

## **Trip Information Sheet: Cycling Manitoulin Island – June 2020**

Join HOC on a 5 night self-guided and supported cycle trip to Manitoulin Island. You will cycle approximately 300 km over 5 days, with distances of 55km-70km per day.

Northern Ontario is so quiet you can hear the bird's wings while cycling along their quiet country roads. Everything moves at a leisurely pace on Manitoulin Island, so much so, the locals call it "Manitoulin Time". Manitoulin Island has become one of the most sought after cycling destinations in Ontario with over 800 km of suggested cycling routes, and 108 picturesque inland lakes.

Manitoulin means spirit island in the Ojibwe language. The island was a sacred place for the native Anishinaabe people who were Ojibwe, Odawa and Pottawatomi. It is the largest island in the world surrounded by fresh water. The island stretches along the north shore of Lake Huron in Ontario.

It's a great place to participate in a cycle tour adventure. You will learn of Manitoulin's marine history, visit Art Galleries, see native art from the Ojibawa First Nations, visit funky Mom & Pop shops, sample local beer & local culinary delights and roll past Manitoulin's unique geological features including Alvars.

The trip is being organized with the assistance of OK Cycle & Adventure Tours (<https://okcycletours.com/>). They do a number of trips for the Manitoulin Island Cycling Advocates (<https://manitoulincycling.com>) and were recommended by Ontario by Bike (<https://ontariobybike.ca>).

### **Detailed Itinerary**

- Day 1, Sun. June 21, 2020      Drive yourself and your bike to Tobermory, Ontario. Stay at the Tobermory Princess Hotel which has an exquisite view over the harbour. <https://tobermoryprincesshotel.com/rooms/>
- A group dinner can be arranged depending on when participants choose to arrive. If you are there early enough, explore Tobermory on your own. I will provide some suggestions for things to do.
- Day 2, Mon. June 22  
58 km                              Up early to take the 7 am ferry from the South Baymouth terminal to Manitoulin, approximately a 2 hour ride. Disembark from the ferry and begin the first cycling day.
- South Baymouth Ferry Dock, Kicking Mule Ranch support stop; Visit the Old ferry and lighthouse in Manitowaning, arrive at lake side Lodge overnight stay.

Day 3, Tues. June 23

60 km

We will visit a Soap factory, an Alpaca Farm, see the old Batmans Mill in Sheguindah, and rolling along pastoral countryside roads will bring us to Mindemoya's lake side cottages.

Day 4, Wed. June 24

67 km

We will visit Bridal Veil Falls, taste local chocolate, see the sculpture trail and experience the splendid view of the North Channel. After a stop at the war memorials, we return to the cottage.

Day 5, Thurs. June 25

57 km

Hear details about Alvars, visit both the Perivale and Mutchmor Galleries, and walk on the sand beach and boardwalk in Providence Bay return to the cottage.

Day 6, Fri. June 25

56 km

See sculpture and carvings, stop at the Neon Raven Gallery, and visit the Fisheries. Return to the Ferry dock for a 1:30 pm return to Tobermory.

**Bikes:** Bring your own bike. Helmets are mandatory. **\*\*\*Please bring at least one inner tube and a tire that fits your bicycle\*\*\***

**Experience level and terrain:** Manitoulin has very gentle hills and not much elevation on the route chosen for this particular package. Feeling comfortable with on road riding is needed. If riding on an MTO highway there will be wide paved shoulders. The back roads are very quiet and all hardtop. Manitoulin's traffic moves at a relaxed pace – there is only one traffic light on the island.

**Accommodations and meals:** In Tobermory, we will stay at the Princess Hotel. Breakfast is included. There is free parking at the South Baymouth ferry terminal.

On Manitoulin, we will be staying at lakeside cottages/lodges, which accommodate 3 or 4 people with a shared bathroom. All cottages have one room with a shared bed, and one room with 2 single beds. Accommodations in the cottages will be for 3 or 4 people, depending on the mix of members. We will spend 2 nights in each cottage. For the first two nights, participants have access to canoes and a lakeside gazebo as well as a bar with a lovely balcony overlooking the lake.

You will be provided with food to make your own breakfasts in the cottages. Lunches are provided along the way.

**Other:** There are restaurants and seasonable facilities along the routes for bio breaks during the day. All riders have the option of adding to the daily ride and will be supported for the additional kilometers.

This is a guided and supported tour. Participants will be provided with cycling routes and a road map. "Support" includes luggage transfers, minor mechanical help (e.g. flat tires, brake and chain adjustments), road side snacks and refreshments, a group guide showcasing points of interest and

guidance to funky stores and indigenous history. Ride at your own speed, or stay with the group travelling at a sightseeing pace (e.g. 15-20 kph, with re-grouping if you prefer). There will be a sweep.

There is no Wi-Fi at the cottages but you will find Wi-Fi at some of the stops in cafes or in the local internet café.

Included:

- 5 days, 4 nights stay in Lakeside Lodge & Cottages for 4, (Double occupancy) shared bath
- 5 breakfasts, 4 lunches & 4 dinners (Alcohol excluded)
- Luggage shuttle
- Pick-up, if you experience mechanical failure
- Manitoulin Island & La Cloche Mountains Cycling Routes & Road Map
- Museum Fees
- Ferry Passage for you & your bicycle to & from Manitoulin Island. (Automobile excluded)
- Free Parking in Tobermory or South Baymouth (for guests arriving by automobile)
- Free use of canoes at the cottages in Manitoulin (first two nights only)
- 10% meal gratuity

Not included:

- Dinner on Sunday
- Lunch on Friday
- Transportation to/from Tobermory
- Items of a personal nature (souvenirs, etc.)
- Alcoholic beverages
- Tips for hotel personnel (optional)

Optional Extra:

If members are interested, we can arrange for an Indigenous night canoe drumming package (“reflection tour”) to Treasure Island – approximately \$200. This Canoe Heritage Tour is offered by aboriginal people and offers a true reflection of the history and culture of the region and its original inhabitants – the Ojibwe, Odawa and Pottawatomi peoples. Our hosts will share local legends, island history and survival techniques at different points of interest. (<https://www.circletrail.com/canoe-heritage-tour>)

**Cost:**

The price is based on 25 people plus the escort. If numbers fall below that the price will increase. Depending on accommodation availability, the group size may be extended to 30.

Check the website for registration details.

Price is per person in Canadian dollars – double occupancy		<u>\$1,400.00</u>
Payable as follows:	<b>Club Registration fee (\$25.00) and Hotel</b>	
	Double .....	\$213.50
	Single .....	\$270.00
	(register and pay via website Events Calendar)	
	<b>Deposit to OK Cycle &amp; Adventure Tours</b>	\$355.00
	(pay deposit via e-transfer/Cheque/Credit Card*)	
May 15, 2020	OK Cycle & Adventure Tours	
	Double .....	\$831.50
	Single .....	\$1,074.45
	Cheque/Credit Card	
	(pay balance via e-transfer/Cheque/Credit Card*)	

Please contact Katherine Morewood at OK Cycle & Adventure Tours  
666 Kirkwood Ave  
Suite B102  
Ottawa, Ontario  
K1Z 5X9  
[katherine@okcycletours.com](mailto:katherine@okcycletours.com)  
1-888-621-6818

\*Credit card (optional)

To avoid the credit card surcharge fee of 3.5%, people can pay by cheque or by Interac transfer. Some people prefer to pay by credit card because they have insurance benefits from using the card.

\$125 is non-refundable in the event of cancellation before the final payment deadline. No refunds after the final payment deadline.

**Trip Leader:**

Madeleine Davidson

Msdavidson0000@gmail.com

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