



**FOR RELEASE**  
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# NEWS RELEASE

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## **500 cyclists take week-long vacation along Erie Canal**

**—13<sup>th</sup> annual Cycling the Erie Canal tour arrives in Seneca Falls July 12—**

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 Seneca Falls on Tuesday, July 12 as participants in the 13<sup>th</sup> annual *Cycling the Erie Canal* tour, organized by Parks & Trails New York, a statewide not-for-profit organization. The 400-mile bicycle tour ends on Sunday, July 17 in Albany.

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

“The 13th annual *Cycling the Erie Canal* tour is an inexpensive and healthy way to explore the Erie Canal and upstate New York. Plus it’s fun. I call it a rolling summer camp for all ages,” says Parks & Trails New York Executive Director Robin Dropkin. “We have cyclists from over 35 states 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 Seneca Falls schedule is as follows

**Tuesday, July 12–Pittsford to Seneca Falls**

Overnight: Mynderse Academy, Seneca Falls

**6:00am – 8:00am** – Breakfast at Nazareth College with representatives from the Mormon Church & the Village of Palmyra

**8:00am – 12:00pm** – Morning Rest Stop – Palmyra Village Park hosted by the Palmyra Kiwanis

**12:00pm – 5:00pm** – Afternoon Rest stop – Clyde Village Park - Town of Galan Historic Society and area churches open

**2:30pm – 9:30pm** – Shuttle bus taking cyclists to Seneca Falls museums and dinner in Seneca Falls(3-9:30) and Vince's Park for swimming (pool 3 – 8)

**4:30pm – 6:30pm** - Wine & cheese reception at Peoples Park, Seneca Falls

**5:00pm - 5:30pm** - Whale Story at Peoples Park

**4:30pm - 7:30pm** - Ice cream social (fee)

**7:00pm – 8:00pm** Community Band Concert– Peoples Park, Seneca Falls.

Museums in Seneca Falls open late. See local brochure for schedule.

**Wednesday, July 13 – Seneca Falls to Syracuse**

Overnight: Burnet Park, Syracuse

**6:00am – 8:00am** – Breakfast at Mynderse Academy

**8:00am – 12:00pm** – Morning Rest Stop, Port Byron Middle School

**12:00pm – 5:00pm** - Afternoon Rest Stop, Camillus, Sims Erie Canal Store/Museum. Canal Boat Rides – 45-minute tour over the only restored aqueduct in NYS at 11, 12 & 1.

**3:30-4:45pm** – Reception – light refreshments/cash bar Rosemont-Gifford Zoo at Burnett Park – drawing for Terry Cycling saddles – must be present to win

**2:00pm – 9:00pm** – Shuttle Service to Erie Canal Museum (until 8:00) and Armory Square

**5:00pm – 7:00pm** – Dinner at Rosemont-Gifford Zoo

**7:00 – 8:00pm** – Sam Clemence – Engineering the Erie Canal, Rosemont-Gifford Zoo

**7:00pm – 9:00pm** – Music by Chris Farrar at Rosemont-Gifford Zoo

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, and I LOVE NY.

Great Hudson Valley Pedal

Parks and Trails New York puts on 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](mailto:HUDSONTOUR@PTNY.ORG) or visit [WWW.PTNY.ORG/HUDSONTOUR](http://WWW.PTNY.ORG/HUDSONTOUR).

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