

AN ONTARIO'S SOUTHWEST CYCLING ITINERARY

Looping through Lambton



Total Distance:
166 km, or
262 km (with optional Grand Bend route extension)



**Suggested Ride
and Touring Itinerary:**
3 days, 2 nights
(extension for 4th day offered)



Experience Level:
Moderate to experienced



Looping through Lambton

Total Distance: 166 km, or 262 km (with optional Grand Bend route extension).

Suggested Ride and Touring Itinerary: 3 days, 2 nights (extension for 4th day offered).

Daily Ride Distance Average: 56 km

Experience Level: Moderate to experienced.

Route Surface: Primarily paved with small segments of off-road paved trails. Alternate route options offer gravel roads and paved and dirt trails.

Route Map Link: <https://ridewithgps.com/routes/11336773> (paved option)

Alternate Ride Route Map Link: <https://ridewithgps.com/routes/11336769> (some unpaved option)

Vehicle Parking/Transportation: Parking is available at booked accommodation in Sarnia or Port Edward, or at Sarnia's Ontario Travel Information Centre on Venetian Blvd. Inform staff at the information centre prior to departing on your ride.

Know before you go: This route is suitable for cyclists with experience and comfort in riding on roads with some vehicle traffic. This route has been selected to incorporate roads with low-traffic and low-speeds, bike lanes and paved shoulders whenever possible. Exercise caution as conditions warrant and ride safe. As much of this route is through rural areas, with communities as marked, take spare bicycle parts, extra water, and other refreshments as needed.



Starting point: Sarnia
(Point Edward)
End Point: Wallaceburg
Total distance: 61 km

Interesting stops along the day's route:

- Moore Museum
- Sarnia Historical Museum
- Sombra Museum
- Stones and Bones Museum
- Refined Fool Brewery
- Judith and Norman Alix Art Gallery
- Trans Canada Trail
- Walpole Island
- Wallaceburg & District Museum

For detailed turn-by-turn directions,
please refer to the route map at:

<http://www.ridewithgps.com/routes/11336773>

Day 1: Leg 1 of 2

Sarnia to Sombra – 38 km

Area services along the route: Accommodations, campgrounds, cafés, restaurants, shopping, groceries, banking, bike shop, attractions and trails.

- Start your ride on the shores of the St. Clair River in the community of Point Edward under the Blue Water Bridge. Follow paved trails and quieter city roads south through Sarnia.
- Caution on Vidal St. S, as this road has a higher volume of traffic and larger vehicles.
- After 11 km you will connect with the St. Clair Parkway, which offers wide, paved shoulders and great views of the St. Clair River.
- Take a break in Mooretown (23 km) at the riverside Mooretown Centennial Park and make time to visit the Moore Museum.
- Stop for lunch in Sombra (38 km) at The Aft Cabin Restaurant and explore the Sombra Museum to learn about the local history of the area.

Day 1: Leg 2 of 2

Sombra to Wallaceburg – 23 km

Area services along the route: Accommodations, campgrounds, cafes, restaurants, shopping, banking, attractions and trails.

- From Sombra, continue south for 6 km along the St. Clair Parkway following the eastern shore of the St. Clair River with views across to the U.S.
- Stop in Port Lambton for refreshments at one of the stores in town. Take in the sights and sounds of the St. Clair River from the picnic benches in Dedecker Park and reflect on Al Capone and other notorious bootleggers who frequented the shores of the area during the Prohibition era.
- South of Port Lambton, continue for 8 km on St. Clair Parkway and ride inland and through rich farmland and quaint rural communities before heading west into Wallaceburg, where your day of riding ends.
- Caution on Dufferin Avenue as this road has a higher volume of traffic and larger vehicles.
- Situated at the forks of the Sydenham River, explore Wallaceburg by foot or bike. Tour the Wallaceburg and District Museum and learn about the area's agricultural, industrial and maritime heritage. Perhaps you'll uncover the truth of the Baldoon Mystery, a unique tale of witchcraft in Wallaceburg.
- Stop in for dinner at the Black Goose Grill and enjoy local pub fare on their riverside patio.



Starting point: Wallaceburg

End Point: Petrolia

Total distance: 63 km

Interesting stops along the day's route:

- Uncle Tom's Cabin National Historic Site
- Dresden Raceway
- Tony Stranak Conservation Area
- Oil Museum of Canada National Historic Site
- Victoria Playhouse (housed in Victoria Hall National Historic Site)
- Trans Canada Trail (if unpaved trail option taken)
- Riverside cycling along Sydenham River (if unpaved trail option taken)

For detailed turn-by-turn directions,

please refer to the route map at:

<http://www.ridewithgps.com/routes/11336773>

Get the route map with unpaved options at

www.ridewithgps.com/routes/11336769

Day 2: Leg 1 of 2

Wallaceburg to Dresden – 19 km

Area services along the route: Accommodations, cafés, restaurants, groceries, bike shop/ services, shopping, banking, and attractions. No services are available between Wallaceburg and Dresden.

- Today's route offers more rural riding along country roads in the region's hinterlands. Ride past working farms and rural landscapes while taking in the smells and sounds of Ontario's agricultural countryside.
- Don't miss Uncle Tom's Cabin, a National Historic Site located just east of Dresden. This open-air museum pays tribute to local contributions to the abolition movement and the Underground Railroad. A visit offers a unique opportunity to learn about the rich heritage of Ontario's Black community.
- From here, it's a short ride into Dresden (2 km) and Bella's Café, a great local spot to stop for lunch offering fresh, local and healthy food options. Also in town is the Dresden Raceway, where visitors and locals alike adorn their finest clothes to watch the races.
- Need bike supplies or service? Make sure to stop at Clark's Sports and More before crossing the Sydenham River.

Optional Unpaved Routing – Trans Canada Trail (16 km):

Extend your journey an extra day or two and spend time exploring the area's rich nature:

- Head north on Murray St. through Wallaceburg to Wallace St. E.
- Go east along Wallace St., following the southern shore of the Sydenham River. Wallace St. E. eventually turns into McGregor Line.
- Continue east on this unpaved road for 4 km before connecting to a short stretch of paved road along John Park Line. Don't miss the left turn on Starkweather Line, which brings you back close to the river for another 10 km of picturesque rural river riding. Starkweather Line eventually turns into Glasgow Line.
- Connect onto Uncle Tom's Rd., which leads you south to Uncle Tom's Cabin, a National Historic Site located just east of Dresden.

Day 2 Itinerary continued on following page...



Day 2: Leg 2 of 2

Dresden to Petrolia – 44 km

Area services along the route: Accommodations, campgrounds, cafés, restaurants, groceries, bike shop/services, shopping, banking, and attractions in Dresden and Petrolia. No services are available between Dresden and Oil Springs, and between Oil Springs and Petrolia.

- Head north from Dresden and into the heart of Lambton County with vast farmlands and pastoral scenery filling the horizon.
- Enjoy a great stretch of quiet, well-paved rural roads for 26 km as you ride north into Oil Springs, the birthplace of the oil industry in North America.
- Located just outside of Oil Springs, visit the Oil Museum of Canada, a National Historic Site. Make time to pedal the self-guided tour or walk the grounds and explore the interactive exhibits inside the museum.
- Restock on refreshments at the convenience store at the west end of Oil Springs on Oil Springs Line, either on your way in or out of town.
- Continue north to Petrolia (15 km) through agricultural land dotted with active oil rigs from a bygone era.
- Finish your ride rolling into Petrolia, 'Canada's Victorian Oil Town,' and admire the well-preserved Victorian architecture; much of it built during North America's first oil rush.
- While in Petrolia, book a play at the Victoria Playhouse Petrolia, visit the Farmer's Market on Saturdays or explore the historic downtown and shops.



Starting point: Petrolia
End Point: Sarnia
Total distance: 42 km

Interesting stops along the day's route:

- Victoria Playhouse (housed in Victoria Hall National Historic Site)
- Sawmill Creek Golf Course and Spa Retreat
- Numerous sandy beaches along Lake Huron's southern shore
- Canatara Park and its Blue Flag designated beach
- Bluewater Bridge
- Waterfront Park

For detailed turn-by-turn directions,
please refer to the route map at:

<http://www.ridewithgps.com/routes/11336773>

Day 3: Leg 1 of 2

Petrolia to Camlachie – 19 km

Area services along the route: Cafés, shopping, and banking.

- Before heading out of Petrolia, grab a coffee and snack at the bicycle friendly Coffee Lodge.
- Ride north on Tank St. before taking La Salle Line west to Marthaville Rd.
- From here, head north for 14 km, through corn fields and agricultural land toward the southern shores of Lake Huron.
- On weekends, stop in at the Old Mill on Warehouse St. in Camlachie to pick up some fresh produce or search through local antiques.
- Stop off at the Camlachie Food Market on Lakeshore Rd for refreshments and snacks for the final leg of the route.

Day 3: Leg 2 of 2

Camlachie to Sarnia – 23 km

Area services along the route: Cafés, restaurants, shopping, groceries banking, and attractions.

- Cross Lakeshore Rd. and connect with Egremont Rd. for 6 km.
- Continuing west, connect to Old Lakeshore Rd and the lakefront trails with picturesque views of Lake Huron.
- Routing takes riders through the bedroom community of Brights Grove, once a dance hall destination, drawing crowds of thousands to see big bands with stars including Louis Armstrong and Guy Lombardo.
- For 10 km, ride along Lakeshore Rd., which is part of the Waterfront Trail, into Sarnia and Point Edward.
- You're almost there! Spend some time relaxing at the Blue Flag-designated white sand beach in Canatara Park. Cool off by going for a swim or explore the nearby 200 acres of trails and parkland.
- Ride past local harbours on a paved off-road trail for the final 3 km before connecting to the Bluewater Bike Path and finishing your ride under the Bluewater Bridge overlooking the St. Clair River, back in Sarnia.
- Ride a little further south on the Bluewater Bike Path and finish your ride by enjoying fish and chips at the famous Purdy Fish Market.

Optional Unpaved Trail Routing – Howard Watson Nature Trail (6km):

- At Brights Grove, head south on Bridgen Rd. and cross over Lakeshore Rd. to connect with the Howard Watson Nature Trail
- Continue west on this gravel and soil rail trail for 6 km. The trail is suitable for hybrid bikes.
- Connect back along Lakeshore Rd. part of the Waterfront Trail, into Sarnia and Point Edward, and through Canatara Park.



GRAND BEND OPTION

Starting point: Petrolia

End Point: Grand Bend

Total distance: 68 km

Interesting stops along the day's route:

- Sawmill Creek Golf Course and Spa Retreat
- Highland Glen Conservation Area (Beach Access)
- Forest Glen Herb Farm
- Chippewas of Kettle and Stony Point First Nations
- Pinery Provincial Park (Beach Access)
- Lambton Heritage Museum
- Numerous sandy beaches along Lake Huron's southern shore
- Grand Bend and Blue Flag-designated beach

For detailed turn-by-turn directions, please refer to route map with Grand Bend Extension at www.ridewithgps.com/routes/11260930

Route map with unpaved options at www.ridewithgps.com/routes/11038700

Day 3 (Alternate): Leg 1 of 2

Petrolia to Kettle Point – 43 km

Area services along the route: Accommodations, campgrounds, cafés, restaurants, shopping, groceries, banking, and attractions.

- Before heading out of Petrolia, grab a coffee and snack at the bicycle friendly Coffee Lodge.
- Ride north on Tank St. before taking La Salle Line west to Marthaville Rd.
- From here, head north for 14 km, through corn fields and agricultural land towards the southern shores of Lake Huron.
- On weekends, stop in at the Old Mill on Warehouse St. to pick up some fresh produce or search through local antiques.
- Stop off at the Camlachie Food Market on Lakeshore Rd. for refreshments and snacks for the final leg of the route.
- Connect to the Waterfront Trail riding northeast on Lakeshore Rd. for 15 km before stopping to visit Forest Glen Herb Farm, a bicycle friendly attraction with rest rooms, water and tours of their unique herb farm.
- Lunch or refreshment break options are available at Kettle Point Plaza, located off Lakeshore Rd, including a grocery store and restaurants.

Day 3 (Alternate) Itinerary continued on following page...



Day 3 (Alternate): Leg 2 of 2

Kettle Point to Grand Bend – 25 km

Area services along the route: Accommodations, campgrounds, cafés, restaurants, shopping, groceries, banking, and attractions.

- Kettle Point is the community reserve for the Chippewas of Kettle and Stony Point First Nation Band.
- If you happen to be riding second weekend of July, stop in at their annual Pow Wow and experience a unique cultural and traditional celebration.
- Continue riding along the Waterfront Trail on Lakeshore Rd for 16 km until Pinery Provincial Park. Explore the beaches, ride 14 km of paved bike trails or rent a canoe to paddle the river. Nestled along the shores of Lake Huron, the park offers access to campsites, rest rooms, water and other services at the park visitor centre. Cyclists enter the park for free.
- For an interesting cultural stop, visit the Lambton Heritage Museum (just east of the park entrance gates) and explore more of Lambton County's history.
- Connect to the Grand Bend Rotary Trail at Pinery Provincial Park entrance, a 9 km paved off-road trail connecting the park to the town of Grand Bend.
- Roll into Grand Bend and experience this quintessential beach town on the shores of Lake Huron.

Stay a little longer ...

Extend your journey an extra day or two and spend time exploring the Grand Bend area.

- Grand Bend services include accommodations (camping, cottage rentals, B&B's, hotels and inns), cafés/restaurants, great shopping and attractions such as the Huron County Playhouse and Playhouse II, Pinery Flea Market, Dale's Antique Market and of course, Grand Bend's famous (and Blue Flag-designated) white sand beaches.
- Stay at the bicycle friendly Pine Dale Motor Inn, or one of the many other accommodations available.
- Nearly 60 festivals and events take place in Grand Bend each year, so be sure to check the events calendar before and during your visit.



Starting point: Grand Bend

End Point: Sarnia

Total distance: 70 km

Interesting stops along the day's route:

- Pinery Provincial Park (Beach Access)
- Lambton Heritage Museum
- Chippewas of Kettle and Stony Point First Nations
- Forest Glen Herb Farm
- Highland Glen Conservation Area (beach access)
- Sawmill Creek Golf Course and Spa Retreat
- Canatara Park and Blue Flag-designated beach
- Bluewater Bridge
- Waterfront Park

For detailed turn-by-turn directions,

please refer to the route map at:

<http://www.ridewithgps.com/routes/11336773>

Day 4: Leg 1 of 2

Grand Bend to Kettle Point – 25 km

Area services along the route: Accommodations, campgrounds, cafés, restaurants, shopping, groceries, banking, and attractions.

- You'll be doubling back along the route you rode into Grand Bend. Be sure to connect to the Grand Bend Rotary Trail on the way out of town, which ends at Pinery Provincial Park entrance (9 km).
- Push yourself between the Provincial Park and Kettle Point, a 19 km stretch of the Waterfront Trail along Lakeshore Rd.
- Need refreshments? Stop in at restaurants and a general store located just west of Lambton Shores.
- Lunch or refreshment break options are available at Kettle Point Plaza, located off Lakeshore Rd., including a grocery store and restaurants.

Day 4 Itinerary continued on following page...



Day 4: Leg 2 of 2

Kettle Point to Sarnia – 25 km

Area services along the route: Accommodations, campgrounds, cafés, restaurants, shopping, groceries, banking, and attractions.

- Continue on the Waterfront Trail for 10 km and if you missed it on your way to Grand Bend, be sure to visit Forest Glen Herb Farm, a bicycle friendly attraction with rest rooms, water and tours of their unique herb farm.
- Take Queen St. off Lakeshore Rd and connect to Egremont Rd for 7 km.
- Continuing west, connect to Old Lakeshore Rd. and the lakefront trails with picturesque views of Lake Huron.
- Routing takes riders through the bedroom community of Brights Grove, once a dance hall destination, drawing crowds of thousands to see big bands with stars including Louis Armstrong and Guy Lombardo.
- For 10 km, ride along Lakeshore Rd., which is part of the Waterfront Trail, into Sarnia and Point Edward.
- You're almost there! Spend some time relaxing at the Blue Flag-designated white sand beach in Canatara Park. Cool off by going for a swim or explore the nearly 200 acres of trails and parkland.
- Ride past local harbours on a paved off-road trail for the final 3 km before connecting to the Bluewater Bike Path and finishing your ride under the Bluewater Bridge overlooking the St. Clair River.
- Ride a little further south on the Bluewater Bike Path and finish your ride by enjoying fish and chips at the famous Purdy Fish Market.

Optional Unpaved Routing – Howard Watson Nature Trail (13 km):

- Take Queen St. off Lakeshore Rd and connect to Egremont Rd. for 7 km before crossing over Lakeshore Rd and continuing west along the Howard Watson Nature Trail
- Continue west on this gravel and soil rail trail for 13 km. The trail is suitable for hybrid bikes.
- Connect back along Lakeshore Rd., which is part of the Waterfront Trail into Sarnia and Point Edward.

This is a suggested ride itinerary.

The daily route distances can be increased or decreased to suit individual riders.

Bike Stores

Three bike shops are located along this route; two in Sarnia, and one in Dresden (80 km mark).

The Bicycle Shop

410 Front St N, Sarnia, Ontario N7T 5S9
(519) 344-0515 or www.thebicycleshopsarnia.ca

Blackwell Cycle

1801 Blackwell Rd, Sarnia, Ontario, N7X 1A7
(519) 491-1777 or www.blackwellcycle.com

Clark's Sports and More

102 Metcalfe Ave W, Dresden, Ontario N0P 1M0
(519) 683-4363

Additional Resources & Visitor Information:

- www.OntariosSouthwest.com
- www.tourismsarnialambton.com
- www.chatham-kent.ca/Tourism
- www.grandbendtourism.com
- www.waterfronttrail.org
- www.ontariobybike.ca/southwestontario