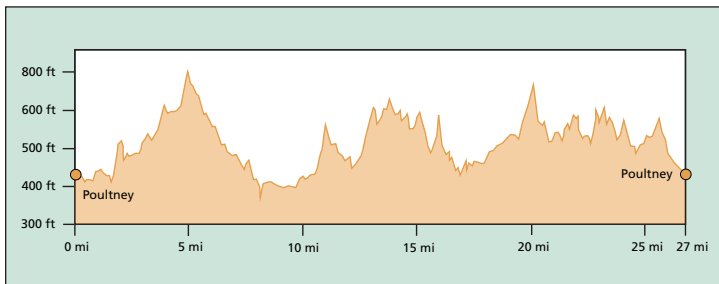


The Slate Valley Bicycle Loop

A 27-mile loop from Green Mountain College in Poultney, VT through Granville and West Pawlet.

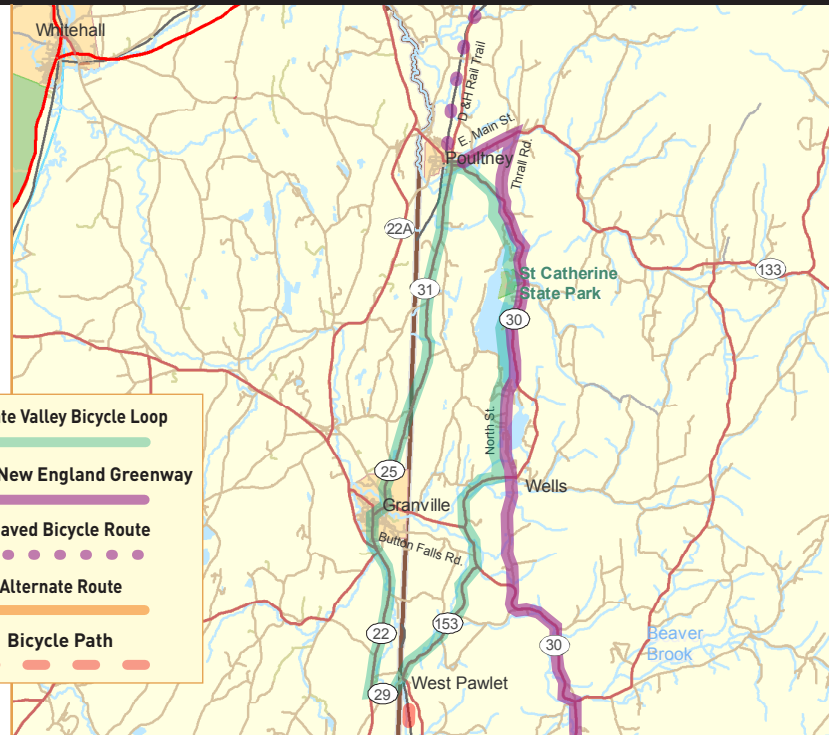


Start at Routes 140 & 31

- 0.0** South on Rt. 31 (South St.).
- 5.5** VT / NY State line - proceed on NY State Rt. 25.
- 7.9** R onto Rt. 149 (Main St.) Granville.
- 8.0** L onto River St. - Slate Valley Museum is on the right.
- 8.1** L onto Water St.
- 8.2** R onto Church St.
- 9.0** L onto Rt. 22.
- 11.9** L onto County Rt. 29.
- 12.6** L onto Rt. 153 - West Pawlet.
- 15.8** L onto Rt. 30.
- 18.7** L onto North St. in Wells.
- 20.6** R onto Lake Rd.
- 20.8** L onto Rt. 30 - Check for traffic carefully.
- 26.8** Poultney

For a shorter ride with less climbing turn left at mile point 8.4, Button Falls Rd. Leaving Granville. Turn left at Rt. 30 which is mile point 16.7 on the route. Short route distance is about 21 miles.

The D&H Rail Trail goes from Poultney to Castleton and goes through Poultney 1 block west of the start.



Safety Guidelines

Motorists and bicyclists share scenic roads. Use caution on narrow, winding or unpaved roadway. Follow traffic laws and ride safely. Bicycles are vehicles by law and have the right to use public roads. You are responsible for operating your bicycle under all conditions.

When cycling, please follow these guidelines:

1. WEAR A HELMET and cycling gloves.
2. Ride with the flow of traffic.
3. When using travel lanes, follow motor vehicle laws. Obey all traffic signs and signals. Do not cut corners.
4. Use clear hand signals when making turns or stopping.
5. Ride in a straight line at least 3 feet from parked cars or curbs.
6. If you must ride at night, use lights and reflectors.
7. Ride defensively! Be aware of motorists' actions.
8. Be aware of train tracks and other road conditions.
9. Ride single file.
10. Carry items in panniers or a handle-bar pack.



Disclaimer: Users assume all risks, inherent and not inherent, in the use of materials recommending routes of the Lake Champlain Bikeways network and all affiliated organizations, and individuals disclaim any and all liability on their part for damages or injuries to persons or property should they occur. Routes are chosen, designated and/or signed because: they are popular, or are preferred, or provide continuous routes to destinations, or are lightly traveled, or are scenic, or have more room for cars and bikes, or possess a combination of these attributes.



**Champlain Valley
National Heritage Partnership**



The Slate Valley Bicycle Loop

The Vermont – New York border area north of Albany has been mining country for many years. The extent of this enterprise is not that visible from the ground unless you are in the right place or look closely. From the air or using Google Earth the quarries can be seen everywhere. Marble is the principal product in the Rutland VT area but this route explores the slate industry which straddles the border in the Granville, NY and Pawlet, VT area.

Slate roofs are known for their durability and have been used for years as a high quality roofing material. The material comes in many colors which make it ideal for creating the patterned roofs that are frequently seen. What is not known by many is the process that is required to take the stone from the ground and turn it into the thin slabs that we take for granted. This process and the history of the industry in the area are presented in the Slate Valley Museum in Granville, NY. Small but complete, the museum allows a good understanding of the process and history in a quick tour or you could spend hours examining the many collections of material.

Starting in Poultney, VT., home of Green Mountain College, the route heads south to Granville on a lightly traveled road that has the kinds of ups and downs that make bicycling enjoyable. Heading on south to West Pawlet will allow you to see quarries up close and really appreciate what you saw in the museum. The ride can be shortened by taking Button Falls Rd. from Granville to Rt. 30, south of Wells. This is a lovely flat road that parallels Rt. 149, has less traffic and also provides views of the quarries from a distance. It is a nice enough road to ride it from Rt. 30 for a way on the way back from West Pawlet.



Abandoned mill entrance.

Acknowledgements

This bicycle route was developed through a partnership between Lake Champlain Bikeways and the Champlain Valley National Heritage Partnership. Funding provided by the National Park Service.



Lake Champlain Bikeways Mission

To promote bicycling throughout the Lake Champlain regions of New York, Vermont and Québec for the purposes of increasing opportunities for bicycle recreation and transportation, improving the quality of life, enhancing the economic vitality, advocating for sustainable communities, encouraging healthy lifestyles and raising public awareness and appreciation of inherent scenic, historic, cultural, natural, and recreational resources throughout the area.

Lake Champlain Bikeways Clearinghouse

Contact us to order a variety of LCB publications, as well as other regional bicycling information:
Lake Champlain Bikeways, c/o Local Motion Trailside Center
One Steele Street #103
Burlington, VT 05401
802.652.BIKE (2453)
info@champlainbikeways.org, www.champlainbikeways.org



Slate Valley Museum.



Quarry Pole.



Champlain Valley
National Heritage Partnership

