

START

1 St. Jacobs Farmers' Market

Waterloo Region is famous for its bustling farmers' markets. Most local markets are open Saturday mornings plus one additional midweek morning. Along this drive you will find many farms with signs selling fresh local produce.

2 Erbsville (est. 1845)

Established by Samuel Erb. A blacksmith shop, general store, post office, schoolhouse and St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church were clustered near the main intersection of this hamlet.

3 Paradise Lake

The shore of this kettle lake is dotted with luxurious homes with well-maintained grounds. Please note that this is a private lake and the properties do not provide public access.

4 Heidelberg (est. 1832)

This village was named after its first postmaster's home town in Germany and was the first area to be settled in Wellesley Township. The Olde Heidelberg House (c.1840s) is a former stagecoach stop and still operates as a restaurant and hotel today. Other points of interest include the Lutheran church (1869) and the former Heidelberg School USS No. 11 (1911), Ament Burrel House (1865), and a former church (1894) that has been converted into Hauser Hall.

5 St. Clements (St. Alphonse) (est. c.1842)

Settled by Adolphus Schickler, this village was the centre of Catholicism in Wellesley Township. Historic structures include the Roman Catholic Church (1858), Tavern (1880), a former store, and a cemetery. Note the church's statues, interior wall paintings, stained glass windows, and the wrought iron crosses in the cemetery.

6 Hessen Strasse

This area was settled by Hessian Lutherans from Germany. St. John's Lutheran Church (1872) is one of the oldest fieldstone churches in the area.

7 Village of Wellesley (Schmittsville, Smithsville) (est. 1845)

Established by James Ferris, John Schmitt expanded the original dam site in 1847 and began settlement. There are approximately 32 historic buildings in the town to explore including the old mill and the Wellesley Historical Society in the former Wellesley School. To download the historic Village of Wellesley walking tour visit: www.wellesleyhistory.org.

8 Rushes Cemetery

Rushes Cemetery, one of the oldest in the Township, dates from 1851 and serves the Crosshill area. It contains many 19th-century grave markers including the puzzle tombstone to the two young wives of Dr. Samuel Bean.

9 Crosshill (est. 1843)

The namesake of a town in Ayrshire, Scotland, this village was settled by Scots. Since the village was located near the Township's geographical centre, Council Chambers (1855) were established here and are still in use today. Historic structures include the former stone School House SS No. 17 (1874), a Mennonite church (1888), a former hotel, former general store (red-brick building), and several old homes.

10 Queen's Bush

Lands to the west of and including Wellesley Township were historically known as the Queen's Bush, a large tract of land (approximately 1,500,000 acres) ceded to the British by the Ojibway Nation in 1836. The tract was a Clergy Reserve, land set aside and later sold as income for the maintenance of the Protestant Church in Canada. Before the American Civil War, many fugitive slaves settled in the southern parts of the Queen's Bush. Township roads were named for black pioneer families that settled in the area, such as Lawson Line and Posey Line.

11 Linwood (est. 1846)

The village's name is Welsh and means "a pool in the woods." Linwood's hardware store and two general stores are worth visiting. Schnurr's General Store is Canada's oldest family run grocery store. Consecutive generations of fathers and sons have run the business since 1858. Note St. Peter's Lutheran Church and the old drive shed on Gordon Hain Street. Linwood hosts two annual festivals, Snofest and Cruising with the King, both of which offer fun, food and family entertainment.

12 Alternative Route

Turn left on Powell Road to follow an optional route through the rural back roads of Wellesley's rolling terrain with outstanding views of traditional Mennonite farmsteads en route to the historic farming community of Wallenstein.

13 Wallenstein (est. 1860)

Originally part of the Queen's Bush crown lands, the area was settled by a mix of immigrants from Great Britain and Germany. A hotel, the Wallenstein General Store (still operational today), a brick yard and two Methodist churches catered to the surrounding farming community, which is today predominantly Mennonite.

14 Hawkesville (est. 1846)

Hawkesville's historic structures include a former blacksmith shop, a church (1868), a dam and various houses, including the home of the grandfather of former Prime Minister John Diefenbaker. The Hawkesville community centre is now housed in the former Schoolhouse SS No. 13. The village is famous in the Region for quality custom furniture. To download the historic Hawkesville walking tour visit: www.wellesleyhistory.org/walking-tours.html.

The "Wellesley Byway" begins at the St. Jacobs Farmers' Market, travels through an Environmentally Sensitive Area named Schaefer's Woods and skirts Paradise Lake. On the journey you will pass through "Mennonite Country." Enjoy the rolling scenic agricultural land interspersed with an abundance of traditional Mennonite farmsteads and fine vistas. You will see signs at farm gates offering produce. The vegetables and fruit are first class and the people are always friendly. Please note: No Sunday sales. The meeting houses that dot the landscape in Wellesley Township are fine examples of Mennonite architecture. However, more importantly, they are places of worship. Please keep this in mind and remember that meeting houses are private property and not open to the general public.

The Village of Wellesley contains fine older buildings. The mill pond in the centre of town is a pleasant spot for a stroll or picnic. Wellesley is home to the annual Apple Butter & Cheese Festival, held on the last Saturday in September.

The area to the north of the Village of Wellesley contains a peaceful mosaic of farmland and woodlots, and an optional back roads loop is presented to view more picturesque Mennonite landscapes. Returning through Hawkesville, the route meanders beside the Conestogo River. There are some good fishing spots along this part of the route. Upon completing the tour and returning to the St. Jacobs Farmers' Market, you can either continue on Tour Two through Woolwich Township or return to Waterloo.

For more detailed historic information on this area, visit the Region's website or contact the Wellesley Township Office at 519-699-4611.

STARTS at the St. Jacobs Farmers' Market. When exiting the Market's parking lot, turn left on to Weber Street North and then right on to Benjamin Road to begin the tour.

Note: Some roads are gravel and several older bridges are single lane with weight restrictions. Please drive with caution as you share the roads with horse-drawn vehicles and cyclists. Please keep in mind that some points of interest on this tour are not publicly accessible; enjoy the view only from public property. Refreshments and/or public washrooms may not be available along rural sections of the route, but many towns, villages and hamlets offer wonderful establishments in historic buildings.



Region of Waterloo

HERITAGE PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

For more information, contact

PLANNING, HOUSING AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

519-575-4400 • TTY: 519-575-4608

or email planninginfo@regionofwaterloo.ca

Alternate formats are available upon request.

TOUR FOUR

TOWNSHIP OF WELLESLEY

Wellesley Byway



Linwood Old Order Mennonite Meeting House

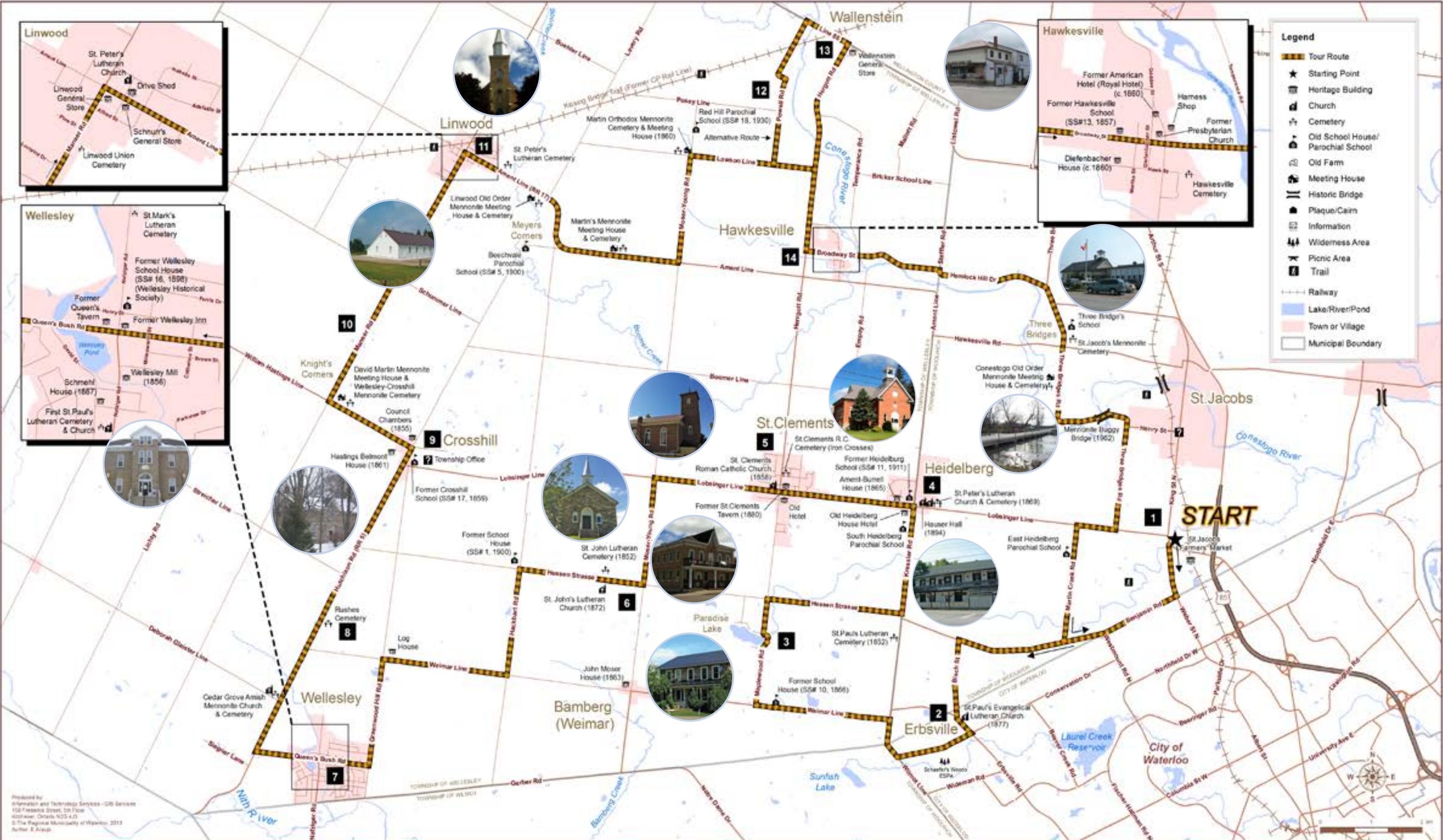
Distance: 93 km (With alternate route)
Time: 2 hours & 30 min.

Waterloo Region

Historic
**COUNTRYSIDE
TOURS**

Apple butter, corn
and scenic
views

www.regionofwaterloo.ca



- Legend**
- Tour Route
 - Starting Point
 - Heritage Building
 - Church
 - Cemetery
 - Old School House/ Parochial School
 - Old Farm
 - Meeting House
 - Historic Bridge
 - Plaque/Cairn
 - Information
 - Wilderness Area
 - Picnic Area
 - Trail
 - Railway
 - Lake/River/Pond
 - Town or Village
 - Municipal Boundary

Linwood

- St. Peter's Lutheran Church
- Linwood General Store
- Linwood Union Cemetery
- Schnur's General Store
- Drive Shed

Wellesley

- St. Mark's Lutheran Cemetery
- Former Wellesley School House (SS# 16, 1898) (Wellesley Historical Society)
- Former Queen's Tavern
- Former Wellesley Inn
- Wellesley Mill (1856)
- Schmehl House (1867)
- First St. Paul's Lutheran Cemetery & Church

Hawkesville

- Former American Hotel (Royal Hotel) (c. 1860)
- Former Hawkesville School (SS#13, 1857)
- Harness Shop
- Former Presbyterian Church
- Diefenbacher House (c. 1860)
- Hawkesville Cemetery

Wellesley

- Cedar Grove Amish Mennonite Church & Cemetery
- Queen's Bush Rd
- Greenwood Rd
- Wellesley Mill (1856)
- Schmehl House (1867)
- First St. Paul's Lutheran Cemetery & Church

Linwood

- Linwood Old Order Mennonite Meeting House & Cemetery
- Meyers Corners
- Martin's Mennonite Meeting House & Cemetery
- Beechvale Parochial School (SS# 5, 1900)
- St. Peter's Lutheran Cemetery
- St. Peter's Lutheran Church
- Red Hill Parochial School (SS# 18, 1930)
- Alternative Route

Hawkesville

- Wallenstein General Store
- Wallenstein
- Wallenstein Cemetery
- Wallenstein

St. Clements

- St. Clements R.C. Cemetery (Iron Crosses)
- St. Clements Roman Catholic Church (1856)
- Former Heidelberg School (SS# 11, 1911)
- Amert-Bunell House (1865)
- Former St. Clements Tavern (1880)
- Old Hotel
- Old Heidelberg House Hotel
- South Heidelberg Parochial School
- St. John's Lutheran Cemetery (1852)
- St. John's Lutheran Church (1872)
- Paradise Lake
- John Moser House (1863)
- Former School House (SS# 10, 1866)

Heidelberg

- St. Peter's Lutheran Church & Cemetery (1869)
- House Hall (1894)
- East Heidelberg Parochial School
- Conestogo Old Order Mennonite Meeting House & Cemetery
- Three Bridges School
- St. Jacob's Mennonite Cemetery
- Mennonite Tugger Bridge (1962)

Erbville

- St. Paul's Lutheran Cemetery (1852)
- St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church (1877)
- Schaefer's Woods SPA
- Wideman Rd

Bamberg (Weimar)

- John Moser House (1863)
- Former School House (SS# 10, 1866)

St. Jacobs

- St. Jacobs Farmers' Market
- St. Jacobs
- St. Jacobs

City of Waterloo

- University Ave E
- University Ave W
- Colbourne St W
- Bevington Rd
- Northfield Dr W
- Conservators Dr
- Wideman Rd
- Epstein Rd
- Wideman Rd
- Wideman Rd
- Wideman Rd

