

Farmington Valley Easy Rider #2

Total Distance: **34.1 miles** Elevation Gain: **705 feet**

Degree of Difficulty Index: **705 ft / 34.1 mi = 20.67 ft/mi** Terrain: **Flat to rolling**

Killer Hills: **None**

Geographical Region: **North Central Connecticut**

City/Town: **Farmington**

Starting Location: **Brickyard Road trail parking 1.0 mile from Route 4 in Farmington. Turn north off Route 4 onto Brickyard Road at the traffic light (The Wood 'N Tap Restaurant on northwest corner) 1.7 miles west of Farmington center and 2.2 miles east of Unionville.**

Note: This is a very popular parking area for this multi-use trail and parking is apt to be somewhat limited especially on the weekends. Please plan accordingly.

Ride Description: **This is an easy ride through the Farmington River Valley with pleasant scenery along much of the way. Ride along sections of the rail trail; along the Farmington River and over about 1.5 miles of dirt path (OK for road bikes) through the woods; visit Stratton Brook State Park; view Connecticut's largest sycamore tree; ride along the base of Talcott Mountain with views of Heublein Tower...and more.**

Facilities and *Points of Interest*:

Mile	Facilities - <i>Points of Interest</i>
0.0	<i>Start 1.8 mile section of the rail trail</i>
5.1	McDonald's, convenience store and other restaurants at intersection
7.7	<i>Start 0.7 mile section of dirt path (ok for road bikes)</i>
9.5	<i>Start 1.3 mile section of crushed stone path into and through Stratton Brook State Park</i>
9.8	<i>Stratton Brook State Park @ covered bridge; bathrooms, water, swimming (seasonal)</i>
11.7	<i>Hopmeadow Country Club</i>
21.2	<i>Foot bridge over the Farmington River (views); good spot for a lunch/snack break</i>
23.1	<i>Pinchot Sycamore: roadside park with the largest sycamore tree in Connecticut</i>
23.2	<i>Start 3-mile ride along the base of Talcott Mt: State Police firing range, views of Heublein Tower, pass 2 golf courses, and ride along a section of the Farmington River</i>
26.7	<i>Avon Cider Mill on the right</i>
29.2	<i>Fisher Meadow Park on right (portable toilets, ball fields)</i>

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