



TEXAS VÉLO

Come and Bike it



Cycling Route

38 Special

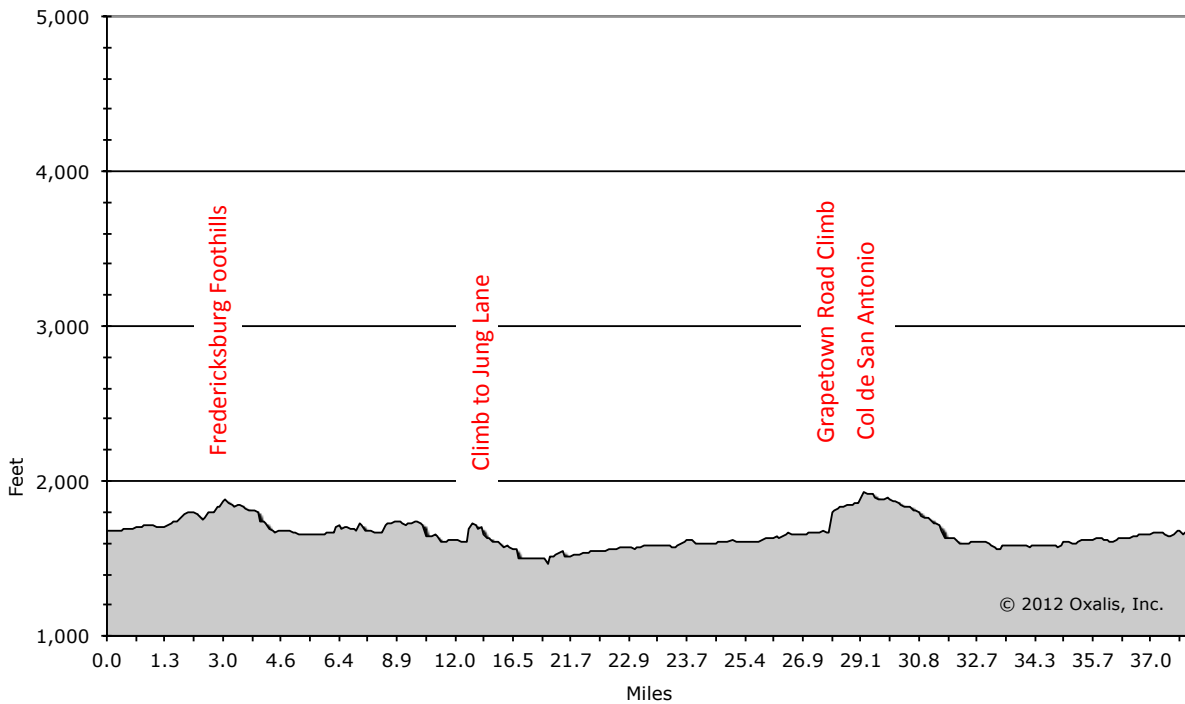
38 miles

Region: Fredericksburg, Texas

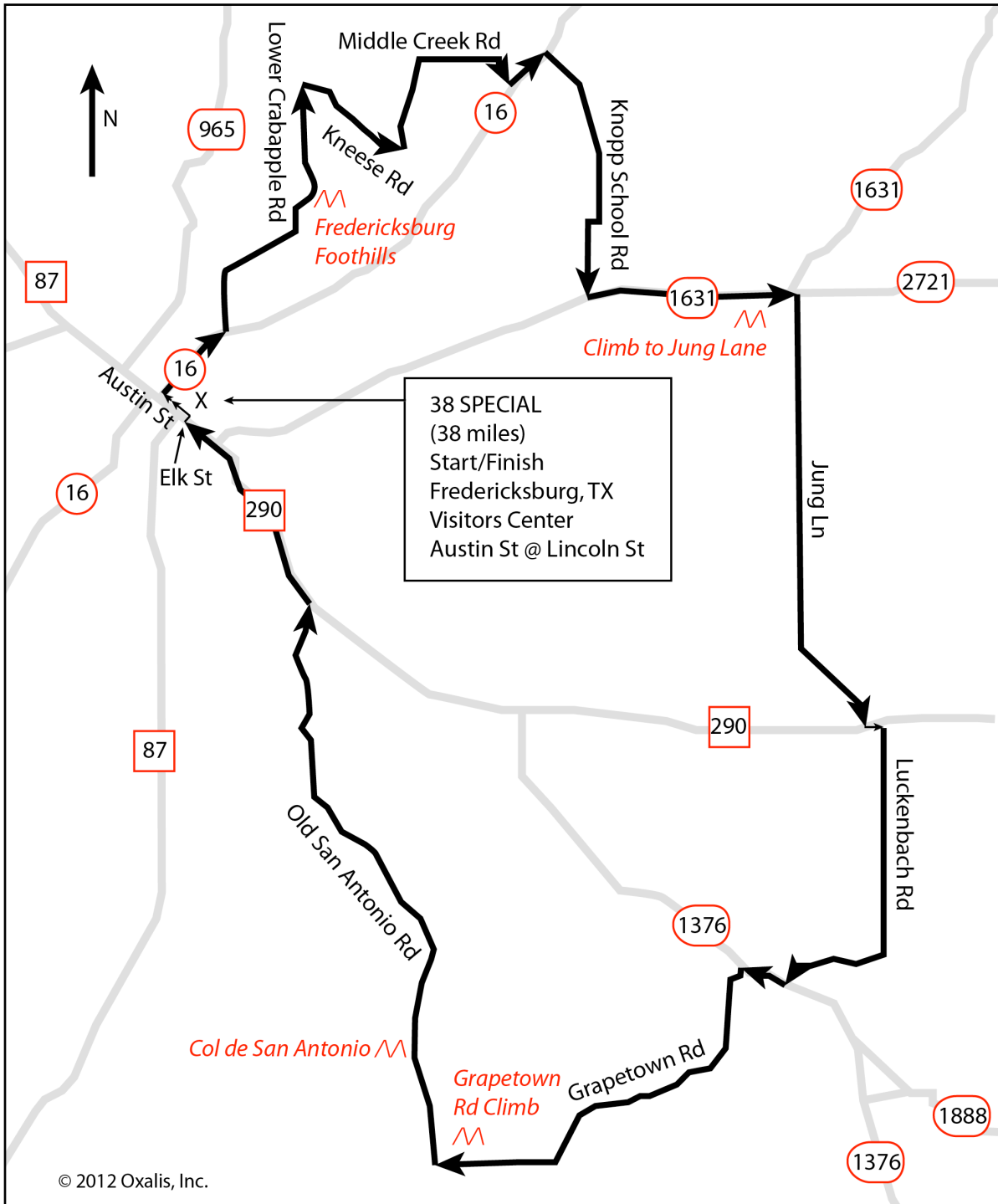
Author: Gregory L. Kagay

Catalog: 1009.2

38 Special
Route Elevation Profile



Route Map: 38 Special



Emergency Numbers

Police/EMS: 830-997-7585	Fire: 830-997-8080
FBG Hospital: 830-997-4353	FBG Taxi: 830-997-8044

Route Instructions: 38 Special

#	Miles	Turn	Location	to Next
1	0.0 mi	Start	FBG Visitors Center	0.0 mi
2	0.0 mi	Go Straight (NW)	E Austin St	0.1 mi
3	0.1 mi	Turn Right (NE)	N Llano St / TX 16	1.0 mi
4	1.1 mi	Turn Left (N)	Lower Crabapple Rd	3.2 mi
5	4.4 mi	Turn Right (E)	Keese Rd	1.4 mi
6	5.7 mi	Turn Left (N)	Middle Creek Rd	2.3 mi
7	8.1 mi	Turn Left (NE)	TX 16	0.5 mi
8	8.6 mi	Turn Right (SE)	Knopp School Rd	3.0 mi
9	11.6 mi	Turn Left (E)	RR 1631	2.3 mi
10	13.9 mi	Turn Right (S)	Jung Ln	5.0 mi
11	18.9 mi	Turn Left (E)	US 290	0.2 mi
12	19.1 mi	Turn Right (S)	Luckenbach Rd	3.9 mi
13	23.0 mi	Turn Right (NW)	RR 1376	0.5 mi
14	23.5 mi	Turn Left (SW)	Grapetown Rd	4.7 mi
15	28.2 mi	Turn Right (N)	Old San Antonio Rd	6.9 mi
17	37.6 mi	Turn Left (NW)	US 290	2.4 mi
19	37.9 mi	Turn Right (NE)	N Elk St	0.1 mi
20	37.9 mi	Turn Left (NW)	E Austin St	0.3 mi
21	37.9 mi	Finish	FBG Visitors Center	0.0 mi

Safety

TexasVelo.com, its sponsors, the author, and Oxalis, Inc. assume no responsibilities to users of the routes described and make no warranties regarding the condition of these roads.

Routes presented utilize public roads open to traffic; ride at your own risk and obey all traffic laws.

Always wear a helmet and utilize properly maintained equipment. Carry ample food and water. Carry tools. Carry a mobile phone in case of emergency.

Climactic conditions may change rapidly. Use common sense. Carefully walk bikes when crossing wet water crossings.

Ride Summary

Find appealing Hill Country scenery and mild climbing on this 38-mile route, all without venturing too far from Fredericksburg itself.

Begin the route with a notable climb—the *Fredericksburg Foothills*—just beyond the city limits. Then visit sublime suburban roads that generally carry little motorized traffic.

The route soon joins a course that local cyclists normally ride on Tuesday nights (from the bike shop), almost touching Luckenbach, Texas. After bypassing it (or stopping—it's a novel curiosity), face a few miles of slight upward gradient and then two more climbs, the *Graptown Road Climb* and, finally, the *Col de San Antonio*.

All of this climbing pays off with a long descent down Old San Antonio Road. While descending, enjoy a fabulous view of Fredericksburg.

For those preferring a tailwind on their return leg, the regionally prevailing southeast wind suits this route well.

Points of Interest

Suburban Fredericksburg

This route features exceptional vistas and rural landscapes, many just on the outskirts of town.

Luckenbach, TX

Made famous by the song, it is just a (very) short diversion off of the designated route. Well worth the stop, especially if one has never visited it before.

South Grape Creek

A typically pretty Hill Country stream, this route winds along (up) South Grape Creek's drainage for several miles. The setting provides appealing scenery before the *Graptown Road Climb*.

Old San Antonio Road - Vista

Old San Antonio road features a truly exceptional vista and long descent. After climbing the *Col de San Antonio*, enjoy the view as the route drops down towards US HWY 290 back to Fredericksburg.

Hills of Interest

Fredericksburg Foothills

(Cat. 3)—the ride starts with a sharp, steady climb at the outskirts of town; a great warmup.

Climb to Jung Lane

(Cat 3)—beginning at just over 12 miles into the route, this climb starts hard, eases off towards the top, and then bites again in the final meters.

Graptown Road Climb

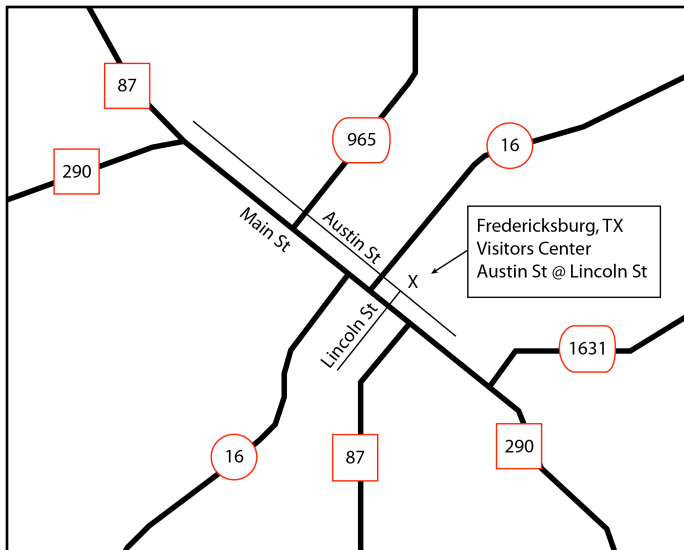
(Cat 1)—the longest and most abrupt climb of the ride. Bragging rights start here, but only if one perseveres on the climb that follows.

Col de San Antonio

(Cat 2)—basically an extension of the *Graptown Road Climb*; after turning on to Old San Antonio Road ride the false flat and then tackle this rise that kicks hardest near the top.

Start/Finish

This route begins and ends at the Fredericksburg, Texas Visitor Center. Find it at the corner of Austin Street and Lincoln Street, one block north of Main Street.



Fredericksburg Visitors Center location map

This departure location favors groups of gathering cyclists because it features off-street parking. When forming a group ride here, we recommend cyclists gather in the large parking lot located behind (north of) the Visitor Center (and Chamber of Commerce) office buildings. To minimize exposure to traffic, we discourage gathering in front of the facility on busy Austin Street.

The restrooms here usually open at 8 A.M. For more information visit the Fredericksburg Chamber of Commerce website at <http://www.fredericksburg-texas.com/>.

Eat & Drink

This route offers little commercial sustenance outside of the city of Fredericksburg. Fuel up before departing and carry ample hydration and energy resources. Distances between commercial establishments offering such may be vast. When cycling on hot days we recommend hydration packs for longer routes.

The **Luckenbach dance hall** offers restrooms and sells bottled water at the bar. Confirm hours of operation before departing. Bar open

10am-12am Sunday-Friday, and 10am-1am Saturdays. March through October, Luckenbach's **Feedlot** is open 11am-8pm, Wednesday-Sunday. (November to February, Feedlot open 11am-7pm Friday-Sunday.)

Road Map

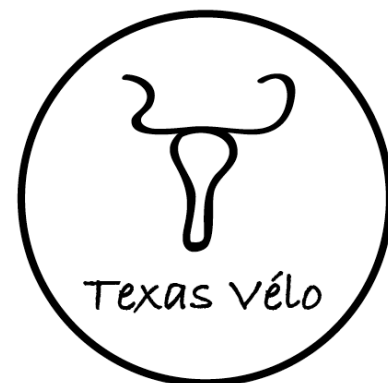
Print road maps corresponding to this route here:

<http://www.dot.state.tx.us/travel/countymapbook2006/Pages/371.pdf>

<http://www.dot.state.tx.us/travel/countymapbook2006/Pages/372.pdf>

Obstacles

Many obstacles—familiar and otherwise—dot Texas roads. Potential dangers include cars, cattle, cattle guards, deer, trucks, water crossings, and more. Stay vigilant and slow down.



Find more great cycling routes at www.TexasVelo.com

Ride Friendly

We are all cycling ambassadors. Cyclists and motorists utilize our roads rightfully. Courtesy mitigates anger. Ride single file when vehicles approach from behind. Large groups should be extra vigilant to accommodate passing vehicles. Please educate inconsiderate cyclists—share the road.