



Cranbrook, BC. Cycling Event Summary Sept. 9 to 15 2023

Di, Bert, and Judy accompanied me (Jacques) on a cycling trip to Swift Current and Cranbrook. The first night we stayed at a campground in Swift Current Sask. Close by was the highway and the trailhead to a paved cycling path that followed the river from north to south in town. The trail was 15 k round trip and fun to ride. Who figured, there are hills in town.

The next day, we went on to Cranbrook. By the time we got to Cranbrook, there was little time to explore. I went for a 10 k ride in town. The next day we met at the Home Depot parking lot to organize. The trailhead for the North Star Rails to Trail was very close by. This trail is a retired train tracks bed. It is a

wide paved smooth trail, and the hills are very gradual. It takes you North through two towns Marysville and Kimberly. It is very scenic along the way. The pic to above is Bert, Judy, and Di in front of the Hoo Doos. We stopped in Kimberly for lunch and went to a coffee house the long way. I would rather gone for a beer. It was warm enough for it. The weather was perfect, low to med 20s, partly cloudy. We did about 62 k that trip. After supper Bert and I went to explore the South Star Trails for future visits.



The next day we met at the Chief Isadore trailhead. This trail is also a former rail bed but much longer than the North Star Trail. The surface was packed gravel for the most part up until the

Mayook Trail. When this rail line was decommissioned, a part of it was sold to farmers. The rest turned into a trail. Partway down the trail takes a turn to go around the private land. This takes us onto the 17k Mayook trail which climbs the side of Mount Baker. This part is a single track that winds its way up and around the private land. It has many hairpin turns and bridges. It was in very good shape. At the end of the Mayook trail you end back on the Chief Isadore trail. This pic above is one of many scenic views. We continued all the way to Wardner. The girls did not want to do the return trip. So, Bert and I boogied back the way we came to our vehicles. Bert went back with his van to pick up the girls. The round trip was 82k. Yes, it was another beautiful day.



This pic above is the Mayook Trail. This part was narrow with a big drop off. I heard that Judy was not keen on this part.

The third day we split up. Bert, Judy, and Di wanted to do the North Star Trail again. I wanted to explore the South Star Trail for future rides. What I discovered is a forestry road that seems to go around a mountain. I did part of it to get a feel of it. I estimate it between 30 to 40ks. It will be on my to-do list. In the afternoon I went to Kimberly to check out the trails there. I tried cycling up a mountain. This mountain is a downhill ski resort. I got 2/3 the way up and could see the summit. I had nothing left in the tank to reach it. Maybe next time. I really enjoyed my time on this trip. It was nice having friends to explore this area. Thank you Judy, Bert, and Di for taking the time for this event. I plan on going back next September, but for 4 days. If there are any brave souls who like to do a variety of cycling and want to join me next year, email me at jistpierre61@gmail.com. I also am in the early stages of planning a cycling trip to Texas just before Christmas. Give me a shout if interested. I probably will be posting it.

