

Stewart Road Loop

This is an easy biking route that parallels the base of the mountains on the north side of the Valley River Valley. You will see beautiful pastoral views of the Valley as set in front of the Valley River Mountains to the south. After your start from the Andrews Chamber or points Downtown Andrews on Locust Street, you may wish to make a quick stop just before crossing US19/74 at the NC DoT Rest Stop . It is known as the most beautiful in NC. There are several historical markers of the area, restrooms, and views of the Valley River.

You will be on Beaver Creek Road after you cross the four-lane. Turn right onto Stewart Road after about .2 miles. After about one mile, you will see Tatham Gap Road on your left. This road was initially constructed in 1836-7 for the removal of the Cherokee in 1838 and is part of the Trail of Tears.

You may wish to try this mountain bike route to the Gap (5miles), Johanna Bald (3 more miles), or to Robbinsville (11 miles) when you wish a more difficult ride. Now continue for 2 miles until you again cross US19/74; turn left on Business 19,(merging quickly into US19/74) for .7 miles; then onto Wakefield Road for .8 miles to a STOP. You will see the historic (circa 1838) Walker Inn on your left, now a Bed & Breakfast. Then turn right onto Junaluska Road. This road leads back to Downtown via Business US19; or you may wish to turn left onto Pisgah Road just before the STOP sign and bike the east loop of the Tail of the Newt, turning right at the next STOP to return to Main street. The total ride is 9 miles.

This route is an easy "get-acquainted" ride for your first evening or early morning. You can easily visualize the other biking opportunities around the Valley area. Vehicular traffic can be expected to be very light, but use extreme care when children are along.

- Start at Rest Area
- Turn Left out of parking area
- Cross over HWY 74
- Travel Beaver Creek Road
- Turn at first right onto Stewart Road at 4/10 mile
- You'll cross 19/74 again @ 3 Miles
- At 3.1 miles, turn left on Old US19
- Merge onto HWY 74
- At 3.7 Miles turn right on Wakefield Road
- At Junaluska Rd turn right 4.5 Miles
- · Left on Pisgah Rd
- East loop of the Tail of the Newt
- 6.7 miles Right on Bristol Road toward town
- Cross over Main Street
- 8.9 Miles at Chamber of Commerce
- or 9.0 Miles back to rest stop

