

## **BLUEFIELD CENTURY ALTERNATE ROUTE**

One of the fastest and flattest Century rides in our area. An easy first time 100-mile ride on rural roads and with beautiful scenery. Some traffic in Bluefield, a city of 15,000. The biggest climb is 1½ miles starting at around mile 21. The last half of ride from Tazewell to Narrows is fast, often with a west tailwind. At mile 7.4, you are on US 460 for 1½ miles, but it has a safe 10-foot paved shoulder. New River is the second oldest river in the world. On a side road going parallel to SR 61 on the left (around mile 90-95) are buried the first white settlers in this area, in a marked grave.

**STARTING POINT:** Drive to the town of Narrows, about 30 minutes from Blacksburg, by way of US 460. After entering the town of Narrows, turn right on SR 61 and follow SR 61 over the New River and through the business district. One mile from US 460 reach town park on the left where parking is available.

**DISTANCE:** 62.0 miles

**TERRAIN:** Rolling hills with one long climb

### **MILE DIRECTIONS**

0.0	Right onto SR 61 from town park going back to Narrows.
0.9	Left before Narrows Bridge onto Princeton Lane with short bridge over creek.
1.5	Right onto SR 649, when SR 651 goes left.
3.5	Stay right on main road when SR 679 goes left.
4.4	Cross over railroad tracks to left.
5.8	Right under railroad tracks onto SR 649, when SR 725 goes left.
7.4	Left on US 460, onto right 10-foot paved shoulder separate from car lanes.
8.9	Go left off US 460 on road to Kelleyville and Willowtown.
13.0	Left onto SR 112 (later called Princeton Avenue), not right to US 460.
20.0	Pass by I-77 North sign.

### **MILE DIRECTIONS (continued)**

23.0	Top of 1½ mile climb, toughest of ride. Watch out for pot holes going down in next mile or so.
26.2	Left at junction.
27.0	Left onto Grassy Branch Rd.
28.6	Right onto SR 290 (Cumberland Rd.)
29.9	Left over US 460
30.4	Left on US 52, which climbs 1½ miles over East River Mountain and then coasts down for the next 5 miles.
38.5	Left onto SR 61 to Narrows.
62.0	Back to town park. Congratulations.

Several convenience stores located in Bluefield.

