

Messerschmidt Pond 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: **28.2 miles**

Elevation Gain: **746 feet**

Degree of Difficulty Index: **746 ft / 28.2 mi = 26.45 ft/mi**

Terrain: **Flat to rolling**

Killer Hills: **None**

Geographical Region: **South Central Connecticut**

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

Starting Location (detailed directions to): **I-95 Exit 63 CPL (Rt.81) in Clinton**

Ride Description: **The first half of the ride (+/-) is relatively flat as the route tours various shoreline areas in Clinton and Westbrook including the Clinton Town Beach and Pilot's Point (an upscale private community on the Westbrook shoreline) before turning inland (and somewhat uphill) en route to Messerschmidt Pond where (on the east side of the pond) there is a fine spot for a lunch/snack break. Continuing north and then west the ride route eventually turns south and passes the west side of the pond before wending its way back to the starting point through several Clinton residential areas. While there is considerable state road riding on the route, the state roads (Rtes. 1, 80 & 145) have delightfully smooth surfaces and wide shoulders ideal for bicycles.**

Facilities and *Points of Interest*:

Mile	Facilities - <i>Points of Interest</i>
<i>3.4</i>	<i>Clinton Town Beach</i>
<i>6.1</i>	<i>Hammock Point; views of Clinton Harbor and Long Island Sound</i>
<i>10.8</i>	<i>Commence tour of Pilot's Point, an upscale private community on Long Island Sound</i>
<i>11.5</i>	<i>Spectacular views of Long Island Sound from Seaside Avenue</i>
<i>17.3</i>	<i>Messerschmidt Pond (views from east side of pond; good lunch/snack spot)</i>
<i>21.5</i>	<i>Views from the west side of Messerschmidt Pond</i>
<i>23.7</i>	<i>Sensational winding downhill swoop on Breakneck Hill Road (maintain good control...smooth road surface)</i>

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Ride description: Wu-New184

Route sheet: RS-New184

Ride submitted by: Carol Marchion, 7/31/09 (updated 9/19/09)