



The Old Stone Church Route

A Huron Shores Heritage Route Bike Tour

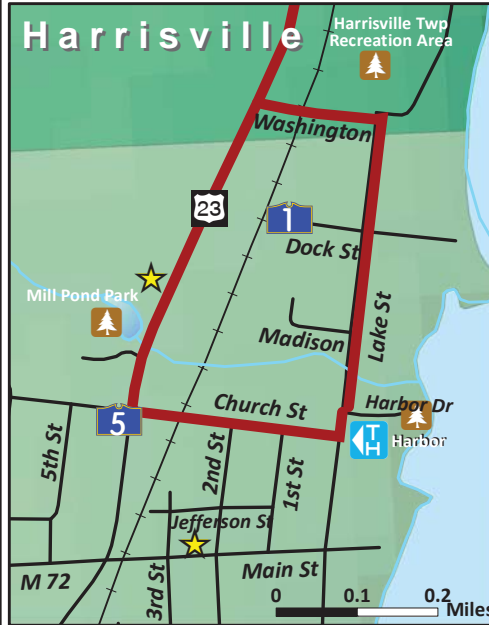
Total Trip: 16.7 miles



Trailhead
Harrisville Harbor on Lake Street



Overview Map of Alcona Bike Tours



Travel the "Old Stone Church Route"...

- 0.35 mi** Turn north on Lake Street. Harrisville Depot (Historical Marker 1) located on the west end of Dock Street.
- 0.15 mi** Turn left on Washington Street.
- 6.3 mi** Turn right on US 23 and travel north.
- 1.0 mi** Turn left at Shaw Rd. Old Stone Church (Historical Marker 11) located at the corner of Shaw Rd and Poor Farm Rd.
- 5.5 mi** Turn left on Poor Farm Rd. Travel south. Traffic can appear unexpectedly along this section.
- 2.6 mi** Turn left onto Walker Rd. Travel east to US 23. Airport is located on the south side of the road near the intersection with Mill Creek Rd..
- 0.9 mi** Turn right onto US 23 back to Harrisville.
- 0.3 mi** Turn left onto Church Street. Methodist Church (Historical Marker 5) on the southwest corner of US 23 and Church Street. Turn left onto Lake Street back to the trailhead at the Harbor.

1 Historical Marker: Harrisville Depot

Built in 1901 for the Detroit and Mackinac Railway Company, this cut stone depot was a busy place any day of the week with the bustling lumber business in and around Harrisville. Daily trains arrived or departed to destinations such as Detroit or Cheboygan. As the lumber business diminished and automobile use increased, rail travel became less and less common. The last passenger train left the station on March 31, 1951. Mail and freight service continued through the early 1960's, after which the building was used for occasional storage by the railroad. This depot is one of the few remaining in northern Michigan.

11 Historical Marker: Old Stone Church

In 1880 the Township of Alcona had 187 houses, 4 schools, 2 Churches, a lighthouse, and 3 post offices. Presbyterians living there built their own white frame church, the First Presbyterian Church of Alcona. In 1886, the Church building was moved two miles west to the present site in Haynes Township. In June 1924, sparks from a roof fire at a neighboring farmhouse set the church ablaze. Many of the interior features were saved, but the building was totally destroyed. Volunteers rebuilt the church with stones found on surrounding farmland. It was reopened on June 6, 1934. In 1969, the church became the present nondenominational community church.

5 Historical Marker: United Methodist Church

The first Sunday School and Church in Alcona County was Methodist, with Rev. Joseph P. Merchant walking the Huron Shore, from settlement to settlement, from Tawas to Alpena. He settled in Harrisville with his family in 1861. He formed membership classes that met in a house with no chimney and two small slide windows on the bank at the foot of what became Church Street. When the town built a new schoolhouse on the Court House Square, that building was used by the Methodists. The present church, was built in 1867. Membership included such early family names as Conklin, Colwell, LaChapelle, Rutson and Van Buskirk. By 1899, the congregation numbered 140. The stained glass windows date from 1924.

Before You Ride

Water is only available at trailhead. Bring your own water on the trip.

Cell phone reception varies and does not exist along some route segments.

All county roads have gravel shoulder. US 23 has paved shoulder.

Be predictable and operate like a vehicle.

Always wear an approved helmet.

Ride with traffic.

Use hand signals.

Be mindful of other traffic.

Wear appropriate clothing.

Use lights at night.

This map was developed by the US 23 Heritage Route program and NEMCOG. The user of this map bears responsibility for his/her own safety. The US 23 Heritage Route or NEMCOG makes no express or implied guarantee as to the safety or condition of the roads shown and has no responsibility for maintaining them. Conditions indicated on the map are subject to change. Be prepared to make your own assessment of traffic and roads appropriate to your riding skills. All entities involved in the creation of this map disclaim responsibility and shall not be answerable or held accountable in any manner for loss, damage, or injury that may be suffered as the result of the use of this map.

★ Quilt Trail Panel

Discover Heritage Route 23....your Pathway to the Sunrise Coast!

www.heritage23.org