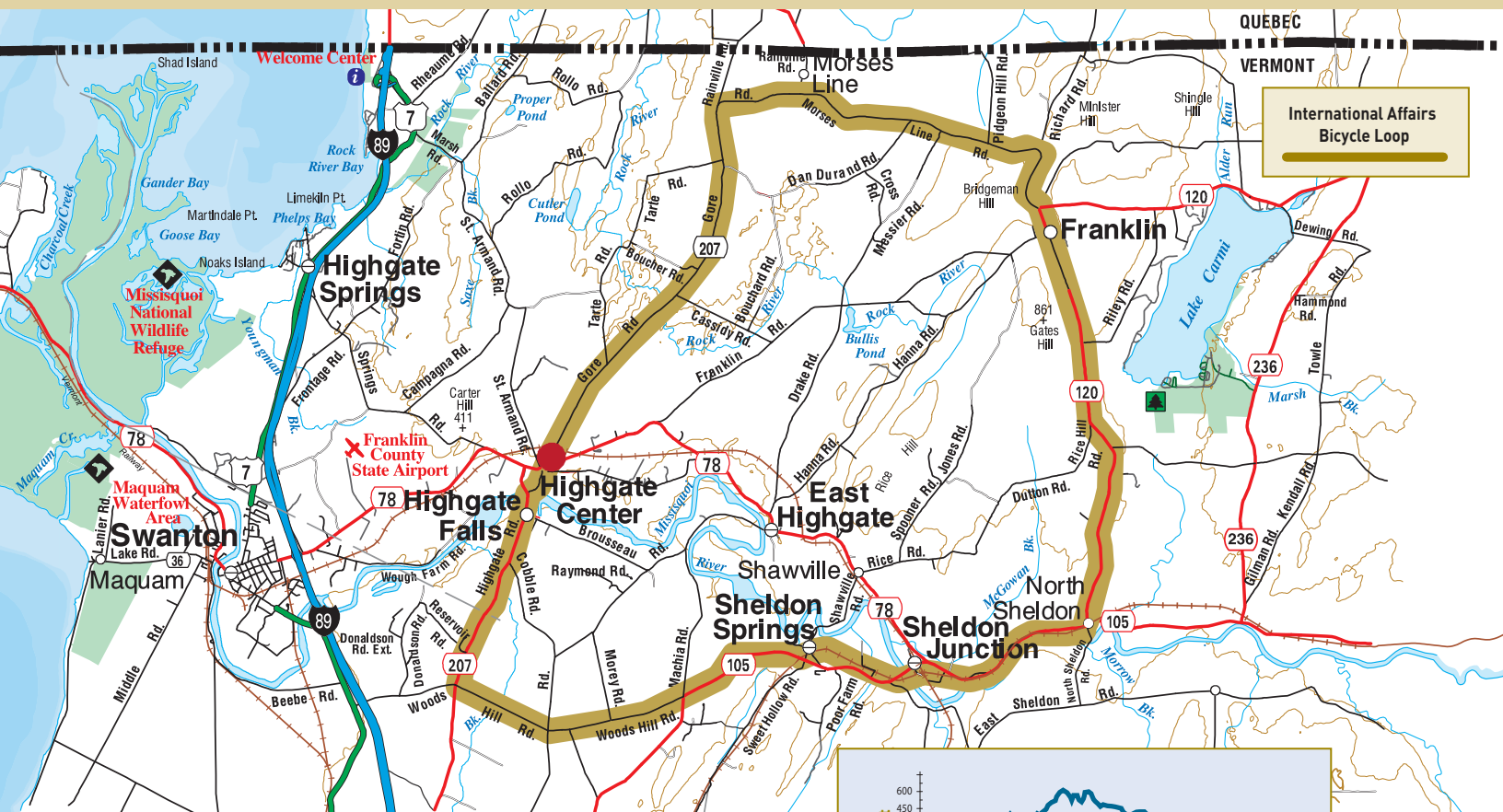


# International Affairs Bicycle Loop

A moderate 26.8-mile bicycle route through Highgate, Franklin, and Sheldon, VT.



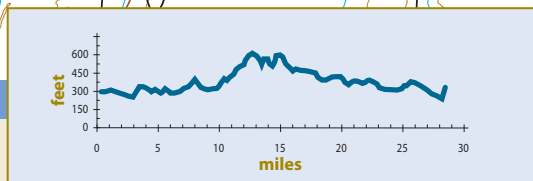
Voies Cyclables Du Lac Champlain  
Lake Champlain Bikeways



## Start at the Highgate Center

mile

- 0.0** ● Highgate Center (services) - parking available 0.2 west or north of the intersection of Routes 78 and 207. North on VT Route 207.
- 0.0** Continue straight at sign to Moses Line and Canadian border. R on Route 238 into Franklin.
- 6.4** Franklin (store) continue south on Route 120.
- 10.7** R on Route 105 at North Sheldon. An option exists to take the Missisquoi Valley Rail Trail which parallels Route 105. Be sure to exit on Route 105 at Sheldon Springs.
- 15.0** R on Woods Hill Rd.
- 20.7** R on Route 207 at STOP sign.
- 23.8** Highgate Center.
- 26.8**



## When cycling, please follow these guidelines:

1. WEAR A HELMET and cycling gloves.
2. Ride with the flow of traffic.
3. When using travel lanes, follow motor vehicle laws. Obey all traffic signs and signals. Do not cut corners.
4. Use clear hand signals when making turns or stopping.
5. Ride in a straight line at least 3 feet from parked cars or curbs.
6. If you must ride at night, use lights and reflectors.
7. Ride defensively! Be aware of motorists' actions.
8. Be aware of train tracks and other road conditions.
9. Ride single file.
10. Carry items in panniers or a handle-bar pack.

**Disclaimer:** Users assume all risks, inherent and not inherent, in the use of materials recommending routes of the Lake Champlain Bikeways network and all affiliated organizations, and individuals disclaim any and all liability on their part for damages or injuries to persons or property should they occur. Routes are chosen, designated and/or signed because: they are popular, or are preferred, or provide continuous routes to destinations, or are lightly traveled, or are scenic, or have more room for cars and bikes, or possess a combination of these attributes.



Champlain Valley  
National Heritage Partnership



# International Affairs Bicycle Route

## Route Description

Armed conflict, smuggling and 200 years of international influences greet the observant cyclist along "international affairs". Warren Austin, the first US Ambassador to the United Nations, was born in Highgate. Look for names that highlight our French-Canadian heritage on rural mailboxes; unique, flat brick "French Arches" detail windows in Franklin; and historic plaques relating to details of the Fenian Raids in Sheldon Junction. Fenian is a term used since the 1850's for Irish nationalists who oppose British rule in Ireland. In 1866 and again in 1870 Fenians attempted to invade Canada and force Britain to negotiate the independence of Ireland.

This ride contains several challenging climbs but they are not real long and the broad vistas beautify a well earned rest at the top before the joy of a long scenic downhill run. The Missisquoi Valley Rail Trail parallels Route 105 and the Missisquoi River and offers a relaxing environment and picnic tables to enjoy the river away from traffic.

## Safety Guidelines

Motorists and bicyclists share scenic roads. Use caution on narrow, winding or unpaved roadway. Follow traffic laws and ride safely. Bicycles are vehicles by law and have the right to use public roads. You are responsible for operating your bicycle under all conditions.



*Dan Moriarty & Northwest Vermont Rail Trail Council*

## Acknowledgements

This bicycle route was developed through a partnership between Lake Champlain Bikeways and the Champlain Valley National Heritage Partnership. Funding provided by the National Park Service.



## Lake Champlain Bikeways Mission

To promote bicycling throughout the Lake Champlain regions of New York, Vermont and Québec for the purposes of increasing opportunities for bicycle recreation and transportation, improving the quality of life, enhancing the economic vitality, advocating for sustainable communities, encouraging healthy lifestyles and raising public awareness and appreciation of inherent scenic, historic, cultural, natural, and recreational resources throughout the area.

## Lake Champlain Bikeways

Contact Lake Champlain Bikeways at:

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**Champlain Valley  
National Heritage Partnership**

