

# Great Lakes Circle Tour Routes

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The Great Lakes Circle Tours (GLCT) are a total of four routes circling each of the Great Lakes with the exception of Lake Ontario. These routes were conceived as an aid for travellers who wished to stick close to the shorelines of the lakes in their journeys as well as a vehicle for state, regional, and local tourism organizations to promote travel and activities along the shores of each lake. After the routes were established, many local and regional tourism organizations began tying their promotional activities into the Circle Tours.

The Lake Superior Circle Tour was the first route established in 1986, with Michigan following in 1987, then Huron and Erie following in the early 1990s.

In 1985, Michigan First Lady Paula Blanchard, an advisor to the Michigan Department of Commerce at the time, pitched the idea to establish a tour route around Lake Superior at a tourism conference that fall. Soon after, MDOT drafted a design for the signs and, working with the transpor-

tation departments in Wisconsin, Minnesota and Ontario, helped devise a route around the largest of the Great Lakes.

Once the Lake Superior Circle Tour signs had been erected in 1986, work began in earnest for a Lake Michigan Circle Tour, becoming a reality just one year later. Then in 1988, the Great Lakes Commission approved an overarching "Great Lakes Circle Tour" to help coordinate the various routes among the eight Great Lakes states and the province of Ontario.



The GLCT routes have generally been designated by each state or provincial transportation department or ministry along the state or provincial highway closest to the Great Lake shoreline. In a few areas, though, the Circle Tour is signed along locally maintained roadways and a few select GLCT Loops and Spurs, signed with special brown signs, have also been designated.

Since their creation, however, the Circle Tours have seen varying levels of success and waning support from the Great Lakes Commission has left their continued existence in the hands of the individual jurisdictions. Michigan, Wisconsin, Illinois, and Ohio still sign and maintain their portions of the Circle Tour routes, while signage Minnesota, Ontario and Pennsylvania is now less than complete or even missing in some areas.

This document lists the designated routes for each of the Great Lakes Circle Tours, Loops, and Spurs to the best extent possible.

## Lake Michigan Circle Tour



The Lake Michigan Circle Tour (LMCT) is 1,092 miles long and is the only Great Lakes Circle Tour that does not cross into Canada, as Lake Michigan is the only Great Lake situated entirely within the U.S. More than half of the LMCT exists within Michigan, while nearly a third of the route occurs within Wisconsin. Illinois and Indiana each host approximately five percent of the route.

### Michigan

The Lake Michigan Circle Tour (LMCT) enters the state from Indiana southwest of New Buffalo, continues up the east coast of Lake Michigan and crosses the Mackinac Bridge along with the Lake Huron Circle Tour. From St. Ignace, the LMCT heads west across the Upper Peninsula then turns southwesterly to Menominee where it continues into Wisconsin. In Michigan, the 631-mile route generally follows the state trunkline highway running closest to Lake Michigan. The officially designated route for the LMCT is as follows:

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- Enters from the State of Indiana via US-12/Red Arrow Hwy in New Buffalo Twp., Berrien Co.
- Northeasterly via US-12/Red Arrow Hwy and Pulaski Hwy through New Buffalo to I-94 at Exit 4.
- Northerly via I-94 from Exit 4 near New Buffalo to Exit 23 near Stevensville.
- Northerly via I-94BL/Red Arrow Hwy from I-94 at Exit 23 near Stevensville to the northern junction of M-63 in downtown St. Joseph.
- Northerly via M-63 from I-94BL in downtown St. Joseph to the northern terminus of M-63 at I-196/US-31 in Hagar Twp.
- Northerly via I-196/US-31 from Exit 7 in Hagar Twp. to Exit 18 south of South Haven.
- Northerly via I-196BL/Lagrange St into downtown South Haven, then easterly via I-196BL/Phoenix St to I-196/US-31 at Exit 20. (*I-196/US-31 between Exits 18 and 20 is not part of the LMCT.*)
- Northerly via I-196/US-31 from Exit 20 at South Haven to Exit 44 southwest of Holland.
  - **Locally-signed LMCT Harbor Tour:** Departs I-196/US-31 at Exit 34 and rejoins I-196/US-31 at Exit 41. (See description below.)
- Northerly via US-31 from I-196 at Exit 44 southwest of Holland to Exit 110 in Norton Shores.
- Northwesterly, then northerly via US-31BR from US-31 at Exit 110 in Norton Shores to junction M-120 in Muskegon. (*US-31 between Exits 110 and 118 is not part of the LMCT.*)
- Northwesterly via M-120/Veterans Memorial Causeway, then northeasterly via M-120/Holton Rd from US-31BR in Muskegon to US-31 at Exit 118 north of Muskegon.
- Northerly via US-31 from Exit 118 north of Muskegon to Exit 128 at Whitehall.
- Westerly, then northerly via US-31BR through Whitehall and Montague from US-31 at Exit 128 to US-31 at Exit 131. (*US-31 between Exits 128 and 131 is not part of the LMCT.*)
- Northerly via US-31 from Exit 131 near Montague to Exit 154 southeast of Pentwater.
- Northwesterly, northerly and northeasterly via US-31BR through Pentwater from US-31 at Exit 154 to US-31 at Exit 158 northeast of Pentwater. (*US-31 between Exits 154 and 158 is not part of the LMCT.*)
- Northerly via US-31 from Exit 158 at Pentwater to the west junction of US-10 east of Ludington.
  - **LMCT Spur:** Departs US-31 at the west junction of US-10 and travels into Ludington. (See description below.)
- Easterly via US-10/US-31 from the west junction of US-10 east of Ludington to the east junction of US-10 west of Scottville.
- Northerly via US-31 from the east junction of US-10 at Scottville to junction M-22 northeast of Manistee.
- Northerly via M-22 from US-31 northeast of Manistee through Frankfort, Empire, and Leland to junction M-201 at Northport.
  - **LMCT Loop:** Departs M-22 at the south junction of M-109 northeast of Empire and rejoins at the north junction of M-109 in Glen Arbor. (See description below.)
- Southerly via M-22 from M-201 at Northport to the terminus of M-22 at US-31/M-72 in Traverse City.
- Easterly via US-31/M-72 from M-22 through Traverse City to east junction of M-72 at Acme.
- Northerly via US-31 from east junction of M-72 at Acme to the northern terminus of US-31 at I-75 Exit 336 south of Mackinaw City.
- Northerly via I-75 from Exit 336 south of Mackinaw City to Exit 344 in St. Ignace via the Mackinac Bridge.
  - LHCT joins LMCT at Exit 338 in Mackinaw City and departs at Exit 344 in St. Ignace.
- Westerly via US-2 from I-75 at Exit 344 in St. Ignace to the north junction of US-41 in Rapid River.
- Southerly via US-2/US-41 from Rapid River to the south junction of M-35 in Escanaba.
- Southerly via M-35 from south junction of US-2/US-41 in Escanaba to the terminus of M-35 at US-41 in Menominee.
- Southerly via US-41 from M-35 in Menominee into Wisconsin on the Interstate Bridge spanning the Menominee River.

## Wisconsin

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The Lake Michigan Circle Tour (LMCT) enters Wisconsin at Marinette and follows the shore of Green Bay through its namesake city, then runs up nearly the entire length of the Door Peninsula before looping back to continue south along the western shore of Lake Michigan through Kewaunee, Manitowoc, Sheboygan, Milwaukee, and Racine, exiting the state into Illinois south of Kenosha. Approximately 351 miles of the LMCT exist in Wisconsin. The officially signed route for the LMCT is as follows:

- Enters from the State of Michigan via US-41 on the Interstate Bridge in the City of Marinette, Marinette Co.
- Southerly via US-41 through downtown Marinette, continuing southwesterly along US-41 past Peshtigo and Oconto to Abrams.
- At Exit 187, the LMCT continues southerly via US-41/US-141

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- from Abrams toward Green Bay.
- Southerly at Exit 171 via I-43 through the City of Green Bay via the Leo Frigo Memorial Bridge.
- Northeasterly at Exit 185 to follow WIS-57 from Green Bay past Dyckesville and into Door County.
- At the southernmost junction of WIS-57 & WIS-42, the LMCT actually loops over itself. Continuing along the route in the counterclockwise direction, the LMCT continues northeasterly via WIS-42/WIS-57 past Sturgeon Bay to the second junction of WIS-42 & WIS-57.
- Northeasterly via WIS-57 along the Lake Michigan shore through Jacksonport and Bailey's Harbor, then northerly into Sister Bay and the third junction of WIS-57 & WIS-42.
- Southwesterly to follow the east shore of Green Bay via WIS-42 through Ephraim, Fish Creek, and Egg Harbor back to the second junction of WIS-42 & WIS-57.
- Southwesterly past Sturgeon Bay via WIS-42/WIS-57 to the first junction of WIS-42 & WIS-57 southwest of Sturgeon Bay.
- Southerly via WIS-42 through Algoma, Kewaunee, and Two Rivers and into Manitowoc.
- Southerly via US-10/BUS WIS-42 into downtown Manitowoc.
  - **LMCT Spur:** Continues southerly, then easterly and northerly via US-10 from downtown Manitowoc to the Lake Michigan Carferry dock. (See description below.)
- Westerly from downtown Manitowoc via US-151/BUS WIS-42 to I-43 at Exit 149.
- Southerly via I-43 from Manitowoc to WIS-42 at Exit 128 northwest of Sheboygan.
- Southeasterly via WIS-42/Calumet Dr from I-43 at Exit 128 into Sheboygan to North Ave.
- Easterly via North Ave to N 3rd St.
- Southerly via N 3rd St to Lincoln Ave.
- Easterly via Lincoln Ave to Boughton Dr.
- Follows the Lake Michigan shoreline in a generally southerly direction via Boughton Dr to Pennsylvania Ave.
- Westerly via Pennsylvania Ave from Boughton Dr to Riverfront Dr in downtown Sheboygan.
- Southwesterly via Riverfront Dr to S 8th St.
- Southerly across the Sheboygan River via S 8th St to the roundabout at Indiana Ave.
- Easterly for one block via Indiana Ave from the 8th St roundabout to S 7th St.
- Southerly via S 7th St to High Ave.
- Southerly from S 7th Ave & High Ave via Lakeshore Dr to Washington Ave.
- Westerly via Washington Ave from Lakeshore Dr to junction WIS-28 at the intersection of Washington Ave & Business Dr.
- Easterly via WIS-28/Washington Ave from Business Dr to I-43 at Exit 123.
- Southerly via I-43 from Exit 123 southwest of Sheboygan toward Port Washington. (I-43 and the LMCT are joined by WIS-32 at Exit 113 near Cedar Grove.)
- Southerly via WIS-32/Wisconsin St from I-43 at Exit 100 into Port Washington.
- Southerly via WIS-32/Franklin St from Wisconsin St through the Port Washington downtown business district to WIS-32/Grand Ave.
- Westerly via WIS-32/Grand Ave from Franklin St to junction WIS-33 at Spring St west of downtown Port Washington.
- Southwesterly via WIS-32/Spring St from WIS-33 toward I-43 at Exit 93 at Grafton.
- Southerly via I-43/WIS-32/WIS-57 from Exit 93 northeast of Grafton into Milwaukee County.
- Easterly from I-43 at Exit 82 via WIS-32/Brown Deer Rd, then southerly via WIS-32/N Lake Dr through the suburban communities of Bayside, Fox Point and Whitefish Bay and into the City of Milwaukee.
- Westerly via WIS-32/Bradford Ave from N Lake Dr to WIS-32/Farwell Ave.
- Southwesterly via WIS-32/Farwell Ave from Bradford Ave to Franklin Pl, then southerly via WIS-32/Franklin Pl to Prospect Ave. (Northbound LMCT follows WIS-32 Prospect Ave from Franklin Pl to Bradford Ave.)
- Southerly via WIS-32/Prospect Ave to State St.
- Southbound LMCT follows WIS-32/State St westerly from Prospect Ave to US-18/WIS-32/Broadway, then southerly via US-18/WIS-32 Broadway from State St to Michigan St, continuing southerly via WIS-32/Broadway from Michigan St to St Paul St. LMCT southbound then runs easterly via WIS-32/St Paul St from Broadway to WIS-32/Milwaukee St. Northbound LMCT follows WIS-32/Milwaukee St northerly from St Paul St to US-18/Michigan St, then continuing northerly via US-18/WIS-32/Milwaukee St to Wells St. LMCT northbound then continues easterly via WIS-32/Wells St from Milwaukee St to Prospect St, then northerly via WIS-32/Prospect St to WIS-32 Sbd/State St.
- LMCT continues from downtown Milwaukee southerly via WIS-32/Milwaukee St to Menominee & Young Sts.
- Southwesterly via WIS-32/Young St from Milwaukee St to Erie St and via WIS-32/Broadway across the Milwaukee River to Water St.
- Westerly via WIS-32/Pittsburgh Ave to S 1st St.
- Southerly via WIS-32/S 1st St from Pittsburgh Ave to Kinnickinnic Ave.
- Southeasterly via WIS-32/Kinnickinnic Ave from S 1st St to Howard Ave.
- Easterly via WIS-32/Howard Ave from Kinnickinnic Ave to S Lake Dr.
- Southerly via WIS-32/S Lake Dr from Howard Ave to E College Ave.
- Westerly via WIS-32/E College Ave from S Lake Dr to N Chicago Ave.
- Southerly via WIS-32/N Chicago Ave and 10th Ave from E College Ave to Marquette Ave in the City of South Milwaukee.
- Westerly via WIS-32/Marquette Ave from 10th Ave to S Chicago Ave.

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- Southerly via WIS-32/S Chicago Ave from Marquette Ave in South Milwaukee to through the City of Oak Creek and into Racine County.
- Southerly via WIS-32/Douglas Ave from Milwaukee County into the City of Racine at Hamilton St.
- Easterly via WIS-32/Hamilton St from Douglas Ave to N Main St.
- Southerly via WIS-32/Main St through downtown Racine to 6th St.
- Southbound LMCT continues westerly via WIS-32/6th St from Main St to Washington Ave. Northbound LMCT continues easterly via WIS-32/7th St from Washington Ave to Main St where it continues northerly via WIS-32/Main St.
- Southwesterly from the intersection of 6th St, 7th St & Washington Ave via WIS-32/Washington Ave to Racine St.
- Southerly via WIS-32/Racine St from WIS-20/Washington Ave into the south side of Racine.
- Southerly via WIS-32/Sheridan Rd from Racine Ave into Kenosha County and the City of Kenosha.
- Southerly via WIS-32/Alford Park Dr from Sheridan Rd at Carthage Collage to Sheridan Rd south of Alford Park.
- Southerly via WIS-32/Sheridan Rd from Alford Park Dr through downtown Kenosha and then through Pleasant Prairie.
- Southerly via WIS-32/Sheridan Rd in Pleasant Prairie into Illinois at Russell Rd, entering Winthrop Harbor, Illinois.

## Illinois

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The Lake Michigan Circle Tour (LMCT) enters Illinois at Winthrop Harbor in northeastern Lake County and continues south through Zion, Waukegan, Lake Forest, Highland Park, Winnetka and Evanston. In these areas, the LMCT follows the route of Sheridan Rd very closely. Once in the City of Chicago, the Circle Tour joins iconic Lake Shore Drive through the city before exiting the state into Indiana. About 61.9 miles of the LMCT exist in Illinois. The Illinois route of the LMCT route is as follows:

Note: Route signage for the Illinois segment of the Lake Michigan Circle Tour in a few areas is lacking or absent. As of last field check, signage is absent for the northbound Circle Tour in most of the City of Waukegan and the Village of Beach Park, and from the southbound Circle Tour from the Wisconsin state line to the intersection of Sheridan Rd & McKinley Rd in southern Lake Bluff. Route signage for the LMCT is also missing from the northern Chicago city limit southerly to North Broadway & Bryn Mawr Avenue in the City of Chicago. Other areas of incomplete signage exist as well and these are currently being documented and will be forwarded to the appropriate road-maintenance authorities.

- Enters from the State of Wisconsin via SR-137/Sheridan Rd in the Village of Winthrop Harbor in northeastern Lake County.
- Southerly via SR-137/Sheridan Rd through Winthrop Harbor, Zion and Beach Park to Greenwood Ave in Waukegan.
- Southerly via Sheridan Rd from Greenwood Ave (where SR-137 turns easterly toward the Amstutz Expwy) into downtown Waukegan to Belvidere St.
- Westerly via Belvedere St from Sheridan Rd for one block to S Genesee St in Waukegan.
- Southerly via S Genesee St from Belvidere St for three blocks to SR-137/Sheridan Rd-Amstutz Expwy in Waukegan.
- Southerly via SR-137/Sheridan Rd from S Genesee St in Waukegan to Martin Luther King Jr Dr (Co Rd A-31) in North Chicago.
- Southerly via SR-137/Bobby E Thompson Expwy from Martin Luther King Jr Dr (Co Rd A-31) to SR-137/Buckley Rd in North Chicago.
- Easterly via connecting ramps from SR-137/Buckey Rd-Bobby E Thompson Expwy to Sheridan Rd in North Chicago.
- Southerly via Sheridan Rd from SR-137 ramps in North Chicago to intersection of Sheridan Rd, East Sheridan Rd & McKinley Rd in Lake Bluff.
- Easterly via East Sheridan Rd from Sheridan Rd-McKinley Rd to intersection of East Sheridan Rd, North Sheridan Rd, Moffett Rd & Cambridge Ln in Lake Bluff.
- Southerly via Sheridan Rd through Lake Forest to Westleigh Rd intersection.
- Southeasterly via Sheridan Rd from Westleigh Rd intersection in Lake Forest to intersection of Sheridan Rd, Waukegan Ave & Walker Ave in Highwood.
- Easterly via Walker Ave from Sheridan Rd-Waukegan Rd in Highwood to Oak St in Highland Park.
- Southerly via Oak St from Walker Ave for two blocks to Edgecliff Dr.
- Easterly via Edgecliff Dr from Oak St for one block to Sheridan Rd.
- Southerly via Sheridan Rd from Edgecliff Dr to Central Ave in downtown Highland Park.
- Southwesterly via Central Ave for one short block in downtown Highland Park from Sheridan Rd to St Johns Ave.
- Southerly via St Johns Ave from Central Ave in downtown Highland Park to Sheridan Rd.
- Southeasterly following the many twists and turns of Sheridan Rd—the road encounters many 90° turns at several intersections in this area—through the rest of Highland Park and the communities of Glencoe, Winnetka, Kenilworth, and Wilmette, to the intersection of Sheridan Rd, Ridge Ave & Isabella St in Evanston.
- Easterly via Sheridan Rd from intersection of Ridge Ave & Isabella St for two blocks to Lakeside Ct in Evanston.
- Southerly via Sheridan Rd from Lakeside Ct through the campus of Northwestern University to Chicago Ave in Evanston.
- Southeasterly via Sheridan Rd for four blocks from Chicago Ave to Campus Dr in Evanston.

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- Southerly via Sheridan Rd from Campus Dr for three blocks to Forest Ave
- Southwesterly via Forest Ave from Sheridan Rd for one block to Davis St.
- Southerly via Forest Ave from Davis St for four blocks to Burnham Pl.
- Southbound LMCT continues southerly via Forest Ave from Burnham Pl for four blocks to Main St, then runs easterly via Main St from Forest Ave for two blocks to Sheridan Rd where it continues easterly. Northbound LMCT runs northerly from the intersection of Main St & Sheridan Rd via Sheridan Rd for four blocks to Burnham Pl, then runs westerly via Burnham Pl for two blocks to Forest Ave where it continues northerly.
- Easterly via Sheridan Rd from Main St for one block to Clark Square Park, then southerly via Sheridan Rd to South Blvd.
- Easterly from South Blvd, then southerly, then westerly via Sheridan Rd to skirt the edge of Calvary Cemetery and enter the City of Chicago.
- Southerly via Sheridan Rd from Calvary Cemetery to intersection of Devon Ave & N Broadway.
- From the intersection of Sheridan Rd, Devon Ave & North Broadway, the LMCT continues southerly via North Broadway from Sheridan Rd-Devon Ave to intersection of Bryn Mawr Ave & Ridge Ave.
- Southerly via US-14/North Broadway from Bryn Mawr Ave & Ridge Ave to US-41/Foster Ave.
- Easterly via US-41/Foster Ave from US-14/North Broadway to Lake Shore Dr.
- Southerly via US-41/Lake Shore Dr from Foster Ave through downtown Chicago to intersection of Lake Shore Dr, Jeffery Blvd & Marquette Dr in Jackson Park.
- Easterly via US-41/Marquette Dr from Lake Shore Dr & Jeffrey Blvd to intersection of Marquette Dr, E 67th St & S South Shore Dr.
- Southerly via US-41/S South Shore Dr from E 67th St & Marquette Dr for five blocks to intersection of S South Shore Dr, E 71st St, Yates Blvd & Exchange Ave.
- Easterly via US-41/E South Shore Dr from intersection of S South Shore Dr, E 71st St, Yates Blvd & Exchange Ave for two blocks to the eastern intersection with E 71st St.
- Southeasterly via US-41/S South Shore Dr from intersection of E South Shore Dr & E 71st St for nine blocks to intersection of S South Shore Dr, E 79th St & S Lake Shore Dr.
- Southeasterly then southerly and then southwesterly via US-41/S Lake Shore Dr from intersection of S South Shore Dr & E 79th St to intersection of S Lake Shore Dr, S Mackinaw Ave, Ewing Ave & Harbor Ave.
- Southeasterly via US-41/Ewing Ave from intersection of S Lake Shore Dr, S Mackinaw Ave & Harbor Ave, across the Calumet River to intersection of Ewing Ave & US-12/US-20/E 95th St.
- Southeasterly then southerly via US-12/US-20/US-41/Ewing Ave from 95th St for five blocks to Indianapolis Ave.
- Southeasterly via US-12/US-20/US-41/Indianapolis Ave from Ewing Ave into Indiana at State Line Ave, entering Hammond, Indiana.

## Indiana

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The Lake Michigan Circle Tour (LMCT) enters Indiana at Hammond in northwestern Lake County and continues easterly through Whiting, East Chicago, Gary, Burns Harbor, and Michigan City before exiting the state into Michigan. About 46½ miles of the LMCT exist in Indiana. The Indiana route of the LMCT route is as follows:

**Note:** Route signage for the Indiana segment of the Lake Michigan Circle Tour is missing in most areas of the route. Areas of incomplete signage are currently being documented and will be forwarded to the appropriate road-maintenance authorities.

- Enters from the State of Illinois via US-12/US-20/US-41/Indianapolis Blvd in the City of Hammond in northwestern Lake County.
- Southeasterly via US-12/US-20/US-41/Indianapolis Blvd from the Illinois state line to US-41/Calumet Ave.
- Southeasterly via US-12/US-20/Indianapolis Blvd from US-41/Calumet Ave in Whiting to US-12/Columbus Dr in East Chicago.
- Easterly via US-12/US-20/Columbus Dr from Indianapolis Blvd to SR-912/Cline Ave on the East Chicago/Gary municipal boundary.
- Southerly via SR-912/US-12/Cline Ave from Exit 6 at Columbus Dr to US-20/Michigan St-5th Ave at Exit 10AB.
- Easterly via US-12/US-20/5th Ave from SR-912/Cline Ave to Bridge St in Gary.
- Through downtown Gary, the eastbound LMCT continues easterly via US-12/US-20/5th Ave from Bridge St to Vermont St where it rejoins with the westbound LMCT. The westbound LMCT continues westerly from Vermont St via 4th Ave to Bridge St, then continues southerly for two blocks via US-12/US-20/Bridge St from 4th Ave to 5th Ave where it rejoins with eastbound LMCT.
- East of downtown Gary, the LMCT continues southeasterly via US-12/US-20/Dunes Hwy from Vermont St to the US-12 & US-20 "split" at Dunes Hwy & Melton Rd.
- Easterly via US-12/Dunes Hwy from US-20/Melton Rd in Gary through Portage, Ogden Dunes, Burns Harbor, and Porter to intersection of Dunes Hwy, County Line Rd & Woodlawn Ave on the western limits of the City of Michigan City.
- Northerly via US-12 from intersection of Dunes Hwy, County Line Rd & Woodlawn Ave to Beverly Dr, then easterly via US-12 into Michigan City at Sheridan Ave.
- Northeasterly via US-12/4th St from Sheridan Ave to intersection of 4th St, Willard Ave & Michigan St.
- Northeasterly via US-12/Michigan St and easterly via US-12/Michigan Blvd from 4th St & Willard Ave through downtown Michigan City to 2nd St at Blue Chip Dr.

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- Northeasterly via US-12 from Blue Chip Dr to SR-212. state line, entering New Buffalo Township, Michigan.
- Northeasterly via US-12 from SR-212 into Michigan at the

## Lake Michigan Circle Tour Loops & Spur

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### LMCT Harbor Tour: Saugatuck/Douglas, Michigan

- Departs LMCT at I-196/US-31 Exit 34 near Ganges.
- Easterly via M-89/124th Ave from I-196/US-31 to A-2/Blue Star Hwy.
- Northerly via A-2/Blue Star Hwy from M-89/124th Ave through the cities of Douglas and Saugatuck to I-196/US-31 at Exit 41 northeast of Saugatuck.
- Rejoins LMCT at I-196/US-31 Exit 41 northeast of Saugatuck.



### LMCT Spur: S.S. Badger, Michigan–Wisconsin

- Departs LMCT at the west junction of US-10 & US-31 east of Ludington.
- Westerly via US-10/Ludington Ave from US-31 to James St into downtown Ludington.
- Southerly via US-10/James St from Ludington Ave to the S.S. Badger carferry docks in Ludington.
- *LMCT Spur officially continues via the S.S. Badger carferry across Lake Michigan, connecting with the LMCT mainline in downtown Manitowoc, Wisconsin.*
- From the S.S. Badger carferry docks in Manitowoc, LMCT Spur continues southwesterly via US-10/Lakeview Dr to Lake St.
- Westerly via US-10/Madison St from Lakeview Dr for two blocks to 8th St.
- Westbound LMCT Spur continues northerly via wbd US-10/8th St from Madison St for four blocks to junction US-10, US-151 & BUS WIS-42, where it terminates. Eastbound LMCT Spur departs LMCT at junction US-10, US-151 & BUS SR-42 at the intersection of Washington St & 10th St and continues southerly via ebd US-10/10th St for four blocks to Madison St where it continues easterly for two blocks via US-10/Madison St from 10th St to 8th St where it rejoins the westbound LMCT Spur.



### LMCT Loop: Sleeping Bear Dunes, Michigan

- Departs LMCT at the south junction of M-22 & M-109 northeast of Empire.
- Northerly via M-109/S Dune Hwy from M-22 northeast of Empire to Glen Haven.
- Easterly via M-109/W Harbor Hwy from Glen Haven to M-22 in Glen Arbor.
- Rejoins LMCT at north junction of M-22 & M-109 in Glen Arbor.



## Lake Superior Circle Tour

The Lake Superior Circle Tour (LSCT) is 1,287 miles (2,071 km) long and was the first Great Lakes Circle Tour route to be designated and signed in 1986. Even though the direct distance between Ironwood and Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan is less than the direct distance from Sault Ste. Marie to Pigeon River, Ontario, since the LSCT travels the length of the Keweenaw Peninsula as well as looping through the Tahquamenon Falls region, there is actually more route mileage in Michigan (40%) than in Ontario (37%). Minnesota and Wisconsin each share an almost equal amount of the remainder of the route, at 12% and 11%, respectively. Unlike the other bi-national Circle Tour routes, all signage on the LSCT uses the standard white-on-green style. Unfortunately, while the LSCT is reasonably well-signed in Michigan and Wisconsin, signage is lacking on portions of the route in Minnesota and Ontario.



## Wisconsin

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The Lake Superior Circle Tour (LSCT) enters the state from Minnesota in the middle of the Richard I. Bong Memorial Bridge spanning St. Louis Bay dividing Duluth, Minnesota from Superior, Wisconsin. The route then travels through the Bayfield Peninsula and through Ashland before it continues into Michigan at Hurley. In Wisconsin, the 142-mile (228.5 km) route follows the state highway running closest to Lake Superior. The designated route for the LSCT in Wisconsin is

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as follows:

- Enters from the State of Minnesota via US-2 on the Richard I. Bong Memorial Bridge in the City of Superior in Douglas Co.
- Easterly via US-2 from the Minnesota state line via the Bong Bridge to Belknap St.
- Easterly via US-2/Belknap St from the Bong Bridge approach through downtown Superior to US-53/E 2nd St.
- Southeasterly via US-2/US-53/E 2nd St from Belknap St to intersection of CTH-E & Moccasin Mike Rd.
- Southeasterly via US-2/US-53 from CTH-E & Moccasin Mike Rd to WIS-13 interchange in the Parkland Area.
- Northeasterly, easterly and southerly via WIS-13 from the US-2/US-53 interchange near Parkland through the communities of Port Wing, Cornucopia, Red Cliff, Bayfield and Washburn to junction US-2 west of Ashland.
- Easterly via US-2/WIS-13 from western junction of US-2 & WIS-13 into Ashland to the eastern junction of US-2 & WIS-13.
- Easterly via US-2 from WIS-13 in Ashland to junction WIS-122 near Saxon.
  - **Locally-designated LSCT Loop:** Departs LSCT mainline at the junction of US-2 & WIS-122 near Saxon and leaves Wisconsin along WIS-122 northwest of Hurley and rejoins the LSCT in Ironwood. (See description below.)
- Easterly via US-2 from WIS-122 into Michigan at the Montreal River bridge between the cities of Hurley, Wisconsin and Ironwood, Michigan.

## Michigan

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The Lake Superior Circle Tour (LSCT) enters the state from Wisconsin at Ironwood, continues along the southern coast of Lake Superior with a trip up and back down the Keweenaw Peninsula, and crosses the International Bridge at Sault Ste. Marie and continuing into the province of Ontario. In Michigan, the 516-mile (830.5 km) route follows the state trunkline highway running closest to Lake Superior in nearly all instances. The officially designated route for the LSCT is as follows:

- Enters Michigan from the State of Wisconsin via US-2/Cloverland Dr in Ironwood.
  - **Locally-designated LSCT Loop:** Enters Michigan from Wisconsin along Co. Rd. 505 northwest of Ironwood and rejoins the LSCT in Ironwood. (See description below.)
- Easterly via US-2 from Ironwood to junction M-28 in downtown Wakefield.
- Northeasterly and easterly via M-28 from US-2 at Wakefield to the east junction of M-28 & M-64 in Bergland.
- Northerly via M-64 from M-28 at Bergland to Silver City, then easterly via M-64 from Silver City to the junction US-45 & M-38 in Ontonagon.
- Southeasterly via M-38 from junction US-45 & M-64 in Ontonagon to the east junction of M-26 east of Greenland.
- Northeasterly via M-26 from M-38 east of Greenland to the first junction of US-41 & M-26 in downtown Houghton.
- Northerly via US-41/M-26 across the Houghton-Hancock Lift Bridge from the first junction of US-41 & M-26 in Houghton to the second junction of US-41 & M-26 in Hancock.
- Overlaps with LSCT as it returns from Calumet and Laurium via Hancock.
- Easterly, northeasterly, then northwesterly via M-26 from the second junction of US-41 & M-26 in Hancock via Dollar Bay, Hubbell and Lake Linden to the third junction of US-41 & M-26 at Calumet.
- Northeasterly via US-41/M-26 from the third junction of US-41 & M-26 at Calumet to the fourth junction of US-41 & M-26 at Phoenix.
- Overlaps with LSCT as it returns from Copper Harbor, Eagle Harbor and Eagle River.
  - **Locally-designated LSCT Loop:** Departs LSCT at the third junction of US-41 & M-26 at Calumet and rejoins at the junction of US-41/M-26 & M-203 northeast of downtown Calumet. (See description below.)
- Easterly via US-41 from the fourth junction of US-41 & M-26 at Phoenix to the fifth junction of US-41 & M-26 in downtown Copper Harbor.
- Westerly via M-26 from the fifth junction of US-41 & M-26 in Copper Harbor via Eagle Harbor and Eagle River to the fourth junction of US-41 & M-26 at Phoenix.
- Southwesterly via US-41/M-26 from the fourth junction of US-41 & M-26 at Phoenix to the third junction of US-41 & M-26 at Calumet.
- Overlaps with LSCT as it heads up from Calumet and Laurium toward Copper Harbor.
  - **Locally-designated LSCT Loop:** Departs LSCT at the junction of US-41/M-26 & M-203 northeast of Calumet and rejoins at the third junction of US-41 & M-26 between Calumet and Laurium. (See description below.)
- Southwesterly via US-41 from the third junction of US-41 & M-26 at Calumet to the second junction of US-41 & M-26 in Hancock.
- Southerly via US-41/M-26 from the second junction of US-41 & M-26 in Hancock via the Houghton-Hancock Lift Bridge to the first junction of US-41 & M-26 in downtown Houghton.
- Overlaps with LSCT as it runs from Houghton to Hancock.
- Southerly via US-41 from the first junction of US-41 & M-26 in downtown Houghton through Baraga and L'Anse to the western junction of US-41 & M-28 northeast of Covington.
- Easterly via US-41/M-28 from the western junction of US-41 & M-28 northeast of Covington through Ishpeming, Negaunee and Marquette to the eastern junction of US-41 &

## Great Lakes Circle Tours: Route Definitions

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M-28 at Harvey.

- Easterly via M-28 from the eastern junction of US-41 & M-28 at Harvey through Munsing, Shingleton, Seney, and McMullan to the western junction of M-28 & M-123 south of Newberry.
  - **LSCT Scenic Spur:** Departs LSCT at the east junction of M-28 & M-77 in Seney. (See description below.)
- Northerly, northeasterly, then easterly via M-123 from M-28 south of Newberry to Paradise.
- Southerly via M-123 from Paradise to the eastern junction of

M-28 & M-123 at Eckerman Corner.

- Easterly via M-28 from the eastern junction of M-28 & M-123 at Eckerman Corner to I-75 at Exit 386 south of Sault Ste. Marie.
- Northerly via I-75 from Exit 386 south of Sault Ste. Marie into Ontario on the International Bridge leading to Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario.
  - LHCT joins LSCT at Exit 392 in Sault Ste. Marie and continues into Ontario.

## Ontario

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The Lake Superior Circle Tour (LSCT) enters the province from Ontario in the middle of the International Bridge spanning the St. Marys River dividing Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan and Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario. The 764 km (475-mile) route then travels along the provincial highway closest to Lake Superior through (or past) communities like Wawa, Marathon and Nipigon to Thunder Bay, then continues southwesterly into Minnesota at the Pigeon River.

**Note:** Route signage for the Ontario segment of the Lake Superior Circle Tour is largely missing along much of the route in the province. This is due in part to the massive “downloading” of many formerly provincial highways, including a short stretch of the LSCT in Sault Ste. Marie, to local authorities in 1997–98. Additionally, the Ontario Ministry of Transportation has ceased signing most of their “Tourist Routes” with a few exceptions, including the Terry Fox Courage Highway that runs concurrently with the LSCT near Thunder Bay. Areas of incomplete signage are currently being documented and will be forwarded to the appropriate parties.

The designated route for the LSCT in Ontario is as follows:

- Enters from the Province of Ontario via the International Bridge in the City of Sault Ste. Marie in the District of Algoma.
- The route of the LSCT through downtown Sault Ste. Marie follows the former route of Hwy 17B, which features several turns. Hwy 17B in downtown Sault Ste. Marie was a pair of one-way routes, so each direction of the LSCT route is presented below:
  - **Northbound (Clockwise):** From the end of the International Bridge approach, the LSCT heads southerly for 1½ blocks via Huron St to Bay St.
  - Southeasterly via Bay St from Huron St for approximately 10 blocks to Pim St.
  - Northeasterly via Pim St for one block from Bay St to Queen St.
  - Easterly for one block via Queen St from Pim St to Church St.
  - Northerly again via Church St for four blocks from Queen St to the intersection of Church St & Pim St. where it rejoins the southbound LSCT route. (The LHCT departs the LSCT where Church St intersects Wellington St.)
  - **Southbound (Counterclockwise):** From the intersection of Pim St & Church St, the LSCT heads southwesterly via Pim St for two short blocks to Wellington St. (The LHCT joins the LSCT at the intersection of Pim St & Wellington St.)
  - Westerly and northwesterly via Wellington St for 14 blocks from Pim St to Cathcart St.
  - Westerly via Cathcart St for five blocks from Wellington St to Huron St.
  - Southerly via Huron St for three blocks from Cathcart St to the International Bridge entrance, where it rejoins the northbound route.
- From the intersection of Pim St & Church St in Sault Ste. Marie, the LSCT continues northerly via Pim St to McNabb St.
- Northerly via Great Northern Rd from intersection of Pim St & McNabb St to the junction of Hwy 17/☐ & Hwy 550 at the intersection of Great Northern Rd & Second Line.
- Northerly, northwesterly and westerly via Hwy 17/☐ from the junction with Hwy 550 in Sault Ste. Marie for a total of 581 km (361 miles) via Wawa, White River, Terrace Bay and Schreiber, to the junction of Hwy 17/☐ & Hwy 11/☐ near Nipigon.
- Southwesterly via Hwy 11/Hwy 17/☐ for 114 km (71 miles) from junction Hwy 11/☐ & Hwy 17/☐ near Nipigon to the junction of Hwy 11/Hwy 17/☐ & Hwy 61 at the intersection of the Thunder Bay Expwy, Harbor Expwy & Shabaqua Hwy in Thunder Bay.
- Generally southwesterly via Hwy 61 from the junction of Hwy 11/Hwy 17/☐ & Hwy 61 in Thunder Bay to the International Border on the Pigeon River bridge, 61 km (38 miles) from Thunder Bay where it enters the State of Minnesota.

## Minnesota

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The Lake Superior Circle Tour (LSCT) enters the state from Minnesota on the bridge spanning the Pigeon River at the



## Great Lakes Circle Tours: Route Definitions

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U.S./Canadian International Boundary northeast of Grand Portage in Cook County. The 156-mile (248 km) route then travels the North Shore through communities such as Grand Marais, Lutsen, Silver Bay, and Two Harbors. At Duluth, the LSCT continues into Wisconsin via the Richard Ira Bong Memorial Bridge. The designated route for the LSCT in Minnesota is as follows:

**Note:** Although the LSCT route in Minnesota only features two turns and runs along only three different highways—95% of it along SR-61 alone—**both** of these two route turns were unsigned at last check. While the LSCT route through Minnesota is quite easy to follow (if you know the route), it is rather sparsely signed in the state. Areas of incomplete signage are currently being documented and will be forwarded to the appropriate road-maintenance authorities.

- Enters from the State of Minnesota via the Pigeon River bridge at the U.S./Canadian border into Cook County north-east of Grand Portage.
- Southwesterly via SR-61 from the Pigeon River bridge for a total of 149 miles (239 km) through Grand Marais, Lutsen, Silver Bay and Two Harbors into the City of Duluth.
- At the northern terminus of I-35, the route continues south-westerly via I-35 from SR-61 (Exit 259) to US-2 at Exit 253A.
- Southeasterly via US-2 on the Richard I. Bong Memorial Bridge, where the LSCT enters the State of Wisconsin.

## Lake Superior Circle Tour Loops & Spur

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### LSCT Loop: Saxon, Wisconsin—Ironwood, Michigan

- Departs LSCT at the junction of US-2 & WIS-122 near Saxon, Wisconsin.
- Northerly via WIS-122 from US-2 to the terminus of WIS-122 at the Wisconsin/Michigan state line on the Montreal River bridge.
- Easterly then southerly via Co Rd 505/Lake Rd to US-2/Cloverland Dr in Ironwood, Michigan.
- Rejoins LSCT at US-2/Cloverland Dr in Ironwood.



### LSCT Loop: Downtown Calumet, Michigan

- Departs LSCT at the third junction of US-41 & M-26 south of downtown Calumet.
- Northerly via Sixth St Extension and Sixth St through downtown Calumet to M-203/Pine St.
- Easterly via M-203/Pine St from Sixth St in Calumet to the junction of US-41/M-26 & M-203 northeast of Calumet.
- Rejoins LSCT at US-41/M-26 northeast of Calumet



### LSCT Scenic Spur: Grand Marais, Michigan

- Departs LSCT at the east junction of M-28 & M-77 in Seney.
- Northerly via M-77 from the east junction of M-28 & M-77 in Seney to the northern terminus of M-77 in Grand Marais.
- Ends at the northern terminus of M-77 in Grand Marais.



## Lake Huron Circle Tour

The Lake Huron Circle Tour (LHCT) traverses a 1,059-mile (1,704 km) route around the second-largest Great Lake through Michigan and Ontario. Those two jurisdictions roughly split the mainline route mileage of the LHCT—55% in Ontario and 45% in Michigan. A split-route configuration for the Lake Huron Circle Tour Loop in Ontario also traverses Manitoulin Island, utilizes the *MS Chi-Cheemaun* ferry between South Baymouth and Tobermory, and runs the length of the Bruce Peninsula. Michigan LHCT route markers use the standard white-on-green style, while Ontario opted for a white-on-blue style instead. Maintenance of LHCT route markers in Ontario has ceased and most have disappeared, while the route is still reasonably well signed in Michigan.



## Michigan

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The Lake Huron Circle Tour (LHCT) enters the state from Ontario at Port Huron, traverses around the entirety of Michi-

## Great Lakes Circle Tours: Route Definitions

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gan's Thumb, around Saginaw Bay, then up the state's east coast to the tip of the Lower Peninsula. There, it crosses the Mackinac Bridge and continues through the eastern Upper Peninsula to Sault Ste. Marie where it crosses the International Bridge and continues back into Ontario. In Michigan, the 481-mile (775 km) route follows the mainline state trunkline highway running closest to Lake Huron. The officially designated route for the LHCT is as follows:

- Enters Michigan from the Province of Ontario via the Blue Water Bridge spanning the St. Clair River between Port Edwards, Ontario and Port Huron, Michigan.
- Westerly via I-94/I-69 (technically the Blue Water Bridge approach roadway) from the Blue Water Bridge to the off-ramp for BL I-94/BL I-69/M-25/Pine Grove Ave just beyond the customs plaza.
- Northerly via the M-25 Connector from I-94/I-69 to M-25/Pine Grove Ave.
- Northerly via M-25/Pine Grove Ave from the M-25 Connector to junction M-136 at the intersection of Pine Grove Ave & 24th Ave.
- Northerly via M-25/24th Ave from M-136/Pine Grove Ave to Lakeshore Rd.
- Northerly via M-25/Lakeshore Rd for 81.6 miles through the communities of Lexington, Port Sanilac, Forestville, Harbor Beach, and Port Hope to M-53/Van Dyke Rd in Port Austin.
- Northerly via M-25/Lake St from the intersection of Van Dyke Rd & Grindstone Rd to Spring St in downtown Port Austin.
- Westerly via M-25/Spring St from Lake St to the western limits of Port Austin.
- Westerly and southwesterly via M-25/Port Austin Rd (Main St in Caseville) through Caseville to Bay Port.
- Southerly via M-25/Unionville Rd (Beck St in Sebawaing) through Sebawaing to junction M-24 in downtown Unionville at the intersection of Center St & Bay St.
- Westerly via M-25/Bay St from M-24/Center St in downtown Unionville to Madison Ave in Bay City.
- Southerly via M-25/Madison Ave from Center St to 7th St in downtown Bay City.
- The **westbound (Clockwise)** LHCT route continues westerly from Madison Ave via BS I-75/M-25/7th St for six blocks to the Veterans Memorial Bridge over the Saginaw River where it rejoins the eastbound LHCT route. The **eastbound (Counter-clockwise)** route continues easterly from the Veterans Memorial Bridge via BS I-75/M-25/McKinley St for six blocks to Madison Ave, where it turns northerly via M-25/Madison Ave for one block to 7th St where it rejoins the westbound LHCT route.
- The LHCT route continues westerly via the Veterans Memorial Bridge from the 7th St/McKinley St split across the Saginaw River to another split at Jenny & Thomas Sts.
- The **westbound (Clockwise)** LHCT route continues westerly from the Veterans Memorial Bridge approach for 15 blocks via BS I-75/M-25/Jenny St to M-13/Euclid Ave, where it rejoins the eastbound LHCT route. The **eastbound (Counter-clockwise)** route continues southerly via M-13/Euclid Ave from the intersection of Jenny St for one block to ebd BS I-75/M-25/Thomas St, then continues easterly via BS I-75/M-25/Thomas St for 15 blocks to the Veterans Memorial Bridge over the Saginaw River where it rejoins the westbound LHCT route.
- From the intersection of wbd BS I-75/M-25/Jenny St & M-13/Euclid Ave, the LHCT continues northerly via M-13/Euclid Ave to the junction of M-247.
- North-northwesterly and northerly via M-13/Huron Rd from M-247/Euclid Ave through Kawkawlin, Linwood and Pinconning to junction US-23 south of Standish.
- Northerly, northeasterly, etc. via US-23 from M-13 south of Standish through Standish, Omer, Au Gres, Tawas City, East Tawas, Au Sable, Oscoda, Harrisville, and Alpena to Rogers City.
- At Rogers City, the LHCT route splits and follows both the BUS US-23 route through Rogers City as well as also following the US-23 route bypassing the city to the west:
  - **Bypass:** From the southern junction of US-23 & US-23BR south of Rogers City, the "bypass" LHCT route continues northwesterly via US-23 to the northern junction of US-23 & US-23BR.
  - **Business Route:** From the southern junction of US-23 & US-23BR south of Rogers City, the LHCT "business route" continues northerly and northwesterly via US-23BR into downtown Rogers City, then continues northwesterly and westerly via US-23BR to the northern junction of US-23 & US-23BR.
- From the northern junction of US-23 & US-23BR at Rogers City, the LHCT continues northwesterly via US-23 to M-27/Main St in downtown Cheboygan.
- Northeasterly via US-23/Main St for one block from State St to Mackinaw Ave.
- Northwesterly via US-23/Mackinaw Ave from Main St in downtown Cheboygan to the northern terminus of US-23 at I-75 Exit 338 in Mackinaw City.
  - LMCT joins LHCT at Exit 338 in Mackinaw City and both routes continue northerly together.
- Northerly via I-75 from Exit 338 in Mackinaw City across the Mackinac Bridge into the Upper Peninsula of Michigan to I-75BL at Exit 344A.
- Easterly via I-75BL from I-75 at Exit 344A to State St in downtown St. Ignace.
- Northerly via I-75BL/State St through downtown St. Ignace to I-75 at Exit 348.
- Northerly via I-75 from I-75BL at Exit 348 north of St. Ignace to M-134 at Exit 359.
- Easterly via M-134/Huron Shore Dr from I-75 at Exit 359 through Cedarville to junction M-134 & M-48, 10 miles west of De Tour Village.
  - **LHCT Loop:** Departs LHCT at the junction of M-134 & M-48 and continues toward De Tour Village. (See description below.)
- Northerly via M-48 from M-134 to North Caribou Lake Rd.
  - **LHCT Loop:** Rejoins LHCT at the intersection of M-48 & North Caribou Lake Rd having looped through De

## Great Lakes Circle Tours: Route Definitions

Tour Village. (See description below.)

- Northwesterly in a stair-stepping fashion via M-48 from North Caribou Lake Rd west of De Tour Village to the south junction of M-129 two miles south of Pickford.
- Northerly via M-48/M-129/Meridian Rd from the south junction of M-48 & M-129 two miles south of Pickford through Pickford to the north junction of M-48 & M-129 two miles north of Pickford.
- Northerly via M-129/Meridian Rd from the north junction of M-48 & M-129 north of Pickford to the northern terminus of

M-129 at I-75BS in Sault Ste. Marie.

- Southwesterly then westerly via I-75BS from M-129 to I-75 at Exit 392.
  - LSCT joins LHCT at Exit 392 in Sault Ste. Marie and both routes continue northerly toward the International Bridge together.
- Northerly via I-75 from Exit 392 in Sault Ste. Marie to the International Bridge crossing the St. Mary's River into Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario.

## Ontario

The Lake Huron Circle Tour (LHCT) enters the province from Ontario in the middle of the International Bridge spanning the St. Marys River dividing Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan and Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario. The 931 km (578-mile) route then travels along the highway closest to Lake Huron easterly to Sudbury, then southerly and westerly around the remainder of Georgian Bay to Owen Sound where it continues southerly along the Lake Huron shore to Sarnia and Port Edwards where the route continues into Michigan via the Blue Water Bridge. The 255 km (158-mile) LHCT "Georgian Bay Route" shaves 306 km (190 miles) from the route running via Manitoulin Island, then across the mouth of Georgian Bay via the *MS Chi-Cheemaun* ferry, then southerly down the Bruce Peninsula, although this route can only be fully traversed from May to October each year while the ferry is in service. To accommodate francophone tourists, Ontario also posted a companion LHCT route marker (see image at upper right) reading *Lac Huron Circuit Périphérique*. The designated route for the LHCT in Ontario is as follows:



**Note:** Route signage for the Ontario segment of the Lake Huron Circle Tour is largely missing along much of the route in the province. This is due in part to the massive "downloading" of many formerly provincial highways, including segments of the LHCT in Sault Ste. Marie and near Owen Sound, to local authorities in 1997–98. Additionally, the Ontario Ministry of Transportation has ceased signing most of their "Tourist Routes" with a few exceptions. Areas of incomplete signage are currently being documented and will be forwarded to the appropriate parties.

- Enters from the Province of Ontario via the International Bridge in the City of Sault Ste. Marie in the District of Algoma.
- The route of the LSCT through downtown Sault Ste. Marie follows the former route of Hwy 17B, which features several turns. Hwy 17B in downtown Sault Ste. Marie was a pair of one-way routes, so each direction of the LHCT route is presented below:
  - **Eastbound (Clockwise):** From the end of the International Bridge approach, the LHCT heads southerly for 1½ blocks via Huron St to Bay St.
  - Southeasterly via Bay St from Huron St for approximately 10 blocks to Pim St.
  - Northeasterly via Pim St for one block from Bay St to Queen St.
  - Easterly for one block via Queen St from Pim St to Church St.
  - Northerly again via Church St for two blocks from Queen St to the intersection of Church St & Wellington St where it rejoins the westbound LHCT route. (The LSCT departs the LHCT where Church St intersects Wellington St.)
  - **Westbound (Counterclockwise):** From the intersection of Wellington St & Church St, the LHCT heads westerly and northwesterly via Wellington St for 14 blocks from Pim St to Cathcart St. (The LSCT joins the LHCT at the intersection of Pim St & Wellington St.)
  - Westerly via Cathcart St for five blocks from Wellington St to Huron St.
  - Southerly via Huron St for three blocks from Cathcart St to the International Bridge entrance, where it rejoins the northbound route.
- From the intersection of Wellington St & Church St in Sault Ste. Marie, the LHCT continues easterly via Wellington St to Trunk Rd.
- Northeasterly via Trunk Rd from Wellington St to junction Hwy 17/Black Rd.
- Northeasterly via Hwy 17/Trunk Rd from Black Rd to west junction of Hwy 17 & Hwy 17B.
- Easterly, southeasterly and southerly via Hwy 17B from the west junction of Hwy 17 & Hwy 17B through Garden River and Echo Bay to south junction of Hwy 17 & Hwy 17B.
- Southerly and easterly via Hwy 17 from the south junction of Hwy 17 & Hwy 17B through the communities of Thessalon, Blind River, Spanish and Massey to junction Hwy 17 & Hwy 6 near McKerrow.
  - **LHCT Georgian Bay Route:** Departs Hwy 17 at junction Hwy 6 near McKerrow and rejoins at junction Bruce Rd 10 in Alvanley west of Owen Sound. (See description below.)
- Mainline LHCT continues easterly via Hwy 17 from Hwy 6 at McKerrow to jct Hwy 69 on the south side of the City of Greater Sudbury.
- Southerly via Hwy 69 from Hwy 17 on the south side of Greater Sudbury to Hwy 559 at Exit 241 north of Nobel in

## Great Lakes Circle Tours: Route Definitions

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Parry Sound District.

- Southerly via Hwy 400/Hwy 69 from Hwy 559 at Exit 241 north of Nobel to Hwy 69/Rankin Lake Rd at Exit 213 southeast of Parry Sound.
- Southerly via Hwy 400 from Hwy 69/Rankin Lake Rd at Exit 213 southeast of Parry Sound to Hwy 12/Simcoe Rd 16 at Exit 147 at Waubaushene.
- Westerly via Hwy 12 from Hwy 400 at Exit 147 at Waubaushene to Hwy 93/Simcoe Rd 93/Penetanguishene Rd near Midland.
- Southerly via Hwy 93/Penetanguishene Rd from Hwy 12 near Midland to Simcoe Rds 27 & 23 at Waverley.
- Southwesterly than southeasterly via Simcoe Rd 27 from Hwy 93 at Waverley to Simcoe Rds 19 & 92 at Elmvale.
- Southwesterly via Simcoe Rd 92 from Simcoe Rd 27 at Elmvale to Hwy 26 at Brooks Beach on the western edge of the Town of Wasaga Beach.
- Northwesterly via Hwy 26 from Simcoe Rd 92 at Brooks Beach to the intersection of Hume St & Pretty River Pkwy in Collingwood.
- Northerly and northwesterly via Hwy 26/Pretty River Pkwy from Hume St to Huron St.
- Westerly via Hwy 26/Huron St and Hwy 26/First St from Pretty River Pkwy to intersection of First St, First St Extension, High St & Hwy 26/Balsam St.
- Northwesterly via Hwy 26 from intersection of First St, First St Extension, High St & Balsam St in Collingwood through Meaford, then westerly via Hwy 26 into Owen Sound to intersection of 16th St E & 9th Ave E.
- Southwesterly via Hwy 26/9th Ave E from 16th St E to junction Hwy 6/Hwy 10 & Hwy 21 at intersection of 9th Ave E & 10th St E.
- Westerly via Hwy 6/Hwy 10/10th St E from junction Hwy 21/9th Ave E through downtown Owen Sound to the west junction of Hwy 6 & Hwy 21 west of the city.
- Westerly via Hwy 21 from the west junction of Hwy 6 & Hwy 21 west of Owen Sound to Bruce Rd 10 at Alvanley.
  - **LHCT Georgian Bay Route:** Departs Hwy 21 at junction Bruce Rd 10 in Alvanley west of Owen Sound and rejoins at junction Hwy 6 near McKerrow. (See description below.)
- Westerly, southwesterly and southerly via Hwy 21 from Bruce Rd 10 at Alvanley through or past the communities of Port Elgin, Kincardine, Goderich, Grand Bend and Forest to Hwy 402 at Exit 34 near Warwick.
- Westerly via Hwy 402 from Hwy 21 at Exit 34 near Warwick to Sarnia and then into Michigan on the Blue Water Bridge at Port Edwards.

## Lake Huron Circle Tour: Georgian Bay Route, Ontario

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When it was signed, the Georgian Bay Route was signed and shown on maps as a split-route, using the same signs as the mainline route, unlike the various Circle Tour Loops and Spurs elsewhere using white-on-brown route markers. This route measuring 255 km (158 miles) in length—including the 40 km (25 mile) ferry segment—is only fully traversable from May to October when the *MS Chi-Cheemaun* ferry is in operation



- Departs LHCT mainline at junction of Hwy 17 and Hwy 6 at McKerrow north of Espanola in the District of Subury.
- Southerly via Hwy 6 from Hwy 17 at McKerrow through Espanola and onto Manitoulin Island to junction Hwy 540 in the centre of Little Current.
- Southerly across Manitoulin Island via Hwy 6 from junction Hwy 540 in Little Current via Manitowaning to the *MS Chi-Cheemaun* ferry dock in South Baymouth.
- Southeasterly across the mouth of Georgian Bay via the *MS Chi-Cheemaun* ferry from South Baymouth on Manitoulin Island to Tobermory at the tip of the Bruce Peninsula.
- Southeasterly and southerly via Hwy 6 from the *MS Chi-Cheemaun* ferry dock in Tobermory through Wiarton to junction Hwy 6 & Bruce Rd 10 in Hepworth.
- Southerly via Bruce Rd 10 from Hwy 6 in Hepworth to Hwy 21 at Alvanley.
- The “Georgian Bay Route” rejoins the LHCT mainline at Jct Bruce Rd 10 & Hwy 21 in Alvanley on the Grey/Bruce county line.

## Lake Huron Circle Tour Loop

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### LHCT Loop: De Tour Village, Michigan

- Departs LHCT at junction of M-134 & M-48 approximately 10 miles west of DeTour Village.
- Easterly via M-134 from M-48 to the intersection of Ontario & Elizabeth Sts in DeTour Village.



## Great Lakes Circle Tours: Route Definitions

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- Northerly via Ontario St from M-134/Elizabeth St to Democrat Rd in DeTour Village.
- Westerly via Democrat Rd and North Caribou Lake Rd from Ontario St to M-48 west of DeTour Village.
- Rejoins LHCT at M-48 at the intersection with North Caribou Lake Rd.

### Lake Erie Circle Tour



The 629-mile (1,012 km) Lake Erie Circle Tour (LECT) circles the second-smallest Great Lake, spanning four U.S. states and the Canadian province of Ontario in the process. The LECT is the most recent of the four designated Great Lakes Circle Tours, being signed in 1990. The portions of the route in New York and Pennsylvania share the route of the Great Lakes Seaway Trail and only a few LECT signs are posted in Pennsylvania while New York has never posted the route. The LECT route is currently not signed at all in Ontario as well.

### Ontario

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The Lake Erie Circle Tour (LECT) enters the province of Ontario via the Ambassador Bridge connecting Detroit and Windsor. It traverses the entirety of Southwestern Ontario from Windsor via Leamington, St. Thomas, Tillsonburg, Simcoe, and Port Colborne, to Fort Erie. The LECT uses the Peace Bridge to cross into New York state. In the period when the route was signed in the province, Ontario signed the route using white-on-blue route markers, different from the white-on-green signs used on the U.S. portions. To accommodate francophone tourists, Ontario also had a companion LECT route marker (see image at upper right) reading *Lac Erie Circuit Périphérique*. The 416 km (258-mile) Ontario route for the LECT is as follows:



**Note:** Route signage for the Ontario segment of the Lake Erie Circle Tour is non-existent. This is due in part to the massive “downloading” of many formerly provincial highways, including several segments of the LECT. Additionally, the Ontario Ministry of Transportation has ceased signing most of their “Tourist Routes” with few exceptions.

- Enters Ontario from the State of Michigan via the Ambassador Bridge spanning the Detroit River between Detroit, Michigan and Windsor, Ontario.

**Note:** Hwy 3 (Huron Church Rd and Talbot Rd) from the EC Row Expwy to Hwy 401 in Windsor is undergoing massive construction and transformation through 2015. The LECT route will be greatly modified in this area as a result of the new Detroit River International Crossing (DRIC).

- From the end of the Ambassador Bridge approach, the LECT continues southerly via Hwy 3/Huron Church Rd to Todd Ln-Cabana Rd.
- Southeasterly via Hwy 3/Talbot Rd from Todd Ln-Cabana Rd to the beginning of Hwy 401.
- Southeasterly via Hwy 3/Talbot Rd from Hwy 401, bypassing Essex and Cottam to junction Hwy 77 & Essex Rd 33 on the north side of Leamington.
- Southeasterly via Essex Rd 33 from junction Hwy 3 & Hwy 77 to Essex Rd 34/Talbot Rd northeast of downtown Leamington.
- Northeasterly via Essex Rd 34/Talbot Rd from Essex Rd 33 to the Essex County/Chatham-Kent boundary on the west edge of Wheatley.
- Northeasterly via Chatham-Kent Rd 3/Talbot Trail from the Essex County/Chatham-Kent boundary through Wheatley into Blenheim via Chatham-Kent Rd 3/Talbot St to Chatham-Kent Rd 8/Marlborough St.
- Easterly via Chatham-Kent Rd 3/Marlborough St from Talbot St in downtown Blenheim to Chatham-Kent Rd 11/Chatham St.
- Southeasterly via Chatham-Kent Rd 3/Chatham St from Chatham-Kent Rd 11 in Blenheim to Chatham-Kent Rd 11/Communication Rd.
- Northeasterly via Chatham-Kent Rd 3/Talbot Trail from Chatham-Kent Rd 11/Communication Rd through Morpeth and Wallacetown to junction Hwy 3, Hwy 4 & Middlesex Rd 4 at Talbotville.
- Easterly via Hwy 3/Talbot Line from junction Hwy 4, Middlesex Rd 3 & Middlesex Rd 4 at Talbotville to Middlesex Rd 25/Wellington Rd.
- Southeasterly and easterly via Hwy 3/St. Thomas Expwy from Middlesex Rd 25/Wellington Rd through St. Thomas to Centennial Ave.
- Southerly via Hwy 3/Centennial Ave from the St. Thomas Expwy to Talbot St-Talbot Line.
- Easterly via Hwy 3/Talbot Line through Aylmer and Tillsonburg to the intersection of Talbot Rd, Mill St & King St in Delhi.
- Southeasterly via Hwy 3/King St from Talbot Rd & King St through downtown Delhi to Haldimand Rd 37/Swimming Pool Rd.
- Southerly via Hwy 3/James St from King St & Swimming Pool Rd to Haldimand Rd 44/Pine Grove Rd.
- Easterly via Hwy 3 from Haldimand Rd 44/Pine Grove Rd through Simcoe (where it is also named Queensway), Jarvis

## Great Lakes Circle Tours: Route Definitions

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(where it is also named Talbot St), and Cayuga (where it is also named Talbot St) to Dunnville Rd & Norfolk Rd 14/Smithville Rd at Canborough.

- Southerly and southeasterly via Hwy 3/Dunnville Rd from Canborough to Norfolk Rd 15/Robinson Rd on the western edge of Dunnville.
- Easterly via Hwy 3/Main St W from Norfolk Rd 15/Robinson Rd into Dunnville to George St.
- Northerly via Hwy 3/George St for two blocks from Main St W to Broad St W in Dunnville.
- Easterly via Hwy 3/Broad St from George St through Dunnville to the eastern edge of Dunnville.
- Northeasterly and easterly via Hwy 3 from Dunnville to intersection of Niagara Rd 23/Forks Rd & Niagara Rd 24/Vineland Townline Rd at Chambers Corners.
- Southerly via Hwy 3 from Chambers Corners through Wainfleet to Niagara Rd 3/Concession Rd 1 near Ostryhon Corners.
- Easterly via Hwy 3 from Niagara Rd 3/Concession Rd 1 to the

western limit of the City of Port Colborne at Port Colborne Wainfleet Townline Rd.

- Easterly via Niagara Rd 3/Main St from Port Colborne Wainfleet Townline Rd through Port Colborne to junction Niagara Rd 3, Hwy 3 & Hwy 140 northeast of downtown Port Colborne.
- Easterly via Hwy 3 from junction Niagara Rd 3, Hwy 3 & Hwy 140 northeast of downtown Port Colborne to Rose Hill Rd in the Town of Fort Erie.
- Easterly via Niagara Rd 3/Garrison Rd in Fort Erie from Rose Hill Rd to Niagara Rd 122/Thompson Rd.
- Northerly via Niagara Rd 122/Thompson Rd from Niagara Rd 3/Garrison Rd to the QEW (Queen Elizabeth Way) at Exit 2.
- Easterly via the QEW from Niagara Rd 122/Thompson Rd at Exit 2 to the Fort Erie Terminus of the QEW at the Peace Bridge Plaza.
- Easterly via the Peace Bridge into the State of New York and the City of Buffalo.

## New York

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The Lake Erie Circle Tour (LECT) enters the state of New York via the Peace Bridge connecting Fort Erie, Ontario and Buffalo, New York. In downtown Buffalo, the LECT picks up the route of the Great Lakes Seaway Trail and follows it along the southern shore of Lake Erie and into Pennsylvania. New York State does not post route markers for its 74.7 miles (120.2 km) of the LECT at all, rather those following the route must first find the Great Lakes Seaway Trail (GLST) and then follow the markers for that route. Additionally, the Seaway Trail was retitled the Great Lakes Seaway Trail in 2010 and new route markers are being installed along the route. The New York route for the LECT is as follows:



- Enters New York from the Province of Ontario via the Peace Bridge spanning the Niagara River between Fort Erie, Ontario and Buffalo, New York.
- The LECT somehow makes its way to the Great Lakes Seaway Trail (GLST) from the Peace Bridge, possibly southeasterly via Baird Dr to Porter Ave, then northeasterly via Porter Ave from Baird Dr to SR-266/Niagara St.
- Southeasterly via SR-266/Niagara St from Porter Ave toward downtown Buffalo to the I-196/Niagara Thruway ramps (at Exit 8), halfway between Virginia and Carolina Sts where SR-266 terminates.
- Southeasterly via Niagara St from the I-190/Niagara Thruway ramps to Niagara Square, where the GLST takes two different routes depending on direction of travel:
  - **Southbound (clockwise):** Counterclockwise around Niagara Square (SR-384) from Niagara St to the second right at SR-384/Delaware Ave. Southerly via SR-384/Delaware Ave for two blocks to SR-5/Church St. Westerly for 2½ blocks via TO SR-5 WEST/Church St, then southeasterly via the ramp to I-190/Niagara Thruway SOUTH and SR-5 WEST, then southerly via Exit 5 for SR-5 WEST toward Lackawana. The GLST then proceeds southerly via SR-5 along the Buffalo Skyway.
  - **Northbound (counterclockwise):** At the northern end of the Buffalo Skyway at the intersection of Delaware Ave & Church St in downtown Buffalo, the

GLST continues straight ahead via SR-384/Delaware Ave for two blocks from Church St to Niagara Square. There, the route continues counterclockwise around the square to the fifth right at Niagara St, where it continues northwesterly toward Elmwood Ave.

- Southerly via SR-5/Buffalo Skyway from I-190/Niagara Thruway in downtown Buffalo, then continuing southerly via SR-5 through Lackawana and Woodlawn to junction SR-75 near Athol Springs.
- Southwesterly via SR-5/Lake Shore Rd from SR-75 near Athol Springs to the intersection of Old Lake Shore Rd at Clifton Heights.
- Southwesterly via Old Lake Shore Rd from SR-5/Lake Shore Rd at Clifton Heights through Pinehurst to the intersection of Lake Shore Rd & Dennis Rd in the Town of Evans.
- Westerly, southerly and southwesterly via Lake Shore Rd from Dennis Rd in the Town of Evans through Angola on the Lake, Lake Erie Beach and Evangola State Park before looping back to the east and northeasterly to SR-5/Erie Rd between Farnham and Irving.
- Southeasterly via SR-5/Erie Rd from Old Lake Shore Rd between Farnham and Irving to junction US-20/Southwestern Blvd & SR-438/4 Mile Level Rd just east of Irving.
- Southwesterly via US-20/SR-5/Main Rd from junction US-20, SR-5 & SR-438 past Irving and Sunset Bay to the intersection of Central Ave & Howard St just east of Silver Creek.

## Great Lakes Circle Tours: Route Definitions

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- Northwesterly, westerly and southwesterly via SR-5/TRUCK US-20/Howard St from US-20/Central Ave to the intersection of Howard St & Central Ave in downtown Silver Creek.
- Southwesterly via SR-5 from Silver Creek through the communities of Dunkirk and Barcelona to the Pennsylvania state line in the Town of Ripley.

## Pennsylvania

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Pennsylvania's 46.7 miles (75 km) of the Great Lakes Seaway Trail (GLST) is the shortest of the Lake Erie Circle Tour-related segments. It runs from the New York state line northeast of the Borough of North East, Pennsylvania, through Erie, past Fairview and Lake City, then into Ohio southwest of Girard. Very few LECT route markers are posted in Pennsylvania, rather the Seaway Trail—retitled the Great Lakes Seaway Trail (GLST) in 2010—is reasonably well posted along the route. The Pennsylvania route for the LECT is as follows:



- Enters Pennsylvania from the State of New York via SR-5 in North East Twp, northeast of the Borough of North East.
- Southwesterly via SR-5/Lake Rd from the New York state line into the City of Erie to junction SR-5 & ALT SR-5 at the intersection of Lake Rd & Franklin Ave.
- Westerly via ALT SR-5/Lake Rd from SR-5/Franklin Ave to East Ave, then continuing westerly via ALT SR-5/E 6th St from East Ave to intersection of E 6th St & Bayfront Pkwy.
- Northerly via Bayfront Pkwy from ALT SR-5/E 6th St to the intersection of Bayfront Pkwy, E Bay Dr & Port Access Rd.
- Westerly via Bayfront Pkwy from the intersection of E Bay Dr & Port Access Rd past downtown Erie to the intersection of Bayfront Pkwy & Cranberry St.
- Southerly via Cranberry St from Bayfront Pkwy for two blocks to ALT SR-5/W 6th St.
- Westerly via ALT SR-5/W 6th St from Cranberry St to Cherokee Dr.
- Southwesterly via ALT SR-5/Cherokee Dr for two blocks from W 6th St to Seminole Dr.
- Southerly via ALT SR-5/Seminole Dr from Cherokee Dr to W 8th St.
- Westerly via ALT SR-5/W 8th St from Seminole Dr to SR-832/Peninsula Dr.
- Westerly via ALT SR-5/W Lake Rd from SR-832/Peninsula Dr to junction SR-5 at the intersection of W Lake Rd, W 12th St & Ashbury Rd.
- Southwesterly via SR-5/Lake Rd from junction ALT SR-5 through Avonia, Lake City and North Springfield to US-20/Ridge Rd southwest of Girard.
- Westerly via US-20/Ridge Rd from SR-5/Lake Rd into the State of Ohio in Erie County's Springfield Twp.

## Ohio

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### DESCRIPTION AND ROUTE IN DEVELOPMENT

Length in Ohio: 200 miles (322 km)

## Michigan

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The Lake Erie Circle Tour (LECT) enters the state from Ohio in southeastern Monroe Co. It parallels the Lake Erie shoreline through Monroe and the Downriver Detroit area and into the City of Detroit. There, the LECT uses the Ambassador Bridge to cross into Ontario at Windsor. The 49.2-mile (79.3 km) designated route for the LECT is as follows:

- Enters Michigan from Ohio via I-75 south of Erie.
- Northerly via I-75 from Ohio through the Monroe area to M-85/Fort Rd at Exit 28 near Gibraltar.
- Northerly via M-85/Fort Rd/St from I-75 at Exit 28 near Gibraltar through Trenton, Riverview, South-gate, and Lincoln Park, into the City of Detroit.
- Northeasterly via M-85/Fort St to Clark St in Detroit.
- Northerly via Clark St (unsigned "Connector 850") from M-85/Fort St to I-75/Fisher Frwy.
- Northeasterly via I-75/Fisher Frwy. from Clark St to Ambassador Bridge approach roadway.
- Southerly via the Ambassador Bridge into Ontario.

## Lake Erie Circle Tour Loops

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### Lake Erie Coastal Ohio Trail

DESCRIPTION AND ROUTE IN DEVELOPMENT

## Lake Ontario

Lake Ontario is the only Great Lake to have never had a Circle Tour official designated or signed around its shores. In New York State, the Great Lakes Seaway Trail follows the southern and eastern shores of the Lake, however, and is reasonably well-signed throughout.

## Great Lakes Seaway Trail

The Great Lakes Seaway Trail, formerly named and commonly known as the Seaway Trail, is a 518-mile (834 km) National Scenic Byway in the northeastern U.S., mostly contained in New York but with a small segment in Pennsylvania. The trail consists of a series of designated roads and highways that travel along the Saint Lawrence Seaway—specifically, Lake Erie, the Niagara River, Lake Ontario, and the Saint Lawrence River. It begins at the Ohio state line in rural Erie County, Pennsylvania, and travels through several cities and villages (including the cities of Buffalo, Niagara Falls, Rochester, Oswego, and Ogdensburg) before ending at the Seaway International Bridge northeast of the village of Massena in St. Lawrence County, New York. It is maintained by the non-profit Seaway Trail, Inc.

ROUTE LISTING IN DEVELOPMENT



## Document Information

### Credits

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This document was developed by Christopher J. Bessert in early 2014 using a variety of official and unofficial sources and other information. While it is hoped the information contained in this document is correct, the author would very much appreciate any corrections and updates (see contact information below). The author is not affiliated with any of the road maintenance agencies charged with the responsibility to designate, sign and maintain any of the Great Lakes Circle Tours.

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