2018 VERMONT LAKESIDE ESCAPE ITINERARY

Settle in for a long weekend on the spectacular shores of Lake Champlain. Nestled between Vermont's rolling Green Mountains and the high peaks of New York's Adirondacks, Lake Champlain stretches some 120 miles from the Hudson River Valley to the Richelieu River in Quebec. The lake has long been an important waterway, playing a crucial role in the early history of both the United States and Canada. Today the region offers numerous opportunities for recreation and relaxation. The Basin Harbor Club, a classic turn-of-the-century lakeside resort, is host for your weekend getaway in the Lake Champlain Valley. Ride through picturesque countryside and explore quaint villages in one of the most beautiful states in the country. Enjoy a private cruise across Lake Champlain to ride fabulous routes along the New York shore. Valley farmland offers miles of gently rolling terrain, and mountain foothills are close enough to provide challenging options for those who want them. History buffs will enjoy important sites including those of famous maritime battles and the Underground Railroad. Visit a classic Vermont town—complete with a village green—and sample the delicious treats of a local chocolatier. We hope that you will join us in our own backyard and discover this wonderful valley that we are proud to call home.

Thursday: ***Arrival and Bike Fitting*** – After checking in at the Basin Harbor Club, meet your tour leaders for a bike fitting. This afternoon will provide you with the opportunity for your tour leaders to adjust the fit of your bike to your specification and to get comfortable on your bike. Explore the grounds or relax in one of the resort's Adirondack chairs as you take in the views over Lake Champlain before joining your fellow travelers for a welcome reception. Your first dinner at Basin Harbor Club overlooks Lake Champlain and the Adirondack Mountains of New York as you ease into your weekend adventure.
Lodging: *The Basin Harbor Club Vergennes, VT 802-475-2311 www.basinharbor.com*

Friday: ***Kingsland Bay and Vergennes –*** Today's rides follow Vermont's longest river through open farmland that surrounds the small bays and estuaries of the Lake Champlain Valley. The area's agricultural heritage is noticeable as you ride past dairy farms, produce stands, and centuries-old barns. Extend your cycling on a loop through picturesque rolling farmland near the foothills of the Green Mountains. As you descend through hollows and climb ridgelines, this extended option may test y our legs and lungs but offers dramatic views of the Lake Champlain Valley and Adirondack Mountains beyond. Grab a bite for lunch in Vergennes, a tiny city that also bills itself as America's smallest and one that serves as cycling central for the region. Vergennes is situated on the banks of the Otter Creek above the dramatic waterfall which spills into a basin below the falls before flowing into Lake Champlain. This

basin served as an important ship building site during the War of 1812 when gunboats constructed here helped defeat the British in a series of battles on Lake Champlain. This afternoon, take advantage of the resort's diverse amenities including a heated swimming pool, tennis courts, spa services, non-motorized watercraft, and the resort's own acclaimed 18-hole golf course. We highly recommend a visit to the Lake Champlain Maritime Museum which is adjacent to the Basin Harbor Club. This evening enjoy dinner at the Red Mill, the Club's casual pub-style restaurant.

Lodging: *The Basin Harbor Club Vergennes, VT 802-475-2311 www.basinharbor.com*

Cycling Options: *27 or 47 miles*

Saturday: ***Cruise Across Lake Champlain & Visit Historic Essex –*** Begin the day with a private cruise from the Basin Harbor Club across Lake Champlain to New York. Lightly traveled routes lead through rural sections of New York's Adirondack Park including what was formerly an active forge and mill center. Pedal rolling country roads past scenic farmland to a spectacular viewpoint affording gorgeous views of Lake Champlain with the peaks of the Green Mountains to the east in Vermont. Descend to the shore and wind your way into the charming town of Essex. The entire town is listed on the National Historic Register and is one of the most intact ensembles of pre-Civil War architecture in the country. Stroll along the town's quiet lanes while your leaders prepare a delicious picnic lunch at a lakeside park. Following lunch, a scenic ferry trip back across Lake Champlain offers spectacular views of the Adirondack Mountains to the west. Return to the Basin Harbor Club or extend your ride through gently rolling farmland. Dinner this evening will be an exclusive wine-paired dinner at Basin Harbor Club.

Lodging: *The Basin Harbor Club Vergennes, VT 802-475-2311 www.basinharbor.com*

Cycling Options: *25 or 45 miles*

Sunday: ***The Lake Champlain Basin –*** Ride south from Basin Harbor along lightly traveled roads winding through farms, apple orchards and open fields. Views extend east to the Green Mountains and west across Lake Champlain to the Adirondacks. The terrain is gently rolling and several route options provide the opportunity to tailor your day to your own interests. Climb the bridge at Crown Point to ride over the lake to visit the remains of Fort St. Francis which sits at a strategic point along the narrows. Return to Basin Harbor in time to visit the Maritime Museum prior to your departure. The Museum provides an in-depth look at the history of Lake Champlain and why it is considered the most important body of water in our nation's history. It also features numerous watercraft and lake ecology exhibits. The largest body of fresh water in North America after the Great Lakes, Lake Champlain is over 120 miles long and 12 miles wide, and reaches depths of 400 feet. It played host to important naval battles during the French and Indian Wars, the American Revolution, and the War of 1812. Showers will be available at the Basin Harbor Club before your departure.

Cycling Options: *33 or 46 miles*

Lodging at the Basin Harbor Club

Set in a tranquil location on the shores of Lake Champlain, the Basin Harbor Club has served as a classic resort for generations of summer vacationers. Established in 1886 by Ardelia Beach, the property has remained in the same family for 126 years. Originally a 225-acre working farm, the resort first catered to summer boarders from city locations who came to "watch the lake go by," fish, play at farming, and eat three gargantuan meals a day. Today guests are greeted by fourth and fifth generation hosts, and the property has expanded to cover 700 acres of Vermont's most pristine Lake Champlain shore. The property includes the main lodge and guest houses, cottages, marina, a championship 18-hole golf course, spectacular gardens, a 3,200' grass airstrip, and the Lake Champlain Maritime Museum—an organization dedicated to preserving and sharing the history of Lake Champlain.

Open annually from May through October, the resort offers opportunities to engage in a variety of activities on land and water, along with plenty of signature Adirondack chairs in which to relax. Basin Harbor offers swimming, sailing, kayaking, tennis courts, nature trails, wellness programs and spa services. Dining is a pleasure at the resort, which has recently expanded its partnership with local Vermont farmers and growers. From formal dining in the main lodge, to the casual Red Mill Restaurant and seasonal lakeside lobster bakes, the resort maintains its long tradition of culinary excellence. Perfectly situated in the heart of the Champlain Valley with access to the region's finest cycling routes, it is the perfect destination for a Lakeside Escape!

Travel & Tour Quick Facts

Tour Start	Thursday at 4:30pm at Basin Harbor Club. Sojourn will provide a group transfer from BTV, departing from the airport at 2:30pm.
Tour Conclusion	Sojourn will provide a group transfer to BTV at 3:00pm with an arrival of 4:00pm. Departing flights should not be scheduled prior to 5:00pm.
Travel To/From Tour	Fly into Burlington International Airport (BTV). Parking available at Basin Harbor Club.
Pre/Post Tour Lodging Option	Reserve directly through Basin Harbor Club. Burlington area lodging recommendations available upon booking.
Days/Nights	3 days cycling/3 nights
Included Meals	All meals included except for two lunches.
Rating	Intermediate. 25 – 45 miles/day over mostly gentle or rolling terrain. Longer and more challenging options are available on most days.
Activities	Cycling, options for non-motorized watercraft, swimming, tennis, and golf.

Standard Included Aspects

Equipment	Computer-equipped road or hybrid bike, helmet, rear light, seat bag for road bike or rack bag for hybrid, map case, water bottle, t-shirt. Bring clipless pedals, seat, or helmet for a more personalized fit.
Van Support	Rides supported by a Sojourn van as well as a tour leader on a bicycle.
Tour Leaders	Two experienced tour leaders guide each trip from start to finish.
Ride Nourishment	A selection of snacks and refreshments are supplied throughout all rides.
Ride Information	Detailed route directions, maps, and a daily briefing are provided.
Office Support	At your service 9:00am – 6:00pm EST, Monday – Friday. 800-730-4771

Dates & Pricing

Vermont Lakeside Escape 2018 Tour Dates	Per Person DBL Occupancy	Single Room Supplement
July 12 – 15	$1,595.00	$445.00
September 6 – 9	$1,595.00	$445.00

Weather

Burlington	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct
Avg. High	77°	82°	78°	71°	60°
Avg. Low	54°	58°	56°	48°	42°
Avg. Precip.	3.1 in	3.2 in	3.2 in	3.3 in	2.9 in

Degrees in Fahrenheit