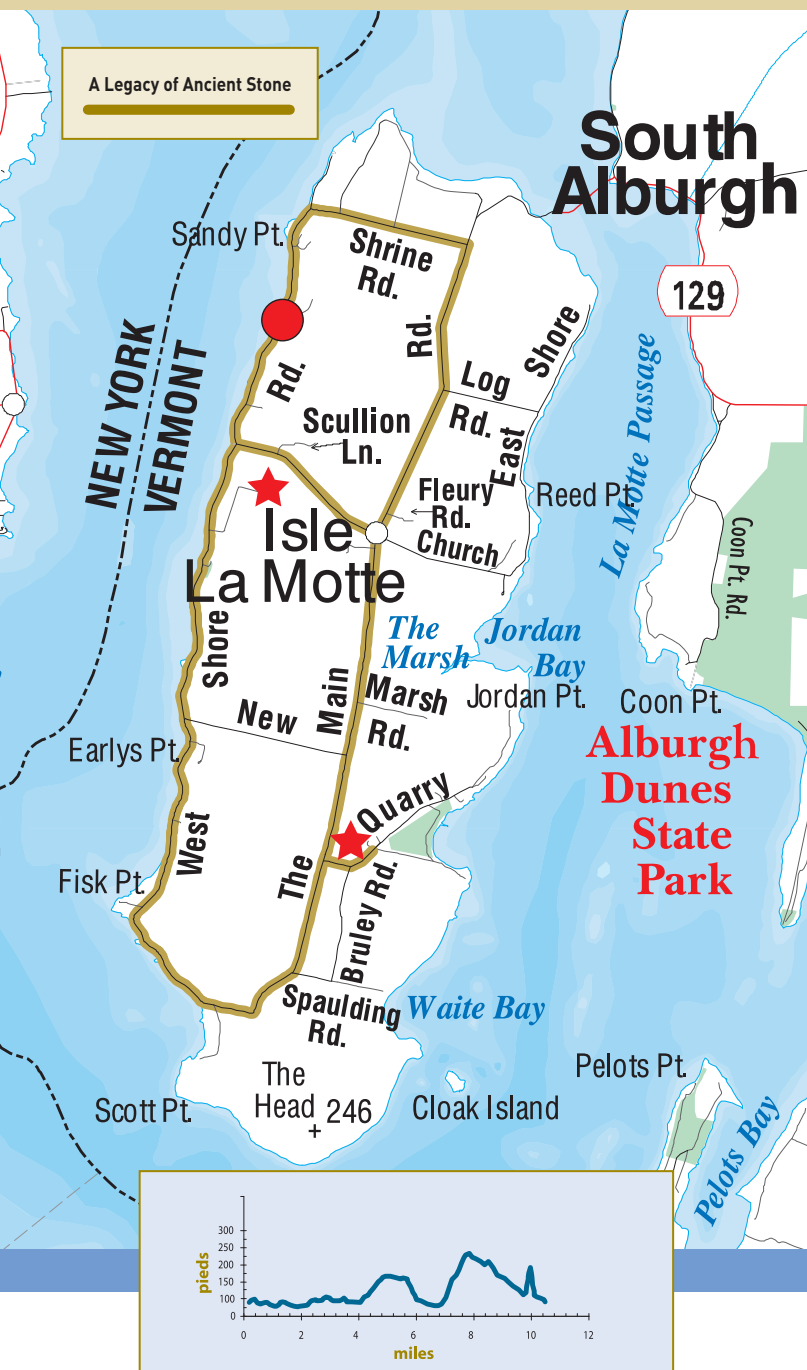


A Legacy of Ancient Stone Bicycle Loop

An easy 10.5-mile route through Isle La Motte, VT.



Start at St. Anne's Shrine pavillon.

mile

- 0.0 ● St. Anne's Shrine pavillon
- 0.0 L onto Shrine Rd./West Shore Rd.
- 1.1 Stay straight on W. Shore Rd. at School St.
- 2.4 Public lake access.
- 3.7 Unpaved until the Main Rd. (1.3 miles).
- 5.0 Keep L on Main Rd. (pavement resumes).
- 5.6 R on Quarry Rd.
- 5.8 Goodsell Ridge Preserve and turn around.
- 6.0 R on Main Rd.
- 7.8 Village of Isle La Motte four corners.
- 9.3 L onto Shrine Rd.
- 9.9 Bear L at the "Y" following paved road.
- 10.5 St. Anne's Shrine pavillon.

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.

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.

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



A Legacy of Ancient Stone Bicycle Loop

Route Description

Isle La Motte is one of the world's richest sites for the study of geology. Its unique feature, the world's oldest coral reef, underlies the southern third of the island. You can see successive ages of the Chazy Reef exposed in outcrops at the southern end of the island (oldest), at the Fisk Quarry and the Goodsell Ridge Preserve—on Quarry Road, and near the Isle La Motte Historical Society Building. Five quarries operated here during the 19th century, building upon the island's historic use of both Black River and Chazy limestone as mortar and building stone. Isle La Motte's famed "black marble" limestone was shipped throughout the country for use in buildings as famous as New York City's Radio City Music Hall. For a close-to-home view of Black River limestone, visit the Vermont Statehouse in Montpelier. Only one quarry is active today, but a number of stone buildings still stand.

A Legacy of Ancient Stone starts at St. Anne's Shrine, the site of Fort St. Anne, built by the French in 1666 and the oldest European settlement in Vermont. A statue of Samuel de Champlain marks his landing on Isle La Motte in 1609. Cyclists are welcome at the Shrine and may swim at its sandy beach. Riding south along the lakeshore provides spectacular views of the Adirondacks and Lake Champlain.

The Fisk Farm and Fisk Quarry also welcome visitors. Vice President Teddy Roosevelt was visiting here when he learned that President McKinley had been shot. The Quarry features ancient fossils, called stromatoporoids, which are visible as white rounded shapes in the quarry walls. Help protect this ancient resource by not collecting artifacts and not trespassing at any sites along the loop.

The Isle La Motte recreation park on School Street has a unique, fossil-shaped sculpture, constructed of Isle La Motte limestone. Cyclists may rest here and enjoy great views.



Rest area at Goodsell Ridge Preserve/Lou Bresee

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

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