 Lots of variety in your riding today



Day 11:

Molunes → Geneva



Distance:

94 Kilometers



Climbing:

1163 Meters

We've got another long ride on this last day: we start in the clouds (1200 meters) and it's all downhill to Geneva (300 meters).

But the standard route on RWGPS is not the shortest way to get back to Geneva. If you've had enough riding and just want to get back to Geneva as quickly as possible, then you can look for "Last Day Shortcut" on the application. You'll then just have 50 kilometers to do ! And most of those are downhill on the long and steep "Col de la Faucille".

For those of you wanting to have a nice, long day....you had better get started.

As the crow flies, we're very near Geneva, but the mountains and narrow roads keep locals from going too far. In fact, it's quite easy to meet people in these parts who have never been to Geneva ! That said, you'll probably see many Swiss license plates: the cost of housing and proximity to Switzerland make it an ideal place for the Genevois to buy second homes.

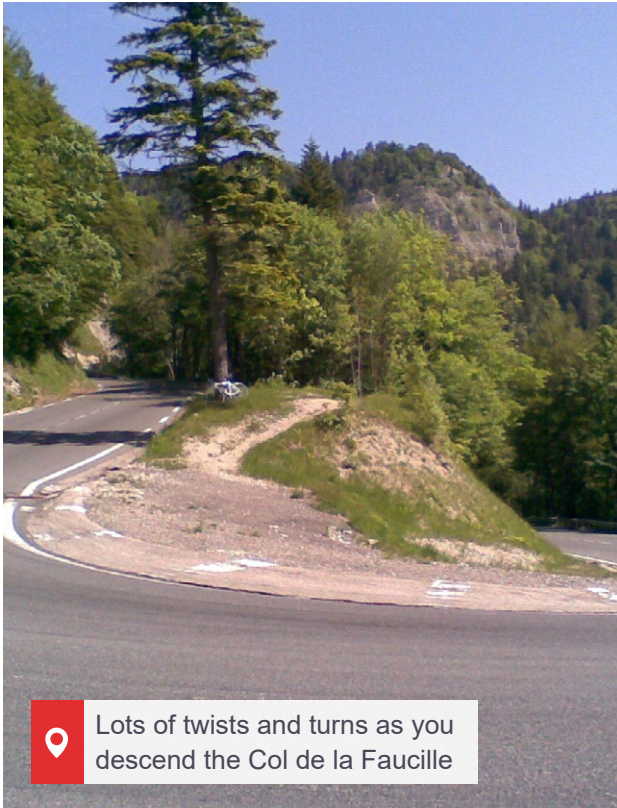
These mountains are known as the "high Jura": it's very wet and has limited run-off, so the ground fauna is primarily peat moss which makes for foggy mornings and spooky evenings. You'll also find that the homes resemble each other: they are all low to the ground and their thick walls and tiny windows help to shield those inside from the strong winds and heavy precipitation up here

We begin our descent at 20 kilometers and leave the Franche-Comté to enter the Rhone-Alps region of France. You'll even see the French Alps off in the distance as we leave the small industrial city of Bellegarde.



📍 Welcome back “home”. If it’s Thursday, consider joining tonight’s club ride and then the outdoor market. It’s a party ! Otherwise, come out with us Saturday morning

Ah, Bellegarde. Yes, this part of France really is full of dirty, depressing little industrial towns. Still, Bellegarde has a special place in my heart. And, if it wasn’t for Bellegarde, you probably wouldn’t be here. After university, I won a scholarship to teach somewhere in France. The committee asked where I would like to be sent and I chose Bellegarde. It is near Switzerland and so I imagined the place to be quite pretty. Indeed, the outskirts are quite nice.



📍 Lots of twists and turns as you descend the Col de la Faucille

Goodbye Bellegarde and hello Switzerland. We enter back into Swiss territory at kilometer 60. We’re now back in the great flat plain that makes up the Lemanic Bassin: the Jura on one side and the pre-alps on the other. You’ll discover that the Canton of Geneva is mostly pristine countryside dedicated to produce farming and grape growing.

Enjoy these last kilometers. And send me all of your pictures !

John Klemme
Director / Bike Switzerland