



ONTARIO BY BIKE RIDE TORONTO TRAILS & RAVINES



What You Need to Know THE ESSENTIALS

Total Ride Distance: 85km

Suggested Ride Time: 2 days, 1 nights - OR - 1 day

Experience Level: Moderate

Route Surfaces: Off-road paved multi-use trails, with some on-road connections that require caution. Suitable for all types of bikes. Note cautions below.

Ride Start / Finish Location & Parking: This is a looped ride route. It is possible to complete ride in a single day but to make the most of the Toronto route and attractions a 2 day ride is recommended. Suggested start location near Keele Ave & Finch Avenue. If in a group or parking more than a day ensure you receive parking permission or permit. There are a number of hotels on Norfinch and Finch Ave that if asked would allow for overnight parking. For our group ride we parked with permission at James Cardinal McGuigan Catholic High School, 1440 Finch Ave West.

Your Bike: Ensure you arrive to start with a bicycle in good working order, appropriate outerwear for conditions, and refreshments. Helmets are recommended. There are several bike shops in the Harbourfront area should you require any major repairs.

Ride Options & Digital Maps:

Ride in 1 day - Starting from north end, Finch Avenue - (85km)

www.ridewithgps.com/routes/34019030

Ride in 1 day - Starting from south end, downtown, Harbourfront - (85km)

www.ridewithgps.com/routes/34019054

Ride in 2 days, with overnight stay downtown - (85km)

www.ridewithgps.com/ambassador_routes/1551-toronto-trails-ravines-2-day-tour

Paper Map:

- Plot the route on the City of Toronto Cycling Map. www.toronto.ca/cycling

Overnight Accommodations:

- Ontario By Bike Certified Bicycle Friendly Businesses in Toronto: [View Here](#)
- Find accommodations and visitor information: www.seetorontonow.com

Disclaimer – This route is a suggested route only. The route incorporates both multi-use trail and on-road riding. All cyclists are responsible for their own safety, must use both trails and streets with caution and do so at their own risk. Always wear the proper safety gear when cycling, ride sensibly and abide by all laws. Each route should be evaluated by each individual cyclist based on their level of experience, comfort level in cycling on trails and roads, weather conditions, time of day, and any road obstacles. Ontario By Bike / Transportation Options and all others involved in the development of this route do not assume any liability whatsoever for cyclists using this information and travelling upon this route.

**What You Need to Know
RIDE DETAILS**

**2 Day, 1 Overnight - Ride Itinerary
Day 1: North Start - North York to Downtown (45km)**

Saturday Ride Recommendation:

- Start near Keele Ave and Finch Ave.
- Ride in visible group to Humber River trailhead.
- Caution crossing on ramps to Hwy 401.
- There is on-road cycling infrastructure on Finch Ave, between Norfinch Ave and On road portion along Finch Ave, while not legal, for safety reasons consider be riding on sidewalk on this stretch of Finch Avenue and Ardwick Blvd. Exercise extreme caution.
- Summer 2018 - Major trail detour in Summerlea Park, near Weston Road and Albion Road.

~25km – Lunch Break or Morning Stop – Etienne Brule Park, Humber River South

- Pack a picnic and enjoy eating lunch on the banks of the Humber River. Washrooms and picnic tables available.
- Or ride off trail to Bloor Street West, near South Kingsway for numerous lunch spots.
- Before reconnecting with trail, ride by nearby Old Mill Hotel to view the unique heritage buildings at this once famous tea room, now boutique hotel and spa on the Humber River.

~29km – At foot of Humber River connect to Waterfront Trail Eastbound

- Where the Humber River meets Lake Ontario, and big white span bridge, turn left onto bridge and cycle towards downtown (east). Follow the Waterfront Trail signs (also named the Martin Goodman Trail) and painted pathway.

~38km – Harbourfront & Downtown Toronto

- Take a break and enjoy the sights and attractions along Harbourfront area and into downtown. Options include: Harbourfront Centre, Amsterdam Brewhouse, CN Tower, Aquarium, Steamwhistle Brewery, Toronto Railway Museum, HTO Beach, Sugar Beach, Toronto Islands, Distillery District and so much more.
- Continue following Waterfront Trail east.

~40km – Cherry Street Cross-over or Additional Loop

- Where Cherry Street meets Lakeshore Blvd East, cross with traffic lights to north side of Lakeshore Blvd and follow trail east. This part of trail runs close to the train tracks and then crosses the Don River. Continue east.
- Or if you still have energy consider and additional 5km ride loop south alongside Cherry Street following Waterfront Trail to Cherry Beach. At Cherry Beach continue following trail east to Leslie Street. At Leslie Street and Unwin Ave, consider adding an extra 10km total (5km each way) or part of, ride out onto Leslie Street Spit / Tommy Thompson Park.
- Additional ride loop reconnects with trail alongside Lakeshore Blvd east, heading towards Beaches area.

~44km – 45km – Toronto East Beaches

- Continue east along the beach taking in Boardwalk, Ashbridges Bay and Woodbine Beach before ending day 1.
- See above for suggested accommodations, returning to downtown area and your choice of hotel.

Day 2: Toronto Beaches East to North York (43km)

Ride Start Location: Days Inn Toronto East Beaches - 1684 Queen St East - parking lot

Leaving hotel and connecting to route:

- Return to Waterfront Trail / Martin Goodman Trail and head west.
- Cross Don River.
- After Don River crossing, follow trail north alongside river and signage for Bike Route 45

~15km – Sunnybrook Park – Eglinton Ave West

- Summer 2018 – Major trail detour - trail connection through Sunnybrook Park, following Wilket Creek is closed for trail construction. You may wish to ride up through Sunnybrook Park to enjoy the scenery and park, but you will have to return to route using above connector.
- **IMPORTANT** - To connect to route, follow trail under Eglinton Ave West towards Sunnybrook Park. Immediately after Eglinton Ave underpass, turn right onto park road that goes up hill to Leslie Street. Cross to east side of Leslie Street at lights just north. Look for small trail entrance way after bus stop shelter, follow pathway through parking lot to connect to trail. If trailhead is missed continue north along Leslie to Lawrence Ave East and Botanical Gardens. You may want to consider using sidewalk.

~ 19km – Morning Rest Stop - Toronto Botanical Gardens, 777 Lawrence Ave East

- Don't miss the Toronto Botanical Gardens / Edwards Gardens. Leave trail at Lawrence Avenue, head west across Leslie Street, and enter gardens on southwest corner.
- Snack bar in the Gardens. Free entrance.
- Return to Don Trail where you left it, along Lawrence Ave East.

~ 22km – York Mills Road

- Trail ends under York Mills Road. Shops and refreshments available on York Mills Road.
- Come up from trail onto bridge that crosses York Mills Road, heading east approx. 300m. Turn left on Lesmill Road, right on Valleybrook Drive, right on Duncan Mills Road, and left back onto trail.
- This on-road portion is approx. 1.5km. Be cautious of traffic on York Mills Road.

~ 26km – Lunch Stop - East Don Park, 1240 Sheppard Ave East

- Pack a picnic and enjoy eating lunch in East Don Park. Washrooms and picnic tables available.

~ 29km – Connect to Finch Trail

- Just north of Finch Ave underpass, connect to Finch Trail, crossing river and following hydro corridor lines. You will know you are heading in the right direction if you are on the trail that has moderately steep hill with switchbacks, heading west.

~ 32km – Use road and bike lane to cross Yonge Street

- Just before reaching Yonge Street, trail ends. Take bike lane through TTC commuter parking lot, parallel to Bishop Ave, cross Yonge Street. Continue on Bishop Ave approx. 500m west, turn right through Hendon Park. Washrooms available. Just north of the washroom building turn left and head west, connecting back to trail following Blake Ave and right on Talbot road where trailhead is immediately visible. Ride west, following trail and hydro corridor greenspace.

~ 37km – Water Reservoir

- At large water reservoir, cross dam bridge and route out to Finch Ave, ride west along Finch Ave, using sidewalks if necessary, short distance to Dufferin Street, turn right and reconnect to Finch Trail heading west.

~42km – Sentinel Trail

- At Sentinel Trail road, leave trail, turn left/south to Finch Ave West. Turn left and return to parking.

~43km – End of ride

- Return to vehicle and parking lot at your choice of start location near Keele Ave & Finch Avenue.



Visitor Information – Toronto

Welcome to Toronto. Discover another side to the big city (the largest in Canada) on this route looped that will follow park, ravine, hydro corridor and waterfront trails. The 90km route will take in many of the city's natural and cultural sights, with options to stop at downtown attractions along the way.



For visitor information for Toronto visit

www.seetorontonow.com

For more information about cycling in Toronto visit

www.toronto.ca/cycling

For additional cycling info and certified bicycle friendly businesses visit

www.ontariobybike.ca/toronto

WHAT TO DO:

The Old Mill Toronto Hotel

Bike by or step into the old world charm and modern boutique hotel, spa and restaurants at the Old Mill. Located on the original site of grist mills powered by the Humber River, the tutor style unique heritage buildings are a Toronto landmark.

Location: 21 Old Mill Road

Sunnyside Park, Beach & Pavilion

This long stretch of parkland and beach on Toronto's west side was once a popular amusement park area in the Victorian age. Stop to admire the architecture of the Sunnyside Pavilion and 'bathing house.' The lakeside café serves refreshments on patio.

Location: 1755 Lake Shore Boulevard West

Trillium Park & William G. Davis Trail

Located just east of the site of former Ontario Place, it is worth veering off the trail to do this 1.3km trail loop through one of Toronto's newest park. Enjoy trailside installations and interpretations, plus fabulous water and downtown views.

Location: 955 Lake Shore Blvd West

Music Garden & HTO Beach

Fronting on Toronto's inner harbour, the Music Garden park design was inspired by Bach's First Suite, is incredibly well maintained, and hosts summer afternoon classical performances. Nearby is HTO Park an urban beach with Muskoka chairs and umbrellas.

Location: 479 Queens Quay West

Amsterdam Brewhouse

Just west of Harbourfront Centre and connected by bridge or trail, this popular harbour side patio serves freshly brewed Amsterdam Beer, a Toronto craft brewery.

Location: 245 Queens Quay West

Harbourfront Centre

Art and cultural space on the waterfront, with exhibits, galleries, studios, cafes and outdoor event space. Definitely worth a stop.

Location: 235 Queens Quay West

[CN Tower](#)

An iconic Toronto attraction that marks the skyline, the 553 metre high (1,815.3 ft) tower was the tallest free standing structure in the world until 2007, (now the ninth tallest), has the best 360 views of the city from up top.

Location: 301 Front St West

[Ripley's Aquarium](#)

Just at the foot of the CN Tower is a large aquarium that holds more than 20,000 exotic sea and freshwater specimens and has incredible displays that include underwater viewing tunnels.

Location: 288 Bremner Blvd

[Steamwhistle Brewery](#)

Located in the historic Roundhouse Building across from the CN Tower and nearby Rogers Centre (home of Blue Jays baseball), sample their one brew, a refreshing Pilsner, in this well-appointed craft brewery.

Location: 255 Bremner Blvd

[Toronto Railway Museum](#)

Both an indoor and outdoor museum housing heritage locomotives and other trains in the historical Roundhouse Building.

Location: 255 Bremner Blvd

[Toronto Islands](#)

A short ferry ride across the harbour will deliver you to the beautiful chain of islands, green parkland, beaches and island community, with roadways and trails that are car free.

Location: Ferry terminal located at 9 Queens Quay West

[Sugar Beach](#)

Detour a few metres off the trail just east of the Redpath Sugar factory for a stop at this scenic urban beach setting, white sands that are sugar-like and candy striped granite boulders.

Location: 11 Dockside Drive

[Distillery District](#)

Unique heritage buildings on site of former whiskey distillery, enjoy cobblestone walkways, interesting shops, art studios, cafes and patios.

Location: 55 Mill Street, take Parliament Street north off trail

[Cherry Beach](#)

At the foot of Cherry Street, this trailside beach has views across the eastern gap to the Toronto Islands and to Leslie Street Spit. The trail winds its way along the beach and past busy sailing and windsurfing areas.

Location: 1 Cherry Street

[Tommy Thompson Park / Leslie St Spit](#)

This 5km man made peninsula is closed to vehicle traffic weekends and evening and its paved

roadway is popular with cyclists and hikers. Also well known for bird watching and views back across the city.

Location: 1 Leslie Street

[The Beaches](#)

Enjoy the white sandy Woodbine Beach, and boardwalk that follows the waters' edge, with the bike trail running parallel. Take a loop out to Ashbridges Bay or hit Queen Street East for shops, cafes and restaurants in this small town feeling lakeside community.

Location: 1675 Lakeshore Blvd East & Queen Street East, east from Coxwell

[Evergreen Brickworks](#)

Located on the site of former Don Valley Brickworks, this once industrial site has been turned into a sustainable, cultural and natural attraction with plenty to see and do. While not directly on route you may want to detour south from Pottery Road along Bayview Ave to take it in.

Location: 550 Bayview Ave

[Todmorden Mills](#)

Several heritage buildings from the industrial era of 19th century are nestled on their original site surrounded by gardens and natural habitat with gallery open to visitors.

Location: 67 Pottery Road

[Toronto Botanical Gardens](#)

Flowers are blooming and green abounds on this 4 acre plot with 17 themed city sized gardens to explore. It won't take all day to see, and is certainly worth the stop and free entrance. Café onsite.

Location: 777 Lawrence Ave East

BIKE SHOPS:

There are over 100 bike shops in Toronto, here are a few that are along the route.

[Dream Cyclery](#) (Open until 7pm Saturday)

In Harbourfront area, sales and service available.

Location: 390 Queens Quay West, #111

[Wheel Excitement](#) (Open until 7pm Saturday)

In Harbourfront area, sales and service available.

Location: 249 Queens Quay West, #106

[Velotique](#) (Open until 6pm Saturday, opens at 10am Sunday)

In the Beaches area, sales and service available.

Location: 1592 Queen St E



Contact details for Ontario By Bike:

Phone: 416-827-2774 or 1-866-701-2774

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Website: www.OntarioByBike.ca