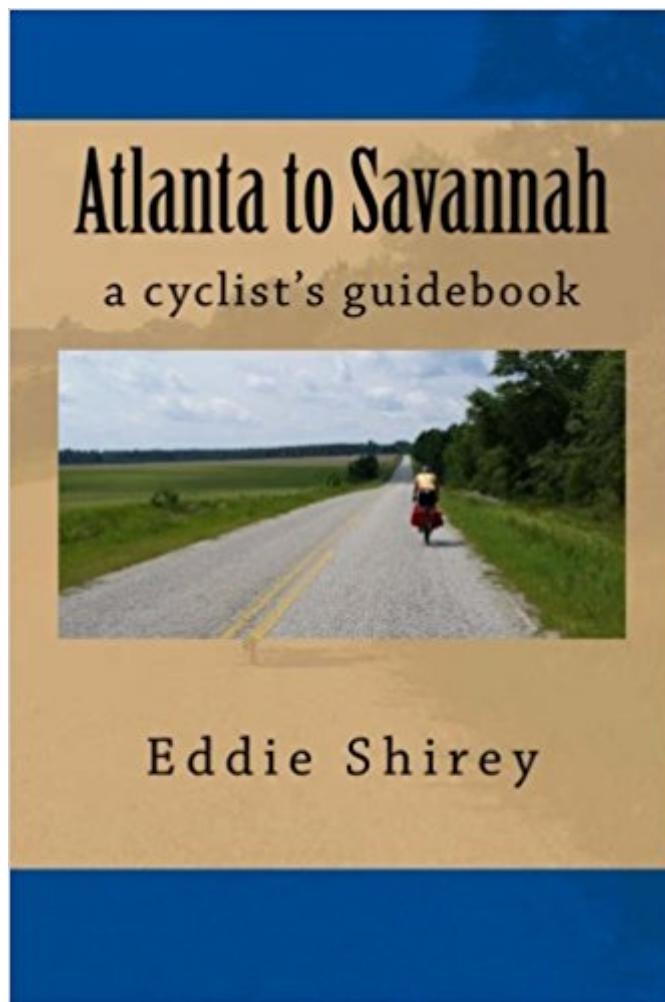


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# Atlanta To Savannah: A Cyclist's Guidebook



## Synopsis

"Atlanta to Savannah: a cyclist's guide" describes two routes from Atlanta to Savannah, each a little over 300 miles. The Left Wing Route follows somewhat the route of WT Sherman's Left Wing on its March to the Sea in 1864. The Right Wing Route follows somewhat Sherman's Right Wing. The book is organized so that each route is a 6-day ride of 55 miles or so each day, designed for the cyclist who wishes to avoid car traffic and enjoy sights and experiences of the small communities and countryside. Included are rough maps, turn-by-turn cue sheets, and detailed cue sheets--these offer important points of interest, historical insights, bike shops, convenience store locations, road hazards, lodgings and restaurants. The guidebook also includes a brief telling of Georgia's formative history and culture. This book is about 70,000 words, 300+ pages, with plenty of photos, important phone numbers, fees and hours of operations.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Permit me to 1st qualify my below opinion with the statement that I have NOT yet ridden the routes (2) presented in this book. Meanwhile, I do intend to do one or both rides over the next year or two because of the confidence that I have that data provided by the author, Eddie Shirey, is accurate. More specifically, I would say the following: 1. Over the years I have used thousands of miles of cycling cue sheets, and with that collective experience comparatively in mind with Mr. Shirey's presentation layout, the book appears to me to provide the highest of quality detail/accuracy and clarity. 2. He offers Georgia human history, as well as, even a little natural history along the route to enhance the enjoyment of the ride. 3. The book is practical in that it divides

the rides into 6 days so that cyclists can approach the treks in sections (with no single day being greater than 68 miles < my kind of 'self-contained' daily distance whereby one can enjoy the towns, the people and the sites along the way ! :- ).4. Eddie Shirey reminds the reader to adequately and carefully prepare, physically and equipment-wise, for bicycle tours of this type. It is understandably beyond the scope of this book to address 'preparation' in any depth - one that is new to bikepacking will need to reference other sources.5. The author has developed web based ancillary data, of several different categories, including GPS, ascent, decent, etc., and associated links. With "Atlanta to Savannah" having been released only last month, Nov. 2014, my hope is that, over time, Mr. Shirey will enable growth to his website that will show updates to the routes (i.e./e.g., business closings/opening, minor route changes, etc.).

Whether you want to actually ride these historic routes or you are simply interested in learning about Georgia, Sherman and the 'March to the Sea' - this book is a must have. It is rich in details about Georgia's own past reaching back to pre-history to set the stage. Recognition of the importance of Georgia's land forms and it's unique geology are also described. Those physical provinces informed how the region was settled and eventually fought over. They also quickly inform the rider as the terrain changes from Piedmont across the Fall Line and on to the Coastal Plain. If you are fortunate enough to actually ride one or both of Shirey's guided bicycle routes, the book serves as a point-to-point docent. Shirey cleverly synchronizes the events of Sherman's March to the sequence of the guide. You are able to actually visualize the events- at times, they seem to come to life. This was especially the case at the site for the Battle of Griswoldville where the approach by bicycle to the scene of the battle followed that taken by the Confederate soldiers, many of whom were either too old or too young to face battle. At the Jarrell Plantation, you could imagine it was only yesterday that the Union Army had occupied a camp there. I have seen many bicycle guide books but this is without a doubt the most thoroughly written version you will find. If traveling by bicycle through this area while learning about this period of our nation's past interests you, then you must own this book.

I have ridden the left wing route with the author previously. These rides included a brief narrative on the historical accounts but not with as much detail as the book provides. Honestly reading the routes brought the history of the route alive and made me want to ride it again. The next time I ride the routes I will review the accounts the morning of the day's ride and imagine what the march looked and sounded like. Overall a must have book if you want to cycle tour in Georgia.

This book is a highly detailed description of two bicycle routes from the Carter Center in Atlanta to Savannah that more or less follow the two routes that Sherman's armies took to Savannah in 1864. The roads are less traveled and assumes the cyclist will camp with a couple of exceptions. Unfortunately, the author does have some non-paved roads on his routes. The book begins with some generalities about GA weather, pests, tracking devices, culture, and the like. Then a rather lengthy section on GA history follows that goes back to the time of Desoto, a Spanish conqueror. The last two sections are the detailed daily routes of the two paths. Included are digressions on various points of interest. Somehow the author makes the book seem overly tedious. The history section is mostly unneeded. And there is almost a complete absence of maps. Why not substitute the details of the Spanish occupation with 30 pages of maps for various sections of the routes. Also, who wants to camp in the South in the summer? The author would have served the cycling community better by planning his routes around motels and access to restaurants. Generally the book is a little disappointing. A person could take this book and with a lot of work come up with a better bike ride to Savannah,

Great Read. Very detailed and helpful. Interesting for somebody that's not a cyclist.

An extremely valuable resource for the touring cyclist and those interested in the Civil War.

Excellent source of history and information for a pleasant ride

Great guide for any traveler and easy to follow.

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