



Do the Norfolk Shuttle

This scenic region on the north shore of Lake Erie is known for its farms, burgeoning local food scene and great beaches. It's also an up-and-coming wine region. What better way to enjoy the gifts of the grape than with someone else driving? From May 16 to Sept. 27, the South Coast Shuttle Bus Service operates two 12-passenger minibuses between Port Dover and Long Point Provincial Park, a distance of 46 km that takes about 80 minutes, plus whatever time you spend at the 17 stops. Start at either end or in the middle. Travel two stops or all 17. The shuttle makes it easy.

At the easternmost end of the line in Port Dover is David's Restaurant overlooking Lake Erie. From this casual complex (including a lounge and spa) it's a short hop to the 450-slip marina and bustling beachfront where sun-seekers relax on the

white sand. Or sit back and watch fishing tugs unload their catch of fresh perch and pickerel, both local specialties. Buy pickerel right off the boat or enjoy this catch at Schofields Bistro, one of the seven regional restaurants boasting the Feast ON endorsement for serving local food. While there, take in some live professional theatre at Port Dover's Lighthouse Festival Theatre.

Continue your foodie exploration with drool-worthy stops, including the Dover Cheese Shop, Frisky Beaver Wine Company and the Good Bread Company in the historic village of Victoria, known for its traditional baking. Taste the locally grown red-skinned Valencia peanuts at Kemal Peanuts. Pick up delicious sparkling apple cider, local gourmet gifts, pies and tarts at Cider Keg Farm Market. Fresh berries, fruit wines and preserves are on offer at Blueberry Hill Estate Winery.

The shuttle bus trundles down some of the region's tranquil rural roads, including Spooky Hollow, as it makes its way to the historic hamlet of Normandale. There, the Normandale Century Inn and Restaurant welcomes visitors to dine on the patio. Take note of the historic hardware, like the inn's hand-forged door hinges. These date to the early 1800s when tinkers sailed across Lake Erie to stock up on hardware at a thriving forge. Although the forge is long gone, visitors still enjoy the peaceful setting.

Turkey Point Provincial Park's two kilometres of groomed sandy beach draw thousands to luxuriate in the Lake Erie surf. Cool down with craft beer or a glass of local wine on the patio of Sandbar on the Beach.

Overlooking Lake Erie, Burning Kiln Winery serves up award-winning VQA wines and seasonal local cuisine on the patio. Long Point

Eco-Adventures will get you ziplining through the Carolinian forest and kayaking into the Big Creek National Wildlife Area. Horse lovers gravitate to Carousel Stables, where riders learn gentle techniques to bond with and handle their mount.

In the town of Port Rowan, shop for fashions, accessories, gifts and home décor. From here, it's a short walk to Bird Studies Canada, one of the country's foremost avian-observation and study facilities.

The shuttle does an about-face at Long Point Provincial Park. Camp here for a week or weekend, or just enjoy the 1.5-km stretch of sandy beach or excellent fishing and boating. Long Point Bird Observatory is the place to get up close to wild birds and see them being banded during migration seasons.

norfolktourism.ca/shuttle-bus

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