

## HEARTCYCLE BICYCLE TOURING CLUB

# OHIO APPALACHIAN COUNTRY

- Dates:** Arrival/orientation meeting Sunday, October 11, 2020. Ride Monday, October 12 to Monday, October 19, 2020. Depart Tuesday, October 20.
- Leaders:** Jim Schroeder, Scott MacCormack **SAGs:** Mayoma Pendergast, Kathleen Schindler
- Rating:** Intermediate to advanced, 407-491 miles, 19,443 - 23,494 ft climbing.
- Riders:** 30 plus Leaders and SAGs.
- Price:** \$1,600 double occupancy. \$400 deposit at registration. Balance due by July 11, 2020. Single Supplement +50% (\$2,400 total).
- Cancellation:** [Standard cancellation policy applies](#). Trip insurance is recommended.

### OVERVIEW:

The Appalachians stretch as far west into Ohio and Kentucky and these foothills are evident in southeastern Ohio with many rivers flowing into the Ohio River. Caves and cliffs dot the thick forests, too. But, we're here to ride out bikes in this beautiful land during the fall color season. I have been coming to this area since I was a boy and it's just another hidden gem in the Ohio Valley.

Rides are between 36 and 79 miles with optional shortcuts on three of the days. Our group dinner will be on Day 3 at the Olde Dutch Restaurant near our hotel in Logan. Our day off will be in the college town of Athens. We plan to have the Sprinter transport bicycles from and back to Denver. As for weather, look for lows in the 40's, with highs in the low 70's. October is the driest month!

We will start and finish in downtown Columbus, the largest metropolitan area in Ohio with plenty to do. One night in Lancaster, two nights in Logan and the Hocking Hills, two nights in Athens, 1 night in Marietta on the Ohio River, and 1 night in Zanesville before returning to Columbus and post tour overnight.

### ITINERARY

#### **DAY 0, October 11, Sunday: Orientation**

Columbus is a happening town especially with the Ohio State Buckeyes in town. They do have a home game on Saturday. There's lots to do downtown with the statehouse, museums, the German Village, and restaurants nearby. They have an impressive bike lane and bike path system which we will ride on upon leaving the next morning.



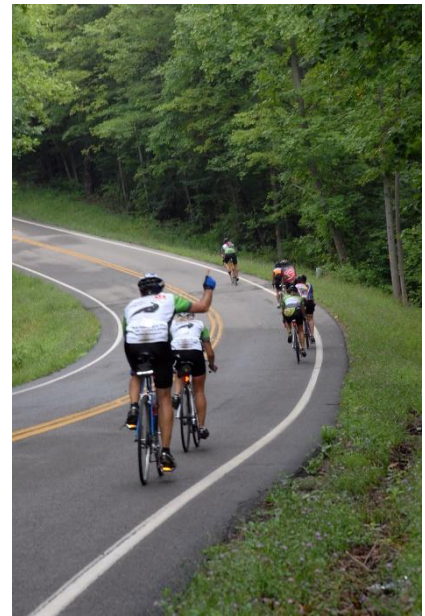
**DAY 1, October 12, Monday: Columbus to Lancaster. 55 miles.**

It's mostly flat as we leave Columbus on Alum Creek and Blacklick Trails and then to Buckeye Lake State Park for lunch. As we turn right we'll start entering the hills of southeast Ohio, and end the day in Lancaster, Ohio. birthplace of Civil War General William Tecumseh Sherman.



**DAY 2, October 13, Tuesday: Lancaster to Logan. 39 or 68 miles.**

We weave along the Hocking River Valley into the deep forested Hocking Hills. There are many scenic sites along the way to stop and hike if you'd like. You may end the day in Logan or take another loop north of Logan for a couple more good climbs.



**DAY 3, October 14, Wednesday: Logan Loops. 36 or 68 miles.**

There are two options for a full day of adventure. The 36 mile option will give you the opportunity to do some serious hiking at Old Man's Cave, Cedar Falls, and Ash Cave. The 66 mile route will go by those so you can at least walk to Ash Cave on an asphalt path, and then you'll be climbing through Zaleski State Forest to McArthur. We will have our group dinner at Olde Dutch Restaurant nearby.



**DAY 4, October 15, Thursday: Logan to Athens. 53 or 76 miles.**

We'll be headed to the college town of Athens. The short routers will do an out n back to the morning stop in Zaleski State Forest, while the long routers go deeper into the forest and return via US-50 Scenic Route through Albany. We'll meet back up at the trailhead of a bike path into Athens.



**DAY 5 October 16, Friday: Day off in Athens.**

Check out the beautiful campus of Ohio University and/or ride on the Brewed on the Bikeway Tour, <https://www.bikewaybrews.com/>. They've got plenty of breweries in and around town. Ride responsibly!

**DAY 6, October 17, Saturday: Athens to Marietta. 75 miles.**

Sorry, no more shortcuts, but our sags will be happy to bump you up anytime. We'll be riding some roads that were always on the memorable Columbus Fall Challenge weekend bike ride years ago. Our destination is the Ohio River and Marietta, the oldest city of Ohio. It's Homecoming weekend for Marietta College. Go Pioneers. Get small, we're staying at Microtel!



**DAY 7, October 18, Sunday: Marietta to Zanesville. 69 miles.**

We now make our way back to Columbus over these next two days. Today we will revisit parts of the Muskingum River all the way to Zanesville. The terrain will start to flatten out, but this route will be a toughie with more climbs than flats.



**DAY 8, October 19, Monday: Zanesville to Columbus. 79 miles.**

Last day of riding as we leave Zanesville along I-70 and then head north through Granville, home of Dennison University. As we get into some Columbus suburbia, we'll hop on some bike paths. No kidding, we ride on Hoover Dam, the one in Westerville, Ohio and then stop at the Inniswood Metro Gardens before we head back to Doubletree Hotel in downtown Columbus for a deserved night's rest.



**For additional information, contact:**

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