

To: LFHS Road Trippers

RE: We are Going to Paris

Hello all.

Ooops! We made a mistake; sorry we forgot the word Ontario.

Because of COVID, the LFHS bus trips have been cancelled. Instead of a bus trip together, we are providing you, your own private trip. We hope you will enjoy this country side road trip through our neighboring counties.

You can do this trip as full day trip, or divide into two trips. Your choice. October is a gorgeous month for a fun drive in the country, the trees are all dressed in their autumn finery, or you can take this road trip in the spring, May, or June.

Ready?

Leaving London we head down to 401 east. Take the exit 238, highway 2 east.

You are now cruising along highway 2, and should reach Paris, Ontario, one hour, 10 minutes. (Time from London)

Paris has been named one of the prettiest little towns in Canada, now becoming one of the new tourist attractions. The little town can be quite busy any day of the week. Set at the junction of the Grand and Nith Rivers, the town is known for its array of stone buildings, quaint streets lined with cafes, boutiques, antiques, book stores, bake shop and chocolate stores.

Free parking: Look for the Rexall drug store, on Grand River St, drive behind the store for the free parking municipal lot. Three hour free parking.

There is much to do and see, wear your walking shoes, stroll up the main street, check out that church standing guard over the main street. There are bakeries, the Paris Bakery is on the main street, (sundried feta cheese bagels are wonderful), a fabulous chocolate shop, called Chocolate Sensations.

One street over, kitty corner to the parking lot is Paris Wincey Mills Market, a historic building that dates back to 1889. Today the building is a market hall, professional offices on the second floor. A limited number of vendors still, you will find the Paris Beer Co., the Paris Apothecary, and the Grilled Cheese Effect. Gourmet popcorn, Link Street Sausage House and a few more. There are free washrooms here.

Paris is also a foodie's paradise. There are many, many places to dine. You can dine on the second floor outdoor patio of Stillwaters Restaurant, and enjoy the river flowing by,

or try Cobblestone Public House for pub style food, or a top notch pizza at the Paris Inn. Reservations made be required.

But with your own picnic lunch, or a take away meal, outdoor dine at the picturesque Penman's Dam watching people kayak down the Grand is also relaxing and enjoyable.

Leaving Paris take King Edward Street (highway 2) to Highway 24, heading to Simcoe, about 42 Km, 32 minutes.

If you jog to Simcoe you will burn 2,319 kcal from that lunch in Paris!

You will come upon Sam's Place Farm Market located in Scotland, on the corner of highway 24 and Burford-Delhi Townline Road. Sam's Place is a four generation market, starting out as a roadside wagon in the 1990's. Hope you brought a cooler with you. A seasonal farm market, open air, and very clean, this farm markets has everything from local fruit, and vegetables, large selection local cheeses, preserves, garden and home décor. They are open mid-May and stay open until Thanksgiving.

Back on the highway 24 you are approaching Simcoe, located at the junction of Highway 3 and Highway 24. We are going to the Eising Greenhouses and Garden Centre, 814 Cockshutt Road. (Closed Sundays). From Highway 24 turn left on highway 3, drive until you reach the intersection Cockshutt Road, turn right. The garden center is just down the road, before Concession 6 Woodhouse.

Homegrown quality since 1966, the owners take great pride in providing the best of quality service and friendless. This garden center is worthy of a return visit in the spring/summer. The selection and quality of their products is noticeable when you enter the center. A horticultural discount is offered.

Ladies, a bonus, Sassyfras Boutique is located inside the main garden center. Sassyfras offers ladies every day to classic clothing, accessories, and footwear.

Leaving the garden center we are going to drive west, highway 3, thru Delhi to highway 59.

Did you know Fernlea Flowers; one of the largest greenhouse operators in North America is located in Delhi, over 80 years of experience providing plant products and service to the floral industry. You can sign up for their Garden Club; they will email you updates when fresh plants arrive at retailers near you! With special arrangements it would be fun to visit Fernlea greenhouses in the future.

You will notice several strawberry farms along highway 3. Delhi hosts a strawberry festival every June. The former tobacco auction building is now a potato packing plant. Delhi has a strong German, Belgian, Hungarian and Polish heritage. Norfolk farmers are Canada's leading growers of asparagus, cabbage, tart cherries, ginseng, peppers,

pumpkins, rye, squash, zucchini, and strawberries. Norfolk is the fifth largest agricultural region in Ontario. Again another future place to explore.

Continue along hwy 3 to highway 59.

Take highway 59 north, heading to back to the Woodstock area. You will come to the second garden center. This is about 47 minute drive from Eising Garden center to Botanix Oxford Insta- Shade.

Botanix Oxford Insta Shade is a multi-facet garden center. With over 22,500 square feet of indoor shopping space! See the large selection of trees; browse the latest, cutting edge to the tried & true varieties of trees. Some of the trees are 25 feet tall; they will deliver and plant for you. There are 100's of perennials, annuals, succulent, & houseplants. There is an impressive selection of statues, benches, ornaments, furniture, pottery, plus much more garden merchandise. They honor horticultural discounts.

Leaving the garden continue north on hwy 59 to the 401, to home. About 40 minutes back to London.

Hope you will enjoy the trip. Safe trip, have fun.

