

Riding Around the Sierra Nevada Roads



Kings Canyon Road
March 17th, 2007

Kings Canyon is located in the center of Carson City. It's a short climb in Carson that starts near the legislative buildings and ends at a trail head that climbs up to the top of Spooner Summit. The length of the climb may imply that it's a simple trot to the top but it's not. It's true that the beginning of the climb at the Brewery Arts Center starts off with a gentle 2% slope. However, near the end of the climb, the road will pitch up between 6% and 10%!



The Brewery Arts Center marks the beginning of the climb.

The road begins in a quiet residential part of an older section of Carson City. However, it doesn't take long for the road to take on a rural back country feel with very little (if any) traffic.



Wide open fields with grazing cows welcome you as the grade begins to increase. I have to apologize for my broken panoramic view. Snapping photographs while climbing uphill is no small task!

The wind starts to pick up as you near the top of the climb. It seems to be there all year round – coming down from the tops of the Sierra Nevada mountains. The wind is warm during the summer months and can cook even the best riders if they aren't well hydrated!

At the top of the climb, you are rewarded with a view of Carson City.



The top of this climb is the beginning of another – to the top of Spooner Summit! It's a rough trail intended for mountain bikes. We'll explore that one later!

So what are the road's vital stats? The climb is 2.69 miles long. It begins with an elevation of 4683 ft and tops out at 5359 ft to give a total elevation gain of 676 ft.

