

## Ledge's Dogwood Festival Ride

Total Distance: **29.6 miles**

Elevation Gain: **1059 ft**

Degree of Difficulty: **1059 ft / 29.6 mi. = 35.78 ft/mi**

Terrain: **Rolling**

Killer Hills: **One "gasper"**

Geographical Region: **Southwest Connecticut**

City/Town: **Fairfield**

Starting Location: **Jenning's Beach/Sandcastle parking area, Fairfield**

Special Directions: **I-95 south to Exit 23 (U.S. 1 & King's Hwy). Continue to 4<sup>th</sup> traffic light. Turn left on So. Benson Rd. At 3<sup>rd</sup> stop sign, bear left toward Jennings/Sandcastle. Parking area is at end on the right.**

Ride Description: **This ride is on mostly rolling terrain, although there are several hilly sections as well as a lot of flat riding. It passes through sections of Fairfield and Westport's "Gold Coast," has lovely shoreline views, and passes some of the beautiful homes in the area. The nicest time of year for the ride is the second week in May, which is the peak of the dogwood season.**

**Note: A large parking fee is required to park at Jennings Beach during the summer months. A little ingenuity in finding a local street side parking place is required...but it can be done. There is a school located nearby and that is a good spot to park...if you can find it. It's located to the west of the Jennings Beach parking lot.**

Facilities and *Points of Interest*:

<b>Mile</b>	<b>Facilities - <i>Points of Interest</i></b>
0.0	<i>Jenning's Beach/Sandcastle area</i>
0.6	<i>Monk Parakeet nests above in trees</i>
4.9	<i>Annual Dogwood Festival second week in May (Arts, Crafts, Food Portable Toilets)</i>
11.8	Country Store w/ deli, restroom
14.7	Cumberland Farms, deli
17.1	<i>Start tour thru Longshore Park (golf course)</i>
19.3	<i>Compo Beach (views)...nice spot for a lunch/snack break – bicycles permitted w/o fee</i>
24.2	<i>Southport Beach (views)</i>
29.6	<i>Jenning's Beach/Sandcastle area</i>
	Note: After the Compo Beach stop, the ride passes thru Westport's "Gold Coast"; enjoy the views of the beautiful estates and mansions along the way...spectacular!

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