

Cycle Route No. 2 from the Township of Rideau Lakes

Delta - Charleston – Athens - Plum Hollow

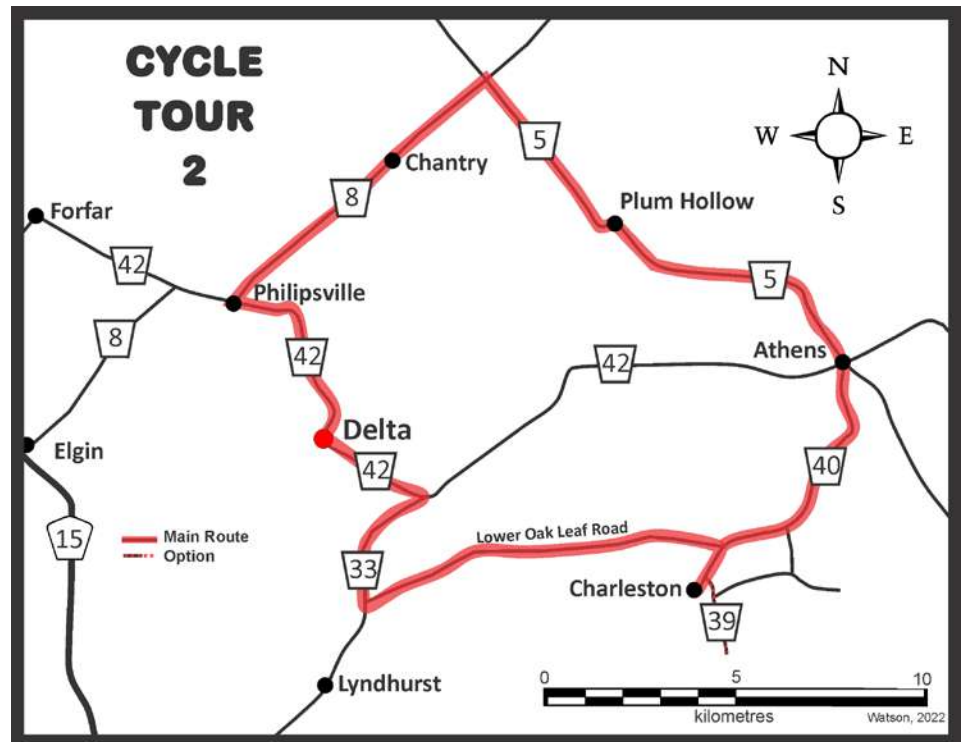
A Loop Route of about 51 km. on paved roads only.

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

Km. 0.0 (44°36'37"N
76°07'20"W) Start at the historic **Delta Mill** in the centre of the historic village of Delta.

Note the many fine heritage homes in this community founded on the headwaters of the Gananoque River System over 2 centuries ago and annually hosts the famous Delta Fair, second oldest agricultural fair in Ontario.

Head south on Main Street - County Road #42 for 3.3 km. Note the red iron colour of some of the rock cuts.



Km. 3.2 (44°35'44"N 76°05'22"W) Turn right onto **County Rd. #33**. Note the winding road among the forested hills here on the edge of the Frontenac Axis, a branch of the Canadian Shield.

Km. 6.9 (44°34'15"N 76°06'38"W) Turn left onto **Lower Oak Leaf Rd.** toward County Rd. #40

Travel along winding road through Shield country with beautiful mixed forest onto straight road on Lowland geology with beautiful old stone homes among prosperous farmland.

(Oak Leaf Rd. ends at a "T"; only Stop Sign onto County Rd. #40)

Km. 15.6 (44°35'01"N 76°59'28"W) Turn right on **County Rd. #40**. Proceed about 1.3 km. to Charleston Village at 44°34'22"N 76°00'00"W gateway to scenic Charleston Lake. You can find a restaurant, store and marinas in Charleston village.

OPTION: In Charleston, at the White Church take County Rd. #39 (Country Park Road) and peddle south to Sand Bay Country Park, a day use park with a sandy beach on Charleston Lake.

Km. 16.9 (44°34'22"N 76°00'00"W) Follow **County Road #40** north to Athens. Notice the heritage stone houses and prosperous farms on fertile soils developed since the last Ice Age.

Km 24.3 (44°37'33"N 75°57'08"W) between the Town Hall and Post Office of Athens village. Washroom at Town Office. Restaurants, stores and other small town services. Athens is famous for its murals.

Cross Hwy #42 in Athens onto **County Rd/ #5** toward Plum Hollow. Stop for a few holes of golf. Pass Tackaberry and Sons Construction yards.

Cycle Tour 2: Delta – Charleston – Athens – Plum Hollow Tour

Who was this Mother Barnes that had a road named after her?

Watch out for the sharp bend and hill at Plum Hollow as you descend into a broad fertile valley where the first settlement in the Township of Rideau Lakes was made in the late 1700s. Pioneers came here from Vermont in the late 1700s.

“Bike on, Macduff “and cross not swords but the divide between the Gananoque Valley into the Rideau Valley Watershed.

Km. 37.6 (44°41'42"N 76°04'11"W) Turn left onto **County Rd. #8** toward Philippsville. Pass Chantry Township Centre, the grand Seaman house and over Cooligan Creek, site of significant wetland and stream reclamation by the Gananoque River Conservation Authority and others..

Km. 46.4 (44°38'28"N 76°09'15"W) Turn left onto **County Rd. #42** in Philippsville toward Delta.

OPTION: Just south of Philippsville, turn right onto the Hartsgravel paved loop, pass the historic Cemetery and Church of the Japanese Martyrs (now a residence), the scenic Corbett Creek Valley and the massive sandstone cliffs laid down in Paleozoic times and etched by post Ice Age meltwater waves. Follow the old pavement past Willows Agri-business and right onto Highway #42

Thought-provoking question: Who were the Japanese Martyrs?



Km. 51.4 (44°36'37"N 76°07'20"W) Back into **Delta** Centre

Historic Old Stone Mill, a National Historic Site: www.deltamill.org

Lower Beverley Lake Park, Family Camping and Cottages: www.beverleylakepark.com

Delta Fairgrounds, the site of the famous Delta Fair, grocery store, food vendors, post office and LCBO. Come back to Delta to enjoy our famous community events: spring Maple Syrup Festival, summer Delta Fair, Fall Harvest Festival, and Village Lights during the Christmas Season.

Disclaimer:

Please note that the Municipal Heritage Advisory Committee (MHAC) 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 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.

Tour prepared on behalf of MHAC by Doug Bond. Layout & maps by Ken Watson.

