

Essex – Harkness Memorial State Park 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: **44.85 miles**

Elevation Gain: **1692 feet**

Degree of Difficulty Index: **1692 ft / 44.85 mi = 37.7 ft/mi** Terrain: **Rolling**

Killer Hills: **None...but the ½ mile on Plants Dam Rd @ mile cue 33.5 will focus your mind a tad**

Geographical Region: **South Central Connecticut**

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

Starting Location (detailed directions to): **Route 9 Exit 3 CPL (Route 154) in Essex; CPL is on Route 154 just east of intersection with Route 153.**

Ride Description: **This is a scenic ride that includes both woodland and shore roads. Harkness Memorial State Park is the mid-point of the ride and is an excellent spot for a snack/lunch break.**

Facilities and *Points of Interest*:

| Mile | Facilities - <i>Points of Interest</i> |
|-------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 3.4 | <i>Start ride across the Baldwin Bridge on the pedestrian/bike path</i> |
| 4.6 | Large shopping plaza (w/ an A&P) on the right |
| 10.9 | Farm store on the right just before turn onto Bridebrook Rd |
| 13.8 | Samuel Peretz Park (formerly Bridebrook Park) on the left; bathrooms & water (seasonal) |
| 13.9 | <i>Niantic Correctional facility on the left</i> |
| 16.3 | McCook's Park on the right; bathrooms & water (seasonal) |
| 17.2 | Niantic Village business district |
| 17.8 | <i>Niantic River draw bridge</i> |
| 20.6 | Convenience store on right; purchase lunch makings, as appropriate |
| 23.0 | <i>Harkness Memorial State Park; bathrooms; water; picnic tables; estate grounds</i> |
| 29.2 | Frostie Treat snack store on left just after turning onto Columbus Ave. |
| | |
| | Note: most of the above Facilities and <i>Points of Interest</i> will be passed on the return trip |
| | |

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Ride description: **Wu-New174**

Route sheet: **RS-New174**

Ride developed by: **Dan Johnson & Rick Merritt**

Ride submitted by: **Betty Gunning, 5/14/09 (updated 6/10/09)**