



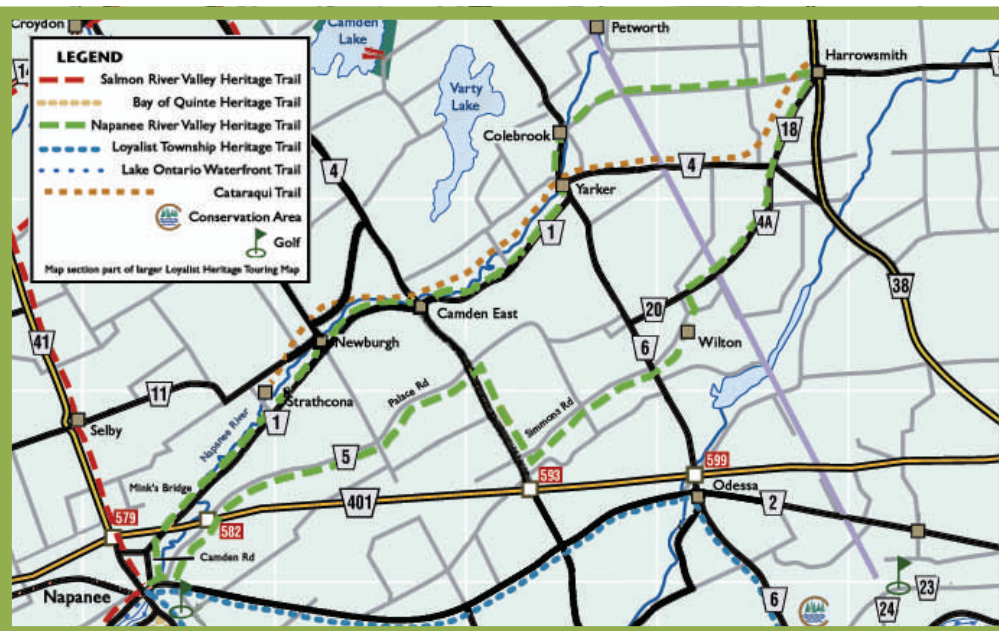
## Touring Suggestions

### Napanee

makes a great day-tripping base for your rural rambles whether travelling by car or by motorcycle. The heritage trail suggestions on the Chamber of Commerce website will take you through some of the charming countryside surrounding the town. Explore the beautiful Bay of Quinte region along the Bay of Quinte Heritage Trail; travel along the Napanee River Valley where 100 yrs ago log drivers moved great trees from the northern forests to local lumber mills; take the Loyalist Heritage Trail to historic Bath on Lake Ontario or to Amherst Island for an island adventure or meander along the Salmon River Heritage Trail and enjoy this special natural place. Note: A useful supplement to the tour highlighted below is the [Land O' Lakes](#) map available through the Chamber office or via the Land O' Lakes Tourist Association. An excellent resource for the region's local heritage is Frank Edward's "The Smiling Wilderness" available at the [County Museum](#) and [The Smiling Wilderness Restaurant](#).

### Napanee River Heritage Trail (97.6km, 60.7miles) Approximate Time: 2 hours Start - Dundas @ Centre Downtown Napanee

Travel east on Dundas St. to the 2<sup>nd</sup> set of lights just past the site of the Gibbard Furniture Factory (Canada's oldest furniture manufacturer). Make a left turn and a quick right onto Camden Rd. For a side trip you may wish to visit [Allan Macpherson House](#) located on Elizabeth St., the first right turn just past the railway overpass. This circa 1820 Georgian styled home was a frequent stop for Canada's first prime minister, Sir John S. Macdonald. Continue to the 4-way stop at Industrial Blvd. Turn right and travel along County Rd 1 to follow the historic Napanee River Valley. At



4.3km you'll cross Mink's Bridge, at one time site of the home of Tobias Mink, a descendent of slaves brought north by a Loyalist family, the Herkimers.

Just past Minks Bridge at 8.2km you'll see the Strathcona Paper Mill to the left. During the mid-1800's the location was known as Yankee Mills as workers were paid in American dollars. Canada's pulp & paper industry was founded here and further upstream by brothers John and James Thompson. Continue east to the Town of Newburgh intersection. If time permits you may want to turn left and explore this charming valley town formerly known as Rogues Hollow.

Further upstream on the Napanee River you'll find the village of Camden East. As you approach the village you'll see to the north on your left a brick mansion with a mansard roof on a hill overlooking the river. L.D. Williams built this as his home in the 1870's with proceeds from the California gold rush. At the County Rd 4 crossroad you'll see the [Bookstore Café](#), former home of well known Harrowsmith Magazine.

County Rd 1 continues along the Napanee River to Yarker where over 100 years ago log jams were common during the spring river run. In fact the falls at Yarker were 20' high at one time, but were reduced by the bashing of the annual spring log run. Today you can visit the [Waterfall Tea Room](#) overlooking the Napanee River. Once your cross the Napanee River continue along County Rd 6 to Colebrook. Cross the river at Colebrook and follow Colebrook Rd. to Harrowsmith. As you cross the bridge you'll see an elegant limestone home. In 1855 Charles Warner used the profits of his nearby sawmill to build his beautiful home. In 1877 most of Colebrook was destroyed by fire.

Colebrook Rd runs east to meet Hwy 38 at Harrowsmith, located in Frontenac County. Turn right and head south through the village; you may want to visit the quaint mix of shops here. To continue the tour make a sharp right turn to follow County Rd 18 (changes to County Rd 20 in L&A County) south through rolling countryside from Harrowsmith to Wilton. Turn left at the Wilton sign (42.5km), then right at Simmons Rd to enter Wilton; a lovely little hamlet that is home to the popular Wilton Cheese Co.

Continue along Simmons Rd to County Rd 4 and turn right to travel north to County Rd 5. Turn left and travel west to Palace Rd. Turn left onto Palace Rd named after the Crystal Palace (circa 1868) that at one time stood on the banks of the Napanee River. At 69.1km you'll pass [The Palace Village](#), featuring a wonderful assortment of shops. Palace Rd continues to the west where it meets County Rd 2. Turn right to return to Napanee. On your left you can visit Springside Park with its lovely waterfall and boardwalk or check out the skateboard bowl where hometown gal Avril Lavigne learned some of her skateboard skills.

[Disclaimer](#)