# RideOxford.ca




**Bring your water bottle**
Oxford County has committed to achieving zero waste, with aims to reduce waste by 60% by 2030. Help us achieve our goal by packing your own reusable water bottle.



**Oxford County Cheese Trail**
Better cheddar, good gouda and squeaky curds are all just a cycle away from being in your belly.



**Pedal to Pints**
A long day of cycling calls for a cold glass of beer. Oxford's two craft breweries serve it up fresh and cold all year long.



**Fuel Up**
Enjoy local flavours and scratch cooking at our many cafés, bakeries, diners & pubs. See our list of patios & dining options at tourismoxford.ca.

**A What? Festival**
From daschunds to turtles, Oxford County has cornered the market on festivals that are too bizarre to miss. Check our event calendar for details.





**Experience Fall**
Oxford's position in the transition zone between the Carolinian Life Zone and the Great Lakes St. Lawrence Region makes it the perfect spot for your fall colour tour. Be sure to stop at one of our many markets to pick up the season's freshest produce.

## Legend

- Blandford Blenheim Tour
- Foldens Sweaburg Salford
- Harrington Lakeside
- Ingersoll Woodstock Loop
- Norwich Otterville
- Oxford County South
- Oxford County North
- Oxford Century Ride
- Trans Canada Trail
- Trans Canada Trail (On-road)
- Thamesford North
- Tillsonburg Airport Run
- Woodstock Pittock Circuit

H Hospital · P Police Station

**Mountain Biking:** P The Pines · W Wildwood Conservation Area

**Tourism Information:** i Quality Hotel, Woodstock; Ingersoll Cheese Museum; Station Arts Centre, Tillsonburg

## The Journey Begins

**Potential start points for your ride**

| Town | Start | Name | Address | Information |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Drumbo | 1 | Downtown Drumbo | Drumbo Park, 41 Centre St. | C, Water Bottle, S, P, Picnic, W |
| Foldens | 2 | Foldens Hall | 374091 Foldens Line | P |
| Harrington | 3 | Harrington Grist Mill Conservation Area | 963656 Road 96 | P, Picnic |
| Ingersoll | 4 | Ingersoll Cheese & Agricultural Museum | 290 Harris St. | C, Water Bottle, S, P, Picnic, W |
| | 5 | Victoria Park Community Complex | 355 Wellington St. | C, Water Bottle, P, W |
| | 6 | Comfort Inn | 20 Samnah Cr. | Water Bottle, P, W |
| | 7 | Downtown Ingersoll Parking | Water St. or Charles St. | C, Water Bottle, Dining, Patio, S, P, W, Some day of week/seasonal hours* |
| | 8 | Leaping Deer Adventure Farm | 544212 Clarke Rd. | Water Bottle, Dining, Patio, P, W, Some day of week/seasonal hours* |
| Norwich | 9 | Norwich Community Centre | 2 Stover St. S | Water Bottle, P, W, Some day of week/seasonal hours* |
| | 10 | Dowtown Norwich | Main St. | C, Water Bottle, Dining, Patio, S, P, Some day of week/seasonal hours* |
| Ostrander | 11 | Tillsonburg Airport | 244411 Airport Rd. | Water Bottle, Dining, Patio, P, W |
| Otterville | 12 | Downtown Otterville | Main St. | C, Water Bottle, P, W, Some day of week/seasonal hours* |
| | 13 | Woodlawn Adult Community Centre | 225426 County Rd. 19 | P |
| Plattsville | 14 | Plattsville Memorial Community Arena | 68 Mill St. | Water Bottle, P, W, Some day of week/seasonal hours* |
| Tavistock | 15 | Tavistock Queen's Park | 1 Adam St. | Water Bottle, P, W |
| Thamesford | 16 | North Park | 221 George St. | C, P, Patio, W, Some day of week/seasonal hours* |
| Tillsonburg | 17 | Tillsonburg Complex | 45 Hardy Ave. | Water Bottle, P, W |
| | 18 | Station Arts Centre/ Downtown Tillsonburg | 41 Bridge St. | Water Bottle, Dining, S, Patio, P, Picnic, W |
| Woodstock | 19 | Roth Park, Woodstock | Huron St. North & 680 Highland Dr. | P, W |
| | 20 | Pittock Conservation Area | 221 Pittock Park Rd. | C, Water Bottle, Dining, P, Picnic, W, Some day of week/seasonal hours* |
| | 21 | Downtown Woodstock Pay/Display Parking | 21 Light St. | C, Water Bottle, Dining, Patio, S, P, Picnic, W, Some day of week/seasonal hours* |
| | 22 | Southside Park | Parkinson Rd. & South St. | C, Water Bottle, Dining, P, Picnic, W, Some day of week/seasonal hours* |

C Convenience · Water Bottle · Dining · Patio · S ATM · P Parking · Picnic · W Washrooms · Some day of week/seasonal hours*

*Check with individual locations for seasonal and time of day constraints.
Visit **rideoxford.ca** for updates and additional route information.

Courtesy Columbia Photos



## Cycling Events

**Great Canadian Bicycling Tours**, April & October, gcbt.org
**Open House/Demo Day**, May, woodstockcyclingclub.ca
**Wild Mtn Bike Adventure**, June, wildwoodconservationarea.ca
**Multisport Triathalons**, multisportcanada.com
**Dairy Capital Stampede**, September, woodstockcyclingclub.ca
**Silver Spokes Club Rides**, silverscc.net
**Dam Cross**, October, www.damcross.com
**Woodstock Cycling Club Rides**, woodstockcyclingclub.ca





Great riding in Oxford has been happening for over a century with two local clubs since 1896 (Woodstock Cycling Club) and 1939 (Silver Spokes). We are also home to the Ingersoll Safe Cycling Committee .

Green Tourism GOLD

In Oxford, preserving our vast wildlife, rural routes and overall environment is important. Through the Future Oxford campaign, Oxford is taking environmental preservation seriously and taking steps towards sustainability. Tourism Oxford is proud to be Green Tourism Canada Certified with a Gold Level.

## The Off-Beaten Track



Courtesy Columbia Photos

Are you all about hitting the rough terrain? Oxford County has two conservation areas with challenging trails perfect for you and your mountain bike. Explore Wildwood (25km loop) or The Pines (20km trail network) for a ride that is sure to please the outdoor enthusiast in you. Make it a trip by camping at Wildwood or Pittock and enjoy the night under the stars. Not up for roughing it? The Step Into Nature Package includes tent set up, supplies and access to canoeing and kayaking or you can book a night at a local accommodation. See rideoxford.ca for a list of bike friendly accommodations. Two of our trails are also groomed throughout the winter.

**wildwoodconservationarea.ca/trails**
**woodstockcyclingclub.ca**



## The Great Trail

The Great Trail (aka The Trans-Canada Trail) has extended in Oxford County by approximately 27 kilometers of on and off-road trail between Tillsonburg and Delhi. This forms one of the world's longest networks of multi-use recreational trails, stretching about 24,000 km and linking nearly 1000 communities. This provides more connections for cyclists wanting overnight trips or longer distance rides.

# Welcome to Oxford County

Enjoy a refreshing ride in the clean air with quiet roads, beautiful scenery and unique stops along the way.

For detailed route sheets visit **rideoxford.ca**. You'll also get the scoop on unique destinations and certified bike friendly accommodations, restaurants and attractions.

Tourism Oxford
*Our rural roots are showing*

## 34 KM Ingersoll Woodstock Loop

**Experience Level:** Easy to moderate, recreational ride

**Route Surface:** Paved

**Route Description:**

Starting from either Ingersoll or Woodstock this pleasant 30 km ride lets cyclists have a real taste of both town and countryside, looping between the two centres on different roads.

Enjoy a pleasant quiet countryside pedal on Clarke Road, passing picturesque farmfields and farmsteads enroute. Stop midway at ***Leaping Deer Adventure Farm and Market*** for a break and famous maple tart.

Following the Thames River for much of the way, complete the circuit using Beachville Road which, while a little busier has some nice stretches of paved shoulders and Share the Road signs. Take a break and learn some interesting facts and history about the area with a stop at the ***Beachville District Museum***.



At either end of the ride take the time to explore both the town of Ingersoll, with scenic trails, museums and refreshment stops and the city of Woodstock's bustling downtown Dundas Street plus quieter trails alongside ***Pittock Reservoir***.

**Route Option and Notes:**

Caution crossing at busier intersections. Use paved shoulders on Beachville Road, where available. Karn Road is an alternate route with low traffic.

## 16 KM Woodstock Pittock Circuit

**Experience Level:** Easy, recreational ride

**Route Surface:** Mixed, paved trails, roads and unpaved hard packed trail surfaces



**Route Description:**

From ***Woodstock's Roth Park*** enjoy this easy ride exploring the trails and country roads on this circuit around Pittock Reservoir. Starting with a nice 2 km stretch of paved multi-use trails, enjoy this peaceful tree lined route along the water's edge. Continue on the easily rideable unpaved section until the trail ends at Oxford Road 4. Crossing the bridge and train tracks, turn onto the quieter Oxford Road 17 for 4 km, until reaching the ***Pittock Conservation Area***. Explore the grounds, trails and popular camping spot, with a birds-eye view to the Thames River dam. Continue the ride by accessing the ***Burgess Trail***. This unpaved route makes for a pleasant nature tour but can be skipped to reduce ride time. From Tescumseh Street, cross the railway tracks and get back onto the trail on the south side of the dam, skirting back to the starting point at Roth Park.

**Route Option and Notes:**

Caution on Oxford Road 4 and crossing Hwy 59/Vansittart Road due to higher traffic volumes.

## 17 KM OR 31 KM Foldens Sweaburg Salford

**Experience Level:** Easy to moderate, recreational ride

**Route Surface:** Paved, except for 1.25 km side road to/from Trillium Woods



**Route Description:**

Take a leisurely ride along quiet country roads to get the real feel for Oxford County. Located close to Ingersoll and Woodstock, the Foldens start location is easy to access for a short tour. If feeling energetic and have a bit more experience riding on roads, consider extending the ride an additional 14 km with another peaceful country road loop through Salford and back.

Route highlights include stops for maple tarts and country market shopping at ***Leaping Deer Adventure Farm and Market***. With the maple theme continuing, take a turn off on Trillium Line to ***Jakeman's Maple Farm***. While there, simply cross the road to check out the lush forest and trail through the ***Trillium Woods***.

If taking the longer route be sure to stop at ***The Village Cheese Mill*** at the cross roads shortly after the 25 km mark. Cruise back into Foldens from either ride to continue on with the day out.

**Route Option and Notes:**

Extend the ride by adding an additional 14 km loop. Longer route recommended for cyclists with more experience riding on roads due to higher traffic volumes on route north from Salford. If less experienced, consider riding on gravel shoulder for this 2 km stretch along Plank Road/County Road 19.

## 34 KM Norwich Otterville

**Experience Level:** Easy to moderate, recreational ride

**Route Surface:** Paved



**Route Description:**

This quiet countryside ride will get cyclists deep into the heart of the agricultural lands in Oxford South, with stops in the towns of Norwich and Otterville. Taking Airport Road east and turning onto Windham Road, this peaceful, flat ride just keeps getting prettier. Taking Coal Line into Otterville the route gently winds past tree farms before arriving in this hamlet. Pick up some cold drinks at the corner store before crossing the stone bridge to the historic ***Otterville Park***, complete with a summer time pool for a cool down. Stop by the historical plaque, a tribute to early black settlement in the township, before ambling along to Middletown Line for another scenic stretch. Back in Downtown Norwich, enjoy post ride refreshments at a choice of locations.

## 27 KM Tillsonburg Airport Run

**Experience Level:** Easy to moderate, recreational ride

**Route Surface:** Paved, except for trail in Tillsonburg and 3.5 km on Airport Road



**Route Description:**

Take trails and quieter town roads in and out of Tillsonburg, exploring more of the pretty country side on this leisurely 27 km ride. Lush green fields and treed forest patches along either side of Derehem Line, just beyond Brownsville Road, make a super ride. Slow down to enjoy some stops along Airport Road, starting at Highway #119/Plank Road with ***Coyle's Country Store***, famed for its baking supplies, nuts and giftwares. Just 1 km east enroute is the Tillsonburg Airport, home to the ***WWII era Harvard aircraft***. If your ride day coincides with a flight demonstration or practise, sit back on the café deck to take it all in or come back for a flight experience. Heading back into Tillsonburg stop at ***Sundown Farms*** for berries, apples, local cheese, honey and more before connecting with the ***TransCanada Trail*** back into town, leaving plenty of time to look around.

**Route Option and Notes:**

Routing on the 3.5 km unpaved segment of Airport Road, between Dereham Line and Highway #119/Plank Road, is recommended to avoid high traffic volumes. Should cyclists decide to reroute along the paved roads use Ostrander Road. Caution crossing Highway #119/Plank Road.

## 52 KM Thamesford North

**Experience Level:** Moderate to advanced ride

**Route Surface:** Paved



**Route Description:**

Taking the quiet country back road out of Thamesford, ride onto Cobble Hills Road. On one of the most scenic roads in the County, enjoy wide sweeping views interspersed with dense forest lining the way. Low traffic volumes continue all the way around this loop, including the turn towards Lakeside riding along Oxford Road 92/25.

On a nice day take a detour and visit the community of Lakeside popular for swimming and birding. This delightful ride continues back towards the start on 31st Line and 17th Line, before ending in Thamesford, where there are a number of places to get refreshments.

**Route Option and Notes:**

Caution crossing 19th Line, heavy traffic. Shorten the loop to 40 km by turning east County Road 84, towards Kintore.

## 39 KM Harrington Lakeside

**Experience Level:** Moderate to advanced ride

**Route Surface:** Paved

**Route Description:**

Heading out from the hamlet of Harrington, park and picnic at the ***Harrington Grist Mill Conservation Area***. Walk the pond trail, throw your fishing line in the water and admire the community effort to restore this century old grist mill. This flat ride provides a great tour passing local farmlands and their original farmsteads.



On a nice day take a detour and visit the community of Lakeside popular for swimming and birding.

Continue on this pleasant loop returning to the start. From Harrington an easy ride on an unpaved road or short drive connects this route to Wildwood Conservation Area, with camping, watersports and a 25 km trail geared to mountain biking enthusiasts.

## 67 KM Blandford Blenheim Tour

**Experience Level:** Advanced, long-distance road riding

**Route Surface:** Paved



**Route Description:**

This route is a real tour, highlighting the small communities and scenic roads across the area. With a number of options to shorten the length, consider going the whole way round, enjoying a day out and stopping to enjoy and discover some hidden treasures. The 8 km on Blenheim Road, east of Plattsville, is a peaceful country pedal. Continue onto Drumbo before taking a ride into Princeton for a glimpse into yesteryears at the quaint country museum.

Enjoy the quiet Township Road 2, before pedalling onto Gobles Road, the most scenic of all, with roadside wetlands, forests and farmland. Pull into Innerkip for refreshments at the pub or bakery, or save yourself for a cheese feast at ***Bright's Cheese*** before cruising back into Plattsville to refuel with a bite to eat.

**Route Option and Notes:**

Slightly higher traffic volumes may be experienced on Oxford Road 28 between Drumbo and Innerkip, plus Oxford Road 3 between Drumbo and Princeton. Take Township Road 8 off Blenheim Road to Wolverton, to ride through this scenic hamlet.

The route can be shortened to 39 km by staying on Oxford Road 28 from Drumbo and turning before Innerkip on County Road 22 to Bright.

## 92 KM Oxford County South

**Experience Level:** Advanced, long-distance road riding

**Route Surface:** Paved



**Route Description:**

A great longer ride around and through the southern part of Oxford County, this route is suitable for either road cyclists looking to gear up or experienced recreational cyclists who may want to enjoy the scenery at a more leisurely pace, with a stopover night at one of the welcoming town centres along the route.

Heading out from Woodstock, the city streets quickly turn to well paved and quieter country side roads. South of the highway overpass, fly along Middletown Line enjoying the slight descent, sweeping vistas and surrounding farmlands. With refreshment stops enroute limited to only Burgessville before Tillsonburg, refueling needs should be considered ahead of time. Heading west the road changes names a few times but continues through from Cornell Road to North Street to Brownsville Road, before turning north along one of the more popular cycling roads in the County, Dereham Line. With the route passing through Ingersoll at the 75 km mark, there are a number of picturesque and good rest stops to enjoy. The final leg along Beachville Road, straight into Woodstock, rounds out the ride nicely.

**Route Option and Notes:**

Shorten the loop to 64 km by turning west at Burgessville, the 22 km mark, along Salford Line.

Lengthen route to 110 km by continuing on 31st Line from Ingersoll, turning at County Road 33, via Embro.

## 90 KM Oxford County North

**Experience Level:** Advanced, long-distance road riding

**Route Surface:** Paved



**Route Description:**

For road riding enthusiasts this ride provides a good opportunity to cover some distance on well paved, quiet country roads, touring across the northern part of Oxford County. Starting from the town of Ingersoll, 31st Line is a delightful 20 km run past scenic farms and agricultural lands. Enjoy more of the same on this relatively flat route all the way into Tavistock, a perfect half way rest stop for home cooking at ***Quehl's Restaurant***. Sky-high views abound riding south east along 16th line and onto Oxford Road 33 where vehicles are expecting to see cyclists with Share the Road signs along the way. Pedal into Woodstock for a look around. Before the last 13 km either sprint or cruise along Beachville Road, into Ingersoll and the end of the ride.

**Route Option and Notes:**

Shorten route to 45 km by turning at 12 km onto Road 78, via Embro.

## 156 KM Oxford Century Ride

**Experience Level:** Advanced, long-distance road riding

**Route Surface:** Paved



**Route Description:**

Challenge yourself on the ultimate milestone ride and this 100 mile tour across Oxford County. This route is ideal for the goal setters and those training for long distance road rides or races. The long stretches of quiet, well paved and relatively flat country roads are perfect to clock some kilometers and work on speed.

Towns enroute offer a variety of options for refuelling, or extended stops, making it easy to travel light. Break the ride into a two day event with an overnight rest at a local hotel, inn or bed and breakfast. Connect to shorter routes nearby or roads suited for short turns if needed. This Century Ride uses rural roads already popular with cyclists through such a scenic mix of farmlands, roadside forests, rivers and stream crossings, riders may not even notice the kilometers clicking by.

**Route Option and Notes:**

To shorten the ride recommended roads include: Salford Road, between Burgessville and Salford; Beachville Road, between Ingersoll, Woodstock and County Road 33, via Embro. Reduce speeds travelling through towns and communities. Prevailing winds flow out of the northwest and wind speed should be considered on ride days.






## Agriculture in Oxford

Known as the dairy capital of Canada, Oxford County is dotted with dairy farms. Cattle, sheep, goats and horses add a quiet pleasure to our rural routes.
Thanks to our Amish population, there are now more horses in Oxford than in the 1800s!
Along the way, see if you can identify different barn types found in the county.


Free Style Dairy Barn


Bank Barn


Pig Barn


Broiler Chicken Barn



Oxford's rich and diverse soils nurture a wide variety of crops. You'll pass along traditional corn, wheat, soybean and hayfields. Adding variety, you'll also see tobacco, broccoli, cabbage, leeks, hops, sweet grass, apple orchards, berries and even ginseng. Slow down, breathe in the country air and enjoy the beautiful vistas.

## The Oxford County Cheese Trail



Trust us; you do not want to forget your cooler bag. The Cheese Trail is home to a variety of experiences from artisanal cheeses to Build-your-own Charcuterie Board Workshops and quirky photo ops. You'll be a curd nerd in no time.
**oxfordcountycheesetrail.ca**

## Bragging Rights

Celebrate your ride by taking home a taste of Oxford County. Pack your cooler and bring home tender steaks, fresh produce, fruit, honey,





scratch baking, preserves, local brew and of course, cheese. Cook for your friends, talk about the ride and plan your next trip.

## Arts, Theatres and Festivals



Enjoy an intimate concert in a century old farm house, a musical performance in an iconic barn theatre or listen to music floating across the night air at one of our many festivals. Our community theatres put on top quality performances throughout the year, while our artisans display and sell their wares in galleries, studio tours and shops throughout the County. Visit **tourismoxford.ca** for a full listing of festivals, theatre and artisans.

## Historic Oxford



Museums and historic sites are stepping stones to getting to know a community. Take a walking tour, learn about the Underground Railroad and learn about Quaker life. Oxford's history will intrigue you.

Oscar Wilde left his colourful mark on Oxford. His speech at the Woodstock Museum about Aesthetic Arts inspired the building of Annandale House in Tillsonburg. Take time to visit both of our county's National Historic Sites. Visit **tourismoxford.ca** for a full listing of museums and heritage sites.

## Kick Back & Stay a While



Whether it's roadside produce or a sit down meal you crave, Oxford County has the right fit for you. Check out rideoxford.ca to find out where patios are located and for bike friendly restaurants. Make it a night and camp under the stars or pamper yourself at one of our many accomodations.

Many of our accommodations and restaurants are certified bike friendly by Ontario By Bike. Visit **rideoxford.ca** or **ontariobybike.ca** to find all of the locations in Oxford.

Ontario By Bike

## Tour Oxford

Looking for something built for four wheels? We have loads of great trip itineraries.

1. Log onto **www.touroxford.ca** and head to the Trip Ideas section
2. Select one of our many itineraries. Ex. Camping Concierge or Decadent Cheat Weekend
3. Get out and go!

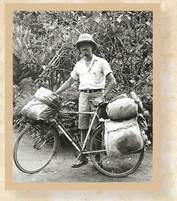
## World Wheels

### Thirty Moons Around the World

Douglas Moser Carr was a world traveller and lifelong resident of Ingersoll, Ontario. He endeavoured to travel to England for the coronation of King George VI and after arriving there, developed the idea of travelling around the world. From 1937 to 1939, he traveled throughout Europe, Africa, Asia and North America, mainly by bicycle. It has been written that he was the first person to cycle the length of Africa.

The trip, once completed, was 70,000 miles in length, including over 41 countries on five continents.

You can see his bicycle on display at the Ingersoll Cheese and Agricultural Museum.







PEDAL POWER BICYCLES
590 Dundas St. Woodstock ON.
Ph. (519) 539-3681
pedalpower.ca

**Pedal Power**
590 Dundas Street, Woodstock
(519) 539-3681 www.pedalpower.ca
Locally owned and operated serving the cycling community for over 40 years.


## Share the Road

### Cyclist safety

- Be safe Be Seen – wear bright coloured clothing. If riding at dusk or night, have reflective strips on clothing, front white light and rear red light.
- When riding on rural roads, ride as close to the edge as possible.
- A cyclist must yield to pedestrians, the same as required of drivers.
- A cyclist is not permitted to ride a bike in a pedestrian crosswalk or crossover, but must walk across with the bike.
- When approaching an intersection, take your turn. Watch for vehicles signaling to turn right.
- Always ride in the same direction as traffic.
- Avoid driving in the blind spot of cars or trucks.
- When riding in town, ride at least one meter from the side of the road and from parked cars.
- Be aware of drivers in parked cars opening their doors.

**Thumbs Up!** SHARING THE ROAD FROM SAWBY TRAVEL
Oxford is known for its agriculture. Please watch out for tractors and other farm machinery along the way and share the road with our Amish friends in the Norwich and Tillsonburg areas.

### DISCLAIMER:

**Please Note:** By using this map and the suggested routes, cyclists demonstrate they have read and understood the safety rules and disclaimer. These routes are suggested routes only. The suggested routes do not have formal bike lanes and all cyclists ride at their own risk. Road conditions and traffic levels may vary from time of map printing. Caution and common sense must be used when sharing the road with motor vehicles. Cyclists must comply with the Ontario Highway Traffic Act, R.S.O. 1990, C.H-8 as amended. Oxford County does not assume any liability whatsoever for any loss, costs or expenses incurred by cyclists while travelling upon suggested routes.

Tourism Oxford
*Our rural roots are showing*

For more information and route updates:
(519) 539-9800 x3355 | 1-866-801-7368
**tourismoxfordcounty.ca | www.rideoxford.ca**

# Ride Oxford.ca

