Joyride #24

STATEN ISLAND GIDDY-UP

by Clarence Eckerson, Jr.

This 40 mile ride boasts many exciting premiums. You'll jaunt past Snug Harbor, the S.I. Zoo, Historic Richmondtown, the S.I. Lighthouse and into the Gateway National Recreation Area. The terrain ranges from very hilly [Todt Hill, Lighthouse Road] to mostly flat with intermittent upgrades. Traffic is light to moderate except on Todt Hill and the last mile of Hyland Boulevard.

Cool ocean breezes make this a great ride on a warm summer day. If you get tired or have a catastrophic breakdown, you are always less than a mile from the Staten Island Rapid Transit once you reach the southernmost tip at the turn onto Hylan Boulevard.

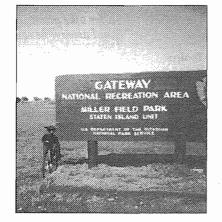
From Manhattan: Take the Staten Island Ferry (Free!) For departures: 718-815-BOAT. Board on the lower level. Exit ferry. Immediate R [right] on Richmond Terrace.

At 1.8 miles you can visit Snug Harbor Cultural Center.

- 2.3 L [left] on Pelton.
- 2.8 R on Henderson. Go two blocks on Henderson and hang a Left on Bement.
- 3.9 R on Clove Road.
- 4.4 L on Martling. Visit the Staten Island Zoo.
- 4.7 L on Slosson.
- 5.6 Continue as Slosson becomes Todt Hill Road.

NOTE: This is the second-highest peak on the East Coast. If you're game, explore some side roads and experience some majestic views of the Verrazano Bridge and NYC.

- 7.8 R on Richmond.
- 8.8 R on Rockland Avenue.
- 9.4 L on Meisner.
- 9.8 L on Terrace Ct. Follow this around the bend as it becomes Lighthouse Road. To your left: the Atlantic Ocean; up on your right: the monolithic S.I. Lighthouse.
- 10.4 R on Richmond Hill Road. Up ahead is 18th century, historic Richmontown. Good place for a break!
- 10.8 Lon Arthur Kill Road.



- 18.8 L on Bently when you see the dead end sign for Arthur Kill. Go two blocks and make a R on Craig Avenue.
- 19.5 L on Hylan Boulevard.
- 27.3 R into Great Kills Park. Go to the end (Crookes Point) and back (2 miles each way.) Views of Brooklyn, Jersey, Manhattan and the Verrazano. OPTION: You can ride the adjacent multi-use path but the speed limit is 10 mph and it is congested with peds, bladers, and children.
- 31.3 Baback on to Hylan (use caution, heavy traffic)
- 31.9 R on Guyon.
- 32.3 L on Old Mill Road.
- 32.8 R on Ebbits.
- 33.2 L on Cedar Grove. Enter Miller Field and cross to the other side. Look for large opening in the fence directly opposite where you entered the park. Go through.
- 34.0 Enter the Father Capodanno Boulevard Bike Lane.

OPTION: There is a 2+ mile boardwalk that runs along the beach to your right. Yield to pedestrians at all times!

- 36.5 Father Capodanno banks L to become Lilly Pond Road. Continue under 278 (careful, stick to the bike lane) and veer Right on to School Road.
- 37.4 L on Bay Street —three miles to the ferry.

Have you got a joyride you want to share? Let us know! email: info@transalt.org or call us.