Town and Country Bicycle Loop

A moderately strenuous 31.3 route through Vergennes, Monkton, Bristol, and New Haven, VT.

Start at the Vergennes Town Green.

mile

0.0 ○ Vergennes Town Green.
0.0 N on Main St.
0.2 R at traffic light on Monkton Rd.
0.5 Cross Rt. 7 at the light.
9.8 R on Bristol Rd. (general store on L).
12.9 R on Hardscrabble Rd. (1.4 mi. of gravel road).
13.5 L to continue on Hardscrabble Rd.
17.0 L to continue on Hardscrabble Rd.
17.7 R on Monkton Rd.
17.8 Bear L at fork to North St.
18.8 Monkton Rd. turns into North St.
19.1 Alternate gravel route: R on Plank Rd.
19.8 R on Main/West St. (at lights in Bristol) Rt. 17.
23.9 R on North St. (New Haven).
26.1 L on Plank Rd.
30.1 R on Route 7 (be cautious crossing!).
30.4 L on New Haven Rd.
31.0 R on Green St. (at yellow blinking light).
31.2 R on Main St.
31.3 Vergennes 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
**Town and Country Bicycle Loop**

**Route Description**

This loop leads from Vergennes, Vermont’s oldest and smallest city, through villages and rich farmland, to Bristol, the “Gateway to the Green Mountains,” and back again. Vergennes and Bristol both have charming, historic downtowns with inviting shops and restaurants. Vergennes and Bristol offer a variety of great places to eat from snacks to full meals.

This route runs along mainly paved roads with a dirt section of Hardscrabble Road (included for the great view coming down the hill). Cyclists should be in good shape to tackle this fairly hilly loop, but note that there are places in Vergennes, Monkton and Bristol to get off your bicycle and rest, eat and drink along the way.

**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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