

Bike New York, Vermont and Quebec

Thursday 19 September - Saturday 5 October 2024
16 nights

TOUR OVERVIEW

Open your tour with three nights in New York City and experience the vibrancy of The Big Apple. Visit iconic sites on foot and by bike - Times Square, the Brooklyn Bridge, Central Park, and many more. You will also have time to catch a Broadway show if you wish and an afternoon free to explore your interests, there are several fantastic museums and iconic attractions such as the Statue of Liberty or the 9/11 Memorial to visit. Ride from the skyscrapers of Manhattan through the forests, lakes, and rivers of central and upstate New York before you move on to the glorious fall colours of Vermont. Your days in Vermont will feature leisurely lakeside cycling and awe-inspiring views of Lake Champlain. Our rides will be on the Burlington bike path and quiet back roads, through charming upstate New York and New England towns all the while staying in cosy inns and boutique hotels. Finish with more cycling through the beautiful French-speaking Eastern Townships of Quebec, Canada where you will be treated to gorgeous vistas and pretty villages.



TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Three nights in New York City with bike rides and time to explore your own interests: museums, art, theatre, and shopping are all world-class.
- Bike the Hudson River Pathway, Central Park, and over the Brooklyn Bridge in Manhattan.
- Experience the beautiful fall colours, lakeside splendour, and rich history of Vermont.
- Bike a section of 'Route Verte', one of the best cycling routes in the world, in Quebec
- Enjoy the small-town hospitality and culture of the Northeastern USA and Eastern Townships of Quebec.
- Enjoy, by bike, the magnificent lake, farmland, and river panoramas of New York State, Vermont, and Quebec.
- Ride on a mix of bike paths, rail trails, and quiet roads stopping at historic villages and towns along the way.
- Enjoy boutique accommodation in local inns and boutique hotels.

TOUR INCLUSIONS

- The services of an experienced New Zealand-based Calder & Lawson Tours tour manager
- 16 nights accommodation in historic inns, resorts, and 4-star hotels
- Meals as specified in the itinerary
- Local guides
- All group transfers as specified in the itinerary
- Admissions as detailed in the itinerary
- Sightseeing tours with English-speaking local guides as detailed in the itinerary
- All tips for local guides and other service providers on group activities
- Comfortable 21-speed hybrid bikes with a pannier and bike helmets
- Pre-tour material

TOUR EXCLUSIONS

- International airfares to USA and airline taxes
- Personal expenses
- Travel Insurance
- Meals not specified in the itinerary
- Beverages during included meals, unless specified
- Hotel portorage
- Electric bikes are available for an extra \$250



IS THIS TOUR FOR ME?

The cycling on this tour offers a range of easy terrain mixed with moderate rolling hills and optional ride extensions. It is ideal for both beginners who can choose shorter rides and experienced cyclists who can choose longer rides. Note that the rides in New York City (Hudson River Pathway, Central Park, and Brooklyn Bridge) are on paths you will share with other cyclists and walkers so you should be confident in managing your bike around others.

Outside of the city rides the terrain is a mix of paved and gravel bike paths, rail trails, and quiet roads.

A support van is available should you wish to shorten any of the longer ride days. E-bikes are available at extra cost and are highly recommended for this tour. Before you use an e-bike on the tour be sure to borrow or hire one in New Zealand to try it out. E-bikes require some different skills from conventional bikes, so you will need to have had experience riding one before the tour.

TOUR PRICE

Share twin per person NZD \$13,990
Single supplement: NZD \$5,490

Prices exclude international flights

Please contact Calder & Lawson Tours if you are interested in a single occupancy place.

GROUP SIZE Minimum 10, maximum 18

VARIATIONS IN TRAVEL We can make arrangements for any travel you would like to do before or after this tour, or book upgrades to premium economy or business class flights. Please contact us to discuss your requirements.

[CLICK HERE TO BOOK ONLINE](#)



FLIGHTS

The tour price does not include international airfares as we think the best option would be to buy individual tickets rather than group airfares and we find that many travelers like to extend their stays. The team is happy to help with any flight arrangements or pre/post-tour extensions or upgrades. The itinerary is based on taking the direct flight from Auckland to New York on Air New Zealand and then finishing the tour in Burlington Vermont (where you can then fly to New York and connect with homebound flights). Qantas also flies direct to New York and is another option.

TOUR MANAGER

Kevin is the owner of Calder & Lawson Tours. He last visited New York in 2021 and loved the energy of the city, the fantastic museums and the pizza! Kevin lived for 10 years in the United States and loves getting back there regularly. At last count Kevin has been to more than 80 countries. He is a keen biker and recently took a Calder & Lawson bike tour to France.



DAILY ITINERARY

Thursday 19 Sep 2024

Meals: In flight

Overnight: New York City

Recommended evening departure with your tour manager from Auckland to New York on a direct flight with Air New Zealand, arriving mid-evening of the same day. Check into your hotel in the heart of Manhattan for the next three nights.

Friday 20 Sep New York City

Meals: B/D

Biking: 2 hours 10 km ride
around Central Park

Overnight: New York City

Start your New York experience by stretching your legs with a guided bike tour of the most famous city park in the world, Central Park. Focusing on Central Park's art, architecture, and history, you will follow the entire length of the park, which is a 10 km loop. Highlights of this ride include: Columbus Circle, Central Park Mall, Jackie Kennedy Onassis Reservoir, Bethesda Fountain, The Great Lawn, Strawberry Fields, and Belvedere Castle.

After lunch take a walk to the High Line, a public park built on a historic freight rail line elevated above the streets on Manhattan's West Side. Saved from demolition by neighbourhood residents and the City of New York, the High Line opened in 2009 as a hybrid public space where visitors experience nature, art, and design. Then you have the choice of further exploring the Big Apple or enjoy some downtime before your evening activities with the group.

Around dusk, you will visit "The Top of The Rock", the viewing platform at the top of the Rockefeller Centre. Incredible views await including the opportunity to see two of the other iconic New York skyscrapers, the imposing Empire State Building, and the stylised Chrysler Building. Finish the evening with your group welcome dinner.



DAILY ITINERARY

Saturday 21 Sep

New York City

Meals: B

Biking: 3 hours with stops

Overnight: New York City

Another fantastic city bike ride awaits you this morning. The Brooklyn Bridge ride takes you over one of the most iconic landmarks in New York City and rewards you with stunning panoramic views of the Manhattan skyline. This ride focuses on the art, architecture, and history of the engineering marvel that is the Brooklyn Bridge, plus you get to enjoy the waterfront and Brooklyn Bridge Park. You ride a path that goes through the middle of the Brooklyn Bridge, so you are elevated above the car traffic below. The bird's eye views of Manhattan, the East River, the Statue of Liberty, and downtown Brooklyn will be an experience you will not forget! *Note that the path may be quite busy with other cyclists so if you are not comfortable biking in close proximity to other riders you are welcome to skip this ride and do your own thing.*

In the afternoon take the opportunity to pursue your own interests, perhaps wander the boutiques of 5th Avenue, visit the incomparable Metropolitan Museum or Museum of Natural History, or maybe a ferry ride to get up close to the Statue of Liberty. Another option is the 9/11 Memorial located on the site of the World Trade Center towers, a moving tribute not only to the 2,977 people who lost their lives but the spirit and resilience of New Yorkers as they recover from that horrific day. The evening will be free to allow you the option to take in a Broadway show or just enjoy the buzz of the 'city that never sleeps'.

Sunday 22 Sep

Manhattan to Tarrytown

Meals: B/L/D

Biking: 54km

Overnight: Tarrytown, NY

You will start the day at the bottom of Manhattan in Battery Park where you will ride the renowned Hudson River Greenway passing by a few of the most iconic landmarks of New York City. Pass by the 9/11 Memorial, Wall Street, and more before starting your journey north up the western side of Manhattan Island. Enjoy views of the bustling commercial activity, pocket parks on the river, as well as the Palisades — dramatic cliffs along the Hudson. Have a stop for lunch at a riverfront restaurant then take a route on dedicated bike lanes to bring you to Van Cortlandt Park. You soon skirt through suburban areas before stopping in Tarrytown for the evening. Enjoy dinner with the group at a local restaurant.



DAILY ITINERARY

Monday 23 Sep

Brewster to Poughkeepsie

Meals: B/L

Biking: 35km

Overnight: Poughkeepsie, NY

Your day begins with a van shuttle to Brewster NY and the start of the most remote part of the Empire State Trail. On this day of primarily rural riding, you pass more lakes, rivers, and farms while enjoying a newly paved bike path. A trail-side picnic lunch is included. As you explore the southern half of Dutchess County, you also cross the famous Appalachian Trail — the hiking route from Georgia to Maine. Today's ride will end by early afternoon to allow time for a group visit to Franklin D Roosevelt's historic Hyde Park estate. Your hotel for the night is in a suburban area in Poughkeepsie.

Tuesday 24 Sep

Poughkeepsie to Rhinebeck

Meals: B/D

Biking: 20km or 40km

Overnight: Rhinebeck, NY

Highlights of today's bike path include the Walkway Over the Hudson, a fabulous cycling and pedestrian bridge spanning the Hudson River from Poughkeepsie to Highland, NY. From there, continue on the rail trail to the fun town of New Paltz, where lunch and shopping options abound. You can end the ride in New Paltz and catch a shuttle to our final destination of Rhinebeck, or stay on your bike and continue to the edge of Kingston. If you choose the longer ride you will have more rail trail riding after lunch, including a chance to cycle over the impressive Rosendale Trestle, a 940-foot bridge that crosses over Rondout Creek a "mere" 50 metres below. Tonight you are a guest of the gracious Beekman Arms, considered the oldest continuously operating Inn in the US, where you can have a drink at the same tavern as George Washington did back in the 1770's. Tonight's dinner is a memorable experience at the Culinary Institute of America, the premier school for chefs in North America where many Michelin staff chefs train.

Wednesday 25 Sep

Rhinebeck to Hudson

Meals: B/D

Biking: 32km or 50km

Overnight: Hudson, NY

After a hearty breakfast, cycle north rejoining the Empire State Trail as you continue on quiet roads with intermittent sections of bike path and a section of unpaved path. One of the highlights today is passing through Annandale-on-Hudson, home to the attractive campus of Bard College with its Fisher Center Music Hall, its facade an artistic triumph by architect Frank Gehry. A lunch stop in the village of Germantown. Your destination today is another village that deserves some time to wander — Hudson, NY, a fashion, furniture, and foodie's delight. Dinner tonight will be with the group at a local restaurant.

DAILY ITINERARY

Thursday 26 Sep Hudson to Albany Shuttle to Vermont

Meals: B/L/D

Biking: 40km

Coach: 2 hours plus stops

Overnight: Basin Harbor Resort,
Vermont

The 'home stretch' ride of the New York leg of the tour includes more great cycling north, including some woodland paths as well as lake-side riding near the town of Niverville. A stop for lunch near Nassau and Nassau Lake and then continue on to the finish at the Albany- Rensselaer Train Station. After the day's ride, take our shuttle to the Lake Champlain Region where you will settle into the Green Mountains at the Basin Harbor Resort. During the two-hour drive to Vermont, you will stop at the historic Fort Ticonderoga, the scene of important battles during the US Revolution and the War of 1812. Enjoy dinner as a group at the restaurant onsite at the resort.

Friday 27 Sep Vermont

Meals: B

Biking: 27km (optional ride)

Overnight: Basin Harbor Resort,
Vermont

Today is a rest day with an optional ride. Enjoy the amenities of the Basin Harbor Club, including canoes and kayaks on Lake Champlain, golf and tennis and other activities. There will be an optional ride to Crown Point, another important historic site at the southern end of Lake Champlain.



DAILY ITINERARY

Saturday 28 Sep **Lake Champlain**

Meals: B/L/D

Biking: 42 or 60 km

Overnight: Basin Harbor Resort,
Vermont

Today's ride takes you north along quiet roads that give you great views of Lake Champlain and the Adirondack mountains. Arriving in the Village of Charlotte, you cycle through an old covered bridge to the lake shore and enjoy water views from Charlotte Town Beach. Lake Champlain is the sixth largest lake in the U.S., and it's where French explorer Samuel de Champlain led the first European expedition here on July 4, 1609. While it seems rather peaceful and quiet today, in earlier times it witnessed a great deal of tumultuous history including battles in the French and Indian War as well as the capture of Fort Ticonderoga in 1775 with the efforts of Ethan Allen, Benedict Arnold, and the Green Mountain Boys. The British also had a large fleet here during the War of 1812 and were soundly defeated by American forces in the nearby battle of Plattsburgh in 1814.

Climbing away from the lake shore, you pass through orchards and horse country and are rewarded with a beer tasting at the Fiddlehead Brewery where you can savor their excellent Vermont IPAs and lunch on fresh pizzas. There is a longer option for more riding on country roads and bike paths, but for those hankering for time to relax, you can take the van from the brewery back to the Basin Harbor Resort. Enjoy dinner together at the inn this evening.



DAILY ITINERARY

Sunday 29 Sep Burlington Waterfront path and onto the islands

Meals: B/L/D

Biking: 35km

Overnight: North Hero House,
Vermont

Today you start cycling on the beautiful Burlington Waterfront Bike Path. The bike path follows the Lake Champlain shoreline, offering wonderful views of the lake and the Adirondack Mountains to the west and the city of Burlington to the east. Enjoy a coffee and maple bun pastry at August First Bakery in downtown Burlington. The bike path links six major waterfront parks, crosses the Winooski River on a pedestrian/bike bridge, and ends on a causeway that juts out into the lake. From here, a bike ferry takes you and your bicycle just a few hundred feet across a gap in the causeway to Grand Isle and the Champlain Islands.

From here, you wind your way along the eastern shore of the lake and then cross a drawbridge leading into North Hero, where you are welcomed at your inn. Take in the magical view of Lake Champlain while you enjoy a late lunch with the group at Shore Acres Bravo Zulu Lakeside Bar. You might want to take the opportunity to explore Hero's Welcome General Store. This iconic general store is located in a century-old building on the shore of the lake, and you will enjoy walking through its many aisles and outbuildings, including a bakery, cafe, as well as the general store itself. Dinner will be together at North Hero House.

Monday 30 Sep Lake Champlain

Meals: B/L/D

Biking: 32 or 40km plus
optional kayak trip

Overnight: North Hero House,
Vermont

Today you explore historic Isle La Motte. Heading north, you soon come to a point in the road where Lake Champlain is very close on both sides. This is known as "The Carrying Place," a narrow isthmus that Native Americans used to traverse canoes between sections of Lake Champlain as well as by rum-running smugglers trying to avoid Jefferson's 1808 embargo on trade with Canada. Crossing the bridge over Alburgh Passage, you then ride the narrow neck and bridge leading onto Isle La Motte.

Here you visit the site of Fort Saint Anne and Saint Anne's Shrine. The shrine includes a chapel, scenic walkways, historic site markers, and a seasonal snack bar. Fort Saint Anne was built by the French in 1666 as protection against Mohawk Indian raids and was one of the first European settlements in Vermont. In addition, General Montgomery had his headquarters here before the 1775 expedition into Canada. Benedict Arnold also anchored his fleet near here before the Battle of Valcour Island (1776), and the British fleet stopped here before their defeat at the Battle of Plattsburgh (1814).

Leaving St. Anne, you continue to hug the island shore with great views west into the Adirondacks. You can opt for a visit to the Fiske Farm and Quarry Preserve where old quarries have exposed outcroppings of the Chazy reef formation. In the afternoon there will be an optional guided kayak trip on Lake Champlain

DAILY ITINERARY

Tuesday 1 October Into Canada

Meals: B/D

Biking: 27 or 45km

Overnight: West Brome

Enjoy your breakfast and take an hour's shuttle to Frelighsburg. Start your ride cycling from Frelighsburg to Pigeon Hill, have a special lunch and wine tasting at Domaine du Ridge, and visit the fascinating Musee Missisquoi. Then begin to follow Quebec's famous "Route des Vins." You have several opportunities to stop and sample the wines and ciders at some of Quebec's most famous vineyards, including Opailleur and Domaine des Côtes D'Ardoise, and enjoy a tasting of cider wines and apple products at the renowned Union Libre Cidre & Vin. Tonight you will stay at the beautiful Auberge & Spa West Brome.

Wednesday 2 October Quebec

Meals: B

Biking: 40 or 64km

Overnight: Bromont

Start the day with farmland cycling, passing a round barn, and skirting the town of Cowansville to visit some covered bridges on your way north. Then take a scenic route along Chemin Gaspé with spectacular views of the area as you pass the equestrian facilities that were home to the 1976 Olympics. Your destination is the pretty village of Bromont, where you can explore its many shops and bakeries — and experience the delicious Musée de Chocolat before arriving at the elegant Chateau Bromont and Spa. The hotel, with its four slope-side hot tubs, offers a commanding view over the ski mountain. Dinner is at leisure

Thursday 3 October Cycling Route Verte

Meals: B/D

Biking: 43 or 60km

Overnight: Bromont

This is a special cycling treat! over 50 km of today's ride is on a section of the province's Route Verte, a sprawling cycling network ranked as one of the "10 best cycling routes in the world." Your ride includes 40 km of pristine, paved bike path along with 15 km of hard-packed gravel rail trail. The path takes you past many sculptural displays, lake shores, and a beautiful provincial park. Lunch can be enjoyed in the bicycle-hub town of Granby. After your ride, enjoy soaking in the hot tub back at the Chateau with a view of the mountain. A celebratory dinner is with the group at a lovely craft brewery within walking distance of your hotel.

Friday 4 October Burlington

Meals: B

Biking: 20km

Overnight: Burlington

Take one more morning ride in Quebec and have lunch in a local village then drive back into the United States and make your way to Burlington Vermont. Your evening will be free to enjoy this attractive city with old New England charm and a thriving arts and university scene. Stay overnight in Burlington. If you would like to continue with further post tour travel in Canada you can also choose to take a one hour bus to Montreal for travel connections.

Saturday 5 October Homebound

Meals: B

Farewell beautiful New England this morning. From Burlington you could fly back to New York and then connect with the direct flight home to Auckland on Air New Zealand or choose to extend your trip in the United States. The team can assist with any flights or post-tour requirements you may have.

DAILY ITINERARY

HOW TO SECURE YOUR PLACE ON THIS TOUR

A deposit of \$1,000 is required to secure your place on the tour. When minimum numbers are reached, the tour will become a 'confirmed departure' and your deposit will be non-refundable.

Click below to complete the online registration form, pay the \$1,000 deposit and your place in this tour is secured. Or you can complete a paper registration form. You can download one from our website www.calderandlawsontours.co.nz/forms/ or give us a call and we will email or post one to you.

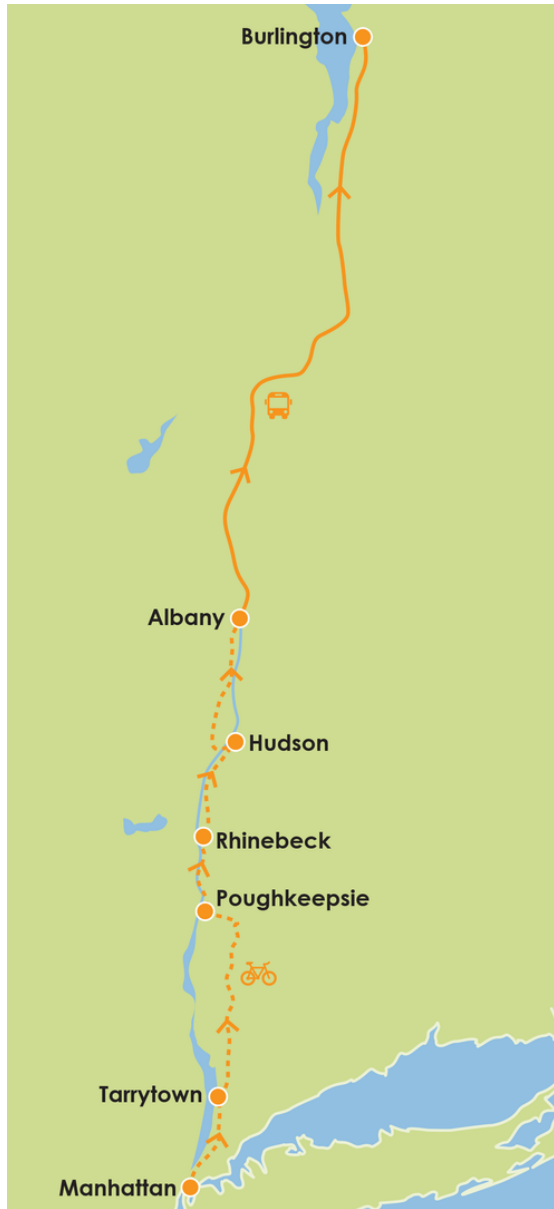
[CLICK HERE TO BOOK ONLINE](#)

TERMS & CONDITIONS

Can be found on our website www.calderandlawsontours.co.nz/forms/, on the back of the paper registration form or on the summary page when you complete an online registration. There is a 1.5% surcharge if you pay by Visa/Mastercard or 3% for Amex.



New York State



Vermont



Quebec

