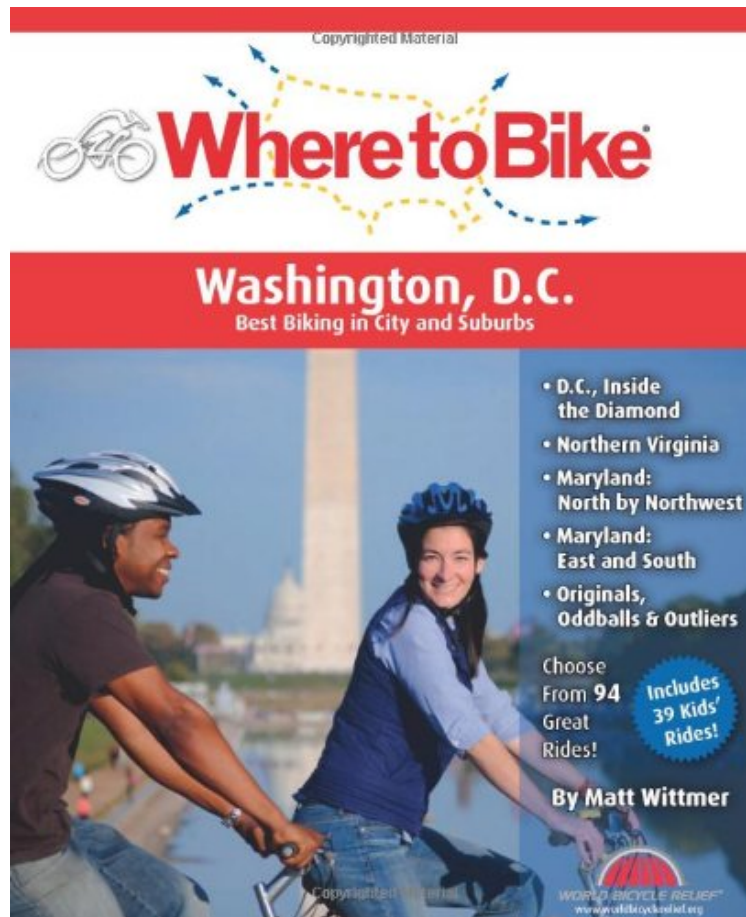


Where to Bike Washington DC: Best Biking in the City and Suburbs

Matt Wittmer

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Matt Wittmer : Where to Bike Washington DC: Best Biking in the City and Suburbs before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Where to Bike Washington DC: Best Biking in the City and Suburbs:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Comprehensive overview of area rides By GinahmkI was getting ready for a trip to the DC area, planning to take my bike and wanted one book with a list of local rides. This book fit the bill. There are over 50 routes listed in DC, Maryland and Virginia, including areas on the Eastern shore. Especially helpful is the table of ride overviews, which lists whether the route is on path, road, distance, and uses a rating system based on biking experience. Here, I do quibble, since some routes like the CO canal, rated as "3," could easily be a "1," depending on where you ride and how long. All the longer rides can be shortened as an "in and out." The rides are described as "at a glance," including the elevations and brief description of route and side trips of interest. A "ride log" gives the directions to keep you oriented. The maps are just "okay," though. There is not a lot of detail, but do let you see the start and finish and rest stops. Also, there are no GPS coordinates for those who would like that feature.

Overall very satisfactory, listing routes I had no idea existed. I was able to pick rides that fit my abilities and interests. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great for D.C. area road cyclists looking for adventure and diversity. By Anonymous This is a truly great book. I borrowed it from the library and was enjoying it so much, that I renewed it 3x before deciding I had to buy it. Lots of wonderful rides all around the Washington, D.C. area with turn-by-turn directions, pictures, altitude information, great descriptions of traffic and road descriptions. NOTE: On page 204 there is a typo. At 18.3 miles it tells you to make a right turn onto Lower Marlboro Rd. It is a LEFT. I recently took the route, right is very wrong. Also, the "Go right" referenced at 15.6 miles is a hard right and the road is unmarked at this point, so keep track of your mileage or use GPS to check where you are. 6 of 7 people found the following review helpful. OK at best. By This book is very well produced, but it's just not that informative. It suggests routes, but they're not great. It's like they consulted a map and then suggested that you ride on this street for 2 miles, then make a left on that street for another 2 miles, etc. They provide you with a loop and tell you the distance. But that's not worth much. Most of the routes are just streets. Not trails or bike paths or streets with dedicated bike lanes. So how helpful can it be to pick out a few streets in a town, give you directions, and tell you the distance? The author suggested a bike route in my neighborhood. The route goes down a very busy road with no dedicated bike lane, little space to ride, and limited viewing distances from passing cars. True, there are bikers who use this route. But they do it in a huge pack of riders. You shouldn't ride that route solo. Save your money and pick out your own route with a free on-line map.

Cycling is booming. It's free, healthy, environmentally friendly, sustainable and most of all it's fun. But Where to Bike?

About the Author In the early fall of 2007, (a year bicycling in the U.S. again reached some kind of tipping point as gas hit whatever regional peak it reached a gallon, and suddenly, the old iron horse seemed to speak to just about every ill society had to throw its way), Wittmer, a journeyman with undergraduate degrees from the University of California, Santa Cruz, and a Masters in Journalism from the University of Florida, landed a job helping map a 3000-mile cycling route down the Eastern Seaboard. He'd bicycled for years before then, commuting 15 of those, but the feeling which quickly settled over him on that ride was unprecedented. Documenting the progress of the ambitious East Coast Greenway trail project and sending back dispatches from cyclings future, he knew, as slow as he was traveling, he was actually way out in front of the pack, catching the freshest air. Somehow the ride inside that slipstream remains unbroken, and it's been one, long, windblown downhill for Matt Wittmer ever since. In just those few short years, he's grown from enthusiast to advocate to author. Jump on your bike, DC, and join him on the greater DC areas greatest rides. This promises to be his first, and best, book.