

9 gravel circuits in the Val

With its dirt trails, magnificent bodies of water, picturesque valleys, rural landscapes and stone dust roads, Val-Saint-François offers fantastic opportunities for gravel biking.

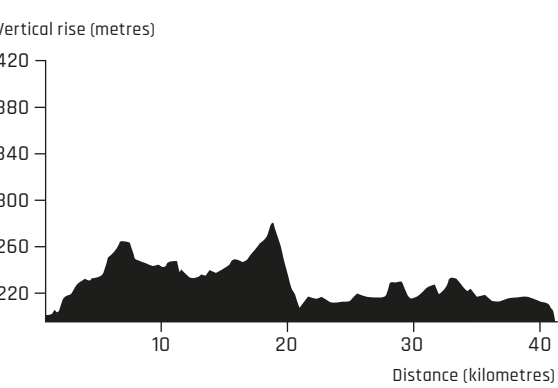
Make the most of an outing by bike to discover the region's many gourmet, cultural and tourist attractions. Stop by historic venues such as the Moulin à laine d'Ulverton woolen mill and La Poudrière Historic Park (Windsor), sample local beverages at the Vallons de Wadleigh winery or at one of our microbreweries!

- 425.67 km in total
- Crosses 18 municipalities
- 17 establishments designated "Fièremment Vélo!"
- 3 accommodations certified "Bienvenue cyclistes!"

1 Boucle de Cleveland

Departure point: **Richmond**
Alternative departure points: **Danville, Saint-Claude**
Level of difficulty: **Intermédiaire**

41.3 km 6.4% - 8.6%
 + 389 m 10% 90%

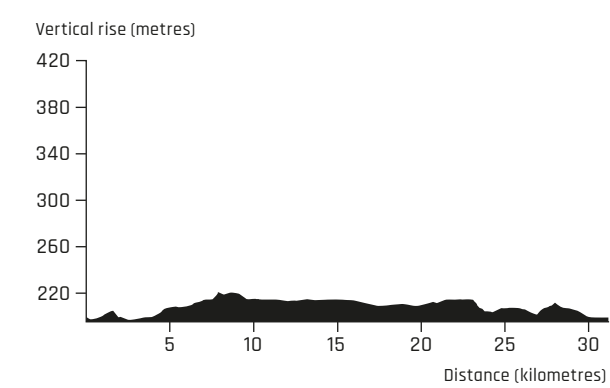


A favourite with the staff of Tourism Eastern Townships, this loop takes you through a maple grove along a rural road (closed in winter) where you can join the Sentier de la Vallée. This tranquil bike trail offers the ideal balance between enjoying the countryside and exercising your body!

2 La Petite laine

Departure point: **Ulverton**
Alternative departure point: **Moulin à laine d'Ulverton** (with the purchase of one or more entry tickets to the museum)
Level of difficulty: **Facile**

31.3 km 6.9% - 7.2%
 + 222 m 29% 71%



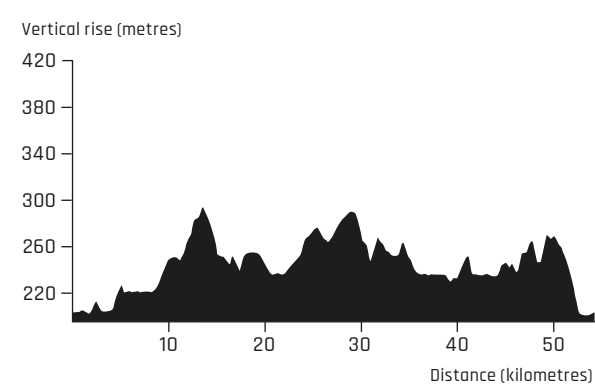
A memorable cycling trip along a scenic route. Admire the landscape, explore our industrial history and stop at the heritage Moulin à laine d'Ulverton woolen mill and absorb the ambience of the past. The road has a gentle gradient, suitable for cyclists of every level of ability.

Download these routes and discover some new ones!
Follow Val-Saint-François MRC on Ride with GPS

3 La Valcampagnarde

Departure point: **Melbourne**
Alternative departure points: **Kingsbury, Maricourt**
Level of difficulty: **Intermédiaire**

54.3 km 5.9% - 7.4%
 + 625 m 14% 86%

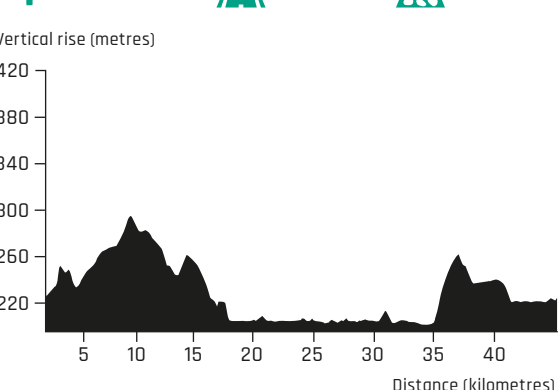


This loop through picturesque valleys and tranquil rural landscapes offers a stress-free escape from daily life. Plan to bring your own food and water as there is no refreshment stops along the way. On arrival in Richmond or Melbourne however, you can fill your stomach at a café, restaurant or microbrewery!

4 La pédal'eau

Departure point: **Kingsbury**
Alternative departure points: **Melbourne, Windsor, Saint-François-Xavier-de-Brompton**
Level of difficulty: **Intermédiaire**

44.7 km 7.7% - 6.4%
 + 410 m 49% 51%

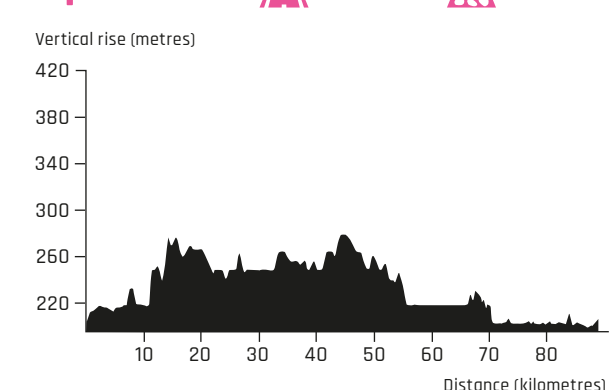


Pedal along this picturesque circuit, which winds along the scenic Rivière Saint-François. Wander around the Kingsbury Marsh and tranquil Petit Lac Saint-François. Don't forget to make a few gourmet stops along the way. Craft beers, artisanal coffees, pastries, charcuterie, smoked meats and many other local products await!

5 Entre monts et rivières

Departure point: **Richmond**
Alternative departure points: **Cleveland, Saint-Claude, Val-Joli, Sherbrooke, Windsor**
Level of difficulty: **Difficile**

89.2 km 10.4% - 6.8%
 + 603 m 25% 75%

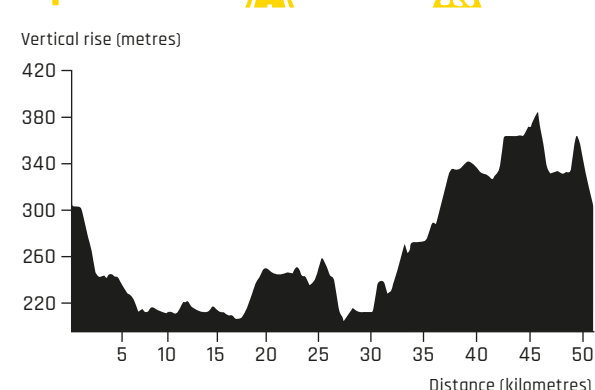


Fancy a long outing to make the most of a sunny day? This 89-km loop certainly fits the bill! You'll enjoy beautiful views of the surrounding mountains and rest areas alongside the water. You can also cover this loop over two days, by overnighing at one of our certified "Bienvenue cyclistes!" accommodations.

6 La Grande champêtre

Departure point: **Bonssecours**
Alternative departure points: **Lawrenceville, Canton de Valcourt, Valcourt, Maricourt et Racine**
Level of difficulty: **Intermédiaire**

51.2 km 5.2% - 5.1%
 + 367 m 24% 76%

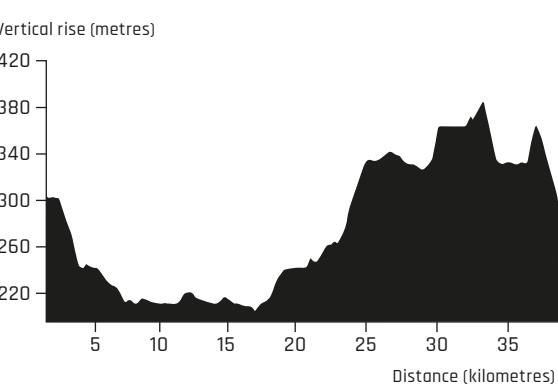


On this route, you'll discover part of the sentier de l'Ardoise stone dust trail and gravel roads that will lead you on a sensory trip into the heart of nature - a landscape of rolling fields, mystical forests and picturesque valleys. Don't miss the opportunity to make a gourmet stop in one (or more) of our villages to give your taste buds a treat...

7 La Petite champêtre

Departure point: **Bonssecours**
Alternative departure points: **Lawrenceville, Canton de Valcourt, Valcourt et Racine**
Level of difficulty: **Intermédiaire**

38.3 km 5.4% - 5.0%
 + 269 m 20% 80%

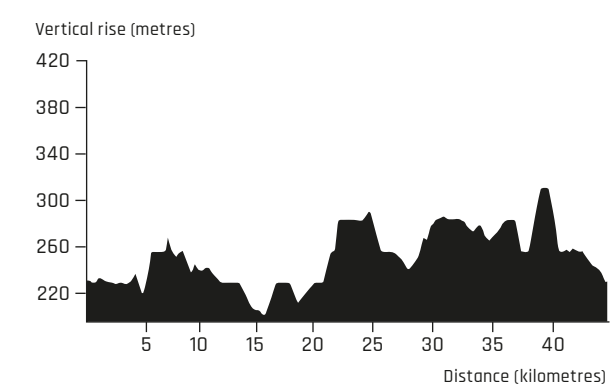


Ever had a hankering to ride the Grande Champêtre loop, but somehow haven't found the time, the physical energy or the motivation? Opt instead for this shorter version of the circuit. It will take you along the entire Sentier de l'Ardoise and some gravel roads. Along the way, you'll pass manicured fields, friendly cows, avenues flanked by lofty pines and picturesque valleys.

8 Boucle des érables

Departure point: **Lawrenceville**
Alternative departure point: **Saint-Anne-de-la-Rochelle**
Level of difficulty: **Facile**

44.8 km 6.4% - 7.6%
 + 343 m 3% 97%

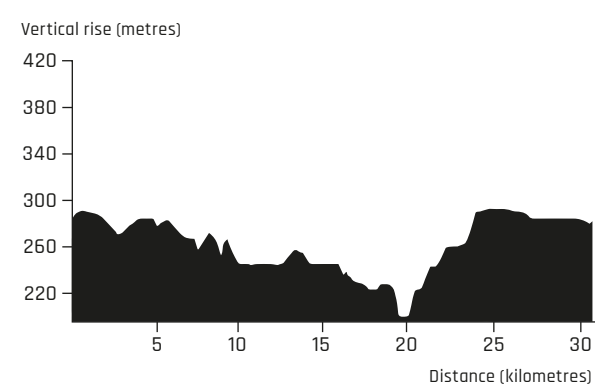


If you've always wanted to cover a route with only gravel roads, this one will do quite nicely. Just 1.4 km of this particular circuit is paved! The bike route offers breathtaking views of Mont Orford and takes you through fields and maple groves.

9 La Grav'test

Departure point: **Saint-Denis-de-Brompton**
Alternative departure point: **Sherbrooke**
Level of difficulty: **Facile**

30.8 km 7.4% - 9.3%
 + 223 m 79% 21%



Wandering if your bike is strong enough to endure miles of gravel roads? This is the ideal route for finding out. Only a few sections are unpaved so you can ease into "gravel biking" at a gradual pace. After your ride, award yourself with something tasty at one of the nearby restaurants or take a dip in Lac Brompton!

« Fièremment Vélo! » establishments

- Bureau de la MRC du Val-Saint-François Regional County Office
- Lurlu et Cie cafe and bike repair shop
- Bureau d'accueil du Pays de l'Ardoise Tourist Information Centre
- La Bouchère du village food store
- Café du Couvent
- Gîte - resto Harloge cassée B&B
- La Shop Traiteur caterer
- Action Sport Vélo bike shop
- Cour municipale de la MRC Municipal Court
- Café Fabulé
- Mécanique Vélo Félix Laroché bike repair service
- Framagerie Nouvelle France cheesemaker
- La Patinerie general store
- Yvonne L. Bombardier Cultural Centre
- Dépanneur Foisy convenience store
- Le Coin du DEP convenience store
- Marchand Chez Duff grocery store

Lodging

- Motel de la Gare
- Hôtel Grand Central
- Camping et Ferme Pégasus S.E.N.C. Riverside campsite
- Camping Melbourne (Bienvenue cyclistes!)
- Auberge Papillon lune
- Gîte - Resto Harloge cassée B&B
- Gîte du Petit Canton B&B
- Camping des Baies
- Pura Vida Lodge and sup (Bienvenue cyclistes!)
- Camping Havana Resort
- Au Blanc Maronnier B&B
- La Cabines wilderness mini-cabins
- Camping Plage McKenzie waterfront campsite
- Chalet Le Paisible (Bienvenue cyclistes!)

Worth a visit

- Musée de l'Ardoise slate industry museum
- L'Ardoise - Coopérative Brassicole microbrewery
- Moulin à laine d'Ulverton woolen mill
- Vallons de Wadleigh winery
- Café du Couvent a certified « café de village »
- Centre d'art de Richmond art centre
- Société Historique du Comté de Richmond / Richmond County Historical Society
- Marais de Kingsbury marsh
- Parc historique de La Poudrière de Windsor historic site
- La Shop Traiteur caterer
- La Confrérie Artisans Brasseurs microbrewery
- Café Fabulé a certified « café de village »
- Église St-François-Xavier church
- Brasserie du Lac Brompton brewery
- Framagerie Nouvelle-France cheesemaker
- Au coeur du Pain - bakery and pastry shop
- Maison de la culture de Racine cultural centre
- J.-A. Bombardier Ingenuity Museum
- Yvonne-L-Bombardier Cultural Centre



Escape to the Val!

Val-Saint-François lies within the picturesque Eastern Townships region, between Drummondville and Sherbrooke. This beautiful, peaceful corner of Quebec is the ideal place to get away from it all and recharge your batteries! Whether you're looking for a day trip, a weekend getaway or a longer stay, you'll discover a scenic region that offers a combination of culture, agritourism and the great outdoors.

Mountains, lakes and rural landscapes are the key attractions in Val-Saint-François. It also has a lively cultural scene and a rich architectural heritage and no matter what the season, there are wonderful things for cyclists to discover!

Look for the « Fièremment Vélo! » logo

A regional initiative to welcome visiting cyclists

A number of businesses and tourist attractions in the Val-Saint-François region have signed up to the "Fièremment Vélo!" program, designed to cater to cyclists.

Certified establishments displaying this logo offer visitors the following free services and facilities:

- Maps of designated bike routes
- General information about the trails and cycle routes
- Water bottle refills and access to toilets
- Bike parking
- Access to bike repair kits

« Bienvenue cyclistes! » certification

If you arrive by bike, there's no need to book a campsite in advance!

The "« Bienvenue cyclistes! » certification makes it easy to find tourist accommodations that are particularly welcoming to cyclists.

These establishments cater to cyclists by offering secure storage space for bicycles, information on a local bike routes and a number of other "bike-friendly" facilities. Campsites will even welcome cyclists who have not made a reservation ahead of time! Find out more about these certified establishments by visiting the "Lodging" section of the Route verte website.



Freshness, quality and variety - all under the one roof!

The public markets of Val-Saint-François reflect the character of the region.

They are authentic welcoming meeting places where food producers display their passion and expertise through the freshness, quality and variety of the local fare - cheeses, charcuterie, fruits, vegetables, homemade products - something for everyone!

- Marché Champêtre de Melbourne
- Marché Lacavore de Racine
- Marché Public de Stoke



A mechanical problem with your bike?

Three companies offer bike repairs:

- Lurlu & Cie
239, rue Principale Nord, Richmond, (QC) J0B 2H0
- Mécanique Vélo Félix Laroché
1863, QC-222, Saint-Denis-de-Brompton, (QC) J0B 2P0
- Action Sport Vélo
83, rue Saint-Georges, Windsor, (QC) J1S 1J7



The Val - a hub for agritourism!

In Val-Saint-François, agritourism comes in a variety of forms

The region boasts more than 100 diverse, food-related establishments - farms, butcher shops, markets, maple groves, cheesemakers... The list goes on! Discover the region's produce and agritourism offerings by visiting the OÙ MANGER section at tourisme.val-saint-francois.com/ou-manger



Gravel bike routes

Discover more of our region's attractions! All the information you need about biking in the Val!



Explore our network of bike trails!

RÉSEAU CYCLABLE La Cantonnrière

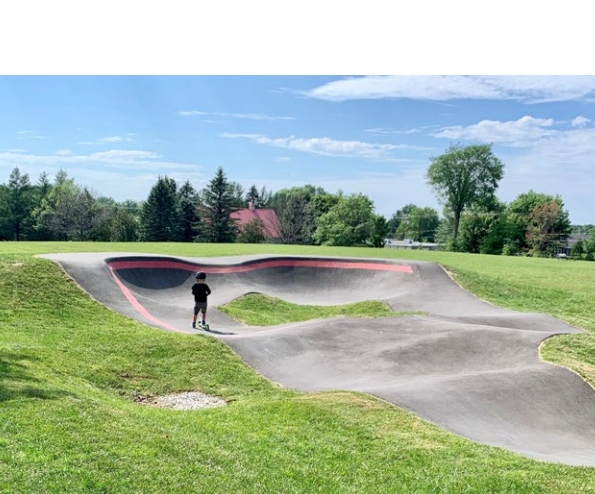
- SENTIER DE LA VALLÉE: 7 KM
- SENTIER DE LA RIVE
- SENTIER DE L'ARDOISE

- Shelter
- Drinking water
- Service area
- Distance marker (km)
- Gas
- Crest of the hill
- Work of art
- Picnic area
- Lookout point
- Restaurant
- Route verte No1
- Parking
- Telephone
- Toilet
- Children's playground

pumptrack

Young and old, come and hone your skills on our 3 pumptracks - on a bike, in-line skates or a skateboard!

- Valcourt
900, rue Champêtre, Valcourt, (QC) J0E 2L0
- Stoke: Parc 3R
223, 8^e rang E, Stoke, (QC)
- Racine: Camping de la Plage McKenzie
842, route 222, Racine, (QC) J0E 1Y0



Winter cycling in the Val

Ride your fatbike on snow!

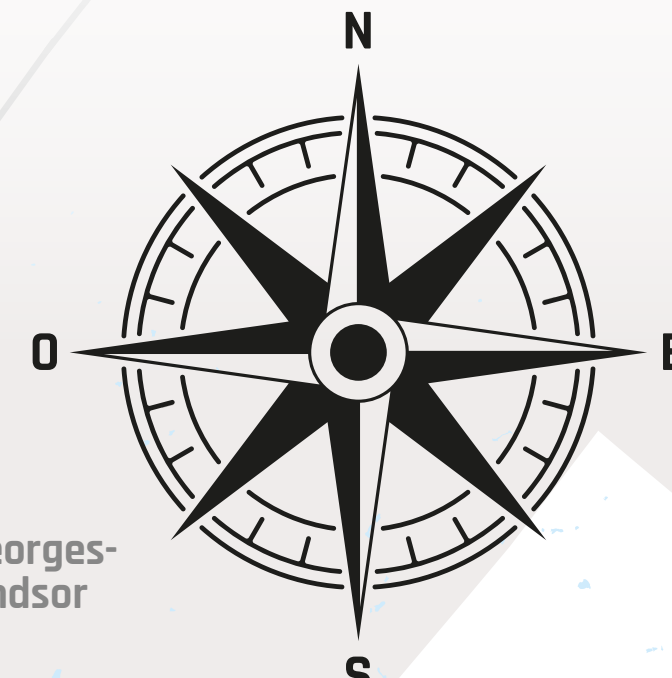
Over 25 km of groomed trails designed for beginners and intermediate riders.

There are two places in Val-Saint-François where you can rent equipment and practice this fun sport all winter long!

- Fatbike at Lac Brompton at Saint-Denis-de-Brompton
500, Côte de l'Artiste, Saint-Denis-de-Brompton, (QC) J0B 2P0
- Ciboulot, Ville de Valcourt
900, rue Champêtre, Valcourt, (QC) J0E 2L0



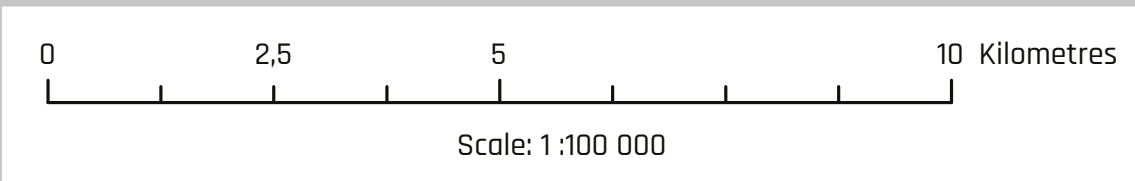
- ### Circuits
- Boucle de Cleveland
 - La Petite laine
 - La Valcampagnarde
 - La Pédal'eau
 - Entre monts et rivières
 - La Grande champêtre
 - La Petite champêtre
 - Boucle des érables
 - La Grav'test
- ### Legend
- Paved road (asphalt)
 - Unpaved road (gravel)
 - La Route Verte #1
 - Sentier de la Rive (bike trail)
 - Sentier de la Vallée (bike trail)
 - Sentier de l'Ardoise (bike trail)
 - Worth a visit
 - Accommodation
 - "Fièrement Vélo" establishment
 - "Bienvenue cyclistes" establishment
 - Busy road and/or narrow shoulder
 - Toilet
 - Viewpoint
 - Hiking
 - Grocery/convenience store
 - Parking
 - Rest stop
 - Park
 - Public market



Please note!

The routes on this map include sections of paved and/or gravel roads. The paved roads may have areas of heavy traffic or narrow/no shoulders.

This information was updated in February 2024, but certain details may have changed since then.



This map, part of the Signature Innovation project, was produced with the financial support of the Ministère des Affaires municipales et de l'Habitation.

Québec

An outing in the Val
(in certain areas)
allows you to truly disconnect
from the cellular network!

This map is principally intended to help you discover new routes where you can cycle on gravel. The gravel roads are not signposted, so do not use the map as your sole means of navigation.

We recommend that you download the routes to your cellphone or GPS.

Follow us on these apps