

Route Name

# Unity Loop

PAVED #3

## *Prairie City Bicycle Invitational*

**Dates Supported**

**Ride Type**

**Difficulty**

**Time required**

**Distance on paved surface**

**Distance to highest Elevation**

**Lowest gear ratio on test bike**

**Necessary Supplies**

**Road or Cross Bike/Hybrid w/touring tires**

**Technical - I, Physical - V**

**12-15 hours (approximate)**

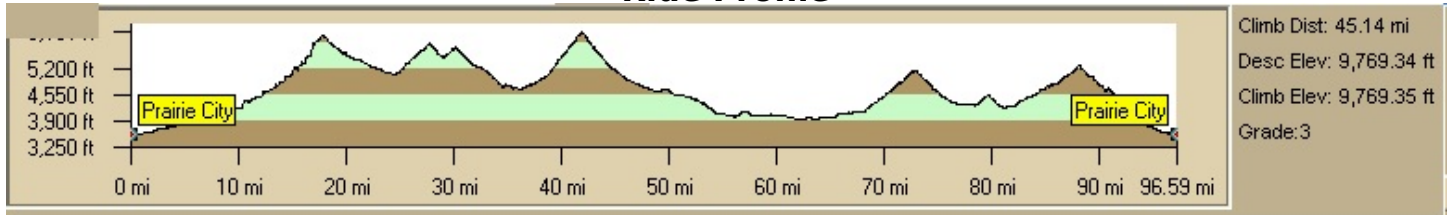
**Full distance**

**40.96 miles (approximate)**

**30 Rear X 39 Front (lower gearing recommended)**

**1<sup>st</sup> aid, extra clothing, snacks & plenty of beverage.**

### Ride Profile



Actual distance by bike odometer is 100.2 miles (Profile is produced on a mapping software)

### **General Description**

This is a very hard ride both in climbing and distance, and that's under the most ideal conditions. You hear of 100 mile rides (century) but how many include nearly 10,000 of elevation gain? Add to that conditions that could range well out of "ideal", such as sweltering heat or the chill of fickle weather at 6,000', and the difficulty becomes truly daunting. The Boy Scouts' motto "Be prepared" applies.

Such warning must be weighed though against the tremendous attractions this ride offers, making it premium even under the worst conditions for those who are properly prepared and suitably fit. Of all the road bike routes featured on this website this one is the best for diversity of scenic landscape, climate zones, and squiggly paved roads.

### **Route Directions (only total miles is accurate to bike odometer)**

- Start point Highway SR26 (Front Street) & NW Johnson Avenue
- Follow Highway SR26 east one block to SW Bridge Street, turn right
- SW Bridge Street becomes CR62, continue on out of town on CR62
- 8.48 miles take NFD13 (Deardorff Creek Road) left, headed east
- 17.28 miles road grade very easy to this point, but steepens beyond to first summit
- 19.3 miles 1<sup>st</sup> summit at approximately 6,013'
- 24.36 miles NFD13 ends at intersection with NFD16 (at 5,043'), follow NFD 16 east.
- WATER: Short Creek Ranger Cabin at northwest corner of intersection -- garden hose connected to outside faucet
- 27.87 Summit at 5,804'
- 29.28 5,488'
- 30.13 5,733'
- 35.24 4,685'
- 40.70 Highest summit at approximately 6,100'
- 53 miles US 26 intersected at 4,527', take it north
- 63 miles Town of Unity at 4,018'
- 75 miles 5,117' summit
- 77.19 miles 4,330'

90.90 miles  
100.2 miles

5,277', Dixie Summit  
End loop in Prairie City

