

Prince Edward Island

Journal Articles

Day 22-26

Day 22

Distance: 9.20 km (To Ferry), 55.45 km (To Charlettetown)

TDTD: 1422.52 km

We biked from Pictou to Caribou to get the ferry to PEI. Free for “foot” traffic. Ferry crew was really nice and accommodating. I noticed on the ferry that my right front wheel was seized and the fork was bent. One of the biggest concerns with travelling with a disability is having something go wrong with your wheelchair. You need it at all times and you can’t just drop it off to have it repaired. I called Harding Medical and they agreed to keep there technician around to take a look at my chair tomorrow morning. We got off the ferry and started biking to Charlottetown. It rained the entire time. When we got to the hotel we were drenched. We had booked an Accessible room. The hotel was divided into 2 sections and we were directed to go through the tunnel to get to our room. It was extremely difficult to navigate with my chair and accessible door buttons didn’t work. When we got to our room at the very far end of the hotel the only thing that made it “accessible” were grab bars in the bath tub. I wasn’t able to warm up in the shower. To be considered accessible the modifications should be standard and all encompassing. The peep hole should be lower, the doorway wide, thermostat and switches within reach, passageways widened, sink lower and able to roll under, roll in shower, lower beds and more... We should standardize the criteria in Canada for an accessible room and to be considered such a room should meet all criteria. Our thermostat was not working and I was overheating all night. As a quadriplegic I can not thermoregulate so this can be really dangerous.

Difficulty: 2

Safety: 3

Rest Spots: 2

Scenery: 2

Day 23

Distance: 6.18 km (To wheelchair repair), 42.14 km

TDTD: 1470.84 km

We biked to Harding Medical from Hotel Hell in Charlottetown in the morning. Harding Medical was amazing! They fixed my wheelchair and wouldn’t charge for the repair. Great place to get your chair fixed. Thank You!. Nice ride up to PEI National Park. PEI is really bike friendly. Courteous drivers, large shoulders, and lots of bike lanes. I was able to overlook the ocean in Stanhope beach. While biking through the park we saw a great place along the shore called Richards. Fantastic lobster rolls. There was a bike path along the shore. The sand dunes reminded me of the Pinery Provincial Park in Ontario.

Difficulty: 1

Safety: 5

Rest Spots: 5

Scenery: 5

Day 24

Distance: 34.66 km

TDTD: 1505.5 km

Today we biked from Stanhope to Cavendish National Park. There was a really beautiful section of the ride that I was looking forward to. We woke up and it was foggy so we waited for it to clear before we started. It was bright and sunny when we started. As soon as we got to the section overlooking the ocean a fog rolled in and we couldn't see a thing. We decided to take a rest day tomorrow and bike back and see it. There is a bike path all along the ocean. I got separated from Nikki on the ride. I needed to get my phone out of my bag to call her so I stopped at a gas station. I asked a lady if she would be able to help me get my phone out of my bag and she just said "no". I asked a second woman who looked for 3-5 seconds, said she couldn't find it and walked away leaving my bag open. My initial reaction was to be mad but then I realized that they are not obligated to help me. I was finally able to get a few tourists, who didn't speak English, to help me. They were really kind.

Difficulty: 1

Safety: 5

Rest Spots: 5

Scenery: 5

Day 25

Rest Day. Biked back and saw the cliffs.

Day 26

Distance: 48.70 km

TDTD: 1554.2 km

Rainy day. Cavendish to Confederation bridge. Through the country side. There was a trail which we took which was really nice. We stopped at a KOA campground and were really surprised that they didn't have accessible showers. We called ahead to a campground in New Brunswick to book a site and I asked about accessible showers (I really need a shower). They had accessible showers but there were 6 stairs to get to them???

Difficulty: 1

Safety: 4

Rest Spots: 2

Scenery: 3