



A BBC Autumn Adventure: Cycling in Washington County

Rich Burns has been organizing a bike weekend in Washington County for 14 years. We thank you, Rich, for all your efforts in helping us to continue to tap into the beauty, history, and charm of that area. The weekend is organized on an “a la carte” basis. You can come up for a day ride or book a room at a local motel and make it a whole weekend getaway. Any variation of that works too. This year’s group enjoyed moderate temps and no rain, which made the cycling—and everything else-- a delight.

Three wonderful days of cycling were great. Two groups went out on Friday, one doing the 36 mile *Farm Orchard Tour*—a mostly rolling ride to Leitersburg and into PA. Orchards and so many mountain views were the rule. Another group did a 43 mile loop—billed as having the best views of the valley-- to *Waynesboro, Edgemont, and Smithsburg*. Saturday found cyclists on a 61 mile ride going counter clockwise around Hagerstown (stop at Gordon’s) and doing the *Antietam Battlefield* ride (45 miles), with a side trip to Burnside Bridge. Sunday’s rides included the 43 mile *Greencastle Loop*, a mostly rolling ride into Franklin County, PA and lunch in Greencastle. Rich offers over a dozen rides, from 20-70 miles, covering this beautiful area of Washington County—just perfect for cycling.

Of course, the cycling was grand, but being with friends and sharing experiences are the essence of a club event. There were always opportunities to socialize. Happy hours on Fri and Sat, hosted by Evie & Mike Reinsel, set a great tone for the group dinners-- Friday at Casa Del Sol and Saturday at Schulas. Sunday’s ride ended with a “grand finale” party at Washington County Regional Park, when all the riders converged for the wonderful tailgate picnic, hosted by Mary & Ed Jarcy. You bet everybody loved sharing their cycling adventures, soaking up the warmth of a grand autumn day, and enjoying the wonderful food provided by the Jarcys.

Hope you can join the group in 2016 to enjoy the cycling, socializing, and all the beauty the area has to offer.

Evie & Mike Reinsel