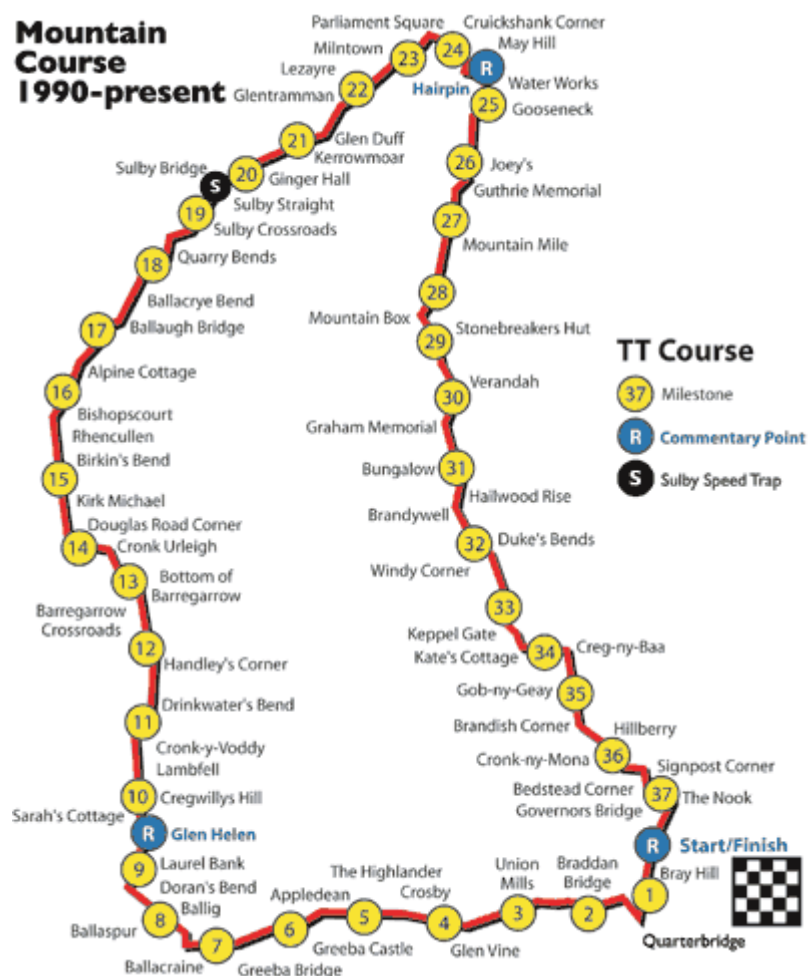


Two hour tour of TT course

Grandstand On this two hour tour, you will be picked up at the Sea Terminal and taken to the TT Grandstand for the start of a lap of the world famous TT course.



We start our lap, of the famous TT course, from the grandstand and start line. As we head off through St Ninian's Crossroads and down Bray Hill you will get the feel of how dangerous and exciting the TT races are. Bray Hill is a steep hill that the motorcycles take at speeds in excess of 130 mph. Don't worry though, we will be doing a leisurely 30.

After travelling down Bray Hill and along Quarter Bridge Road, the course takes a tight right hand turn at Quarter Bridge and on towards Braddan Bridge. We negotiate the double bend with the old and the new Kirk Braddan churches on our left and onto Union Mills.



Braddan Bridge



Union Mills

From Union Mills we climb the long incline towards Ballagarey, where the road levels out, banks to the right, then on through Crosby. As the road starts to climb again we pass the Crosby Hotel on the right. This is another good vantage point especially if you like a pint.

We pass the old Halfway House, on the left and the Highlander on the right. Then we negotiate the double bend at Greeba Castle and on to Greeba Bridge. After Grebe Bridge we pass the Hawthorns pub on the left. The bikes go through here at well over 150 mile an hour but we have to keep under 50mph, you will be glad to hear.

We've been travelling just on 7 miles now as we reach the tight right hand bend at Ballacraigne. It will take us approximately 20 minutes to reach here, the bikes do it in about 4 minutes.

After negotiating the right band at Ballacraigne, we go through Ballig and the bends of Laurel Bank, then take our first break at Glen Helen.



Glen Helen Glen Helen is a nice spot to take a little break, on our TT course lap. It's a very nice walk through the Glen and you can take some refreshments in the bar of the Glen Helen Hotel.

When we resume our lap, we head off along the TT course towards Cronk-y-Voddy and on through Handley's Corner, Barregarrow and on to Kirk Michael.



Kirk Michael

We travel through the narrow streets of Kirk Michael and on through Rhencullen and Bishop's Court, to Ballaugh Bridge. We have to slow right down to about 5 to 10 mile an hour to negotiate this bridge it is such a severe hump. Any faster than 15 mile an hour and the wheels will leave the road. Even the bikes have to slowdown quite considerably, some have both wheels off the floor others do high-speed wheelies.



Ballaugh Bridge

After negotiating the bridge at Ballaugh, we carry on along the TT course, past the Wildlife Park and through Sulby Straight. Sulby Straight is another place where the bikes reach top speed, most approaching 200 mile an hour with the top riders actually exceeding it. We drive through Sulby village take a tight right-hander at Sulby Bridge and past Ginger Hall, as the road turns to the left. This double bend at Sulby Bridge and Ginger Hall is a very popular vantage point and a place where the TT fans can enjoy a pint.



Sulby Bridge & Ginger Hall

Resisting the temptation to join the boys for a pint, we carry on through Kerrowmoar, Glen Tramman & Milntown, on our way into Ramsey's Parliament square. We have now arrived at the Isle of Man's second biggest town. We can take a breather here, if anybody wants to take a stroll through the main shopping street?

On leaving Ramsey we climb slowly up May hill and on towards one of the slowest parts of the course, The Hairpin. After the tight hairpin bend, we start our climb up the mountain, past the Water Works and onto the tight right hand bend of the Gooseneck.



Gooseneck

It's climb all the way now, for the next few miles, with the next landmark being the Guthrie Memorial.



Guthrie's Memorial

It's a fast run up the mountain miles now, for the bikes - not for us. We negotiate the left-hander at the Mountain Box and on towards the Verandah. The Veranda is a series of right hand bends with quite a steep drop on the left-hand side. The TT riders don't have time for the views but you can see the beauty of the scenery as you look towards the Laxey Valley.

After the Verandah, we will cross the tramlines of the Snaefell Mountain Railway, at The Bungalow. This is a left and right bend as the road then levels out and rises, up Hailwood Rise, to the highest point on the course, at Brandywell.

Once we've negotiated Brandywell's bends, it's all downhill from here on in. As we approach Windy Corner, the views down the centre of the island are breathtaking.

When we reach windy corner we can take a little break by you stretch your legs and taking in the views. One thing I will say at this point is, take note of the name of the corner. On some days it does get quite windy here.

When we're ready to continue on our way, we will drive on through some high-speed bends (for the bikes of course - not for us) until we reach Kate's Cottage at Keppel Gate. The cottage is on the right hand side as we take the left-hand bend and as the road straightens out it then drops down to Creg-ny-Bar.



Windy Corner



Kate's Cottage



Creg-ny-Bar

Creg-ny-Bar is a very popular vantage point for the TT spectators, with its fast down hill approach and tight right hand bend. There is a good gourmet pub at Creg-ny-Bar.

After the bend at Creg-ny-Bar there is a very fast straight down to Brandish Corner. Brandish Corner has been modified, within the last few years. The racing bikes used to negotiate this left hand bend at about 30 to 50 mile an hour but now that it has been modified date take the bend almost flat out. We now dropped down the Hillberry straight to Cronk ny Mona, where the road bends of the right and rises up towards Signpost Corner.



Sign post Corner



Governors Bridge

We take the tight right hand bend at Signpost Corner and are now on the run-in to the finishing line. After the short straight we take the left hand bend and drop down towards the Nook. The bikes go to the right here and through the old road, which winds through a tight right and left bend and onto the finishing straight. We are not allowed to use this part of the course so we have to take the proper highway down to the roundabout and catch up with the course again at Governor's Bridge.

It's now a short run along the finishing straight to the end of our lap of the TT course.



The Finishing Straight



Views of the TT Grandstand