

Brochure produced by:

New York Parks & Conservation Association

29 Elk Street, Albany, NY 12207
(518) 434-1583 www.nypca.org

New York Parks and Conservation Association is the only non-profit organization working statewide to protect and promote New York's parks and help communities create new parks such as greenways, rail and canal trails, and heritage corridors. NYPCA is working with the NYS Canal Corporation to help canal communities plan and develop key gap sections of the Canalway Trail and to help organize trail friends groups and a statewide Canalway Trail management organization.

New York State Canal Corporation

200 Southern Boulevard
P.O. Box 189
Albany, NY 12201-0189

1 (800) 4CANAL4 www.canals.state.ny.us

The New York State Canal System is operated by the New York State Canal Corporation, a subsidiary of the New York State Thruway Authority. The New York State Canal System is a navigable 524-mile inland waterway that crosses upstate New York. The Canal System features numerous parks and recreation areas along the Canalway Trail.

This brochure, and the Inn to Inn touring project, are intended to help promote the development of the Canalway Trail, and to promote trail-related heritage tourism along the Canal System.



Cruise the Past, Unlock the Adventure
New York State Canal System

ERIE • CHAMPLAIN • OSWEGO • CAYUGA • SENECA

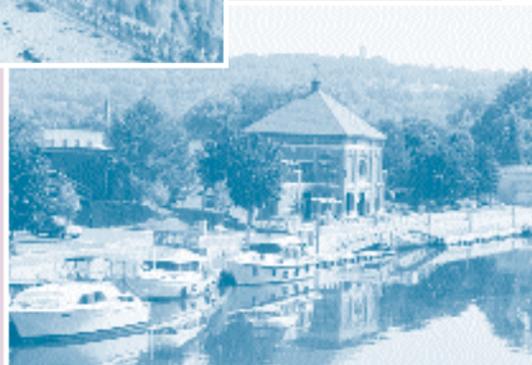
The NYS Canal Corporation is promoting completion of the Canalway Trail along the 524-mile system. More than half of the trail has been completed to date.



Printed in 2003 on recycled paper.
Photos by David-Iman Adler.

Inn to Inn Touring along the Erie Canalway Trail

*Albany, Schenectady and
Montgomery Counties
New York*



*Spend an overnight or a week discovering
country inns and historic villages along 81 miles of
New York's premier historical and recreational trail.*

One hundred years ago, mules pulled barges and packet boats along the towpath of the Erie Canal. They moved produce from western frontier farms to the populated eastern cities and carried pioneers on their journey westward.

Today, the pioneers who travel the canal and its towpath wear hiking boots or mount their trusty bikes. Others pilot or paddle their boats. Modern-day adventurers may either bring their own or rent when they arrive. What once was a thoroughfare of commerce is now a haven for recreation.



The Erie Canalway Trail and the Hudson River Greenway Trail in Albany, Schenectady and Montgomery Counties

More than 81 miles of trail, with many access points, stretch from Albany to St. Johnsville, crossing through unique historic areas, bustling canal towns, and serene rural landscapes. The trail is steeped in history, including active and abandoned canal locks, remains of aqueducts, and forts that date back to the French and Indian War era. Museums along the way bring canal history to life. In Cohoes, the Erie Canalway Trail meets the Hudson River and follows the Hudson River Greenway Trail to Albany, the capital of New York State.

Choose a segment or enjoy the entire trail. Innkeepers along the route will welcome you with gracious hospitality at the end of each day's adventure.



Bike Shops

(see map on other side)

A Fort Plain True Value Hardware

12 Willett Street, Fort Plain, NY 13339-1115
(518) 993-3834

B Adirondack Bicycle

279 North Ballston Avenue, Scotia, NY 12302-2445
(518) 374-7989

C Freeman's Bridge Sports, Inc.

38 Freeman's Bridge Road, Scotia 12302
(518) 382-0593

D Plaine's Bike, Ski, Snowboard

1816 State Street, Schenectady, NY 12304-2032
(518) 346-1433, www.plaines.com (rentals available)

E Rudy's Schwinn Cyclery

578 2nd Avenue, Troy, NY 12182-2532
(518) 235-2525

F Down Tube Cycle Shop

466 Madison Avenue, Albany, NY 12208-3601
(518) 434-1711 (rentals available)

Visitor Centers

Albany Heritage Area Visitor Center

25 Quackenbush Square, Albany, NY 12207
(518) 434-0405

Troy's RiverSpark Visitor Center

215 River Street, Troy, NY 12180
(518) 270-8667

Cohoes Visitor Center

58 Remsen Street, Cohoes, NY 12047
(518) 237-7999

Waterford Harbor Visitor Center

1 Tugboat Alley, Waterford, NY 12188
(518) 233-9123

Schenectady Visitor Center

Schenectady Museum, Nott Terrace Heights
Schenectady, NY 12308
(518) 382-7890

Mohawk Valley Heritage Corridor Commission

66 Montgomery Street, Canajoharie, NY 13317
(518) 673-1045

Tips for Planning Your Trip

- ❑ **Bicycle helmets** are required by NYS law for children under age 14. We encourage all riders to wear helmets.
- ❑ **The trail surface** alternates between hard-packed stone dust and asphalt pavement. Short sections follow roads in Cohoes, downtown Schenectady, Rotterdam Junction and again for six miles east of Amsterdam.
- ❑ **Fat-tire bicycles** are appropriate for this trail.
- ❑ **Additional trail and trip planning information** can be found in the following books:

Cycling Along the Canals of New York
by Louis Rossi
(www.acornpub.com)

Erie Canal Bicyclist & Hiker Route Guide
by Harvey Botzman
(www.cyclotour.com)

New York State Canalway Trail Map
New York State Canal Corporation
(800) 4CANAL4

- ❑ **Most Bed & Breakfasts do not allow pets**, smoking, or children under specified ages. Call ahead for reservations and to inquire about any special services required.
- ❑ **For additional information**, contact Bed & Breakfasts about transportation, parking, attractions, and restaurants along the Erie Canalway Trail.
- ❑ **Dates and hours of operation** of attractions along the Erie Canalway Trail vary throughout the year. Call ahead for the most current schedules.
- ❑ **Maps and additional information on the Erie Canalway Trail** are available from the New York State Canal Corporation. Call 1 (800) 4CANAL4 or www.canals.state.ny.us
- ❑ **A brochure – Inn to Inn Touring Along the Erie Canalway Trail: Lockport to Palmyra** – is available from New York Parks & Conservation Association, (518) 434-1583; or New York State Canal Corporation 1 (800) 4CANAL4.

□ Johannes Klock constructed **Fort Klock** in 1750 as a fur trading post. In 1973, this little-altered fortified stone house from the French & Indian period in **St. Johnsville** was designated a National Historic Landmark. (518-568-7779, open Memorial Day to mid-Oct., 9AM-5PM, Tue.-Sun.)

□ In **Minden**, the **Crouse Locks**, a set of double locks from the old Erie Canal, are being restored.

□ Visit a scaled-down **reproduction corner blockhouse** that protected the original Revolutionary War "fort" on the grounds of the **Fort Plain Museum**, where exhibits reflect waves of cultural influences wrought by the Erie Canal. (518-993-2527, May-Sept., Wed. to Sun., Noon to 5PM)

□ The **Canajoharie Library & Art Gallery** at 2 Erie Boulevard in **Canajoharie** is a public library with one of the finest small art galleries in the U.S. Its collection includes 350 paintings by American artists, including Homer, Copley, Tarbell, O'Keefe, Cassatt and Prendergast. (518-673-2314, call ahead, hours vary)

Bed & Breakfast Inns

B & B Price Range:
\$ = \$50-75, \$\$ = \$60-100, \$\$\$ = \$100+

1 Inn by the Mill \$\$\$

(2 miles from trail)
1679 Mill Road, St. Johnsville, NY 13452
(518) 568-2388 or toll free (866) 568-2388
e-mail: romance@innbythemill.com
www.innbythemill.com

A romantic getaway to a historic property located along a scenic gorge and waterfall. Relax in the hot tub spa overlooking the waterfall as you enjoy the complimentary ice cream parlor. Self-served deluxe continental breakfast. 6 rooms and suites.

2 St. Johnsville Marina & Campsite

(0.3 mile from trail)
South Bridge Street, St. Johnsville, NY 13452
(518) 568-7406

Bring your tent and camp enroute or park your RV on a riverfront site as you explore the trail. Clean restrooms, hook-ups, picnic tables & grills are available.

3 Hazelnut Farm \$\$

(2 miles from trail)
205 Paris Road, Fort Plain, NY 13339
(518) 993-3346
e-mail: arthur@telenet.net
www.hazelnutfarm.com Enjoy a peaceful night in the quiet countryside. Full breakfast. 3 rooms plus a 3-room suite.

4 Window Box Guest House B&B \$, \$\$

(on the trail)
23-29 Front Street, Canajoharie, NY 13317
(518) 673-3131
e-mail: windowboxguesthouse@apexmail.com
www.windowboxguesthouse.com

Bordering the trail with terraced limestone walls, two circa 1870 houses serve as guesthouses for this traditionally decorated B&B within walking distance of many area attractions, shops and restaurants. Full country style breakfast. 4 rooms.

5 Best Western Amsterdam \$, \$\$

(0.5 mile from trail)
10 Market Street, Amsterdam, NY 12010
(518) 843-5760

Rooms, restaurant, and outdoor pool.

6 Glen Sanders Mansion Inn \$\$\$

(less than 1 mile from trail)
1 Glen Avenue, Scotia, NY 12302
(518) 374-7262
email: info@glsandersmansion.com
www.glsandersmansion.com

The inn was built in 1995 along the banks of the Mohawk River and includes 22 deluxe rooms and suites equipped with fireplaces and jacuzzis. It's part of the historic Glen Sanders Mansion Restaurant, serving pub fare to fine dining. Deluxe continental breakfast.

□ **Fort Johnson** was a stone home built by Sir William Johnson in 1749. This building was fortified during the French and Indian War and became known as Fort Johnson. (518-843-0300, May - Oct., Wed.- Sun., 1-5PM)

□ **Canajoharie** is home to **Richardson Brands** (manufacturer of candies, mints, and gum) and Beech-Nut (of gum and baby food fame).

□ The site of the Mohawk Indian village of **Ossernenon**, the **Martyrs' Shrine** at **Auriesville** was established in 1885 as a monument to martyred Jesuit missionaries who were eventually canonized in 1930. (518-853-3033)

□ Where **Schoharie Creek** meets the Mohawk River, the Erie Canal once crossed above the creek on a 600-ft. aqueduct called **Schoharie Aqueduct**. View 7 of the original 14 stone arches from the aqueduct and visit the information center and Erie Canal exhibit at Schoharie Crossing State Historic Site to learn about the history of the canal in this area as it was rerouted over the years. (518-829-7516, May-Oct.)

□ At **Yankee Hill**, a part of Schoharie Crossing State Historic Site, a building that was known as **Putnam's Lock Stand** when the canal was in operation, now houses an exhibit about stores along the Erie Canal.

10 Olde Judge Mansion B&B \$

(2.2 miles from trail)
3300 Sixth Ave., Troy, NY 12180
(518) 274-5698 e-mail: ojm@nycap.rr.com
www.oldejudgemansion.com

Private elegance in a comfortable setting of Italianate-Gothic decor. Troy's best-kept secret. Expanded continental breakfast. 4 rooms.

11 State Street Mansion B&B \$\$, \$\$\$

(1.2 miles from trail)
281 State Street, Albany, NY 12210
(518) 462-6780

Three-story brownstone in Albany's historic Center Square district, one block from Capitol Building and Empire State Plaza. Continental breakfast. 12 rooms, including 1 suite.

12 The Morgan State House & The Washington Park State House \$\$\$

(1.4 miles from trail)
393 State Street, Albany, NY 12210
(518) 427-6063, (888) 427-6063
e-mail: info@statehouse.com
www.statehouse.com

European-styled inn that's a favorite in the region. Located on Washington Park in downtown Albany. Full continental and full breakfast options. 16 rooms or suites.

□ **Amsterdam's** 9.5 acre Riverlink Park sports an elevated walkway with breathtaking views. It links downtown **Amsterdam** to a canal-side plaza area with open-air stage, children's playgrounds, a roller/hockey rink, gardens, and 300 feet of transient boat docking. (518-841-5190)

□ **The Stockade Historic District** in **Schenectady** is one of the oldest and best preserved neighborhoods in the United States, with roots dating back to a 17th century Dutch colonial trading settlement.

□ **Mabee Farm** in **Rotterdam Junction** is a Dutch farm on the Mohawk River, maintained as a living history museum. It contains the Mabee House, generally considered the oldest house in the Mohawk Valley. Built of stone from the cellar to the eaves, this historic building has beams and walls that have withstood ravages of time for three centuries. (518-887-5073, May-Sept. 10AM-4PM)

13 Albany Mansion Hill Inn & Restaurant \$\$\$

(0.7 mile from trail)
115 Philip St. at Park Ave., Albany, NY 12202
(518) 465-2038, (888) 299-0455
e-mail: inn@mansionhill.com
www.mansionhill.com

Albany County's only AAA-approved historic Bed & Breakfast and an award-winning restaurant that serves distinctively prepared dinner nightly. Full, hot, three-course breakfast. 8 rooms.

14 Pine Haven B&B \$, \$\$

(2.9 miles from trail)
531 Western Avenue, Albany, NY 12203
(518) 482-1574 e-mail: pinehavenb@aol.com
www.pinehavenbedandbreakfast.com

A century-old Victorian mansion furnished in antiques, it has the feeling of stepping back in time or visiting your grandmother. Continental plus breakfast. 8 rooms.



□ A remnant of the **Rexford Aqueduct** from the old Erie Canal, which supported a water-tight wooden trough and canal towpath, is still present in the Niskayuna region of **Schenectady County**.

□ Near the Rexford Aqueduct and Aqueduct Park, **canoes and kayaks can be rented** at The Boat House, 2855 Aqueduct Road, **Niskayuna**. (518-393-5711)

□ **General Electric's** corporate research and development facility, sitting on 525 acres in **Niskayuna**, services all 11 GE businesses.

□ Man-made diamonds were first produced at **Knolls Atomic facility** in **Niskayuna**.

□ **Albany, New York's capital**, was founded in 1652 as the Dutch village of Beverwyck. Downtown has many buildings with historic architecture.

□ The **Hudson River Way pedestrian bridge** in **Albany** extends over I-787, from Broadway at Maiden Lane to the Corning Riverfront Park. Serving as a virtual outdoor museum, the bridge is lined with 30 concrete lamp posts, each featuring a mural telling the story of Albany's history.

□ The route from **Albany to Rotterdam**, called the **Mohawk-Hudson Bike-Hike Path**, was built on old towpaths and railroad grades. It parallels two key waterways in the history of the young U.S.A. - the Hudson and Mohawk Rivers. European settlers used these two rivers, the "king's highways," as early trade and transportation routes.

□ In **Waterford** -- where the Champlain Canal meets the Erie Canal/Mohawk River and the Hudson River -- is an engineering triumph called the **Waterford Flight**. The flight includes 5 locks (2 through 6) to form the highest rise of locks in the world. Travelling through the locks, boats rise over 500 feet in elevation in less than an hour and a half.

□ Cruise the Hudson River on **Dutch Apple Cruises**, boarding at Madison Avenue & Broadway in **Albany**. (518-463-0220)

□ Go aboard the **USS SLATER (DE-766) warship** dockside near the Dunn Memorial Bridge in **Albany** to see what life was like for the sailors who manned these vessels. Of the 565 destroyer escorts produced in World War II, this is the only one remaining afloat in the United States, and the only one with original battle armament and configuration. (518-431-1943, Apr.-Nov., 11AM-4PM)

Legend

8 Bed & Breakfast

B Bicycle Shop

R Restaurant

PR Public Restrooms

☆ Attraction

Public Shower

250 State Highway

..... Erie Canalway Trail

--- Section of Mohawk-Hudson Bike-Hike Path

< Lock

↔ Trail Mileage

