

2013 Burlington Road Meet

The Burlington metro area is the most populous area of Vermont, comprising Vermont's two largest cities – Burlington and South Burlington, and the sixth largest city, Winooski. It's main arterial is US 7, but it is also connected via US 2 and one of Vermont's two primary interstates, I-89. It is home to Vermont's only 3di, I-189, and the super-2 freeway VT 289.



Image from AARoads

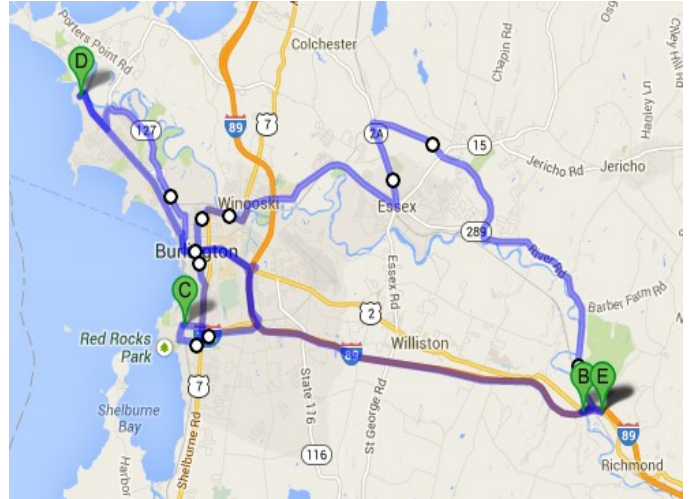


Image from Google Maps (2013)

Checkered House Bridge, Richmond

Turn right out of the park and ride down US 2. Drive past VT 117 and park somewhere across the bridge (perhaps down the side street). This bridge was recently widened and rebuilt while preserving the historic truss design; construction completed this year.

VT 289 and Essex Junction, Essex

Turn around and take a left onto VT 117. Continue on VT 117 for a few miles and then turn right onto VT 289, getting on at exit 12. VT 289 is a super-2; currently, only the bypass around Essex is built. VT 289 is the only road in Vermont to have mileage-based exit numbers. Drive to the end of VT 289 and turn left onto VT 2A south. Notice the “u turn” sign at the junction of VT 2A, VT 15, and VT 117 in Essex and then turn right onto VT 15 west.

US 2/7 Circle, Winooski

Continue on VT 15 past I-89. At the end is the central traffic circle in Winooski. We'll go around it once and then continue on US 7 south.

US 7 Alt, Old North End/South End, Burlington

From the circle, take US 7 south, taking a soft right just across the river to stay on US 7. We'll turn left onto Winooski Ave, which is signed for US 2 and US 7 but is actually US 7 Alt (which exists only in the southbound direction due to one-way streets), which is poorly signed. Note the reassurance shield as we approach the southern end heading back to US 7 and clinch US 7 Alt.

Interstate 189 Stub, South End, Burlington

Continue onto US 7 south and then right immediately after the ramp to I-189 onto Queen City Parkway. Take right again at the intersection, and then the first right onto Pine St to drive past part of the stub (part of which is a private parking lot – no public parking permitted). Turn left onto Home Ave and park between the next two streets to walk down the stub. The hike down the stub is nearly a mile long in each direction.

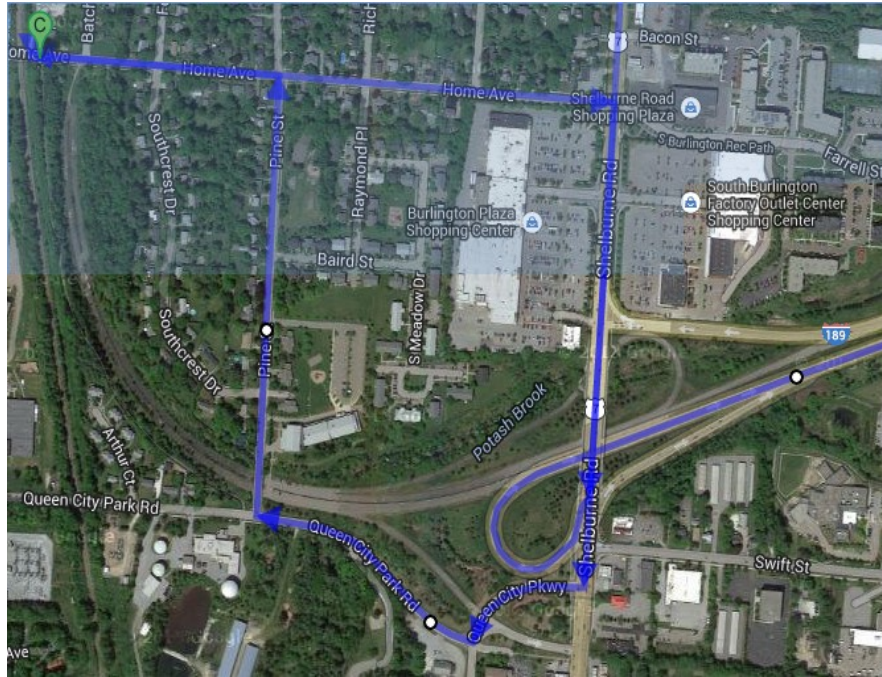


Image from Google Maps (2013)

I-189 and Main St, South End/Old North End, Burlington

U turn on Home Ave and turn right onto US 7. Take the ramp to I-189 and climb it. Take I-89 north to US 2 west (exit 14). Continue past US 7 onto Main St to see downtown Burlington.

VT 127, New North End, Burlington

Turn right onto Battery St (towards the end of Main St, right before a curve) and then turn right onto Pearl St. Take the next left onto VT 127/Champlain St. VT 127 is a secondary highway over its entire length. Turn left at the end of Champlain St and then right to stay on VT 127, noting the erroneous US 127 shields. There are interesting pedestrian bridges and an interchange on this portion of VT 127.

Island Line Trail Bridge, New North End, Burlington

Turn left at the traffic light onto Plattsburg Ave, and then turn right at the end for North Ave. Continue down North Ave past a curve and park in the little parking area to the left before the trail. It's a short hike down the trail and stop at the bridge. This area has an excellent view of Lake Champlain.

Return, South Burlington

Take North Ave and turn right at the end onto Park St. Turn left onto Main St and head back to I-89. Take I-89 south and get off at the exit for US 2 (exit 11) to return to the park and ride. We can then discuss post-tour plans for dinner.