST INFORMATION OR SHOPS AROUND THE TOWN.







MANY OF THE BIRDS HAVE TRAVELLED THOUSANDS OF MILES AND ARE USING THE ESTUARY AS A STOPPING OFF POINT TO REST ON THE BANKS AT HIGH TIDE OR STOCKING UP WITH FOOD AT LOW TIDE. PLEASE KEEP DOGS ON LEADS IN THESE AREAS.

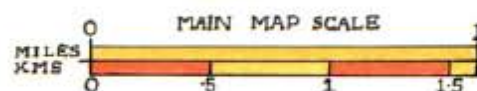


ALSO KNOWN AS THE RYDE QUEEN, THE PADDLE STEAMER 'RYDE' () WAS BUILT IN 1837 AND HER VARIED HISTORY INCLUDES SERVICE AS A MINEWEEPER, AN ANTI-AIRCRAFT VESSEL, A FERRY, A DISCO AND A HOTEL!

TO MAKE THE ROUTE CIRCULAR USE THE CHAIN FERRY OR 'FLOATING BRIDGE' () WHICH RUNS THROUGHOUT THE DAY AND IS FREE TO FOOT PASSENGERS AND CYCLISTS. THE 'BRIDGE' NOW HAS LOTS OF INTERESTING INFORMATION AND ARTWORK FOR 'THE BOAT TRAIL'.

THE ROUTE IS PUBLIC FOOTPATH, CYCLEWAY AND ROAD/PAVEMENT. THERE ARE ALSO A FEW STRETCHES AROUND NEWPORT QUAY AND NORTH OF WHIPPINSHAM CHURCH THAT HAVE NO PAVEMENT SO PLEASE TAKE SPECIAL CARE IN THESE AREAS.

- | MAIN ROUTE KEY | GENERAL KEY |
|---|--|
|  CYCLE WAY |  FOOTPATH/TRACK |
|  FOOTPATH |  ROADS |
|  ROAD/PAVEMENT |  THE BOAT TRAIL |



PLEASE REMEMBER TO WEAR SUITABLE FOOTWEAR!