

# Over the Rivers and Through the Woods

### **Ride Description**

Our route heads almost directly east from Norway, with the majority of the day's climbing occurring in the first ten miles. The highlight of the day comes early as we visit the historic village of Paris Hill, a true gem of a time gone by. Then we climb up and over Hedgehog Hill followed by a rewarding descent into Buckfield. The route levels off and meanders along the Nezinscot River through picturesque towns, including Turner, where we stop for a rest break. We cross the pastoral Androscoggin River between Howes Corner and North Leeds, then head south to Leeds with several scenic vistas along the way. We head southeast to Monmouth, stopping for lunch and a tour of the delightful Cumston Hall. From there we round Annabessacook Lake and, after crossing Narrows Pond, tackle one last uphill climb to our traditional camp night at the YMCA Camp of Maine on Cobbosseecontee Lake.

## Ride Turn-by-turn\*

Rest Stop, Turner Town Hall	20.0
After stop sign, proceed with caution across ME-4	20.0
Turn right onto ME-140S/Morrill St, immediate left onto ME-117E	13.4
Turn right onto N Buckfield Rd, becomes High St	12.1
Becomes Paris Hill Rd in Buckfield, use caution on descent	8.5
Turn left onto unnamed road (Mt Mica Rd) not Christian Ridge Rd	5.8
After stop sign, continue straight onto Tremont St	5.5
Turn left onto Hannibal Hamlin Dr, keep Courthouse Sq on right	5.4
After stop sign, continue across ME-26 onto Paris Hill Rd	2.8
Bear right at stop onto High St, immediate left onto Porter St	2.7
Turn right onto unnamed street (Nichol St), cross RR tracks	2.6
Turn left onto unnamed street (Western Ave)	2.0
Turn right onto Walcott St, becomes Western Promenade St	1.3
Turn left onto unnamed street (Alpine St)	1.1
Make slight left onto Tucker St	0.8
Turn left onto Beal St, use bike lane	0.4
Exit BikeMaine Village going south on Cottage St	0

<sup>\*</sup>Mileage may vary from your odometer.

Verify turns by checking route markings, street names, and odometer.



Turn left staying on ME-117E	22.3
Turn right onto ME-219E	26.6
Turn right onto ME-106S	31.2
Turn left onto Bog Rd crossing RR tracks at intersection	37.6
Cross US-202, ME-11/100, becomes Blue Rd	39.3
Turn right onto Main St/ME-132S; tour Cumston Hall on left	40.7
Lunch Stop, Monmouth Fire Department	40.9
Turn left onto Maple St, becomes Cobbosseecontee Rd	41.2
Continue straight on Cobbosseecontee Rd; Extension turns right	43.4
Turn left onto Sanborn Rd; Extension returns to main route here	44.4
Turn right at stop sign onto ME-135N	46.1
Turn left onto Macomber Rd, becomes Holmes Rd	47.5
Turn right onto Narrows Pond Rd	50.7
Turn left onto Winthrop Center Rd, ME-135N	52.5
Turn right at entrance to Maine Boys/Girls YMCA Camp	53.2
Follow gravel road to BikeMaine Village	53.7

## Ride Extension Turn-by-turn\*

At mile 43.4, turn right onto Fish Hatchery Rd	0
Turn right onto South Monmouth Rd	1.8
At stop sign, continue across ME-126 onto Oak Hill Rd	3.1
Becomes Buker Rd after steep climb of Oak Hill	3.3
Turn left onto Huntington Hill Rd	4.8
Turn right onto Libby Rd	5.1
Continue onto Plains Rd after stop sign at Hallowell Rd	6.4
Turn left onto Pine Tree Rd	7.0
Turn left onto unnamed road (Dennis Hill Rd)	9.7
Turn left onto ME-126/9W	10.3
At blinker, turn right onto Hallowell Rd	10.4
Turn left onto Hardscrabble Rd, becomes Cobbosseecontee Rd	12.3
After golf course, steep downhill to Cobbosseecontee Lake	14.0
Turn right onto Sanborn Rd to rejoin main route at Mile 44.4	15.2

## Androscoggin River and the Clean Water Act

The Androscoggin River currently provides important habitat for a variety of fish and wildlife species, but it was once classified as one of the most polluted rivers in North America. Beginning in the 1930s, discharge from paper mills built along its banks was pumped directly into its waters until they became unsuitable for aquatic life—the fumes that the river produced were rumored to peel the paint off nearby houses. The intense degradation of the river inspired Senator Edmund Muskie to craft the Clean Water Act of 1972, an act that regulates the discharge of pollutants into the waters of the US. With the assistance of the Act and subsequent water quality legislation, the Androscoggin River has made a significant recovery and is able to support aquatic life once more.

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