

BANCROFT & NORTH HASTINGS

The following two rides are favoured by local cyclists for advanced training and are based on routes set for the legendary annual Hastings Highlands Hilly Hundred event and challenge. Using Bancroft as a convenient centre, stock up on all you need before heading out. The roads are quiet and services limited to nil, with only trees, bush and water for distractions in between hill climbs and descents. These routes are perfect for club groups with motel accommodations in Bancroft, or smaller road crews wanting unique accommodations or camping closer to Algonquin Park. For a classic century ride (miles not kilometers) combine routes for both days and hit the 160 mile marker.

RIDE DAY 1: BANCROFT ELEPHANT LAKE LOOP

Total Distance: 118km

Experience Level: Experienced, road cyclist

Route Surface: Paved roads

Staging Area / Parking: Start route from municipal parking lot near visitor information centre at 8 Hastings Heritage Way, Bancroft

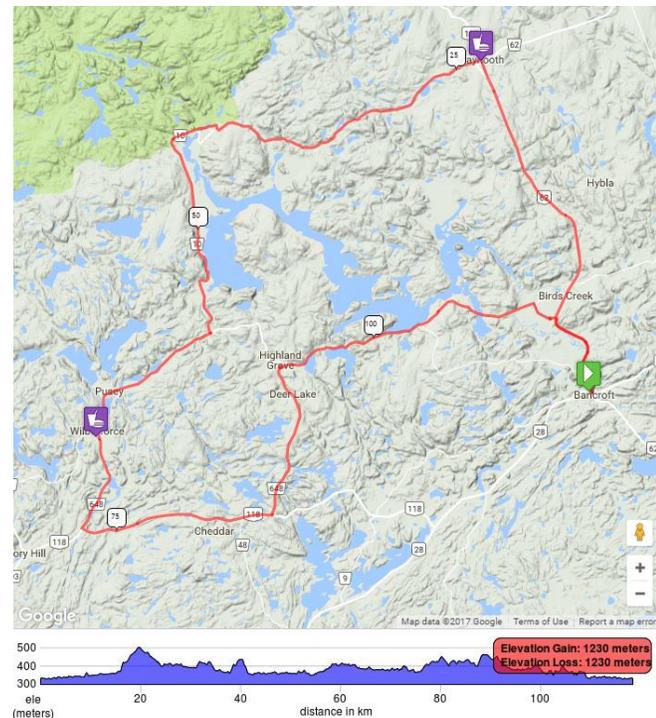
Link to Route Map:

www.ridewithgps.com/routes/20435593

www.strava.com/routes/10178681

(Download GPX File from Strava)

Route Description: Clip in and pedal north out of Bancroft hitting the highest elevation with a gain of 200m within the first 20km. Turn off this wide but busier road onto sleepy Peterson Road, once a busier thoroughfare and primary route to the west. As the route grazes the southern tip of Algonquin Park, the gentle curves wind their way around picturesque Elephant Lake. Enjoy the fresh paving into Wilberforce, a good half way point and refreshment stop enroute. Continue back onto Loop Road following a chain of lakes and road running parallel to abandoned iron ore rail line. Passing Baptiste, a small settlement named after original Algonquin First Nation settlers, the final 20km back into Bancroft will fly by. (Option to knock off 30km from ride distance, turn towards Highlands Grove at Harcourt and Loop Road).



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Cold Drinks & Refreshment Enroute: Maynooth, Wilberforce

Pubs, Patios & Good Eats: Bancroft, Wilberforce

Accommodations: Various in town of Bancroft, or out of town at resorts on lakes, bed and breakfasts, cottages, motels and camps



RIDE DAY 2: BANCROFT & HIGHLANDS EAST LOOP

Total Distance: 96km

Experience Level: Experienced, road cyclist

Route Surface: Paved roads

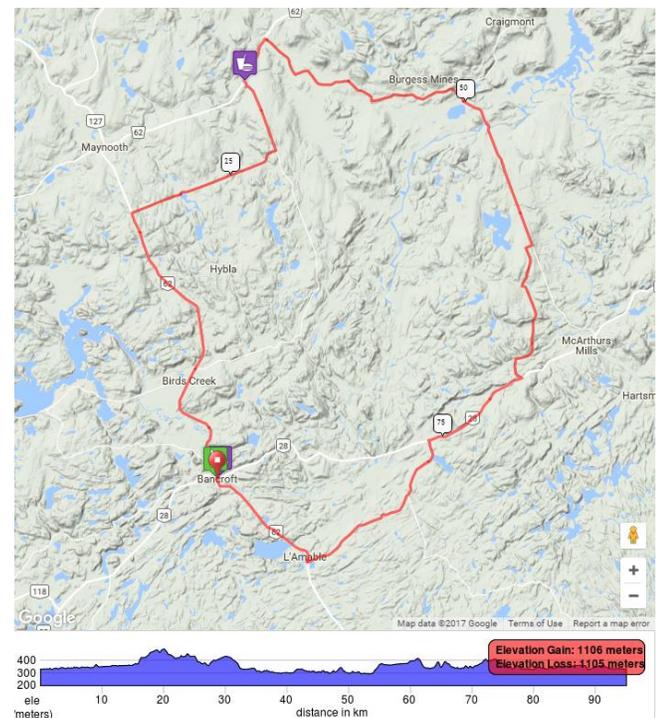
Staging Area / Parking: Start route from municipal parking lot near visitor information centre at 8 Hastings Heritage Way, Bancroft

Link to Route Map: www.ridewithgps.com/routes/20489861

www.strava.com/routes/10178793

(Download GPX File from Strava)

Route Description: Gradually working your way into it, hit your stride on the long hills that Graphite Road is known for and let the peaceful countryside setting counter the adrenalin rush. With a brief jog up to and along the 62, dip back down on to roads less travelled for what feels like a very remote and pleasant 30km. Enjoy the reward, with sweeping highland views east over pasture lands and down into the Madawaska Valley. With the last part of the ride looping south and back into Bancroft, celebrate and rehydrate with a Bancroft Brewing craft beer on the patio at the local pub. Alternatively, pop into the Bancroft Mineral Museum, located at visitor information centre, to learn more about why the area is known as Mineral Capital of Canada.



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Cold Drinks & Refreshment Enroute: Maple Leaf

Pubs, Patios & Good Eats: Bancroft

Accommodations: Various in town of Bancroft, or out of town at resorts on lakes, bed and breakfasts, cottages, motels and camps



VISITOR INFORMATION

www.northhastings.com

www.hastingscounty.com/visit

www.comewander.ca

Find certified bicycle friendly accommodations and other places to stop, visit and eat, plus info and maps on trails and other routes at: www.ontariobybike.ca/NorthHFLA

NOTES TO RIDERS

Cautions: Roads that may have higher traffic volumes on these routes include: Day 1, Highway 62 and 118; Day 2, Highway 62 and 28.

Disclaimer: These road routes are suggested routes only. All cyclists are responsible for their own safety, must use roads with caution and do so at their own risk, abiding by rules of the road and local bylaws. The routes should be evaluated by each individual cyclist based on their level of experience, weather conditions and any other factors. Ontario's Highlands Tourism Organization, Ontario By Bike / Transportation Options and all others involved in the development of this itinerary do not assume any liability whatsoever for cyclists using this information and travelling upon these routes.