

# 2016 Bon Ton Roulet Handbook



Dear Cycling Enthusiast,

Welcome to the 20<sup>th</sup> annual Bon Ton Roulet, the Finger Lakes Region's premier bicycle touring event. Our committee has worked hard to ensure an enjoyable and scenic route that will take you through many charming towns and by many of the beautiful Finger Lakes of New York State.

The Bon Ton Roulet is a completely volunteer led event. Proceeds over and above the direct costs of the tour are shared between the Auburn YMCA-WEIU and the Cortland YMCA to further extend the work and mission of both organizations. While enjoying a wonderful and healthy vacation you will also be helping our local Y's provide programs to the area's youth.

This Rider Handbook has been carefully prepared to provide you with essential information about the tour. Familiarizing yourself with this information will answer most of your questions and make your ride more pleasant. For additional information visit, [www.bontonroulet.com](http://www.bontonroulet.com) or call 315-253-5304.

We are grateful you have chosen to join us on this adventure and pledge we will do all we can to make your experience enjoyable and worthwhile. Welcome again to the 2016 Bon Ton Roulet.

Dave Hamilton, Executive Director  
Cortland YMCA

Chris Nucерino, CEO,  
Auburn YMCA-WEIU

## A Typical Day on the Bon Ton Roulet Ride

- Wake-up leisurely and take your gear to the Gear Truck
- Enjoy a hearty breakfast served near the campsite
- Start riding anytime after sunrise, Long or Regular course
- A regional map, cue sheets, and roadside route marking direct you to the next overnight Host Community, but first... Enjoy the charm of small towns in New York State!
- Morning Rest Stop is roughly 15-25 miles from the start
- Afternoon Rest Stop is roughly 10-20 miles from the finish
- Arrive at the next overnight Host Community
- Find your gear laid out near the camping area
- Set up your tent and relax!
- Chow down at dinner!
- Bike Mechanic & Massage Therapists available each day
- Relax with local entertainment, yoga or speakers, provided most nights.

20<sup>th</sup> Annual



Bon Ton Roulet

### Mass Start:

Sunday, July 24 at 8:00am.  
Here you'll get to meet some of the tour officials you'll see during the week. Our Rider Director will provide up to date road and weather information.  
The whole gathering lasts about 10-15 minutes.

### DAY BY DAY

**Registration Day: 7/23** Arrive in Cortland (camping available at fairgrounds)

**Day 1: 7/24** Sunday – Mass start at 8am – wake up in Cortland sleep in Auburn (Emerson Park)

**Day 2: 7/25** Monday wake up in Auburn sleep in Geneva (HWS Colleges)

**Day 3: 7/26** Tuesday – Layover Day & Century Ride – wake up in Geneva sleep in Geneva

**Day 4: 7/27** Wednesday wake up in Geneva sleep in Geneva

**Day 5: 7/28** Thursday wake up in Geneva sleep in Aurora – Wells College

**Day 6: 7/29** Friday wake up Aurora sleep in Aurora

**Day 7: 7/30** Saturday wake up in Aurora and go to Cortland – Finish line closes at 3pm

## Tour Hours of Operation

Tour Registration & Packet Pick-Up      Saturday, July 23, 2-7pm

Sunday, July 24, 6-8:00am Jersey Exchange 6-8:00am

Camping is available at the start on Sat. July 23, but **not on Sat., July 30**. Dinner is not provided Sat. July 23.

Welcome Reception      Saturday, July 23, 6:30pm-8:00pm in the Ice Rink

Mass Start      Sunday, July 24, 8am only!

SAG Support      7:00 am-5:00 pm..... ( July 30...7 am-3 pm)

Gear Truck      **Load** until 8:00 am      **Unload** 1:00 pm

Information Tent      6:00-8:00 am      1:00-6:00 pm

Breakfast      5:30-8:30 am

Cash Snack Bar      Afternoon

Dinner      4:30-7:30pm

Rest Stop      8:00-11:00 am      11:00 am-3:00 pm

Lodging Delivery Reg.      1:00-6:00 pm

Lodging Delivery Transport      2:00-6:00 pm

Dorm Delivery Transport      2:00-7:00 pm

Shower Truck

<b>Shower Truck Schedule</b>				
		<b>5-7:30am</b>	<b>2-9pm</b>	
<b>Sat., 7-23</b>	Cortland			
<b>Sun., 7-24</b>	Cortland-Auburn		X-Auburn	
<b>Mon., 7-25</b>	Auburn -Geneva	X-Auburn	X- Geneva	
<b>Tue., 7-26</b>	Geneva-Geneva	X- Geneva	X- Geneva	
<b>Wed., 7-27</b>	Geneva-Geneva	X-Geneva	X-Geneva	
<b>Thur., 7-28</b>	Geneva-Aurora	X- Geneva	X-Aurora	
<b>Fri., 7-29</b>	Aurora-Aurora	X-Aurora		
<b>Sat., 7-30</b>	Aurora/Cortland-Finish	Shower truck closes at 3pm in Cortland.		

Evening Rider Meeting      7:00 pm

Evening Program      7:00-8:30 pm

Quiet Hour Starts      10:00 pm

**Start Point:** Cortland County Fairgrounds, Carroll Street Ext., Cortland, NY 13045

**Syracuse, NY Airport:** Hancock Intern. Airport, 1000 Colonel Eileen Collins Blvd., Syracuse, NY 13212

**Syracuse Train/Bus:** Syracuse Regional Transportation Ctr 131 Alliance Bank Pkwy, Syracuse, NY 13208

**Shuttles to and from airport, train & bus station available.**

## Miscellaneous

**Free Long Term Parking:** Free parking is available from July 23, 2:00pm – July 30. Check at Registration for the designated lot. The Bon Ton Roulet will not be held liable in the unlikely event of fire, theft, or damage to vehicles and/or contents. Sorry, we do not offer return shuttles to this lot during the tour, except for emergencies.

**Pet Policy:** For the safety of fellow bike riders & volunteers the Bon Ton Roulet does not allow pets on the tour.

**Medication:** The Bon Ton Roulet and its tour staff are not permitted to store, transport, or otherwise handle any personal medication at any time.

**Drug Free Zone:** New York State prohibits the use of alcohol or tobacco on "Drug Free" school grounds when we stay at these facilities. We ask for your cooperation and compliance.

**Rechargeable Electronic Devices:** Overnight facilities typically have several standard outlets located throughout the building, which riders can use. The Bon Ton will provide a recharging station, please bring your own connectors, converters, or adaptors. There will also be a CPAP power plug in station.

**Laundry Facilities:** Some overnight communities have coin-operated Laundromats that are usually located within walking distance. A local map will be posted on the Message Board each day.

**Pre & Post Tour Camping:** Camping is available at the start on Sat. July 23, but **not on Sat., July 30.**

**Long and Regular Route:** The Bon Ton Roulet is a different kind of bicycle tour, designed for relaxation, and just plain FUN! Both routes take cyclists through quaint villages and past picturesque scenic beauty, and both offer Bon Ton Rest Stops along the way. Since there's no need to sign up for the regular or long option, riders choose which option they prefer. The **Long Route** appeals to those riders who want the challenge of a 65-75 mile ride per day at a pace that's typically quicker. The **Regular Route**, typically 45-50 miles per day, tends to attract newer riders and those who plan on spending the day leisurely browsing the markets and attractions along the way. Many riders switch back and forth between the Long and Regular routes during the week, making the Bon Ton the perfect tour!

**Luggage & Tracking Tags:** Each rider can have one large bag (or two small) plus camping gear. Riders must place a separate colored tracking tag on each bag. Each tag must display your rider number. Tags can be found in your registration packet and at the Info Tent. Please make sure you can carry and transport your luggage comfortably.

**Information Tent:** The Information Tent is the focal point of every overnight camp. Here riders will find daily cue sheets, a variety of Bon Ton Roulet merchandise, local maps, and our helpful Information Staff. Most communities will also have a local representative present to answer your questions about area attractions or interests.

**Big GREEN Message Board:** A large message board, located next to the Information Tent, posts upcoming events, maps, special activity announcements, updated weather forecasts, and emergency messages. It also offers a place for riders to post messages to fellow riders. Riders should check this board each day for the latest tour information.

**Evening Rider Meeting:** 7:00pm each evening Bon Ton Roulet officials will provide updates about the next day's ride. These brief, but very informative meetings are voluntary and held where the entertainment is provided.

**Merchandise:** The Bon Ton has a number of souvenirs, T-shirts, hats, and jerseys for you to purchase! Merchandise is located at the Information Tent during Info Tent hours. Visa, Master Card, Discover, American Express, and cash are accepted. Sorry, no exchanges.

**Gear Trucks:** Our Gear Truck Staff will load your gear onto the truck when you bring it to them each morning. A tracking tag is required for each bag. The gear is then driven to the next site and laid out for riders to retrieve.

**SAG:** Several SAG vehicles drive the daily route. Each SAG vehicle can be identified by magnetic door signs and/or small vehicle flags. If a SAG vehicle isn't readily available contact the SAG Coordinator. Please note your cumulative mileage for the day and nearby crossroads to help locate you. SAG vehicles will have with them bike pumps, water and first aid supplies.

**Aggie Steele, SAG Coordinator, 607.423.3061**  
**Karen Jetty, Ride Director, 484.629.9470**

**Emergencies/Issues:** Call 911 for emergencies, and then call the Ride Director. For road condition issues, or general concerns about the route and SAG support or support issues, please contact the Ride Director.

**Karen Jetty, Ride Director, 484.629.9470**

**Meals/Rest Stops:** Breakfast & dinner are provided as part of the registration fee. Meals, including meatless entrees, are offered throughout the week. Wherever possible, routes are mapped to take riders near lunch options, which are posted on the daily attractions sheet. We encourage riders to carefully consider their morning pace in order to arrive near lunch options around noon. Or riders can simply take advantage of our hearty breakfast & dinner, & well stocked Rest Stops. Lunch is not provided by the Bon Ton. Two Rest Stops are provided along the route. The morning stop is located roughly 15-25 miles from the day's start point, & the afternoon stop is roughly 10-15 miles from the next overnight camp. Riders can refuel with a selection of fruit, water, & sports drinks. Rest Stop food & beverages are provided as part of the registration fee.

**Water Fill Stations / Beverage Coolers:** Each overnight camp has a water filling station for water bottles. Bottled water, sports drinks, and non-water beverages are located in ice filled beverage coolers near the Information Tent. A small donation for drinks is appreciated. Sorry, storing personal items in the coolers is not allowed.

**Snack Bar:** Our cash & carry Snack Bar, located near the Special Delivery, offers typical "snackie" fare such as hamburgers, hotdogs, and candy- food to curb a hungry appetite!

**FREE Wine Pick-Up: Great Bonus!!** We offer free wine pick-up from designated wineries! Simply ask the winery staff to write your name and rider number on your purchase. We'll collect your wine at the end of the day. Our Gear Truck Staff will retrieve it for you at camp, or keep it secured in the Gear Truck until Saturday, July 25. Participating wineries are posted at the Information Tent and on the cue sheets. Wine pick-ups will be to campsite by 7pm

**Bike Repair:** The Bon Ton has partnered with Kingsbury Cyclery, a bike mechanic who'll be stationed at the morning rest stop, and then make a brief visit to the afternoon rest stop. SAG vehicles can transport your bicycle to the nearest mechanic. Following that, our mechanic is available at the overnight camp each day. Fees for parts & service apply.

**Massage Therapy:** The Bon Ton has partnered with Natural Balance Massage Therapy, a local licensed group who'll provide the perfect cure for a sore body! Daily scheduling is handled at the massage tent and fees vary depending on your personal massage choices.

**Evening Program:** Most evenings you can relax to the sounds of great local musician, enjoy listening to a historical speaker, learn interesting facts about the area you are visiting. This program is located either in the camping area or nearby, or experience a local establishment, usually just short walk away.

**Quiet Time:** For the convenience of fellow riders we ask that all overnight campers observe a quiet time after 10:00pm each night. For those campers with a later bed time, or are simply noisy sleepers, we recommend that you place your tent away from other campers.

**Trash:** Trash containers are located around the overnight camping area. Please make sure your camp is clear of debris each morning, or contact a Bon Ton volunteer if you observe any trash issues.

**What to Bring** This tour takes place in all kinds of weather...hot days ...cool evenings. This list is just a suggestion of what you should bring. We advise that you do not pack valuables, easily breakable items, items of personal worth or medication in your luggage. The Bon Ton Roulet is not responsible for any lost, stolen, damaged or misplaced items.

<b>Camping</b>	Tent, stakes, poles, ground cloth, tent bag, sleeping bag, air mattress, air pump, pillow
<b>Bicycle Gear</b>	Granny gears, helmet, spare tire, spare tubes, tire wrench, patch kit, rear view mirror, bike gloves, water bottles, tire pump, bike mounted bag, bike lock, cycling shorts, jersey ,bike shoes, HALT spray
<b>Toiletries</b>	Tooth brush, tooth paste, floss, hand sanitizer, soap, shampoo, lotion, shaving products, tissues, deodorant, powder, towel, washcloth, clothes pins, nail file and clippers, q-tips, brush/comb, feminine items, laundry bag and soap
<b>First Aid</b>	Med alert bracelet, aspirin, band-aids, antibiotic cream, alcohol pads, lip balm, sun screen, insect repellent, moisture cream, rash ointment, soft side cooler
<b>Clothing</b>	T shirts/ shorts, pants rain gear, underwear, sports bra, socks, belt shoes, shower shoes, sleepwear
<b>Essentials</b>	Glasses, contacts, sun glasses, cell phone, eye prescription, watch , chargers, knife, identification, fanny pack, flashlight, extra batteries, ear plugs, cork screw

**Restroom & Shower Facilities:** The Bon Ton relies mainly on the facilities at schools and colleges to accommodate our overnight campers. A mobile shower truck is also available at camp as well as portable restrooms where facilities may be limited. Please report any unsanitary conditions.

**Good Hydration:** Waiting until you're thirsty to drink is a common mistake. Feeling that you need to drink is an early indicator of dehydration. On the other hand, Hyponatremia can result from excessive fluid intake. To maintain proper hydration all riders should carry at least two water bottles and remember to drink at regular intervals. Also, avoid taking any non-steroidal and anti-inflammatory drugs.

## FAQ'S:

**Where do I eat?** The Bon Ton Roulet enlists the expertise of a licensed nutritionist, who helps tailor your breakfast and dinner to meet the unique dietary needs of bicycle touring participants. Our nutritionist works directly with our caterers- suggesting menu alternatives, establishing large portion size standards, and making sure there are a wide variety of options across the week, especially for our meatless entrees. Both breakfast and dinner are part of your registration fee. A menu from a previous ride can be viewed on the Bon Ton website.

**Where do I Sleep?** The Bon Ton Roulet is a camping tour that provides wide open spaces for cyclists to pitch their own tents. Our overnight camps are selected specifically to allow our guests to set up in large groups, among friends and family, or off on their own where they can soak up the peace and quiet. We've also arranged for campers who prefer full service camp set-up packages, or you may choose to stay in a local bed & breakfast, motel, or hotel. Please note that accommodations in this mainly rural setting can be sparse for those who choose off-site lodging. We strongly recommend that you make reservations well in advance of the tour by choosing from the list provided. Please refer to the website for lodging information.

**What sort of terrain can I expect?** The current landscape in this region dates back 10,000 years when a 1-mile thick ice-age glacier carved its way south, forming the deep valleys of the Finger Lakes. As a result, traveling east or west between towns to the north (Auburn, Skaneateles, and Geneva) have fewer hills than a parallel path between southern towns (Hammondsport, Ithaca, and Watkins Glen) which tend to be hillier. Melting glaciers and natural rain runoff also carved deep gorges along the sides of the lakes, and while north or south travel is more level, it too can offer the occasional tall hill. Despite the hills, this area attracts thousands of bicyclists each year

**Mapping your Route:** All three methods of directing riders along the designated routes should be used in conjunction with each other, no matter which route you choose, Regular or Long. Conditions that alter the following day's course will be announced at the Rider Meeting each evening and posted on the Message Board.

**Regional Maps:** A map of the Finger Lakes Region is available at the Info Tent upon request. A large charted map will be posted on the Message Board to show riders the entire route, broken down by day/route.

**Cue Sheets:** Foldable, easy to read cue sheets provide turn-by-turn directions of the route, as well as point-to-point and cumulative distance information. Cue sheets are provided each afternoon for the following day's route at the Information Tent. Riders should re-zero their odometer daily

**Route Marking:** Directional markings are painted onto the road surface. Three markings are used at all turns. The first is painted 80-100 feet prior to the turn, the second is at the turn, and the last is immediately after the turn to confirm. Straight markings are used on long routes to reassure you that you're still on the correct path. The Bon Ton has used a variety of colors & markings for more than 18 years. Please identify the symbols & colors used for this ride, posted at registration. Orange=regular and Green=long.

**Services:**

◆ **COMFY CAMPERS LLC** "No Hassle Camping" *The Bon Ton Roulet is proud to partner with Comfy Campers in 2015! Imagine camping with :*

- No tent set-up or take down
- No lugging wet towels from site to site
- No worries about comfortable seating
- No ultra thin mattresses

Comfy Campers offers: *Towel Service, Chair Rental and Mattress rental visit our website for full details....*  
[www.comfycampers.info](http://www.comfycampers.info).

◆ **BIKE SHIPPING:**

**Please direct all bike shipping question to the Cortland YMCA, 756-2893, please ask for Dave or Matt.**



**Illness** can spread rapidly on a bike tour. As part of our broader Illness Preparedness Plan, we've listed some health safety DOs & DON'Ts to help you keep illness at bay:

**DO List:**

- DO wash your hands often using antibacterial soap
- DO use hand-sanitizing liquid, versus not washing hands
- DO clean your water bottle mouthpiece before drinking
- DO eat whole & pared fruit served from food-safe gloves
- DO keep hydrated by drinking water regularly
- DO comply with hygiene signage wherever posted
- DO report any unsafe hygienic practices you observe
- DO report any symptom of illness immediately

**DON'T List:**

- DON'T eat while wearing bicycle gloves
- DON'T replace hand washing with hand-sanitizing liquid
- DON'T "hand wade" in the coolers
- DON'T store personal items in Bon Ton Roulet coolers
- DON'T share fruit or other personal consumables
- DON'T assume you're not sick if you have symptoms



**Thumbs Up, Thumbs Down**



Our SAG vehicle drivers often give several quick beeps of their horn as they approach riders along the route. When this happens simply gesture;

**Thumbs Up = "I'm OK and don't need assistance"**  
**Thumbs Down = "Please stop. I need assistance".**



**Sun Exposure:** Whether it's sunny or cloudy, a rider's skin will be exposed to the sun all day. We recommend the use of sunscreen with a high SPF on all exposed skin in order to reduce sunburn

**Safety Requirements & Recommendations**

The following will help make this tour safer and more enjoyable.

**Rider Requirements:**

- A Consumer Product Safety Commission approved helmet is required to be worn
- Ride single file, with traffic flow, as far to the right as safe
- Verbalize your intentions to other cyclists, especially when passing
- Inform other riders of potential road hazards
- As SAG Vehicles pass... Thumbs Up or Thumbs Down
- Adult supervision is required for riders age 16 & younger
- Cyclists must obey all traffic laws and obey all traffic signs and signage posted by the tour

**Rider Recommendations:**

***Pace yourself. Have fun! You have all day to travel the tour***

- A multi-gear bicycle and a rearview mirror is recommended
- You should be in good shape and capable of riding long distances and steep changes in elevation
- Have a health insurance card with you at all times, one that notes all important medical information
- Use common sense and courtesy with all road traffic

**Rare Severe Weather Conditions:** The most common severe weather condition involves heavy rainfall, lightning, and/or strong winds. These conditions may force you to seek temporary shelter in a commercial or municipal building, on the porch of a private residence, or even in a SAG vehicle. If shelter is not near during a lightning storm, crouch down away from trees and keep at least 15-feet away from other people, bikes, or metal objects. Overnight camps also have sheltered areas for these rare severe weather conditions. Forecasts are posted on the Message Board and updated regularly as new weather information becomes available.

# Route Points of Interest

## **Sunday, Day 1, July 24, 2016.....Cortland to Auburn**

- Ride around one of the small Finger Lakes, Otisco Lake,
- Ride near Skaneateles Lake into the Town of Skaneateles.
- Finishing the ride at beautiful Emerson Park located at the tip of Owasco Lake in the City of Auburn.

## **Monday, Day 2, July 25, 2016.....Auburn to Geneva**

- Travel along Cayuga Lake
- Town of Port Byron.
- Ride continues stopping at the Montezuma Wildlife Preserve

## **Tuesday, Day 3, July 26, 2016.....Loop ride, optional century ride or 56 mile**

- Numerous Wineries
- Riding along Seneca Lake
- Dundee, NY (Amish Community)
- Penn Yan, NY
- Ride along Keuka Lake
- Town of Hammondsport, NY
- Glenn Curtis Museum
- Through Keuka College Campus and Keuka State Park

## **Wednesday, Day 4, July 27, 2016.....Loop rides**

- Ride through 3 State Parks. Seneca Lake State Park, Sampson State Park, and Cayuga State Park
- Passing Seneca Army Depot (Possible sightings of white deer)
- Riding along Seneca and Cayuga Lakes
- Numerous wineries

## **Thursday, Day 5, July 28, 2016.....Geneva to Aurora**

- Travel north of NY Thruway riding through many rural area including hamlet of Clyde
- Riding through Montezuma Wildlife Refuge
- Stops at a favorite of BTR Montezuma Winery
- Erie Canal Mud Locks
- Ride through historic Union Springs
- Mackenzie Childs's Pottery Museum
- Long Point State Park

## **Friday, Day 6, July 29, 2016.....Loop ride of either**

- Riders will travel around Owasco Lake
- Taking a break at beautiful Millard Fillmore Glen State Park and Emerson Park
- Several wineries are on the route.

## **Saturday, Day 7, July 30, 2016.....Aurora to Cortland**

- Town of Locke
- Town of Groton
- Cortland County/City of Cortland.