

## Petersburg Loop 1 - Part A

1. Beginning in downtown Petersburg at the stoplight, proceed south on Rt 220 in the direction of Franklin. As you are leaving the downtown Petersburg area, you will cross over the South Branch Potomac River. About 1/4 mile after you pass Tri-County Motorcycles on the right, watch for South Mill Creek Road CR-9 turning off to the left. Follow South Mill Creek Road for about 3 miles to the town of Dorcas.
2. OPTIONAL SIDETRIP - Allow 20-30 minutes - At Dorcas, watch for a sign to the left for Spring Run Fish Hatchery. Follow Spring Run Road appx 2 miles to the hatchery. Return to South Mill Creek Road and continue south (left).
3. Continue south on CR-9/South Mill Creek Road. At the Pendleton County line, this road now becomes CR-1/Kiser Gap Road. Enjoy the scenery as you travel back in time - lots of old farms.
4. After passing through Mozer, you will reach Kline, at which point you will bear right on Schmucker Road. This will bring you out on Rt 220 at Upper Tract.
5. Turn left / south on Rt 220. After about 15 miles, you will reach Franklin. At the junction of Rt 33, there is an Exxon station. If you're low on gas, top off since there will be no stations for about 35-40 miles. Turn right / west on Rt 33. After several miles, you will begin to climb North Fork Mountain. Just over the summit, watch for a turnoff about 1/4-1/2 mile down. This is the Germany Valley overlook, one of the finest views in all of West Virginia, in my opinion.
6. Continue down the challenging curves to the bottom of the mountain, where you will continue straight. (The road to the left, Rt 28, goes down to Cass and Green Bank Observatory). Rt 33/28 continue straight and bend to a northbound direction.
7. Just a mile or two past the Rt 33 / Rt 28 junction, watch for the Gateway Restaurant and signs to Spruce Knob on the left. Follow Briery Gap Road CR33-4 as it winds its way up the mountain. After about 2 miles, there is a fork in the road - bear left and continue. After another couple of miles, there is another fork - keep right and the road narrows to 1-1/2 lanes with no center line. It is well-paved, but watch for fine gravel washed out in the corners. Also, obey the low speed limit since there are many blind corners where you will meet oncoming traffic (including RVs) on your half of the road.
8. Follow this road up, and up, and up past the 2 sharp hairpin curves and past the East View Scenic Turnout (you can stop there easily on the way down). After another mile or two, watch for the intersection with signs to the right for Spruce Knob Summit. (The road to Spruce Knob Lake straight ahead turns into gravel - you will want off-road tires). From that intersection, it is about 2 miles to the Spruce Knob Summit parking lot. PHOTO OP - many riders pull their bikes in front of the wooden sign by the entrance to the parking lot for an "I've Been There" photo. Enjoy a 5-minute walk over to the observation tower.
9. Continue on PART B of this loop by returning down to the main highway. Remember to stop at the East View turnoff on the way down.