

# North Valley 200k

## Permanent #92

A Permanent Brevet of 200 kms

Time Limit: 13 hours, 30 minutes

### ***Pre-ride Information—PLEASE READ CAREFULLY***

This brevet is a “permanent”. Being a “permanent” means it is a self-conducted ride with a date and starting time of the rider’s choice. This brevet is sanctioned by Randonneurs USA, and counts toward its Distance Awards for a rider’s kilometer total. If you are trying to earn the RUSA R-12 medal it can be ridden multiple times. In order to participate, you must be a current member of Randonneurs of USA.

**Route Description:** This is a 127 mile loop around the North Phoenix and Fountain Hills areas. The route heads south from the start and you’ll ride along one of the paved canals used for irrigation in Phoenix. When you exit the canal, you’ll be on the west side of Phoenix and will ride thru some very nice neighborhoods making your way to Lake Pleasant Rd. It is here that you will leave suburbia to experience some beautiful desert vistas on your way to the far North Valley in New River. You’ll take the Carefree Highway into North Scottsdale on your way to your first short climb on Dynamite Rd. The only real significance of this climb is that it leads to the ever fun “9 mile hill.” Never fear though, the 9 miles is down in this direction! This route will take you to Fountain Hills very near the Verde River. This is a very popular cycling area, so you may have some company through here. Once in Fountain **Hills**, you’ll experience your only “real” climb on the ride. It’s only about 500’, but you will know you’re climbing. After your right turn at the top of the climb, you’ll be descending most of the way back to the finish. Overall, this route would be called flat-ish. There are no difficult climbs. The climbs which do exist are long and gradual and will pose no problems. The total elevation gained on this route is a meager 3500’ total.

**Weather:** This ride can be done year-round. Summers can be scorching in the daytime, and only acclimated riders should even consider it then. Winters can be chilly, but are generally pleasant unless a storm blows though. This ride can be ridden any time of the day or night, making it a good night time ride in the Phoenix summers.

**Start Times:** You can start this ride at nearly any time. Fall, winter, and spring would normally be ridden in daylight starting between 5 and 9 a.m. If desiring to ride this route in the summer, it is highly recommended to start it around 4 a.m. or 6 p.m. These start times will minimize your exposure to the brutal summer heat. The stores will be open without any issues with starts like these. I’ve ridden this one through the night and find it to be very enjoyable and quite a different experience from riding during the day.

**Services:** To buy food and drink along the route, you’ll find stores at intervals of 20 miles, at most. Even during the summer, it should be easy to do the ride with 2 large water bottles.

**Start/Finish Location:** This brevet begins and ends at the corner E. Union Hills Dr. and N. 32<sup>nd</sup> St. in north Phoenix. There are two 24-hour convenience stores at the start/finish. There is also a 24 hour CVS pharmacy and a Park-And-Ride lot on the southeast corner. You should try to park in the P-N-R lot and not take the convenience store parking area. You’ll need receipts from the start **and** the finish; the time imprint on each receipt is your verification or “control” (it is okay to have store receipts which show times a few minutes off from the official start/finish times).

**Control Procedures:** Stores and establishments along the route will be used to acquire proof of passage. Store receipts will be needed to show the time and date of passage. You can also ask for a store stamp at any control in lieu of a receipt, but if they do not offer one then you are expected to buy something to get a receipt. Have the clerk write the time upon your brevet card and sign it.

You can ride this permanent alone or in a group; if you are with a group that stays together the entire way, then only one receipt is need for the group at each control (but everyone should mark their own cards with the time.) If the riders split up, they then need to get their own receipts. Tandem teams obviously only need one receipt for their team, not for each rider.

Each control has an opening and closing time. To get ride credit you must stay within these times, which are based upon the starting time and date you chose.

Be aware that there may also be secret controls during this brevet, so stay on the route. If you should get lost or go looking for food, backtrack to where you got off-course, otherwise you might miss a secret control. Failure to sign in at a secret control means disqualification from the brevet. If there are any secret controls, they will be in plain sight and impossible to miss.

After the brevet, return your brevet card and receipts to the ride organizer. Sign the back of the card and make sure all the times are recorded on the card for each control. Put all the receipts and your card into an envelope and mail it to

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**Regulations:** During your ride, all the normal rules of randonneuring apply. Go to the RUSA web site to familiarize yourself with the regulations if this type of cycling is new to you. You **must** begin your ride at the time you selected, and any secret control opening and closing times will be based upon that start time. If you are riding at night, be sure you have all the required lights and safety gear outlined in the regulations; anyone found to be riding at night without them will be automatically disqualified.

If you should fail to start, or end the ride prematurely, please contact the ride organizer as soon as is practical. We have RUSA matters to attend to whether or not you finish the ride successfully. Please be considerate and not endanger your future participation in future permanents by overlooking this essential detail. Thanks in advance for your cooperation.

Good luck and good riding! 😊