



ONTARIO BY BIKE RIDE LANARK TRAIL TOUR



What You Need to Know THE ESSENTIALS

Total Distance: 160km or 186km

Suggested Ride Time: 3 days, 2 overnights

Experience Level & Route Surfaces: Moderate. If looped routes selected, most of road segments do not have paved shoulders but are quieter country roads. Suitable for hybrid bikes, gravel, mountain bikes, and road bikes with wider tires. Off-road rail trails, hard packed limestone screening, small paved sections, level road crossings, with on-road riding limited to connections using quiet town roads.

Ride Start/Finish Location & Parking: There are a number of parking areas in the town of Carlton Place. We started/finished and parked at our overnight accommodation.

Your Bike: Ensure you arrive to start with a bicycle in good working order, appropriate outerwear for conditions, and refreshments for enroute. Helmets are recommended.

Digital Route Maps:

For each day of riding we have prepared two route options. The first are trail-only, out-and-back routes, covering the same terrain in the morning and afternoon. We have also created optional on-road return routes so that the day's riding more closely resembles a loop. These on-road routes are only recommended for more advanced riders comfortable riding on-road with traffic. Please choose your route based on your riding experience level, comfort with self-navigation, and what type of experience you would like to have each day.

- Day 1 Digital Route (Trail Only, Out-and-Back): ridewithgps.com/routes/40546307
- Day 1 Digital Route (Return On-Road, Loop): ridewithgps.com/routes/38300229
- Day 2 Digital Route (Trail Only, Out-and-Back): ridewithgps.com/routes/40546442
- Day 2 Digital Route (Return On-Road, Loop): ridewithgps.com/routes/38300147
- Day 3 Digital Route (Trail Only, Out-and-Back): ridewithgps.com/routes/40547174
- Day 3 Digital Route (On-Road Return, Loop): ridewithgps.com/routes/38300208

Suggested Overnight Accommodations: Ontario By Bike Certified Bicycle Friendly Businesses in Lanark County - View [Here](#).

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 and 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

Day 1: Carleton Place to Stittsville – 42km or 47km

Ride Start Location: Carleton Place. We started from our accommodations at Comfort Inn & Suites, 355 McNeely Ave, Carleton Place

Day 1 Digital Route (Trail Only, Out-and-Back): ridewithgps.com/routes/40546307

Day 1 Digital Route (Return On-Road, Loop): ridewithgps.com/routes/38300229

Afternoon Ride:

- An easy start to the weekend, and allowing for travel time, enjoy an afternoon ride east from Carleton Place to Stittsville along the crushed limestone surfaced Ottawa Carleton Trailway. Please be aware there are limited washroom facilities enroute.

7-20km – Ottawa Carleton Trailway – Planetary Pathway

- On the 13km stretch of trail between Ashton Station and Stittsville, learn more about our solar system and the vast distances between planets while following the newly-installed unique and informative trailside signs on this portion of the trail dubbed the Planetary Pathway.

21km - Optional Stop – Equator Coffee, Stittsville

- Visit this bicycle friendly café at 1523 Stittsville Main St. The café has simple baked goods, snacks, and high-quality coffee. Support van will be available for additional snacks/drinks.

38km - Optional Stop – Ashton Brew Pub, Ashton Station

- Stop at the Ashton Brew Pub, one of Canada's "most authentic English pubs". Enjoy quality pub fare and authentic English ales brewed on-site in the old Ashton Mill on the banks of the Jock River. The on-road route RidewithGPS will take you directly there. If riding the trail back from Stittsville, turn left at the intersection of the trail and Ashton Station Rd, following Ashton Station Rd. 2.5km south/south-east to Ashton Station.

42km (return from Stittsville on trail) or 47km (return on road) to overnight accommodations in Carleton Place

Evening - Enjoy dinner at choice of locations within walking distance of accommodations.

Day 2: Carleton Place to Pakenham – 56km or 61km

Day 2 Digital Route (Trail Only, Out-and-Back): ridewithgps.com/routes/40546442

Day 2 Digital Route (Return On-Road, Loop): ridewithgps.com/routes/38300147

Day 2 Morning:

- Connect to the larger Ottawa Valley Recreation Trail running north from downtown Carleton Place, after marvelling at the historic town buildings, many built in the late 19th century Romanesque Rival style. Continue on the trail through expansive farmland as you make your way to Almonte, where you will make your first crossing of the Canadian Mississippi River.

13km – Almonte (Mississippi Mills) – Optional Stop

- Ride into the pretty former mill town of Almonte, and check out the many cafes, antique and gift shops before crossing over the Mississippi River, a grand tributary of the Ottawa River, and continuing 15km on the trail to the town of Pakenham and our lunch stop. Public washrooms are available at the Almonte Old Town Hall, 14 Bridge St.

28km – Lunch Stop – Five Span Bridge Park, Pakenham

- Enjoy a picnic lunch stop at the Five Span Bridge Park on the banks of the Mississippi River or stop in town.
- Take in the unique and historic single-lane bridge built in 1903 from local stone. After lunch, treat yourself to an ice cream from a local shop or treat from the Pakenham General Store & Bakery (c. 1840), Canada's oldest continuously-operated general store.

42km – Mill of Kintail Conservation Area and Museum (Optional Stop for On-Road Return Route)

- If returning to Carleton Place by our on-road loop route, stop at Mill of Kintail, an expansive conservation area, also the site of the James Naismith Museum that pays homage to the founder of basketball. After visiting, return to Carleton Place for a second night of accommodation.

43km – Mississippi Valley Textile Museum (National Historic Site) – Almonte (Optional Stop for Trail Only Return Route)

- If returning to Carleton place by trail only, make a stop in at the Mississippi Valley Textile Museum in Almonte and you can learn about the history of the Mississippi River valley and its historic textile industry, as well as see contemporary textile art installations (check opening hours). Almonte alone was historically home to 10 woolen mills, with the industry employing half the town's population at the turn of the 19th century. After visiting, return to Carleton Place for a second night of accommodation.

Evening - Enjoy dinner at choice of locations within walking distance of accommodations.

Day 3: Carleton Place to Smiths Falls – 63km or 78km

Day 3 Digital Route (Trail Only, Out-and-Back): ridewithgps.com/routes/40547174

Day 3 Digital Route (On-Road Return, Loop): ridewithgps.com/routes/38300208

Day 3 Morning

- After checking out of the accommodations, cycle past the heritage roundhouse buildings that now house the must-see Real Wool Shop (142 Fanktown Rd.) adjacent to the trail hub in Carleton Place. Then, enjoy a quiet 24km rail trail ride south on the Ottawa Valley Recreation Trail, turning off the trail just before its terminus near Smiths Falls and riding on quiet roads into town for Day 3 lunch stop.

24.5km – On-road Connector from Trail to Smiths Falls

- Exit right off the trail onto Kelly Jordan Rd, and refer to our detailed maps or RidewithGPS for our safe on-road route into Smiths Falls. DO NOT follow trail all the way to its terminus as you will be forced to cycle on busy Hwy 15 into town.

31km – Lunch Stop – Centennial Park, 2-22 Confederation Dr, Smiths Falls

- Enjoy a picnic lunch at the picnic areas beside the Rideau Canal at Centennial Park in Smiths Falls. Stop in town for supplies or at a nearby restaurant, pub or café.
- After lunch, enjoy the many parks alongside the Rideau Canal, watching boats pass through the historic locks, exploring downtown on the new bike lanes up and down its main thoroughfare, Beckwith St., and stopping at the old station and railyards of the Railway Museum of Eastern Ontario (90 William St. W).
- Public washrooms are located at Victoria Park Marina and Visitor Centre at 30 Lombard St. on the south side of the canal in Smiths Falls.

Afternoon - Return to Carleton Place

- Return to Carleton Place via the road connection to trail (31km return trip on trail) or loop back using our mapped country side roads for a longer ride with more elevation (47km return trip), to finish the tour.

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