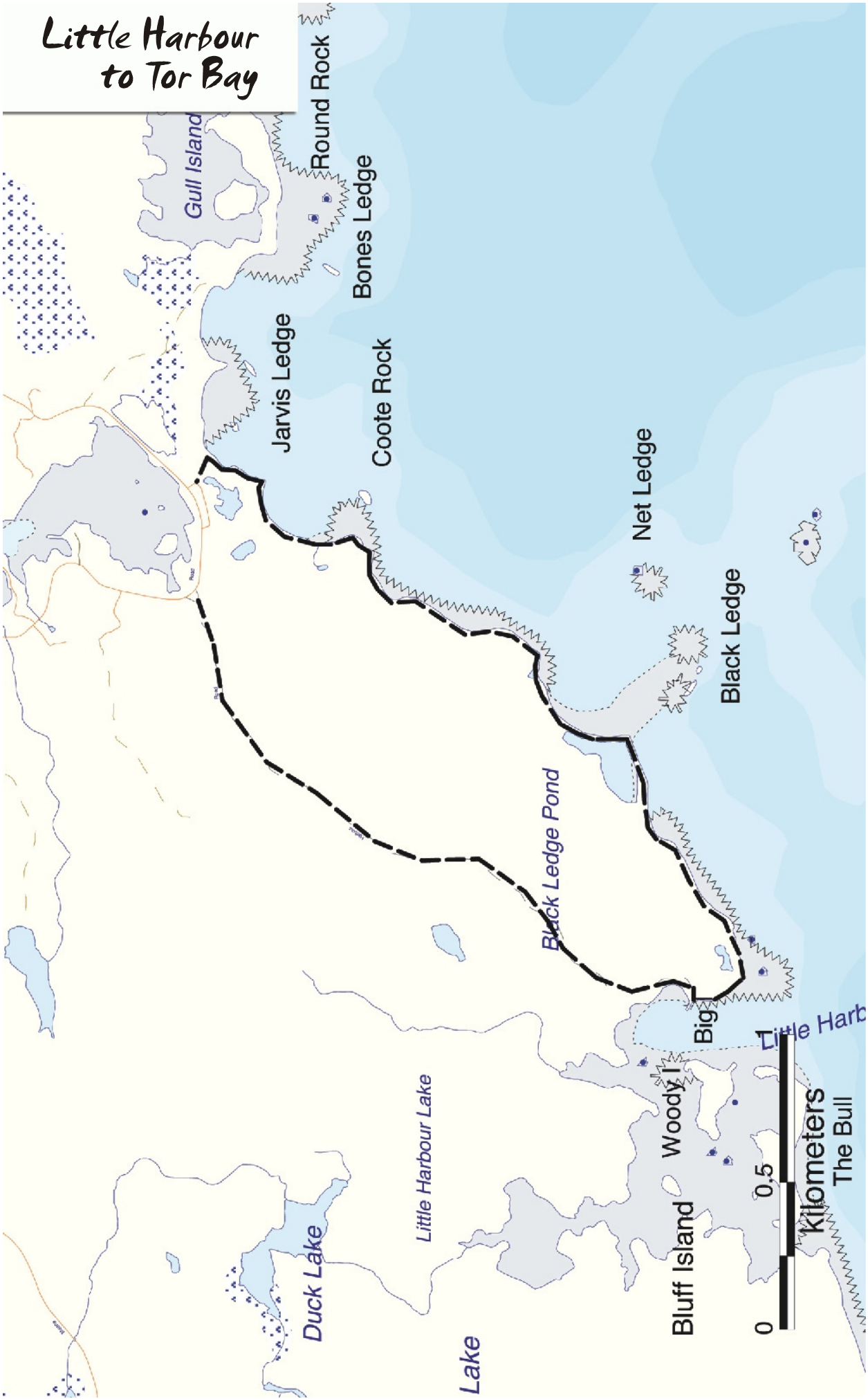


Little Harbour to Tor Bay



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Length: 4.5 km, loop

Time: 3 hrs

Type: coastal, gravel road

Facilities: picnic tables, garbage cans,
benches, outhouses

Closest Amenities: village of Guysborough,
Larrys River

Rating: 4



Access Information: Traveling east along Route 16 from the village of Guysborough, turn right at the Larrys River turnoff, onto the road toward Larrys River. Travel approximately 30 km to Larrys River, and 5 km beyond, arriving at a stop sign. Turn left toward Tor Bay Provincial Park, leaving your vehicle in the public parking lot. Exit the parking lot, walking in the direction from which you just came. Approximately 200 meters along, you will reach a gravel opening to a road on your left. This is the trailhead.

Special Features: Once the site of an operational cable station, Tor Bay Provincial Park boasts beautiful sandy beaches and clear ocean water. The remains of Little Harbour recall a time when this area was once a thriving summer fishing village used by the fishermen of Tor Bay and surrounding communities. The men would stay in the village all summer, landing their catch preparing the fish for winter use, or for market. The women and children left behind to maintain the homes and gardens would make frequent walks to the village delivering supplies. Abandoned and left as a ghost town, it has recently suffered the ravages of a fierce Atlantic storm.

Description: Along the initial portion of this hike, you will follow the well-marked road to the breakwater at Little Harbour. The brush-lined path transitions from gravel to a packed earthen trail which eventually branches into a “Y”. Maintain a left hand course. Nearing the end of the road you will notice increasing amounts of debris entangled by the overgrown meadows. As you are greeted by the crashing waves and salt spray of Little Harbour, remains of several buildings and a shattered wharf can be seen, including large pieces of roof and flooring. Until being hit by a devastating winter storm in January 2000, some of these buildings remained standing. Beyond the breakwater, the hike now takes you over headlands and coastline. Approximately 3.5 km along, the rocky coastline becomes separated from the land by a large saltwater pool. There are many scenic views from the bluffs along the way, including cranberry bogs, marsh flowers and rock formations. A more intimate view will delight you with seashells, sandpipers and snails. Upon reaching the vast, sandy beaches of Tor Bay, take a moment to breathe the ocean and taste the air, prior to exploring the Park pavilion and picnic areas. New boardwalks have been built following the 2000 storm, but quiet remains of the former are left as reminders of the power of nature.

