

Tour #9 Rockland-Port Clyde

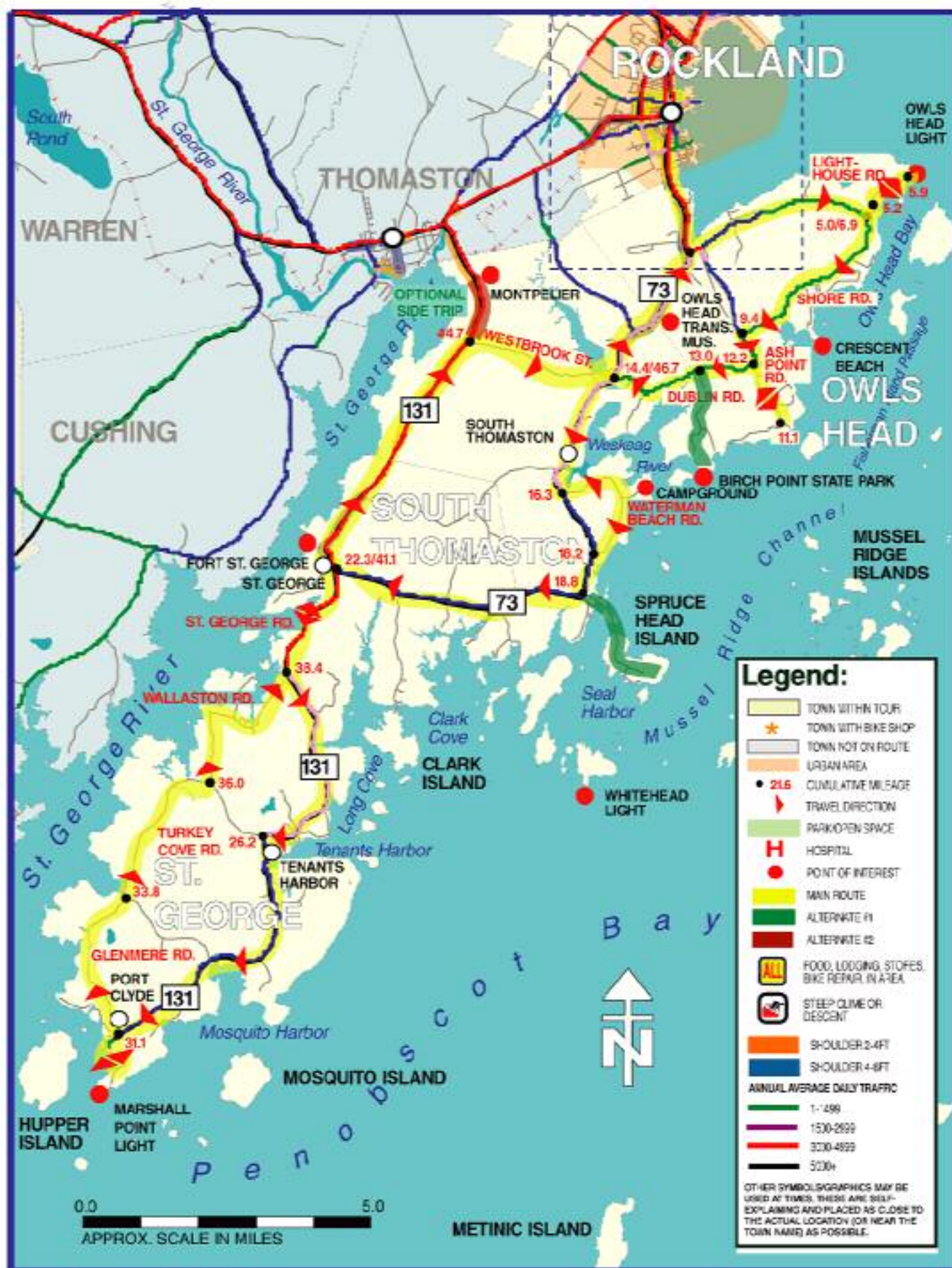
In the old days, mid-coast Maine was home to sailors, ship's captains and entrepreneurs who quarried the nearby islands for granite that went into building many of this country's great public buildings. Today, many of the grand old homes have been restored while the rolling countryside offers glimpses of the Camden Hills and Penobscot Bay at almost every turn.

This enjoyable 51 mile ride takes in the best of the region, from the bustling town of Rockland to the tiny, picturesque village of Port Clyde. Be sure to leave plenty of time for exploration. There are several museums, state parks, lighthouses and other sites of great interest along the way. The side trip to Ash Point (only 2.2 mi.) is well worth the ride. There you will enjoy a memorable view of Spruce Head, the islands and Penobscot Bay. Consider extending your trip with a ferry ride out to one of three islands from the terminal in Rockland (the starting point of the ride) or to Monhegan Island via a ferry ride from Port Clyde.

There are a number of shorter loops available. A 19-mile loop includes Owls Head Light and the Transportation Museum. A 32-mile loop additionally includes some outstanding views of Penobscot Bay. A shorter loop, which is not described here, could also be constructed by parking in St. George and doing a loop of the St. George peninsula.

Special features: Historic Rockland; Owls Head Transportation Museum; Owls Head Light; village of Port Clyde; side trip to Ash Point; views of Vinalhaven and North Haven Islands, Penobscot Bay and St. George River; Birch Point Beach State Park; Farnsworth Art Museum; Montpelier State Park and home of General Henry Knox.

Road conditions: Generally fair; broken pavement on ME 73 and ME 131.



DISTANCE: 19, 32, 51 Mile loops
TERRAIN: rolling

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Note: See Page 2 for Disclaimer