The Connecticut River Estuary Excursion

Total Distance**: 33.2 miles**   Elevation Gain**: 1640 feet**

Degree of Difficulty Index**: 1640 ft / 33.2 mi = 49.40 ft/mi**   Terrain**: Rolling to hilly**

Killer Hills: **None**

Geographical Region**: South Central Connecticut**

City/Town**: Chester**

Starting Location**: Rt. 9 Exit 8 CPL (Rt. 148) in Chester**

Ride Description**: This ride is over mostly rolling terrain as it visits several of the towns that adjoin the Connecticut River Estuary. There are many spectacular views of the Connecticut River along the way with stops at Essex village (good spot for a lunch/snack break) and Deep River Landing. For the most part the route avoids heavily traveled roads (except for a 3.2 mile stretch along Rt. 154 in lower Essex). After departing Essex village there are a couple relatively short and lovely "off-course excursions" (not on the route sheet – but see below) that you can elect to visit if desired.**

Facilities and *Points of Interest*:

Mile	Facilities - *Points of Interest*
5.3+	*Little park in Ivoryton (seasonal port-a-potty)*
6.9	*Begin great stretch of bike road with smooth surface and banked curves (to mile cue 10.5)*
11.0	*Westbrook High School and Middle school on left*
19.0	*Start tour through Otter Cove development (pay attention to cues…it's a maze)*
22.6	*Enter Essex village*
22.7+	*Park w/ gazebo and* public bathrooms *beside the NewAlliance Bank & Post Office on right*
23.1	*Connecticut River Museum, boat launch and landing pier (views of Connecticut River)*
~24.0	*Possible side trip into cemetery to the right (views of the Connecticut River)*
~24.5	*Possible side trip to view windmill (Go right on New City St; Left on Riverview St; Bear Right onto Foxboro Rd to end; RD retrace out on Foxboro and Straight on Maple; Right onto No. Main St)…both side trips add approx 1.2 miles to length of ride*
29.9	*Deep River Landing w/ gazebo (views);* portable bathrooms available here

Note: There are several stores along the route primarily in Essex (22.6) where food and beverages can be purchased.

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