



# come CLOSER

*to the Battle of Bennington*



## LAKES TO LOCKS P A S S A G E



National Geographic Geotourism Partner



In August of 1777, Lieutenant Colonel Friedrich Baum found himself a long way from his home in Braunschweig-Wolfenbüttel, what is now a part of Lower Saxony in Germany. The Duke, Karl Wilhelm Ferdinand, provided Baum and nearly 4000 of his fellow servicemen, to his brother-in-law, King George III of Great Britain, in order to put down the Rebellion in America. They were led by British General John Burgoyne, but when Burgoyne found his military campaign in serious need of provisions, draft animals, and a military diversion, Baum was sent to lead a raid on a supply depot in Bennington, VT. Speaking only his native German, and having little field experience in commanding a multinational force of nearly 800 German, British, Canadian, American and Native troops, Baum and his force departed from the British encampment on the Hudson River. They marched along a rugged route their enemy, the rebel Americans, had cut just the year before, to what they believed was a scantily guarded depot. This story is the anatomy of a disastrous event ... explore Lt. Col. Friedrich Baum's ill-fated journey to the Battle of Bennington, and experience some of the most stunning landscape to be found along New York's Lakes to Locks Passage.

Battle of Bennington by F.C. Yohn provided courtesy of the Chapman Historical Museum, Glens Falls, NY

# NOT-TO-BE-MISSED EXPERIENCES



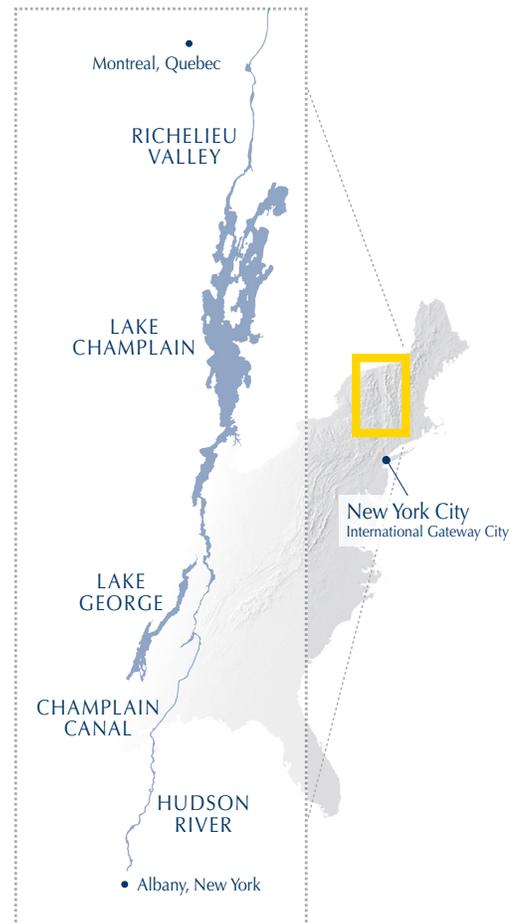
Battle of Bennington Courtesy of the New York Public Library Digital Collection

- **Road to the Battle of Bennington PassagePort** follows Lt. Col. Friedrich Baum's ill-fated military excursion during the American Revolution.
- The **Hamlet of Fort Miller, NY** served as a gathering place for Burgoyne's army and detail, though the landscape has changed significantly since the construction of the Canal. A kiosk marks the starting place of the tour.
- **The Schuyler House** is the home of American General Philip Schuyler. German diarist Julius Wasmus reports seeing the Schuyler House and a church from his camp on the opposite shore.
- Baum's route runs south of **Greenwich, NY**. Greenwich is a beautiful 19th century village that was just a mill town at the time of Baum's arrival. Scavenging troops harassed early settlers.
- **The Checkered House** served as Baum's headquarters. World-famous folkartists Grandma Moses depicted the Checkered house in two paintings.
- **Bennington Battlefield State Historic Site** is the location where Baum clashed with American General John Stark on August 16, 1777.



Bennington Battlefield State Historic Site

Lakes to Locks PassagePort



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# come CLOSER

*to the Turning Point*



## LAKES TO LOCKS P A S S A G E

The Turning Point Trail guides you through the landscape that led to the American victory at the Battle of Saratoga, an event many historians consider the “Turning Point of the American Revolution.” From the beginning of the war, Britain’s goal was to take control of the interconnected waterway from Montreal to New York City thereby breaking off New England, the seedbed of the Revolution, from the rest of the continent. Follow in the footsteps of British General John Burgoyne, a.k.a. “Gentleman Johnny,” through a stunning landscape where you will hear descriptions of the epic conflicts, and first-hand accounts of military life in the wilderness of the New World.



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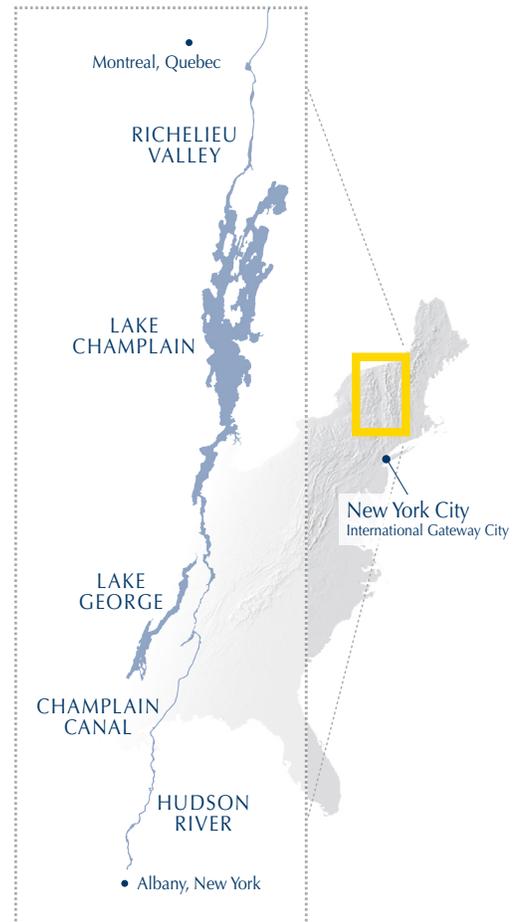
Surrender of General Burgoyne by John Trumbull Courtesy of the Architect of the Capitol

# NOT-TO-BE-MISSED EXPERIENCES

- **Fort Ticonderoga** was a legendary French and Indian War fortification, and the Americans relied on the post to hold the British in Canada.
- **Whitehall, NY** earned the title “the Birthplace of the US Navy” when Benedict Arnold led a makeshift Navy from Whitehall in 1776.
- **Old Fort House Museum** is an 18th century house museum constructed from timbers from Fort Edward. British General John Burgoyne temporarily setup headquarters here.
- **Hudson Crossing Park** is a destination of historic and geological significance located at a natural river crossing. In 1777, John Burgoyne’s army crossed the Hudson here with a “bridge of boats.”
- **Saratoga Battlefield**, a part of the Saratoga National Historical Park, tells the story of the first and second Battles of Saratoga.
- **Schuyler Mansion**, a part of the Saratoga National Historical Park, is a house museum in the home of American General and canal advocate Philip Schuyler.
- **Victory Woods**, a part of the Saratoga National Historical Park, is a interpretive trail that tells the story of Burgoyne’s final days before his surrender.
- **Saratoga Monument**, a part of the Saratoga National Historical Park, is a 155-foot obelisk commemorating the American victory at Saratoga. There are four notches around the monument, each containing a statue except one that was left empty for the unsung hero of the Battles of Saratoga.



Saratoga Monument Courtesy of the Saratoga Chamber of Commerce



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# come CLOSER

*to the Champlain Canal*



## LAKES TO LOCKS

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### PASSAGE

Originally built as a feeder line for “Clintons Ditch,” the Champlain Canal played a significant role in the growth of the Industrial Revolution in New York and America. The communities that dot the landscape between Waterford (Lock 1) and Whitehall (Lock 12) are rooted in the economic opportunities that the natural and manmade waterways made available to them. As you boat up the Hudson River and Champlain Canal to Lake Champlain and Quebec, you will discover that many of these communities have not changed much since the boom days of the mid-nineteenth century. Remnants of the turbulent military battles of early American history, factory row houses and high Victorian manors, rolling hills and calm waters, bells of canal boats and soothing chirp of crickets all await mariners on Americas first super highway.



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New York State Canal Corp Tugboat Urger in Whitehall New York  
Courtesy of Leslie Dixon

# NOT-TO-BE-MISSED EXPERIENCES

- **Canal Welcome Center** in Waterford, NY is the gateway to New York State's canal system, operated by the New York State Canal Corporation.
- **Champlain Canalway Trail** is a multi-use trail developed alongside the Canal.
- **Tug Boat Roundup** is an annual gathering in Waterford, NY, where visitors are welcome to explore historic tug boats.
- **Mohawk Maiden Cruises** offers regular cruises from Lock 5 Park telling the story of the American Revolution and the Champlain Canal.
- **Hudson Crossing Park** is a destination of historic and geological significance located north of Schuylerville at Champlain Canal Lock 5.
- **Skenesborough Museum** is located just off the Whitehall's free Terminal Wall, and tells the story of this gateway to Lake Champlain.
- **The Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor** tells the story of New York State's 524-mile canal system.



The Five Combines



Whitehall Canal Terminal Wall



The Glens Falls Feeder Canal



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# come CLOSER

*to The Struggle for Empire*



## LAKES TO LOCKS P A S S A G E



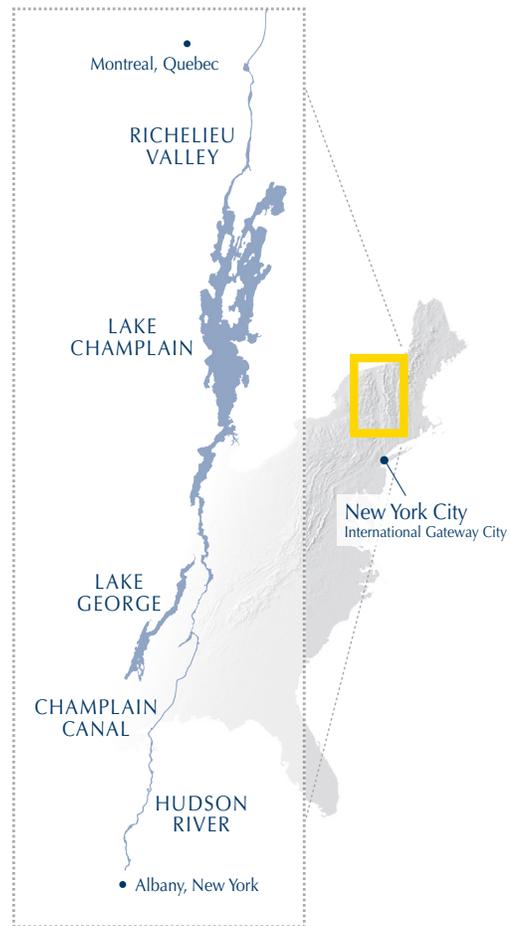
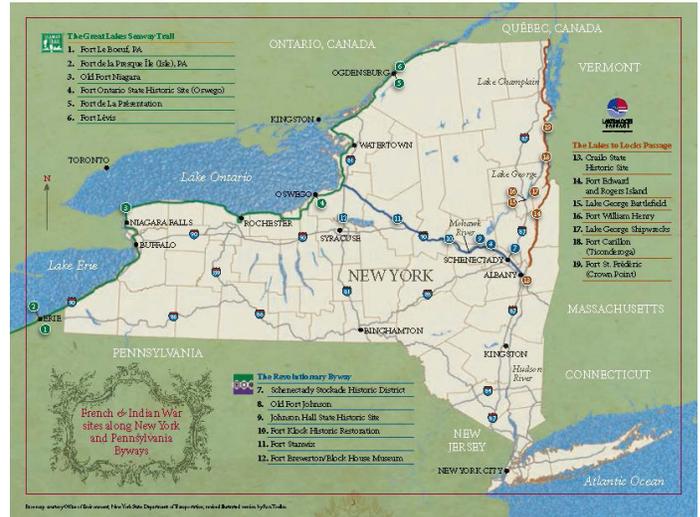
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The super-powers of the 18th century, France and Great Britain, contested for the destiny of North America along a strategic triangle of waterways in today's New York State during the French and Indian War. Today, three New York State Byway routes correspond to the three legs of the New York waterway triangle. Lakes to Locks Passage guides the traveler to key sites along the Albany to Montreal route; the Great Lakes Seaway Trail links the St. Lawrence River to Lake Ontario and Lake Erie; and the Revolutionary Byway connects Lake Ontario to Albany. Ultimately, the French and Indian War transformed the control of the North American continent. The French retained only two small islands as fishing bases; and the Indians, having allied themselves with the French or the British, found themselves to have gained nothing except empty promises. But the British were suddenly faced with managing what would prove to be an unmanageable landscape, and a freshly energized colonial population. Explore the stories, struggles, forts and outposts of the French and Indian War that were built along these waterways through this itinerary, guidebook and PBS documentary *The Forgotten War*.

# NOT-TO-BE-MISSED EXPERIENCES

- **The Forgotten War PBS Documentary** tells the little-known story of how the native people of North America controlled the outcome of this war that defined our history as a nation and a people.
- **Waterways of War: The Struggle for Empire 1754-63 Guidebook** is a travelers guide to the Forts and Battlefields in New York and Pennsylvania.
- **The Forgotten War Interactive Museum Documentaries** offers video shorts, scholarly interviews and lesson plans for parents and educators.
- **Crailo State Historic Site** was a staging ground for troops moving north or west. The song *Yankee Doodle* was written by a well in the back of the house.
- **Rogers Island Visitor Center** was home to Roger's Rangers. Roger's 28 Rules of Ranging is still taught to U.S. Army Rangers.
- **Fort William Henry** was built by the British in 1755 to command the southern end of Lake George, and popularized by *Last of the Mohicans* by James Fenimore Cooper.
- **Lake George Shipwrecks** offers an underwater trail system for experienced scuba divers featuring several batteaux scuttled in 1758.
- **Fort Ticonderoga National Historical Landmark** is a legendary destination often referred to as the key to the continent.



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# come CLOSER *to RiverSpark*



## LAKES TO LOCKS P A S S A G E

**A**long Lakes to Locks Passage, abundant natural resources and cheap waterpower sparked the growth of America's first major industrial communities. RiverSpark is New York State's first Heritage Area, embracing the communities of Cohoes, Colonie, Green Island, Troy, Waterford, and Watervliet. In the middle of the 19th century, this was the center of the thriving iron and textile industries; the birthplace of America's industrial revolution and some of the nation's first labor union activities. Located at the confluence of New York's Hudson and Mohawk Rivers, this transportation hub is a network of rivers, canals, railroads, and highways, expanding in all directions. The following itinerary connects selected points of interest that can be explored in the RiverSpark Heritage Area.



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# NOT-TO-BE-MISSED EXPERIENCES

- **Burden Iron Works Museum** tells the story of the Industrial Revolution in Troy in a historic Romaesque Revival building portrayed in *The Age of Innocence* and other Hollywood films.
- **Rensselaer County Historical Society** offers regular tours of downtown Troy highlighting the unique stories and distinctive architecture.
- **Troy Savings Bank Music Hall** is a performing arts venue deemed to be one of the acoustic marvels of the world by the New York Times.
- Second only to Niagara, **Cohoes Falls**, also known as the Great Falls of the Mohawk, is one of the largest waterfalls east of the Rocky Mountains.
- A **Self Guided Tour of the Erie Canal in Cohoes** offers visitors a view of the remnants of the old canal.
- **The Pruyn House** is a 1825 historic home on a museum complex telling the story of the areas early Dutch influence.
- **The Waterford Historical Museum** tells the unique stories of the immigrant culture that grew up around the canal.



Uncle Sam Parade, Troy, NY  
Courtesy of Rensselaer County Tourism



View from the Collar City Bridge



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# come CLOSER

*to Saratoga Springs*



## LAKES TO LOCKS

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## PASSAGE



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Nationally acclaimed museums, performing arts, fine dining, and horseracing are just a few of exciting things that can be experienced in and around Saratoga Springs. Natural mineral springs were the driving force for the growth for this promising small city. "Taking the waters," long a European tradition, attracted Presidents, political leaders, and celebrities of the 19th century. The Vanderbilts, Rockefellers, J.P Morgan and others added glamor to the City, building their ornate homes in the various architectural styles of their day.

With the arrival of the social elite and the wealthy, horseracing was a natural development; it flourished until the name Saratoga became synonymous with racing. Today, a trip to Saratoga encompasses bubbling springs, the Saratoga Spa State Park, eight historic districts, a vibrant downtown, flourishing cultural life, as well as racing season in the summer. Visit the small City of Saratoga Springs and discover why Travel + Leisure magazine has listed it as one of the coolest Main Streets in America.

Saratoga Race Course Courtesy of the Saratoga Chamber of Commerce

# NOT-TO-BE-MISSED EXPERIENCES

- **Saratoga Springs Heritage Area Visitors Center** is a gateway portal to the city and local events.
- **The Saratoga Natural Springs Tour** brochure is available at the Visitors Center, and offers a guide to Saratoga's 17 natural mineral water springs.
- **Saratoga Race Track** is the oldest operating sports venue in the United States
- **National Museum of Racing and Hall of Fame** celebrates the history and culture of horseracing in the United States.
- **National Museum of Dance and Dance Hall of Fame** is located in the historic Washington Bath house and is one of the few museums in the world dedicated to dance.
- **Saratoga Performing Arts Center** offers a variety of annual performances from the New York City Ballet and Philadelphia Orchestra to the annual Jazz Festival and rock concerts.
- **Saratoga State Park** offers multi-use trails, nationally acclaimed golf course, the Little Theatre, picnic areas and many other amenities.
- **New York State Military Museum** contains the states vast collection of military paraphanelia, including the largest collection of State Civil War flags in the U.S.
- **Beekman Street Arts District** offers a variety of art galleries and boutiques by local artists and artisans.



Broadway Saratoga Springs New York  
Courtesy of Saratoga Chamber of Commerce



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*to the Northern Turnpike*



LAKES TO LOCKS  
P A S S A G E

Take a journey along the old stagecoach route of the Northern Turnpike, and discover a landscape that spawned industrialists, and inspired artists. Fertile farmlands and abundant raw materials spurred the development of a good toll road from the Slate Valley to Troy, the hub of the Industrial Revolution. Not much has changed since the boom days of the mid-19th century, the scenery and architecture that inspired artists like Grandma Moses and Norman Rockwell remains the same. This itinerary will take you through a scenic landscape with farmstands that abound with fresh fruits, vegetables, and baked goods to historic villages, dotted with museums, galleries and performing arts venues.

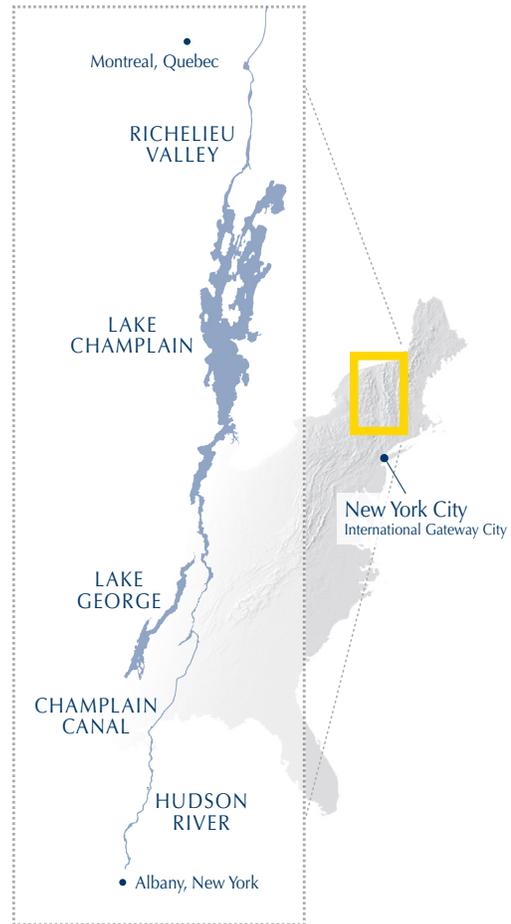


# NOT-TO-BE-MISSED EXPERIENCES



Salem Art Works

- Visit the **Rensselaer County Historical Society** and learn about the industrial heritage of Troy, NY.
- Listen to live music at the **Troy Savings Bank Music Hall**, which the New York Times calls one of the acoustic marvels of the world.
- Find farm fresh goods at the **Troy Farmers Market**.
- Discover four **covered bridges** listed on the National Register of Historic Places.
- Experience one the **Historic Salem Courthouse**, one of the best preserved 19th century courtrooms in the entire state.
- Explore **Salem Art Works** and see the Cary Hill Sculpture Park.
- Take a tour or spend the night at **The Sheldon Mansion**, a Historic Inn and Bed and Breakfast that was constructed by Slate Baron Fredrick C. Sheldon of rare red slate.



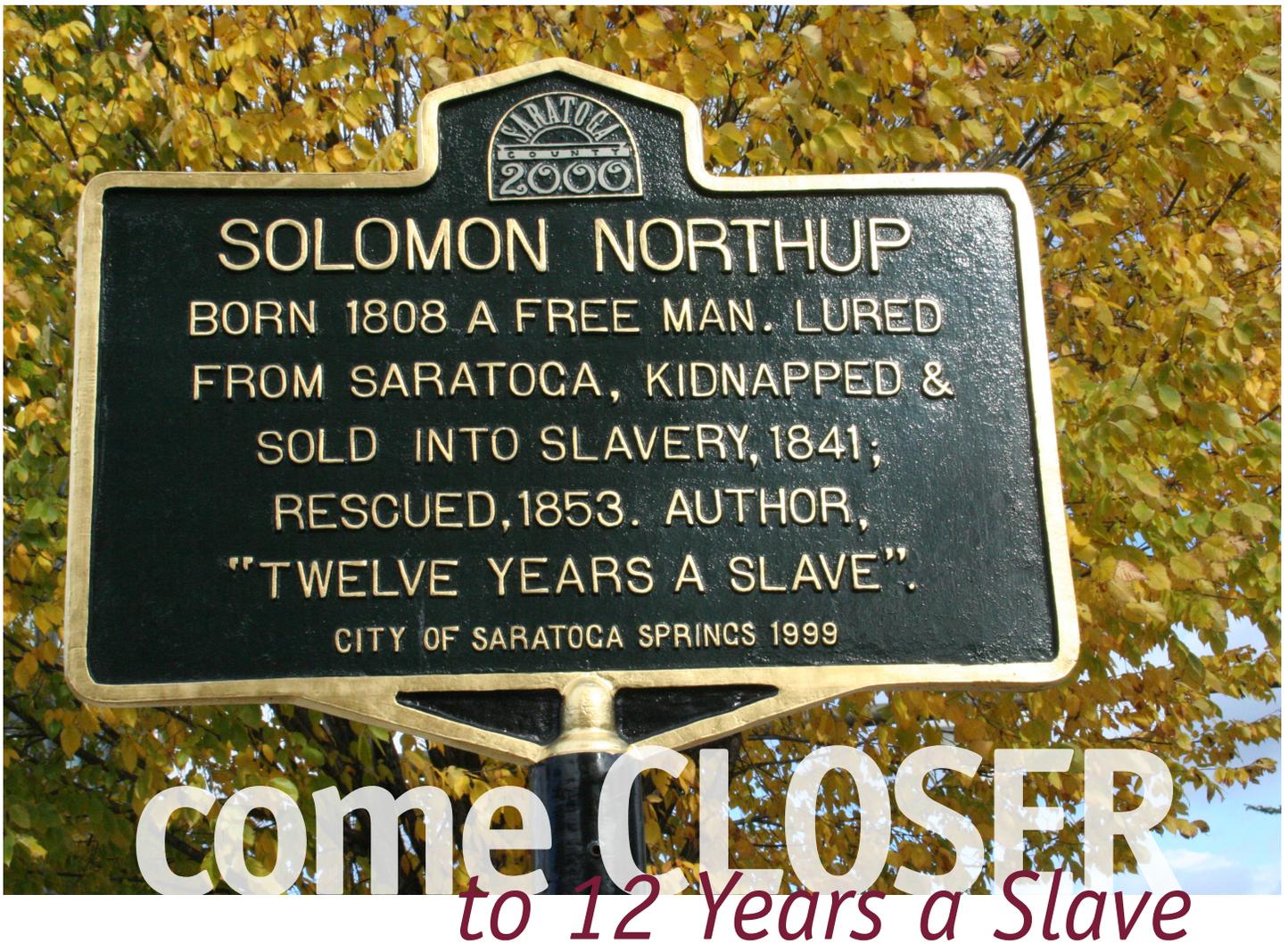
Main St. Salem, NY, Courtesy of Sara Kelly

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## 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 the farm 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, NY, 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.



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

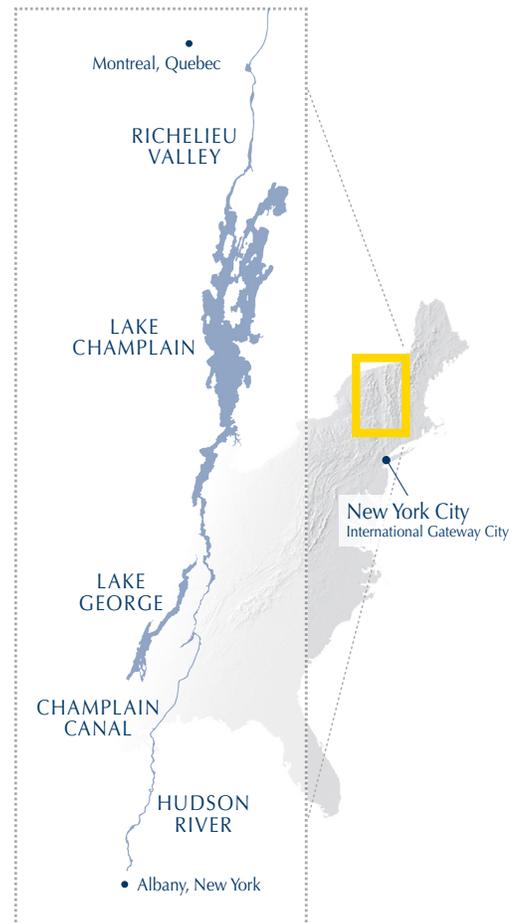
# NOT-TO-BE-MISSED EXPERIENCES

On July 4, 1827, under Gov. DeWitt Clinton, 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 in researching a culture deemed “secret,” many of the destinations listed in this itinerary have come from folk lore, local legend, and oral histories.



Old Fort House Museum, Fort Edward, NY

- 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 (once known as Whipple City), 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.



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