

## Know your RidewithGPS accounts: Personal and Club Accounts By Ed Irvine, Bryan Patterson (Ride Coordinator)

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**Ride with GPS** (aka RidewithGPS or RwGPS) offers varying levels of capability by offering different account tiers:

- 1) a personal Starter account, which you can register and access for free (<https://ridewithgps.com/signup>),
- 2) a subscription-based Basic account, and
- 3) Premium accounts.

Our members can use their personal account to access the ACTC Club account, which provides free access to our library of routes, and the ability to create your own routes as well. In addition, with the club account you can use the free visual and audible navigation from your smart phone on ACTC club routes - no need for a Garmin! To connect your personal account to the ACTC club account, use the following link: [Connect to the ACTC club account](#). In this article we'll concentrate on the free personal and Club accounts.

*Differing capabilities: **Desktop (for creating routes)** and **Smartphone (for navigation)** apps*

The RidewithGPS app has different capabilities in the Desktop computer mode and its more limited Mobile app for your smartphone. For example, the Desktop app is great for designing and saving routes (to the ACTC library), whereas the mobile phone app can search for existing routes and offers voice and/or visual navigation as well as recording of your routes, but it has very limited ability to design routes.

*The Desktop App*

Let's start with how we can plan our routes using RwGPS from your Desktop browser. When you log into your personal account from [Ride with GPS](#), it will show your name and menu options on the left side.

The screenshot displays the RideWithGPS dashboard. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the RideWithGPS logo, a 'Jump To' dropdown, and links for 'Explore', 'Route Planner', and 'Stories'. A search bar for 'Search Ride with GPS' is also present, along with 'Upgrade', a notification bell, and a profile dropdown menu.

The main content area is divided into several sections:

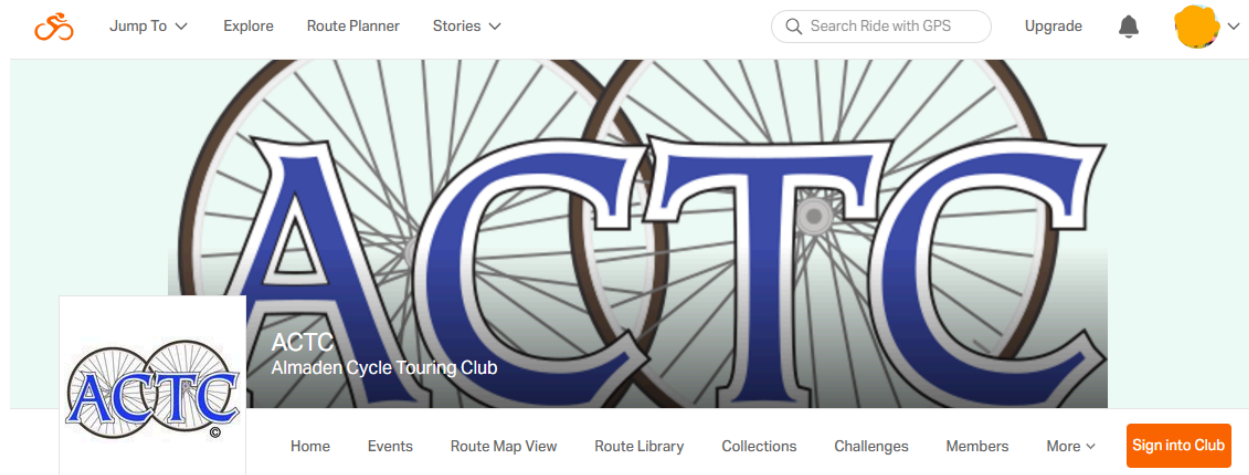
- GET STARTED:** Three large cards for 'Explore Routes', 'Plan a Route', and 'Record & Navigate'.
- STATS:** A summary for the month of December showing:
  - 86.8 Miles Traveled
  - 8,578 Feet of Elevation Gained
  - 5 Activities
  - 7:55 Active Hours
  - Calories Burned (indicated by two dashes --)
  - Photos Taken (indicated by two dashes --)Navigation tabs for 'Week', 'Month' (selected), 'Year', and 'Career' are at the bottom.
- RECENT ACTIVITY:** A list of recent activities with 'viewed' status:
  - BLP Aptos Corralitos C...
  - Aptos-Santa Cruz-Corr...
  - Fall\_Picnic#1
  - Cube and Dome Centur...
  - DSC San Felipe and Bey...
  - ALE-MetcalfA 'Show More' link is provided.
- UPGRADE:** A 'Go Premium' button.

On the left, a sidebar menu includes 'Your Name', 'Dashboard' (highlighted), 'Calendar', 'Routes', 'Activities', 'Collections', 'Events', 'Analyze', 'Upload', 'Feed', and 'More'. At the bottom of the sidebar, the ACTC logo is visible, and a 'Collapse Menu' button is at the very bottom.

Notice the ACTC logo on the bottom – that means that you have successfully joined your account with our ACTC Club account. If you haven't joined the ACTC club account, you won't see that logo. If that is the case, click the link:

[https://ridewithgps.com/clubs/111-actc?join\\_code=hSVF7kbfCIQFtzgSRidewithGPS-ACTC](https://ridewithgps.com/clubs/111-actc?join_code=hSVF7kbfCIQFtzgSRidewithGPS-ACTC)

Click on the ACTC logo at the bottom to bring up the Club sign-in page (alternatively you can click the small pulldown menu on the top right indicated with a "v" to choose the ACTC account):



[Edit description](#)

The Almaden Cycle Touring Club (ACTC) promotes cycling on the trails, roads, paths, and mountains of the South Bay area of San Francisco and beyond. ACTC is a volunteer-based, not-for-profit organization which emphasizes the social, recreational, transportation and health aspects of cycling through education, club rides, philanthropy and meetings of members of all ages and levels. Our motto is "Riding for Fitness, Friendship, and Fun."


To join the ACTC Ride With GPS club account, please contact the Ride Coordinator at [rides@actc.org](mailto:rides@actc.org).

For more information on ACTC, please visit our web page at [www.actc.org](http://www.actc.org)!

Join our annual tour of Santa Clara County with [Tierra Bella](#) in April! For experienced riders, we also offer [Sierra to the Sea](#), a challenging 8-day bicycle tour in June. For riders of all experience levels, we also offer the [ACTC Bike Driving Academy](#), a twelve-week classroom and on-the-road course for who wants to become a safer and more competent cyclist.

CONTACT US  
ACTC Board  
[board@actc.org](mailto:board@actc.org)

You need to click the orange "Sign into Club" button. At this point you're effectively in the Club account

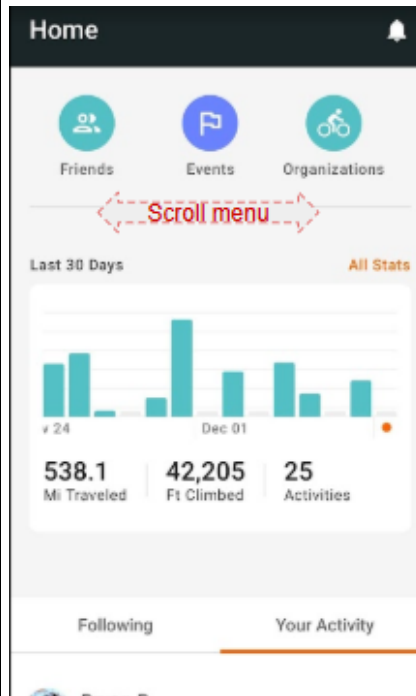
mode. Note the ACTC Logo now appears in the upper right corner (  ). You can use this pulldown menu to switch between the ACTC account and your private account, though you may find there is very little reason to switch to your individual private account.

Now would be a good time to make sure you have installed and logged in to **Ride with GPS** Mobile on your smartphone and verify that it is linked to the ACTC club account as well.

1. Login to your private RidewithGPS account. If you see the ACTC logo below or find it in the Organizations menu item, skip the next step. Otherwise
  - o Enter from your phone browser the same URL we used on the Desktop to link to ACTC: [https://ridewithgps.com/clubs/111-actc?join\\_code=hSVF7kbfCIQFtzgS](https://ridewithgps.com/clubs/111-actc?join_code=hSVF7kbfCIQFtzgS)
2. Scroll through the menu items along the top and click the Organizations menu item, and then click the ACTC logo. This connects you to the club account.
3. On the ACTC account you can search the routes library for the ride you want.



1. Login to Ride with GPS



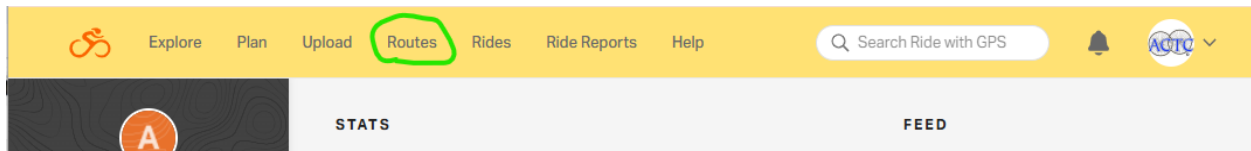
2. Scroll the menu, click Organizations



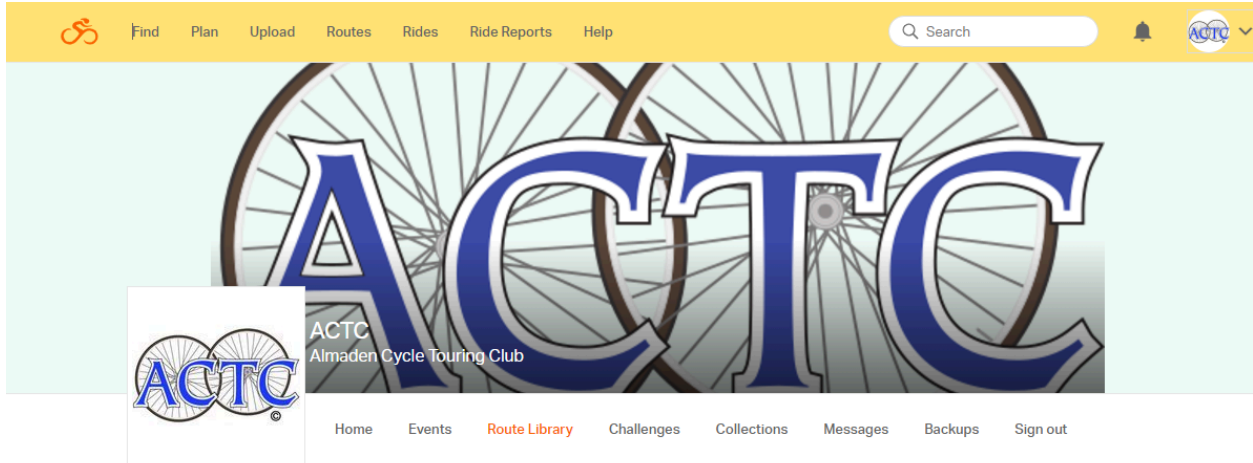
3. ACTC Club Account screen

### Finding and Creating Routes:

Returning to Ride with GPS on the Desktop, let's look at how to find routes to ride. Once logged in, the ACTC logo on the top right shows that you're connected to the ACTC Club account. You can see all routes by clicking on the Routes menu item to see the Route Library.



From here you can enter some or all of a Route name in the "by Name" field or start location in the "by Location" field to filter the list to your interests. You can also restrict results to a range of distances or elevation by sliding the scale indicators next to "Any Length" or "Any Elevation Gain". Alternatively you can enter a specific route ID in the Search field. For posted rides, the ACTC Calendar page normally has a direct link to the route so you don't have to search.



## Route library

[Export CSV](#) [View archived routes](#)

Filter by tag

by Name

by Location

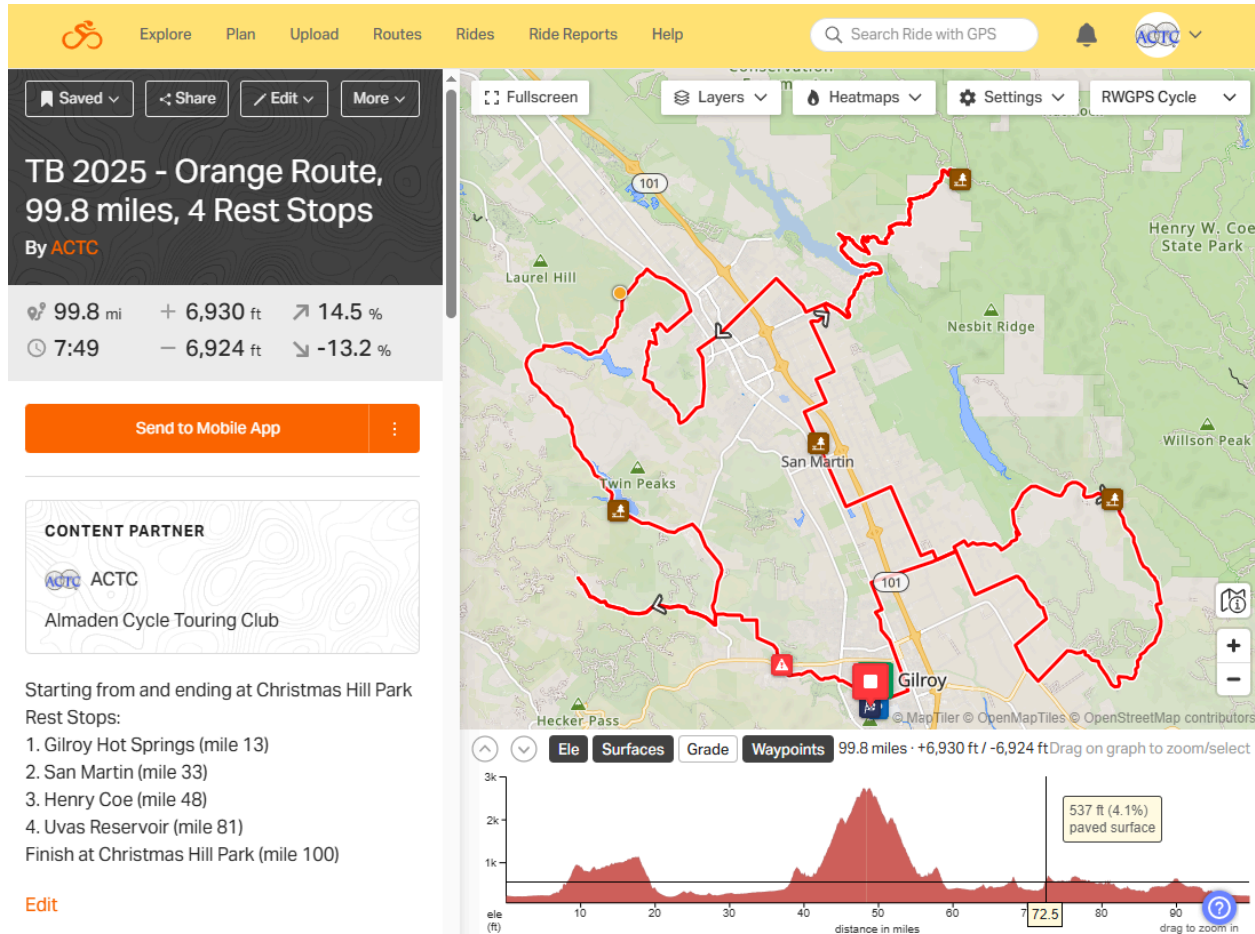
Any length

Any elevation gain

<input type="checkbox"/>	Name	Tags	Location	Dist (mi...)	Ele (ft)	Priv...	Updated		View
<input type="checkbox"/>	ALE-EurekaCanyon		Santa Clara Coun...	55.6	5046	Public	03/04/22		<a href="#">View</a>
<input type="checkbox"/>	ALE-Mt Um		San José, CA	34.2	3863	Public	03/04/22		<a href="#">View</a>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Cañada Road (Woo...		Woodside, CA	17.9	1087	Public	03/03/22		<a href="#">View</a>

You can also sort the results by any of the fields shown by clicking on that title; the image above has the results sorted by the “Updated” field, the date the route was last changed.

Once you find a route you want, click the [View](#) item on the right. This will bring up the route profile as shown below for the 2025 Tierra Bella 100 (99.8) mile route. It shows a summary of the distance and elevation, a map of the route, with any points of interest (Rest Stops, etc), and an elevation profile. If you scroll down the menu on the left you can also see a list of the turn guidance under the **Cuesheet** menu as well as climb summaries.



You'll notice that the Tierra Bella route above shows that it is created by ACTC. If you come across a route that is not created by ACTC, this means it's not part of the club account which means you would not be able to use it for navigating using the Mobile app (though you could download it to a GPS unit like a Garmin - more on this later).

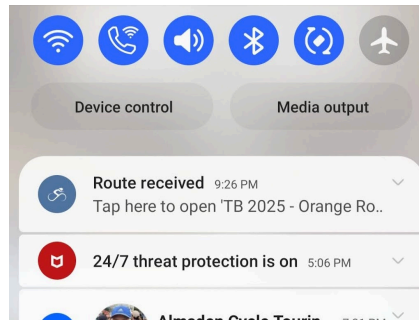
In order to utilize a non-ACTC route for navigating on your phone, you'll need to first copy it to the Club Account library. To do that, click the "More" button above the Route name. It brings up a submenu; select "Copy to My Routes" then enter a new name so you can find it easily later on. Some people begin route names with their initials but this isn't required. Then click the orange "Copy to My Routes" button. When it's finished, click the "View My Copy" button. Voila! You'll notice the Route name has changed, and it now belongs to the ACTC club account.

Now that you have your route, you have several options for using the route to Navigate during your ride.

1. Use your phone for Navigation, with the Ride with GPS mobile app

- you can click the orange "Send to Mobile App" button and a message should go to Ride with GPS on your phone automatically (since your phone is linked to your account) and show "Notification Sent". Now you get out your smart phone. Your notifications should show 'Route received' from

Ride with GPS; click the 'Route received' notification to login to your RidewithGPS account and



display your route.

- It will give you an option to click 'Download' to store the route on your phone so you can



navigate offline (if you don't have service on the route).

- It's best to download from your Wifi connection, if possible, since sometimes your route might start where there is weak or no phone signal for downloading. You are now ready for your ride.
- It is best to leave the RidewithGPS app running in the background on your phone, so you have the route ready and in place to Navigate. If something happens and you lose the route on your phone, start your RidewithGPS app and login with your private account. Click your ACTC club logo again, and go to the Organization Routes. If it's a recently added route, it should show near the top. If not, use the Search to enter the name of the ride in the search field and there it is! When ready to ride, click the Navigate button to get turn-by-turn directions. You can also start a Strava app at this time to record the ride since it doesn't conflict with the Ride with GPS app.
- **Tip: After clicking the Navigate button, you may want to turn the sound on your smartphone all the way up, and put the phone in a pocket. It's usually enough to hear the navigation from there (unless a truck drives by). An alternative is to have a phone earbud to speak the navigation into your ear, but remember it is illegal to ride with both ears covered. Some riders like the Aftershox earbuds that use bone conduction and don't cover the ears.**

## 2. Use a GPS unit like Garmin or Wahoo

- From the Desktop app, click the three vertical dots next to "Send to Mobile App".
- Click "Sent to a Different Device"
- Choose your device type (e.g., Garmin) and then press Next. In the Garmin case, this will use the Garmin Connect mobile app to relay the route to your defined device. When you next turn on your device, it will load your tagged routes which should include the latest route.
- NOTE: alternatively you could use the Export as File menu option, under More, to manually copy the route to your computer, and from there to your GPS device. For Garmin GPS units, that

involves copying the file from the Downloads folder on your computer, to the Newfiles folder on the Garmin device.

**TIP:** If you are not sure how to get to the Ride Start location, you can click the 3 vertical buttons in the upper right corner of the route on your RidewithGPS app, then **'Directions to Start'**. You can choose Google maps or RidewithGPS to guide you to the start location. Be sure to select car, mass transit or bike depending on your vehicle of choice!

**After the ride is over:** When finished with your ride, if using RidewithGPS go back to the RidewithGPS app, Click Finish Navigation, and Save. Your Ride will be saved under your private account. To see the ride results, this is one of the few times that you would need to logout of your Club Account. Click the upper right ACTC logo, then Sign Out. Click the Jump To menu on the upper left, then click Rides. It will display all your rides. You can select the latest to bring up the details: