

Goderich and the Maitland Trail

Fri June 16th to Sun June 18th



Enjoying Maitland Falls

A brand new weekend trip to Ontario's West Coast. The Maitland Trail 48km follows the north side of the Maitland River Valley. Varied terrain from flat sections, gentle slopes, to steep climbs. Hike along ridges, to down along river flats. Sometimes rugged. Many beautiful vistas and rewarding hiking.

The three long hikes will average 16km each to cover the whole trail to qualify for an end to end badge. The shorter hikes vary in length will cover the highlights of the trail and leave some time for a little sightseeing.



We'll be staying at the Hotel Bedford a turn-of-the-century Victorian hotel located on the historic Square in Goderich. The 35 guest rooms are located on the second and third floors. There are no elevators.

Walk up only ! Free wireless is advertised but there are no fridges in the rooms. The rooms are air conditioned.

The Hotel Bedford boasts its own Paddy O'Neil's Restaurant Pub featuring over a 100 menu items to choose from, as well as Joe Friday's Sports Bar.

The Itinerary may be changed a little based on some advice from the Maitland Trail Association and a scouting trip booked for the last week of May. **Check for another update**

Friday: We leave at 8-30 a.m. from our usual 777 Walkers Line in Burlington. Have your lunch and walking gear ready. It's only about two hours drive time so with a rest and coffee stop along the way of 45 mins we'll be able to start hiking well before noon.

The long hike will be from Auburn km 49.2 to River Line km 35.6 line about 14km. Say 3.5hrs walking plus a 30min lunch stop and couple of short breaks of 10 min each should get us to the bus about 4p.m.

The short hike will also start at Auburn but you will be picked up after 5.2km at the corner of Heron Line and School Rd km 44.0 at about 1-00 to 1-30 p.m.. The bus will then take you to the end point of the long hike on River Line. We will then do a there and back on the trail either as far as you want to go or until we meet the long hikers and walk back to the bus with them about 2hrs.

We'll check into our hotel about 5 p.m. and we have an area reserved for us in the Pub restaurant downstairs for 7 p.m. The meal is not included in the package to give people some flexibility.

Saturday: The long walk will be about 20km from the Beach Street Station so an early start will be needed. The bus will take you to the start of the trail only about 1km away but nevertheless an extra distance you don't need today. We should start walking by 9-00 a.m. so we'll have to leave the hotel about 8-30 a.m.

The short walk however will start at Rotary Beach Park 1.5 km before the long hikers and take advantage of the walk along Goderich's boardwalk. We continue on to the Tiger Dunlop Tomb and Hwy 21 to be picked up by the bus. The walk to here is about 5 km but will be slow because of all the things to see on the way. We should be picked up about 11-30 a.m and we'll go to a coffee shop for refreshment.

Our afternoon hike will start at the Londesboro Rd and Morris Tract line and head through forest down to the river Falls Conservation Area and the hamlet of

Benmiller the walk is about 6 km. We will end up at the bus about 3 p.m. and you might be able to get a coffee a pot of tea or even a beer at the Benmiller Inn. The long hikers should arrive between 3p.m. and 4p.m.



We have arranged an evening meal at the Beach Station Restaurant .The dinner will be included. Only your drinks and tips to the drink waiters will be extra. The restaurant is on the beachfront housed in the restored CPR station !

Sunday:We will have to check out of our rooms before starting the hikes today.

The remaining section for the long hikers is from River Line to Benmiller about 16km. We will be dropped off about 9-30 a.m. to get to Benmiller by about 3 p.m.

The short hikers will have the luxury of a late start so the bus will come back for them to leave the hotel by about 10-30 a.m We'll explore and have our lunch at the Lobb Farm Heritage Property and Riverside Trail. Rather like a ski area there are upper and lower loops up to 7km. The lower trail is on the river opposite to the Maitland Trail from River Line to Sharpes Creek Line so if you missed this section of the trail you can see it today from the other bank! We head off about 2-30 p.m. to pick up the long hikers at Benmiller.

We will be back in Burlington about 5-30 p.m.

Trip Cost is \$350 per person double occupancy or \$490 per person single.

Included are : coach transport and driver tips, 1 Dinner, hotel rooms and taxes , continental breakfasts at the hotel, park entrance fees. The only tips not covered are for the room staff who you may tip at your discretion.

Register by logging in to our website and going to the Calendar and Schedules page. You will pay for the trip in full on-line, through PayPal (no deposit required). Our goal is to have this trip available for on-line registration by March 10th Cancellation Policy: You can cancel up to May 1st and only be charged a \$25.00 processing fee. After April 1st, you will be responsible for any costs that the club incurs on your behalf. This could include transportation, accommodation, meals, leader subsidy, etc. If you cancel out of a double occupancy, you will also be responsible for the cost difference for your roommate.

Trip leaders :Phill and Anne Armstrong