

Cycle Route No. 10 from the Township of Rideau Lakes

Crosby – Glen Tay Cycle Route

A Loop Route of about 80 km. Hard surface, some limited shoulders, some steep topography.

Distances are approximate and will vary with vehicle. GPS co-ordinates are in Latitude and Longitude.

Km. 0.0 (44° 39.267'N. 76° 15.424'W.) **Start at**

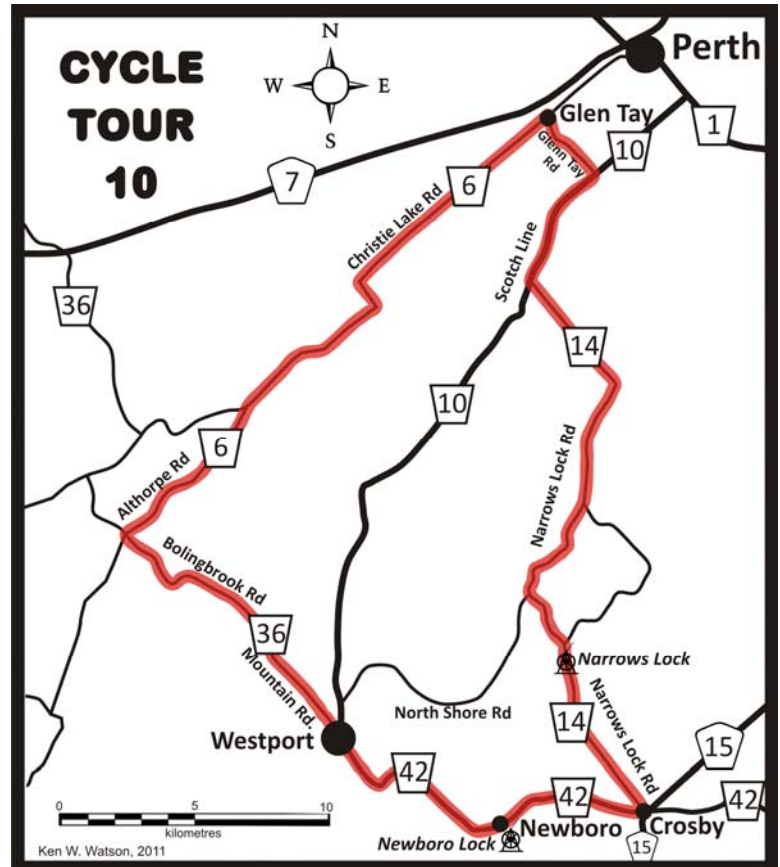
Crosby. Located at the intersection of Leeds County Rd. 42 and Provincial Hwy. 15 approx. midway between Canada's Capital City: Ottawa and the Historic Limestone City: Kingston. Though a tiny community, Crosby boasts a very busy Saturday morning market during summer months. Parking can be found beside the Canada Post kiosk.

Head west on County Road 42 Note glimpses of Newboro Lake to the south, beautiful with its many islands. Famous for its fishing. **Follow County Road 42 to and through Newboro** toward Westport. Newboro presents opportunity for fine dining and accommodation, for relaxation and recreation.

Km. 5.7 (44° 38.981'N. 76° 19.384'W.) **Bridge over Rideau Canal.** Come back for a day of golf at the nearby Rideau Lakes Golf Course. Peddle past beautiful stone farm houses along the "Stone Road" and into the village of Westport with its many churches, shops and services (including a bakery), arena and art festivals. Public washrooms (in season) at Info Centre.

Km. 14.3 (44° 40.788'N. 76° 24.223'W.) **Turn Left (Westerly) onto Bedford St.**

Km. 14.4 (44° 40.812'N. 76° 24.349'W.) **Turn Right (Northerly) onto County Rd. 36** also called Mountain Rd. Pass Westport's beach. You've had an easy peddle to this point. Forget about flat land and straight roads for the next 20 km. Leave the St. Lawrence Plain and peddle onto the rugged Canadian Shield. Pass occasional farms that have survived and thrived on pockets of rich humic soils. Mixed forests. White-tailed deer bound. Red-tailed hawks soar. Occasional black bears roam. Peddle from County Leeds into County Lanark.



The J.T. Gallagher House (c1885), one of many stately heritage homes in Newboro

Cycle Tour 10: Crosby – Glen Tay Tour

Km. 25.3 (44° 44.366'N. 76° 30.030'W.) **Turn Right (Easterly) onto Country Road 6** also called Althorpe Rd. - Christie Lake Rd. toward Glen Tay. Many hills, flats and corners. Cottage Roads to Farren Lake to the south and Christie Lake to the north. Cross over the Tay River. You will see this scenic and historic River again. Pass through DeWitt's Corners and near a large modern mineral processing factory reflecting the rich and varied mineral wealth of the Shield and Axis, past and present.

Km. 48.6 (44° 52.975'N. 76° 18.476'W.) **Turn Right (Southerly) onto Glen Tay Rd.** toward County Rd. 10. Cross again over the scenic Tay River and look upstream to see its historic stone mill, a highlight of this pioneer Scottish settlement of the early 1800s.

Km. 51.5 (44° 51.853'N. 76° 17.118'W.) **Turn Right (South-westerly) onto County Rd. 10**, otherwise known as Scotch Line, part of the Rideau Heritage Route. Prosperous modern farms. Flat land, rectangular fields. Deep fertile soils left by the recent Ice Age on St. Lawrence plains sedimentary rocks. Come back for some golf.



Bathurst Plaque, Tay River and historic Glen Tay Mill in background

Km 56.4 (44° 49.642'N. 76° 18.860'W.) **Turn Left (Southerly) onto Country Rd. 14** toward Narrows Lock and into the rugged landscape of the Canadian Shield with abandoned farmland reclaimed by early stages of mixed forest.

Km. 70.4 (44° 43.377'N. 76 18.720'W.) **At STOP Sign, turn Left at “T” intersection.** Proceed on Narrows Lock Road back into Leeds County and the Township of Rideau Lakes toward Crosby. Winding road among granite outcrops and swamps. Beavers love it here.

Km. 73.2 (44° 04.147'N. 76 17.736'W.) **Narrows Lock.** As you cross the bridge and causeway, the Upper Rideau Lake is to your right (west) and Big Rideau Lake to your left (east). In order to complete the connection of the Rideau Basin with the Cataraqui Basin and a military link from Ottawa River to Kingston, the original Rideau Lake was divided here at the Narrows, forming the Upper Rideau Lake and raising its level over a 1metre to fill the channel you saw at Newboro earlier. A fortification / block house was built here to defend this strategic water across this Keystone section of the Rideau Corridor. Now, Narrows Lock is one of the busiest stations on the Rideau Canal, part of a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Here, also you are crossing the Rideau Lakes Fault Line, especially evident in the cliffed north shore of the Upper Rideau. You are crossing this dramatic line between the Canadian Shield and the St. Lawrence plain.

Km. 79.5 (44° 39.267'N. 76° 15.424'W.) Back to **Crosby.** Intersection of Highway 15 and County Rd. 42

Other tours of interest: *Newboro Walking Tour, Morton to Crosby Driving Tour and Crosby to Salem Driving Tour – available at branches of Rideau Lakes Library or on-line at www.twprideaulakes.on.ca*

Disclaimer:

Please note that the Heritage Advisory Committee of the Township of Rideau Lakes has made every effort to ensure that the information provided herein is accurate and is to be used as an information source only. We welcome new information as it becomes available and will consider refining details in future publications. We cannot be liable for any injuries, inconvenience or financial loss that may occur to persons participating in this tour. Please be advised that our walking, driving and bicycling routes are not maintained exclusively by the Township of Rideau Lakes. Accordingly, the Township of Rideau Lakes does not take responsibility for the condition of said route or paths. Please enjoy your travels along our county highways and byways. Please use courtesy and common sense when traveling our Heritage Routes. Please help us preserve our World Heritage and Biodiversity privilege and responsibility.

Comments or suggestions, please contact dougbond@rideau.net