

Giddy-Up to Orono

Quick Facts

- Bangor YMCA's Camp Jordan (Ellsworth, ME) to the University of Maine at Orono
- 53.4 mi victory lap ride
- 2,915 ft elevation gain

Stores Along Route by Mileage:

- 20.4: Otis General Store
- 32.5: Clifton Country Store
- 34.7: Tradewinds Variety
- 39.1: Eddington Store
- 49.0: Spencer's Market
- 49.5: On the Run

Ride Description

After all our miles this week, today will seem like a warm up ride (almost). After leaving camp and skirting Ellsworth, we travel up the west side of picturesque Graham Lake before heading across country on rural roads past places like the Springy Ponds. You might want to eat an extra banana, or pack away a little extra for the second leg of today's trip. Rebel Hill in Clifton approaches, and the Route Map encouragingly tells us that this is the "Last Big Climb." It's all downhill (mostly, well, not really entirely) from here. We'll cycle a short stretch on ME 9 that is low speed and less hilly than the rest of "The Airline" (with one notable exception). We then follow the Penobscot River upstream from Eddington to Old Town for the final spin into Orono and a celebratory harvest lunch and farewell.

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Sunkhaze Meadows Wildlife Refuge

The Sunkhaze Meadows Wildlife Refuge was established in 1988 when The Nature Conservancy worked with the USFWS to acquire the land to prevent a large scale peat mining operation. It was made part of the Refuge system to ensure that the ecological integrity of the peat bog and its wetland, stream, forest and wildlife were maintained. The refuge protects the second-largest and most unique peatland in Maine. It contains several raised bogs, or domed peatlands, separated from each other by extensive areas of streamside meadows. Sunkhaze Stream bisects the refuge along a northeast to southwest orientation and, with its six tributaries, creates a diversity of wetland communities that provide important habitat for many birds, mammals, and fish.

**Mileage is computed using GPS and may vary from your odometer. Verify turns by checking route markings, street names and odometer.

Leave Camp Jordan on Camp Jordan Way	0
Turn left on Hansons Landing Rd.	0.6
Turn right on Winkumpaugh Rd.	1.2
Turn right on US 1A	1.8
Turn right on Red Bridge Rd.	6.1
Turn left onto Christian Ridge Rd. (no sign)	10.7
Turn left onto US 1A	11.9
Turn right onto ME 180	12.0
Rest Stop 1, Beech Hill School, Otis	20.0
Bear left on ME 180, Otis Rd. (ME 181 bears right)	\$ 20.5
Turn left on ME 9 ("The Airline")	32.4
Rest Stop 2, Eddington Municipal Office, Fire Dept.	37.4
Turn right on Hill St. (Caution: pothole at bottom of hill)	40.0
Turn right on ME 178, Riverside Dr.	40.3
At traffic signal, turn left on Main St., US 2 (Milford)	49.4
Turn left at traffic signal on S. Water St. using left turn lane	49.7
Turn left on South Main St., US 2	50.0
Turn right on Carroll St.	50.1
Turn right on Brunswick St.	50.2
Turn left on Perkins St.	50.3
Turn left onto Old Town bike path	50.8
Community riders join from Old Town Elementary School	51.3
Turn left onto bike path leading to Orono/UMaine	51.6
Bike path ends; turn left onto Hilltop Rd.	53.2
BikeMaine officially ends by First Year Dorms on Hilltop Rd.	53.3

To continue to the parking lot to pick up your vehicle:

Follow Hilltop Rd. to Long Rd., turn left	0.2
Turn left onto College Ave./US 2A	0.6
Turn right onto Main St./US 2	1.5
Cross Stillwater River, turn right onto Bennoch Rd./ME 16	1.8
Turn left onto Godfrey Dr.	3.1
Turn right into parking lot for NexxLinx	3.7

Follow signs back to University campus for luggage, shower, and lunch.











