

## Ride 5 - Washington County – Downeast Tour

<b>Distance:</b> 94 miles
<b>Terrain:</b> Flat to rolling with no major climbs

From endless forests and blueberry barrens, to craggy coastline, this tour takes you on the roads less traveled in beautiful Washington County, Maine, the easternmost county in the United States. In fact, the first rays of morning sun strike the continental United States at Quoddy Head, a stop on this tour. Washington County celebrates a diversity in its landscape that is greater than that found in any other county in Maine.

If you have the time, combine the bicycle trip with a hike into the Maine Public Reserved Lands Cutler Coast Unit. The scenery from the rocky headlands is dramatic. There are campsites located on the shore approximately six hiking miles from ME 191.

Although no shorter options are specifically identified for this tour, the resourceful bike tourist who does not have the time or energy to bicycle 94 miles can develop any number of interesting and shorter loops. The easternmost end of the tour most lends itself to this. Park in Whiting, West Lubec, or Lubec to cycle shorter loops to West Quoddy Head, Boot Cove Rd. or Cobscook Bay. Use extreme caution in planning any trip on Rt. 189 which has no shoulder and considerable traffic.

**Special features:** Machias; blueberry barrens; Lubec; Quoddy Head, the most eastern point in the United States; the scenery on Edmunds Road; Cobscook Bay State Park; hiking at Maine Public Reserve Lands at Cutler

**Road conditions:** 20 miles of unpaved shoulders on ME 191 and 1.8 miles of gravel road. Rest is generally fair. *Wider road bike tires recommended for this ride.*

**Services:** Be sure to carry adequate supply of spare parts, there aren't any bike shops in the area. Other basic services are available except on stretch from Lubec to Cutler, so carry water, food and warm clothes. For information about accommodations in the area, contact the Machias Bay Area Chamber of Commerce, P.O. Box 606, 65-67 Main Street, Machias, ME 04654 Telephone: (207) 255-4402, the Eastport Chamber of Commerce, PO Box 254, Eastport, ME 04631 Telephone: (207) 853-4644, Cobscook Bay Area Chamber of Commerce, P.O. Box 42 Whiting, ME 04691; Quoddy Loop, [www.quoddyloop.com](http://www.quoddyloop.com).

**Cautions:** Narrow roads and moderate traffic on US 1, ME 92, 191 and 189.

**Starting point:** Ride originates in Machias at the municipal parking area on Main Street. To get there, turn onto ME 192 from US 1, in downtown Machias. Parking lot is on right immediately after turn.

**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 public parking lot, turn left. At stop sign, turn right on US 1 and cross bridge.</b>
!	0.2	<b>Take sharp left on ME 92, immediately after crossing the bridge, following signs to Machiasport. Go 3.0 miles to unmarked road.</b>
!, S	3.2	<b>Turn left on unmarked paved road and go 1.6 miles to US 1 and East Machias.</b> This is the first paved road on the left after crossing the Machiasport town line (0.9-mile).
S	4.3	<b>Stay right, heading toward East Machias. Unmarked road merges on the left.</b> <i>Views of the Machias River.</i>
!,A	4.8	<b>Merge right on US 1 at stop sign and go 0.8 miles to ME 191.</b> Enter East Machias. The Riverside Inn is on the right.
!	5.6	<b>Turn left on ME 191 and go 10.4 miles to ME 86.</b>
	6.3	Maine State Police barracks on the right.
S	9.0	<i>Views of blueberry barrens.</i>
S	13.0	Enter Rocky Lake Unit, Maine Public Reserve Lands.
C	14.3	Mud Landing Campsite on left.
!	16.0	<b>Turn right on ME 86 and go 9.7 miles to Dennysville.</b>
S	17.0	Patrick Lake Public Reserve Land.

**LEGEND.** !: Important tour directions. CS: Convenience store. I: Information, tour services.

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	19.0	Clifford Stream Cemetery.
!	25.2	Bear right, crossing railroad tracks and bridge.
!	25.7	<b>Bear right on first road after railroad tracks (unmarked) and go 0.6 mile to Dennysville village.</b>
!,CS  <i>OPTION</i>	26.3	<b>In Dennysville village, bear right on unmarked road and immediately turn left crossing bridge over the Dennys River. Bear left after bridge on River Road (unmarked) and go 0.9 mile to US 1.</b> Dennysville has an inn and convenience store. <i>Optional side trip to the Reversing Falls Park, municipal park in Pembroke that features reversing falls in a tidal channel.</i>
!,R	27.2	<b>Turn right at US 1 and go 2.7 miles to Edmunds Road.</b>
R	27.9	Poor Boys and Burgers Restaurant.
S	29.4	Enter Moosehorn National Wildlife Refuge.
!	29.9	<b>Turn left on Edmunds Road (unmarked) and go 3.8 miles to US 1.</b> Follow sign for a public boat launch facility.
I	31.2	Robert S. Friedman Field Station of Suffolk University.
P, S	32.4	<i>The boat launch facility is 0.2-mile down the road on the left. picnic tables, toilets, and splendid views of Whiting Bay.</i>
C, S	33.2	Cobscook Bay State Park. <i>This is a beautiful place to camp. For an oceanside site, make reservations ahead of time. Showers and running water are available.</i>
!	33.7	<b>Bear left on US 1 and go 4.4 miles to ME 189.</b>
	34.6	Leave Moosehorn Wildlife Refuge.
S	36.8	Little Augusta Wildlife Viewing Area on the left.
!,CS	38.1	<b>Turn left immediately after Whiting Cobscook Store on US 189, and go 2.8 miles to Timber Cove Rd.</b> Follow signs for Campobello Island.
!S	40.9	<b>Turn left on Timber Cove Rd.</b> (there is a cemetery with a white picket fence at this corner) <b>and go 2.8 miles to Crows Neck Road.</b>
! <i>OPTION</i>	43.7	<b>Turn right on Crows Neck Road and go 2.8 miles to ME 189.</b> <i>Side Trip: Turn left here for side trip to world's largest tidal pool. Retrace steps back to Crows Neck Road.</i>
	44.5	Road changes to dirt.
	45.3	Pavement resumes.
!	46.5	<b>Turn left at stop sign on ME 189 and go 4.4 miles to Lubec. Head straight on ME 189 where ME 191 forks to the right.</b> <i>Caution: This section of ME189 has moderate traffic and no shoulders.</i>
CS	46.8	Lyons Grocery IGA is on the left.
C	48.3	South Bay Campground.
CS	50.0	McFadden's Variety.
R	50.4	Seaview Restaurant.

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!A, ATM, CS, I	50.9	<b>Turn right on the South Lubec Road and go 4.7 miles, following signs to Quoddy Head State Park.</b> If you continue straight, you will come to Lubec where there is lodging, a grocery store, and an ATM. <i>Roosevelt Campobello International Park, on Campobello Island, New Brunswick, Canada is accessible through Lubec. This was the summer residence of U.S. President Franklin D. Roosevelt.</i>
!, S	53.6	<b>Bear left, following signs to West Quoddy Head. Sharp corner, unmarked road forks to the right.</b> <i>Views of Lubec and Campobello Islands.</i>
!, S, P	55.6	<b>Reach Quoddy Head State Park.</b> <i>West Quoddy Head Light is the easternmost point in the continental United States. There are picnic tables and hiking trails along the shore.</i> <b>From West Quoddy Head retrace route for 2 miles.</b>
!	57.6	<b>Turn sharp left on Boot Cove Road (unmarked) and go 5.9 miles to ME 191.</b>
!	59.0	Road turns to light gravel. <i>Ride passes through blueberry barrens. There is a public access and trail to a beach at Hamilton Cove.</i>
	62.2	Pavement resumes.
S	62.7	<i>Baileys Mistake is the name of the cove on the left.</i>
!	63.5	<b>Bear left on ME 191 and go 24.1 miles to East Machias.</b>
S, C, H	70.8	Cutler Coast Unit of the Maine Public Reserved Lands is on the left. <i>The hiking trails here provide access to dramatic rocky headlands. Campsites are approximately six hiking miles from here.</i>
	74.5	Enter Cutler village.
I	80.9	The big towers on the left are for naval communications. Operated by the Cutler Harbor Naval Station.
!	87.6	<b>Turn left at unmarked road, cross bridge and go to US 1.</b> <i>This is a tricky turn as it is unmarked. It is the second left after entering the village of East Machias. The left turn is opposite a large yellow colonial home. ME 191 continues up a slight rise after the turn. It is not a problem if you miss it. Simply turn left when you reach US 1.</i>
!	87.8	<b>Turn left at stop sign on US 1, opposite the First Baptist Church.</b>
!	88.6	<b>Bear left on unmarked road following signs to Bucks Harbor, and go 1.6 miles to ME 92.</b> <i>You are retracing your route from the beginning of the ride at this point.</i>
!	89.2	Bear left and cross bridge. An unmarked road forks right.
!	90.2	<b>Turn right at stop sign on ME 92 and go 3.0 miles heading toward US 1 and Machias.</b>

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!	93.3	<b>Turn right on US 1, cross bridge, and turn left on ME 192, the second left after the bridge.</b>
!	93.5	<b>Turn immediately right into public parking lot. This is the end of the ride.</b>

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