

#15

Boardwalk Ride to Long Beach

About 55 miles round trip, this tour of Queens and Nassau County Boardwalks showcases some of New York's best beaches. The trip can be shortened by taking the subway to or from the noted (*) locations. All of the NYC beaches are open to the public, but many of the Nassau County beaches are for residents only or charge a fee. If you're planning to swim the Rockaways beaches' have easier access and are less crowded.

By Paul Harrison

STARTS at Prospect Park

FOLLOW park roadway to Ocean Pkwy exit

EXIT Prospect Park, **LEFT** onto Parkside Ave.

RIGHT onto Parade Place (On return, use St. Paul's Pl.)

RIGHT onto Caton Ave.

LEFT onto Rugby Road (Becomes E 14th St—On return, use E. 13th St.)

LEFT at Avenue T

RIGHT on Gerritsen Ave.

LEFT on Avenue U

RIGHT onto Flatbush Avenue (unless you're a strong rider, use the sidewalk (it's a legal bike path))

CROSS Marine Parkway Bridge Bike/Ped Path. Yield to peds and fisherpeople.

At end of bridge, **LEFT** onto Beach 169th St

LEFT at end onto Boardwalk

At end of Boardwalk, turn **LEFT**

RIGHT onto Rockaway Beach Blvd.

RIGHT on Beach 116th St *(S train stops here. Transfer from the A to the S at Rockaway Blvd. stop)

LEFT onto Boardwalk

From Memorial Day to Labor day, you can **DIVERT** onto a car-free Shore Parkway at 109th Street, parallel to the Boardwalk

Ends at B 73rd St, make **LEFT**

RIGHT on Rockaway Beach Blvd

RIGHT on B 69th Street *(Beach 67th St-Gaston stop on

Far Rockaway A train)

LEFT on Boardwalk (notice the street signs for "walks" on the left, they're all that's left of this former beach house paradise)

Follow to end, **LEFT** on B 9th St. Travel one block

RIGHT on Seagirt Blvd.

CIRCLE the circle

RIGHT up onto the sidewalk, follow the wooden fence up the hill and

ONTO the Atlantic Beach Bridge

PAY 5¢ toll with nickel if you want, it's never enforced

CROSS BRIDGE Dismount when passing peds and other bikes (the path is too narrow for two)

LEFT at end of sidewalk

LEFT onto Park Street

Immediate **RIGHT** onto Plaza Street

Up Ramp, **LEFT** onto Boardwalk

LEFT at end

RIGHT onto Ocean Street

LEFT at end onto Yates Street

RIGHT at Beech Street

RIGHT on New York Ave.

Up Ramp, **LEFT** onto Boardwalk

CONTINUE along center bike lane to end.

To **RETURN**, just reverse directions. To take LIRR Long Beach Branch back, follow Boardwalk back to Edwards Blvd., station is 7 blocks up.