

Witches Barrel

This is a gruelling figure-of-eight route to test even the most seasoned riders with over 2,800 ft of climbing. But don't be put off. The descent from the top of Slieau Whallian is a well earned reward for all you efforts!

Grading:	Difficult
Distance:	Approximately 12.5miles
Start:	St Johns
Estimated time	3-4 hours

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DIFFICULT

Route

1. Start at St Johns, either in the car park on the old railway lines or at Tynwald Mills.
2. Head West from St Johns along the old railway line towards Peel and take the right hand fork just after the river Neb to take you on the old Ramsey spur.
3. Cross the main road where the railway bridge used to be and head North until you reach the A20 where you turn right on tarmac before you take the sharp left onto the switchback road.
4. Head to the North then take the next right up a steep hill to take you onto the ridge with farms on both sides with views left and right.
5. A left off this road takes you onto a rocky track at Dreemlang which you head down onto before eventually getting back to the switchback road.
6. Find your way back to the steep section you climbed earlier but at the top of this take the track to the right that will bring you down to St Johns and a cake and coffee stop can be planned in at Tynwald Mills.
7. Once refuelled the second part of the ride takes you past Tynwald Hill and the site of the worlds longest continually running parliament.
8. Through St Johns turn right over the bridge then the first left up a steep road ignoring the first forest entrance on your right. Keep on going until up find the rocky track just after the forest on your right for the challenging climb up this greenway.
9. The top of this climb affords great views to the mines of South Barrule and the across to Peel as you start the descent to the right all the way back to the valley's bottom.
10. Head East along the tarmac and back to St Johns having completed a challenging cross country route.

Route map



Best bits

- St John's to Peel railway line
- Stopping for coffee and cake at Tynwald Mills
- Views from the top of Slieau Whallian Plantation