

Britain's Toughest Bike Rides

You've got your bike, you've got good health, but have you got the courage to take on some of the toughest bike climbs in the UK? Packed with physical and mental challenges along the way, anything can and does happen so you will want to be prepared. Firstly, make sure your bike is **insured** for any damage and secondly, know what to expect. So we have compiled a list of the toughest bike rides in Britain to wet your appetite and to prepare you for the ride of your life.

A Right Roman Ride

Built by the Romans in early part of the second century, Hardknott Pass in Cumbria, at 2.25km long and almost 300 metres high, this is one bike track that once climbed will never be forgotten. With cattle grids and small woodlands encompassing this snake-like pass, you certainly know you are battling the elements of nature when you are standing on the pedals of your bike willing to make the last push to the top.

A Secret Stretch of Road

Set against the backdrop of a 1960's Science Fiction Satellite Station known colloquially as 'the Golf Ball,' this private stretch of road, granted for cyclists is one of Cumbria's best kept secrets. The Great Dun Fell is a biker's dream with its spectacular views of the exposed countryside and at a height of almost 640 metres, it is a tough ask to complete without getting off your roadster for a quick break. But if you manage it, it will be worth it. And you never know, you might just get a call from the secret service for your grand efforts as it feels as if someone is always watching you on this stretch of tarmac.

No Smoke Without Fire

Set in the Yorkshire Moors, the Chimney is one of the most feared cycle routes and if you are going to thank your lucky stars for getting **comprehensive bike insurance** cover, it is here where you will most probably need it. Classed as a one – in – three gradient, this rollercoaster of a ride will have the most ardent and brave cyclists quivering with fear, especially as the stretch lasts for close to 1, 500 metres. Any cyclist considering this ride will certainly need a lot of fire in their belly as well as in their pedals.

The Devil's in the Dales

They say that the devil is in the detail, but for any cyclist who knows their devil's elbows from their sore riding backsides, the devil is actually in the Dales. Fleet Moss is known as the highest climb in Yorkshire and with random sheep dotted around the hillside, you could think you are in a Jules Verne novel when you eventually do make it to the top: the top of the world that is, because the views of the scenery are figuratively out of this world.

Save the Beast for Last

For some cyclists, with calves made out of steel and the stamina of five Olympians, maybe this is saving the best for last, but for us mere mortals of riders, this is literally the toughest bike ride in Britain. And where else would you expect it to be, than in the Scottish Highlands. Bealach-Na-Ba is a killer of an ascent and with a distance of nearly 9,000 km and a climb of almost 700 metres. Surrounded with waterfalls and dramatic countryside that can change in an instant due to rolling mists this is more like Lord of the Rings country than anything else. So you will definitely want to have a fellowship with you when you ride this beast.

So remember before you set out on the toughest bike rides in Britain, there's no insurance like the best insurance.

Author Bio

Chris Northey has attempted one of the toughest bike rides in Britain but made sure he did his homework on [quotes for cycle insurance](#) before he set foot outside of his own front door.