

# HeartCycle Bicycle touring Club

## OHIO APPALACHIAN COUNTRY 2021

**Dates:** Arrival/Orientation Meeting: Wednesday October 6  
Ride: Thursday October 7 – Thursday October 14  
Depart: Friday October 15

**Leaders:** Jim Schroeder & Scott MacCormack **SAGS:** Mayoma Pendergast & Martha MacCormack

**Rating:** Intermediate to Advanced, 407-546 miles with ~20,120 – 26,607 ft climbing

**Riders:** 26 max

**Price:** \$1,590 \$200 deposit. Single supplement \$2,385 total. Balance due July 5, 2021.

**Cancellation:** Revised [Cancellation policy](#) \$75 fee. Travel insurance recommended.

### OVERVIEW

The Appalachians stretch as far west into Ohio and Kentucky and these foothills are evident in southeastern Ohio with many rivers flowing into the Ohio River. Caves and cliffs dot the thick forests, too. But, we're here to ride our bikes in this beautiful land during the fall color season. I have been coming to this area since I was a boy and it's just another hidden gem in the Ohio Valley. If you desire to sink in some history of this area, I strongly recommend reading "The Pioneers".

Rides are between 36 miles and 79 miles with optional shortcuts on three of the days. Our day off will be in the college town of Athens. We will also offer a warm-up ride and day off ride (unsupported).

The Sprinter will be able to transport bicycles from and back to Denver.

### TRAVEL & LODGING:

We will start and finish on High St Columbus, home of The Ohio State University and the largest metropolitan area in Ohio. One night in Lancaster, two nights in Logan and the Hocking Hills, two nights in Athens, 1 night in Marietta on the Ohio River, and 1 night in Zanesville before returning to Columbus and post tour overnight.

**WEATHER:** Lows will be in the 40's, with highs in the low 70's. October is the driest month!

### Itinerary

#### **DAY 0 October 6, Wednesday: Orientation**

Columbus is a happening town and there's lots to do with Ohio State and downtown nearby. There are plenty of restaurants, museums, and the statehouse within walking distance. An unsupported warm-up will be on the Olentangy River Trail and Road as you skirt OSU and the Buckeye's famous "horseshoe".



#### **DAY 1 October 7, Thursday: Columbus to Lancaster 63 miles**

It's mostly flat as we ride through downtown Columbus and then Alum Creek and Blacklick Trails We then head southeast and enter the hills of southeast Ohio with lunch at Rock Mill Park. Our overnight is Lancaster, Ohio. birthplace of Civil War General William Tecumseh Sherman.



**DAY 2 October 8, Friday: Lancaster to Logan 47 or 77 miles**

We weave along the Hocking River Valley into the deep forested Hocking Hills. There are many scenic sites along the way to stop and sightsee if you'd like. You may end the day in Logan or take another loop north of Logan for a couple more good climbs.

**DAY 3 October 9, Saturday: Logan Loops 36 or 68 miles**

There are two options for a full day of adventure. The 36 mile option will give you the opportunity to do some serious hiking at Old Man's Cave, Cedar Falls, and Ash Cave. The 66 mile route will go by those so you can at least walk to Ash Cave on an asphalt path, and then you'll be climbing through Zaleski State Forest to McArthur.



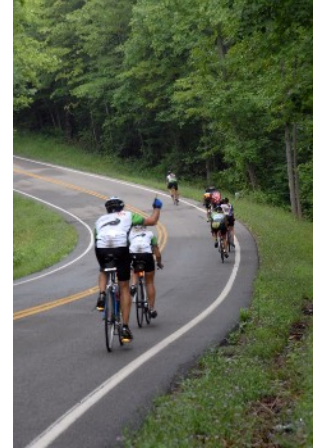
**DAY 4 October 10, Monday: Logan to Athens 46 or 70 miles**



We'll be headed to the college town of Athens. After the morning stop the short cutters will travel north to Nelsonville and then ride Adena Hockhocking Bikeway with a lunch stop at a trailhead and then to Athens. The long routers will go deeper into thick forests while weaving scenic US-50. Don't worry, the Penske will be waiting for you with a rest stop before heading into Athens on the bikeway.

**DAY 5 October 11, Tuesday: Day off in Athens**

Check out the beautiful campus of Ohio University, hike or kayak at nearby Strouds Run State Park, or ride on the Brewed on the Bikeway Tour, <https://www.bikewaybrews.com/>. They've got plenty of breweries in and around town. Ride responsibly!



**DAY 6 October 12, Tuesday: Athens to Marietta 72 miles**

Sorry, no more shortcuts, but our sags will be happy to bump you up anytime. We'll be riding some rolling hills and then along the Muskegum River down to the Ohio River and Marietta, the oldest city of Ohio.



**DAY 7 October 13, Wednesday: Marietta to Zanesville 71 miles**

We now make our way back to Columbus over these next two days. Today we will revisit parts of the Muskingum River and some Amish country all the way to Zanesville. The terrain will start to flatten out, but this route will be a toughie with more climbs than flats.



**DAY 8 October 14, Thursday: Zanesville to Columbus 73 miles**

It's the last day of riding as we leave Zanesville along I-70 and then head north through Granville, home of Dennison University. As we get into some Columbus suburbia, we'll hop on some bike paths. No kidding, we ride on Hoover Dam, the one in Westerville, Ohio and then stop at the Inniswood Metro Gardens before we head back to the Graduate Hotel in Columbus for a deserved night's rest.

**For more information contact:**

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