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TUESDAY AUGUST 11

Parkway Trail 77km or Binational Visit to Detroit & Belle Isle 55km

Day 02

Today you may choose one of two cycling experiences:

OPTION 1: Parkway Trail (81km)

Ride the Herb Gray Parkway Trail and Chrysler Greenway to the Town of Essex. The trail runs alongside the Hwy 401 and Hwy 3 extensions, incorporating 11 tunnel tops, and connects to the Chrysler Canada Greenway and LaSalle Trail System for wider exploration across Essex County. It includes a scenic, multi-use 17-kilometre trail set within over 120 hectares of green space, offering pedestrians and cyclists a safe and enjoyable recreational experience.

OPTION 2: Binational Visit to Detroit & Belle Isle (55km)

Note: Riders visiting Detroit must head to the Border Processing Centre in groups of 10 staggered by ~20-minute gaps to facilitate efficient bridge crossing. **Meet with event organizers outside Vanier Hall in the Vanier Circle beginning at 8:30am** to prepare for bridge crossing. A valid passport is required for crossing!

Visit some of Detroit's most eclectic neighbourhoods, including Mexican Town, the historic downtown arts and entertainment district, and the stunning Belle Isle. Interpreters will greet you at the Belle Isle Conservancy and Ralph C. Wilson Park to share more of the history of the area.



Breakfast – University of Windsor Vanier Hall – 7:00am to 8:30am [Map 1]:
Vanier Hall, Wyandotte St W @ Huron Church Rd



CAA Mechanic Gershom available outside Vanier Hall from 7:00am to 8:30am.



8:00am Join us for a ribbon cutting and group photo celebrating the launch of Canada's first binational cycle tourism destination!

OPTION 1: Parkway Trail (81km)

Note: The Parkway Trail primarily follows off-road greenways, meaning staff support is limited for much of the ride. Please carry 2 water bottles, snacks, and basic bike repair tools. Volunteers will be available to assist you on the Trail.



15.6 km – GWTA Pop Up Water Stop – Howard Commuter Parking Lot – 9:00am to 10:00am

[Map 2]:
42.226749, -82.995158. Nearest Civic Address:
2551 Howard Ave Diversion, Windsor, ON N9H 1C9



32.5 km – GWTA Pop Up Water Stop – Edgar Side Rd – 9:30 am to 11:00am

[Map 2]:
Cypher Systems Group Greenway @ Edgar Side Rd. Nearest intersection Edgar Rd & King St.



42 km – Town of Essex Railway Station & Spitfire War Memorial – Welcome Stop & Suggested Lunch Stop 10:30am to 1:00pm

[Map 2]:
77 Talbot St N.
Explore one of Essex County's historic landmarks, the restored 1907 Railway Station and nearby Spitfire Memorial.



Leave your bike in the bike corral and stroll Talbot St with its bakeries, restaurants and ice cream shops. The Town has added extra picnic tables if you'd like to enjoy lunch outdoors.

- **Wood Craft Pizza Bar** – 47 Talbot St N, Essex, ON N8M 1A3
- **Cancunito La Taqueria** – 51 Talbot St N, Essex, ON N8M 1A3
- **Acorn & Oak Coffee Company** – 23 Victoria Ave, Essex, ON N8M 1M4
- **Little House of Cupcakes** – 108 Talbot St N, Essex, ON N8M 2C4

- **Ice Cool Treats** – 65 Talbot St S, Essex, ON N8M 2S8

Note: We recommend taking advantage of this stop, as food options are very limited until you reach Sandwich Town (78 km).



CAA Mechanic Gershom available Town of Essex Railway Station & Spitfire War Memorial from 11:00am



56 km – GWTA Pop Up Water Stop – Chrysler Greenway @ South Talbot Road – 12:00pm to 2:30pm

[Map 2]:
3162 South Talbot Rd, Oldcastle ON, N0R1L0

64 km – Suggested Stop – Vollmer Culture & Recreation Centre Complex

[Map 2]:
2121 Laurier Pkwy, Windsor, ON N9J 0B4
If you need a washroom, you can stop at the to use its facilities including restrooms, bike repair station.



71km – GWTA Pop Up Water Stop – Malden Park West Parking Lot – 1:00pm to 3:30pm

[Map 2]:
4200 Malden Rd, Windsor, ON N9C 3R1



75km – Suggested Stop – Sandwich Street Restaurants

[Map 2]:
Looking for a drink or a bite to eat after your ride? There are lots of excellent options on Sandwich Street:

- **Sandwich Brewing Co.** – 3232 Sandwich St., Windsor, ON N9C 1A8
- **Rock Bottom Bar and Grill** – 3236 Sandwich St, Windsor, ON N9C 1A6

77 km – Finish – University of Windsor, Alumni Hall



CAA Mechanic Gershom available Alumni Hall from 3:00pm to 5:00pm.

OPTION 2: Binational Visit to Detroit & Belle Isle (55km)

IMPORTANT NOTES:

- Riders visiting Detroit will have their departure staggered in groups of 10 to arrive at bridge in 20-minute intervals, allowing for efficient processing by the border agencies. **Meet with event organizers outside Vanier Hall in the Vanier Circle beginning at 8:30am if you plan on crossing today. A valid passport is required!**
- **E-Bikes** of any kind are **NOT currently permitted** on the Gordie Howe Intl. Bridge.
- The multi-use path across the bridge closes 60 minutes before sunset so please plan your return time accordingly. **Keep in mind that you must allow time for processing at the border in addition to the time it takes to cross the bridge.**
- GWT A cycling volunteers will be riding the route in Detroit today, but there is no vehicle support from our team in the USA. **Event signage will not be present; riders are expected to use Ride with GPS and printed map materials to navigate.**
- While we will not be hosting any pop-up water stops Stateside, the route takes you through an urban centre with plenty of opportunities to find food, water, or restrooms. We recommend you carry 2 water bottles, snacks, and basic bike repair tools so volunteers can assist you.

5 km – Cross the Gordie Howe International Bridge to the USA – 9:00am to 10:00am

[Map 3]:

4389 Sandwich Street, Windsor, ON

Riders can access the Gordie Howe International Bridge multi-use path in Windsor, Ontario right next to 4389 Sandwich Street. When returning, the multi-use path entrance is located at approximately 6366 West Jefferson Avenue in Detroit.

11 km – Suggested Stop – Mexicantown Bakery [Map 3]:

4300 Vernor Hwy, Detroit, MI 48209, United States

Clark Park is a lively neighborhood park in the heart of Southwest Detroit. Pair it with a stop at the nearby bakery for fresh pan dulce and coffee before getting back in the saddle. You'll be passing through Mexicantown again on the way back, so if it's too early to stop, you'll have a second opportunity to take a break near Clark Park.

13 km – Suggested Stop – Michigan Central Station & Corktown [Map 3]:

2001 15th St Suite 101, Detroit, MI 48216

The beautifully restored Michigan Central Station anchors Corktown, Detroit's oldest neighborhood, now buzzing with cafés, murals, and bike-friendly streets worth exploring. As with MexicanTown, you will pass through Corktown again on the return trip if you want to save it for later.



18 km – Suggested Lunch Stop – Eastern Market [Map 4]:

There are many food options to choose from in Eastern Market, making it a good choice for an early lunch. Food options are more limited on the way back, so you may want to pick something up for later. Public washrooms available.

24 km – Belle Isle – 2:00pm to 3:00pm [Map 4]:

To maintain pace, we suggest you aim to arrive no later than 2:00pm. A scenic island park in the Detroit River with scenic paths and water views—ideal for a relaxing, low-stress ride. There are many points of interest available to explore on the Isle:

- **Dossin Great Lakes Museum** – 100 The Strand, Detroit, MI 48207, United States
This small museum highlights Great Lakes maritime history
- **Oudolf Garden** – Loiter Way &, Picnic Way, Detroit, MI 48207, United States
A beautifully designed naturalistic garden, offering a peaceful, visually striking stop filled with seasonal plantings.
- **Anna Scripps Whitcomb Conservatory** – 4 Inselruhe Ave, Detroit, MI 48207, United States
A historic greenhouse featuring lush tropical and desert plants.
- **Belle Isle Aquarium** – 3 Inselruhe Ave, Detroit, MI 48207, United States
The oldest continually operating aquarium in the U.S.
- **Belle Isle Nature Center** – 176 Lakeside Dr, Detroit, MI 48207, United States
On your way to the nature centre, enjoy the two Belle Isle habitat restorations: Blue Heron Lagoon and Lake Okonoka.

During your stop, look for venue interpreters who will share some of the stories of these historical locations.

34 km – Detroit Riverwalk [Map 4]:

Consistently ranked among the best riverfronts in the country, this paved path offers stunning skyline and water views with easy, car-free riding.



36 km – Suggested Lunch Stops Off the Riverwalk – Jos Campau Ave Detour [Map 4]:

There are few food options on route until you reach Mexicantown again. If you haven't yet eaten, we recommend briefly turning right off the route at Jos Campau for a couple of restaurants within 300m of the Riverwalk:

- **Andrews on the Corner** –
201 Joseph Campau Ave, Detroit, MI 48207
- **Atwater Brewery & Tap House** –
237 Jos Campau, Detroit, MI 48207, United States
- **Chene Square Plaza** –
E Jefferson Ave, Detroit, MI 48207, United States
Continue an additional 400m further north to Jefferson Ave and turn left for a small plaza with fast food options including a Domino's Pizza, and a grocery store.

39 km – Historic Site – Gateway to Freedom Monument [Map 4]:

Detroit Riverwalk, Detroit, MI 48226, United States

A powerful tribute to Detroit's role in the Underground Railroad, located right along the river where many freedom seekers crossed into Canada.

41 km – Ralph C. Wilson Jr. Centennial Park & SW Greenway – 3:30 to 4:00 pm [Map 4]:

Detroit, MI 48226, United States

To maintain pace, we suggest you arrive no later than 4:00pm. Currently under development, Ralph C. Wilson Jr. Centennial Park represents continued development of cycling infrastructure in

Detroit. This new riverfront park is being designed with cyclists and families in mind, featuring rest areas, water access, and scenic river views. You'll pick up the Southwest Greenway, a multi-use path connecting neighborhoods and green spaces in Southwest Detroit, just off the site of the park.

During your stop, look for venue interpreters who will share some of the stories of these historical locations.

42 km – Suggested Stop – Corktown Again

[Map 3]:

You'll exit the SW Greenway onto Corktown's Bagley St. If you skipped exploring earlier, you may want to find a café and enjoy a short rest.



44 km – Suggested Stop – Return to Mexicantown [Map 3]:

Once again, you'll be passing through Mexicantown. If you need a bite to eat, there's plenty of places nearby to choose from; ice cream from La Tapatia Neveria is only a 350m detour away!

- **La Tapatia Neveria – Ice Cream**
4029 Vernor Hwy, Detroit, MI 48209



Dinner – On Your Own

Dinner is your own this evening. Walk, ride, drive, or order in!

Restaurants Near UoW Campus

The nearby Sandwich Street has lots of sit-down restaurants. There are some fast food locations closer to campus as well.

- **Sandwich Brewing Co.** – 3232 Sandwich St., Windsor, ON N9C 1A8
- **Rock Bottom Bar and Grill** – 3236 Sandwich St, Windsor, ON N9C 1A6
- **Roti Sabzii** – 3214 Sandwich St., Windsor, ON N9C 1A7
- **Jake's Olde Towne Tavern** – 3206 Sandwich St, Windsor, ON N9C 1A8

- **MD's Sports Bar & Smoke House** –
380 Mill St., Windsor, ON N9C 2R4

Restaurants Near Best Western

The Best Western Plus is in Downtown Windsor, so there's plenty of restaurants within walking distance. If you're staying on Campus and looking to get downtown you can take your car, or if you aren't too tired, ride the pleasant, off-road Riverfront Trail to the city centre.

- **The Bistro At The River** – 78 Riverside Dr W, Windsor, ON N9A 7C5
- **The Loose Goose RestoPub & Lounge** – 126 Ouellette Ave, Windsor, ON N9A 1A2
- **Sundried Tomato Bistro** – 122 Chatham St W, Windsor, ON N8X 1V3
- **River Room Restaurant** – 277 Riverside Dr, Toronto, ON M6S 4B1
- **The Keg Steakhouse** – 1 Riverside Dr W Ste 101, Windsor, ON N9A 5K3

Tomorrow's Maps and Itinerary

Tomorrow's Maps and Itinerary will be available at the front desk of your accommodations for the night. Make sure to grab a copy and give tomorrow's itinerary a once over!

Taxis

Vets Cab: (519) 256-2621

Windsor Shuttle Service: (519) 977-0000

GWTA 2026 Route Available on Ride with GPS

Download the GWTA 2026 route! Keyword GWTA26. Visit www.ridewithgps.com