

Gravel, Chips, Hill & Rock River Loop

Beginning at the Historic Oregon Depot, this loop takes you through some of the most scenic and less traveled areas surrounding Oregon, Mt. Morris, and Leaf River. This loop uses about 35% gravel in addition to chip sealed roads and the wide shoulder of Route 2 along the Rock River for a 100% beautiful ride. This 43 mile route is designed for the more adventurous cyclist who is looking to test their legs with some of Ogle County's rolling hills.

The Gravel loop takes gravel south, with FN Smith Corp on the right and Oregon Train Trestle to your left. Follow this gravel road to Il Rt 2 and turn left onto its wide shoulder. You pass the Lutheran Outdoor Ministries Camp (LOMC) **1** before a right onto Devil's Backbone Rd where the real adventure begins.

You start a beautiful gravel climb up into the hills. Further on you will pass Castle Rock State Park **2** on your left. A sweeping right turn will bring you upon a mountain of the purest sand which is mined and used for die casting at major manufacturing companies throughout the world.

At the top of Pines Road you will see White Pines Dude Ranch **3** to your left. **OPTION:** A left at the intersection of Raccoon and Harmony roads is a .3 mile side trip to Lake LaDonna **4** for a snack or swim. Going on, the loop continues into Mt. Morris. As you enter you pass Pinecrest Retirement Community and the McKendrie Street Café; a great stop for ice cream and pie. Downtown Mt. Morris is the home of the Let Freedom Ring Festival and the Official Illinois Freedom Bell **5**.

You then go west and north out of Mt. Morris through the rolling farm and ranchlands of northwest Ogle County. Scenic and quiet gravel roads will take you to Townline Road at the north edge of this loop. It is a beautiful rollercoaster ride into the town of Leaf River. Through Leaf River on Main St you'll find your next section of gravel on seldom traveled Pond Road. Pond takes you to the east and heads back towards the Rock River. A half mile jaunt on the shoulder of Route 72 gets you to the quiet beauty of Triumph road which turns into Townline Road with rolling hills. This delivers you onto Townhall Road which drops you back into the Rock River Valley for a scenic ride along the Rock River into Oregon.

You will have many opportunities to find the perfect picture spot along the Rock River; passing Lowden State Park's River Boat Launch **6**, Stronghold Camp **7**, and Blackhawk Statue.

After entering Oregon you'll pass Conover Square Mall and Kiwanis' Park at Oregon's Rock River Dam.



Oregon Depot:
<http://www.oregondepot.org/>

1 Lutheran Outdoor Ministry Center:
<http://www.barnhartsstonecornerorganicfarmmarket.com/>

2 Castle Rock State Park:
<http://www.dnr.illinois.gov/Parks/Pages/CastleRock.aspx>

3 White Pines Dude Ranch:
<http://www.whitepinesranch.com/>

4 Lake LaDonna Family Campground:
<http://www.lakeladonna.com/>

5 Let Freedom Ring Festival & Bell:
<http://www.letfreedomringfestival.com/bell/>

6 Lowden State Park:
<http://dnr.state.il.us/lands/Landmgtparks/r1/lowden.htm>

7 Stronghold Camp & Retreat Center:
<http://strongholdcenter.org/>

Rochelle - Chana - the flat side of Ogle Co		
	Notes	Total
	Turn left onto S 3rd St	0.1
0.9	Turn right onto W Washington St	1.0
0.7	Turn right onto S Daysville Rd	1.7
2.0	Turn left onto E Honey Creek Rd	3.6
1.3	Turn right onto S Prairie Rd/S Watertown Rd	4.9
3.6	Continue onto E Husking Peg Rd	8.5
0.9	Turn left onto S Rocky Hollow Rd	9.4
1.5	Turn right onto E Canfield Rd	10.9
1.2	Turn left onto S Chana Rd	12.1
0.2	Turn right onto E Grist Mill Rd	12.4
2.8	Turn right onto S Knoll Rd	15.2
0.5	Turn left onto E Hemstock Rd	15.7
3.2	Turn right onto S Kings Rd	19.0
1.0	Turn right onto S Queens Rd	19.9
1.0	Turn left onto Flagg Rd	20.9
1.5	Turn right onto S Queens Rd	22.4
3.0	Turn left onto E Bethel Rd	25.4
2.0	Turn left onto S White Rock Rd	27.4
1.0	Turn right onto E Grist Mill Rd	28.5
4.6	Turn right onto S Chana Rd	33.0
0.3	Turn left onto Birch Ave	33.4
0.1	Turn right onto N Main St	33.4
0.4	Turn left onto E Honey Creek Rd	33.8
2.9	Continue onto S Marsh Rd	36.8
0.6	Turn left onto E Honey Creek Rd	37.4
0.9	Turn right to stay on E Honey Creek Rd	38.3
1.3	Turn right onto S Daysville Rd	39.6
2.0	Turn left onto IL-64 W/E Washington St	41.6
0.7	Turn left onto S 3rd St	42.3
0.9	Turn right onto Collins St	43.2



Created by Ogle County GIS Partnership

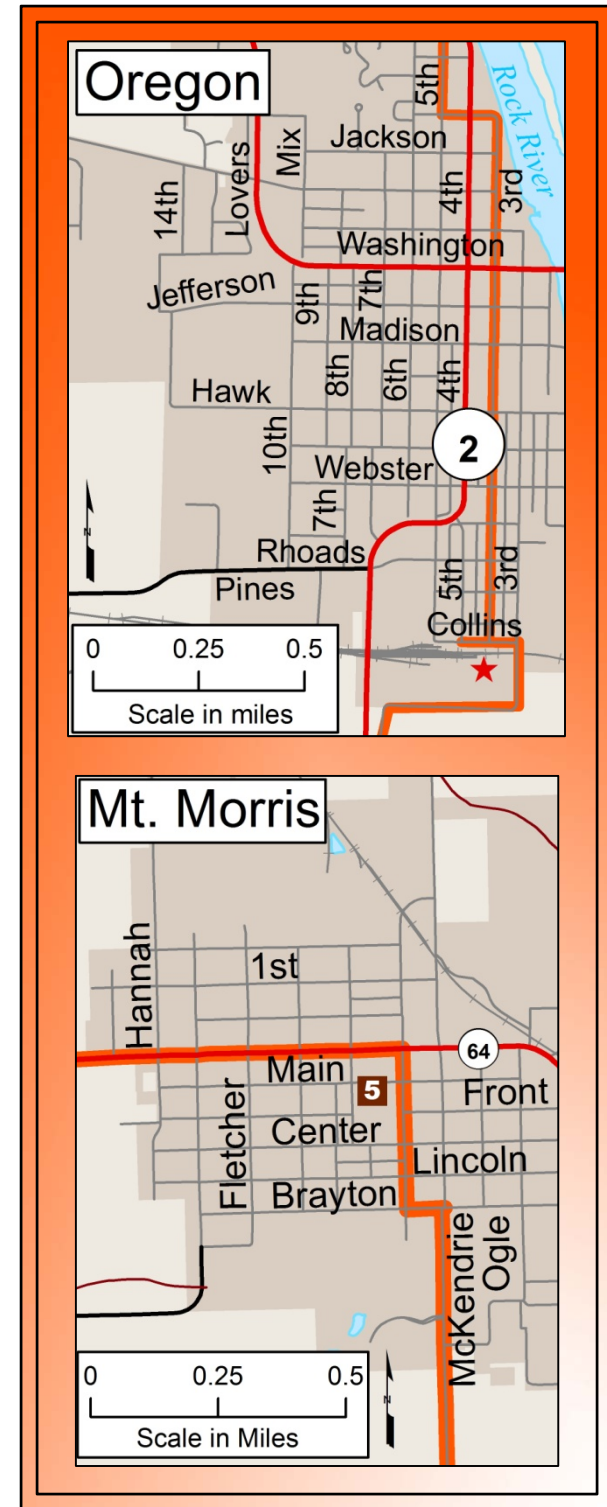
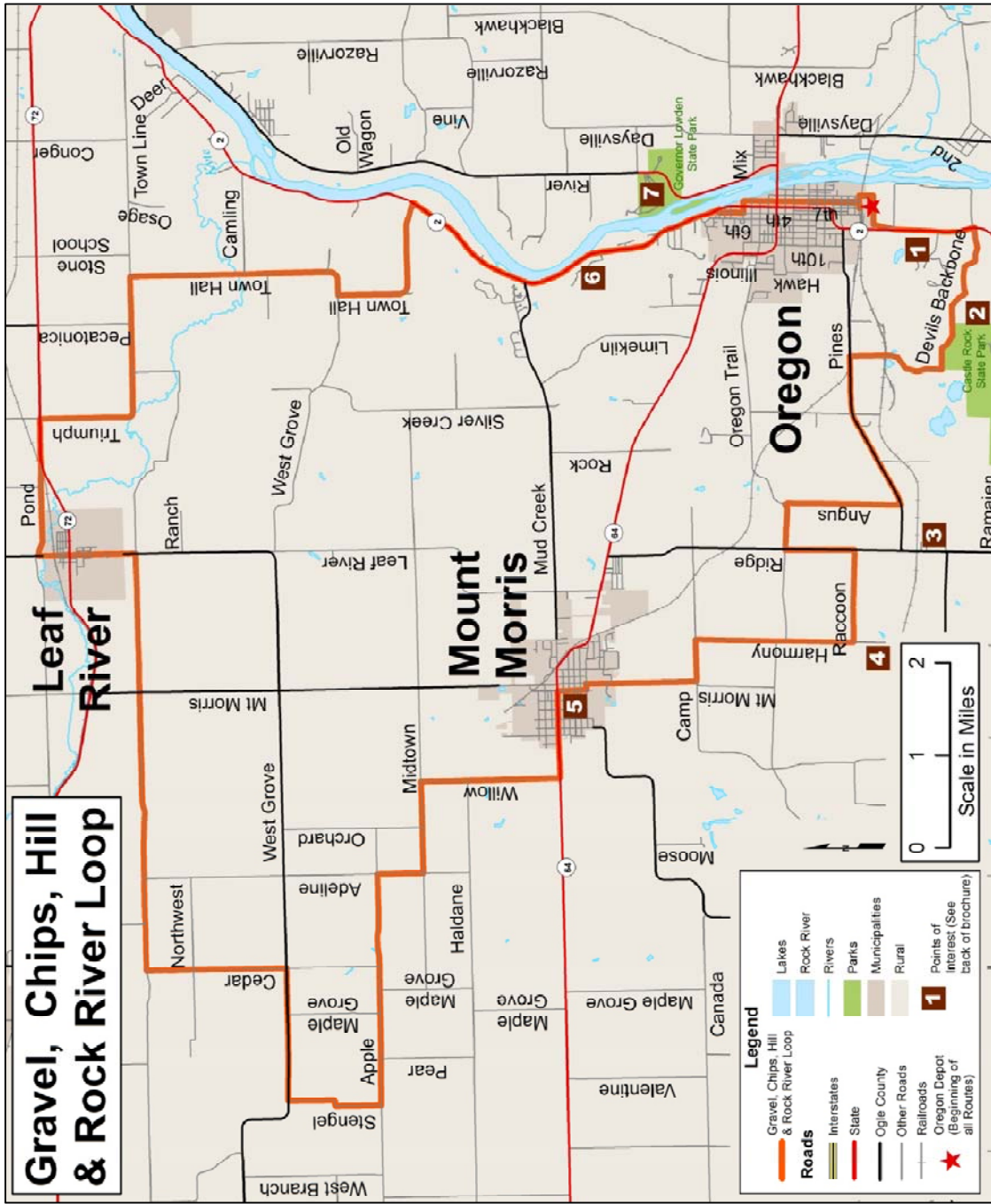


Gravel, Chips, Hill & Rock River Loop

(43.2 mi)



Bike, Eat, Sleep...Oregon, Illinois



To see all of our routes, and to download Garmin turn by turn instructions, go to:
www.bikeogle.org.

All riders need to be familiar with bicycle safety and rules of the road. Cyclists are encouraged to visit <http://rideillinois.org/safety/adults/> for this information.