Coon Mountain Circuit Bicycle Loop
An intermediate 18.5-mile route through Essex and Whallonsburg, NY.

Start at Essex Ferry Dock.

mile
0.0 Essex Ferry Dock.
0.0 S on County 9/Main St.
0.3 R on School Rd.
0.5 Unpaved for 1.1 miles.
1.7 L on County 66/Middle Rd.
2.9 R on Christian Rd.
3.6 Unpaved for 0.5 mile.
5.0 R on County 55/Whallons Bay Rd.
5.3 L on Rt. 22.
7.5 L on Merriam Forge Rd. (unpaved).
7.8 Cross Boquet River.
9.0 L on Halds Rd.–there is a steel bridge on the right.
9.9 Coon Mountain Trail Head.
10.7 L on County 9/Lakeshore Rd.
12.5 Split Rock Trail Head.
15.9 Straight at Whallons Bay Rd.
18.5 Essex Ferry Dock.

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.
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Route Description

This route includes Split Rock Mountain, Webb-Royce Swamp, and Coon Mountain. Watch for bald eagles, peregrine falcons, osprey, herons, porcupines and endangered timber rattlesnakes. The Split Rock tract and Webb Royce Swamp are owned by New York State, and represent the longest undeveloped tract (4.3 miles) on Lake Champlain.

Iron ore was mined from Split Rock in 1870, and a granite company also operated here. Extracted resources in the 1900s were primarily logs and maple sap. Maple candy was packed into birch bark baskets and shipped by rail all over the nation. The Split Rock trail head provides access to several old woods roads, conducive to hiking and cross country skiing.

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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