

Hello Populaire riders,

Welcome to the San Francisco Randonneurs first Populaire, thanks for participating. Below you'll find some useful and vital information about the ride, covering topics like parking, the route, control times and some general information about riding brevets.

Parking, Check-in, Start location, Finish location

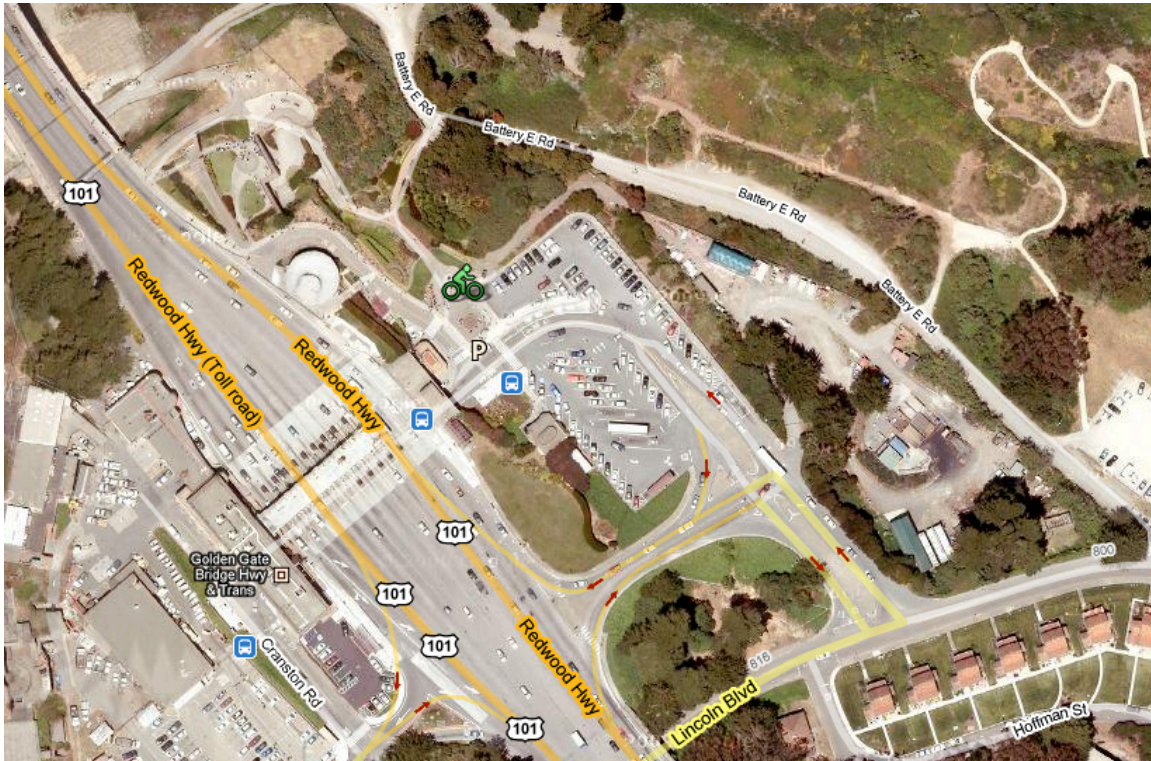
Please note that the Start location and the finish location are not in the same place. We will start the ride at the Strauss Statue at the Visitors Center area at the Golden Gate Bridge. Below is a photo with a 'P' showing the best place to park for the ride. Park there, and plan to give your self enough time to ride up to the Bridge Vista area for check-in, followed by the pre-ride conversation which will start no later than 7:50am.



Because we are hosting a (modest) post ride picnic, the finish location will be down in Crissy Field. Rather than make riders climb back up the

hill to parking near the bridge, we'll park just a short, flat ride away from our picnic site.

The Strauss Statue (see the bicycle in the illustration below) is the traditional starting location for the San Francisco Randonneurs core Super Randonneur Series. Our core 200, 300, 400 and 600km rides all start there. Starting the Populaire at this location adds the Populaire to that core series.



The finish location will need to be just a tiny bit vague. We will set up the San Francisco Randonneurs Awning (blue with the SFR logo on all four sides) somewhere on the grassy area of Crissy Field immediately adjacent to Mason Street.

A note about parking safety. Be sure not to leave anything in your car in open sight that even might look valuable. There will be no one watching your car through the day.

Controls, brevet cards and route

Riders participating in brevets will carry a brevet card (which you pick up at check-in at the start) in which you will record your arrival times at the controls on the course. The Point Reyes Control is an open control, which means obtain a receipt at any business in town. Many riders favor the Bovine Bakery, though you can also get supplies across the street at the market. If the store name is not on the receipt, please make note of that. The Nicasio Control is at the General Store (not the bar). At that store, the proprietor will either stamp or initial your card or you will acquire a receipt. It is encouraged that you would make some small purchase at the store. Record your time, I 24

hour format, in your brevet card at each of these controls. The volunteer working the start and finish controls will fill in the times for those entries in your card. Below are the open and close times for each control.

115km POPULAIRE

Checkpoint	Date	Time
=====	=====	=====
0km	start:	10/03 08:00

Point Reyes Station

59km	open:	10/03 09:44
(37mi)	close:	10/03 11:56

Nicasio General Store

75km	open:	10/03 10:12
(47mi)	close:	10/03 13:00

Crissy Field, Mason St.

116km	open:	10/03 11:23
(72mi)	close:	10/03 15:40

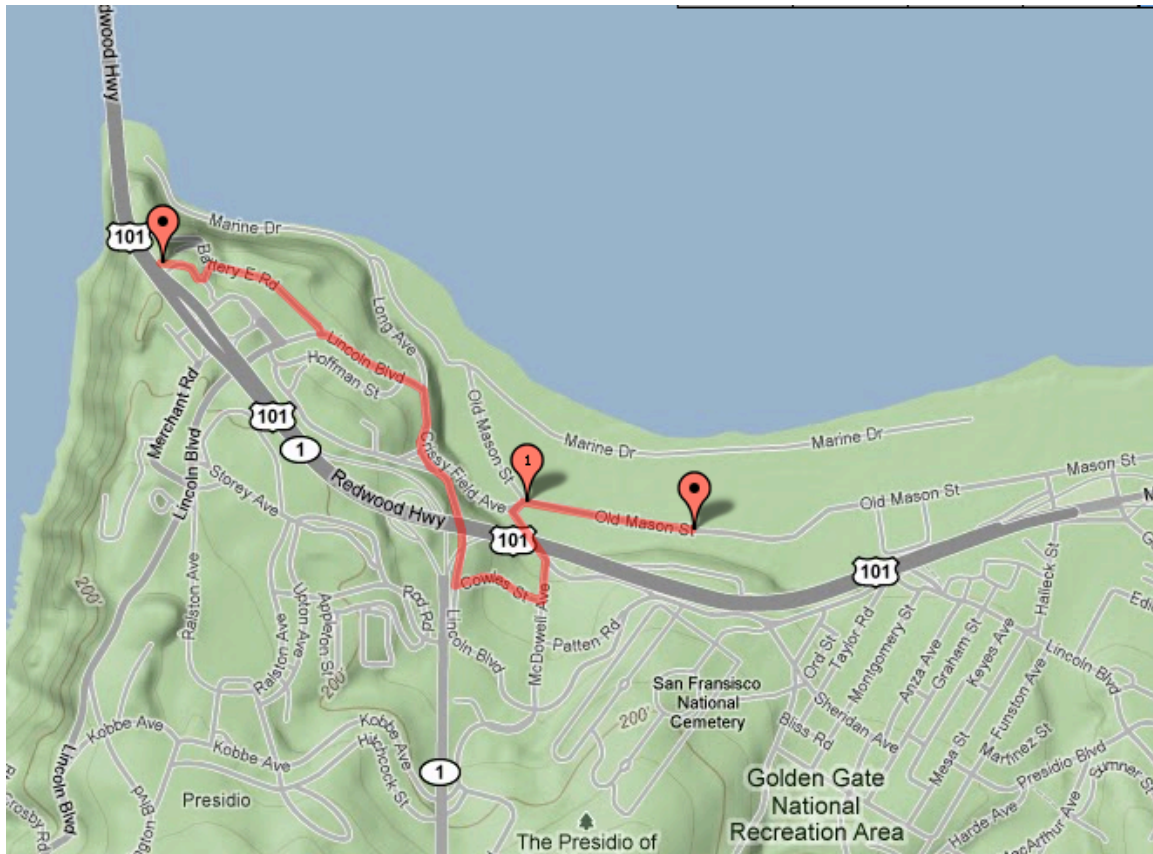
The route for the Populaire is based directly on the route for the traditional Point Reyes Lighthouse 200km. The differences are that the route omits the out and back legs from Olema to the Lighthouse, and from Point Reyes Station to Marshall. The first 15-20 miles of the course include a great many turns through largely residential portions of Sausalito, Mill Valley, Larkspur, Ross, San Anselmo and Fairfax. You are encouraged to take the cue sheet and familiarize your self with the basic route through this area. Google Maps is a good place to do that. A cue sheet will be included as a separate document in this mailing. Please print out a copy and bring that with you to the ride start.

As a summary, the route will traverse the Lower Marin bike route through the above named towns. Once reaching Fairfax, the route will follow Sir Francis Drake Blvd. west out of town and climb the 2nd significant hill, White's Hill. The back side of this will be a fun, long downhill run to the border of Samuel Taylor State Park. Sir Fancis Drake Blvd. through the park is a rough bit of roadway, but should be somewhat low traffic in the morning. Riders familiar with the paved path through the State Park are welcome to take that as an alternative. Once you leave the woods and park behind the route climbs Bolinas Ridge over to Olema, and will then take Highway One up to Point Reyes Station and the first control.

The route continues north on Hwy. 1 outside of town but will quickly take a right hand turn onto Point Reyes Petaluma road. The roadway here is made up of rollers until you reach the Purple Bridge and the left turn that continues on Point Reyes Petaluma road up past the Spillway for the Nicasio Reservoir. More rollers are found as the route goes around the reservoir on the way to Nicasio and the second control. From

there the route will head south back to Fairfax via the climbs up Dixon Ridge on Nicasio Valley Road, and White's Hill on Sir Francis Drake. From this point on the route is a reverse of the outbound route.

Below is an illustration of the route from the bridge to the area of the finish control:



Randonneuring with SFR

All riders, RUSA members or not, that participate in RUSA sanctioned brevets should familiarize themselves with the information here:

<http://www.rusa.org/brvreg.html>

In addition to all information in that document, there are certain expectations of riders riding SFR events. In a nutshell, riders are expected to be self sufficient and independent. SFR brevets do not use marked courses. Other than any bike paths, the course is not closed to cars anywhere. There are no SAG vehicles on the course. Riders should equip and prepare themselves to deal with what ever might come up on the road, including but not limited to: flat tires, food and water between controls, navigation, and other circumstances that would prevent you from finishing the ride.

If you find that you can not finish the ride for any reason, first make arrangements for transportation back to the City, then call the phone number on your cue sheet (Day-of contact: Sterling Hada: 510- 502-3241 NB: this is included in the cue sheet in the header and footer. If you devise your own cue sheet, make sure to copy this information as well) to inform the volunteers that you need to abandon the ride. Report any incidents that involve rider injury to the day of contact, or to the RBA.

While on the course, riders must heed all local traffic laws. It is tempting to run stop signs or red lights in order to keep up with the pack just ahead, but please don't do this. Police in Ross and San Anselmo especially are well known for ticketing cyclists that run stop signs or red lights.

To adhere to insurance requirements, helmets are required.

If there are any questions that you have, please send them to me or bring them up at the pre-ride meeting.

Thanks

rob hawks
SFR Regional Brevet Administrator