

Castle Keep & Double Cross

Total Distance: **42.5 miles with option for 25.9 miles**

Elevation Gain: **2322 feet**

Degree of Difficulty Index: **2322 ft / 42.5 mi = 54.64 ft/mi**

Terrain: **Rolling to hilly**

Killer Hills: **None**

Geographical Region: **South Central Connecticut**

City/Town: **Chester**

Starting Location: **Route 9 Exit 8 CPL (Route 148), Chester**

Ride Description: This ride "double-crosses" the Connecticut River, first on the East Haddam swing-bridge and then on the Chester-Hadlyme Ferry (\$2.00). It visits the historic village of Johnsonville, the Moodus Reservoir and stops off for a suggested lunch/snack break at Gillette Castle State Park. The last third of the route visits Chester village, Essex & Deep River. The ride is over mostly rolling terrain and has 2322 ft of vertical to negotiate...a moderately difficult ride.

Note: The ride can be shortened by continuing west on Route 148 at mile 24.5 for 1.4 miles to the CPL.

Facilities and *Points of Interest*:

Mile	Facilities - <i>Points of Interest</i>
1.4	Chester village with various shops
5.4	Tylerville: convenience store, deli, Subway
6.0	<i>East Haddam swing-bridge over the Connecticut River (views)</i>
6.2	<i>Goodspeed Opera House and the Gelston House on right</i>
8.9	<i>Historic village of Johnsonville (views)</i>
10.2+	Convenience store on right
10.5	Convenience store on right
13.8	<i>Causeway over the Moodus Reservoir (views)</i>
21.4	<i>Gillette Castle State Park; great lunch/snack stop (seasonal snack bar) (views)</i>
23.0	<i>Board ferry for trip across the Connecticut River (\$2.00)</i>
24.5	Chester village with various shops; ice cream parlor (Note: shorter return route starts here)
27.4	<i>Start 5-mile scenic tour along the Connecticut River down to Essex</i>
31.7	Essex village business district: convenience store and several eateries
31.9	Public bathrooms in park beside the post office and NewAlliance Bank on the right
32.2	<i>Connecticut River Museum; Essex town dock and boat launch (views)</i>
33.7	<i>Views of the Connecticut River and windmill</i>

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