

Carol's "Run for the Roses" Ride

Total Distance: **40.8 miles**

Elevation Gain: **785 feet**

Degree of Difficulty Index: **785 ft / 40.8 mi = 19.24 ft/mi**

Terrain: **Flat**

Killer Hills: **None**

Geographical Region: **North Central Connecticut**

City/Town: **Windsor Center**

Starting Location: **Parking area in Windsor Center; take I-91 Exit 37; follow Route 305 east for about a mile going through two stop signs into Windsor Center. Go right @ traffic light onto Route 159 (briefly) and then straight through two traffic lights into shopping area (florist straight ahead). Go left on Central Avenue @ CVS, cross RR tracks and then go right @ end to parking area in 300 yards.**

Ride Description: **This is an interesting ride from Windsor Center to Hartford's Elizabeth Park via Bloomfield and West Hartford...to tour the beautiful rose gardens. From country to city and back – Loomis Chaffee School, the Governor's Mansion, grand homes in Hartford's west end, University of Hartford and St. Thomas Seminary (Gothic architecture) are amongst the scenes along the way. Try to time your visit for June, which is the height of the rose blossom season. It's a sight to remember!**

Facilities and *Points of Interest*:

Mile	Facilities - <i>Points of Interest</i>
0.6	<i>Tour through Loomis Chaffee School campus</i>
8.5	<i>Roadside park on left after making turn onto Duncaster Road; take a break</i>
11.8	Wade's Fruit Stand is about 200 yards to the right on Route 185; re-provision as needed
17.0	<i>Fernridge Park on the right</i>
19.2	<i>Elizabeth Park; bathrooms; restaurant; lovely rose garden; ponds; views (enjoy)</i>
20.4	<i>Sunrise Park; views of the Hartford skyline</i>
20.6	<i>Governor's Mansion</i>
23.1	<i>St. Thomas Seminary on the left</i>
23.9	Entering and passing through CIGNA "campus"
31.0	<i>Roadside park on the right just before crossing Adams Road; take a break</i>
39.8	<i>Pleasant Street Park; Bart's Restaurant; views of the Farmington River</i>
39.9	<i>Start on Windsor Loop Trail to travel along the Farmington River for about ¾ mile</i>

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