

500 cyclists riding in annual Erie Canal bike tour

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SENECA FALLS (AP) -- Some 500 bicyclists from nearly three dozen states are making their way eastward along the Erie Canal as part of an annual cycling tour organized by a parks advocacy group.

The 12th annual Cycling the Erie Canal tour began Sunday in Buffalo. The group spent Tuesday night in Seneca Falls, where they'll resume their journey this morning.

Robin Dropkin, executive director of Parks and Trails New York, calls the week-long ride a "rolling summer camp for all ages."

Most of the journey is being made on the Erie Canalway Trail.

The 400-mile bike tour ends Sunday in Albany.

Parks and Trails New York also organizes a bicycling tour through the Hudson Valley. The Great Hudson Valley Pedal is a six-day, 200-mile bike tour from Albany to New York City, beginning August 10th and ending on the 15th. The group will be stopping in Syracuse at the Rosamond Gifford Zoo this afternoon.

Online: Parks and Trails New York: www.ptny.org

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