

Caledon Hills Bruce Trail Club ***'Discovery Hike Series'*** ***Badge***



To earn this Discovery Badge you must complete all the hikes listed below, either on your own or on an organized hike. You will have fun *discovering* more about the Caledon Hills section of the Bruce Trail. Kilometre references are taken from the Bruce Trail Reference Edition #29.

Once you have completed all five hikes, send your **hiking log** (including the date and who you hiked with) and **badge requirements** for each hike, along with \$5/badge and a self-addressed stamped envelope to the address listed below.

Alternatively, you can email your badge requirements and hike log if this would be a more convenient option. You would still mail a cheque and self-addressed stamped envelope if you choose this option.

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Bruce Trail
CONSERVANCY

CALEDON HILLS CLUB

Discovery Hike # 1: Map 14 & 15

Distance: 10.3 km (approx.)

Park: Meet at Roadside Parking (km 8.8) on the Forks of the Credit Road between Chisholm and Dominion Streets (43.803809, -79.993002)

Hike:

Follow the main Trail along Dominion Street north to the Forks of the Credit Provincial Park. In the late 1800s, this road extended and linked two rural communities until 1912, when a section was destroyed by a flood. **Name the two Hamlets.**

Continue hiking along the main Trail to the Cataract Side Trail. As you follow the blue blazes of this trail towards the falls, watch carefully for the metal Hendry Stile. It is a remnant from an early trail structure designed for climbing fences and is embedded in one of the trees on your left. **Take a photo of the stile remains.** Later, admire the beauty of the Cataract Falls, and then retrace your steps to the main Trail.

Turn left and climb to the top of the ridge, where the Mill Pond Side Trail enters to the left. Take this in-and-out trail. You will cross two bridges along your way to the trail end at the foot of a long park stairway. The first bridge is a bailey bridge. **Photograph the bridge and briefly explain the uniqueness of this bridge type. Provide the name of the group that we can thank for its installation.**

To return to the beginning of the Mill Pond Side Trail, take the stairway and a short connecting path. Turn right onto the Side Trail and head back to the main Trail.

Upon your return to the main Trail veer left and continue to the Dorothy Medhurst Side Trail. **Take a photo of the trail's blue sign and describe a couple of Dorothy's contributions to the Bruce Trail.**

At the end of this side trail, turn left onto the main Trail and hike back to Roadside Parking.

Badge Requirements:

- 1. Name the two hamlets connected by Dominion Road in the late 1800s.**
- 2. Provide a photo of the remains of the Hendry Stile.**
- 3. Provide a photo of the bailey bridge.**
- 4. Briefly explain the uniqueness of this bridge type.**
- 5. Name the group that we can thank for the installation of this bridge.**
- 6. Provide a photo of the Dorothy Medhurst Side Trail sign.**
- 7. Describe a couple of Dorothy's contributions to the Bruce Trail.**

Hint: Refer to the trail descriptions in The Bruce Trail Reference Maps and Trail Guide; Edition 29

Discovery Hike # 2: Map 16

Pre-hike Discovery: Research Monarch butterflies, Milkweed, Dog-Strangling Vine and Butternut trees if you cannot identify each.

Distance: 10.5 km (approx.)

Park: Meet at Roadside Parking (km 31.6) on Innis Lake Road, north of Finnerty Sideroad (43.918917, -79.909387). Shuttle to St. Andrew's Road (km 24.5) north of Escarpment Sideroad. Park along the east shoulder of the road by St. Andrew's Stone Church, 17621 St. Andrew's Road, Caledon ON L7K 2E1

Note: Dogs are not permitted on sections of the trail in this area. Please respect the wishes of our landowners.

Hike:

Early Scottish settlers built St. Andrew's Stone Church, using local fieldstone. Now, a designated Heritage Structure, **provide the year it was built.** From the church, head north along St. Andrew's Road. The main Trail soon turns right and initially follows along the edge of a field. Hike the Trail to Mountainview Road Side Trail.

Follow the blue blazes of this trail and watch for Milkweed and Dog-Strangling Vine plants. Milkweed leaves provide food for Monarch butterflies. Because the two plants are related, Monarchs will sometimes lay their eggs on the vines, thinking it is Milkweed. Consequently, the larvae do not survive. Dog-Strangling Vine also spreads quickly, invading forests and dominating groundcover, thus posing significant risks to Milkweed and other native plants and habitats. Bruce Trail volunteers and landowners work hard to contain this highly invasive plant. **List actions hikers can take to help control the spread of invasive plants.** At the end of the side trail, turn around and retrace your steps to the main Trail.

Once back at the main Trail, turn left. Continue along it through hardwood forests, then along Escarpment Sideroad, eventually meeting the very busy Airport Road. Turn left and hike along this road section of the Trail with great caution, keeping well to the left on the shoulder.

Watch for the Songbird Side Trail on the left. Follow the blue blazes of this "buttonhook" loop. Take special note of the fauna. You will notice 3 distinct vegetative communities. **Name each community.** (*Hint: Side Trail Description from The Bruce Trail Reference Maps and Trail Guide; Edition 29.*)

Once back at Airport Road, turn left and continue to Finnerty Sideroad. Turn right and hike along this picturesque and bendy country road for approximately 1 kilometre. The Trail then enters the forest on the right. Watch for Butternut trees. These trees are native and are a species at risk.

Photograph yourself/group with a Butternut tree (any other tree will do, as long as you identify it.)

Exit this forested section to your parked car.

Badge Requirements:

1. The year St. Andrew's Stone Church was built.
2. Actions hikers can take to help control the spread of Dog-Strangling Vine and other invasive species.
3. The 3 Vegetative Communities of the Songbird Side Trail.
4. Group photo by Butternut tree (or other tree species).

Discovery Hike # 3: Map 18

Distance: 10.4 km (approx.)

Park: Meet at Roadside Parking (km 66.8) on the south side of Dunby Road at the Trail entrance (44.006485, -80.059272). Shuttle to Parking Area – north of km 50.8 on the east side of 5th Line EHS, just south of Hockley Road (43.993572, -80.014057).

Hike:

Hike south along the Hockley Heights Side Trail (**photograph the Hockley Heights Sign**) until you reach the main Trail.

Turn right to follow the main Trail to the Glacier Valley Side Trail. Take this side Trail into the valley. **Photograph the "heritage tree" and indicate the code word.** Further along you will notice large rectangular holes in some of the trees. **Identify the type of woodpecker** that makes these holes.

Turn left at the main Trail and continue to the Hemlock Ridge Side Trail. Take this Side Trail back to the parking lot (km 50.8).

Walk out of the parking lot to the 5th Line and start hiking north (turn right) along the road which is also the Hockley Heights Side Trail. **What is the name of the river the trail crosses?** After hiking for about 1.2 km on the 5th Line, the Side Trail goes into the woods. You will notice a large "strong" tree with double blazes on it. **Name the species of the tree.** As you get to the top of one of the hills, **photograph the bench with the great view.**

Once you reach 15 Sideroad, **photograph the Sheldon Anderson Tract Sign** and **indicate who manages these trails.** Continue hiking until you reach the main Trail. Turn left and hike back to your car.

Badge Requirements:

1. A photo of the Hockley Heights Sign.
2. A photo of the heritage tree.
3. Indicate the code word.
4. Identify the type of woodpecker.
5. Name of river the trail crosses.
6. Name the large tree with the double blazes on it.
7. A photo of the Sheldon Anderson Tract Sign.
8. Indicate who manages these trails.

Discovery Hike # 4: Map 18

Distance: 9.4 km (approx.)

Park: Meet at Hockley Road Parking Area – east of km 60.1 (43.972857, -80.056330). Located on the north side of Hockley Road, approx. 2.5 km east of Hwy 10. Shuttle to Parking Area – north of km 50.8 on the east side of 5th Line EHS, just south of Hockley Road (43.993572, -80.014057).

Hike:

Begin by hiking the Hemlock Ridge Side Trail. (The trail head is at the back of the parking lot.) Then turn right onto the main Trail and continue hiking west. Once you cross 5th Line EHS you enter the overgrown property of the former Cedar Highlands Ski Club. Staying on the Trail, find and **photograph a remnant from this past usage.**

As you approach 4th Line EHS, watch for the handiwork of Club volunteers, who work tirelessly to keep the trail safe and well maintained. **Photograph yourself/group by an example of their work.**

Continue along the main Trail to the junction of the Griffith Ravine Side Trail. This trail was named for former landowners Julius and Rachel Griffith. Take this trail, following the blue blazes to the main Trail.

Hike for another kilometre to a working resort. **Provide the name of this Resort.** As you hike through this property for 1.1 km, **photograph 3 examples of recreational land use.**

Upon exiting the resort property, the Trail enters a forested valley. Watch for pieces of folded and twisted corrugated steel blown off farm buildings and mangled by the 1985 tornado that ripped through neighbouring communities. The debris remains along the trail as artifacts of cultural interest. **Photograph a sample of the debris.**

Continue along the trail and watch for a vineyard that backs onto the Trail. **Provide the name of this Winery and Vineyard.** (Hint: Google Search or watch for signs as you shuttle to the parking lot.)

Upon reaching the 2nd Line EHS, turn right following the Trail along the road to the Hockley Road Side Trail. Turn right and watch for blue blazes as you make your way back to the parking lot.

Badge Requirements:

- 1. A photo of a ski remnant.**
- 2. A photo of yourself with an example of a volunteer trail maintenance crew's work.**
- 3. The name of the working resort in the area.**
- 4. 3 Recreational Land Use Photographs.**
- 5. A photo of metal debris from 1985 tornado.**
- 6. Name the winery and vineyard.**

Discovery Hike # 5: Map 14

Distance: 10.8 km (approx.)

Park: Meet at Roadside Parking (km 8.8) on the Forks of the Credit Road between Chisholm and Dominion Streets (43.803809, -79.993002) Shuttle to km 0.0, 15205 Creditview Road. Park on the east side of the road. Show caution when parking, as there is a ditch.

Hike:

Begin by hiking along the main Trail. **Why do you see so many apple trees along this section of the Trail?** When you come to the junction that is marked by a Credit Valley Conservation Post, turn left. Take this in-and-out 400 m trail to the viewing platform. Marvel at the wonder of the Badlands and **take a photo**. Read the interpretive signage. **Explain why the Cheltenham Badlands have become protected from hikers walking on its surface? Briefly explain the formation of the ridges and the grey-green streaks in the Badlands landscape?**

Retrace your steps back to the main Trail and continue for approximately 8 km until you reach the Ring Kiln Side Trail. Follow the blue blazes of this in-and-out trail. **Take a photograph of the Hoffman Lime Kiln and briefly explain its significance.** Retrace your steps to the main Trail. Turn left and continue following the white blazes back to your car.

Badge Requirements:

- 1. Why do you see so many apple trees?**
- 2. A photo of the Badlands.**
- 3. Why has the Badlands become protected from hikers walking on its surface?**
- 4. Briefly explain the formation of the ridges and the grey-green streaks in the Badlands landscape.**
- 5. A photo of the Hoffman Lime Kiln.**
- 6. Briefly explain the significance of the Hoffman Lime Kiln.**