

Connecticut River Ride

Total Distance: **42.8 miles**

Elevation Gain: **2265 feet**

Degree of Difficulty Index: **2265 ft / 42.8 mi = 52.92 ft/mi**

Terrain: **Rolling to hilly**

Killer Hills: **None**

Geographical Region: **South Central Connecticut**

City/Town: **Chester**

Starting Location: **Rt. 9 Exit 8 CPL (Rt. 148) in Chester**

Ride Description: **This interesting ride travels over mostly rolling terrain to Moodus by way of the East Haddam (swing) Bridge and the Goodspeed Opera House en route to Gillette Castle State Park. After this stop the route goes back down to the Connecticut River for a ferry ride crossing (\$2.00) before heading into Chester village en route to Essex village and a stop at the Connecticut River Museum and Essex town dock. On the return to the CPL the route takes a quick side trip to a seldom visited residential section of Essex and interesting views of the Connecticut River, marshes, and a windmill.**

Facilities and *Points of Interest*:

Mile	Facilities - <i>Points of Interest</i>
1.4	Chester village
6.0	<i>East Haddam (swing) Bridge</i>
6.2	<i>Goodspeed Opera House and the Gelston House</i>
~10.6	Moodus: There are a couple of convenience stores along Rt. 149
12.3	<i>Moodus Reservoir</i>
13.9	<i>Causeway over the Moodus Reservoir</i>
21.4	<i>Gillette Castle State Park (great spot for a lunch/snack break); bathrooms/water available</i>
23.0	<i>Chester Ferry (\$2.00 fee)</i>
24.6	Chester village; various shops and facilities
26.5	Deep River: Supermarket on left after crossing Rt. 154
31.9	<i>Essex village business district: various facilities and eateries</i>
32.0	Public bathrooms @ town park behind post office and NewAlliance Bank
32.3	<i>Connecticut River; Connecticut River Museum; Essex town boat launch and pier</i>
~34.2	<i>Windmill on left (views of river and marshes)</i>

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