

RIDE NO. 20 PETERSBURG PASS

Mileage = 28.7

Elevation Gain = N/A

Category = Moderate

The next three rides are for those who like to climb. The first is a climb over Petersburg pass. I didn't have my altimeter when I did this ride, so I don't know the total elevation gain, but the cue sheet has quite a few waypoints with their sea-level elevations to give you some idea of the climbing involved. As you can see, the first $19\frac{1}{2}$ miles are fairly easy. The climbing comes later, 1,243 feet in a 4.2-mile stretch, an average grade of 5.6%. That's not particularly steep, but it's pretty constant. After topping the Pass, as you would expect, there's a nice long - 4.7-mile - zoom downhill. You can't let it out completely, though, unless you're a real daredevil, because of the frequent switchbacks. This loop ride could be done in the opposite direction to make the climb early in the ride instead of toward the end, but it would be somewhat more difficult, involving 1,371 feet of ascent in the 4.7 miles leading to the Pass. Besides, the easy early miles give you a chance to get in condition. The 29-mile Taconic Crest Trail's northern terminus is on SR 346 just before reaching the State Line (cue sheet line 8). You'll pass it, but will have to look sharp to see the parking area on a rise to your right. The Crest Trail, which has its southern terminus at Berry Pond in the Pittsfield State Forest, crosses SR 2 at Petersburg Pass, with a large parking area for hikers and viewers (the views are great from here). There's a Stewart's Shop on US RT. 7 in Pownal, VT just before the MA State Line (cue sheet line 11), if you'd like to take a break before tackling the Pass. This ride goes through Rensselaer, Bennington and Berkshire Counties.

To reach the starting point, take the Northway to Exit 7 ("To Troy") and follow SR 7 (formerly "Alternate Route 7") east, over the Collar City Bridge into Troy. After crossing the bridge, continue east on SR 7 for 4.2 miles to a right turn on CR 278, Brick Church Road. At the end of CR 278, turn left on SR 2. Go 13.9 miles to the exit ramp for SR 22 in Petersburg. Bear right on the ramp off SR 2 and continue a short distance to the end on SR 22. Directly across SR 22 from the exit ramp is the Petersburg Baptist Church with a large parking area. The ride starts there.

START: PETERSBURG BAPTIST CHURCH, E SIDE OF SR 22, JUST S OF
SR 2, RENSSELAER COUNTY - MSL ELEV. : 781 FEET

1	GO N ON SR 22	781'	-	-
2	PASS CR 94, DILLBROOK RD. - L	595'	1.4	1.4
3	PASS PROSSER HOLLOW RD. - R	586'	1.2	2.6
4	PASS SMITH RD. - L	516'	1.2	3.8
5	PASS WEBSTER RD. - R	517'	1.0	4.8
6	R ON SR 346	483'	0.6	5.4
7	PASS CR 95 - L	483'	0.6	6.0
8	PASS VT STATE LINE	507'	2.2	8.2
9	PASS N. POWNAL RD. - L AT BEND	508'	1.0	9.2
10	R AT END ON US RT. 7	617'	3.8	13.0
11	PASS MA STATE LINE	618'	1.8	14.8
12	R ON US RT. 7 / SR 2, WILLIAMSTOWN	716'	2.3	17.1
13	PASS BEE HILL RD. - R	723'	0.7	17.8
14	R ON SR 2 (US RT. 7 GOES STR8)	857'	1.7	19.5
15	PASS TORREY'S WOODS RD. - L	977'	0.3	19.8
16	PASS BEE HILL RD. - R	1,233'	0.8	20.6
17	PASS UNMARKED WOODS RD. - R	1,570'	1.3	21.9
18	PASS NY STATE LINE	1,954'	1.6	23.5
19	REACH PETERSBURG PASS	2,100'	0.2	23.7
20	PASS CR 91, E. HOLLOW RD. - L	1,107'	2.0	25.7
21	" " AGAIN	856'	0.8	26.5
22	PASS STEWART RD. - L	751'	1.4	27.9

23	BR ON MAIN ST. (TO SR 22)	729'	0.5	28.4
24	L ON SR 22	773'	0.2	28.6
25	REACH STARTING POINT	781'	0.1	28.7