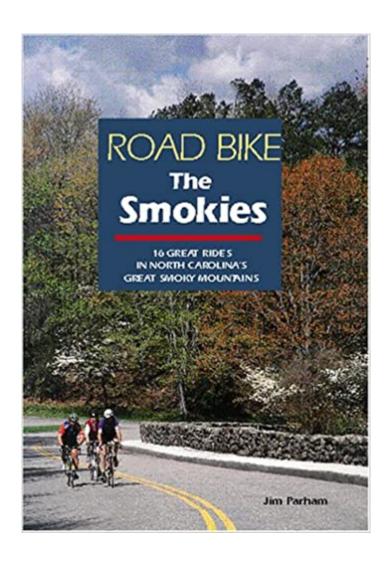


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Road Bike The Smokies: 16 Great Rides In North Carolina's Great Smoky Mountains





Synopsis

North carolina's legendary Smoky Mountains lie in the state's far western counties. For road cyclists, this region has it all--rolling farmland, quiet valleys, deep river gorges, and rugged mountain passes. The cycling season is nearly year-round here, and the scenery is second to none. From the Cherohala Skyway to Burningtown Valley to the Blue Ridge Parkway, a network of paved, lightly motored backroads offer unsurpassed riding opportunities. In this guide, 16 of the best road biking routes in the North Carolina Smokies are reated easy, moderate, or difficult, ranging in length from eight to 70 miles. Each route description includes everythingyou need to choose a ride: complete directions, detailed map, elevation profile, road surface conditions, mileage and estimated riding times, points of interest, and services available along the way. Whether you're just taking up the sport or a seasoned cyclist looking for new challenges in an exciting riding destination, Road Bike the Smokies is a sure way to enhance your road biking experience.

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Jim Parham is a North Carolina native who makes his home at the edge of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. Most well known for his Off The Beaten Track mountain bike guides, he has biked, hiked, and paddled extensively throughout the Southeast and is the author of numerous outdoor guidebooks to the region.

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