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BIKE THERE, NIAGARA

Brought to you by:



The Niagara River Greenway is working to develop a safe and enjoyable cycling infrastructure that connects the Niagara River Corridor to other regions across NY State. Please visit the Niagara River Corridor and see its natural beauty and historical charm.

www.niagararivergreenway.com

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With amazing beauty and history there is no better way to see the majesty of the Niagara Region than by bike.

Bike There Niagara was created to guide you through 7 of New York State's most beautiful parks.

Beginning your biking experience at Niagara Falls State Park will allow you to see the majestic American, Bridal Veil and Horseshoe Falls. Your journey will then take you along the Niagara River Gorge where you will experience the power of the Niagara River.

Biking along the Niagara River will bring you to the following State Parks. Niagara Falls State Park, Whirlpool, DeVeaux Woods, Devil's Hole, Reservoir, Joseph Davis and Fort Niagara. Each of these parks has something different and magical to offer.

At Whirlpool State Park hike down stone steps into the Niagara Gorge and hike the Lower Gorge Trail which brings you up close to the powerful Niagara Rapids. Across the road is DeVeaux Woods State Park which is an old growth forest, showcasing trees hundreds of years old. Visit Devil's Hole and learn about its amazing history, continue on to Fort Niagara and on the way stop at the Castellani Art Museum on the Niagara University Campus, the Aquarium of Niagara, the Niagara Falls Underground Railroad Heritage Center, the Niagara Power Vista, a nature preserve at Stella Niagara, wildlife, wetlands and camping at Joseph Davis State Park, and Lewiston's beautiful waterfront with the Freedom Crossing Monument.

The south route which takes you along the upper river with its wonderful waterfront view will take you to LaSalle Waterfront Park, the Old Stone Chimney and the site of Fort Schlosser. This is a great route to view the birds of Niagara.

Bike There Niagara was created for visitors and locals alike. We hope you enjoy all the magnificence of the beautiful Niagara River, the wonderful State Parks, attractions and history.

Led by the Niagara Falls National Heritage Area, the Discover Niagara Shuttle is a complimentary hop-on, hop-off service that connects riders with over a dozen stops between Niagara Falls and Old Fort Niagara. Outfitted with bike racks and complimentary Wi-Fi, the service provides a convenient and enjoyable way to experience Niagara's iconic landscape, rich history, and thriving culture along the Niagara River Corridor.

For the latest information, please visit
www.discoverniagarashuttle.com



NIAGARA FALLS NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA

The **Niagara Falls National Heritage Area** is one of 55 National Heritage Areas in the United States. Designated by the United States Congress in 2008 and administered by the National Park Service, its mission is to preserve, protect and promote the historic, natural and cultural resources of the area stretching from Niagara Falls to Old Fort Niagara in Youngstown, New York. Through grassroots efforts and partnerships, the Niagara Falls National Heritage Area creates transformative projects that engage the community and visitors alike in the tremendous history and natural assets of the Niagara Falls region.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

To access all **BIKE THERE, NIAGARA!** routes and receive turn-by-turn navigation in real time, plus stories, photos and more, enter this URL: <https://bit.ly/3eTFZXD> or scan the QR Code:



Ride 1

Distance:
6.9 miles

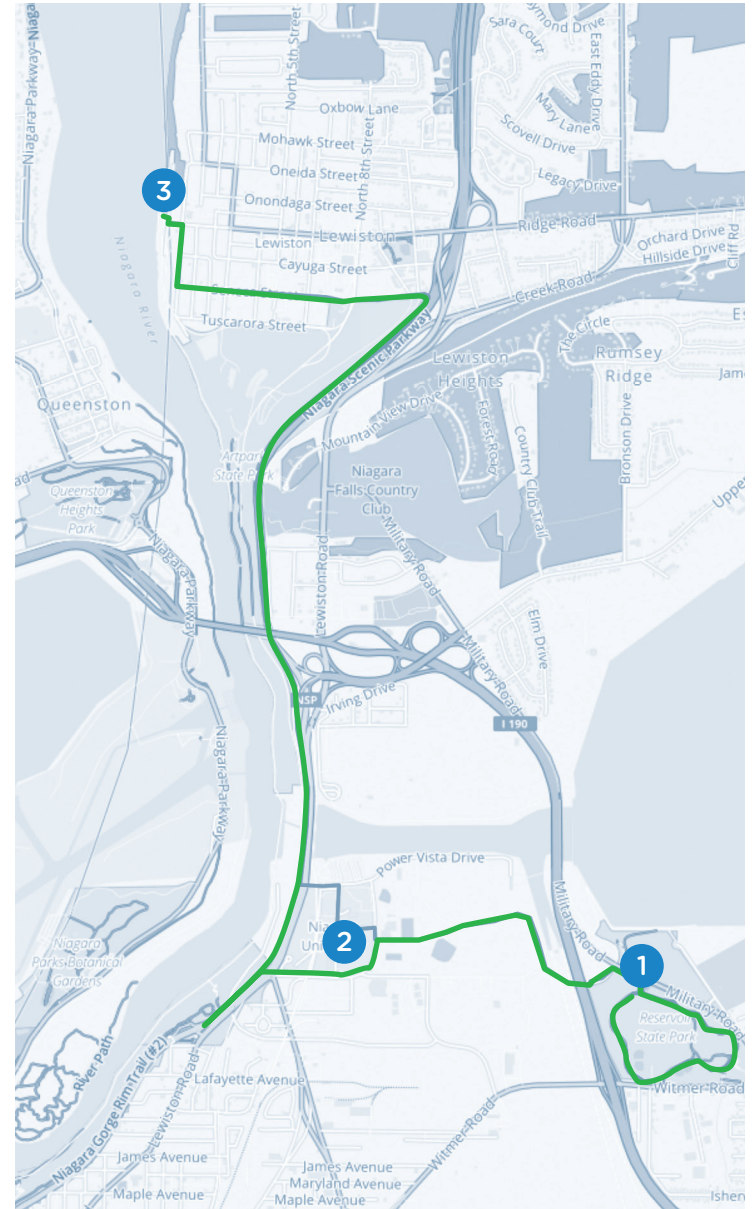
NIAGARA FALLS STATE PARK TO ARTPARK STATE PARK

At 6.9 miles this ride will have views of the Niagara River Gorge. From this route you can visit the Aquarium of Niagara, the Niagara Falls Underground Railroad Heritage Center, and DeVeaux Woods State Park, an old growth forest. DeVeaux Woods also has short trails and a signature playground—perfect for young children. Your journey continues on to Whirlpool State Park, Devil's Hole State Park, across the Niagara Power Project, into the charming Village of Lewiston and on to Artpark State Park.

For those with an adventurous spirit you can take a walk down the stone steps into the Lower Niagara Gorge Trail at either Whirlpool or Devil's Hole and get up close to the Niagara Rapids.

Highlights

- 1. Niagara Falls State Park**
View the oldest State Park in nation
- 2. Aquarium of Niagara**
Learn about aquatic life, meet jellyfish, sharks, penguins, enjoy the Shark and Ray touch tank and much more
- 3. Niagara Falls Underground Railroad Museum**
Telling stories of the Underground Railroad in Niagara Falls
- 4. Whirlpool State Park**
See Niagara's Whirlpool
- 5. Devil's Hole State Park**
Descend into the Niagara Gorge and hike the beautiful primitive trail below
- 6. Artpark**
Enjoy public art, music and peaceful hiking trails



Ride 5

Distance:
6.4 miles

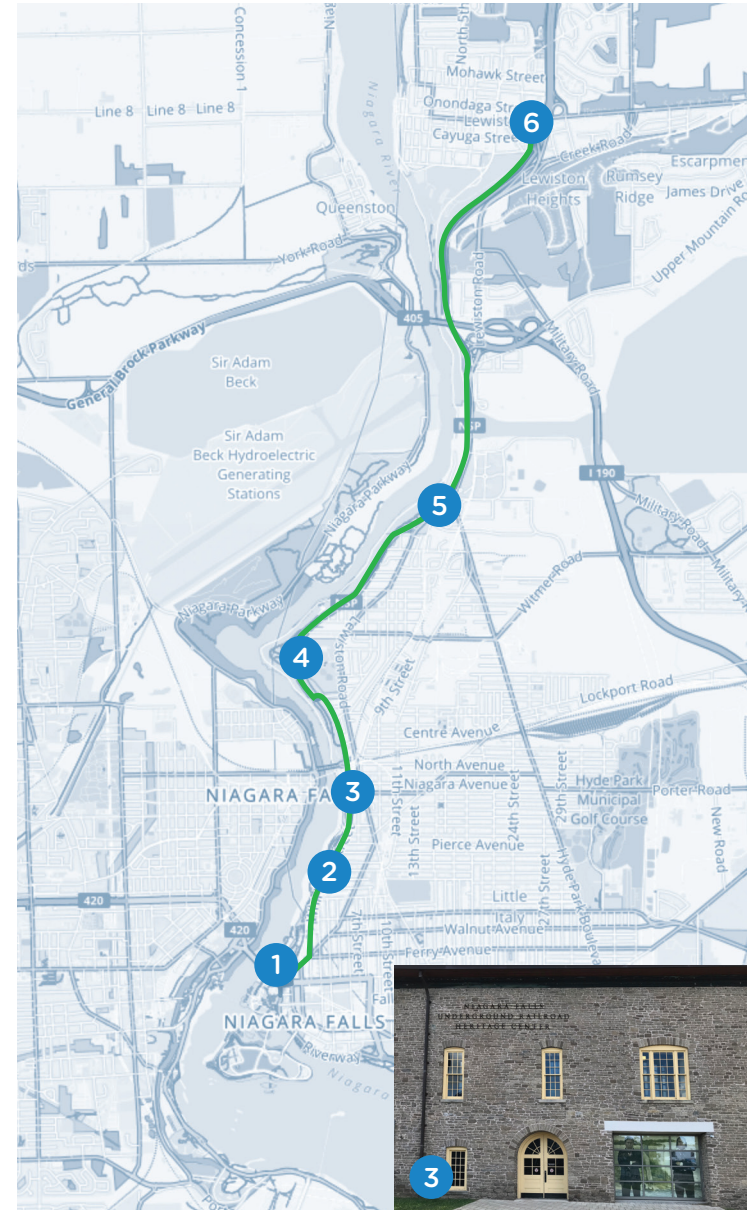
RESERVOIR STATE PARK TO LEWISTON WATERFRONT

This ride begins at Reservoir State Park and travels through Niagara University where you can visit the Castellani Art Museum. The museum is filled with over 5,000 pieces of mainly modern and contemporary art.

Your journey continues to the Village of Lewiston waterfront. This is home to restaurants, boat launches and the Freedom Crossing Monument which celebrates the history of local abolitionists who led freedom seekers across the powerful Niagara River to freedom in Canada.

Highlights

- 1. Reservoir State Park**
A great place to exercise, bike and picnic
- 2. Castellani Art Museum**
Enjoy the wonderful exhibits at the Castellani Art Museum
- 3. Freedom Crossing Monument**
View the wonderful monuments that celebrate the Underground Railroad



Ride 2

Distance:
8.8 miles

NIAGARA FALLS STATE PARK TO LASALLE WATERFRONT PARK

This 8.8 mile ride leads you east along the Niagara River above the Falls. As you head out, take a moment to explore the powerful upper rapids from the trail or one of the overlooks.

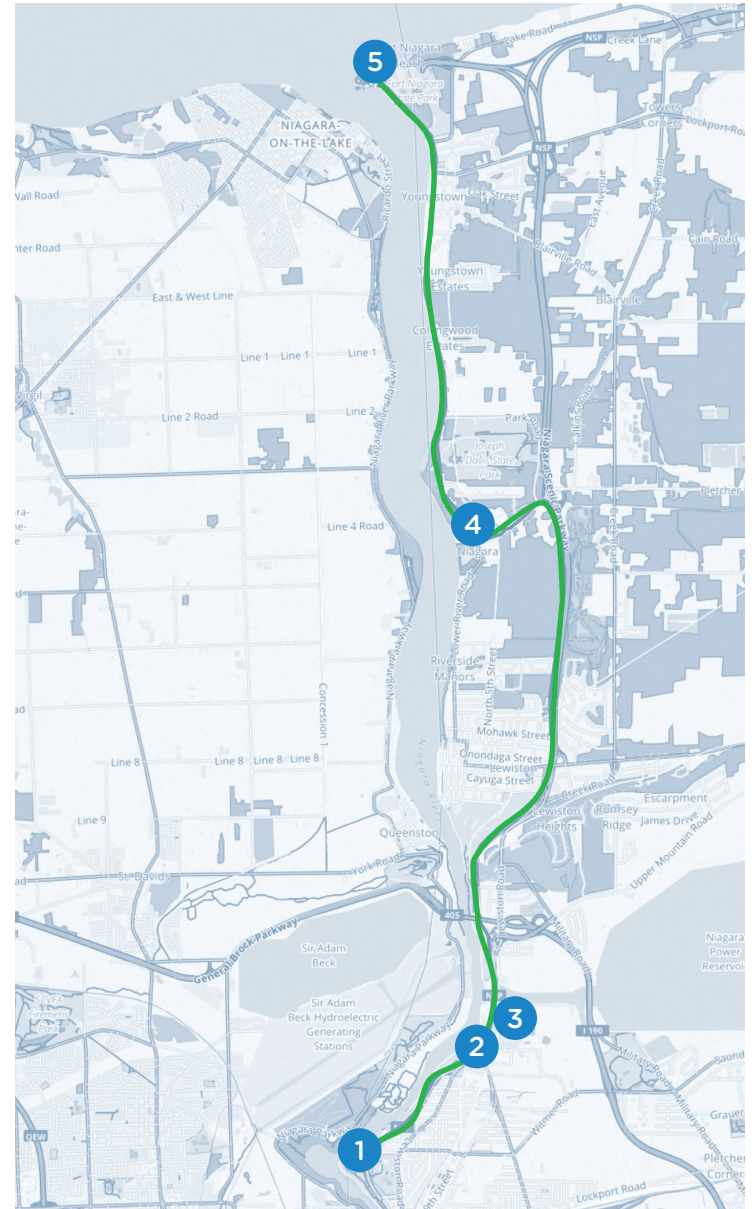
Keep your eyes peeled because this trail has a variety of wildlife. It is very common to see mother geese or ducks with their little ones in tow. Bald eagles have also been spotted along this path.

Stop along the trail and visit the Old Stone Chimney, the site of Ft. Schlosser, and the 53rd Street Fisherman's Park. As you travel down the scenic Shoreline Trail you will notice the blue bridges crossing the river to Grand Island, the largest freshwater island in the United States.

Your journey will end at LaSalle Waterfront Park, a great place for a picnic and a popular spot for food trucks.

Highlights

- 1. Old Stone Chimney**
Visit one of the oldest relics in the country
- 2. Site of Ft. Schlosser**
Historical sites along the Niagara River
- 3. Niagara River Overlooks**
A popular place to view bald eagles
- 4. LaSalle Waterfront Park**
A great place to bike, fish and picnic



Ride 4

Distance:
12.3 miles

WHIRLPOOL STATE PARK TO OLD FORT NIAGARA

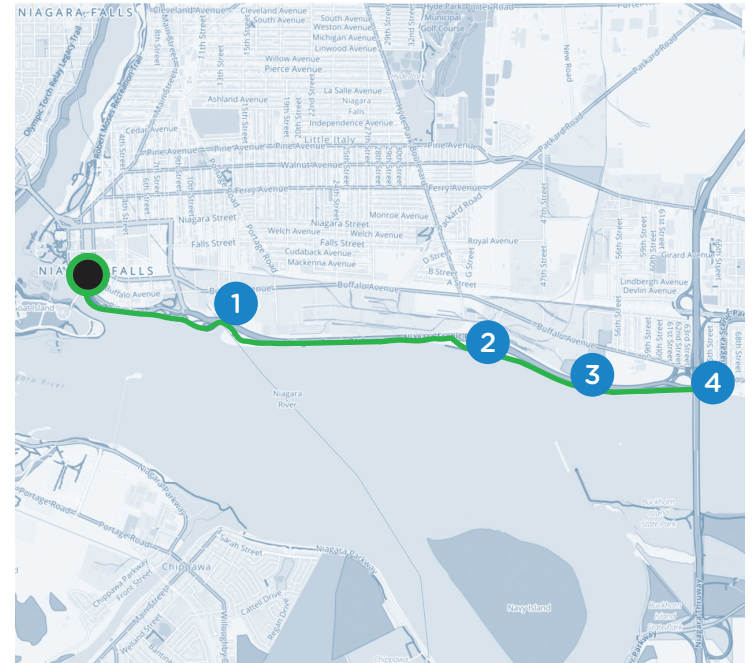
At 12.3 miles this ride includes three New York State Parks.

Begin your ride at Whirlpool State Park with a view of the Class 5 Niagara Whirlpool Rapids. As you head out, you will have the option of riding a rugged trail or a paved trail along gorge rim to Devil's Hole.

The trail continues to the Niagara Power Vista where you can learn about the wonderful world of hydropower.

The beautiful Stella Niagara Preserve will be your next stop. This 29-acre piece of shoreline along the Niagara River is one of the region's most ecologically and historically important places.

End your ride at Old Fort Niagara where you will experience over 300 years of history through reenactments, building tours and musket firings every hour.



Highlights

1. **Whirlpool State Park**
See Niagara's Whirlpool up close, and enjoy hiking, picnicking and playgrounds
2. **Devil's Hole State Park**
Descend into the Niagara Gorge down the stone stairways
3. **Niagara Power Vista**
Learn the history of Hydro-Power and experience world class interactive exhibits
4. **Stella Niagara Preserve**
Enjoy the beautiful trails preserved by the Western New York Land Conservancy
5. **Old Fort Niagara**
Colonial history comes to life with re-enactments, cannon firings, and much more



2

FORT SCHLOSSER

GUARDING THE UPPER LANDING

New York Power Authority
Central Islip, NY 11724

PORTAGE TIMELINE

- 1763
• British build Fort Schlosser
- 1760
• British destroy the landing and build what they call Fort Schlosser
- 1759
• French burn abandoned town built into Niagara (part of Portage)
- 1751
• French build Fort LaSalle (Niagara) just downriver from here
- 1726
• French build Fort Niagara and occupy portage area.
- 1720
• Seneca build a trading post at the upper landing
- 1679
• French capture LaSalle (conquering) French claim to Portage.
- 1650
• American Indians use the Portage route. The Seneca were controlling it.

SECURING MILITARY AND COMMERCIAL GOODS

Fort Schlosser was built to protect the upper portage landing and was used as a storehouse for military and commercial goods, facilitating the supply of western outposts.

The importance of securing this strategic area was recognized by early explorers and the French army as well. The landing was fortified by the French prior to the war, but they burned their own fort to prevent it from being used by the British when they left to help defend Fort Niagara from a British assault.

FORT SCHLOSSER 1760-1763

Fort Schlosser was the name given to the fortification when the British built it in 1760. It was rebuilt in 1763. It was named after Captain John Joseph Schlosser, an officer in the 60th Regiment of Foot (or Royal American Regiment), commander and builder of the post.

ALTERATIONS

This rough plan for rebuilding the fort was found in the papers of Major General James Abernethy, British Commander-in-Chief in North America. The artist's rendering shown is based on the plan.

GATEWAY TO THE INTERIOR

The Niagara corridor was the gateway into the interior of North America, but Niagara Falls prevented a major attack. All travelers and goods going in or coming from the Chippewa had to land or depart from here for the overland (portage) journey of Lake Erie or Ontario.

PORTAGE TRAIL

French & Indian War

Troops carrying supplies walked this section of the Great Lakes Seaway Trail.

Seaway Trail, Inc.
Central Islip, NY 11724
www.seawaytrail.com

Ride 3

Distance:
4.2 miles

DEVIL'S HOLE TO LEWISTON LANDING PARK

This ride is packed with history and the power of Niagara.

Begin will begin your ride at Devil's Hole State Park where you may choose to walk the stone stairway into the Niagara Gorge before or after your ride. This mystical trail is full of history and the site of the massacre at Devil's Hole. You will also be able to check out the Devil's Hole Cave.

Back on your bike, continue to the Niagara Power Vista where you can witness how power is generated by the Falls and Niagara River. The Power Vista is a wonderful stop for children and adults with hands on experiments, immersive experiences, and a host of exciting exhibits. And it is all free! Your ride will end at the Lewiston Landing Park where you can enjoy dining, history and the charm of the Lewiston Waterfront.

Highlights

1. Devil's Hole

Learn about the Devil's Hole Massacre and enjoy beautiful trails

2. Niagara Power Vista

Learn the history of Hydro-Power and experience world class interactive exhibits

3. Lewiston Landing Park

Enjoy food, fun and music at Lewiston's beautiful waterfront park

