

P4P 16 MILE COURSE DESCRIPTION

From the starting line it's 1/2 mile to the Elm Brook Park entrance. Turn right onto Route 127/ Maple street. Ride 2.6 miles to the center of Contoocook. The road surface is excellent and traffic will be moderate. In Contoocook village traffic will be the busiest that you will see on the ride. At the small fountain in the center of town turn right and ride 2/10 of a mile down Main street where you turn left onto Penacook Road. The road surface remains very good and traffic lessens.

After 2/10 of a mile climb up Penacook Road turn left at the stop sign you will remain on Penacook Road. Ride 2.3 miles crossing the Contoocook river to a 4 way stop sign. The pavement remains very good and traffic is light.

Turn left onto Dustin road. Ride an additional 2.3 miles till Dustin road ends at a stop sign with Route 127. The pavement is good and traffic should be light. Be careful at the stop sign as cars approaching from your right will not have a good site line of Dustin Road. Turn left at the stop sign and ride 1/10 of a mile to a stop sign at Route 103. Be careful here because the last bit is uphill and 103 is moderately busy.

Turn right onto Route 103 and ride 7/10 of a mile to Warner road/ Kearsarge avenue. The pavement is good and traffic will be moderate. Turn left and ride 2/10 of a mile to the Stevens Rail Trail Rest Stop. The pavement will be fair and traffic light.

Leave the rest stop heading south for 2.1 miles on Kearsarge avenue to a stop sign at Pine Street. The pavement is good and traffic light. Turn right onto Pine street and ride 2.3 miles to Clement Hill Road. The road surface is mainly good interspersed with short segments of fair. Traffic is generally light. The last 4/10 of a mile is an increasing grade uphill climb which is the longest and steepest of the ride.

Turn left onto Clement Hill Road and ride 1.5 miles where you turn left and go over the Rowell road covered bridge. The Clement Hill Road pavement is more stretches of fair than good. If you are an inexperienced cyclist you may want to walk your bike over the covered bridge.

Once across the bridge you take two very close left turns to head east on 127/ Maple street. Ride 1.1 miles on 127 where you veer right onto Emerson Hill Road. The road surface on 127 is excellent and traffic moderate. Very shortly after you turn right onto Emerson Hill Road you turn right to re-enter Elm Brook Park. The fish line is 1/2 miles away right where you started. Enjoy the picnic.