

## Indian Lake Loop

The Indian Lake Peninsula is a maze. Vehicular traffic is funneled onto Cherokee Road, Indian Lake Road, and Cumberland Hills so toward the northern base of the peninsula these roads are unsuitable for cycling. Since this is all most drivers know they consider this entire area bad for cycling. Granted, it has not the same charm as a rural ride but this area does its own merits. A holiday lights tour through the southern tip is exceptionally beautiful. Plus there are no free ranging D obermans and few hills. If you do get lost it's one of those places you feel safe stopping anywhere for guidance.

Ok, so where to start? My preference in general is to do a new ride clockwise but here a counter clockwise ride is a bit the better for not getting lost. With a counter clockwise tour many of the decision points are obvious whereas a clockwise tour lends to blowing by right turns. We'll call start at Memorial park, the one with all the flags, the fountain and tennis courts. There's a multi use path leading out to Cherokee Rd at the south end of the park but I prefer to get onto Cherokee via the big entrance across from Hazel Path and claim the right lane while passing the High School. Claiming the lane is scary at first, but believe me, it is the safest thing. Immediately past HHS, turn left onto Sequoya Drive and then an immediate right onto Berrywood up a small hill. Take time to admire the "Share the Road" sign. You officially belong. Stop signs at every intersection keep through traffic off Berrywood. Don't blow through these stops because the cross street traffic does not stop. After about a mile at Ridge Drive Berrywood becomes Cherokee Road. You did not turn, the street did. Get used to this, it happens a lot on the peninsula.

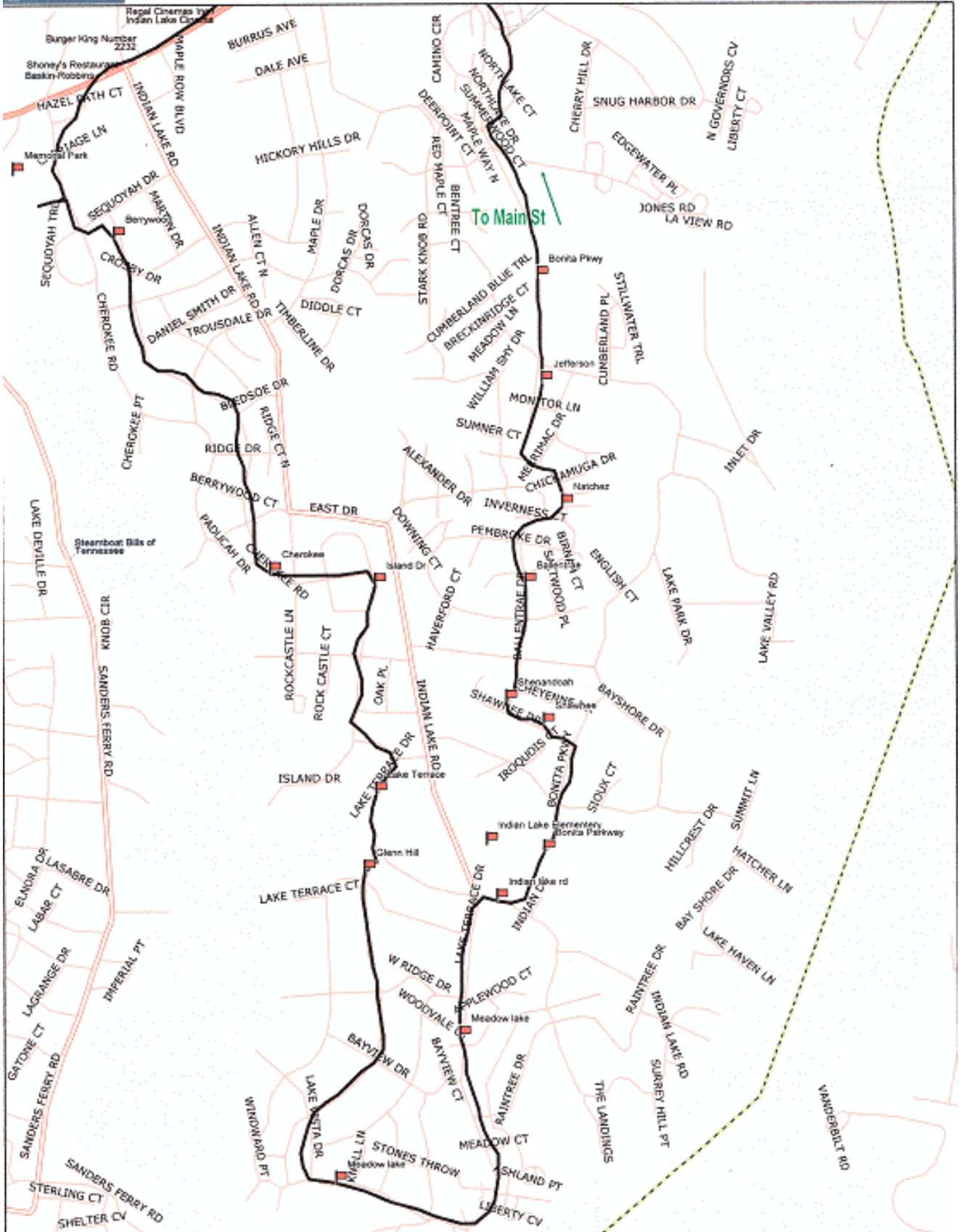
Cherokee veers left, crosses Indian Lake Road, crosses Island Drive, then ends at Island Drive. Take a right onto Island. Island crosses Indian lake Road, then passes to the rear of "Historic Rock Castle." Just past the castle, bear left onto Lake Terrace Drive, my nominee for the most circuitous road in a crowded field of winding ways. Watch to the right for Glenn Hill Road as this is the first real chance to miss a turn. Glenn hill is lightly trafficked with a few rollers and ends at Meadowlake. You are now at the tip of the peninsula and miles from any public facility. Follow Meadowlake around and up a small hill and back up to Indian Lake Elementary School. All along the route to here you will see nice homes, joggers, walkers and the occasional cyclist. At the school, take a right onto Indian Lake Road, then a quick left onto the newly built Bonita Parkway.

Bonita parkway is even more nefarious than lake Terrace. Lake Terrace winds about but Bonita ends among a bunch of Indian named roads, only to resume again a mile or so to the north. Don't follow Bonita to its end, but take a left when you get to Shawnee Drive, then a right onto Shenandoah. I'm usually disoriented along here and must watch the signs carefully. Once across Cumberland Hills Shenandoah becomes Ballentrae Drive. It's a circle. I usually follow it to the right and make a right turn onto Natchez drive but if you come onto Natchez and it's on your left, take it as it only goes one way. Follow it past another newish development to Jefferson on the right. Jefferson is the steepest hill of this ride but is wide with light traffic so granny down and make it up to Cumberland Hills Drive, again. This is the most dangerous intersection of the ride. Traffic flies though here with limited sight distances for them and you. Look, listen and don't tarry on the roadway. Once across you are back onto Bonita parkway. Down a hill, up a hill, past Sears Outlet and you are back to Main Street. From here I usually avail myself of the left turn signal and take the nice wide shoulder to the park. There are alternatives by noodling around though the cemetery and behind Kmart but I find crossing Indian Lake road along here as bad as Main Street.

So there you have it. There are plenty of equally nice permutations so feel free to explore.

## Indian Lake Cue

Cue		Leg	Total
Begin at Memorial Park, exit by Tennis Courts onto Cherokee			
Right	Onto Cherokee and go	0.1	0.1
Left	Onto Sequoya and go	0.1	0.2
Right	Onto Berrywood and go	1.2	1.4
Straight	Becomes Cherokee and go	0.5	1.9
Right	at dead end, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Island Dr and go	0.5	2.4
Left	Onto Lake Terrace, road bears left	0.5	2.9
Right	Onto Glen Hill Rd and go	1.1	4.0
Left	Onto Meadow Lake, curve to left	1.6	5.6
Right	Onto Indian Lake, at school	0.1	5.7
Left	Onto Bonita Parkway and go	0.6	6.3
Left	Onto Shawnee and go	0.2	6.5
Right	Onto Shenandoah and go	0.2	6.7
Straight	Becomes Ballentrae Dr	0.2	6.9
Right	2 <sup>nd</sup> right is still Ballentrae Dr	0.3	7.2
Right	Onto Natchez and go	0.3	7.5
Right	Onto Jefferson and go	0.3	7.8
Straight	Onto Bonita Parkway, (Watch out!!)	1.5	9.3
Left	Onto East Main and go	1.3	10.6
Left	Onto Cherokee and back to park	0.3	10.9



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