

come CLOSER *to 12 Years A Slave*



LAKES TO LOCKS
P A S S A G E

The book and 2014 Oscar Award winning Best Picture *12 Years A Slave* is the true story of a man whose life before, and after, slavery was spent along Lakes to Locks Passage. Born a free black man in the Lake Champlain region, Solomon Northup spent much of his young life working on farms and the Champlain Canal. He was considered a fine fiddler, and was able to earn a living playing. In 1841, Solomon was tricked into traveling to Washington DC, where he was sold into slavery and held captive for twelve years. Upon his return to his wife and family in Glens Falls, Solomon lectured on behalf of the abolitionist movement, telling about his experiences and the evils of slavery. Explore the landscape, history and heritage of Solomon Northup and the Champlain Line of the Underground Railroad.



National Geographic Geotourism Partner



Solomon Northup Historic Marker at the Saratoga Springs Heritage Area
Visitors Center

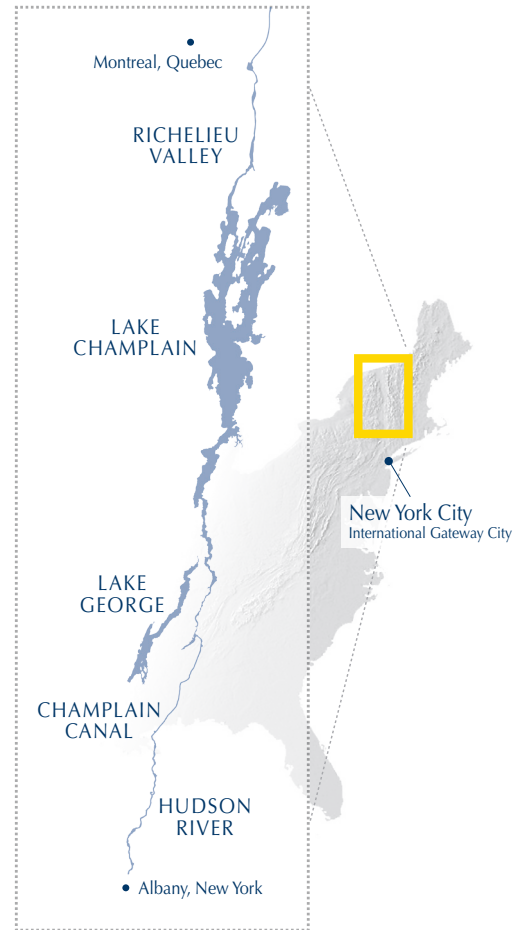
NOT-TO-BE-MISSED EXPERIENCES

On July 4, 1827, New York State emancipated all slaves born after 1799 as a plan for gradual emancipation of the slaves in New York State. A network of secret routes and safe houses, known as the Underground Railroad, drew freedom-seekers through shaded, and often treacherous, terrain on their journey to liberation. Because of the limitations of a culture deemed a “secret,” many of the destinations listed in this itinerary have come from folklore, local legend, and oral histories.



Old Fort House Museum, Fort Edward, NY

- **The 12 Years A Slave online interactive itinerary** is your travel itinerary to the story of Solmon Northup and the Underground Railroad.
- The **Capital District Underground Railroad History Project** manages the Meyers Home in downtown Albany, NY and runs an Underground Railroad Walking Tour in Troy, NY.
- Discover **Mowry Park** in Greenwich, a seedbed of the anti-slavery movement, and follow the Underground Railroad Walking Tour past many of the houses that harbored fugitive slaves.
- Visit the **Old Fort House Museum**, Fort Edward, the home once occupied by Solomon Northup and his family while he wrote *12 Years A Slave*.
- Explore the **Northstar Underground Railroad Museum** in AuSable Chasm to learn the history of the Champlain line of the Underground Railroad.
- Visit the **John Brown Farm State Historic Site** in Lake Placid to find the final resting place of John Brown, of Harper’s Ferry fame.
- Discover the **Stone Chair** in Fort Ann and decode the map to find where it leads you.



The best travel advice comes from the people who live here.

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