

## DAY 01

### Blue Mountain: Up to 60km

## DAY 01

### Blue Mountain Inn Village

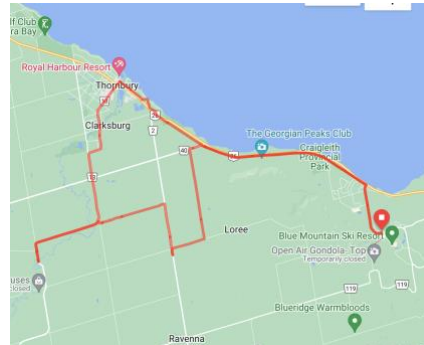
110 Jozo Weider Blvd, The Blue Mountains,  
ON L9Y 3Z2

Blue Mountain Village Inn is a beautiful resort with great dining, shopping and full-service amenities. We suggest beginning your trip here and inquiring about long-term parking.

There are some optional Grey County rides available in the area, or if you want to save your cycling legs for tomorrow, explore the many activities at Blue Mountain or visit the nearby town of Collingwood.

### Optional Grey County Rides and Water Adventures

- **Suggested Ride 1 - Taste of Grey County/ Apple Pie Trail (up to 47km)** – head East on the Georgian Trail towards the little town of Thornbury. Leave the trail to head South on Grey Road 40. Follow a rolling route to visit some of the following Grey County businesses:
  - [Thornbury Cider and Brewery](#)
  - [Thornbury Bakery](#)
  - [Georgian Hills Winery](#) (reservation required only if you plan to eat – please call 519 599 2255)
  - [Spy Distillery](#)
  - [Grey and Gold Cider](#)
  - Blackbird Pies (closed on [Sunday](#))



- **Suggested Ride 2 - Ride to Downtown Meaford**
  - Along the Georgian Trail. (30km one way)
  - Thornbury (14km) is a charming and popular waterfront town. Try the Thornbury Bakery, Ashanti Cafe and Bread and Butter Café.
  - Christie Beach Conservation Area (21km) has a small sandy beach and public washroom.
  - Downtown Meaford (30km) Enjoy the patios and shops on their beautiful heritage Main Street or grab a lunch and sit by the water at Jack Raper Park.
    - The Leaky Canoe
    - The Kitchen



### Water Adventures

- **Beaver River Paddle with [Freespirit Tours](#)** – Book online at [Freespirittours.ca](#) and access
- **Meaford Big Canoe Adventure.** Participate in a canoe tour from Meaford Harbour to Christie Beach. Book at: [info@bigcanoeproject.org](mailto:info@bigcanoeproject.org).

### Dinner – Blue Mountain Village, Collingwood, or Thornbury:

Choose between a restaurant in Blue Mountain (reservation advised) or the nearby towns of Collingwood or Thornbury.

**NOTE: Daily routes will end near various options for accommodation, please make plans to reach your own nightly accommodations accordingly.**

### Download Paper (pdf) Maps Day 1 to 6:

[Day 1](#)  
[Day 2](#)  
[Day 3](#)  
[Day 4](#)  
[Day 5](#)  
[Day 6](#)

**[Ride With GPS Maps for this Route](#) – South Georgian Bay and Simcoe County**

## DAY 02

### Blue Mountain Village to Midland: 76km

## DAY 02

#### Blue Mountain Inn

Leave Blue Mountain turning left out of the Blue Mountain Inn and following Grey Road 19 to connect with the Georgian Trail section of the Great Lakes Waterfront Trail by the Craighleith Depot.

#### 13km – Sunset Point Beach, Collingwood

The beautiful Sunset Point Beach makes for a good place for a quick break.

#### 36km – Wasaga Beach

Beach One has beachfront stores and eateries, making for another good rest stop.

Leaving Wasaga Beach and heading north, please note that there is no potable water available at Tiny Township beaches – aim to fill up ahead of time.

Porta-potties can be found at the small beach areas as well as general stores and beach snack stops.

#### 58km – Balm Beach

Balm Beach in Tiny Township has an impressive sandy beach, washrooms in the parking lot and a handful of small beachfront restaurants.

#### Lunch Suggestions:

- [Georgian Grill Restaurant and Arcade](#)
- [The Surf Family Restaurant](#)

- [Cawaja Pines General Store](#)
- [Balm Beach Bar and Smokehouse](#) (may be closed on Mondays)

**Leave Balm Beach via Balm Beach Road (uphill) and head to the village of Perkinsfield where you will pick up the Tiny Trail heading North after crossing County Rd 6.**

#### 65km – Copeland Creek Bridges

Between Concession 16 and Penetanguishene you enter the Copeland Creek section of the Tiny Trail – this short section crosses the creek 11 times via 11 wooden bridges. There are steep descents into and ascents out of the first few bridges and you will need to make multiple gear shifts to get uphill out of the ravine.

#### 69km – Penetanguishene

Penetanguishene is a great spot for a late lunch and/or a drink or ice cream before you head into Midland. We recommend:

- World-Famous Dock Launch
- Clarence's Classics
- Captain Ken's Diner and Pub

Head uphill out of Penetanguishene and towards Midland via the Mid-Pen link

**– CAUTION – there is a steep downhill as you leave Penetanguishene on the Mid Pen Link; you are advised to walk your bike down this hill.**

**76km – North Simcoe Sports & Recreation Center, Midland**

**NOTE: Daily routes end near various options for accommodation, please make plans to reach your own nightly accommodations accordingly.**

#### Recommended Midland Accommodations:

##### Quality Inn

924 King St, Midland, ON L4R 0B8

##### Super 8 Hotel

1144 Hugel Ave, Midland, ON L4R 0B1

#### Dinner Recommendations:

- [The Boathouse](#)
- [Dillon's Woodfired Pizza](#)
- Guac Mexi Grill
- Minji's Family Restaurant

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#### Taxis

Busy Bee Taxi: (705) 526-2424

Central Taxi: (705) 526-2626

GB Taxi: (705) 526-5666

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## DAY 03

### Choose Your Midland Adventure: up to 89km Approx.

## DAY 03

Today you'll stay in Midland to explore the area by bike, foot, or water. Our suggested options:

### OPTION 1

#### Thunder Beach Loop (Rated highly by our tour participants)

- You will ride to Penetanguishene via the Mid-Pen Link. Cycling the loop in a **clockwise direction** is recommended—it is slightly less uphill.
- Difficulty: Advanced with some hills around Awenda Provincial Park. Primarily on road.
- Distance: 75km from Penetanguishene, 6.5km Penetanguishene to Midland. **Total distance 89km.** The route may be shortened by removing the Awenda Provincial Park section of the loop (see the daily maps).
  - Ride from Penetanguishene to Tiny Beaches Road, heading North to Thunder Beach before passing through Awenda Provincial Park.
  - Portable washrooms are available in many of the parks.
  - Mostly on quiet country roads with plenty of opportunities to enjoy the beaches and waterfront view

#### Recommended Lunch/Snack Stops:

- TiNY HUB, dine in and take out  
520 Cedar Point Rd, Tiny, ON L9M 0H1

- Tiny Treats European Deli  
745 Concession Rd 16 W, Tiny, ON L9M 1R3
- 5 Star Snack Bar and LA Pizza  
2 Lafontaine Rd E, Tiny, ON L9M 0S2
- Clarence's Classics  
30 Water St, Penetanguishene, ON L4R 4K4

### OPTION 2

#### Historical Site – [Sainte Marie](#)

- Visit Sainte Marie among the Hurons and the Martyr's Shrine by bike. 15km
- Entrance charges apply – \$12 or \$10 for seniors
  - Experience Ontario's oldest European community and one of Canada's National Historical Sites.
  - Experience life at this historic French Jesuit mission in the heart of the Huron-Wendat First Nation. Sainte-Marie now stands re-created on its original location where the compelling story is brought to life.

**NOTE: Make sure to bring a bike lock on this trip – the museum has limited bike racks available.**

### OPTION 3

#### Lunch Cruise with Landmark Cruises

- Landmark Cruises of Penetanguishene will take you to view the scenic 30,000 islands, and the iconic scenery of Georgian Bay.

**This will require booking in advance and there will be an additional cost. Please call reservations at 705-549-3333.**

### OPTION 4

#### [Guided Tour of Penetanguishene's Rotary Park](#)

- Penetanguishene Centennial Museum & Archives conducts guided tours to share the indigenous and Franco-Ontarian history of this area.
- Contact the museum at [museum@penetanguishene.ca](mailto:museum@penetanguishene.ca) or through their [website](#).

### OPTION 5

#### Explore Midland

- Spend part of the day exploring Midland, take the Midland heritage mural tour, visit Grounded Coffee, enjoy a sandwich and a craft brew on the patio of Noble Hops.

## DAY 04

### Midland to Orillia: 61km (without loop) or 118km (with Big Chute loop)

## DAY 04

You'll begin the day's ride from the waterfront along the Waterfront Trail.

For the first part of today's ride, you will be following the Tay Trail which runs close to the waterfront and has a paved surface.

#### 7km – Sainte Marie Among the Hurons, Martyr's Shrine

- If you didn't visit yesterday, then we recommend stopping to take in this historic site – 17th century Canada on Georgian Bay.

#### 13km – Victoria Harbour

Just prior to Victoria Harbour you will see a turn off to Port McNicholl – this is where the [S.S. Kewatin](#) is moored.

#### 23km – Waubashene Decision Point – Big Chute Loop

Turning North onto Coldwater Rd will take you onto the 65km Big Chute Loop.

- If you don't want to tackle the whole loop, you can go on a 30km loop by riding to Port Severn and turning around at Lock 45.
  - We recommend stopping for coffee at the [Severn Mills Trading Post and Coffee Cabin](#).

If you feel like a shorter day in the saddle today, then **don't make the turn at Waubashene and continue along the**

**Tay Trail** section of the Waterfront Trail towards the charming town of Coldwater.

#### 30km/ 87km – Coldwater Recommended Rest Stop

Pick up a lunch from one of the Coldwater restaurants/cafes. Coldwater has the following lunch and coffee:

- Subway
- Em's Café
- Tiffany Restaurant
- [Riverhouse restaurant](#)
- [Riverside Hideaway](#)
- [The Old Familiar](#)

From Coldwater follow the **Uhtoff Trail** into Orillia.

The Uhtoff Trail is unpaved and can be a little overgrown although it does offer a firm and safe surface for cycling.

#### 61km/118km – Orillia

On entering the busy Couchiching Beach Park follow the trail before heading into downtown Orillia via Mississaga Street.

#### Recommended Mississaga Street Businesses:

- [Mariposa Market](#)  
109 Mississaga St. E
- [Couchiching Craft Brewery](#)  
162 Mississaga St. E
- [Studabakers Beachside](#)  
211 Mississaga St. E

**Route ends at Lakehead University, Orillia**

**NOTE: Daily routes end near various options for accommodation, please make plans to reach your own nightly accommodations accordingly.**

#### Recommended Overnight Accommodations:

[The Champlain Waterfront Hotel](#)  
2 Front St N, Orillia, ON L3V 4R5

[Fairfield Inn](#)  
8 Mulcahy Ct, Orillia, ON L3V 8B3

#### Dinner Recommendations in Downtown Orillia:

There are a number of chain restaurants located close to the Fairfield Inn as well as the usual delivery services. You can also check out Orillia's heritage main street and waterfront.

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#### Taxis

Able Taxi: (705) 325-0632  
Orillia Taxi Service: (705) 325-8888  
All Canadian Taxi: (705) 329-3333

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## DAY 05

### Orillia to Wasaga Beach: 94km Approx.

## DAY 05

Starting from Lakehead University, follow directions towards Mississauga St. crossing the Highway by the Greg Stobart Trail. Turn right at Barrie Rd. and follow it to West Street. Turn right onto West Street where you'll find the trailhead for the Oro-Medonte rail trail opposite the Home Hardware.

Today will temporarily depart from the Great Lakes Waterfront Trail and follow signage for the Simcoe County Loop, which are different from the Waterfront Trail blaze.



**NOTE:** Printed maps for the stretch of route that follows the Simcoe County Loop area are not included. However, please refer to the [Ride With GPS maps](#).

#### Oro-Medonte Rail Trail

Follow the Oro-Medonte Rail Trail for 28km all the way to the city of Barrie. The Oro-Medonte is a very straight and flat trail with firm crushed gravel.

- Road traffic is light but do take care when crossing every road.

#### 23km – Line 7 Oro-Medonte

There is a portapotty available at the parking lot next to the trail if you need a brief stop.

#### 40km – Barrie Recommended Rest Stop

Barrie has a spectacular waterfront close to its downtown Main Street, which has a variety of restaurants, breweries, and shopping.

**NOTE:** There are extremely limited food options and services between Barrie and Elmvale.

Leave Barrie following the Simcoe County Loop signage before picking up an off-road trail—the Hickling Recreational Trail.

#### 47km – Hickling Recreational Trail

Enter the Hickling Trail from the northern terminus of Anne Street.

- This non-paved trail is 1.5 km long, with a steady uphill followed by a steep and winding descent to a parking lot on Snow Valley Road.
- After exiting the trail into the trailhead parking lot take a left turn onto Snow Valley Road.

#### 54km – North Simcoe Rail Trail

Turn onto Vespra Valley Road and head down to the North Simcoe Rail Trail. Take care after passing Hendrix Station- the trail becomes shared use with ATV riders. After crossing Rainbow Valley Road, you may wish to use Phelpston Road which runs alongside the trail if you prefer a paved surface.

#### 75km – Elmvale Springwater

##### Recommended Rest Stop

There are washrooms available at Heritage Park in Elmvale.

You can also head down the street to visit the Elmvale Spring or check out Elmvale's lovely main street, including the bakery.

#### 94km – Wasaga Stars Arena, Wasaga Beach

##### Post-Ride Ideas — Nancy Island Historic Site Welcome Centre

119 Mosley Street, Wasaga Beach  
(705) 429-2728

Interpretive displays at the Nancy Island Historic Site Welcome Centre explain more about Wasaga Beach Provincial Park's unique ecosystems, flora and fauna, and history.

##### Suggested Accommodations

###### Wasaga Beach Inn

159 Main Street, Wasaga Beach, Ontario  
L9Z 2L3

###### Sharadon Sands

119 Main St, Wasaga Beach, ON L9Z 2K9

###### Saga Resort

88 Main St, Wasaga Beach, ON L9Z 2K9

\*Camping available at Wasaga Provincial Park.

## DAY 06

### Wasaga Beach to Blue Mountain Village: 34km Approx.

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## DAY 06

Today you'll return to the Great Lakes Waterfront Trail for the short ride back to Blue Mountain.

There are a variety of delicious breakfast spots not far from the route that can be reached via a short detour from the planned route.

- Stacked Pancake and Breakfast House, 1890 Mosley. Opens at 7AM.
- The Iron Skillet in Collingwood, 49 Huron St. Opens at 10AM.

Before leaving Wasaga Beach, be sure to stop and take in the world's longest freshwater beach.

NOTE: The official trail passes through the provincial park by the beach, and as a result the paved surface can be sandy. Take care while cycling.

#### 23.6km – Collingwood Recommended Stop

- Sunset Point Beach has a beautiful view and makes for a good stop.
- You can take a short detour off the route at Heritage Dr to Millennium Overlook Park for stunning views.

#### 34km – Blue Mountain Village and Blue Mountain Inn

Follow the Georgian Trail back to Monterra Road and ride back uphill to Blue Mountain Village and the Blue Mountain Inn.

You may wish to visit the village for coffee or an early lunch as you wait.

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Congratulations on completing 460km of cycling!

**86% of GWTA 2022 riders rated this route as a great cycling experience.**



Let us know what you think!  
Email [info@wrtust.com](mailto:info@wrtust.com)