

## RIDE NO. 11      SARANAC LAKES RIDE

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**Mileage = 37.4**

**Elevation Gain = 1,623**

**Category = Easy**

While I've done a lot of hiking in the high peaks of the Adirondacks, I avoided taking my road bike to the region, thinking it would involve too much climbing. Then I discovered that if you picked routes carefully, you could ride among the High Peaks without an excessive amount of ascent. When I do these rides, looking up at the mountains, I feel as though I'm playing among the tigers, but that they're in their cages.

This and the following ride start in Saranac Lake Village, but follow mostly different routes.

The Saranac Lakes Ride, in Franklin County, passes all three Saranac Lakes: Lower, Middle and Upper, as well as Lake Clear and Lake Colby, with a total elevation gain of only 1,623 feet in 37.4 miles, or 43.4 feet per mile on average. There are views of all those lakes and, along parts of SRs 186 and 86, of mountain ranges in the distance. What you see most of all are Adirondack forests, close and all around.

Between cue-sheet lines 21 and 22, you pass a general store that makes sandwiches to order and has a deck with picnic tables. It's a good place for a lunch stop.

DRIVING TO STARTING POINT: TAKE SR 86 WEST FROM LAKE PLACID, GO STR8 ON RIVER ST. WHERE SR 86 BENDS R ENTERING SARANAC LAKE VILLAGE BUSINESS DISTRICT. RIVER ST. BECOMES SR 3, WHICH COMES IN FROM R. PARK ON THE STREET IN THIS VICINITY.

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## SARANAC LAKES RIDE

START: MAIN ST. &amp; RIVER ST., SARANAC LAKE VILLAGE (1,538' MSL)

1	GO WEST ON SR 3 (CONTINUATION OF RIVER ST.) -		-	-
2	X EDGEWOOD RD.	1,568'	0.8	0.8
3	PASS ALGONQUIN AVE. - R	1,653'	0.5	1.3
	(LOWER SARANAC LAKE -R)		-	-
4	PASS RD. TO KIWASSA LAKE - L	1,504'	1.2	2.5
5	REACH BRIDGE OVER FIRST POND	1,544'	1.2	3.7
6	X HALFWAY BROOK (SMALL STREAM)	1,546'	2.4	6.1
	(MIDDLE SARANAC LAKE - R)		-	-
7	PASS BARTLETT CARRY RD. - R	1,570'	4.3	10.4
8	R ON CR 45, WAWBEEK AVE/PANTHER MT. RD	1,616'	2.3	12.7
9	R ON SR 30	1,730'	2.2	14.9
	(UPPER SARANAC LAKE - R)		-	-
10	X UNNAMED ROAD	1,670'	0.8	15.7
11	X BRANDY BROOK	1,615'	1.2	16.9
12	PASS ROAD TO FISH CREEK CAMPGROUNDS-L	1,605'	1.7	18.6

13	X BRIDGE OVER FISH CREEK PONDS	1,582'	0.7	19.3
14	PASS BEAVER POND RD. - R	1,605'	1.2	20.5
15	PASS MOSS ROCK RD. - R	1,612'	0.9	21.4
16	R ON CR 46 (BACK BAY RD.)	1,607'	1.7	23.1
17	R ON SR 30	1,597'	1.0	24.1
18	PASS CR 18 (FOREST HOME RD.) - R	1,626'	1.8	25.9
19	PASS LK. CLEAR PORTAGE RD. L	1,613'	0.9	26.8
	(LAKE CLEAR - L)		-	-
20	BR ON SR 186 (SR 30 GOES L)	1,640'	1.8	28.6
21	PASS AIRPORT RD. - L	1,647'	1.7	30.3
	GENERAL STORE ON R IN SHORT DISTANCE			
22	R ON SR 86	1,734'	2.3	32.6
23	X CR 47 (PECKS CORS. RD.)	1,596'	2.7	35.3
	(LAKE COLBY - L)			
24	STR8 ON SR 3 (B'WAY) (SR 86 GOES L)	1,559'	1.8	37.1
25	REACH APPROX. STARTING POINT	1,538'	0.3	37.4