



## Suggested Itineraries

# Great Lakes Seaway Trail The War of 1812 in the US and Canada



**War Declared June 18 1812**  
**War of 1812 Escorted Group Tour**  
**along Great Lakes Seaway Trail NY & PA**  
**plus Ontario & Quebec, Canada**

In commemoration of the Bicentennial of the War of 1812, this limited schedule escorted group itinerary is for those who want to walk where these battles occurred and learn more about our unfortified borders.



**Day 1**  
Start in Dunkirk, NY. It is said that the first exchange of British-American hostilities took place at Eighteen Mile Creek just south west of Dunkirk. See sites of Naval raid to capture the British ships Detroit and Caledonia, General Winfield Scott's training grounds of 1814, home of guerrilla fighter Dr. Cyrenius Chapin and areas of Buffalo and Black River that were burned by the British in December 1813. Learn about Tuscarora Reservation, Fort Schlosser, Niagara Falls and see where Lewiston was burned by British on Dec 19 1813, defended by the Tuscarora. View US departure point for Battle of Queenston, Ontario. Overnight in Lewiston.

**Day 2**  
In the Rochester area — the village of Charlotte was the site of a British raid for supplies, on to Pultneyville and Sodus Point where the British also demanded provisions. Head to Fort Ontario, Oswego (an important transportation hub) where there was a two-day battle May 5-6, 1814. Hear about the Battle of Big Sandy and the Carrying of the Cable June 4-5, 1814. Overnight in Oswego.

**Day 3**  
Head to historic Sackets Harbor the Headquarters of American Naval Operations on the Great Lakes, visit Fort Volunteer and Fort Pike 1812-15 and walk the Military Cemetery where General Zeblon Pike is said to be buried. Also visit the General Jacob Brown mansion in nearby Brownville. Overnight in Sackets Harbor.

**Day 4**  
Head to Cape Vincent where Carleton Island's Fort Haldimand was controlled by the British. Visit the site of action at French Creek in Clayton and the Battle of Cranberry Creek near Alexandria Bay. Off toward Morristown to hear about the action between the US schooner The Julia & the British ship The Earl of Moira then on to Ogdensburg and the Battle of Ogdensburg Feb 22, 1813. Overnight in Ogdensburg.

**Day 5**  
Head North to where the Americans repelled the British in the Champlain Valley and Plattsburgh. Cross into Quebec to learn about the St. Regis Kahnawake warriors who fought with the British and the Battles of Chateaugay, Lacolle Mills & Isle aux Noirs. Then on to the site of the Battle of Chrysler's Farm where American defeat prompted abandoning the St. Lawrence Campaign. Overnight in Morristown, ON.

**Day 6**  
Visit the British naval base at Kingston and tour Fort Henry. Then on to Toronto, the Capital of Upper Canada, which was attacked and burned by Americans in 1813, tour Fort York. Overnight in Toronto, ON.

**Day 7**  
Head South and hear about the "Burlington Races" and the Battle of Stoney Creek. The settlement of Thorold on the Niagara Escarpment was site of the Battle of Beaverdams and where Dr. Cyrenius Chapin was captured. Travel on to Chippawa Creek where General Winfield Scott defeated the British. The confederation of the Six Nations of the Grand River fought on the Niagara Frontier with British Forces. Overnight in Niagara Falls, ON.

**Day 8**  
Visit Lundy's Lane — the bloodiest engagement of the war and Queenston Heights, where British General Sir Isaac Brock was killed. Hear how the Grand River Mohawk played a role in the defeat of the Americans. On to the Village of Queenston and the story of Laura Secord then to Niagara on the Lake (Newark) which was burned by Gen. McClure Dec 15 1813. Nearby Fort George was captured by Americans in May 1813. Then on to Wasaga Beach where HMS Nancy attempts to take shelter but was destroyed. Travel on to Chatham, site of the decisive US victory at the Battle of the Thames, where Shawnee warrior Tecumseh was killed destroying the Native confederation. Overnight in Niagara Falls, ON.

**Day 9**  
Cross back to the US side and visit Youngstown site of Fort Niagara which was captured by the British on December 19, 1813. Home to large 1812 garrison flag. Overnight in Youngstown.

**Day 10**  
Finish in Erie, PA the site of Commodore Perry's naval base and where he scuttled several ships in Misery Bay at the end of the war. The Flagship Niagara was raised and reconstructed and is on view at the Erie Maritime Museum in Erie, PA.



The Great Lakes Seaway Trail is one of America's Byways and is recognized for its unique landscape, scenic freshwater coastline, and historical significance. This National Scenic Byway parallels 518 miles of shoreline along the St. Lawrence River, Lake Ontario, Niagara River, and Lake Erie in New York and Pennsylvania. [www.seawaytrail.com](http://www.seawaytrail.com)  
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