**Preride Route Notes Klickitat Ex 400k**

August 20 John Kramer

Distance 251 miles, elevation gain between 10,100 and 11,500 ft measured using Ciclo and Garmin altimeters. Start time is 5:00 at The Columbia River Gorge Hostel in Bingen Washington.

**To Start** From Portland Oregon, Follow I-84 east to Hood River. Take exit 63 and turn left to the Hood River Toll Bridge. Cross the Columbia River from Oregon to Washington and WA SR 14. Turn right and go east for about 1 mile to Bingen. Go past three blocks past the SR 14 junction and turn left (north) on Cedar Street. Go one block to Humbolt street. The Hostel parking lot is just past Humbolt on the right.

**Bingen to Alderdale Road (Mile 0 to 83)**

This section simply follows SR 14 along the Columbia River Gorge. There are several patches of chip seal that are fairly new and rough. If you have gear attached to your bike and it is precarious, you’ll want to take it off before you start into the chip seal sections. The longest section is 5 miles long just east of the John Day Aluminum Plant. The aluminum plant has been closed since the last big electric energy crisis. There is a blue room located on the right side of the highway (state park), about 2.8 miles east of the SR 14 & US 197 junction. There are restrooms located in the picnic area of the Mary Hill Museum. Follow the access road around the front of the Museum (facing the river) to the picnic area in the back. The Riverview minimart control is at mile 67. They have a restroom and pretty good biker snacks and drinks. They see every biker that comes by. There is a distinct lack of screening vegetation for ad hoc rest rooming from Lyle to Toppenish.

**Alderdale Road to US 97 (Mile 82 to 134)**

Turning north onto Alderdale Road caused me a minor change in heart rate. The desert hills are barren as can be in interior Washington state in mid summer. The road between SR 14 and Mabton only has a few short sections, less than .75 miles long, with slopes greater than 3-percent. Welcome to corporate agriculture and frequent piles of empty discarded Corona bottles and 12 pack cartons dotting the road side. The road is flat from Mabton to 5 miles past the US 97 junction. SR 22 has been freshly sealed between Mabton and Toppenish and looks
like it is in good shape. The closest service in Mabton is the little food mart on the other side of SR22. The windows and doors are adorned with steel bars. Enough, maybe too much said.

US 97 to Goldendale (Mile 134 to 182)
There are services near the WA 22 and US 97 junction. To the right (north) there is a 7-11 store and various fast and slow food restaurants. Following the route, just past the US97 junction, there is a restaurant that is open 24 hours. I have stopped there before to drink and get out of the heat and cool down. Five miles after turning onto US 97, there is an imposing ridgeline climb but
it is only 3 miles long with the grade ranging from 4 to 6 percent. After reaching the summit there is a short downhill to Dry Creek. From Dry Creek, US 97 slopes gradually upward until mile 165 where the steepest section, a 4 mile climb to Satus Pass, begins. This section has an average grade of 5-percent and only ranges from 4-percent to 6-percent. There is a 6 mile downhill after Satus Pass followed by another short 1.25 mile climb. We are planning a control, food stop at Brooks Memorial State Park at mile 171. There are real restrooms and even a shower at the State Park. So if you’ve been saving it up, this will be good news. More information on the control will be coming soon. There are services in Goldendale but more research is needed on closing times.

**Goldendale to Bingen (Mile 182 to 250)**
This should be a very quiet part of the route and most riders will probably ride this section in the dark. The road to Glenwood is old chip seal that is nearly worn out so it is somewhat smoothed. There are cracks opening up in the 11 mile section between Goldendale and the turn to Glenwood. The 24 mile section on the Goldendale-Glenwood road is generally rolling hills except for crossing the Klickitat River Gorge. The downhill run into the gorge is fun and the climb out starts out with a 5 percent grade but quickly mellows out to a gentle but long climb. The road levels out about 3 miles from Glenwood. We are planning a control in Glenwood. From Glenwood there are only 27 miles left to reach the end of the ride. The services in Glenwood will be closed by the time most riders reach the control. More information on the control will be available soon.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mi</th>
<th>Leg</th>
<th>Turn</th>
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Oregon

Cascade Locks

Bridge of the Gods Motel & RV Park
630 Wanapa Street
Cascade Locks, OR
541 374-8628

Best Western Columbia River Inn
735 Wanapa Street
Cascade Locks OR
541 374-8777

Hood River / Mosier

Hood River BnB
918 Oak St
Hood River, OR 97031
www.hoodriverbnb.com
541-387-2997, Telephone

Mosier House Bed & Breakfast
704 Third Ave.
Mosier, OR 97040
http://www.mosierhouse.com/
877-328-0351, Toll Free

Vagabond Lodge
4070 Westcliff Drive
Hood River OR USA 97031
http://www.vagabondlodge.com/
541 386-1900

Meredith Motel
4300 Wescliff Drive
http://lodging.gorge.net/meredith/
541 386-1515

Prater’s Motel
1306 Oak Ave
541 296-9111

Riverview Lodge
1505 Oak St.
Hood River OR USA 97031
http://www.riverviewforyou.com/
800 789-9568

Best Western Hood River Inn
1108 East Marina Way
Hood River OR USA 97031
541 386-2200

Comfort Suites
2625 Cascade Ave
Hood River OR USA 97031
541 308-1000

The Dalles

Columbia Windrider Inn
200 West Fourth Street
The Dalles, OR 97058
http://www.windriderinn.com
(541) 296-2607

Motel 6
2500 W 6th St.
The Dalles, OR 97058
541 296-1191

Cousins County Inn
2114 West 6th
The Dalles OR USA 97058
http://www.cousinscountryinn.com/
541 298-5161

Super 8 Motel
609 Cherry Heights Road
The Dalles OR 97058
541 296-6888

Comfort Inn
351 Lone Pine Drive
The Dalles OR USA
541 298-2800
Washington

Stevenson/Carson/Home Valley

Wind Mountain Resort,
50561 Highway 14.
Home Valley/Stevenson, WA
http://www.windmountainresort.com/
(509) 427-5152

Columbia Gorge Riverside Lodge
PO Box 381
Stevenson Washington 98648
http://www.cgriversidelodge.com
866 427-5650 Toll Free

Carson Mineral Hot Springs Resort
372 St. Martin's Springs Road,
Carson, Washington
http://www.carsonhotspringsresort.com
(509) 427-8292

Sandhill Cottages,
932 Hot Springs Ave
Carson WA,
http://www.sandhillcottages.com
800 914-2178, 509 427 3464

Econo Lodge Stevenson
40 NE 2nd St, Stevenson, WA
(509) 427-5628

Bingen/Lyle WA

Bingen Haus, Bingen WA
http://www.bingenhaus.com
(509) 493-4888.

The Columbia River Gorge Hostel
The corner of Humboldt and Cedar
Bingen, WA
http://www.bingenschool.com
Phone (509) 493-3363

The Lyle Hotel
100 Seventh Street
Lyle WA
http://www.lylehotel.com
509-365-5953