

An Essex “Over-the-Bridge” Ride to Old Lyme

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

Total Distance: **32.3 miles**

Elevation Gain: **n/a feet**

Degree of Difficulty Index: **n/a ft / 32.3 mi = n/a ft/mi**

Terrain: **Flat (est'd)**

Killer Hills: **None**

Geographical Region: **South Eastern 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 picturesque ride is over mostly flat terrain and features “going and coming” rides over the Baldwin Bridge on the pedestrian/bike path. It visits the CT DEP Marine Headquarters and a (seasonal) ride to the end of the boardwalk for spectacular views of the mouth of the Connecticut River and adjoining marsh land. The ride then continues east to Smith Neck’s Road and the boat launch and viewing platform w/ various displays. Continuing its easterly meander, the ride drops into White Sands Beach for some ocean views. Departing White Sands Beach the ride returns via an inland route before re-crossing the Baldwin Bridge and returning to the starting point.

Facilities and *Points of Interest*:

Mile	Facilities - <i>Points of Interest</i>
1.7	<i>Start trip through Otter Cove, an upscale Old Saybrook development</i>
4.6	<i>Commence west to east ride over the Baldwin Bridge via pedestrian/bike path</i>
7.0	<i>Views from end of boardwalk at the CT DEP Marine Headquarters (make this ride on the boardwalk only during the “low season”; not considerate to ride on the boardwalk if there are lots of pedestrians or fishermen)</i>
10.7	<i>Boat Launch and display platform at the end of Smith’s Neck Road; great views of marshes</i>
13.2	<i>White Sand Beach (gazebo)...fine, sandy beach and excellent views of L. I. Sound</i>
17.8	<i>Black Hall Club...upscale private golf course and country club (on left)</i>
22.6	<i>Commence east to west ride over the Baldwin Bridge via pedestrian/bike path</i>

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Ride description: **Wu-New214**

Route sheet: **RS-New214**

Ride submitted by: **Don Shildneck, 10/31/12 (updated 11/5/12)**