

# Lower Blackstone Valley Mill Tours Bike Map

## Points of Interest

1. Blackstone Valley Visitor Center
2. Slater Mill
3. Central Falls Mill District
4. Happy Hollow Pond
5. Cumberland Town Hall
6. Lonsdale Village
7. Blackstone River Bikeway
8. Blackstone Canal Route
9. Berkeley Village
10. Kelly House/ Quinville
11. Ashton Mill
12. P&W Railroad
13. Albion Mill
14. Blackstone River
15. The Mill at Marville
16. Cumberland Hill
17. Nate Whipple Highway  
Sneech Pond
18. Diamond Hill Road
19. Cistercian Monastery
20. Ann and Hope Mill
21. Valley Falls Park

- |  |           |  |                   |
|--|-----------|--|-------------------|
|  | Parking   |  | Long Tour         |
|  | Bathrooms |  | Short Tour Cutoff |
|  | Food      |  | RIPTA Bus Stop    |
|  | Ice cream |  | Use Caution!      |
|  | One Way   |  |                   |

**Pawtucket State Park**  
 111 West 12th Street, Pawtucket, RI 02860  
 401-734-0200

**RI STATE**  
 Department of Environmental Management  
 100 Water Street, Providence, RI 02903  
 401-222-2300

For a full schedule provided by the Commission, please visit:  
[www.visitri.com](http://www.visitri.com)

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## Lower Blackstone Valley Mill Tour Pawtucket, Cumberland, Lincoln, RI

### Introduction:

Two bicycle tours explore the historic lower Blackstone River Valley. Both routes encompass many mill sites of the first valley industries and take riders through the countryside in Pawtucket, Cumberland, and Lincoln, RI.

1. Blackstone Valley Visitor Center. Opens year round, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
2. Slater Mill is the birthplace of the American Industrial Revolution.
3. The historic Central Falls Mill District was the site of many early mills along the Blackstone River in the 1700's.
4. Happy Hollow Pond is a source of water for Pawtucket.
5. Cumberland Town Hall at the corner of Mill and Broad Streets was built in 1894. The SAMUEL SLATER, a canal boat, America's only floating British Bed & Breakfast, is docked nearby at the Blackstone River Bridge.
6. Lonsdale Village is one of several areas developed by the Lonsdale Company to house workers in nearby mills.
7. The Blackstone River Bikeway Trailhead and parking area provides parking for families who wish to take the shorter tour.
8. The Blackstone Canal built by Irish immigrants between 1824 and 1828 to transport goods to the commercial centers upriver enjoyed a short lifespan and was soon replaced by the railroad.
9. The mill at Berkeley Village was built in the 1870's. The Berkeley Mill used steam as an energy source because it was too far from the river to use the Blackstone for power.
10. Quinnville was the first mill village built in Lincoln. Wilbur Kelly, captain of the clipper ship Ann and Hope, built and owned the Kelly House and a mill at this site near the Rte. 116 overpass. The finest ship in the Brown & Ives company fleet was named Ann & Hope after the wives of the owners, Nicholas Brown's wife, Ann and Thomas Ives, Hope.
11. The Ashton Mill and village was built by the Lonsdale Company in the 1860's during a period of major expansion.
12. The Blackstone Bikeway continues along the Blackstone River from Ashton village to Marville beside an active rail line owned by the Providence & Worcester Railroad Co.
13. The Albion Mill, a cotton mill, has been converted to condominiums.
14. Our ancestors used The Blackstone River as a source of drinking water, and transportation. Native American artifacts dating back as

far as 5000 years have been found along the river.

15. The Mill at Marville was once the largest cotton mill in the United States under one roof.

16. Cumberland Hill was a stagecoach stop on the tumpike between Providence and Worcester.

17. Nate Whipple Highway past Sneece Pond is a designated Rhode Island bike route.

18. Diamond Hill Road north of route 295 passes farm stands and a winery.

19. The Cistercian Monks built a monastery here in the early 1900's. The monastery was partially destroyed by fire in 1950. Today, a 500-acre park offers hiking, biking and cross-country skiing trails.

20. The Ann and Hope Mill was built on the grave site of Reverend William Blackstone, the first European to settle in this area in 1635. The Ann & Hope Mill was the largest mill built by the Lonsdale Company. Row houses for mill workers line the hill down Blackstone Street between High and Dexter Streets. Across Broad Street is the William Blackstone Park.

21. Valley Falls Park was built on the ruins of the former Valley Falls Textile Mill, built in 1820.

### Rules of the Road

#### Bike Path

- Bicyclists and In-line Skaters - stay to the right.
- Walkers and Joggers - stay to the left (facing bicyclists)
- Cyclists have right of way.

#### On-Road Bike Lane

- Cycle in single file on the right side of the road.
- Use hand signals before you turn.
- Always check behind you before changing lanes or turning.

#### Safety

- Wear a helmet. Helmets are required on all riders and passengers age 15 and younger in RI and 12 and younger in MA.
- Don't use headphones.
- Use reflective gear and clothing at dusk or nighttime.

## 24 & 17 mile Bike Routes

### Long Tour 24 Mile Loop

Total	Seg.	Miles	
0	0		Blackstone Valley Visitor Center parking lot
0.9	0.9		L on Roosevelt Ave.
1.3	0.4		S onto Branch Ave.
1.4	0.1		R at end of Branch Ave.
1.8	0.4		L on Falco Way
2.1	0.3		L on Mill Street.
2.7	0.6		R on Broad St (Rte 114)
3.2	0.5		L on Front St (Rte 123)
3.4	0.2		S through Lonsdale Ave. (Rte 122) Intersection. Front St. becomes John St.
3.8	0.4		R at Blackstone Bikeway entrance.
6.9	3.1		S on Blackstone Bikeway to Kelly House. Take exit uphill to Rte 116 parking area.
7.4	0.5		L on Geo. Washington Hwy (Rte 116) Cross bridge over Blackstone River.
7.7	0.3		R on Mendon Rd. (Rte 122)
7.9	0.2		R on Store Hill Rd
8	0.1		R on Front St
8.2	0.2		S to Blackstone Bikeway. Enter Bike Path
11.3	3.1		S to New River Rd. Exit Bike Path
11.5	0.2		R on New River Rd.
12.3	0.8		R on Marville Hill Rd. (Rte 120)
12.4	0.1		R on Mendon Rd. (Rte 122)
15.1	2.7		L on Nate Whipple Hwy. (Rte 120)
17.4	2.3		R on Diamond Hill Rd. (Rte 114) Rd. becomes High St.
20	2.6		S to Blackstone St.
20.3	0.3		R on Blackstone St.
20.6	0.3		L on Broad St (Rte 123)
20.9	0.3		L on Dexter St
21	0.1		R on High St (Rte 114)
22	1.0		L on Mill St.
22.2	0.2		R on Falco Way
22.6	0.4		Hard R, then left on Branch Ave.
23.1	0.5		S on Roosevelt Ave.
24	0.9		R into Blackstone Valley Vstr Cntr Prk. lot

### Short Tour 17.7 Mile Loop

Total	Seg.	Miles	
0	0		Start at Blackstone Valley Bike Way Trailhead. Follow long tour to Ann & Hope Mill
16.85	16.85		L on Broad St (Rte 114)
16.9	0.05		R on Ann & Hope Way
17.2	0.3		L on Mendon Rd. (Rte 122)
17.5	0.3		R on Front St.
17.7	0.2		R into Blackstone Bikeway Parking area

L is Left, R is Right, S is Straight.

**Wear your bike helmet!**