

## HeartCycle Bicycle Touring Club

# THE BEAUTIFUL BERKSHIRES

- Dates:** Orientation Meeting, Friday May 19, 2023. Riding Saturday May 20th - Friday May 26, 2023 with departures Saturday May 27, 2023 (lodging last night is included)
- Leaders:** Richard Crocker, Patty Menz;  
**SAGs:** Kathleen Schnidler, Mayoma Pendergast
- Miles:** Approximately 275 miles with up to 17,350 vertical feet of climbing
- Rating:** Intermediate to Advanced
- Riders:** 30, plus two leaders and two SAGS
- Price:** \$1,900 (double occupancy) Single Supplement \$2,850  
Deposit \$450. Balance due February 8th, 2023
- Cancellation:** [Standard Cancellation Policy](#). Travel insurance is recommended
- Bike Transportation:** None, the club Sprinter will not be used on this tour.

### OVERVIEW

Come join Rich, Patty, Kathleen and Mayoma on this new Heartcycle tour traveling through four Northeastern states. Serene mountain vistas, lush forests, and clear mountain lakes define the idyllic landscape of the Berkshires. This mountain range is located in western Massachusetts and northwestern Connecticut. The area is home to many small villages and towns, and it is known for its cultural attractions. Our tour starts and ends in Albany, NY.



## ITINERARY

**Day 1, May 19, 2023**—Orientation Meeting, 6 pm at the hotel

**Day 2, Saturday, May 20, 2023**—Albany to Great Barrington, 58 miles, 3328’

We leave the city of Albany, the capital of New York, and cycle through farmlands into the rolling hills at the foot of the Berkshires. We will spend two nights in Great Barrington, the epicenter of the southern Berkshires. The town has many restaurants and shops to explore within walking distance from the hotel. The Housatonic Riverwalk is a lovely stroll along the river just steps off Main Street.



**Day 3, May 21, 2023**-- Bish Bash Falls, 49 miles, 3084’ Today’s loop from the hotel takes us southwest to climb through Mount Washington State Forest to Bish Bash Falls, the highest waterfall in the state of Massachusetts. The falls are made up of a series of cascades nearly 200 feet in total. A sag stop there will allow you to bring shoes for the short hike to the falls.



**Day 4, May 22, 2023**—Great Barrington to Stockbridge, 47 miles, 2137'

The ride today takes us south into northwestern Connecticut through the town of Canaan. We will visit the Upper Sheffield Covered bridge, site of an alleged alien abduction on Sept 1, 1969. Our final destination is the Red Lion Inn where we will stay for two nights. The Red Lion Inn is a historic landmark dating back to 1773. It houses four floors of museum quality antiques, colonial artwork and curiosities. On your arrival, enjoy a favorite beverage while rocking on one of the many chairs on the long front porch.



**Day 5, May 23, 2023**--Day off in Stockbridge

Stockbridge is a small New England town and the Red Lion Inn is the centerpiece of the village. Nearby is the Norman Rockwell Museum and the Berkshire Botanical Gardens. Tanglewood, the summer home of the Boston Symphony Orchestra and host to contemporary music, jazz and popular artists, is only six miles from the inn. James Taylor, John Williams, and the Boston Pops make frequent appearances.





**Day 6, May 24, 2023**-- Stockbridge to Williamstown, 47 miles, 4313' or 49 miles, 2858' (no Greylock, rail trail option)

A day for the climbers! This ride will take us up Mt. Greylock, the highest mountain in Massachusetts. Lunch will be at the top with beautiful views of the surrounding area. After lunch, it's a long gradual descent into the town of Williamstown, where we will stay for two nights. Williamstown is a small college town with a focus on art. You might want to visit some of the many art galleries and enjoy dinner downtown in one of the restaurants.



**Day 7, May 25, 2023--Natural Bridge Park, 25 miles, 1761'**

We will take it a little easier today after our Mt Greylock climb. This loop takes us into Vermont with a visit to the beautiful Natural Bridge Park, home of the only white marble natural arch in North America. Our Sag stop here will allow for time to walk around the park and enjoy its rocky gorges and white marble waterfall.



**Day 8 May 26, 2023-Williamstown to Albany, 50 miles, 2717'**

Our final day ride will not disappoint as we cycle roads with many beautiful, memorable views of the Berkshires. Lunch will be in a picturesque pond-side park just outside of Albany. This final night's stay in Albany is included in your tour package.

**Day 9 May 27, 2023—Departure**

**For questions contact:**

Tour Leaders—

Rich Crocker, [richcrocker@hotmail.com](mailto:richcrocker@hotmail.com)

Patty Menz, [pattymenz1@verizon.net](mailto:pattymenz1@verizon.net)