

## Victoria Settlement Ride

May 25 and 26, 2019

This ride is a two day camping overnighter, with a visit to the Victoria Settlement Provincial Historic Site. Visit the site of the first Methodist Mission founded by Rev. George MacDougal in 1862, and what became the Hudson Bay's Fort Victoria in 1864.

<http://www.history.alberta.ca/victoria/>. Map is provided at <https://ridewithgps.com/routes/27556738>

Meet at the Iron Horse Trailhead parking area in Waskatanau at 9:30 am on Saturday morning. Ride for approximately 12 km on the Iron Horse Trail (<https://ironhorsetrail.ca>) to the Town of Smokey Lake. Trail is single track hard-pack with the odd bit of gravel. The trail is suitable for road cross, mountain, adventure, and fat bikes. At Smokey Lake we will follow the paved highway 855 to the Victoria Settlement, approximately 19 km. We will visit the clerk's quarters built in 1864 and the church built in 1904. A self guided interpretive trail will guide you through what later became the Hudson's Bay Fort Victoria. Admission is approximately \$5 for adults, \$4 for seniors.

From there we will ride 7 km to the Metis Crossing Interpretive Centre and campground. Total of 38 km first day.



Waskatanau Staging Area (park) and Iron Horse Trailhead

<https://ironhorsetrail.ca>

<https://ironhorsetrail.ca/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/waskatanauweb.pdf>



Victoria Settlement Museum

<http://www.history.alberta.ca/victoria/>



Metis Crossing Campground and Interpretive Centre

<https://metiscrossing.org/about/>

Fees for camping are approximately \$25 for RV sites with power, \$17 for tents. There are showers and washrooms at the campsite. We'll dine on roast beef on the bbq for a protein fix. Join us in a campfire and tell your favourite ghost stories and make your own s'mores provided by scouter Julie. Rise in the morning and ride the historic and scenic Victoria Trail back to Waskatenau. Bikes that are comfortable with gravel are necessary for the ride home. Allow 14 km per hour for this 45 km section complete with stops at historic monuments and sites along the gravel road. Wear your EBTC buff as a dust screen when passed by vehicles. Pick up your vehicles at the trailhead in Waskatenau and head back to Metis Crossing to pick up your gear. Organizers will be parking their RV on Friday night and feel free to join them.



Metis Crossing campsite, Interpretive Centre, and zip line on the North Saskatchewan River



The historic Victoria Trail



Monuments and points of interest along the Victoria Trail.



Waskatenau trestle, first scenic point on the first day.