



Ellinwood Loop

32-mile loop tour

Start/Finish: 1111 Main St.

September 6, 2021 • Great Bend, KS

Day 3: Santa Fe Trail BAK Bicycle Rally

Mileage Cues

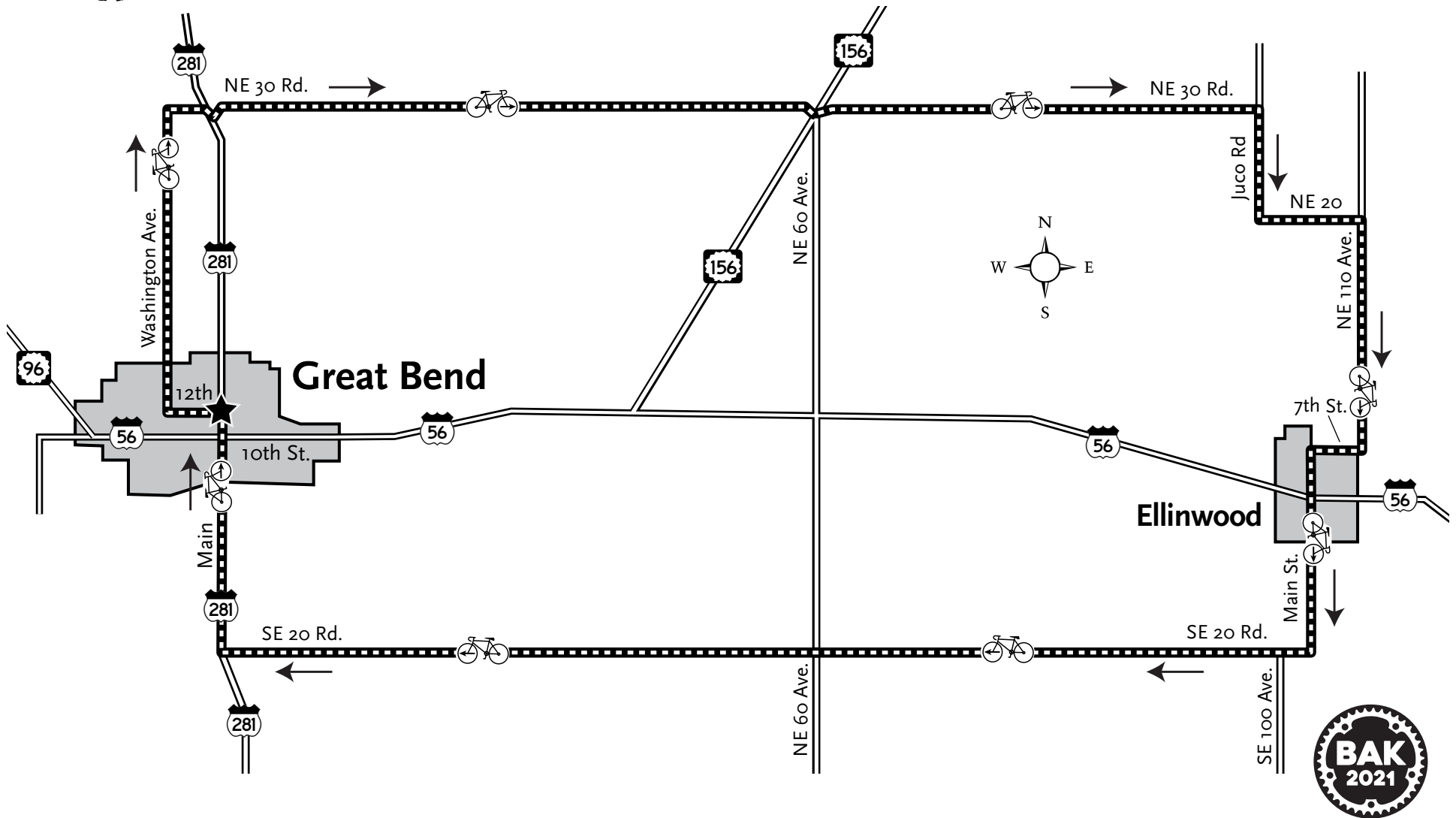
Great Bend to Jct. NE 30: 3.5

Jct NE 30 to Jct US 156: 6

Jct US 156 to Juco Rd: 4

Juco Rd to Ellinwood: 4.5

Ellinwood to Great Bend: 14



Monday, September 6

Route Notes: Ellinwood Loop

Route Map: <https://bit.ly/3gUAlpR>

Cheyenne Bottoms Wildlife Area: 204 NE 60 Road, Great Bend. The 19,857-acres are part of a 41,000-acre natural land sink owned by the State and managed by the Department of Wildlife and Parks. Goals are to: 1) provide a diverse marsh habitat for waterfowl and shorebirds during the migrational periods and 2) increase the production of waterfowl and shorebirds that nest on the area.

Ellinwood: pop. 2,063. Founded in the 1870s by German immigrants, the town had a two-block business district. However, below ground, there was another set of stores and businesses, connected by underground walkways. At one time, it included 11 saloons. Coal bins for the businesses lined the walkways, and the sidewalks above ground, would be pried open on days the coal was delivered. As natural gas replaced coal, the town started shrinking and the underground businesses closed.

Ellinwood's Underground Tunnels at the Dick Building:

located on the NW corner of Main and Santa Fe, (US 56 at the stoplight). Walk through passageways to three of "yesterday's underground shops" and hear how prohibition affected Ellinwood and its "Little German" reputation.

Wolf Hotel (NRHP): 104 E Santa Fe. This Italianate commercial building was built in 1894 and first owned by John Wolf, a local businessman. In 1923 a Mission-style addition was built.

Wolf Park Band Shell (NRHP), 200 block of N Main. Art deco detailing.

Saints Peter and Paul Catholic Church (NRHP): 498 NE 110 Ave. This Gothic-influenced gable-front, two-story brick building was built in 1982.