

Golden Spike 2018

TOUR	DAY	START TIME	START LOCATION	TOUR TITLE	TOUR LEADER	MODE	TOTAL LENGTH	DURATION
1	FRIDAY AND SATURDAY	2:30 PM	SMITH COLLEGE BOTANIC GARDEN College Lane	Mill River Greenway Explore the path of the Mill River from Smith College to Licking Water, downtown before it was diverted away from the city center in 1940. At each stop along the way, local experts will reveal bits of history about the particular location and archival photos and maps will be explained.	<u>John Sinton</u> is one of the principals of the Mill River Greenway Initiative whose mission is to design and create a greenway along the Mill River that protects the watershed, preserves cultural artifacts and encourages recreational activities. John is a trained historian and is currently writing a book on the history of the Mill River.	Walking	3 miles	90 minutes
2	FRIDAY AND SATURDAY	2:30 PM	UNION STATION PARKING LOT	Complete Streets Participate in a guided, walking tour of the recently revamped gateway to downtown Northampton. This stretch of Pleasant Street recently upgraded to meet new MA DOT standards incorporates a variety of Complete Street safety and design features that provide safety and accessibility for all users of all abilities including pedestrians, bicyclists, transit riders and motorists.	<u>Wayne Feiden</u> is the Director of Northampton's Office of Planning and Sustainability and the chief architect of the City's Complete Streets program. His focus includes sustainability, downtown revitalization, multimodal transportation, open space preservation, assessments, and management.	Walking	2 miles	90 minutes
3	FRIDAY AND SATURDAY	2:30 PM	UNION STATION PARKING LOT	History and Development of Downtown Northampton Find out the key ingredients and factors that have made Northampton one of the top 20 "Small Cities" in the country. Join us on this 1.5 mile walk as we explore the historical, economic and cultural developments that can serve as examples for other small New England cities.	<u>Amy Cahillane</u> is the Director of the Downtown Northampton Association and an advocate of livable downtowns that embrace the energy of diverse businesses and residents. <u>Elizabeth Sharpe</u> is the Co-Director of Historic Northampton in addition to teaching a variety of history courses at UMass Amherst and other local colleges.	Walking	1.5 miles	90 minutes

4	FRIDAY AND SATURDAY	2:30 PM	ELKS LODGE 17 Spring St, Florence	<p>History of African Americans and the Underground Railroad in Florence</p> <p>Join us on a relaxed bike ride as we explore some of the significant historical sites of Florence's mid 1800s Abolitionist and Utopian Communities. Stories of Sojourner Truth, the Underground Railroad, the early Silk Mill industries and Florence Water Cures will highlight this tour.</p>	<p><u>Steve Strimer</u> serves on the Board of the David Ruggles Center and Historic Northampton while also working full-time at the worker-owned Collective Copies and assisting local authors through Levellers Press. Supporting Steve with the tour will be Board Members of the David Ruggles Center; <u>Suzanne Love Goldscheider</u> and <u>Tom Goldscheider</u></p>	Biking	2.5 miles	2 hours
5	SATURDAY ONLY	2:30 PM	UNION STATION PARKING LOT	<p>The Manhan Rail Trail (Easthampton)</p> <p>Follow the remains of the 1915 New Haven to Northampton canal that has become one of the states treasured rail-trails. Explore the natural highlights of the area while learning about the funding and engineering strategies of the trail's development</p>	<p><u>Steve Donnelly</u> serves on the Board of the Friends of the Manhan Rail Trail and was instrumental in conceiving the trail that opened in 2004. A history buff, Steve is a regular contributor to the <i>Historical Journal of Massachusetts</i></p>	Biking	10 miles	2 hours
6	FRIDAY AND SATURDAY	2:30 PM	UNION STATION PARKING LOT	<p>The MCRT's Norwottuck Trail</p> <p>Explore 7 miles of one of the key segments of the MA. Central Rail Trail (MCRT) that connects the UMass Amherst campus with local communities. Enjoy great views of the CT. River and local farmlands while the tour leader describes the challenges and successes of this trail's development.</p>	<p><u>Pete Sutton</u> is the MassDOT Bicycle and Pedestrian Program Coordinator and an advocate of alternative transportation models and Chairman of the MA. Pedestrian and Bicycle Advisory Committee <u>Paul Jahnige</u> is the MA. DCR Director of Greenways and Trails. He is a wealth of information on the development of the MCRT system.</p>	Biking	14 miles	2 hours

7	FRIDAY AND SATURDAY	2:30 PM	UNION STATION PARKING LOT	Flora and Fauna of the Northampton Rail Trail A Local naturalist and historian will lead this 2 mile ride along the Northampton rail-trail stopping often to explore and discuss the many natural habitats that thrive amidst this busy trail system.	<u>Laurie Sanders</u> is the Co-Director of Historic Northampton in addition to being an award-winning naturalist and community organizer.	Biking	4 miles	90 minutes
8	FRIDAY ONLY	2:30 PM	UNION STATION PARKING LOT	Union Station to Haydenville Join us on this 6-mile jaunt along the rail trail that crosses the villages of Florence and Leeds to the Haydenville town line. The tour leader will describe the many partners who came together since 1985 to envision, fund and design one of the oldest segments of the trail system in MA.	<u>Craig Della Penna</u> is the volunteer coordinator of the MCRT Coalition and a nationally known advocate for repurposing abandoned railways for multi-purpose rail trails. Craig, a historian by training also owns a bed & breakfast on the Florence segment of the Northampton rail trail.	Biking	12 miles	2 hours