

Collingwood Bruce Trail Hiking Trip Sat Oct 13 – Mon Oct 15, 2018

Jim and Patti Blair

We ran this trip in the early spring of 2017 but some unfortunate weather prevented us from completing the hikes to their fullest. We are keen to try again! The fall season is bound to offer some wonderful new perspectives. We also love that these trails are close to home yet they include some of the finest hiking the Bruce Trail has to offer.

Itinerary: We are tentatively scheduled to leave Burlington at 8:30 on Saturday from our new departure location in the north east corner of the Mainway Arena parking lot. We will travel by coach bus up to the Collingwood area, stopping on route to hike the Dufferin Highlands section of the Bruce Trail in Boyne Valley Provincial Park. The second day we will hike the lovely Pretty River Valley Provincial Park, a short distance outside Collingwood. The shorter hike on this day may allow an early drop off back in Collingwood for those wanting to cruise the town. On the third day we will explore the Bruce Trail and the unique Metcalfe Crevice in the Kolapore region. After hiking we plan a stop at the famous Ravenna Country Market. The bus will return to Burlington before 6:00 p.m. on Monday.

The Hikes: Our goal is to offer a long, medium and short option on all hikes. The approximate distances will be: long hikes 14 -16 kms; medium hikes 8 – 10 kms; short hikes 6-7 kms. Distances may vary depending on the terrain, weather, and availability of pick up and drop off points. Our hikes will take advantage of the beautiful “escarpment” landscape in this region, meaning there will be ups and downs. The long hikes will have more elevation change and if possible the short hikes will be less challenging. As is typical of the Bruce Trail Escarpment, the footing may sometimes be tricky. Our trails will take us through hardwood bush, open meadows, river lowlands to many scenic lookouts. Hikers should be prepared with appropriate raingear, waterproof and supportive hiking boots, hiking poles and should be able to carry a daypack with ample water and food for a day of hiking.

Here is an inspirational quote that describes the Pretty River Provincial Park Area:

Pretty River Valley has it all. It is stunning in all four seasons. Each time I explore this beautiful piece of the

Bruce Trail my gratitude increases. Knowing I can walk amongst the creeks, ponds and melt water channels, that I can take in beautiful views from the heights of the Escarpment - it fills me with delight and a youthful energy. I encourage you to visit this special place. You will not be disappointed. - Hart Fisher



Our accommodation: We will stay in Collingwood at the newly renovated Comfort Inn. It is located just outside the downtown area and is close to grocery stores, restaurants, bars and Tim Horton's. The hotel has an indoor swimming pool, fitness room, and free Wifi. Rooms are not equipped with a mini fridge but this will be addressed later.

Trip Cost: The trip cost is a very reasonable \$340 for double occupancy and \$475 for single occupancy.

The Trip Package Includes:

- transportation by luxury coach

- two nights' accommodation
- two breakfast buffets with hot and cold options
- one dinner at a local establishment, taxes and tip included (drinks and desserts may be extra)
- taxes and gratuities, except gratuity for room cleaning
- guided hikes everyday

Not included in the trip package:

- one dinner (a list of local options will be provided, most within walking distance)
- snacks and lunch food for on the trail

Registration: You will register and pay for the trip in full on-line. Registration opens on May 9, 2018.

Cancellation Policy: You may cancel up to Sept 10, 2018 and only be charged a \$25.00 processing fee. After Sept 10, you will be responsible for any costs that the club has incurred on your behalf. This could include transportation, accommodation, meals, leader subsidy etc. If you cancel out of double occupancy you will also be charged for the cost difference for your roommate.

In Summary:

We are excited to offer a genuine hiking trip that highlights such a beautiful section of the Bruce Trail. We hope we get to see some of the sights that we missed on our trip in 2017. We hope you are excited to join us!

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