

Big Otter Loop Ride Description

The “flow” of climbing and descending is much better in the direction described here. However, I believe the ride would flow even better if you started at the Servia Exit of I-79, as this would put more of the climbs around the middle of the ride and put the fun downhill at the end. I usually start at Big Otter simply because it is closer to my house (and closer to Charleston for the Wheelers).

Mile 0 – Exit the Big Otter Park and Ride and go north on 16. This part of the ride tends to have some traffic, but I have never had any “problems” with motorists there. Also, notice there are plenty of stores near the parking area.

Mile 0.6 – Begin longest (over a mile) climb of the ride. Get it done early!

Mile 5.7 – There is a store on your left.

Mile 8.9 – Walnut Road is on your right. If you want to do more than 50 miles I would recommend an “out and back” on Walnut. Great scenery and it rolls nicely for several miles before turning to gravel and climbing over a big hill. Just go as far as you like (or until it hits gravel, then come back out to 16 and continue the loop) I have actually gone over the hill on my road bike several times to cut out part of the 50 mile ride, but it isn’t easy going!

Mile 14.4 – Euclid Nicut Road. Turn Right! From here to Duck is my favorite part of the ride. Not much traffic usually.

Mile 26.6 – Notice the other (gravel) side of Walnut Road, or where you would come out if you are crazy enough to take your road bike all the way through Walnut!

Mile 29.6 – Very VERY Fun downhill! Bombs Away!

Mile 31.1 – Another nice road to add extra miles. Look on your right – I think it’s called Hallberg Road. It dead ends, but is very nice for a little “out and back”.

Mile 31.4 – Servia Park and Ride and I-79 underpass. Actually a very nice place to start this loop, also – about the only place your cell phone may work other than at Big Otter.

Mile 34 – You made it to Duck! Store will be on your left. The ride will continue as you turn right onto Route 4 south.

Mile 43.7 – Cunninghams store (restroom) on left. The ride turns right onto Route 16 north and climbs a short, steep hill.

Mile 47.8 – As you climb a short hill, look for the two llama in the fenced in yard on your left!

Mile 50 – Back at Big Otter. Congratulations!

Doug Wayne

Mile 0.0 - Right on 16 N from Big Otter
Mile 14.4 - Right on Euclid Nicut Road
Mile 34 - (store) Right on 4 south
Mile 43.7 - (store) Right on 16 north
Mile 50 - Back at Big Otter Exit