



Great Basin Bicycles

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Churchill Butte **Between Dayton and Silversprings, Nv.** **Intermediate**

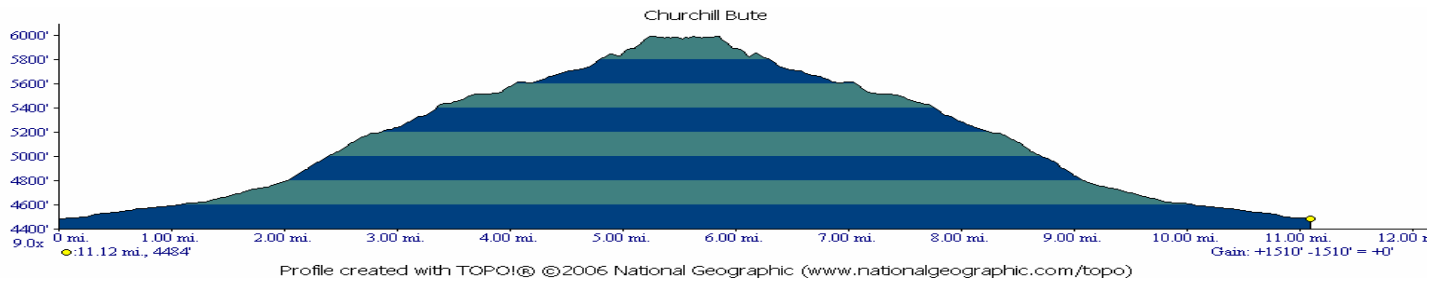
From Reno, take Hwy 395 S. to Carson City. Continue on Hwy 395 S. until it dead ends onto Hwy 50 on the east side of Carson City. Take a left on Hwy 50 heading east, and continue east past Dayton, but before Silver Springs. From the intersection of Hwy 395 and Hwy 50, you will need to drive east on Hwy 50 for about 28.5 miles. Keep a lookout on the right for Micro Street. This is the start of your climb. The climb is all on jeep road, and a little steep in sections. The average gradient is 6%, and the steepest gradient, one section in the middle, and the other near the top is 11%.



Focus on You Photography
Churchill Butte

Churchill Butte (Intermediate) Red Trail

11.12 miles 1510 ft. total elevation gain



From the intersection of Mirco Street and Hwy 50, take a right on Micro street and drive about 100 yards south on the dirt road, and you will see a pullout on the right hand side of the road. This is

your start. Once on the bike, if you look south east, on top of the mountain is the Churchill Butte radio tower. That is where you are headed (see picture



above.) From here, the road heads strait south, and gradually climbs. In 2.0 miles, you will see a road on your left side that looks like it might head to the top of the mountain. It doesn't. Continue strait, south, and in 1.26 miles (3.26 miles from the start) you



will have started one of the steepest climbs of the ride, and here you will see a jeep road on your right. That will take you down to the

Carson River at the historic Fort Churchill, but here stay left and continue your climb. In .52 miles (3.78 miles) you will top one of the steepest climbs, and level out on a plateau. Continue east, and in .95miles (4.73 miles) you will see a pole line road heading back to the right. This also will take you



down to the Carson River, sandy, but it will get you there. Continue uphill to the east, and you will start the last steep climb to the summit. Follow the road up the hillside towards the radio tower, and the road will switch back once, then crest the ridge and flatten out to the top. From the top, you have a great view of Lahontan Reservoir to the east (see picture above on the right.) Once you take in the view, and relax a bit, you are just going to turn around and retrace your path back downhill (see picture to the left.) Be a little careful on the turns, they are loose and rocky. These rocks are volcanic and sharp, they would not do good things to a body that slides along the top of them. Remember, always wear a helmet.

TOPO! map printed on 04/20/09 from "Churchill Butte.tpo"

