

LUSTER'S GATE ALTERNATE ROUTE 1

The ride is short, but challenging. SR 603 is easier to go up than the steeper 2.4 mile climb up Harding. Both Harding and SR 603 can have traffic on them depending on the time of day.

STARTING POINT: Main entrance to University Mall in Blacksburg

DISTANCE: 14.3 miles

TERRAIN: In either direction on this loop, you have a major climb back up to Blacksburg from Ellett Valley of about 700 feet gain in altitude. The rest of the ride is relatively flat.

MILE DIRECTIONS

- 0.0 From University Mall front doors, go east (right) onto University City Blvd.
- 0.2 Left at signal onto Prices Fork Rd. (elevation: 2050 feet).
- 0.8 Curve right onto Turner Street.
- 1.2 Continue on Turner, crossing Main St. at the traffic light.
- 1.4 Right onto Owen St.
- 1.8 Carefully make a left onto Harding Ave. (SR 785), watching for traffic.
- 2.4 Reach top of Harding Ave. (elevation: 2276 feet).
- 4.8 Right on Lusters Gate Rd. (SR 723). (elevation: 1594 feet).
- 7.8 Right onto Deercroft Rd. (SR 1255).
- 9.3 Left onto Nellies Cave Rd.
- 10.3 Right onto Grissom Ln.
- 10.9 Left onto Country Club Dr.

MILE DIRECTIONS (continued)

- 11.4 Continue straight onto bikeway path from Country Club Rd. Road name changes to Energy Dr.
- 12.6 Leave bike path turning left onto Miller St., by the Blacksburg Library.
- 12.7 Right onto Harrell St., then left onto Clay St.
- 12.8 Right onto Kent St. and shortly cross Washington St. and continue on Kent St. into Virginia Tech and go around north side of drillfield.
- 13.5 Right onto West Campus Drive.
- 13.9 Left onto Prices Fork Rd.
- 14.1 Right onto University City Blvd.
- 14.3 Return to Start.

After mastering this shorter ride, at mile 4.8 you could continue on SR 785 toward Catawba.

