

The Mystic Aquarium Ride

Total Distance: **40.8 miles**

Elevation Gain: **1198 feet**

Degree of Difficulty Index: **1198 ft / 40.8 mi = 29.36 ft/mi**

Terrain: **Flat to rolling**

Killer Hills: **None**

Geographical Region: **Southeast Connecticut**

City/Town: **Mystic**

Starting Location: **Near the red caboose in Olde Mystik Village parking lot adjacent to the Mystic Aquarium. Use I-95 Exit 90 in Mystic and follow signs to the Mystic Aquarium.**

Ride Description: **This is one of the classic shoreline rides. It travels over mostly rolling terrain with considerable flat riding along the way. En route to the suggested lunch stop at the UConn Avery Point campus the ride visits the Nautilus Museum, passes the Electric Boat nuclear submarine manufacturing facility, and a large Pfizer manufacturing operation. After the lunch stop, the route takes you past the Groton-New London Airport on the way to Groton Long Point, Noank and through downtown Mystic before returning to the caboose by way of River Road on the west side of the Mystic River with its outstanding views of Mystic Harbor and the river. This ride is a "keeper."**

Facilities and *Points of Interest*:

Mile	Facilities - <i>Points of Interest</i>
0.0	<i>Olde Mystik Village</i> (public restrooms; various shops; Mystic Aquarium located nearby)
11.5	Convenience store
15.6	<i>Nautilus Museum</i>
18.7	<i>Electric Boat facility</i>
19.9	<i>Pfizer manufacturing operation</i>
21.7	<i>UConn Avery Point campus; good spot for lunch overlooking the Thames River & Long Island Sound</i>
24.0	<i>Groton-New London Airport</i>
27.2	<i>Haley Park</i> (portable bathrooms)
28.4	<i>Start ~ 3-mile tour around Groton Long Point (spectacular ocean views)</i>
31.4	Groton Long Point Beach (snack bar & bathrooms...seasonal)
32.1	<i>Start ~ 2-mile tour through Noank, a quaint and scenic village (views)</i>
35.7	Comfort station (on right) just before downtown Mystic
35.7+	Downtown Mystic: various shops
35.8	<i>Start ~ 3-mile tour along Mystic River...spectacular views of harbor and river</i>
40.8	<i>Olde Mystik Village</i> (public restrooms; various shops; Mystic Aquarium located nearby)

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