

The Greater Niagara Circle Route Trail System

The Welland Canal Trail

This trail stretches along the Welland Canal from St. Catharines to Port Colborne, a distance of 42 km. Along the route you may see massive 26,000 tonne ships up to 226 metres in length as they glide smoothly past grassy banks on their way to climb (or descend) the Niagara Escarpment at a series of canal locks. The trail provides access to several viewing areas to watch the locks in action.

The Friendship Trail

This old rail line has been converted to a multi-use recreational path connecting Port Colborne with Fort Erie. The 24 km path is straight and easy with virtually no elevation change. Along on the Friendship Trail there is easy access to many golden sand beaches on the shores of Lake Erie. The route parallels the lakeshore as it passes through farmland, villages, and quiet residential areas. With stunning views of the Buffalo skyline and a nature trail within easy hiking distance, the Friendship Trail offers options for enthusiasts of all sorts.

Niagara River Recreational Trail

Constructed in 1986, the 56 km Niagara River Recreation Trail is a cyclist's dream. Following the scenic Niagara River, the trail extends from Historic Fort Erie through Niagara Falls, ending at Fort George in Niagara-on-the-Lake. Along the way, you're welcome to stop for wonderful attractions, historic sites, dining opportunities, Niagara Gorge walking trails and breathtaking views of the mighty Niagara Falls, making this trail one of the most exciting in the world.

The Waterfront Trail

The Waterfront Trail begins in Niagara-on-the-Lake at Butler's Park and stretches 650km to the Québec border, with 900km of signed trail (visit www.waterfronttrail.org for more details). The 18km portion between St. Catharines and Niagara-on-the-Lake, including George Nicholson Trail, is the link that completes the Greater Niagara Circle Route.

