

PREVAILING WINDS



Prevailing winds and mean annual wind speed (in miles per hour) Northeast winds prevail in September and October

TEMPERATURE



Average high and low temperature (in Fahrenheit) for each season Winter through Fall, by region

PRECIPITATION



Mean number of days with 0.01 or more inches of precipitation per year

Bicycle Laws and Safety Tips

In North Carolina the bicycle is legally classified as a vehicle. This means that bicyclists have full rights and responsibilities on the roadway and are subject to the regulations governing the operation of a motor vehicle. North Carolina traffic laws require the rider of a bicycle to:

- ride on the right, in the same direction as other moving traffic;
- obey all traffic signs and signals, including stop and yield signs and one-way directional signs;
- use signals to communicate intended movements;
- yield to pedestrians and emergency vehicles;
- equip the bicycle with a front lamp visible from 300 feet and a rear reflector or lamp which is visible from a distance of 200 feet at night;

In addition, bicycles are prohibited from all interstate highways.

Traveling by bicycle can be an exhilarating experience, but requires a great deal of care on the part of the cyclist. Motor vehicle drivers often do not see bicyclists on the road and many do not realize that the bicyclist has a legal right to be there. It is important, therefore, to ride defensively and in a predictable manner. The bicycle always loses in a conflict with a car. Stay alert and keep safe.

To insure a safe trip along the back roads of North Carolina, please note the following suggestions:

- always wear a bicycle helmet;
- avoid riding at night, especially in rural areas;
- when riding with a group, ride single file;
- do not ride during periods of low visibility, particularly at dusk, in dense fog or during heavy rain;
- do not attempt trips which are beyond your capabilities;
- wear bright clothing for visibility;
- be courteous to other drivers; keep traffic flowing by helping them pass you in a safe manner.

"This guide is published by the Department of Transportation as an aid to bicyclists. The Department of Transportation in no manner warrants the safety of the highways indicated on these maps for use by bicyclists. These roads are suggested only as more suitable than others for use by bicyclists as connecting routes. All roads suggested are regular roads of the highway system used by automobiles and trucks, with no special lanes provided for bicycles. As no separate lanes are provided for bicycles and therefore are dangerous for use by bicyclists, the bicyclist assumes the risk for his own safety when using the routes indicated on these maps."

It is urged that no one under 15 years of age attempt to ride all or any portion of these routes without adult supervision.

F OCRACOKE OPTION

NORTH CAROLINA



BICYCLING HIGHWAYS

Bicycling Highways

North Carolina is an ideal place to bicycle tour. Climate, terrain and the many miles of pleasant country roads combine to provide an exciting trip for every type of bicyclist . . . long-distance tourist, week-end rider or day tripper.

Many people are unaware of the unlimited cycling opportunities in North Carolina. For this reason, the Department of Transportation Bicycle Program created a system of "Bicycling Highways", routed along 3,000 miles of lightly traveled backroads throughout the state. Ten different routes have been developed, selected according to strict criteria based on the safety needs of cyclists. These "Bicycling Highways" routes generally parallel major highways, thus offering a good alternative to those busy roads.

Ocracoke Option

This 175 mile route splits off from the Mountains-to-Sea route west of Wilson, connecting the central part of the state with the Outer Banks. Winding South, this route passes through New Bern, Colonial Capital of North Carolina. Here you can visit Tryon Palace and the Historic Waterfront District. In New Bern the route intersects the Ports of Call route, providing the option of traveling to a variety of beach areas.

Continuing southeast you'll take the Minnesott Beach Ferry across the Neuse River, then wind toward the small fishing villages along the Pamlico sound. The last leg of the route takes you through the beautiful and remote marshlands of the Cedar Island Wildlife Refuge. Finally, you will reach the ferry to Ocracoke. The relaxing 2 1/4 hour trip gives you plenty of time to anticipate the endless strand of sunny beaches on the other side.



Using This Guide

The information presented in this guide has been compiled to help you prepare for and take a bicycle trip along one of the North Carolina "Bicycling Highways" routes. Included is information on state laws which pertain to bicycles, safety tips, weather information, sources for additional tourist information, a campground directory and a set of strips maps detailing the route.

These maps provide a wealth of information. To orient you to your general location, the road network, prominent physical features, cities and towns and county boundaries are shown. A north arrow and scale of miles/kilometers are also included. The actual route you follow is highlighted with color. An enlargement of any section of the route which is confusing or difficult to follow is shown in a special inset on the appropriate map segment. Match lines are provided to show how the segments of the route fit together. If another "Bicycling Highways" route intersects the route you are following, it is identified with dashed lines in color and the appropriate map series/segment number is shown.

All roads which are a part of the route or which intersect the route are numbered. To help differentiate the numbers of the secondary road which are a part of the route from those which are not, the numbers of the secondary roads which you follow are enclosed in a rectangle (1005). US and NC numbered highways which are a part of the route are not differentiated in this way. On the road, secondary roads numbers can be found on posts at all intersections. These numbers are small and sometimes obscure, so look carefully. Also important to note is that although you may be going straight, secondary road numbers can change at county lines, major intersections and sometimes when going through a town.

Much additional information pertinent to your safety, travel needs and interests is highlighted in color on the maps. This information includes the locations of country stores (▲); full service towns with motel or inn accommodations, laundromats, supermarkets, restaurants, post offices, banks, etc. (★); and hazardous areas (✘). Special pictographic symbols mark the location of bicycle shops, campgrounds, recreation areas, historic sites, and other points of interest.

Narrative information is provided for each map segment to explain or expand the information symbolized on the map. Included is a general description of the terrain; the overall distance of each segment; an assessment of roadway conditions; potentially hazardous areas, noting approximate distance of any problem; availability of services along the route or within reasonable biking distance of the route; bike shop locations; and, descriptive information on each point of interest.

This guide was produced by the North Carolina Bicycle Program through the efforts of:
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For More Information

Travel and Tourism
Department of Commerce
430 N. Salisbury Street
Raleigh, NC 27611

Provides information on
accommodations and campgrounds
plus brochures on major points of
interest

Public Affairs Map Section
Department of Transportation
P. O. Box 25201
Raleigh, NC 27611

Provides official State Highway maps.
Also, detailed maps of each county,
for which a nominal fee is charged.

Trails Coordinator
Department of Environment,
Health and Natural Resources
12700 Bayleaf Church Road
Raleigh, NC 27614











Provides information on State Parks
and recreational trails.























Notes:

F.1

Bright Leaf

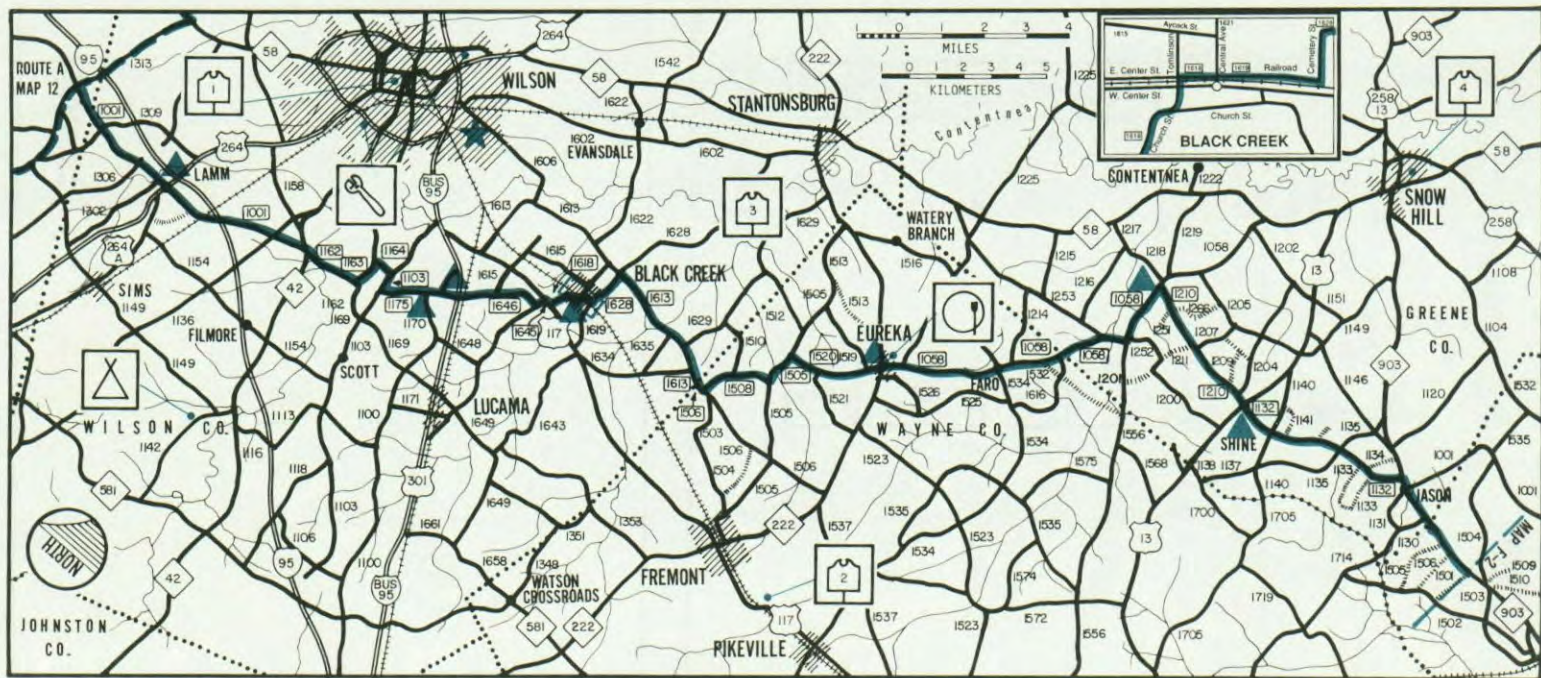
Legend:

	BICYCLE SHOP		HISTORIC SITE
	FLORA AND FAUNA		SCENIC AREA
	FOLKLORE		RECREATION AREA
	CULTURAL/ EDUCATIONAL SITE		CAMPGROUND
	RESTAURANT		RECREATION AREA/ CAMPGROUND

	BICYCLE ROUTE		CANAL
	PAVED ROAD		LAKE/SOUND/OCEAN
	UNPAVED ROAD		RAILROAD
	DIVIDED HIGHWAY		COUNTY LINE
	N.C. NUMBERED HIGHWAY		FOREST/PARK BOUNDARY
	U.S. NUMBERED HIGHWAY		TOWN
	INTERSTATE HIGHWAY		CITY
	ROUTE ON SECONDARY ROAD		ENLARGEMENT
	SECONDARY ROAD NUMBERS		BASIC SERVICES
	SEGMENT MATCH LINES		HAZARDOUS AREA
	RIVER OR CREEK		FULL SERVICE CITY

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Bright Leaf

F-1

Points of Interest

1 Wilson History

Around 1803, a community developed around Toisnot Baptist Church, in the area which is now called Wilson. Later the settlement became known as Hickory Grove, and in 1840 when the railroad came through, Toisnot Depot was established in the same area. Eventually, in 1848, the two settlements were incorporated as Wilson, named in honor of Captain Louis D. Wilson (1789-1847) who died at Vera Cruz during the war with Mexico.

Long a center for marketing tobacco, Wilson still boasts the largest tobacco warehouses in the world. Until the late 1800's growers had to haul the leaf to far-away "old Belt" markets or sell to traveling buyers. In 1889, the Wilson town council offered a five year tax exemption to anyone who would build a tobacco warehouse. By the next year, a warehouse had been built and in a very short time Wilson had become a thriving market for bright-leaf tobacco.

2 Aycock Birthplace State Historic Site

Charles B. Aycock, who was born in 1859 in the simple farmhouse on this site, rose to prominence as Governor of North Carolina at the turn of the century. Known as the "Education Governor," his lifelong goal was to provide educational opportunities to the people of North Carolina.

Visitors to the site will see a restored farmhouse of the 1840's, farm out-buildings and a restored 1879-vintage one-room school house. A Visitor's Center houses exhibits which portray the life of Governor Aycock, highlighting his interests in the fields of law, politics and education.

Hours of operation between April 1-October 31 are Monday-Saturday, 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM and Sunday 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM. From November 1-March 31, the site is open on Tuesday-Saturday, 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM and Sunday 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM. Admission is free.

3 Tobacco Cultivation

When the English first settled North America, the only tobacco plant they found was a scrubby little plant which bore faint resemblance to the lush plant now cultivated. Indians of the region cultivated it for smoking and ceremonial purposes, sometimes mixing the dried leaves with leaves of other plants because the smoke of the native tobacco was so strong.

The English had long been acquainted with tobacco through the Spaniards, who cultivated it in the West Indies and Venezuela. Because the Spaniards held an exclusive trade monopoly, the cost was very high, with the best tobacco selling for \$125 per pound.

In 1612, in order to provide themselves with smokable tobacco and to produce a commodity that could be exported, settlers in Jamestown, Virginia obtained seeds of Spanish tobacco. The crop flourished. When cured, the leaves of the tobacco plant were shipped to London, where smokers welcomed the new "Virginia" and proclaimed it "as good as the Spanish".

Because the early planters thought that tobacco would grow only in virgin soil, tobacco cultivation rapidly spread into present-day North Carolina. Tobacco remains, to this date, an important agricultural commodity in this part of the state.

4 Snow Hill History

Records show that in 1753, John Beckton willed lands "called the Snow Hills" to this son, who gave this name to his plantation. The town, which was incorporated in 1828, took its name from this source. Built near the site of an ancient Tuscarora Indian town known as Cotechney, Snow Hill now serves as county seat for Green County.

General Description

Originating southwest of Wilson, this route diverges from the 700-mile Mountains to Sea route, taking you through the lush countryside of North Carolina's Coastal Plain to the Cedar Island ferry to Ocracoke and the Outer Banks. The terrain through this region is almost flat. This segment of the route leads you through an area characterized by small family farms where tobacco, corn and soybeans are grown.

Approximately 40 miles/66 kilometers.

Roadway Conditions

Most of the roads throughout this segment are well-paved and well-maintained, with a few short stretches of rougher pavement.

Hazardous Areas

This is a very rural area in which you will encounter little traffic and virtually no unusual hazards.









Services























Well-spaced country stores provide plenty of opportunities to stop for a break. A privately-owned campground near Sims provides a convenient overnight stop. Full services, including a bicycle shop, can be found in Wilson.

Notes:

F.2 Cliffs of the Neuse

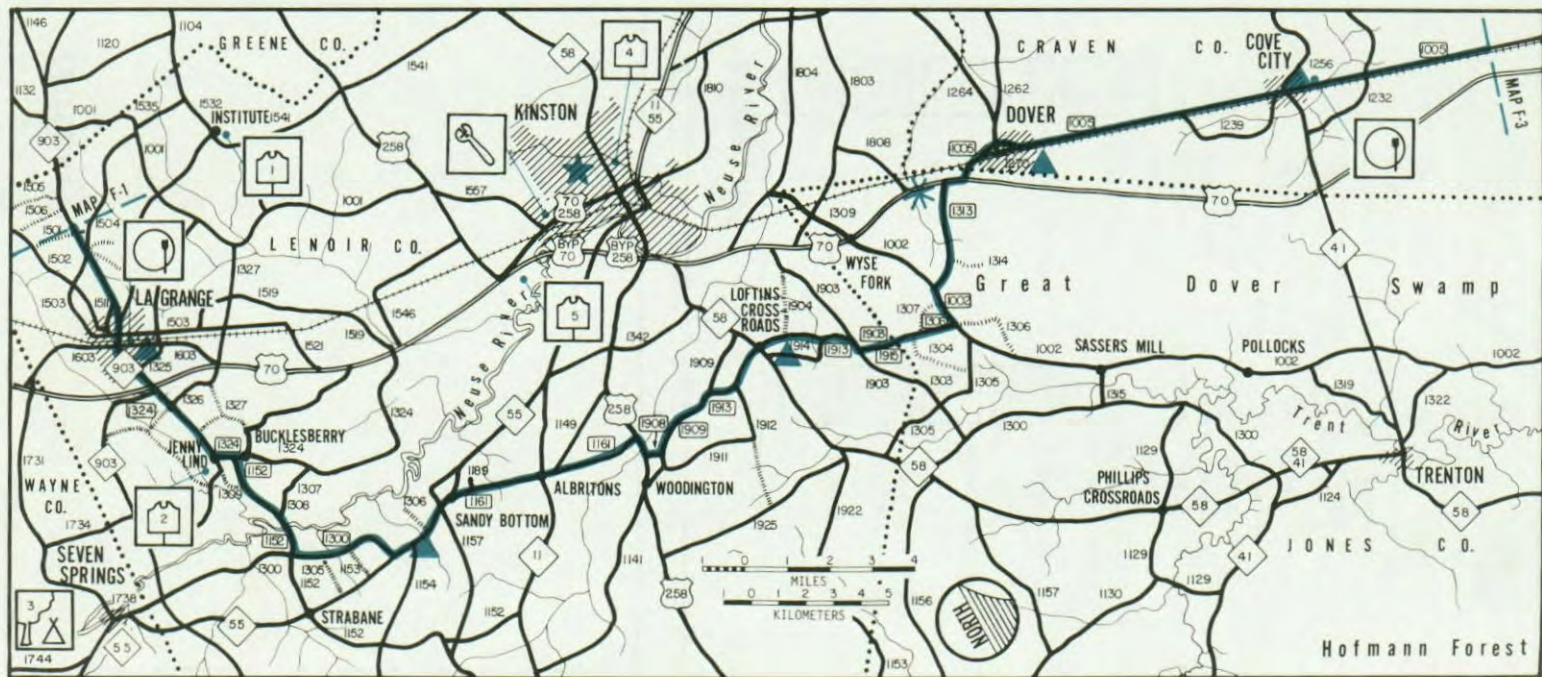
Legend:

	BICYCLE SHOP		HISTORIC SITE
	FLORA AND FAUNA		SCENIC AREA
	FOLKLORE		RECREATION AREA
	CULTURAL/ EDUCATIONAL SITE		CAMPGROUND
	RESTAURANT		RECREATION AREA/ CAMPGROUND

	BICYCLE ROUTE		CANAL
	PAVED ROAD		LAKE/SOUND/OCEAN
	UNPAVED ROAD		RAILROAD
	DIVIDED HIGHWAY		COUNTY LINE
	N. C. NUMBERED HIGHWAY		FOREST/PARK BOUNDARY
	U. S. NUMBERED HIGHWAY		TOWN
	INTERSTATE HIGHWAY		CITY
	ROUTE ON SECONDARY ROAD		ENLARGEMENT
	SECONDARY ROAD NUMBERS		BASIC SERVICES
	SEGMENT MATCH LINES		HAZARDOUS AREA
	RIVER OR CREEK		FULL SERVICE CITY

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Cliffs of the Neuse F-2

General Description

The route continues through farmlands, pine forests and the low-lying coastal plain swamps. Here the unique Venus Fly trap and other carnivorous plants such as the sundew and pitcher plant are found. There is very little elevation change throughout the area. Approximately 47 miles/78 kilometers.

Roadway Conditions

In general, roads throughout the area are in good condition.

Hazardous Areas

For the most part, the roads along this portion of the route are very lightly-traveled, presenting no unusual hazards. One exception is US 70, east of Kinston, a high-speed road with high traffic volumes. 5 mile.

Services

There are numerous country stores along the route. Camping facilities can be found at Cliffs of the Neuse State Park (see below), near Seven Springs. (To reach the park, which is not shown on this map, follow SR 1300 to Wayne Co., where the number changes to 1738. Continue straight. Turn right on NC 55, and follow past Seven Springs. Turn right on 1744. Ride about 2 miles, then turn right on 1742. The park entrance will be on your immediate right.) Full services, including a bicycle shop are available in Kinston.

Points of Interest

1 Institute at Institute

In 1853, a boarding school was established on this site, as the only school of higher learning east of Raleigh. The school had ten teachers and one hundred and fifty students, both men and women. An advertisement which appeared in 1857 in the *American Advocate*, a Lenoir County weekly newspaper, stated that "the Institute is situated in the County in a Moral and Healthy Neighborhood. Expenses-Board exclusive of washing and light, \$6. Tuition per session of 21 weeks from \$7.50 to \$15. Ornamental branches extra."

2 Jenny Lind

The famous Swedish singer Jenny Lind is purported to have sung here, under a tree, in the mid 1800's. As the story is told, her song was so sweet that for years afterwards, local people referred to the area as "the place where Jenny Lind sang." Eventually her name was adopted for the crossroads community.

3 Cliffs of the Neuse State Park

This 572-acre park includes camping facilities open from March 15-November 30, an 11-acre swimming lake and numerous picnic sites. A 90-foot cliff, carved over thousands of years by the winding Neuse River is an outstanding natural feature of the park. Visible bands of sediment reveal the geological history of the area, which was once covered by a vast ocean. Exhibits in the natural history museum depict the different periods in the evolution of the area.

4 Kinston

Like much of this region, Kinston's economy is based primarily on tobacco. The first tobacco warehouse was built in the area about 1757. In 1762, the town was incorporated as Kinston in honor of King George III, of England. It was renamed Kinston in 1784, after the American Revolution.

5 Caswell Memorial and C.S.S. Neuse State Historic Park

Two chapters of North Carolina history are commemorated on this site. The first is a memorial to Richard Caswell, first governor of the independent state of North Carolina. Born in 1729 in present-day Lenoir County, Caswell was a distinguished officer in the militia as well as a successful farmer, land speculator and tanner. He served as a member of the colonial assembly for seventeen years and, after the American Revolution, as governor for seven. A sound and light show presented in the Caswell Museum details his political and military career.

On the other side of the site, and separated by 100 years of history, lie the remains of the gunboat Neuse. The 158-foot hull of the Confederate ram was brought here from its resting place several miles down the Neuse River. Commissioned to be built by the Confederate States Navy in 1862, the gunboat Neuse was one of twenty-two iron clad ramming vessels built, but ill fate denied her the opportunity to defend the state. After numerous construction delays, the still-unfinished vessel was ordered from Kinston to New Bern in April, 1864. Embarking in shallow water, she ventured only half a mile before running aground on a sandbar. When the river swelled enough to release the ram, she was returned to Kinston. Work was completed in June, but by then her crew had deserted her. In mid-March, 1865, as Union forces were approaching Kinston, Commander Joseph Price of the Neuse ordered that the ship be sunk rather than risk its capture. A charge was set. The explosion blew a hole eight feet wide in the port side, and the Neuse rapidly settled to the bottom of the river. In the spring of 1964, the gunboat was raised and the 500-ton hull was transported to this site.

Visitors can tour the site from April 1-October 31 on Monday through Saturday from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM and on Sunday from 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM. Between November 1 and March 31, the site is open on Tuesday-Saturday from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM and on Sunday from 1:00 to 4:00 PM. Admission is free.

Notes:

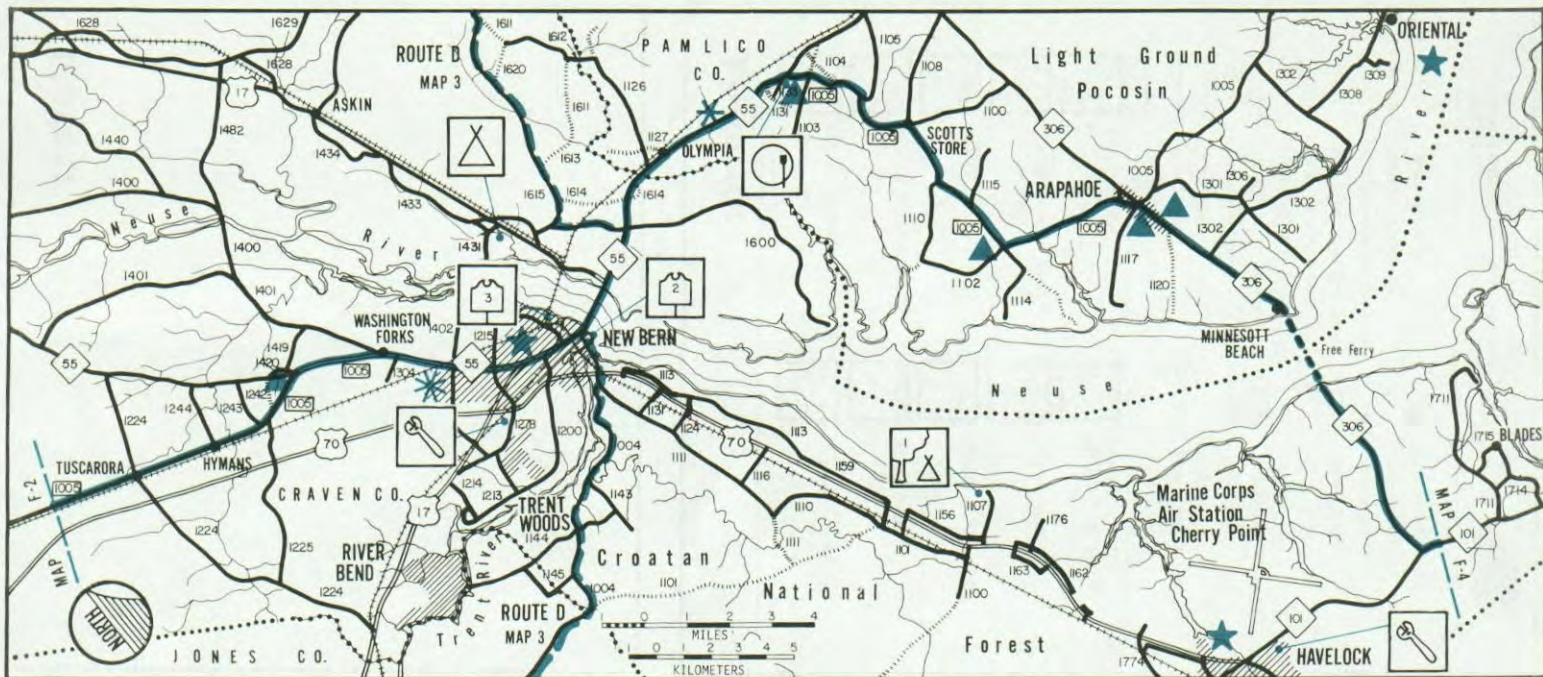
F-3 Oriental

Legend:

	BICYCLE SHOP		HISTORIC SITE
	FLORA AND FAUNA		SCENIC AREA
	FOLKLORE		RECREATION AREA
	CULTURAL/ EDUCATIONAL SITE		CAMPGROUND
	RESTAURANT		RECREATION AREA/ CAMPGROUND
	BICYCLE ROUTE		CANAL
	PAVED ROAD		LAKE/SOUND/OCEAN
	UNPAVED ROAD		RAILROAD
	DIVIDED HIGHWAY		COUNTY LINE
	N.C. NUMBERED HIGHWAY		FOREST/PARK BOUNDARY
	U.S. NUMBERED HIGHWAY		TOWN
	INTERSTATE HIGHWAY		CITY
	ROUTE ON SECONDARY ROAD		ENLARGEMENT
	SECONDARY ROAD NUMBERS		BASIC SERVICES
	SEGMENT MATCH LINES		HAZARDOUS AREA
	RIVER OR CREEK		FULL SERVICE CITY

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Oriental

F-3

Services

Periodic country stores scattered along the route provide needed services. Full services including bicycle shops are available in New Bern and Havelock. Motels and restaurants can also be found in Oriental. Camping facilities are provided in the Croatan National Forest at the Neuse River Recreation Area at Flanner Beach (see below) and at a privately-owned campground north of New Bern.

Points of Interest

1 Croatan National Forest

Lying between the Neuse River on the east and Bogue Sound on the south, this coastal forest covers 155,000 acres of land, providing abundant recreational opportunities. The US Forest Service maintains a campground which is open from March 15 through November 15.

Wildlife abounds in the Croatan and includes deer, black bear, wild turkey, muskrat, mink, otter, and many species of birds. Reptiles, both friendly and not-so-friendly, are also part of these forest and coastal environments. Several unusual plant species thrive in the wet upland bogs. These include the exotic Venus' fly trap, sundew, and pitcher plant, all carnivorous plants.

2 Tryon Palace

Built by Royal Governor William Tryon, this residence also served as the capital of the royal colony from its completion in 1770 until the outbreak of the American Revolution. During the war years, it served as capital of the independent state of North Carolina. The Palace, called the most beautiful building in colonial America was restored between 1952 and 1959. Guided tours of the Palace and gardens are conducted Tuesdays through Saturdays from 9:30 AM to 4:00 PM and on Sunday afternoons from 1:30 PM to 4:00 PM. A fee is charged.

3 New Bern History

New Bern, the second oldest town in North Carolina, was settled in 1710 by Baron Christoph von Graffenried. Named for the city of Berne, Switzerland, the town was situated on the triangle of land at the confluence of the Neuse and Trent Rivers. Shipping rapidly became a major commercial endeavor. Tar, pitch and turpentine were the "gold" of New Bern. Ships laden with these and other native products sailed for New England, England and the West Indies, returning with rum, molasses, sugar and manufactured goods.

By the mid-eighteenth century, the river port had grown greatly in size and importance. The colony's first printing press was established in New Bern in 1749, and two years later, publication of the colony's first newspaper began. With the completion of Tryon Palace in 1770, New Bern became the official seat of government for the colony of North Carolina.

Many important historic landmarks survive to this day. Old homes, many listed on the National Register of Historic Places, line the picturesque streets, and along the now quiet waterfront, it is easy to imagine the sailing vessels and maritime bustle of long ago.

Neuse River Ferry Schedule					
Year-Round-Free, Crossing time 20 minutes					
Leaves Minnesott			Leaves Cherry Branch		
6:15 AM	11:15 AM	4:45 PM	5:45 AM	11:15 AM	5:15 PM
6:45 AM	11:45 AM	5:15 PM	6:15 AM	11:45 AM	5:45 PM
7:15 AM	12:15 PM	5:45 PM	6:45 AM	12:15 PM	6:15 PM
7:45 AM	1:15 PM	6:15 PM	7:15 AM	1:15 PM	7:15 PM
8:15 AM	1:45 PM	7:15 PM	7:45 AM	1:45 PM	8:15 PM
8:45 AM	2:15 PM	8:15 PM	8:15 AM	2:15 PM	9:15 PM
9:15 AM	2:45 PM	9:15 PM	8:45 AM	2:45 PM	10:15 PM
9:45 AM	3:15 PM	10:15 PM	9:15 AM	3:15 PM	11:15 PM
10:15 AM	3:45 PM	11:15 PM	9:45 AM	3:45 PM	12:15 AM
10:45 AM	4:15 PM	12:15 AM	10:15 AM	4:15 PM	1:15 AM
		1:15 AM	10:45 AM	4:45 PM	

General Description

The road continues to be flat and straight as you follow the railroad into New Bern, a quaint Colonial port with many years of history to explore. Here the route intersects with segment D-5 of the Ports of Call route, which runs from South Carolina to Virginia. Leaving New Bern, you will cross the Neuse River on NC 55, a somewhat busy road. A peaceful ride through the farmlands and small settlements of Pamlico County brings you back to the river. A free 20-minute ferry ride then takes you across the Neuse River from Minnesott Beach to Cherry Branch (see schedule below). A short stretch through a sparsely-settled area brings you to the end of this segment.

Approximately 43 miles/71 kilometers.

Roadway Conditions

Roads throughout the segment are in good condition.

Hazardous Areas






NC 55 west of New Bern is more heavily traveled than is desirable 3.5 miles.

NC 55 on the east side of the Neuse River carries higher traffic volumes and a greater number of trucks than is desirable 4 miles.

Notes:

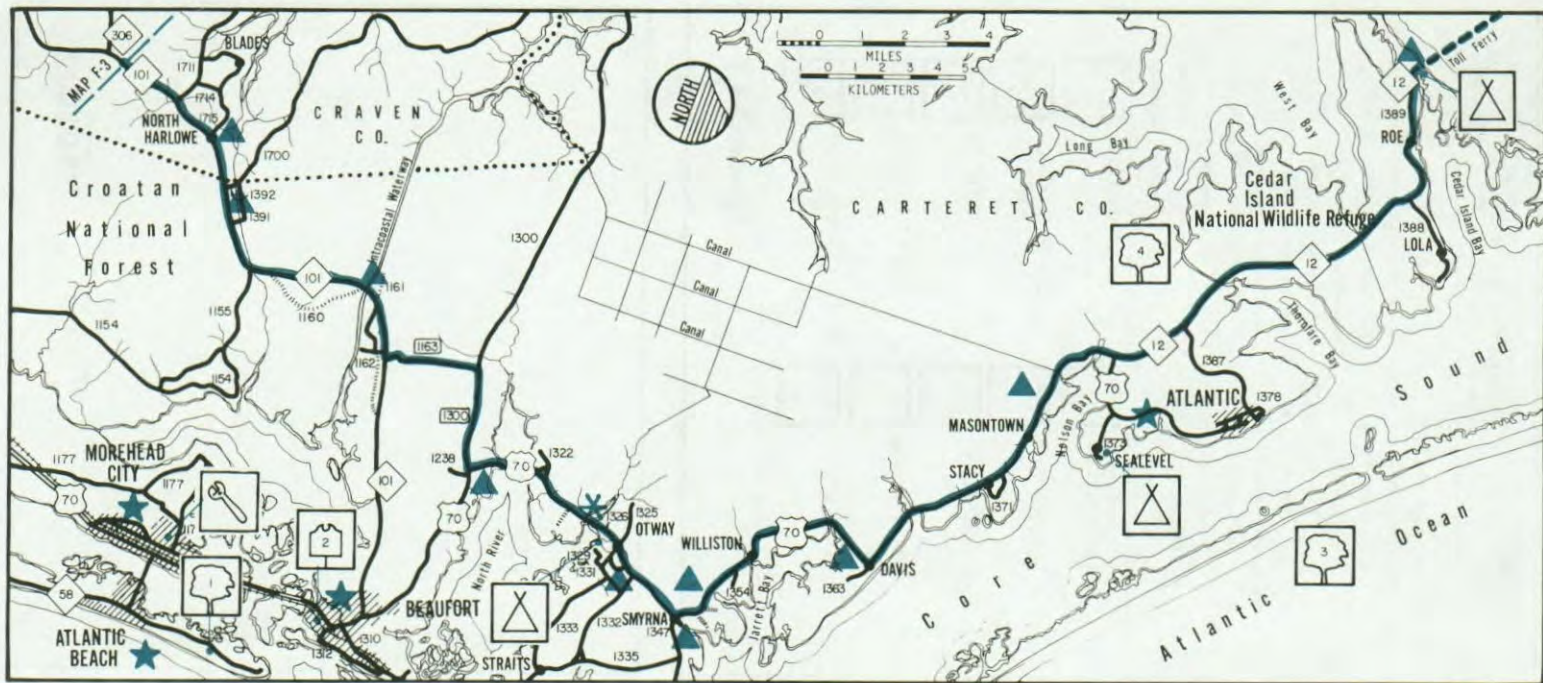
F-4 Road's End

Legend:

	BICYCLE SHOP		HISTORIC SITE
	FLORA AND FAUNA		SCENIC AREA
	FOLKLORE		RECREATION AREA
	CULTURAL/ EDUCATIONAL SITE		CAMPGROUND
	RESTAURANT		RECREATION AREA/ CAMPGROUND
	BICYCLE ROUTE		CANAL
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	ROUTE ON SECONDARY ROAD		ENLARGEMENT
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	RIVER OR CREEK		FULL SERVICE CITY

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Road's End

F-4

General Description

In this segment, the route takes you through sparsely-settled farmlands and maritime forests, across the Intercoastal Waterway and the North River to join US 70. At this point, you may consider taking a side trip to Beaufort, with its lively waterfront and restored 18th century buildings (see below), or to Fort Macon State Park and the beaches of Bogue Banks (also see below). Care should be taken, however, as both access roads (NC 101 and US 70) are heavily traveled.

Continuing east along the route, you will follow US 70. Though this is the only direct route through this area, traffic, once past Otway, is not usually a problem. There is much to explore. Side roads lead to quaint fishing villages; ferries to Cape Lookout National Seashore sail from Harkers Island (not shown on map - just south of Smyrna), Davis and Atlantic. As you near the end of the route, you will pass through the Cedar Island National Wildlife Refuge, where migratory birds pause on their seasonal flights. Where the road ends, you will find the ferry to Ocracoke (see schedule below) and the wide expanse of white sand beaches along the Cape Hatteras National Seashore.

Approximately 48 miles/79 kilometers.

Roadway Conditions

Roads throughout this segment are in good condition.

Hazardous Areas

US 70, from SR 1300 to Otway is more heavily traveled than is desirable. 4.4 miles.

Services

Country stores are readily available throughout most of this segment, except for the portion through the Cedar Island National Wildlife Refuge. Campgrounds are available in Otway, Sealevel and Cedar Island. Full services are available in Beaufort, Morehead City, Atlantic Beach and in the Sealevel/Atlantic area. There is a motel and restaurant at the ferry landing at Cedar Island. Bicycle shops can be found in Morehead City.

Points of Interest

1 Fort Macon State Park

Today, danger of naval attack along the North Carolina Coast seems remote. Yet, for most of our history, this was a very real possibility. In colonial times Beaufort Inlet was threatened by the Spanish and the French, as well as local pirates. Later, during the Civil War, the area was captured by Union Forces.

Over the years, a series of forts were built to guard against these attacks. The present structure, Fort Macon, was completed in 1834, and garrisoned until 1877. In 1924, an Act of Congress gave Fort Macon to the state of North Carolina. The Fort has since been restored and is now open to visitors. Hours of operation year-round are from 9:00 AM until 5:30 PM. During the summer months the Fort is open until 8:00 PM. Admission is free. Other facilities in the 365-acre park include a public swimming beach with bathhouse, picnic tables, and seasonal refreshment stand.

2 Historic Beaufort

Founded in 1713 by English fisherman, Beaufort is the third oldest town in North Carolina. Its location, bounded on three sides by water, dictated a seafaring tradition which exists to this day. Notable points of interest include the North Carolina Mariners Museum which commemorates both the maritime history and the natural history of the region; the Beaufort Historical Association, a complex of restored

homes and buildings; and the Old Burying Ground with its unusual grave markers.

3 Cape Lookout National Seashore

The 55 miles of barrier islands which make up the Cape Lookout National Seashore are constantly being reshaped by wind, waves and currents. One of the earliest maps of the area, dating from 1590, calls the area "promontorium tremendum"-horrible headland-in recognition of these treacherous shoals.

Now preserved as a National Park, the Banks are accessible by toll ferry or private boat from Harkers Island, Davis, Atlantic and Ocracoke. This remote park is mostly undeveloped, and as yet has no visitor facilities, no water supply, and offers only primitive camping. Visitors to the area should be prepared to provide for their personal needs.

4 Cedar Island National Wildlife Refuge

The Cedar Island area has historically provided wintering habitat for thousands of migratory waterfowl. The refuge, which covers over 12,500 acres of salt marsh and woodlands is home to over 270 species of birds, a variety of reptiles, amphibians and small fish as well as small populations of white-tailed deer, raccoon, river otter, mink and marsh rabbit. Black bear do occur here, but sightings are rare.

Cedar Island to Ocracoke Toll Ferry Schedule
Bicycle and Rider \$2.00 - Crossing Time 2 1/4 hours

Summer Schedule

April 1 - October 31
7:00 AM 1:15 PM
8:15 AM 3:00 PM
9:30 AM 6:00 PM
Noon 8:30 PM

Winter Schedule

November 1 - March 31
7:00 AM
10:00 AM
1:00 PM
4:00 PM

Call (919) 255-3551 for reservation for motor vehicle

Bicycle Camping in North Carolina

Touring by bicycle has become more and more popular as a way to see and experience North Carolina. Many bicycle tourists have come to prefer the added flexibility afforded by camping. Whether your destination for the night is a state park, a private campground or an impromptu roadside location, self-contained bicycle travel is the way to go. But in order to fully enjoy the experience, you must be well-prepared.

In North Carolina, a tent with a fly is a must. Rain showers are frequent and sometimes occur at night. Mosquitos abound. Raccoons, possums and other small creatures roam the woods at night looking for food. A good tent provides shelter from all these problems.

A lightweight stove and cookset are other nice conveniences. Because most of our bicycle routes follow lightly traveled back roads, restaurants are not always readily available. But, there is usually a country store near your evening's destination, where you can obtain the items to prepare a simple nutritious supper.

Campgrounds along our routes are generally spaced a day's ride apart. If for some reason, you must seek a campsite on private land, be sure to ask permission first. Most landowners are very cooperative. Always leave an area clean and express your appreciation to your host before you leave. A good impression will make it easier for the next touring cyclist who might need help.

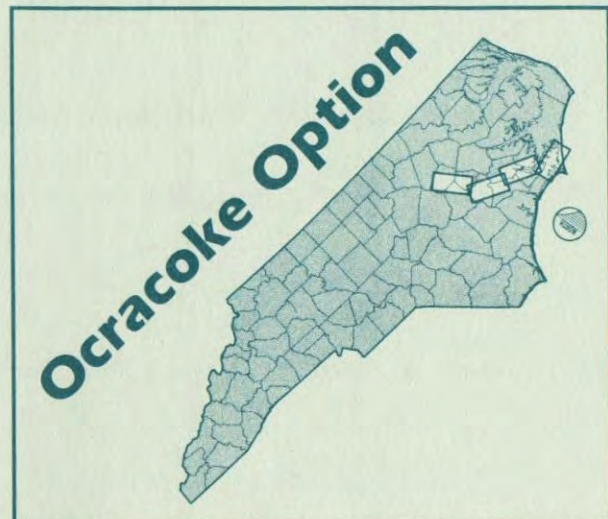
Wherever you plan to camp, try to reach your destination well before nightfall. Your evening will be much more enjoyable if you have time to set up camp, prepare your meal and clean up while there is still light. Early arrival also reduces the chance that the campground will be full when you get there. This occasionally happens on summer weekends at the more popular state parks.

We hope you will enjoy bicycle camping in North Carolina. If you have any additional questions about touring in the state, contact the Bicycle Program or the Division of Travel and Tourism, Department of Commerce, 430 N. Salisbury St., Raleigh, NC 27611, (800) VISIT NC.



NC Dept. of Transportation Bicycle Program
PO Box 25201, Raleigh, NC 27611, (919) 733-2804

NC Bicycling Highways Campground Directory



Ocracoke Option Campgrounds

Segment F-1 **Rock Ridge Campground**
Rt. 1
Sims, NC 27880
(919)237-1066 or 243-6469
open all year

Segment F-2 **Cliffs of the Neuse State Park**
Rt. 2, Box 50
Seven Springs, NC 28578
(919)778-6234
March 15-November 30

Segment F-3 **Yogi Bear's Jellystone
Park Campground**
1565 B. St.
New Bern, NC 28560
(919)638-2556
open all year

**Croatan National Forest
Neuse River Campground**
District Ranger Station
141 E. Fisher Avenue
New Bern, NC 28560
(919)638-5628
open mid March - mid November

Segment F-4 **Coastal Riverside
Campground**
Rt. 2, Box 683A
Beaufort, NC 28516
(919)728-5155
open all year

**Cedar Creek
Campground and Marina**
SR 1376
Sea Level, NC 28577
(919)225-9571
open April 1-November 30

Driftwood Campground
Cedar Island, NC 28520
(919)225-4861
open all year



NORTH CAROLINA BICYCLE ROUTE SYSTEM

