

## Ride 18 - Freeport and Brunswick Tour

<b>Distance:</b>	17, 20, and 35 mile loops
<b>Terrain:</b>	Rolling

Many people think of Freeport, Maine, as a shopping mecca, made so more than 80 years ago by Leon Leonwood Bean, the creator of the famous Maine Hunting Shoe. Today L.L. Bean, the store, dominates this small New England town although in recent years a bevy of other stores have taken over the town's main street and made this a shopper's heaven. This pleasant 35-mile ride takes cyclists through the lesser-known scenic pleasures of Freeport and nearby Brunswick, home of pretty Bowdoin College. Here the coastline harbors gorgeous views of Maine's rocky coast, history, a bird sanctuary, seaside campsites and Wolfe's Neck Woods State Park, a gem of a small park near the end of this ride.

Two shorter options exist: a 17-mile loop that includes the Freeport area and a 20-mile loop that includes Brunswick and Wolfe's Neck Woods.

**Special features:** Views of Harraseeket, Maquoit and Casco bays; L.L. Bean; Maine Audubon Mast Landing Sanctuary; Bowdoin College; rocky coast.

**Road conditions:** Generally good; broken pavement on Pleasant Hill Road.

**Services:** Bike shops on route (National Ski & Bike, Freeport, 207-865-0523; L.L. Bean, Freeport, 207-865-4761, ext. 7991; Center Street Cycles, Brunswick, 207-729-5309.); basic services along the route. For accommodation information contact, Freeport Merchants Association, 23 Depot Road, P.O. Box 452, Freeport, Maine 04032-0452, 207-865-1212; or Bath-Brunswick Region Chamber of Commerce, 59 Pleasant Street, Brunswick, Maine 04011, 207-725-8797.

**Cautions:** Moderate traffic and narrow roads.

**Starting point:** Ride originates from Tourist Information Center on Depot Street in Freeport. Take Exit 19 off I-95 and follow signs to the business district. Just past the Public Safety Building, turn right at the traffic light and then left onto Depot Street. There are several large parking lots here. The Tourist Information Center is the building that resembles a lighthouse.

**Please note:** The Maine Bicycle Tours are published by the Maine Department of Transportation (MDOT) as an aid to bicyclists. All routes shown on these tours are on regular state and local roads used by automobiles, trucks, buses and other motorized vehicles. The MDOT in no way warrants the safety or suitability of the routes

indicated on these tours for shared bicycle/motor vehicle use or for use by young and/or inexperienced riders. Bicyclists assume the risk for their own safety at all times when traveling on the indicated routes.

Although the MDOT has made a reasonable effort to ensure that the information contained in this guide is correct as of the date of publication, the actual conditions riders encounter may vary, and the Department in no way warrants its accuracy. MDOT assumes no liability for personal injuries or property damage suffered by bicyclists.

Mileage readings may vary. We recommend you carry a detailed map of the area with you. All roads on this ride can be found in the Maine Atlas and Gazetteer from DeLorme Mapping Co. ([www.delorme.com](http://www.delorme.com)).

!	0.0	<b>From the kiosk in front of the Tourist Information Center on Depot Street head North on Depot Street 0.1-mile to Bow Street.</b>
!	0.1	<b>Turn right on Bow Street, cross railroad tracks, and then immediately turn right on South Street. Go 2.6 miles to South Freeport.</b> <i>ALTERNATE 1: For the shorter 20-mile Brunswick-only option, continue straight on Bow St. for 1.0 mile and rejoin tour at Mile 15.6 continuing straight on the Flying Point Rd.</i>
OPTION		
CS	0.3	Convenience store on the left.
I	1.0	Porters Landing. <i>Porters Landing was once a whaling port.</i>
S	1.6	<i>Views of Harraseeket Bay on the left.</i>
!, CS	2.7	<b>Turn left at stop sign on Main Street (South Freeport) and go 0.2-mile to the Harraseeket Road.</b> There is a convenience store straight ahead. <i>South Freeport was once a whaling port and boat yard.</i>
!	2.8	Stay straight at stop sign on Main Street.
!, I, R, S	2.9	<b>Turn right on Harraseeket Road and go 0.2- mile to Park Street.</b> Head straight to reach the town dock and a popular seafood restaurant. <i>Views of Harraseeket Bay.</i>
!	3.1	<b>Turn right on Park Street and go 0.2- mile to the South Freeport Road.</b>
!	3.3	<b>Turn left at stop sign on South Freeport Road and go 1.8 miles to US 1.</b>
!	5.1	<b>Turn right at stop sign on US 1 and go 0.9- mile to the Old County Road.</b>

**LEGEND.** !: Important tour directions. CS: Convenience store. I: Information, tour services.  
A: Accommodations, non-camping. C: Camping location. R: Restaurant. S: Scenery.  
ATM: Automatic teller machine location. HX: Historic interest site. H: Hiking trailhead/crossing.  
P: Picnic site. BS: Bicycle Shop. *OPTION*: Optional side trip.

!, BS	6.0	<b>Turn left on the Old County Road</b> (National Ski and Bike (207-865-0523), a full-service bicycle shop, is located at this intersection) <b>and go 0.6- mile to the Webster Road.</b>
!	6.6	<b>Turn right on the Webster Road and go 2.1 miles to the Desert Road.</b>
!, C, I	8.7	<b>Turn left at stop sign on the Desert Road and then immediately right on the Merrill Road. Go 1.3 miles to the Verrill Road.</b> The Desert of Maine Campground is 0.3- mile straight at this intersection. <i>The Desert of Maine features shifting sand dunes.</i>
!	9.4	<b>Turn left at stop sign on Merrill Road.</b>
!	10.0	<b>Turn right on Verrill Road and go 0.6 -mile to Elmwood Road.</b>
!	10.6	<b>Turn right at stop sign on Elmwood Road and go 2.5 miles to Mallett Drive.</b> Elmwood Rd. becomes the Pownal Rd. in Freeport.
!	13.1	<b>Turn right on Mallett Drive ( ME 125/136- S) and go 0.6-mile to US 1 (Main Street - Freeport).</b>
!	13.7	<b>Turn left at traffic light on Main Street (US 1) and go 0.9- mile to the Upper Mast Landing Road.</b>
!	14.6	<b>Turn right on the Upper Mast Landing Road and go 1.0 mile to the Flying Point Road.</b> <b>Caution:</b> Upper Mast Landing Road is a winding, narrow road.
I, H	15.4	Maine Audubon Mast Landing Sanctuary. <i>Self-guided nature trail through softwood forest.</i>
!  <i>OPTION</i>	15.6	<b>Turn left at stop sign on Flying Point Road and go 0.5- mile to Pleasant Hill Road.</b> <b>Caution:</b> The shoulder along Flying Point Road is eroded. The pavement drops off quickly. <b>ALTERNATE 2: For the shorter 17-mile tour of Freeport, turn right here on Flying Point Rd. which becomes Bow St. and rejoin tour at Mile 33.8.</b>
!	16.1	<b>Bear left on Pleasant Hill Road and go 6.3 miles to Brunswick.</b> Pleasant Hill Rd. has newly paved shoulders for most of its length.
!	20.5	Stay straight at yield sign on Pleasant Hill Road, crossing Casco Rd.
!	22.4	<b>Turn right on Maine Street and go 0.1- mile to a fork.</b> <i>Turn left here to reach Brunswick. Bowdoin College is 0.9- mile, downtown Brunswick is 1.3 miles. All services are available in Brunswick including bicycle repair. The bicycle shop is Center Street Cycles (207) 729-5309.</i>
!	22.5	<b>Bear left at fork on the Mere Point Road and go 2.2 miles to the Rossmore Road.</b>
!	23.4	<b>Stay right at fork on the Mere Point Road.</b>
!	24.7	<b>Turn right on the Rossmore Road and go 1.1 miles to the Maquoit Road.</b>

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!	25.8	<b>Turn left at stop sign on the Maquoit Road and go 0.7- mile to Maquoit Bay.</b>
!, S, P	26.5	Maquoit Bay. <i>Beautiful views of Maquoit Bay from the boat launch area. This is a great place for a picnic. Try to arrive here when the tide is in!</i> <b>At sharp corner, Maquoit Road becomes the Woodside Road. Go 0.6- mile to the Bunganuc Road.□</b>
!	27.1	<b>Turn left on Bunganuc Road and go 1.3 miles to Casco Road.</b>
!	28.4	<b>Turn left at stop sign and go 6.3 miles to Freeport. After 0.2- mile, Casco Road becomes the Flying Point Road.</b>
!, C	31.2	<b>Stay right at sharp corner. Two campgrounds can be reached from this intersection.</b> The first (Recompence Shore) is straight ahead on the Burnett Road. Go approximately 1.2 miles on the Burnett Road which becomes a gravel road. The second (Flying Point) is on Little Flying Point Road. Head straight on Burnett and then immediately turn left on Little Flying Point Road.
OPTION I,P,H,S	32.4	Optional Side Trip: Turn left on the Wolfe's Neck Road to reach Wolfe's Neck Woods State Park. <i>Gorgeous views of Casco Bay, hiking, picnic tables, toilets.</i>
CS	34.3	Bow Street Market on the right.
!	34.7	<b>Cross railroad tracks and turn left on Depot Street. Head to the Tourist Information Center.</b>
!	34.8	<b>Tourist Information Center. This is the end of the ride.</b>

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