

# SCCC's Connecticut River Double Cross

**NOTE: This Ride Description and its corresponding Route Sheet may not have been checked for accuracy by the [www.ctbikeroutes.org](http://www.ctbikeroutes.org) team**

Total Distance: **28.7 miles**

Elevation Gain: **1892 feet**

Degree of Difficulty Index: **1892 / 28.7 = 65.88 ft/mile**

Terrain: **Very hilly**

Killer Hills: **Joshuatown Road is a very hilly and narrow road w/ several long, steep sections.**

Geographical Region: **South Central Connecticut**

Starting Location (city/town): **Essex**

Starting Location (detailed directions to): **Essex Town Hall parking lot near the tennis courts; from the intersection of Rtes. 153 & 154 in the Centerbrook section of Essex (Route 9 Exit 3), take West Ave. toward Essex for 0.3 miles (approx); turn left just after library onto Grove St. Parking lot is immediately on your right behind the Town Hall. Park near the tennis courts.**

Ride Description: **This interesting and challenging ride passes through the Otter Cove section of Old Saybrook en route to the Baldwin Bridge bike trail crossing the Connecticut River. The route then travels up to Hamburg via mostly back roads before tackling the very difficult Joshuatown Road route to the Chester Ferry (\$2.00 fee). After departing from the ferry the ride heads back to Essex through Deep River via the classic River Road bike route. This ride is very similar to the Essex Loop via Joshuatown Road ride except this one doesn't visit Chester village.**

Facilities and *Points of Interest*:

Mile	<i>Facilities - Points of Interest</i>
2.0	<i>Start tour through the Otter Cove development; pay close attention to the route cues, it's a maze</i>
4.8	<i>Start bike path over the Connecticut River via the Baldwin Bridge</i>
6.2	<i>A&amp;P plaza; bathrooms in A&amp;P; various shops in plaza</i>
12.9	<i>Hamburg village; general store</i>
13.5+	<i>Scenic bridge over Eightmile River at Hamburg Cove; start of serious hills on Joshuatown Rd</i>
19.2	<i>Chester-Hadlyme Ferry (\$2.00 fee); possible lunch/snack stop</i>
23.1	<i>Start 4-mile ride along Connecticut River (views)</i>
27.5	<i>Essex business district; various shops and eateries; convenience store</i>
27.6	<i>Public restrooms in little park beside the post office and New Alliance Bank on right</i>
27.9	<i>Connecticut River Museum; Essex town boat launch and Essex town dock/pier (views)</i>
27.9+	<i>Ice cream shop on right as you are heading back from river</i>

**Note: This ride has been provided by the Southern Connecticut Cycle Club from its Ride Library (Ride #30) as a service to the Connecticut bicycling community.**

[www.ctbikeroutes.org](http://www.ctbikeroutes.org)

Ride description: **Wu-New114**

Route sheet: **RS-New114**

Ride submitted by: **SCCC (www.ctcyle.org)/DPS, 4/25/07 (updated 6/18/07)**