

# Taxi firm to take weary cyclists and bikes home

**ALEX STEPHENS**

IT is the service for the cyclist who has everything but the stamina to keep on pedalling.

This week London's first green "bike rescue" taxi fleet, for riders who get too tired to complete their



STANDARD CAMPAIGN

SAFER CYCLING

journey is launched. The hybrid taxis, which cost slightly more than a black cab, are fitted with cycle

racks and will deliver riders and their bikes to their destination.

"We want to encourage more people to cycle around London, but understand the return journey can often put people off," said Nicko Williamson, founder of climatecars, the company

behind the scheme. "We aim to give our customers flexibility to take their bike without the need for an unpleasant ride home."

The trial service has proved particularly popular with City workers unable, or unwilling, to cycle home after a heavy night out.

Popular routes, such as from the City to Clapham Common or Fulham, cost around £20.

More than a million people in London are believed to own a bicycle and an estimated half a million bike journeys are made every day — 30,000 more than last

year. Numbers are expected to rise further as Transport for London spends more on infrastructure. The Mayor and TfL have increased investment in cycling from £24million in 2006/07 to £36million in 2007/08.

[www.climatecars.com](http://www.climatecars.com)

