

## RIDEAU TRAIL CONTINUOUS END-TO-END BACKPACKING ANALYSIS

Item #	RT Waypoint	Location	Accommodations Description	Incremental Dist. from previous camping loc. (km)	Cum. Dist. from 01A (km) incl. detours to off-tr. campsites	Comments on Location
1	01A	Trailhead opposite Kingston City Hall	Hotels only	N/A	0.0	Only expensive hotels adjacent to 01A. No camping near 01A. Use train/bus/cab to reach 01A from out of town.
2	01B +	St. Lawrence Univ.	"Backpacker College" located 600m north of 01B on Country Club Drive, avail. only part of year. Book via hotel websites. In demand.	N/A	7.8	Cheaper option than staying near 01A. Take bus from King St. back to 01A to start hike.
3	02B +	KOA Campground	Major public campsite 800m from RT on Cordukes Rd.	1 <sup>st</sup> campsite on RT = 21.2 from 01A	21.2	Only open May 1 to Oct. 15
4	03D	Sydenham	No accom. of any sort in, or close to, the village. Stores, café in village	N/A	43.7	There are no hotels in Sydenham. Check online for B&Bs.
5	04C	Gould Lake beach	No camping allowed anywhere around Gould Lake	N/A	54.8	
6	04E	Frontenac Outfitters	No official campsite, but they have a small primitive site behind the shop for use by kayakers on courses run by them.	N/A	61.7	It might be possible to negotiate agreement to camp 1-night only when site not being used for kayak courses?
7	04G	Doe Lake Campsite, Frontenac Park	Back-country campsite beside Doe Lake, adjacent to the RT	47.3 from KOA	68.5	In high demand, often not available. Open year round.
8	05A -	Campsite shown on RT maps 04 & 05, just west of 05A	Primitive campsite. Map suggests it is very roughly 500 m west of 05A	N/A	71.9	Not sure if this is still an option
9	05C-05D	Campsite shown on RT map 05, between 05C and 05D.	You can see a field beside the main highway, down Scofield Camp Lane, with an old sign for "Scofield Camp". No longer a campsite.	N/A	77.5	Do not believe this is available for camping any more.

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10	06A +	Skycroft Campsite, 1.0 km on side trails off RT	Beautiful, large campsite above Opinicon Lake.	28.2 from Doe Lake	96.7	The campsite lies to the south of Opinicon Road opposite the blue side trail from waypoint 06A. Only open May 15 to Oct. 15 and there's a 2-night min. stay requirement per their website.
11	06B +	Chaffeys Lock, Rideau Canal	This is a deviation of 2.7 km (total 5.4 km round trip) from the main trail, on a blue side trail, to a scenic location on the Rideau Canal.	2.7 km on blue side trail from 06B	Not incl. in o/a distance calc.	Camping is allowed at the lock. Only available during boating season May-Oct. Nearby Opinicon Lodge offers ice creams and meals (no accom.)
12	06C +	Mosquito Lake (guess: 200m off RT)	CRCA wilderness campsite beside Mosquito Lake, off the RT west of 06C	11.3 from Skycroft	108.0	No info on exact location, or distance from RT, but useful for E2E's. Not visible from RT.
13	07E	Foley Mountain group campsite	Convenient campsite close to RT within Foley Mtn. Conservation Area.	22.9 from Mosquito Lake	130.9	Very convenient location. May not always be available. Only open during camping season.
14	08C +	Narrows Lock, Rideau Canal	Camping is allowed at this lock station, located 600m off the RT between 08C and 08D	11.3 from Foley Mtn.	142.2	Only available during boating season May-Oct.
15	09A +	Murphys Point Prov. Park campsite	Full service, large campsite in the Provincial Park beside Big Rideau Lake, 1.4 km off the RT.	17.8 from Narrows Lock	160.0	Full service campsite with shop, rentals, beach, trails, mica mine tours. Seasonal camping only.
16	10D-10E	Town of Perth	No campsites in the town	N/A	186.3 to 10D (Conlon Farm)	There are many hotel, motel and B&B options, but no camping
17	11C +	Beveridges Locks, Rideau Canal: 3 km from RT.	Located at 11BA, a 3.0 km walk down Port Elmsley Rd. from nearest point on the RT just west of 11C	45.7 from Murphy's Point	205.7	Wonderful place to camp. Fancier Otentik tents available at upper lock. Only available during boating season May-Oct.
18	12B -	Smiths Falls Detached Lock, Rideau Canal	Parks Canada confirms camping allowed at Detached Lock (700m S of 12B) and Old Slys Lock (1.7 km N of 12B), but not at Combined Lock (12B). Victoria Park no longer a campsite.	13.7 from Beveridges Lock to 12B	219.4 to 12B Combined Lock	Parks Canada recommends Detached Lock for camping (versus Old Slys Lock). Detached Lock lies 700m up-river from 12B (Combined Lock). Only available during boating season May-Oct.

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19	13E	Merrickville	Lions Club Campsite, very close to the RT at the Merrickville Locks on the Rideau Canal. Also camping is allowed at the Canal Locks.	26.7 from Smiths Falls (12B)	246.1	Parks Canada confirms that camping is allowed at the locks. Only available during boating season May-Oct. Very convenient to all facilities in town.
20	13G	Nicholson's Locks, Rideau Canal	Camping is allowed at these 2 lock stations on the Rideau Canal, the lower lock being more remote. Both locks are directly on the RT.	5.0 from Merrickville	251.1	Only available during boating season May-Oct.
21	14A +	Burritts Rapids lock, Rideau Canal	Camping is allowed at this lock station. It lies 800 m off the RT, accessed along the Tip-to-Tip Trail in Burritts Rapids just north of 14A	12.4 from Nicholson's Lock	256.3	Closest camping spot to south end of Marlborough Forest. Only available during boating season May-Oct.
22	14C-15E	Marlborough Forest	No camping anywhere in the forest. RTA cabin long since gone and RTA land sold.  Distances in column 6 show three key distances: from 01A to 14C (south end of the forest), 15B (middle of the forest) and 15E (north end of forest).	N/A	259.9 to 14C (Paden Rd.) 272.3 to 15B (R Stevens Dr.) 281.3 to 15E (Kettles Rd)	No campsites available between 14A and 18G, a distance of more than 60 km on the RT. Need to find a solution: special permission for camping in Marlborough Forest, say at Earthstar Shelter (15A-B), or find other locations on this section of trail, north of the forest, for camping. Consider Richmond
23	18G +	Wesley Clover Parks campsite	Campsite is 900 m west from RT along Corkstown Rd.	62.5 from Burritts Rapids lock	318.8	Seasonal camping only. This is the final location for camping before reaching end of trail at 19H Ottawa Locks.
24	19H	End of trail – Ottawa Locks	No camping here	21.2 from Wesley Clover	340.0	No camping in central Ottawa

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### General Notes:

1. RTA listed campsite locations shown in **RED**.
2. “North” means “towards Ottawa”. In practice this is often not true north.
3. In column 2, a “+” sign after the waypoint ref. indicates that the campsite is not directly on the RT, but lies off the trail, accessed from a point north of the given waypoint. Similarly, a “-” sign means the campsite is accessed from a point south of the given waypoint.
4. Use the links provided on the RTA website at: <https://www.rideautrail.org/discover-the-trail/overnight-accommodations/> for details of the camping locations
5. Most campsites are seasonal only, except for Doe Lake in Frontenac Park (year round)
6. Always book ahead for all campsites unless they are primitive ones not managed.
7. There are 13 campsites along the route of the RT. 5 are on the RT and 8 are off it.
8. Of the 8 campsites off the RT, 6 are less than 1 km off the RT, one is 1.4 km away and one is 3.0 km away.
9. Distance between campsites varies from 5.0 km to 62.5 km. See table below:

Dist. btwn camp-sites (km)	Frequency
0-10	1
11-20	5
21-30	3
31-40	0
41-50	2
>50	1 (=62.5 km)

10. Coincidentally, the distance to the first campsite from either end of the RT is 21.2 km
11. Distances between campsites in excess of 30 km will be too much for typical hikers. In fact, ideal distances between campsites should be in the range of 20 km. Based on a 30 km max. distance, there are 3 stretches of trail that desperately need an extra camping option:
  - 02B+ (Kingston KOA) to 04G (Doe Lake): 47.3 km
  - 09A+ (Murphys Point) to 11C+ (Beveridges Locks): 45.7 km
  - 14A+ (Burritts Rapids) to 18G+ (Wesley Clover): 62.5 km
12. There are some potential opportunities by more closely linking in Richmond to the main trail route. Currently Richmond is only connected by blue side trails. Some camping and B&B options may apparently exist in or around Richmond – details should be explored. This would be one way to reduce the longest section of trail without campsites. This is worth a separate discussion.
13. Making use of the listed off-trail campsites will add only about 15 km to the total length of an E2E hike.