

Summer Breeze Half Century Ride

NOTE: This Ride Description and its corresponding Route Sheet may not have been checked for accuracy by the www.ctbikeroutes.org team

Total Distance: **51.16 miles**

Elevation Gain: **2339 feet**

Degree of Difficulty Index: **2339 ft / 51.16 mi = 45.72 ft/mi**

Terrain: **Rolling to hilly**

Killer Hills: **Difficult ¾ mi. climb on County Rd starting @ ~ the 15.0 mi. cue; lengthy climb on Beaver Meadow Rd between cues 28.3 and 30.9 mi.**

Geographical Region: **South Central Connecticut**

Starting Location (city/town): **Madison**

Starting Location (detailed directions to): **From I-95 Exit 61 (Rt. 79) in Madison, go south on Rt. 79 (Durham Rd) ~ 0.6 miles to the 3rd traffic light; turn right (west) on Rt. 1 and follow for ~ 1.5 miles; turn left on Neck Rd (just before small shopping plaza) and follow for ~ 0.6 miles. Our Lady of Mercy school will be on the left. Please do not use the Our Lady of Mercy parking area; find an inconspicuous spot on Neck Road to park. Start your bike trip odometer at the Our Lady of Mercy driveway.**

Ride Description: **This is a challenging ride that visits the towns of Madison, Killingworth, Haddam (Higganum) and Clinton while riding almost entirely on scenic back roads (the exception is the 1.0 mile stretch on Rt. 154 between Higganum and Walkley Rd. There is an elevation gain/loss of 2339 feet and there are some steep sections on the ride. Riders attempting this ride should be in good physical condition. It's a pretty ride but it's difficult in spots.**

Facilities and *Points of Interest*:

Mile	Facilities - <i>Points of Interest</i>
0.0	Our Lady of Mercy school
10.4	Camp Laurelwood on the left (wooded)
23.6	Higganum business district
30.9	Good spot for a snack/lunch break at boulders on the right (intersection of Beaver Meadow Rd and Parker Hill Rd); may be possible to purchase food at deli (go ~ 0.1 mi. right on Parker Hill Rd) or at the convenience store about 0.4 mi. south on Rt. 81 from the Parker Hill Rd intersection
46.8	Start 1.5 mile ride along Madison coast w/ several spectacular views of L.I. Sound
48.6	Madison Green
51.16	Our Lady of Mercy school

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Ride description: Wu-New167

Route sheet: RS-New167

Ride submitted by: Betty Gunning/DPS, 10/28/08 (updated 11/10/08)