

Old Deerfield Ride

Total Distance: **33.6 miles (35.0 miles if alternate route is used)**

Elevation Gain: **890 feet**

Degree of Difficulty Index: **890' / 33.6 mi = 26.49 ft/mi**

Terrain: **Flat/Rolling**

Killer Hills: **None**

Geographic Region: **Central Massachusetts**

City/Town: **North Amherst, MA**

Starting Location: **Mill River Recreation Area, Route 63, North Amherst, Massachusetts**

Special Directions: **Exit 19 off I-91 north (Northampton/Amherst Exit). Take Route 9 east over the Connecticut River. In 4.6 miles, turn left onto Route 116 north and go for 3.2 miles (past the UMass Campus). Turn right @ light onto Route 63 for 0.3 mile into No. Amherst. Turn left @ the light, still on Route 63. The Mill River Recreation Area will be on the right in about 0.25 mile.**

Ride Description: **This is a flat to rolling ride with great views of the Connecticut River. Stop in Sunderland to see the largest sycamore tree in Massachusetts. Enjoy lunch in historic Old Deerfield Village with its stately homes, tree lined Old Main Street, and Deerfield Academy. There is one hill with a panoramic view on the return trip.**

Note: **Mile 13.1 is the site of a former railroad bridge that was removed in the 1990's. Unless it has been replaced, and we have no knowledge that there are even plans to replace it, it is necessary to carry your bike around a cement barricade, over a fence, down a steep embankment to cross the railroad tracks, and up the other side. To avoid this, we recommend using the alternate route provided on the route sheet, beginning at mile 11.9. This alternate adds 1.4 miles to the length of the ride.**

Facilities and *Points of Interest*:

Mile	Facilities - <i>Points of Interest</i>
0.0	Mill River Recreation Area: Bathrooms
5.8	Sunderland: Convenience Store on left
6.0	<i>Large Sycamore tree on left</i>
8.8	<i>Cascade on right; pull off road to view</i>
11.9	Start of alternate route to avoid portage across railroad tracks
18.7	<i>Old Deerfield Village; Bathrooms, water</i>
26.2	<i>UMass sod farm on right @ base of Sugarloaf Mountain</i>
26.8	Sunderland: Convenience Store on left
33.6	Mill River Recreation Area: Bathrooms