



THE BRUCE TRAIL CONSERVANCY

Application for Membership

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____
 Prov./State: _____
 Country: _____ Postal/Zip: _____
 Telephone _____ - _____ - _____ Home
 _____ - _____ - _____ Other

E-mail: (for BTC and PBTC communication and newsletter only)

New Member Renewal
 E-mail RATTLER Yes NO

MEMBERSHIP FEES (tax deductible)

Association and one club (*Peninsula*)
 Individual or family \$50.00 \$.....
 Additional clubs \$14.00 ea. \$.....

Please specify Club: _____
 Community/Organization \$125.00 \$.....
 (includes a copy of the Bruce Trail Reference)

Send me the 25th ed. Bruce Trail Reference
 at Member Price (\$38.31-see website) \$.....

Help the Bruce Trail Conservancy

Donate to support the Mission of the BTC \$.....
 Total Enclosed \$.....

** All donations are tax-deductible. Official receipts are issued for donations of \$10.00 or more.*

Charitable Tax Number - 11921 7578 RR0001

Cheque Money Order Visa MasterCard

Card # _____ Expiry: _____

Name on card: _____

Signature: _____

Return to: P.O. Box 857, Hamilton, ON L8N 3N9

The Bruce Trail is the oldest marked hiking Trail in Canada. The Trail is over 845 kilometres long, with 400 kilometres of associated side trail.

Mission Statement

The Bruce Trail Conservancy is a charitable organization committed to establishing a conservation corridor containing a public footpath along the Niagara Escarpment, in order to protect its natural ecosystems and to promote environmentally responsible public access to this UNESCO World Biosphere Reserve.

The Niagara Escarpment and the Bruce Trail

In February 1990, the Niagara Escarpment was recognized by the United Nations as an ecologically important area with unique natural features. It was declared a World Biosphere Reserve, confirming and supporting land development control programs of the Niagara Escarpment Plan. With this designation, the Niagara Escarpment joined such exotic locales as the Galapagos Islands and the Serengeti National Park.

The Bruce Trail is over 845 km of footpath along the length of the Niagara Escarpment. From Queenston Heights, near Niagara Falls, it travels a landscape in transition: the fruit lands of the Niagara Peninsula; the city of Hamilton; the rolling Caledon Hills; the highlands of the Blue Mountains and the beautiful Beaver Valley. In the Bruce Peninsula, the Trail follows spectacular cliffs along the Georgian Bay shoreline to the terminus cairn in the charming lakeport of Tobermory.

Even close to populated centres, the Trail can take you into another world - a world where the pace is slower, where there is time to stop and notice nature's small wonders; a place of solitude and charm. The trail passes waterfalls and scenic viewpoints; it meanders along rivers, farms and forests; it takes you over headlands and through gorges. Best of all, it lets you take your time.

The hiker is invited to come to the Bruce Trail for an hour's ramble, afternoon walk or an extended excursion. Hiking the Bruce Trail, you will enter a different world and discover for yourself the unique beauty of the Niagara Escarpment, right in the heart of Ontario.

The Peninsula Bruce Trail Club

The Bruce Trail Conservancy [1-800-665-HIKE (4453)] co-ordinates and leads the work of the volunteers who have built and maintain one of the finest hiking trails in the world. By promoting hiking along the Escarpment, the Bruce Trail Conservancy encourages appreciation for the natural beauty of the Escarpment and support for its protection.

Entrusted with stewardship of about 165 km of main trail and 85 km of side trail between Wiarton and Tobermory, the Peninsula Bruce Trail Club relies on the hard work of its volunteers and the financial support of Bruce Trail members to achieve its goals.

The Peninsula section of the Bruce Trail is unique in lying mainly along the shores of a lake, the beautiful Georgian Bay. A very different ecology has evolved on the Peninsula as the result of a special set of climatic, aquatic and topographical influences. Among its treasures are rare orchids, ancient cedars, unique alvars, and remnant rattlesnake and black bear populations surviving in harsh but beautiful landscapes.

The Peninsula End-to-End Hike is not for the faint of heart or the ill-prepared. Mostly isolated and little travelled, the Peninsula section of the Trail is rugged and services are few; a mishap or miscalculation can become a serious incident. **BE PREPARED.** Allow at least 7 to 10 days for fit, well-equipped and experienced backpackers to complete the end-to-end linear hike from Wiarton to Tobermory. On the other hand, there are many access points along the Peninsula section of the Trail, and a growing number of campgrounds, Bed and Breakfast establishments and motels for comfortable overnight accommodation, so why not plan a loop or car-shuttle linear hike?

Rugged and fragile. Stark and beautiful. Lonely and welcoming. The Bruce Peninsula, its local communities and the Peninsula Bruce Trail Club welcome you.

The Peninsula Bruce Trail Club

P.O. Box 2
 Tobermory, Ontario N0H 2R0
www.pbtc.ca

Wiarton to Tobermory Take a Hike on the Bruce Trail



The Peninsula Bruce Trail Club



**Close to nature.
Close to home.**

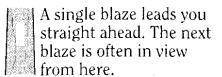
**THE BRUCE TRAIL
CONSERVANCY**

One of the nine member clubs of the Bruce Trail Conservancy
 1-800-665-HIKE
www.brucetrail.org

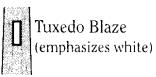
Before You Hike the Bruce Trail

The Trail is built and maintained by volunteers. Much of the Bruce Trail crosses private land with the consent of landowners, so strict adherence to the Trail User's Code is essential if trail closures are to be prevented. The Trail is marked with signs and white blazes 5 cm X 15 cm painted on trees and poles: one blaze leads you straight ahead; two blazes indicates a turn. If you lose your way, retrace your steps to the last visible blaze and regain your bearings. Blazes painted blue indicate a side trail, for access to parking areas, scenic lookouts or to create convenient loop hikes.

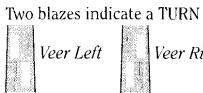
Explanation of the Blazes



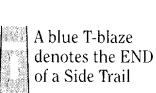
A single blaze leads you straight ahead. The next blaze is often in view from here.



Tuxedo Blaze (emphasizes white)



Two blazes indicate a TURN
Veer Left Veer Right



A blue T-blaze denotes the END of a Side Trail

A Trail User's Code

- Hike only on marked routes; do not shortcut.
- Use the stiles provided; do not climb fences.
- Respect privacy of people living near the Trail.
- Leave the Trail cleaner than you found it.
- Fires are not permitted along the Trail.
- Leave flowers and plants for others to enjoy.
- Do not damage live trees or strip off the bark.
- Keep dogs on a leash, especially on farmland.
- Protect and do not disturb wildlife.
- Leave only your thanks;
- Take nothing but memories.

Hike Safely

Hike with a friend in remote and rough territory. Inform others of where you are hiking and when you expect to return. Plan your hike in advance. Wear suitable clothing and sturdy footwear. Carry a daypack with extra clothing to protect against sun, cold and rain. Bring a lunch and high-energy snacks, as well as water or other non-alcoholic liquid. In cold weather bring a hot drink. Carry a basic first aid kit, sunscreen and insect repellent.

Be aware that cell phones may not pick up a signal in many remote parts of the peninsula.

Planning Your Day Hike

Many people have found themselves in serious difficulty or have endured uncomfortable hikes because they have underestimated the challenges of hiking in the Bruce Peninsula. A bit of time spent planning your hike will not only help avoid potentially dangerous situations, but will add greatly to the enjoyment of your hike.

Most people stroll at between 2 to 4 km per hour, but rest and snack breaks can significantly reduce this average. Most hikers underestimate how long a hike will take. Divide the distance shown for the hike (example 9 km) by the estimated slowest walking speed in the group (example 3 km per hour) to give you the number of hours of walking (in this example, 3 hours). Then add at least 10 minutes of rest, photography, and snack breaks per hour (in this example, 30 minutes), and at least 30 minutes for a picnic stop, if planned. (Total estimated time needed for an enjoyable hike in this example, 4 hours)

Bruce Trail Resources

Donations, membership fees, and sales of maps, guides and other materials fund the Bruce Trail Conservancy. The guidebooks are indispensable for long hikes and for a full appreciation of the ecology, history and scenic features of the Niagara Escarpment.

The Bruce Trail Reference:

A sturdy publication containing a complete set of 42 maps, showing the Trail from Niagara to Tobermory, as well as ecological, historical and other notes to help you appreciate the landscape along the Niagara Escarpment. Copies are often available at tourist offices and at local shops carrying tourist information and books. They may be ordered by phone - 1-800-665-4453 (HIKE), toll free or through the web site at: www.bructrail.org

Peninsula Bruce Trail Club Day Hike Guide:

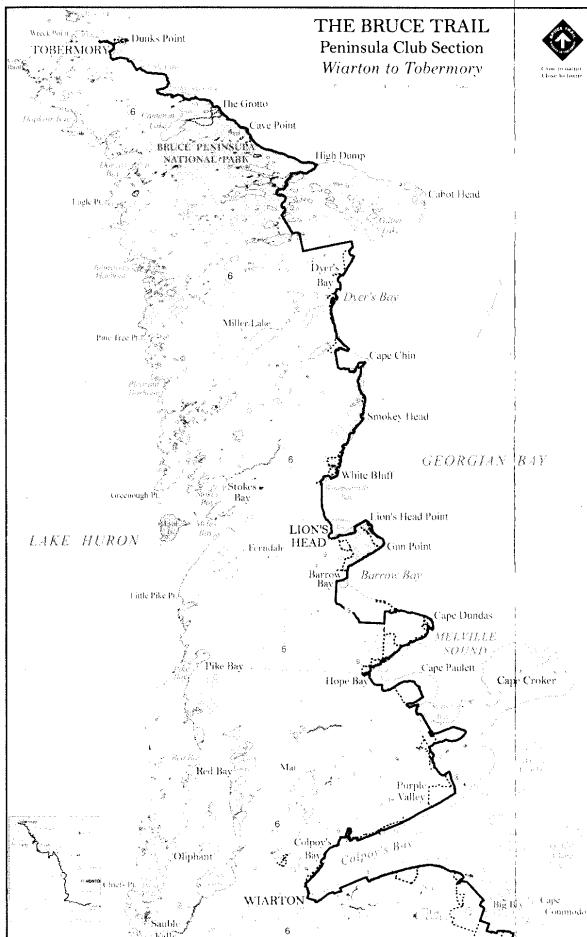
Available through Tourism Information Offices, B&Bs and other outlets on the Bruce Peninsula, or you may wish to order from the Peninsula Bruce Trail Club, P.O. Box 2, Tobermory, Ontario, Canada, N0H 2R0.

The Day Hike Guide Contains:

8 maps with hiking directions for dozens of Loop and Linear Day Hikes on the Peninsula section of the Bruce Trail, locations of Bruce Trail Access points, parking areas, suggestions on getting the most from your Day Hike, emergency numbers, and much more.

Parking at Access Points

Only park where you have clear permission to do so, such as Bruce Trail Parking Areas or municipal parking lots, and only if you will not be obstructing other cars, especially the local residents whose generosity supports the Bruce Trail. Please obey posted signs.



Please note that the Peninsula Map above is not a suitable guide for hiking.



Close to nature.
Close to home.

THE BRUCE TRAIL

Help us Finish the Bruce Trail

There are still many sections of the Trail in less than ideal locations, and access in some areas is not assured.

Why not become a Bruce Trail member, or make a charitable donation to assist in securing land, building boardwalks, stiles, bridges, parking areas and maintaining the Trail in world class shape for the hundreds of thousands who use it every year.

As a member, you receive the quarterly Bruce Trail Magazine and Club newsletters; invitations to: volunteer for trail work, join in organized hikes, attend our Annual General Meeting and assist in preserving the Niagara Escarpment from undue exploitation. You will also be able to purchase many publications and other Bruce Trail gift items at special membership prices. Your membership dues are now tax-deductible!

See the Application for Membership on the opposite side of this column.