



Family Bike Ride Recommendations

Take the family out on some of our great nearby biking paths. To make your planning easier, REI employees have selected some of their favorites below.

Be sure to bring these necessities along on your ride:

- Helmet
- Drinking water
- Lunch or snacks
- Map and route directions
- Sunglasses
- Sunscreen
- First-aid kit
- Tire mini-pump or CO2
- Spare tube or patch kit
- Tire levers



For a complete cycling checklist, visit [Expert Advice](#) on REI.com.

Here Are Four of Our Favorite Kid-Friendly Local Bike Rides

World's End Park

Terrain: **Unpaved paths/dirt roads**

Distance: **World's End has 4.5 miles of carriage paths and footpaths ideal for easy family mountain biking. Minimal elevation gain.**

Why This Ride: Conveniently located near both the Boston and Hingham stores, this network of trails provides exposure to a unique coastal scrub habitat that is home to a wide range of wildlife.

Ride Description: World's End Park includes four coastal drumlins—Pine Hill, Planter's Hill and the double drumlins of World's End proper—all connected by more than four miles of trails that offer dramatic views of the Weir River, Hingham Harbor and the Boston skyline. The 251-acre park's tree-lined paths provide a good intro for young riders looking for some off-road experience. These easy mountain bike paths also cut through broad grassy fields that attract butterflies and grassland-nesting birds. There are multiple loops and trails throughout the park, so grab a brochure before you head out and scout an itinerary of a suitable length for your family.

Driving Directions: From the north or south: Take Route 3 to Exit 14 and head north on Route 228 toward Hingham for nearly 7 miles. Turn left on Route 3A and follow it for about a half mile. Turn right onto Summer Street and go straight across a main intersection with Rockland Street. The road will become Martin's Lane. Follow it for 0.7 mile until it dead ends at the entrance and parking area. Entrance to the park is free for trustee members and children under 12. It is \$5 each for adults and children over 12.

Tips: Bring your family and a picnic to the annual Summer Solstice Festival in June, which features music, drinks, dessert and a breathtaking sunset. There are restrooms at the main entrance.

Whitney and Thayer Woods

Terrain: **Paved and gravel paths**

Distance: **The property contains 10 miles of trails, with a maximum elevation gain of 200 feet.**

Why This Ride: This park is within a short distance of both the Boston and Hingham stores and offers a wide variety of easy trails and natural attractions.

Ride Description: This 824-acre reservation has miles of trails, including the Milliken Memorial Path, planted with flowering shrubs in the late 1920s by Arthur Milliken as a memorial to his wife, Mabel. A free trailmap will help you plan out a ride, or you can just explore the multiple loops that thread throughout the park. Keep an eye on the trail signs, as mountain biking is permitted only on designated trails. As you ride, you'll encounter glacial erratics (boulders) that dot the landscape, including a grouping called Ode's Den, named after Theodore "Ode" Pritchard, who lived under one of the boulders after losing his home in 1830. Ambitious riders can even tackle Turkey Hill whose 187-foot summit affords spectacular views of the area.

Driving Directions: From Route 3, take exit 14 and follow Route 228 north for 6.5 miles through Hingham. Turn right onto Route 3A east and drive for 2 miles to the entrance and parking area on right, opposite Sohler Street. Parking is free.

Tips: Visit nearby Weir River Farm, which is managed to preserve its historic pastoral and agricultural character and to provide diverse wildlife habitats. Restrooms are located at both the north and east entrances off of Route 3A.

Brook Bike Path

Terrain: **Partially paved**

Distance: **4.6 miles roundtrip on this out-and-back trail. No significant elevation gain.**

Why This Ride: This trail winds among two natural waterways, Caroline Brook and Fuller Brook, providing pleasant views and great birdwatching opportunities.

Ride Description: A pleasant ride on level and partially paved paths along Caroline and Fuller brooks, this trail—well marked with pink arrows—parallels Washington Street from Wellesley Hills to Dover Road, but avoids the downtown traffic. The trail starts at the intersection of Washington Avenue and Maugus Avenue and follows Caroline Brook to Wellesley High School, where it joins Fuller Brook. From there the path runs along Fuller Brook Park, past the Hunnewell School and ends across from the Nehoiden Golf Course.

Driving Directions: From REI Boston: Start out going north on Park Drive toward Beacon Street. Continue to follow Park Drive and turn left onto Riverway. Turn right onto Brookline Avenue. Turn slightly right onto Washington Street (Route 9) and continue to follow it to the Route 16 exit. Turn slightly left onto Washington Street (Route 16) and continue to Maugus Avenue.

From REI Framingham: Start out going east on Cochituate Road toward Ring Road. Turn right onto Speen St. Merge onto Route 9 E via the ramp on the left. Turn right onto Kingsbury Street. Turn left onto Washington Street. The trail starts at the intersection of Washington and Maugus Ave., but free parking is available at nearby Hunnewell Fields.

Tips: Stop by the White Mountain Creamery at 552 Washington St. for a cool ice cream after your ride. There are restrooms at Hunnewell Field and within many of the local retail establishments along or near the path.

Arnold Arboretum

Terrain: **Paved**

Distance: **Multiple paths provide up to 5 miles roundtrip; less than 300 feet of elevation gain.**

Why This Ride: This ride goes along tree-lined paths within a short distance of the Boston store, in the Jamaica Plain area of Boston.

Ride Description: This 125-year-old Boston city park and Harvard research center was designed by Frederick Law Olmsted and has a wonderful set of roads which are mostly closed to motorized traffic. Peters Hill, on which you now have to walk the last 200 feet to the summit, provides the best view of Boston from within the park. The trees all have tags, so you can check out just what kind of tree you are riding past. The Arnold Arboretum is also home to some 183 different species of birds that have been sighted within its 265 acres over the past 100 years. There is no admission fee.

Driving Directions: From Boston and Cambridge, take Storrow Drive west to the Kenmore Square/Fenway Route 1 South exit. Bear left. Follow signs for Fenway/Route 1 South. Bear right onto Boylston Street, following signs for Boylston Street Outbound/Riverway Route 1. Continue on Boylston for 0.4 miles at which point it turns into Brookline Avenue. Stay on Brookline for 0.5 miles. Take a left onto the Riverway/Jamaicaway. Follow Riverway/Jamaicaway to a rotary at Jamaica Pond (on your right). Follow signs for South Dedham/Providence. Enter the next rotary and take the second exit onto Route 203 East. The Arboretum's main entrance is about 50 yards past the rotary, on the right. Parking is available outside the main gate, along the Arborway, and around the Arboretum's perimeter. Parking is free for one hour during spring and fall. Streetside metered parking is available outside the property.

Tips: The Arboretum provides a great starting point for riders with a little more energy to burn. Restrooms are located in the visitor center in the Hunnewell Building.



REI's PEAK program uses a fun presentation filled with hands-on activities and games to teach kids ages 6 through 12 about taking care of the outdoors.

Ask an REI team member about scheduling a free PEAK presentation for your classroom or youth group, or visit www.rei.com/PEAK for more information.



First Saturday in June The American Hiking Society's National Trails Day, sponsored by REI, is a nationwide celebration of trails. Celebrate with your family by taking a hike, or volunteering for a trail clean-up project. Ask an REI team member about how to get involved, or visit www.rei.com for more information.