



FOR RELEASE
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NEWS RELEASE

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500 cyclists take week-long vacation along Erie Canal

—13th annual Cycling the Erie Canal tour arrives in Capital Region July 16—

ALBANY, N.Y. – They started out in Buffalo on Sunday, July 10, leaving their cars behind. Some 500 bicyclists from 35 states will be arriving in the Capital Region on Saturday, July 16 as participants in the 13th annual *Cycling the Erie Canal* tour, organized by Parks & Trails New York, a statewide non-profit advocacy organization. The 400-mile bicycle tour ends on Sunday, July 17 in Albany.

About three-quarters of the journey is off-road on the Erie Canalway Trail. When the Trail is finished, it will be the longest intra-state trail in the United States.

“The 13th annual *Cycling the Erie Canal* tour is an economical, and healthy way to explore the Erie Canal and upstate New York. Plus it’s fun. I call it a rolling summer camps for all ages,” says Parks & Trails New York Executive Director Robin Dropkin. “We have cyclists from over 35 states and three countries plus several hundred volunteers in communities along the route ready to welcome riders and help them discover what makes the Erie Canal and upstate New York unique.”

The Capital Region schedule is as follows

Saturday, July 16 – Canajoharie to Scotia

Overnight: Collins Park, Mohawk Ave./Schonowee Ave., Scotia

6:00am – 8:00am – Breakfast, Canajoharie High School

8:00am – 12:00pm – Morning Rest Stop, Fultonville Town of Glen Offices

12:00pm – 5:00pm - Afternoon Rest Stop, Mabee Farm Historic Site

Until 8:00pm – Swimming available at the park

1:45 Meet at Information Tent Walking Tour of historic Stockade Area. Walk over as a group.
Tour starts at 2:00

4:30pm – 5:30pm – Reception at Collins Park

5:00pm – 7:00pm – Dinner at Collins Park

7:00pm – 8:00pm – Program & Celebration

7:00pm – 9:00 – Music at Freedom Park area of Collins Park: Grant Austin Taylor - Classic Rock

Sunday, July 17 – Schenectady to Albany

6:00am – 8:00am – Breakfast at Collins Park

8:00am – 11:00am– Morning Rest Stop – Peebles Island State Park

10:30am – afternoon – Riders finish at Corning Preserve Boat Launch, Albany

The NYS Canal Corporation is the Premier State Sponsor of *Cycling the Erie Canal* for the 13th straight year. The Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor is the event's Heritage Sponsor. Supporting sponsors include CSEA and Brookfield Power, . Other sponsors include Wegmans, Terry Cycling, Nalgene, and I LOVE NY.

Great Hudson Valley Pedal

Parks and Trails New York organizes another multi-day bicycling tour through the picturesque Hudson Valley. The *Great Hudson Valley Pedal*, a six-day, 200-mile bicycle tour from Albany to New York City is set for August 16-21. For further information on the *Great Hudson Valley Pedal*, call 518-434-1583, e-mail HUDSONTOUR@PTNY.ORG or visit WWW.PTNY.ORG/HUDSONTOUR.

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