Texas Wine Country Cycling Routes

Presented by: Ridgeview Guest House

Sandy Loop

51 miles

Region: Texas Wine Country

Catalog: 1030.3

Route Summary

The Sandy Loop bicycle route features a good amount of sustained mild climbing. Gearing suitable for hilly terrain is advised. This is a great route for race training.

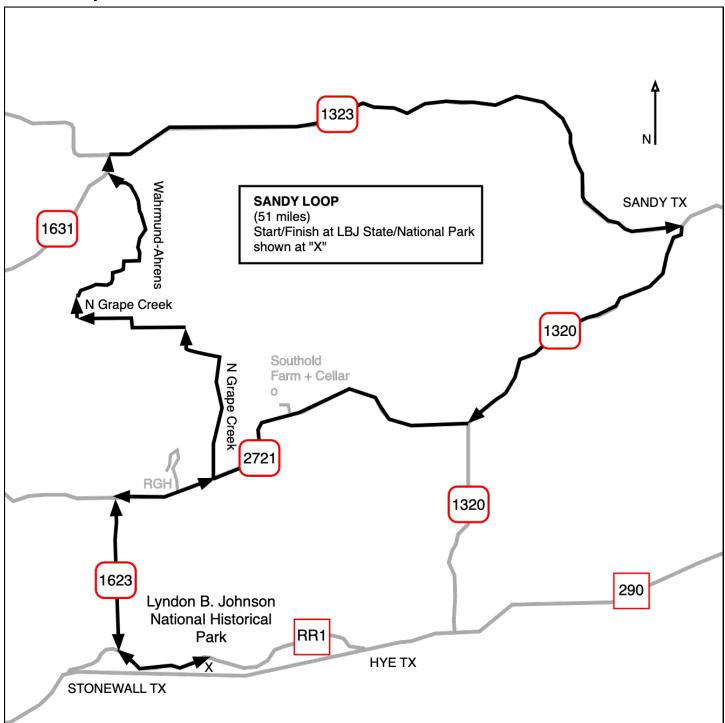
Find compelling hill country views all along this route. Named for the town of Sandy, you will not find much here today other than a small house and a sign pointing to the town cemetery. Not even the cemetery itself is visible from the road. The primary obstacle comes at about the half way mark when cyclists ride next to a cattle feed lot for about one half mile. Can you hold your breath that long?

Although the last few miles heading back to the LBJ Ranch go into the prevailing southerly winds, this part of the route goes down hill.

One point of interest along this route is <u>Southold Farm + Cellar</u>. Visible from much of the loop portion of the route—especially against the early day sun—this feature reminds us of the site of *Mont Ventoux* viewed from France's Luberon valley.

This route starts and ends at the historic Lyndon B. Johnson National Park headquarters. In summer, punctuate your ride with a swim in the LBJ pool. Then have lunch in nearby Hye, Texas.

Route Map



Route Instructions: Sandy Loop

#	Miles	Turn	Location	to Next
1	0.0 mi	Start	LBJ Park Headquarters	0.0 mi
2	0.0 mi	Go North	Park Road 52	0.2 mi
2	0.2 mi	Turn Left	Ranch Road 1	2.0 mi
3	2.2 mi	Turn Right	RR 1623	3.0 mi
4	5.2 mi	Turn Right	RR 2721	2.1 mi
5	7.3 mi	Turn Left	N Grape Creek Rd	3.5 mi
6	10.8 mi	Turn Left	N Grape Creek Rd	2.3 mi
7	13.1 mi	Turn Right	N Grape Creek Rd	0.4 mi
8	13.5 mi	Turn Right	Wahrmund-Ahrens Rd	3.8 mi
9	17.3 mi	Turn Right	RR 1631	0.5 mi
10	17.8 mi	Turn Right	RR 1323	13.3 mi
11	31.1 mi	Turn Right	RR 1320	6.1 mi
12	37.2 mi	Turn Right	RR 2721	8.2 mi
13	45.4 mi	Turn Left	RR 1623	3.0 mi
14	48.4 mi	Turn Left	RR 1	2.0 mi
15	50.4 mi	Turn Right	Park Road 52	0.2 mi
16	50.6 mi	Finish	LBJ Park Headquarters	

Start/Finish

This route starts and ends at the historic LBJ State and National Parks headquarters. The park is located on U.S. Highway 290, 14 miles west of Johnson City, Texas and 17 miles east of Fredericksburg Texas.

Eat & Drink

This route offers NO commercial sustenance outside the city of Stonewall. Fuel up before departing and carry ample hydration and energy resources. When cycling on hot days we recommend hydration packs for longer routes. In Stonewall:

- Weinheimer Store (closed Sunday) grocery items (and much more; a destination in itself)
- Chevron Station Mini-Mart small cafe with hearty fare; and standard mini mart items
- Hye Market (a few miles east of LBJ Park headquarters) great place for lunch. NOT open every day of the week. Also, consider ordering ahead (830-868-2300) on weekends or you could stand in a long line of winery tourists seeking lunch.

Points of Interest

Southold Farm + Cellar

Lyndon B. Johnson National Historical Park

Lyndon B. Johnson State Park & Historic Site

Sauer-Beckmann Living History Farm

LBJ Swimming Pool

Nearby: Hye Market Restaurant, Garrison Brothers Distillery, Narrow Path Winery

Safety

We assume no responsibilities to users of the routes described and make no warranties regarding the condition of these roads. This route utilizes public roads that are 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. Share the road; ride single file when vehicles are passing. Cyclists inexperienced with the following two hazards should not ride these routes:

Water Crossings: Do not attempt to ride over wet water crossings. They can be extremely slippery, especially in warm weather. Much better to walk your bike across. Even then, do not use your bike as a crutch. Bend your knees and go slowly.

Cattle Guards: Experienced cyclist ride right over cattle guards, maybe slowing a little, lifting their body weight slightly, and always crossing them at right angles. Riding them too slowly is not recommended. Walking your bike across them can be treacherous too.

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.

Companion Road Maps

Print road maps corresponding to this route:

http://www.dot.state.tx.us/travel/countymapbook2006/Pages/371.pdf http://www.dot.state.tx.us/travel/countymapbook2006/Pages/401.pdf

Ridgeview Guest House Cycling Escapes

Looking for a cycling vacation? **Consider the Ridgeview Guest House.** It really shines for small groups, whether everyone comes to ride or for when some in your group visit only to taste wine or visit the nearby sites, like LBJ Ranch. The RGH is a quiet country redoubt from which to pursue your training or just explore by bike. Located mid-way between Johnson City and Fredericksburg, the RGH accommodates four guests with two-bedroom, two-bath lodging and ready access to the Texas Wine Road region. (RGH does not, however, offer a kitchen, so advanced meal planning is advised. We do provide a small refrigerator, microwave, and french press/pour-over coffee.) The drive to either Fredericksburg or Johnson City is about 20 minutes, although longer after dark due to many deer on our roads and roadsides. This is NOT a good place to stay for those seeking on-the-town socializing. It is a great place to stay for hill country cycling and relaxation.



