

### TRAIL TRIVIA

FOLLOW THE CLUES BELOW AND THE ACCOMPANYING MAPS EXPLORE THE TRAILS IN AND AROUND GODERICH AS YOU SEARCH FOR THE SMALL NUMBERED SIGNS

Map 1: Part of The Maitland Trail, The Sifto Loop, and The GART (Goderich-to-Auburn Rail Trail)

Start: At the end of the Maitland Trail, approximately 200m east of The Beach Street Station restaurant.

- Built in 1907, the restaurant was originally a CPR train station. It was moved in 2013 to it's current location.
- Continue up the trail. The building to your left, 300m north of the restaurant, is a grain inspection station built in 1907. The quality of grain is checked before it is shipped around the world.
- As noted on the nearby plaque, 200m to your left is the sulphur spring. This was the site of a health spa when the spring was first discovered in 1880. Do not drink the water.
- The next building, 300m to your left, is a weigh station for the grain that is trucked in and then shipped from the harbour.
- At the bottom of the hill is a trail kiosk. On one side is a complete map of the Maitland Trail, and on the other is a historical map of the waterfront. There are also two seats. The rock has been placed where it is to protect the kiosk from cars sliding down the hill in the snow.
- These grain elevators to your left were built in 1907. They receive grain directly from farms or other grain handling facilities, which is then transferred to ships going to destinations around the world.
- 7 The Goderich harbour is the only deep water harbour on this side of Lake Huron. Several types of cargo are shipped in and out of this harbour.
- 8 Continue across the railway tracks and North Harbour Rd. Notice 'the big rock'. A plaque provides more information such as where it came from and how much it weighs.
- 9 Another trail kiosk showing local trails and points of interest. There are several benches on the next sections of trail.
- The construction of this train trestle was completed in 1907, and the last train to cross was in 1988. It became a pedestrian bridge in 1992. The money for the planks was raised by donors who's names are inscribed on them. Other donor's names are on small plaques mounted on the hand rails.
- 11 The length of this bridge is 210.3m (690 feet).

- Before the river was called the Maitland, it was called Menesetung which in the Chippewa language means Laughing Waters, a name inspired by the sound of the rapids.
- Take The Sifto Loop trail to the west/left. Note the blue blazes. This trail exists due to the generosity of Sifto Salt (Compass Minerals).
- Where the trail forks, take the upper trail to the right. Continue straight, but notice a short way down the trail there is a side trail to the right which leads to Mill Rd, the Goderich Airport, and Highway 21.
- 37 You will pass the Old Heritage Red Oak Tree {Quercus rubra} with a plaque beside it. The tree is more than 200 years old, has a girth of 3m {9ft}, and is 30m {90 ft} high.
- At the end of this trail you'll see across the river a number of large buildings, this is the entrance to the Sifto salt mine. With production starting in 1959, it's now the largest salt mine in the world producing 9 million tons of salt per year. It's 1800 ft deep. The two tall white buildings are the grain elevators. Head back along the same trail for a short distance.
- When you come to a tree with Yellow-bellied sap sucker (woodpecker) holes, turn right towards the river. This is the lower trail where there are numerous good views of the river.
- 40 On your right there is some old concrete showing. This is the remains of Attrill Salt Works from 1877. The mine flooded soon after boring began, and had to be abandoned.
- There is a green bucket 15m (45 ft) up this tree. This is an extreme geocache.
- The trail ends here which is where it started.

# Map 2: Part of The Maitland Trail, and Goderich-to-Auburn Rail Trail (The GART) Start at the south end of Tiger Dunlop Road, just off of Highway 21

- Walk north along this old road and you'll cross Bogie Drain. On your left is the entrance to the Menesetung Trail ending at Trivia #14 on the GART. On your right is an old parking lot for the Dunlop Tomb. Continue up the trail 200m to some stairs that will take you up to the G.A.R.T. At the top of the stairs head to your right.
- 17 This is the tomb of Tiger Dunlop (1792-1848). Around the tomb there are information signs to read, and a bench. Tiger Dunlop got his nickname from having hunted tigers in India. Head back to the GART the way you came in, then head right (east).
- From here, the GART (Goderich To Auburn Rail Trail) continues eastward to the Maitland River just south of Auburn, approximately 11 kms away. Retrace your steps and head west towards the tomb, but continue along the GART.
- Notice the stairs on your right this is where the Maitland Trail splits from the GART and continues toward Auburn following the sinuous Maitland River for almost 50km. From the top of the stairs, continue westward along the GART.

- From here there is a good view of the river and north end of the town. Notice two churches across the river the left one is St Georges Anglican, the one on the right is St Peter's Catholic. You can also see the Alexandra Marine and General Hospital, and the Sifto evaporator plant. Behind you is a short path to River Ridge Crescent, which leads to the airport and Hwy 21.
- To your left is the start of the Menesetung Trail. Take this trail down the hill towards the river and continue along the river flats. This is a beautiful stretch in early summer when the phlox is in bloom.
- The large culvert to your right is under the old Hwy 21. The stream is known as Bogie Drain. At the top of this short hill you're back on the Maitland Trail. Go to your right to get back to your starting point.

#### Map 3: The Maitland Woods

Start at the SW corner of The Knights of Columbus parking lot on Parsons Court.

At the first fork in the trail, keep to your left.

- 19 The Richard (Dick) Lehnen Memorial Bench. Dick (1944-2008) was an entrepreneur who loved the outdoors.
- The John Hindmarsh (1918-1995) Memorial Rock. This area of the Maitland Woods has been protected by a conservation easement put in place by John Hindmarsh. The conservation easement ensures this land will be protected from development forever.
- The Joseph Selkirk (1930-2003) Memorial Bench. Joseph was a friend of John Hindmarsh, and a land owner to the south. Joseph had many physical disabilities but still enjoyed the outdoor life. More information on Joseph can be found in the second edition of the Maitland Trail guide.
- WHITE spruce trees, all planted in straight lines. 1 ring of branches for each year of age. Bark, branches, buds and seeds from the white spruce are food for deer, rabbits, porcupines, birds, and small rodents.
- The Pat King (1928-2015) Memorial Bench. Pat served with the Goderich Police Department. He became deputy chief in 1972, and retired as police chief in 1993 when the OPP took over the role of policing in Goderich in 1993.
- 100m down this short side path is a Yellow Birch tree that grew over a fallen tree. The fallen tree has now rotted away leaving the birch with a large space under it.
- Huckins Street bridge was named after John Huckins who was the Mayor of Goderich from 1951- 1956. The bridge was re-built in 2020 with significant contributions from the Town, and many donations from the community.

#### Map 4: The Millennium Trail

#### Start on Mill Road, on the south side of Goderich, east of Hwy #8.

- The building to the left, is a compressed air energy storage system built in 2019. Air is pumped into a disused salt cavern at night when energy is cheaper and released to generate energy when the price is higher during the day. The disused caverns were created through the process of extracting salt from deep underground. At the Sifto salt evaporation plant warm water is pumped underground into salt reserves. The warm water causes the salt to dissolve and is then pumped back up to the evaporator plant where the salt is extracted from the water by evaporation.
- Notice some pipes on your left. These are unused pipes used for transfering water into the ground and brine out of the caverns to the evaporator plant.
- The flat area to your left is the old Optimist park. The hill at the back was the town's former dump site.
- 29 The large white building at the top of the hill is the Sifto salt evaporator plant.
- In the fenced area to the left is a pond where spent water is released from the Evaporator plant. It's purpose it to allow some of the heat to escape from the spent water before it is released into the Maitland River. There are carp in the pond to keep the vegetation under control.
- 31 Under the bridge is the flow of warm water from the ponds on it's way to the Maitland River.
- The blue side trail goes up to Nelson St East. There is a rock at the top with a plaque honoring Senator William Proudfoot K.C. (1859 -1922).
- The old asphalt you are walking on is the old Highway 21 where it crossed the river to Saltford.
- Just out of sight at the top of the hill to your left is the Alexandra Marine and General Hospital.
- If you continue down the trail to your right you will come to the new Highway 21 and the end of the Millennium Trail.



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