

Drive the Sanbornton Side of the Pemigewasset River

Sanbornton Town Park

180 Shaw Hill Rd
Sanbornton, NH 03269

Sunday, August 20, 2017

Briefing at 9:30



Ride out at 10am with last out of the Town Park at 11am

Ride and drive the road less traveled along the Army Corp of Engineers trail along the Pemigewasset River floodplain, the Sanbornton side of the famous Hill Village. Gates usually closed to wheeled vehicles will be opened for a unique opportunity to drive this secluded trail. This trail has a steep road in but once in the flood plain it is quite flat. The floodplain trail is road-wide and is dirt, sandy and in some places with some gravel on top, depending on the repair conditions from the prior spring or if recent heavy rains necessitated flooding and subsequent repair. This area is flooded and under 10-20 feet of water every spring, be sure to look up into the trees where you'll see large logs wedged horizontally in the treetops where they settled as the flooding subsided. This trail is three miles in to the old Sanbornton Bridge Abutments. The trail ends as it becomes private property beyond the bridge abutments. In the old days you could continue on to New Hampton and Bristol. Stop to enjoy the view, then turn around to return the same way as driving in.

Riders may continue across the bridge and follow a trail up to meet up with Knox Mountain Road then follow Knox Mountain Road to turn right at Bennett's Ferry Road to return to the Town Park.

An extended route along tree-lined dirt backroads of Sanbornton can add another 6 miles to your route passing some of the most historic and lovely properties, farms and old cemeteries of Sanbornton. The ghosts of Sanbornton will appreciate hearing again the clip clop and cart sounds of its not so distant past. This route has some long steep inclines/declines so your horse's fitness should be considered.

Services:

Gas & Convenience items can be purchased at Sanbornton General Store at 666 New Hampton Road just past the turn you want to make to the town park, you will want to stop before coming to the town park if you need to, you can pull in by the diesel pumps for direct trailer driving in and out without needing to back up. There are porta-potties at the store and conveniently at the town park.

Bring a picnic lunch and favorite refreshment, some bottled water and salty snacks will be provided.

Contact Laurie Graham at laurieagraham@gmail.com 603-998-6867 cell

Please RSVP to receive latest information and decisions around inclement weather. We do not currently have a rain date scheduled. Find updates & liability releases on GSCA's Facebook group. Proof of Negative Coggins required.

Directions to Sanbornton Town Park

From 93 South

- Take **Exit 22** Sanbornton from **I-93 S** to NH-127 S
- Turn **LEFT** onto NH-127 S, drive for 0.9 mi
- Turn **RIGHT** onto Prescott Rd.
- Take an immediate **LEFT** onto Weeks Rd
- Continue on Weeks Road for another 0.4 mi (Golf Course will be on your right)
- Bear **LEFT** at fork onto Shaw Hill Rd
- Drive 0.9 mi
- Town Park will be on the **LEFT**

From 93 North

- Take **Exit 22** Sanbornton from **I-93 N** to NH-127 S
- Turn **RIGHT** onto NH-127 S, drive for 0.9 mi
- Turn **RIGHT** onto Prescott Rd.
- Take an immediate **LEFT** onto Weeks Rd
- Continue on Weeks Road for another 0.4 mi (Golf Course will be on your right)
- Bear **LEFT** at fork onto Shaw Hill Rd
- Drive 0.9 mi
- Town Park will be on the **LEFT**

Once turned into the Sanbornton Town Park

Follow the Town Park road along into the trailer parking area. The grass field and large sand pit areas are off limits to horses, thank you for understanding that Town Rec dept is maintaining a soccer field 😊 for the kids.

Trail Map

Two available loops. **Loop One (red)** is on the left 8 miles and **Loop Two (aqua)** is on the right 8 miles

Red Loop is suitable for carriages along the river until the trail turns right. Carriages will need to turn around at the old Sanbornton to Hill bridge abutments and return. This is 5 miles. There is a steep decline from the Town Park on the Army Corps entrance road down to the river. For Riders, the trail inclines as you depart the river area after the abutments up to Knox Mountain Road, as well as up and down hills on Knox.

Aqua Loop is suitable for carriages and is dirt road and some paved road. This loop has several long steep hills both up and down in the same direction so fitness is a consideration.

