Ship to Shore Bicycle Loop
An easy 20.4-mile route through St. Albans and Swanton, VT.

Start at St. Albans Bay Town Park

mile
0.0 St. Albans Bay Town Park.
0.0 L onto VT Route 36 - Maquam Shore Rd.
9.2 Bear right at entrance to Swanton Town Beach on Lake St.
11.0 R on Route 36 - S. River Rd. - Swanton Village Green is ½ mile away if you turn L on S. River Rd. and then R on Route 78 crossing bridge.
12.1 Straight at railroad and Beebe Rd. - S. River Rd. becomes County Rd.
15.6 R on Route 38 – Northwest State Correctional Facility is on the SW corner.
16.5 L on Dunsmore Rd.
19.6 L on Maquam Shore Rd.
20.4 St Albans Bay Town Park.

A nice extension (or short alternate) is to take the 7.0 mile out and back ride to Kill Kare State Park by taking the road to the west 0.2 miles down the hill from Dunsmore Rd. where you can take a ferry to Burton Island State Park and its walking trails. Bicycles are permitted on the ferry.

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.
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
Ship to Shore Bicycle Loop

Route Description

This short version of the Champlain Coast Caper reminds us that before good roads were built, travelers and settlers found it easier to travel by lake than over land. “Ship to Shore” swings along Lake Champlain, a historic transportation corridor that linked to land through steamship docks, railroad stations and Native American canoe routes. Today’s Lake has traded its massive steamship docks and resort hotels for wheeled wooden boat docks and vacation cottages, but the lake-side scenery remains outstanding.

There are several possible north-south routes on country roads in the area. All are nice and well worth exploring. The winds are generally from the north or south so if they are strong at least one way will really be nice. It should be noted that the only places for food and services along the route are Swanton and St. Albans Bay.

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.

Acknowledgements

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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

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