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 II 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 to your left. OPTION: A left at the intersection of Raccoon and Harmony roads is a .3 mile side trip to Lake LaDonna 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 ☐, Stronghold Camp ☑, 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.barnhartsstonecornerorganicfarmmark et.com/
- Castle Rock State Park: http://www.dnr.illinois.gov/Parks/Pages/CastleRock.aspx
- White Pines Dude Ranch: http://www.whitepinesranch.com/
- Lake LaDonna Family Campground: http://www.lakeladonna.com/
- Let Freedom Ring Festival & Bell: http://www.letfreedomringfestival.com/bell/
- 6 Lowden State Park: http://dnr.state.il.us/lands/Landmgt/parks/r1/lowdensp.htm
- 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







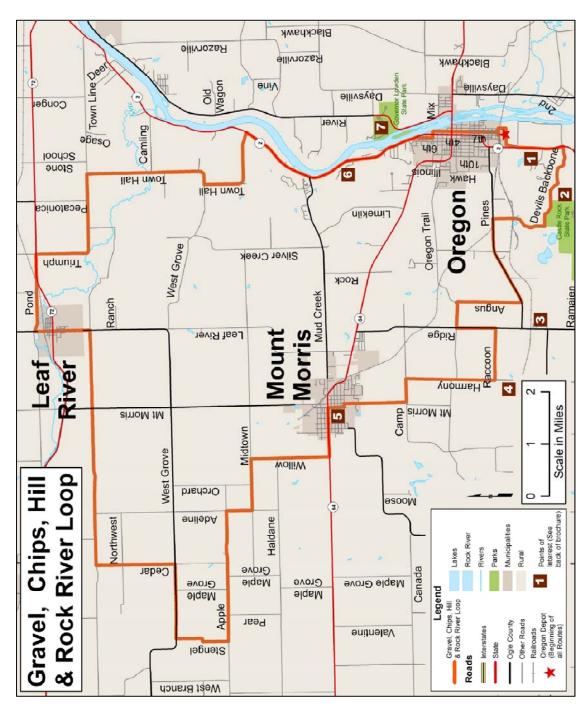
Gravel, Chips, Hill & Rock River Loop (43.2 mi)







Bike, Eat, Sleep...Oregon, Illinois



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

