



Mini Routes

“Come for the day or come for the weekend”

1. **Anna's Perennials, Blossom Hill** *(by appointment only)*, **Primrose Lane, Garden Style** - Start in the countryside south of Bobcaygeon at Anna's Perennials. Tour the varied and interesting Display Gardens and the well stocked retail area before travelling twenty-five minutes just past Fowler's Corners to Blossom Hill Nursery. In May and June, a tour of the Display Gardens featuring peonies and delphiniums is a treat, as is the fresh honey made on site by the multitude of hives Joe and Hazel tend on property. A stop for lunch at Primrose Lane, just around the corner from Blossom Hill will satisfy your hunger and fortify for the last stop in Bridgenorth, Garden Style, an eclectic garden gift shop on the main street of this bustling village on the shore of Chemong Lake.
2. **William's Design Studio, Keene on Gardens, Johnston's Greenhouse, Avant Garden Shop and The Electric City Bread Company** - Nested in the village of Bethany in the rolling hills southwest of Peterborough, this mini tour begins at William's Design Studio. Tour their small secret garden to see beautiful copper art in play amid the lush plantings. Inside the studio visitors see work in progress, many ready-made garden creations and other artistic pieces. Twenty-five minutes north east of Bethany via Hwy 7 and 115, Keene on Gardens beckons from amid the Peterborough drumlins. As a full service garden centre, it is well stocked and bursting with bloom. Ten minutes drive back into the city of Peterborough, Johnston's Greenhouse offers a wide selection of annuals, perennials and flowering shrubs. Winding through the streets of Peterborough brings you to The Avant Garden Shop, Peterborough's award winning garden gift store featuring local and Canadian gifts. Next door is The Electric City Bread Company - why not pick up a delicious dinner to take back home or to your hotel, or eat in this lovely bistro?
3. **Garden's Plus, Greenhouse on the River and Griffin's Greenhouses** - Start this tour with Dawn and her friendly staff at Garden's Plus in Donwood, minutes east of Peterborough. This notable specialty grower offers a huge selection of daylilies and hostas plus easy care perennials. Take the winding River Road through the Trent University campus to Greenhouse on the River, just outside the village of Lakefield, a garden centre featuring a full range of annuals and beautiful container gardens. Continue on the River Road to Lakefield and enjoy the village before travelling south west to Griffin's Greenhouses to tour the award-winning Display Garden and enjoy the beautiful full service garden centre.

4. **Johnston's Greenhouse, The Avant Garden Shop, The Electric City Bread Company, Blossom Hill * (by appointment only), Holiday Inn** - Begin the morning in the south end of Peterborough at Johnston's Greenhouse touring their full service garden centre and asking questions of the knowledgeable staff. Within minutes of travel, park on Sherbrooke Street and spend time browsing The Avant Garden Shop, being sure to quiz Brenda and staff on the best bird feeders and food; this garden gift shop offers the most extensive birding selection in the area. Pop next door to The Electric City Bread Company for a fabulous lunch inside or on the patio before travelling fifteen minutes outside of the city to spend the afternoon amid the peonies and delphiniums at Blossom Hill. Not ready to go home? Take a room at the clean and welcoming Holiday Inn and enjoy another mini route tomorrow!
5. **Keene on Gardens, Gardens Plus, Greenhouse on the River** - If you want to take in a variety of plants, this mini tour is a good choice. An easy route for a half day, enjoy the annual and perennial selections of both full service garden centres, Keene on Gardens and Greenhouse on the River, combined with the specialized focus of all perennials at Gardens Plus.
6. **Griffin's Greenhouses, Garden Style, Primrose Lane, Anna's Perennials** - Bring a take-out cup of morning coffee and enjoy it on a bench near the waterfall in the Display Garden at Griffin's Greenhouses. Tour the garden centre and ask questions of the knowledgeable staff before heading fifteen minutes to the village of Bridgenorth and Garden Style. This garden gift shop is one-of-a-kind, featuring metal garden art and other classic designs. Enjoy lunch in Fowler's Corners at Primrose Lane before taking the twenty-five minute drive to Anna's Perennials, near Bobcaygeon to spend the afternoon in her Display Gardens, marvelling at hardy succulents, drought resistant perennials contrasted with lush offerings for shady gardens.
7. **Electric City Bread Company, Avant Garden Shop, Williams Design Studio** - a quick morning tour begins at The Electric City Bread Company for a healthy breakfast and a wander through the Avant Garden Shop next door. Venture twenty-five minutes south east of the city, perhaps on your way to the GTA, stopping at Williams Design Studio in the sleepy village of Bethany. Chat with the artists and see how their unique metal designs are created and perhaps commission one of your own!

Please be advised that not all members of the Peterborough and Area Garden Route are open consistently; please check individual websites or call to confirm best times to visit and/or opening times. Blossom Hill is open by appointment only.

www.gardenroute.ca