ONTARIO BY BIKE RIDE MAY 2026
STRATFORD & COUNTRY GRAVEL EXPLORER

Self-Guided Itinerary

Total Ride Distance: 133 km -155 km
Suggested Ride Time: 2 Days/1 Night
Experience Level: Moderate to Experienced
Route Surface: This route includes segments of paved roads, plenty of gravel roads, and some trails.

Suggested Ride Start Location:

- This is a looped route. Start from any location you choose along the loop.
- As of May 2026, free parking is available in Upper Queen's Park (along Richard Monette Way) and the adjacent riverfront areas. Parking spaces are public and availability is not guaranteed.
- This ride itinerary uses start location: Best Western Plus Arden Park, as our group were guests. If not a guest park and start from nearby Queen's Park.

Suggested Overnight Accommodations for a large group: Best Western Plus Arden Park – 552 Ontario Street, Stratford. (Pool available, as well as other amenities on site.)

Suggested Overnight Accommodations that are certified bike friendly: Avonview Manor, Hughson Hall B&B, Mornington B&B, Birmingham Manor B&B, Acrylic Dreams B&B, or Perth County Inn Inc.

Your Bike: This is a mixed terrain route following paved and gravel roads, plus some trails. This ride is suitable for gravel, hybrid, and mountain bikes and road bikes with wider tires.

Digital Route Map:

- Day 1 - 75km - Stratford Perth City & Country Gravel Tour - ridewithgps.com/routes/53955833
- Day 2 - 58km - Shorter - Stratford & Perth County South West - ridewithgps.com/routes/54867365
- Day 2 - 80km - Stratford & Perth County South West - ridewithgps.com/routes/53769315

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. The route should be evaluated by each individual cyclist based on their level of experience, comfort level in cycling on trails & 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.

Day 1: Stratford to Millbank to Stratford – 75km

Suggested Start Location: Upper Queen's Park Stratford (55 Queen St, Stratford) or the parking lot of - Best Western Plus Arden Park – 552 Ontario Street, Stratford

Day 1 Ride Recommendation:

- Prior to departure, if a bathroom is needed, there are public washroom facilities in Upper Queen's Park.

0 to 6km – Stratford

- Departing the city passing through Queen's Park and crossing the Avon River – green space and trails, we recommend taking your time here to explore and enjoy the space.

13.5 to 24km – Country Gravel Roads to Brunner

- Enjoy the surrounding farmlands and quiet of the flat gravel roads to Brunner.
- 112 Road, travels on the eastern side of Ellice Swamp, the largest nature area and wetlands of the Upper Thames River. With limited trails and restrictions on hiking times, the area is well known for its birding. To plan a visit: www.swampfriends.ca

24km – Country Cousins, Brunner - 5592 Duke St, Brunner

- Be sure to visit inside this family-run Mennonite country store with home-made preserves and more.

24.5 to 27.5km - Farm Tract Trail from Brunner

- Enjoy a peaceful ride on this stretch of unpaved farm tract trail that bisects farmers' fields in the rural Township of Perth East.

27.5km – Milverton

- If interested in a route detour to a small segment of the Goderich to Guelph Rail (G2G) Rail Trail west of Milverton, take a left turn at Line 61, and continue a few km till road intersects with trail. Follow trail into town, leaving trail at Mill Street West, continue on Mill Street East to rejoin route. Note: G2G Trail east of Milverton requires a detour. Follow route suggested.

29km – Milverton

- From main route, take Mill Street East towards town of Milverton, and the Perth East Library in town.

30.5 to 35km – G2G Rail Trail to Millbank

- Sample a small segment of the G2G Trail, a 127km multi-use linear trail that runs along the former CPR railway line stretching from the waters of Lake Huron in Goderich to downtown Guelph. www.g2grailtrail.com

35.5km – Anna Mae's Bakery & Restaurant, Millbank - 4060 Line 72, Millbank

- Anna Mae's, a family-owned Mennonite restaurant and bakery, is an extremely popular stop for cyclists as well as all other visitors, having a huge selection of foods as well as baked goods. www.annamaes.ca
- Washrooms are available inside Anna Mae's.

35.5km - Millbank

- Pedal around the small and pretty village of Millbank and visit local businesses.
- Millbank Cheese Factory – Open since 1908, as a way for local farmers to use the surplus of milk from their dairy operations, there is now a factory outlet store.
- Zehr's Country Market – Housed in a unique red barn like building on Main Street, this family-owned country market has many products supplied by local farmers.

36 to 38km – G2G Rail Trail to east of Millbank

- Sample an additional small segment of the G2G Rail Trail until turning right at Road 116 and continuing on 7km following Road 116.

45km - Detour Required

- As of May 2026 there is construction requiring a detour. This is subject to change. Due to bridge construction on Road 116, make a detour turning left to Deborah Glaister Line.
- Exercise extreme caution on the 1km stretch of Hwy 7.
- Enjoy the surrounding farmlands and quiet of the flat gravel roads south towards Stratford.
- Use original route with no detour once construction is complete. See routing marked on Ride With GPS.

69.5km – Stratford Municipal Airport

- Turn left at this landmark, into the outskirts of Stratford.

75.5km – Complete loop returning into Stratford

- Enjoy the end of your ride returning into Stratford. There are many bike friendly accommodations, attractions, and restaurants to enjoy.

Day 2: Sunday, May 24 – Stratford to St. Marys to Stratford – 58km or 80km

Day 2 Ride Recommendation:

- Prior to departure, if a bathroom is needed, there are public washroom facilities in Upper Queen's Park.

0 to 7.5km – Stratford

- Similar to day 1, the start is assumed to be in Upper Queen's Park but can vary depending on various conditions including if you stay at a hotel and/or riding from other accommodations.
- Follow city streets and routing through the city, heading towards the south west part of Perth County.

22.5km – Road 134/Line 15
Also Long Route Turn-Off / Shorter Route Continue On

- At the 22.5km mark (the above intersection):
  - If riding the 80km longer route you will be turning right off Road 134, onto Line 15 to continue on gravel roads through more beautiful, peaceful farmlands. The longer route reconnects with the short route at the 48km mark, adding 22km to the ride day. Please consider your ride experience level, road conditions and current fitness level prior to opting for the longer route.
- The majority of riders will enjoy the recommended 58km route and need to continue straight along Road 134.

30.5km (or 53km) – Grand Trunk Trail, St. Marys

- Turn onto the Grand Trunk Trail and enjoy a part of this 3km long multi-use trail with the highlight of crossing the panoramic Sarnia Bridge. This trail is also a part of the delightful 13km Loop Trail.

32km (or 54.5km) – Turn off the Grand Trunk Trail & into town of St. Marys

- Leave the trail to go into town following Wellington Street North.

33km (or 55.5km) – 'The Flats' / Milt Dunnell Field

- Enjoy a stop, park, picnic, and washroom facilities.
- This picturesque park known as 'The Flats', also Milt Dunnell Field, is located on the Thames River, with views to the Grand Trunk Trail and north end of the falls.
- Use this as an opportunity for a break and/or meal.
- Explore St. Marys: visit shops and cafes on Queen Street; ride the 2km off-road Riverside Trail from The Flats to see more including possible detours to St. Marys Quarry and the Canadian Baseball Hall of Fame.

35km (or 57.5km) – Rejoin the Grand Truck Trail

- Turn onto the trail from James Street North, for 0.5km until it ends at Glass Street.

35.5km (or 58km) – Broken Rail Brewery

- Address: 480 Glass St, St. Marys
- It is a worthy stop to see the brewery that is situated in the iconic St. Marys Junction Railway Station, a small station built for the Grand Trunk Railway back in 1858.
- The Broken Rail is a certified bicycle friendly location.

45.5km (or 68km) – St. Paul's Station

- As of May 2026, there is a portable washroom available in the park.

49.5 to 58km (or 72 to 80.5km) - Return to Stratford

- This last segment of the ride will follow the route initially taken out of Stratford, now returning to Upper Queen's Park and the Best Western Arden Park.

58km (or 80.5km) – Ride Ends

- Congratulations, you have reached the end of the ride. We hope you enjoyed the Ontario By Bike Ride – Stratford & Country Gravel Explorer!

THANK YOU FOR RIDING WITH US