16-, 17-, and 21-mile: Moderate terrain, hilly, for intermediate cyclists

The Boothbay Harbor region attracts visitors seeking natural beauty and a more relaxed pace than they find at home. The village of Boothbay Harbor retains all the charm and rich heritage of maritime New England, with traditional white clapboard homes. One of Maine’s most beautiful harbors, it is equally as breathtaking when viewed from the historic footbridge at sunrise, or from the deck of a friendship sloop as it rounds Tumbler Island. The scenery is simply spectacular.

All three rides start at the Boothbay Region YMCA in Boothbay Harbor. Restrooms are available during regular business hours. The 16-mile ride goes to gorgeous Ocean Point in East Boothbay on a narrow road along the ocean. The 17-mile ride circles around Southport Island, passes a beach, picnic area, and hiking trails with a view of Hendricks Head Light. The 21-mile ride goes to Barters Island by way of a swing bridge over the Back River and passes by the Oven’s Mouth Preserve, a 146-acre preserve with beautiful hiking trails.

Special features: Marine Resources Aquarium; Hendricks Head Light; Oven’s Mouth Preserve; Barters Island; swing bridge over Back River; Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens; Boothbay Railway Village

Road conditions: Generally good

Cautions: Some roads are narrow and some roads have no shoulders. Heavy traffic in summer.

Starting point: Boothbay Region YMCA, 261 Townsend Ave (ME 27) in Boothbay Harbor. ME 27 is the main route to Boothbay Harbor; the Y is on the left just after the Boothbay Harbor town line.

See p. 11 for accommodation information and events in the area.