

Lake Simcoe and Lake Couchiching are the largest lakes on the Trent Severn waterway. Both are long-time cottage destinations in the heart of south central Ontario. In the era when the only way to get here was by train, sportsmen would come to the wilderness to fish for the area's active muskellunge, whitefish, bass and more. They'd shoulder their rifles and stalk moose, bear and deer. Today, the moose and bear have trundled farther north but these two lakes still have faint echoes of the north woods with the call of evening loons or the early morning white throated sparrows.

Lunker bass, whitefish and muskie still lurk in the weed beds. Perch and other panfish are so plentiful that it only takes an hour or two to catch a stringer full. The area is also exciting on land with several shore side communities that are great places to visit with excellent dining, entertainment, and shopping – many within walking distance of the local transient boat slips.

Entering the locks at Gamebridge leads to Lake

Trent-Severn Lake Simcoe to Georgian Bay

Simcoe and all the summertime action it has to offer. The largest body of water in Southern Ontario (with the exception of the Great Lakes) Lake Simcoe is nearly round with two large bays, Kempenfelt and Cook's, and while it may only take an hour or so to cruise from one end to the other, it's recommended to spend some time and enjoy its several summertime communities. Boaters heading upstream will first come to Lagoon City, a boater's haven featuring beautiful homes that line its canals. Most have slips as part of their backyard where they moor their boats and there's a nearby full-service public marina.

While the Atherley Narrows between Simcoe and Couchiching are located nearby to explore, perhaps remain on Lake Simcoe and head southwest toward Beaverton, and enjoy its many antique stores and shops in its nearby downtown district. If you're looking for additional antiques or collectibles, Beaverton is known to host the Annual Antiques and Collectables Show and Sale in June. There's also the local Beaver River Museum and The Old Stone Jail to visit here or stock up on some fresh produce at the seasonal Farmer's Market.

Cruising further south leads to a series of communities along Lake Simcoe's southern shoreline – Pefferlaw, Sutton and Jackson's Point, where there are many services and amenities.

Leaving from Jackson Point, boaters will round into Cook's Bay where another series of communities are located along the shore. A popular one is Keswick, which is home to three accommodating marinas (two of which offer transient docking) as well as an action-packed shoreline that includes public and private beaches plus the popular Stephen Leacock Theatre. For more adventure, perhaps explore the Holland River, which is located a little further south of Keswick. This easily navigable cruising route leads to Bradford where there's a farmer's market to stock up on more fresh produce. If you happen to notice a large anchor by the shore of the East Branch, it's been there since the War of 1812. A team of oxen dragged it from Kingston, however the war ended before it could be delivered to the British.

On the west side of Cook's Bay are more communities including Gilford,

Lefroy and Bell Ewart where transient cruisers are most welcome with its series of accommodating marinas and several services.

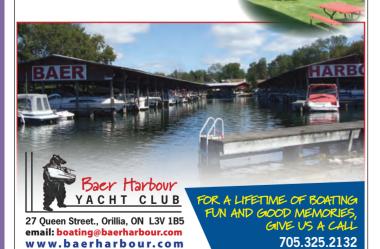
Further north, you round Big Bay Point and head west down into Kempenfelt Bay and into the city of Barrie. The largest community on the lake, Barrie is a bustling port with transient docks and downtown boutiques (with more shopping just a short taxi ride away), a big annual attraction here is Kempenfest – a celebration every August that brings boaters from around the lake and beyond.

From Barrie, cruising north onto Lake Simcoe again leads back to the Atherly Narrows. While this is a busy summertime spot with many docks and marinas, it's hard not to miss the diehard anglers wetting their lines in the reeds in hopes of catching that trophy catch.



COVERED SLIPS IN ORILLIA AT THE ATHERLEY NARROWS BETWEEN LAKE SIMCOE & COUCHICHING

- A Family owned and operated marina on 7 acres of land, in a quiet, park like setting.
- "Family friendly rates" include year round covered slips, Fall lift out and Spring launch.
- Handy access to fuel & pump.
- Clean individualized washroom.
- Year Round Protection from the elements.



At

Once past the narrows, boaters will be cruising onto Lake Couchiching. The city of Orillia is the largest community on this lake. Check out the recently installed new docks and the brand new facilities building with washrooms and a large commu-



nity room. Full services marinas, shopping and shore side amenities are all near by. Come summer, the area bustles with excitement with its many events such as the Spring Boat, Cottage and Outdoor Show in June and the Orillia Waterfront Festival in August. But, if you'd rather stay out on the water, the sandy anchorage on Big Chief Island is a popular gathering spot. This is native land and burial grounds and thus going ashore is discouraged. Long weekends there usually mean party time!

The trip from here to Georgian Bay west down the remainder of the Trent Severn takes only a few hours, and the channels and rivers that cut their way through the precambrian granite offer peace and quiet along with spectacular scenery. The lock at Washago lies at the north end of Lake Couchiching, under the bridge at Hwy 11 – not a place you'll want to spend the night on the wall. The three remaining locks in the system are some of the most exciting for boaters: Swift Rapids is the deepest lock on the Trent system; the famous and amazing Marine Railway at Big Chute is a technological marvel to this day. If you ask, the kids may be able to assist the lockmasters with opening or closing the hand-operated Lock 45 at Port Severn. Get out your charts and remember that the bouys change direction as you enter Georgian Bay because from here you're heading upstream towards Thunder Bay.

This area of Central Ontario abounds with events, festivals, concerts, performances and much more. Check out these websites and plan your visit to coincide with one or more.

KEMPENFEST www.kempenfest.com

ORILLIA PERCH FESTIVAL -Late April / Early May www.orillia.com/perchfestival

BARRIE - www.barrie.ca

BEAVERTON - www.beavertononlakesimcoe.com

KESWICK www.town.georgina.on.ca

LAGOON CITY www.ontarioslakecountry.com/loc/ lagoon-city-ontario/

ORILLIA - <u>www.orillia.com</u> PORT SEVERN - <u>www.segbay.ca</u>

ONTARIO'S LAKE COUNTRY -_ www.ontarioslakecountry.com





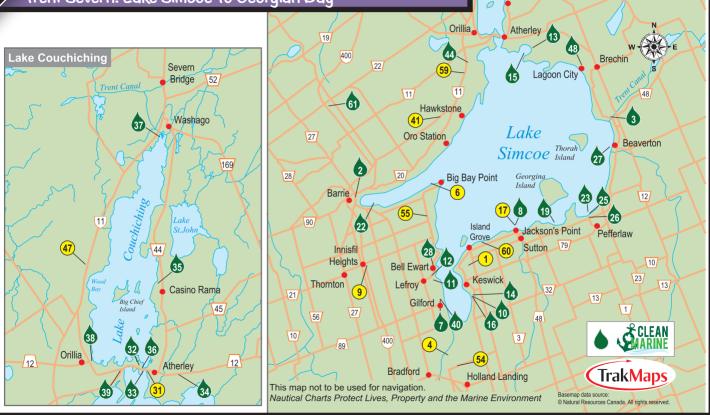
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- FREE Wireless Internet
- Call Ch. 68 for Slip Assignment or Port Office at (705) 326-6314

Boat, Cottage & Outdoor Show: June 08-10 Orillia Waterfront Festival: Aug<u>ust 10-12</u>

Trent Severn: Lake Simcoe To Georgian Bay





Keeping our waterways clean starts with all of us! Take the Clean Boater Pledge now! Visit boatingontario.ca

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Slips Available

- 🖈 Two clubhouses
- 🖈 Two heated pools
- 🖈 Fuel dock with gas & diesel
- 🖈 30 & 50 amp hookups
- 🖈 Boat rentals available
- 🖈 Playground
- 🛊 Pet Friendly
- 🖈 WiFi
- 🖈 10 minutes north off Hwy. 404





Abbreviations														Trer	1 †-S e	evern
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Clean Marine -Protecting Ontario's Waterways

The Ontario-developed Clean Marine Eco-Rating Program is an environmental program that allows marine businesses to follow best practices to reduce and prevent water, air and land pollution from recreational boating activities in Ontario.

Since the program's inception in 1995, over 300 businesses have participated, easily making the program the most successful and widely adopted World's leading environmental "Best Management Practices" program for marinas, boat dealers, yacht clubs and marine businesses.

Marinas voluntarily join the program to participate in an independent third party, 220-point assessment. Scores from the assessment are converted into an Eco-Rating system from one to five Green Anchors, with Gold, Diamond and Platinum as the highest achievements. Re-assessments are mandatory every four years with self-assessments conducted annually.

Please seek out these environmental leaders and support them with your business.



Boating Ontario Marina Environmental Code of Ethics

Return all bottles, cans, paper, plastics and other waste to shore for proper disposal or recycling. When possible, clean up after those who are less thoughtful.

- Use Environmentally Compatible Materials.
- Seek out products bearing the Environmental Choice EcoLogo. The Boating Ontario encourages the use of non-contaminating products in boat operation and maintenance.
- Maintain our Clean Water Heritage.
- \checkmark Assist your marina to achieve its goal of preventing the release of waste into sensitive waters.
- Respect Operating Regulations.
- \checkmark Adhering to speed restrictions helps avoid wake damage to shorelines and property. Unnecessary noise can be offensive.
- ↓ Clean Marine Practices. The Boating Ontario proudly introduced the Clean Marine Practices Handbook which encourages marina operators to become the best managers of the environment.

Eco-Rated marinas and yacht clubs are identified by a green star on regional chart pages and are highlighted in green in the marina listings in this directory. Because of print deadlines, only marinas certified by November 1, 2010 receive this recognition. Throughout the 2010 season, all members will be added to the Boating Ontario website as they become certified. For an up to date listing of Boating Ontario Clean Marine – Eco-Rated Marinas and Clean Boater Tips visit www.boatingontario.ca

Please support these industry leaders.

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