Halfway to Heaven Bicycle Loop

A moderately-strenuous 17.9-mile route through Bristol, Lincoln, and Jerusalem, VT.

Start at the Bristol Town Green.

0.0  Start at Bristol Town Green.
0.0   E on Main St.
1.5   R on Lincoln Rd.
4.9   L on Quaker St. (store).
5.8   L on Downingsville Rd. (unpaved).
9.4   Downingsville Rd. becomes Jerusalem Rd.
11.5  L on Route 17 West (store).
12.9  Bristol Memorial Park - stop and wander through the gorge.
14.6  L on Route 116 South (restaurant, inn).
16.3  Merge R onto Main St. (heading back into town of Bristol).
17.9  Bristol Town Green.

When cycling, please follow these guidelines:

1. WEAR A HELMET and cycling gloves.
2. Ride with the flow of traffic.
3. When using travel lanes, follow motor vehicle laws. Obey all traffic signs and signals. Do not cut corners.
4. Use clear hand signals when making turns or stopping.
5. Ride in a straight line at least 3 feet from parked cars or curbs.
6. If you must ride at night, use lights and reflectors.
7. Ride defensively! Be aware of motorists' actions.
8. Be aware of train tracks and other road conditions.
10. Carry items in panniers or a handle-bar pack.

Disclaimer: Users assume all risks, inherent and not inherent, in the use of materials recommending routes of the Lake Champlain Bikeways network and all affiliated organizations, and individuals disclaim any and all liability on their part for damages or injuries to persons or property should they occur. Routes are chosen, designated and/or signed because: they are popular, or are preferred, or provide continuous routes to destinations, or are lightly traveled, or are scenic, or have more room for cars and bikes, or possess a combination of these attributes.

Champlain Valley National Heritage Partnership
Halfway to Heaven Bicycle Loop

Route Description

Halfway to Heaven begins and ends in the Town of Bristol, commonly referred to as “The Gateway to the Green Mountains.” This loop takes you from Bristol along Route 116/17 to the Lincoln Road, where you will travel uphill alongside the New Haven River. After passing through the center of Lincoln, the incline will increase somewhat but then level off. At this point you’ll be leaving paved roads to a dirt road with a variety of uphill, downhill and flat sections. Upon reaching Jerusalem, you’ll be back again on paved roads, which bring you down a steep hill until you once again reach Route 116/17, bringing you to a level road as you return to Bristol center. Halfway to Heaven showcases a vibrant downtown, historic buildings, beautiful rivers and mountain views, and a landscape that was dramatically changed in places because of a large flood.

Safety Guidelines

Motorists and bicyclists share scenic roads. Use caution on narrow, winding or unpaved roadway. Follow traffic laws and ride safely. Bicycles are vehicles by law and have the right to use public roads. You are responsible for operating your bicycle under all conditions.

Acknowledgements

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Lake Champlain Bikeways Mission

To promote bicycling throughout the Lake Champlain regions of New York, Vermont and Québec for the purposes of increasing opportunities for bicycle recreation and transportation, improving the quality of life, enhancing the economic vitality, advocating for sustainable communities, encouraging healthy lifestyles and raising public awareness and appreciation of inherent scenic, historic, cultural, natural, and recreational resources throughout the area.

Lake Champlain Bikeways

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