



Enjoy commanding views of the Leelanau Peninsula on a ridge north of Revold Road.



Photo by Martha York

On the trail near DeYoung Natural Area.

Leelanau Trail

In June of 2014, the final two miles of undeveloped trail through the village of Suttons Bay north to Dumas Road was completed, passing through Marina Park and North Park. The entire 17-mile Leelanau Trail is now completed, although trail developers hope to someday extend the trail along the original rail line north to Northport. You will enjoy every inch of the trail as you travel along this peninsula famous for its vineyards, cherry orchards and amazing scenery.

Built on the former Leelanau Scenic Railroad, the trail provides an exceptional recreational and environmental experience. The route takes you through rolling hills, lush forests, sprawling orchards, peaceful meadows and along streams, lakes and ponds.

The southern half of the trail passes through a valley of woodlands and picturesque farms. As you approach the northern half of the trail near the village of Bingham, the trail gains elevation as it follows a ridge through cherry orchards with the occasional glimpse of Lake Leelanau or West Traverse Bay off in the distance. For a special treat, ride the trail during the month of May when the cherry blossoms are in full bloom. Another highlight along the trail is the Leelanau Conservancy's DeYoung Natural Area on Cedar Lake. And then there's Suttons Bay, an ideal place to relax at Marina Park, stroll through shops, or enjoy one of the many restaurants in the village, before heading back to Traverse City.

The Cherry Bend Road staging area is a good place to begin your journey, although parking space is somewhat limited. We usually begin our ride at Clinch Park in Traverse City. Marina Park in Suttons Bay is a great place to start from the north.

The entire Leelanau Trail is groomed and open to snowshoeing and cross-country skiing during the winter season.



Experience the trail during the month of May to see (and smell) the cherry orchards in full bloom.

