

Route Name.....Valley Loop

Number.....#5

Prairie City Bicycle Invitational

Dates Supported.....

Ride Type..... Cross Bike or Hybrid

Difficulty..... Technical - 1, Physical - 1

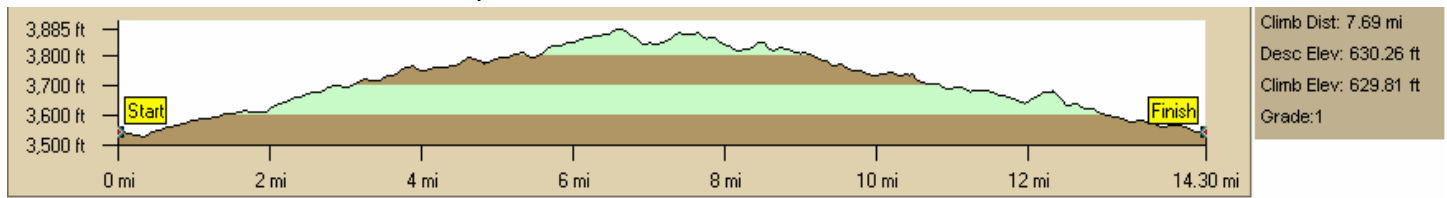
Time required..... 2 - 3 hours (approximate)

Distance on paved surface.. all but 4 miles on packed gravel

Lowest gear ratio on test bike 34 Rear X 26 Front

Necessary Supplies..... 1st aid, extra clothing, snacks & plenty of drink

Ride Elevation Profile



General Description

This is a very pleasant, easy ride (contrary to what some might interpret from the ride profile shown above). In actuality the first 6+ miles are up such low gradient incline as to be hardly noticeable if your gaze is fixed forward. Glancing back occasionally over your shoulder though will reveal the town is seen to be falling ever lower below your vantage point. In like way the return is not experienced and much of a descent as the profile suggests.

At between 6 – 7 miles gravel road is encountered, but typically it is hard pack providing stable riding surface except for a few very brief stretches where the gravel has been loosened on a curve or short rise by vehicles churning up or breaking. The distance of this graveled length is approximately 4 miles, but don't worry about having to "eat dust" along its length because passing vehicles are extremely rare.

Riverside School House Bed & Breakfast is located on this route at about the midpoint distance. Persons choosing to lodge at this B&B will find this loop so pleasant that they'll dream up reasons to be riding into town for the sheer delight of it -- although the Little Bean Espresso shop is enticing enough in its own right.

Route Directions

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

6.64 miles..... Turn left onto CR 61

6.78 miles.....Asphalt pavement interrupted by 4 miles of packed gravel

6.97 miles.....Riverside School House B&B

11 milesAsphalt pavement begins, gravel ends

14.32 miles.....Route completed back at start point

