

Iunaluska Road to Nantahala Shores



This bike route is park of NC Bike Route #2, Junaluska Road, which leads to Franklin, NC and east. Departing from downtown Andrews, ride south on Bristol Avenue to turn left onto Aquone Road to junction with Junaluska Road. Travel through Valleytown subdivision, then along Junaluska Creek 10.1 miles to the turn off to Nantahala Shores subdivision located on Nantahala Lake.

You will be in awe of beautiful creekside, mountain, and rural views. The grade is a relatively constant 6-7% with steeper grades in the curves. Elevation gain from town to the gap is 2000 feet. The route is then downhill to the lake, which is one of the most beautiful and pristine of any in the southeast. Return is reverse. The total round-trip distance of 20.2 miles is a relatively difficult one-way trip, traffic may be moderate, especially on weekends.

An extension to this route is to turn right at the bottom of the run at the historical markers onto the USFS gravel Tuni Gap Road. Proceed as far as you wish. There are un improved mountain bike trails along the route. The gravel road will lead to the Gap in about two miles. From Tuni Gap it is downhill, with few small grade changes, eventually to paved roads to Hayesville, NC. The 20 mile return from Hayesville can be via state routes (US 64, NC 141, Us 74/19) or you may wish to arrange for a pick up in Hayesville.