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Itinerary Overview and Day One Travel to Sault Ste. Marie

Day 01

GWTA 2024 Route and Itinerary Overview- Cycle the North! Sault Ste. Marie to Little Current on Manitoulin Island



An eight-day itinerary featuring a linear route from Sault Ste. Marie to Manitoulin Island, Ontario along the Lake Huron North Shore. Enjoy this ruggedly beautiful section of the Great Lakes Waterfront Trail.

- 90-134km of riding per day.
- Travelling from Sault Ste. Marie to Manitoulin keeps the prevailing winds to your back. However, you could choose to ride from Little Current to Sault Ste. Marie.
- Overnight in Sault Ste. Marie, Bruce Mines*, Blind River*, Massey* and Little Current (Manitoulin Island*). * denotes camping options available.
- The itinerary includes two nights in Sault Ste. Marie and Manitoulin Island.
- **Terrain & Route Overview:** Combination of quiet roads, highways with cycling infrastructure and some off-road multi-use trails. There are some longer sections of gravel, some of which can be very rough. This route includes three sections riding on the paved shoulders of Highway 17 for a total of 50km.

Getting to the Start.

We suggest front-loading transportation logistics so you can savour the accomplishment of the ride hassle-free at the end.

Arrange to park your car for the week at your hotel in Espanola or Little Current. Take the Northland Bus from Espanola to Sault Ste. Marie.

The [Ontario Northland Bus](#) has routes from Toronto to the Espanola (50 km north of Little Current) and Sault Ste. Marie. It doesn't service Little Current on Manitoulin Island. Bicycles must be checked as baggage. Bike boxes are available for purchase. Additional fees apply. [Learn more on their website.](#)

Itinerary Overview

Day One: Travel to Sault Ste. Marie. Overnight in Sault Ste. Marie (no camping available in this location).

Day Two: Taste of Superior Ride **134 km**. If you are not up for a long day's ride, spend the night at **McAuley's Motel and Restaurant** (about 20 km from Chippewa Falls) for a travel day of 87km. The views are spectacular; the terrain is hilly so you may appreciate a shorter ride. McAuley's is a short walk away from a lovely beach. [Staying at McAuley's for the night adds a day to your itinerary.](#)

Day Three: Sault Ste. Marie to Bruce Mines 73 km or Thessalon 103 km - Be sure to take Garden River First Nation's Ojibway Park Trail. Enjoy lunch in Desbarats at Ije's Place, an unexpected gem of a Caribbean restaurant. Bruce Mines is a fantastic little community with a selection of restaurants, a quiet beach and museum. Camping is available in Bruce Mines.

Overnight in Thessalon. Camping is available and they have several restaurants and a gorgeous beach. Make time to check out their Coastal Trail the next day.

Day Four: Bruce Mines to Blind River 96km or Thessalon to Blind River 75 km. We recommend eating lunch in Iron Bridge at the iconic

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Red Top Motor Inn or the Three Acres. Camping is available at the Blind River Marina.

Day Five: Blind River to Massey 93 km or Espanola (121km). Stop at the Spanish Municipal Marina to take a short hike to the lookout on the Whalesback Channel and grab some lunch. There is a longer stretch of gravel between Spanish and Massey. In Massey – take a quick trip to enjoy the beauty of Chutes Provincial Park. Great place to swim and camp.

Day Six: Massey (76km) or Espanola (47 km) to Little Current on Manitoulin Island. It's a lovely 30 km ride from Massey to Espanola along Lee Valley Road. Leaving Espanola, you will be on the paved shoulders of Highway 6 until you reach the iconic Little Current swing bridge. Ride carefully. This route has paved shoulders though sometimes narrow, and rolling sometimes steep hills. Don't forget to visit the Manitoulin Brewing Company to celebrate today's ride.

Day Seven: Enjoy a scenic ride on Manitoulin Island. There are several options. We suggest two cycling routes. But if your car is here, you may want to drive to some of the famous hiking trails or take a boat cruise to Killarney. If you left your vehicle in Espanola for the week, you can still cycle to Little Current (50km) and take a cab back to Espanola OR skip cycling HWY 6 and drive to Island instead. Add a day or two this itinerary to enjoy excellent cycling and hiking. Consider taking the Tobermory Ferry from South Baymouth to Tobermory as part of your trip home. Details about the ferry between Tobermory and South Baymouth, Manitoulin Island can be [found here](#).

Accommodations

Hotels

Espanola

Pinewood Motor Inn
378 Centre St, Espanola, ON P5E 1G3

Little Current

Manitoulin Hotel & Conference Centre —
66 Meredith St E, Little Current, ON P0P 1K0

Hawberry Motel —
36 Meredith St E, Little Current, ON P0P 1K0

Pepper Point Gardens B&B —
174a Pepper Point Rd, Sheguiandah, ON P0P 1W0

Manitoulin Motel —
51 Walcot St, Little Current, ON P0P 1K0

Camping (on Manitoulin Island)

Batman's Cottages and Campground
11408 ON-6, Sheguiandah, ON P0P 1W0

Green Acres Manitoulin Family Campground and Restaurant, 10944
ON-6, Sheguiandah, ON P0P 1W0

Taxis

Islandwide Taxi: (705) 308-9546
D & R Taxi: (705) 207-0708

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DAY ONE—TRAVEL TO SAULT STE. MARIE

Park in Espanola or Little Current and take **the [Ontario Northland Bus](#)** Sault Ste. Marie.

Accommodations for Sault Ste. Marie. Sault Ste. Marie has many accommodation options to suit any budget. Our suggestions reflect the 2024 GWTA needs.

Quality Inn (on the Waterfront)

180 Bay St, Sault Ste. Marie, ON P6A 6S2

Bikes stored in your room. Participants staying here will be dropped off at the front lobby.

Holiday Inn Express

320 Bay St, SSM, ON P6A 1X1

Bikes stored in rooms.

Also recommend:

Delta Hotels on the Waterfront Trail, 208 St Mary's River Dr, Sault Ste. Marie, ON P6A 5V4. Restaurant and pool

Water Tower Inn, Best Western,

360 Great Northern Rd, Sault Ste. Marie, ON P6B 4Z7, located on the Hub Trail. Has restaurant and ppls.

Sault College

443 Northern Ave E, SSM, ON P6B 4J3

There is no A/C and no elevators to the second floor. Please be patient with the students who are using a manual system to check in guests.

Sault Ste. Marie Activities

Looking for things to do either before or after dinner? Here are some suggestions!

Art Gallery of Algoma – Closes at 5:00pm

10 East St, Sault Ste. Marie, ON P6A 3C3

Adults \$7.00; Seniors (55+) \$5.00

The Art Gallery of Algoma has both permanent and seasonal exhibits to peruse, including *Love of the Canadian Wilderness*, and Sculpture Park. You can also find one of several Group of 7 interpretive easels located on the Art Gallery grounds.

Bush Plane Museum – Closes at 5:00 pm

50 Pim St, Sault Ste. Marie, ON P6A 3G4

Adults \$18.50+HST; Seniors (55+) \$17+HST

Experience firsthand the pioneering aircraft that opened the skies of Canada's vast wilderness, learn about the daring pilots who navigated uncharted territories, and discover the incredible impact of bush planes on forestry, firefighting, and remote community connections.

Northern Superior Brewing

[Map 0]: *50 Pim St, Sault Ste. Marie, ON P6A 3G4*

The Museum is right beside the Northern Superior Brewing Company, where you can enjoy a pint and dinner on the rooftop patio. The brewery has a partnership with local restaurants.

Alternatively, you can take your pick of the local restaurants around town. Some suggestions include waterfront patios at:

- Montana's
- Fluids at the Delta Inn

Closer to the college, you can check out:

- The Water Tower Inn

Evening Walk Along the Waterfront

Take a leisurely 2.8 km stroll along the waterfront between Northern Superior Brewery and the Block House Pub. The Pub is part of a fascinating transformation of an old paper mill. The Pub closes at 9 pm if you want to hang around for a nightcap.

Taxis

Soo Yellow Cab: (705) 942-0005

UCAB: (705) 946-1300

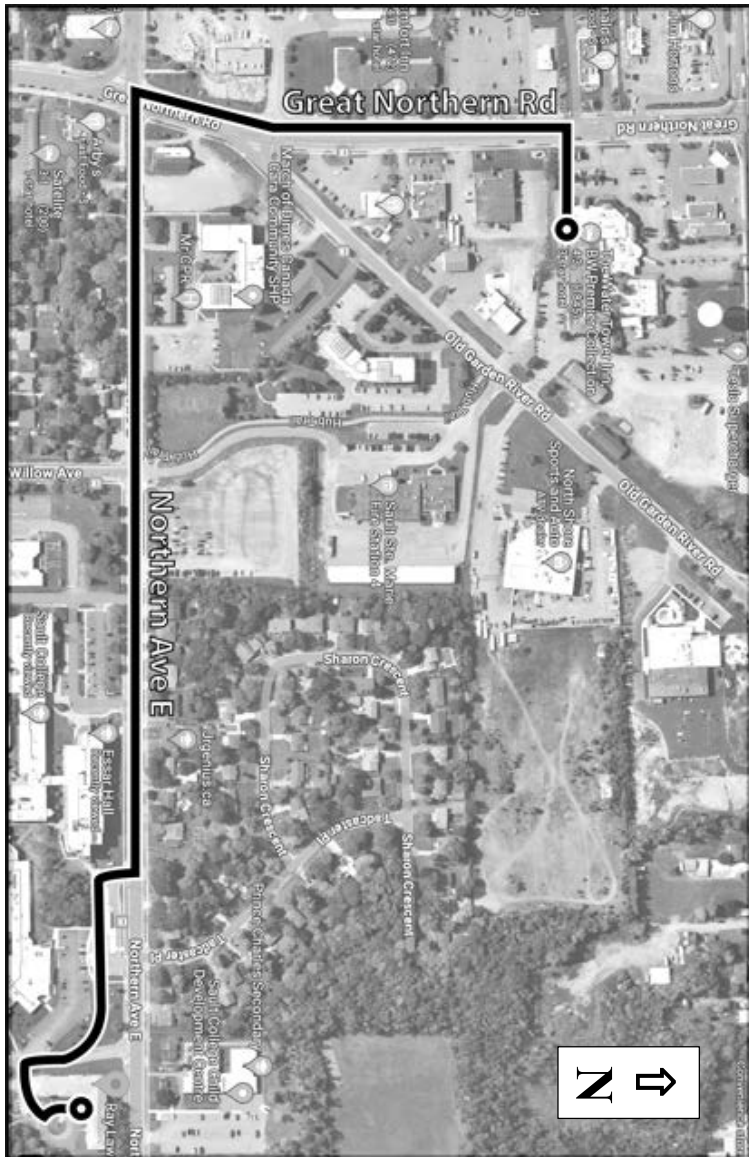
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Sault College (Ray Lawson Hall) to The Water Tower Inn/Dinner Options



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Sault Ste. Marie to Chippewa Falls

Day 02

Day Two: Sault Ste. Marie to Chippewa Falls and returning to Sault Ste. Marie (133km) or Havilland Bay (82km).

Today will be our Taste of Superior ride to Chippewa Falls. Note: There are few washroom facilities along this route. You have the option to end early by finishing at Havilland Bay and spending the night at McAuleys Motel and Restaurant.

Other Self-Supported Cycling Options:

Sault Ste. Marie Hub Trail — 22.5km, multi-use, non-motorized [loop trail around Sault Ste Marie](#) including the waterfront and gorgeous Fort Creek. The Hub trail is easy to access from the hotels (head to the waterfront) and College (by Water Tower Inn). [Download pdf map.](#)

Cycle the Attikamek & Whitefish Island Trails Sault Canal National Historic Site 1 Canal Dr, SSM.

About 3 km loop around two islands that will bring you close to the rapids of St. Mary River, riding through forests and meadows, a wigwam and tepee. Whitefish Island was returned to the [Batchewana First Nation in 1998](#). After exploring grab lunch at the Machine Shop, 83 Huron St, Sault Ste. Marie, ON P6A 5P4.

Off Bike Suggestion **Miss Marie Boat Lock Boat Tour**

65 Foster Drive, SSM
Tour both the Canadian and American Locks used by freighters to traverse the 21ft difference between Lake Huron and Lake Superior. The Miss Marie departs the dock promptly. Please arrive at least 30 minutes prior to your scheduled tour. \$48 for adults, \$35 for seniors (60+). Tours are 2hrs in duration.

Taste of Superior Ride to Havilland Bay or Chippewa Falls – Distances calculated from the Days Inn Hotel.

You will be following the Hub Trail to Velorution.

13.6km – Rest Stop – Velorution Bike Shop
[\[Map 2\]](#): 12 Fish Hatchery Rd, SSM, ON P6A 6J8. Opens at 10 on weekdays and 9am on Saturday. Closed on Sunday. Owned and managed by Jan and Ngaire Roubal who are committed to the Sault's cycling community. This is a great shop with fabulous product and knowledgeable mechanics.

Note: This is the last washroom for a while.

23km – Hayden Fuels and Convenience Water Stop

770 ON-17, AWERES TOWNSHIP, ON P6A 5K7
You may use the Station's washroom facilities.

49.4 km – Lunch Stop and Early End - McCauley's Havilland Bay

Restaurant/Havilland Shores Beach – [\[Map 3\]](#): 5235 ON-17, Algoma, Unorganized, North Part, ON P0S 1E0

McCauley's is our recommended lunch stop for the day. You can either stop here now, or on your way back from Chippewa Falls. You could also spend the night at the Motel and cycle back to the Sault the next day if you want a shorter day of riding.

Bring your swimsuit and take a refreshing dip in Lake Superior at Havilland Shores Beach.

66.4 km – Chippewa Falls – 11:30 to 12:30 pm [\[Map 4\]](#):

1A0 Trans-Canada Hwy, Batchawana Bay, ON
The 25 ft high Chippewa Falls can be seen from Highway 17 and were memorialized by the group of seven painter A.Y. Jackson in the painting *Stream Bed, Lake Superior Country*. It also marks

the halfway point of the Trans-Canada Highway; you can find a plaque in the park.

It's an easy hike to the top of the falls for a great view of the Lake.

When you're done at the falls, head back the same route you came towards McCauley's. If you need a quick bite, the Sault Cycling Club recommends the baked goods available at the Chippewa River Restaurant, just across the highway from the fall's rest area.

Ride back to Sault Ste. Marie 66.4 km for a total day's ride of 133 km.

Dinner

Consider ending the day with a return visit to the local brewery, or having dinner at one of the many [local restaurants](#).

- Montana's
- Fluids at the Delta Inn
- The Water Tower Inn

Restaurants Near to Sault College

Casey's or the Water Tower Pub-- Water Tower Inn, 360 Great Northern Rd. (950 m) Opens at 4 pm.

Restaurants Near to downtown hotels

Soo Blaster- Sports bar and restaurant located in the Days Inn.

[Ojas Plant Based](#), (900 m from Days Inn) 685 Queen St E, SSM. The Soo's only 100% plant-based restaurant, offering award-winning cuisine and recognized as one of the top Indian culinary food experiences in the world. Closes at 8:30pm.

The [Canal District](#) (1.6 km from the Delta Inn) offers several excellent places to dine. The Mill

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Sault Ste. Marie to Chippewa Falls

Day 02

Steakhouse and Wine Bar, 83 Huron St, Sault Ste. Marie, ON P6A 5P4

Accommodations

Quality Inn (on the Waterfront)

180 Bay St, Sault Ste. Marie, ON P6A 6S2

Bikes stored in your room. Participants staying here will be dropped off at the front lobby.

Holiday Inn Express

320 Bay St, SSM, ON P6A 1X1

Bikes stored in rooms.

Also recommend:

Delta Hotels on the Waterfront Trail, 208 St

Mary's River Dr, Sault Ste. Marie, ON P6A 5V4.

Restaurant and pool

Water Tower Inn, Best Western,

360 Great Northern Rd, Sault Ste. Marie, ON P6B

4Z7, located on the Hub Trail. Has restaurant and ppls.

Sault College

443 Northern Ave E, SSM, ON P6B 4J3

There is no A/C and no elevators to the second floor. Please be patient with the students who are using a manual system to check in guests.

Taxis

Soo Yellow Cab: (705) 942-0005

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Sault Ste. Marie to Bruce Mines or Thessalon: ~75 or 103km

Day 03

Roberta Bondar Pavilion 8:30am to 9:15am

[Map 1]: Distances calculated from here.

65 Foster Dr, Sault Ste. Marie, ON P6A 5N1

Please ride slowly and in single file since we will be starting along a multi-use path.

26.2km –Ojibway Park, Home of Laughing Water Beach – 10:00am to 10:45am [Map 2]:

2628 Highway 17B East. Garden River, ON P6A 7B2

Turn you into the park's Trailhead parking lot for the culturally significant Ojibway Park Nature Trail. Ride along the gorgeous path to the Pavilion by a stunning beach. Washrooms available.

28 km – Loon Dollar Monument Water and Welcome Stop – 10:15 to 11:00am [Map 3]:

3159 ON-17B, Echo Bay, ON P0S 1C0

Take a photo at the Loon Dollar Monument—an iconic landmark, created to honour local artist Robert R. Carmichael, who designed the first Loonie (Canada's dollar coin). The entrance of the George Marsh Boardwalk is nearby, providing excellent views of the provincially significant wetlands.

Public Washrooms are available at Environmental Centre adjacent to Boardwalk and Loonie Park.

48km –MacLennan Community Centre and Bike Hub – 11:00am to 11:30am

[Map 3]:

762 MacLennan Road, Desbarats

In 2022, the Township completed work to make the Hall an active transportation hub to encourage residents and welcome cycle tourists. They added a gorgeous gazebo, outhouses, bike maintenance station and water refill station.

56km –Lunch at Ije's Place – 11:00am to 12:45pm [Map 3 Inset]:

4 Lake Huron Dr, Desbarats, ON P0R 1E0

Enjoy a very special lunch in the rural community of Desbarats at Ije's Place, an unexpected gem of a Caribbean restaurant.

74.3km – Bruce Mines – 2:00pm to 3:00pm [Map 4 Inset]:

Whether Bruce Mines is your final stop for the day or an opportunity to rest on your way to Thessalon, we highly recommend stopping by Bobber's Restaurant for a coffee, some ice cream, a slice of pie, or all three! You can also check out:

- Home-made ice cream from the Red House.
- Coffee from Copper Bean Cafe featuring locally roasted coffee beans from Superior Roasters and Copper Country Coffee Roasters.
- Visit moments of Algoma--Group of Seven -- at the waterfront in Bruce Mines. The art installation promotes the legacy of the famous Group of Seven paintings inspired by the landscape of Algoma.

74.9km – Bruce Mines Campground [Map 4]:

1-15 Williams St, Bruce Mines, ON P0R 1C0

Our basecamp is located at the Bruce Mines Municipal Campground today. Foster's Fresh mart and the LCBO, both on Robinson Dr (both close at 6:00pm)

If you're staying in Bruce Mines tonight, you've reached the end of your cycling for today!

If you are staying in Thessalon continue your ride to

97.6km – Little Rapids General Store – [Map 5]:
Little Rapids Rd, Thessalon, ON P0R 1L0

If you need a quick refuel to tackle the last few kilometres of your ride, the Little Rapids General Store is a great place for a rest.

103km – Thessalon – Carolyn Beach Hotel – [Map 5]:

1 Lakeside Dr, Thessalon, ON P0R 1L0

Located

Dinner – Bruce Mines [Map 4]:

Bobbers Restaurant

Kosmos Pizza Bar and Restaurant in the Bavarian Inn, 9181-17, Bruce Mines, ON P0R 1C0

Dinner – Thessalon –

Carolyn Beach Hotel has a full service restaurant.

Sinton Tavern and Restaurant, Thessalon's Main Street.

Kosmos Pizza, Main Street

Sunset Family Restaurant (Hours 8 am to 6 pm)
47 Frances St, Thessalon, ON P0R 1L0

Bruce Mines Activities:

- **Jack's Island Beach**
Just South of the Intersection of Bruce St and Taylor St, Jack's Island Beach is a nice, small pebble beach located in the heart of Bruce Mines, offering a good location to enjoy the waterside. Please note the beach has no changerooms or bathrooms, so if you want to take a dip, come dressed for the occasion.
- **Bruce Mines Museum**
- **Bruce Mines Legion**, 9248 ON-17, Bruce Mines, ON P0R 1C0. Friendly bar and pool table.

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Sault Ste. Marie to Bruce Mines or Thessalon: ~75 or 103km

Day 03

Thessalon Activities:

- Enjoy a gorgeous sunset at the Carolyn Beach located beside the hotel.
- Walk to the Sinton Tavern located 176 Main St. for a night cap.
- **Thessalon Coastal Trail**
The parking lot east of Boundary Rd, off Peachey St. Thessalon, ON P0R 1L0 (10-minute bike ride). Sample the new Coastal Trail for an after-dinner ride.

Accommodations:

Bavarian Inn — Bruce Mines
9181 ON-17, Bruce Mines, ON P0R 1C0

Bobber's Motel — Bruce Mines
9161 ON-17, Bruce Mines, ON P0R 1C0

Bruce Bay Cottages & Lighthouse Resort —
82 French Island Rd, Bruce Mines, ON P0R 1C0

Bruce Mines Campground
1-15 Williams St, Bruce Mines, ON P0R 1C0

Lakeside Park Campground
110 Lakeside Dr #100, Thessalon, ON P0R 1L0
Large campsite located across from a lovely beach.

Carolyn Beach Motel — Thessalon
1 Lakeside Dr, Thessalon, ON P0R 1L0

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Bruce Mines 100 km or Thessalon 75 km to Blind River.

Day 04

Today's Gravel Grind: 19 km Approx.

Two Heritage Rivers. Two First Nations.

On today's Great Waterfront Trail Adventure, you'll find long stretches of gentle rollers, travel along the shores of two heritage rivers (the Thessalon and the Mississagi) and pass through two First Nations (Thessalon and Mississauga). You'll see idyllic farmland, revived by the infusion of Mennonite families from Southern Ontario and a string of communities, each with nearly two centuries of history.

Today's trip includes the longest consecutive stretches of both gravel riding and travel along the shoulders of Highway 17.

The Trail between Iron Bridge and Blind River [Maps 6 & 7] follows 23km of generous paved shoulders on Highway 17. Some truck traffic but the shoulders are wide enough for good separation.

(xxkm) measures distance from Thessalon

Breakfast in Bruce Mines

Bobbers and Copper Bean Café open at 8 am

Breakfast in Thessalon - Sunset Family Restaurant – 8:00am

176 Main St, Thessalon, ON P0R 1L0

22 km – Suggested Stop - Little Rapids

General Store [Map 2]:

A great place to grab a few items and fuel up.

23 km – Turn off for Thessalon Welcome and Water Stop [Map 2]:

Turn **right** at the intersection of Little Rapids Road and Highway 129 for Thessalon. You'll cruise along the banks of the Thessalon River, past the

scenic red bridge into the heart of this nearly two-century old community with roots in the lumber industry.

28km – Thessalon Municipal Marina [Map 2]: 40 Algoma St

You have been well north of the in Thessalon for a coffee at From Thessalon, you'll follow the Great Lakes Waterfront Trail along peaceful rural roads until you reach the community of Iron Bridge.

42km (22km) – Brownlee Lake Park GWTA water stop [Map 2]:

136 Ingram Road, Thessalon, ON.

72km (47km) – Iron Bridge - Suggested Lunch Stop [Map 3]:

We recommend eating in Iron Bridge at one of the family restaurants.

- **Red Top Motor Inn – 705 843 2100** 22133 ON-17, Iron Bridge, ON P0R 1H0 (Vegan/vegetarian options available)
- **Three Aces– 705 843 2135** 22162 ON-17, Iron Bridge, ON P0R 1H0 (Chinese/Canadian) Opens at Noon.

Take your lunch to-go and enjoy at a picnic table at the Iron Bridge museum.

Iron Bridge Historical Museum.

Take some time to visit **The Iron Bridge Historical Museum**. It is open to the public at no charge though they accept donations. There is a wide range of artifacts displayed in the log cabin, including local wedding gowns, WWII military uniforms, 1950's era baseball uniforms.

Cycling into Blind River

The final 20km of today's ride are along the generous paved shoulders of Highway 17. Please do not stop in the shoulder but continue riding until you come upon one of the Highway stopping areas or the MTO Parkette.

85.5km (60.5km) – Suggested Rest Stop - MTO Parkette [Map 4]:

This parkette and picnic area has a stellar view of both the Mississagi River and nearby Woman Island. Washroom facilities available.

91km (66km) – Alternate Route – Youngfox Trail [Map 4]:

El Dorado Road (dotted line on the map) This scenic trail meanders through forest, marshlands and a collaborative effort between Mississauga First Nation, and the Town of Blind River with funding from the Trans Canada Trail.

97.5km (69.5km) - Pier Seventeen Restaurant [Map 4 & 5]:

1 Causley St, Blind River, ON P0R 1B0

Looking to stop for a late snack on your way into town, or a celebratory pint to commemorate a day well-traveled? Pier Seventeen has a lovely lakeside patio.

100 km (75km) – Blind River [Map 5]:

Blind River's history is cradled in the fur trade and logging and mining industries. If you're looking a bank or groceries, visit the plaza at 105 Causley Ave. For LCBO or convenience take a short walk to Woodward Ave. Most businesses close by 6pm, so make your stops early! Pubs and restaurants are open later.

Things to Do

- Swim at Sellers Beach, 90 Lakeside Avenue.
- Hike or go trail riding on the Boom Camp Trails
- Visit the Timber Village Museum 1 Hagger Rd, Blind River
- Head into downtown for pint at the **Iron Horse Inn and Bar** on Woodward Avenue.
- Get an ice cream cone at Video Movie House II, 12 Woodward Ave

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Bruce Mines 100 km or Thessalon 75 km to Blind River.

Day 04

Dinner

17 Restaurant, 2 Woodward Ave, Blind River, ON

P0R 1B0

JR Pizza, 18 Hawkins St, Blind River, ON P0R

1B0

Rusties Family Restaurant, 181 Causley St,
Blind River, ON P0R 1B0

Tim Hortons, 43 Causley St, Blind River, ON

P0R 1B0

Accommodations

Hotels:

North Shore Wayside Inn — *181 Causley St &, Wellington Ave, Blind River, ON P0R 1B0*. Bikes stored in rooms. Restaurant attached.

Lakeview Inn — *143 Causley St, Blind River, ON P0R 1B0*. Bikes stored in rooms.

A Taste of Home Bed and Breakfast — *29 Fullerton St, Blind River*.

Old Mill Motel — *10 Martin St, ON-17, Blind River, ON P0R 1B0*. Bikes stored in your room. Close downtown's restaurants.

Camping- Blind River Marina:

1 Hagger Rd, Blind River, ON P0R 1B0

Campers will be nestled right up to Lake Huron as we stay at the beautiful Blind River Marine Park.

Taxis

Blind River Taxi Co: (705) 827-0272

Big Al's Taxi Service: (705) 356-9900

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Blind River to Massey or Espanola: 85 – 115.6 km Approx.

Day 05

During today's ride, you will travel along Bootlegger's Bay, visit the Caribbean of the North, travel three more heritage rivers (the Serpent River, Spanish River and Aux Sables River) and enter the LaCloche Foothills.

Terrain Tip:

Today's ride is the longest of the week. There are a number of smaller stretches of gravel, a section of natural trail outside of Blind River that includes some sand and loose gravel, and intermittent travel along the paved shoulders of Highway 17 (distances between 3 and 13kms).

Breakfast – Blind River [Map 1]:

Tim Horton's, 43 Causley St, Blind River, ON P0R 1B0 located in the heart of the Town has seating. Another Tim's is located on the eastern edge of town in the Esso Station. No seating.

16km – Lauzon Causeway, Algoma Mills –

[Map 2]: Wonderful place to take a short break. Great views of the Lake Huron North Channel, wonderful plaques and sculptures celebrating the Township's heritage. Public washroom available.

40 km – Rest Stop - Serpent River Park

[Map 3]:

Located directly on Highway 17, just before the bridge across the Serpent River, this MTO operated rest stop has restrooms, a picnic area, hiking trails and views of both Serpent River Falls and Kennebec Falls. Those wishing to get out of the saddle for a stretch can stroll the short-but-lovely Kennebec Trail, which begins on the west side of the parking area.

54km –Spanish Municipal Marina – [Map 4]:

40 Garnier Rd, Spanish, ON P0P 2A0

Before heading into the town of Spanish, make sure to stop by the Spanish Municipal Marina.

Take the stairs to the lookout on the Whalesback Channel, as well as the beginning of the Shoreline Discovery Trail. Follow the trail for a short but engaging hike with more great views of the Channel. You'll see firsthand why they refer to the area as the Caribbean of the North.

Just north and east of the Marina are the fire-hollowed remains of St. Joseph Residential School for Girls. Directly opposite the remains of the school is a monument dedicated to residential school survivors.

Lunch Options in Spanish

Nibblers Fish and Chips, 133 Front St, Spanish, ON P0P 2A0

North Channel Pizza, 101 Front St, Spanish, ON P0P 2A0

There is a longer stretch of gravel between Spanish and Massey – GWTA vehicles will be on hand to support you.

84.5km – Massey [Map 5]:

If you're staying in Massey tonight, you've reached the end of your day in the saddle! For those staying in Espanola, take the lovely Lee Valley Road to travel to your overnight destination in Espanola.

115.6 km – Espanola

Dinner in Massey:

- Poirier's Clover Farm, 130 Sable St, Massey
Hours: 7am to 6 pm. Grocery store with a counter serving sandwiches and other light meals.

- Poirier's Confectionary and Pizza, 355 Imperial St. South, Massey, 705-865-2740 Hours: 9am to 9 pm.

- Chute's Confectionary and Pizza, 598 Imperial St. North, Massey. 705-865-2586 Hours: 705-865-2586

Things to do while visiting Massey:

- Grab a meal or snack or generous scoop of ice cream at Poirier's Confectionery *355 Imperial St. S.*
- Visit **Chutes Provincial Park** *660 Imperial St. North, Massey, ON.* You will fall in love with Aux Sables River when you see the spectacular falls and Seven Sisters Cataracts. A viewing platform gets you up close to the falls, while a swimming area exists not far from their base. The entrance to the park is about 650m north of Highway 17 on Route 553. The trip to Chutes is the worth the 5km it adds to the trip and the perfect pre or post dinner excursion for those staying in Massey. Cyclists may access the park at no charge.
- Swim at **Mouth Park**: This Public Park, at the end of Carl Albert Street in Massey, is known as "The Mouth" as it is where the Aux Sables River empties into the Spanish River. The Park features a beautiful natural sand beach, natural clay embankment slide and picnic great areas.
- Visit the **Massey Area Museum**, 150 Sauble St E, Massey, ON P0P 1P0. Closes at 4 pm.

Dinner in Espanola

Espanola has many restaurants, pubs and eateries where you can have dinner. Some suggestions are:

- Pinewood Motor Inn Restaurant and Lounge, Range of meal options. Hours: 4:30 to 8:00pm

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Twitter: @WaterfrontRT

Blind River to Massey or Espanola: 85 – 115.6 km Approx.

Day 05

-
- Cortina's: 3-383 Centre St, Espanola, ON P5E 1E4 Across from the Pinewood. Dine in and take out. Hours: Closes 8:00pm. Phone: (705) 869-2104

Taxis

Espanola Taxi- 705-869-1036

- Sukdev Indian Restaurant, 585 Centre St, Espanola, ON P5E 1J9. Closes 9:00pm. Phone: (705) 869-1441.

Things to do in Espanola:

- Visit the Espanola Heritage Park for a window into local history (Located at Barber and Main)
 - Espanola Rec Centre has an impressive aquatic centre, 175 Avery Dr, Espanola, ON P5E 1C9
 - Swim at Clear Lake Beach, 975 HWY 6, Espanola, ON P5E 1N6. Follow the Al Secord Trail along Highway 6 to this little sandy beach. Public washrooms are available. No changerooms.
-

Accommodations

Massey Motel — Massey
Sauble St W, Sables-Spanish Rivers, ON P0P 1P0

Camping is available at Chutes Provincial Park.

Pinewood Motor Inn — Espanola
378 Centre St, Espanola, ON P5E 1G3
Bikes and luggage will be securely stored in the

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Massey or Espanola to Little Current: ~ 50 – 78 km

Day 06

Distances in () start from Espanola.

Massey Breakfast – Poirier’s Grocer – 7:00am
[Map 1]:

130 Sauble St E, Massey, ON P0P 1P0

Great and filling breakfast is available at Poirier’s Grocer. They have some seating.

Espanola Breakfast – Tim Hortons is located on Centre St.

If you are starting in Massey your first rest stop will be Espanola (30 km). Centre Street has a number of restaurants and a Tim Hortons.

29 km (4 km) – Rest Stop - Clear Lake Beach, Town of Espanola [Map 2]:

Espanola, ON P5E 1T4

Benches and Porta-potty available.

As you head out from Clear Lake Beach, you’ll be riding the paved shoulders of Highway 6 until you reach the iconic Little Current swing bridge. Ride carefully; the terrain is paved with rolling hills, and shoulders are narrow in areas.

You will be travelling through Whitefish River First Nation. There are some stores and gas stations along the route in case you need a break. Each year, Whitefish River First Nation holds its annual traditional pow-wow on the third weekend in August. It is held below the sacred Dreamer’s Rock at Sunshine Alley. This gathering features our traditional dancing, singing and drumming, crafts and Aboriginal food.

47km (22km) – Whitefish Falls [Map 4]:

Turn off Hwy 6 at Bay of Islands Drive to visit this quaint hamlet. There is a lookout over Whitefish Falls. Head into town to the small **Church Mouse Cafe** for a lovely coffee break or light lunch. They close at 2 pm; washrooms are for customers only. The family who runs the Cafe saved the heritage

church from demolition. They also offer two very cute, off-the-grid cabins for overnight and short stays.

76km (50km) –Little Current Recreation Centre

[Map 5]: 9001 ON-6, Little Current, ON P0P 1K0

Dinner – [Map 5]:

There are various other dinner options in Little Current:

- Manitoulin Inn and Conference Centre
66 Meredith St E, Little Current, ON P0P 1K0
- The Anchor Inn - 100 seat restaurant
1 Water St E, Little Current, ON P0P 1K0
- Elliott’s
28 Vankoughnet St E, Little Current, ON P0P 1K0

Venture to Mindemoya (about 20 km from Little Current) for dinner at Maja’s Garden Bistro. [Map 6]

Hotels:

Manitoulin Hotel & Conference Centre —
66 Meredith St E, Little Current, ON P0P 1K0

Hawberry Motel —
36 Meredith St E, Little Current, ON P0P 1K0

Pepper Point Gardens B&B —
174a Pepper Point Rd, Sheguiandah, ON P0P 1W0

Manitoulin Motel —
51 Walcot St, Little Current, ON P0P 1K0

Camping:

Batman’s Cottages and Campground
11408 ON-6, Sheguiandah, ON P0P 1W0

Green Acres Manitoulin Family Campground and Restaurant, 10944 ON-6, Sheguiandah, ON P0P 1W0

Taxis

Islandwide Taxi: (705) 308-9546

D & R Taxi: (705) 207-0708

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Manitoulin Island: 44.6 – 73 km Approx.

Day 07

Today you can choose between two cycling routes distance. Both routes begin on the Waterfront Trail. These are unsigned routes.

Option 1: The Green Bay Lollipop (44.6km)

This ride will take you from Little Current to Sheguiandah, and then west to Green Bay Park before looping back to Sheguiandah around Pike Lake and Bass Lake.

Option 2: Ten Mile Point Loop (73.1km)

This route starts out the same way as the Green Bay Lollipop, taking you from Little Current to Sheguiandah, and then west to Green Bay Park. You then will head south to Bidwell and Vanzant's Landing, before completing your loop back to Sheguiandah travelling North along Hwy 6.

9.8km or 59km – Suggested Lunch Stop for Option 1 and 2 – Sheguiandah – Green Acres Campground and Restaurant [Map 2]:

10944 ON-6 Sheguiandah, ON P0P 1W0

Both cycling routes for today visit Sheguiandah, both on their way out of and back into Little Current. There are food options available at the Greenacre Campground and Restaurant, which is a little less than a kilometre south along Hwy 6 as you enter Sheguiandah. It's up to you whether you want to pick up something for a picnic later in your ride on your way out or wait until you come back through Little Current to visit a food truck, cafe, brewery, grocery store or the Anchor Inn. Green Acres is closed on Mondays.

21.8km – Suggested Stop (Option 1 and 2) - Green Bay Park [Map 2 Inset]:

Green Bay Park is a quick 2km jaunt down Bidwell Rd where you can enjoy the waters of Lake Manitou. If you're looking to cool off, consider going for a dip!

Alternate Drive and Hike Adventure:

Kagawong and Bridal Veil Falls – [Map 4]:

50-64 Main St, Kagawong, ON P0P 1J0

As you'll have access to your car for today, consider taking a trip east along Hwy 540 from Little Current over to Kagawong to see the beautiful Bridal Veil Falls. This famous natural attraction features gentle waterfalls for swimming & sightseeing, plus a hiking trail.

Alternate: Boat Cruise to Killarney

Departs from the dock at 9:45 am. Dock at Killarney at 12:15 for 2 hour stop over for some famous fish and chips. Return to Little Current at 5:15 pm. Must reserve ahead using the North Channel Tours Voyage to Killarney. Reserve at NorthChannelTours.com

Going Home: Drive to South Baymouth (65 km) and take the Ferry to Tobermory. The Ferry offers a relaxing experience that surrounds you with the grandeur of Georgian Bay. It is a mini-cruise with dining and entertainment. Details about the 2hr ferry between Tobermory and South Baymouth, Manitoulin Island can be [found here](#).

Hotels:

Manitoulin Hotel & Conference Centre —
66 Meredith St E, Little Current, ON P0P 1K0

Hawberry Motel —
36 Meredith St E, Little Current, ON P0P 1K0

Pepper Point Gardens B&B —
174a Pepper Point Rd, Sheguiandah, ON P0P 1W0

Manitoulin Motel —
51 Walcot St, Little Current, ON P0P 1K0

Taxis

Islandwide Taxi: (705) 308-9546

D & R Taxi: (705) 207-0708
