

Spokes competition 2015, Entry 31

Ratho Pentlands Loop

2. Who is it suitable for? [it doesn't need to suit everyone] *circle all that apply...*

Families with young children / Experienced cyclists / Novice cyclists / Other – specify...

3. Where is the route located? *circle all that apply ...*

Ed central / Ed north / Ed south / Ed east / Ed west / East Lothian / Midlothian / West Lothian

4. Brief description of route

a. Start point... Ratho (though being a loop you can start anywhere along the route)

b. End point (or circular)... Circular

c. Brief description... Starts on Canal at Ratho and takes you up to the start of the Pentlands via Currie and reservoirs beyond and back down to Ratho via Kirknewton.

5. Any interesting / useful / beautiful features / facilities en route ... Union Canal parts are of interest, Kirkgate climb (great views at the top), Harlaw and Threipmuir Reservoirs, Climbing Centre and Bridge Inn at Ratho.

6. Why is this a favourite route of yours? [This question is very important in the judging. You can just write one or two sentences or up to **300 words maximum**].

Highlights quiet open spaces within and beyond Edinburgh's urban areas. The Canal and paths round the reservoirs offer quiet car free segments on the cycle and you have the fun of crossing the railway line between Heriot Watt and Currie.. Top of Kirkgate climb gives great views across the Forth including the bridges and when at the reservoirs you have the majesty of the Pentlands around you. Provides a mix of flat, uphill and downhill terrain within the 20 miles and you can stop at the Climbing Centre and / or the Bridge Inn Ratho for refreshments. Route can be accessed here and picture on route below. http://www.mapometer.com/cycling/route_4160890.html

