



## 2015 Calendar of Events



***"In the last 1000 years...Saratoga did more [than any other battle]. It launched two centuries of revolution elsewhere. It marked the beginning of the end of the British Empire. And it breathed life into the United States of America."***

*—New York Times Magazine "Best of" Millennium Edition*

**W**elcome to Saratoga National Historical Park! The epic Battles of Saratoga and the heroic events which took place here in the autumn of 1777 formed the turning point in America's Revolutionary War and were key to winning American independence.

# Enjoying the Park

Saratoga National Historical Park preserves and interprets four separate sites associated with this military campaign: Saratoga Battlefield (Stillwater, NY), Schuyler House (Schuylerville, NY), Victory Woods and Saratoga Monument (Victory, NY). Schuyler House, Victory Woods, and Saratoga Monument are located about 8 miles north of the Battlefield.



## Visitor Center

Offers ranger programs, park brochures, 20-minute orientation film, fiber-optic light map, artifact displays, seasonal exhibits, museum dioramas, and a museum store.

**Hours/Season:** 9am to 5pm daily, except Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Days.



## Battlefield

Accessible by foot, car, bicycle, or horse, with over 7 miles of hiking trails, a 5½-mile horse trail, and a 10-mile self-guided driving tour road with a bicycle/pedestrian lane. *Park does not offer bicycle or horse rentals.*

**Hours/Season:** Grounds open daily to pedestrian use during daylight hours.  
Tour road open to cars April 1 through November 30, weather permitting.  
Inclement weather may shorten tour road open season.  
**Note:** Tour road closed on Thanksgiving Day.



## Schuyler House

1777 country estate of American General Philip Schuyler. Guided tours share the enduring charm and simple elegance of this historic country house.

**Hours/Season:** Open seasonally, call for details, 518-670-2985

## Saratoga Monument

155' granite obelisk commemorating the American victory on October 17, 1777.

**Hours/Season:** Open seasonally, call for details, 518-670-2985



## Victory Woods

A 22-acre parcel where forlorn British forces were surrounded during the week before their October 17, 1777 surrender to the American army. The trail is self-guided, and offers a raised, accessible 1/2-mile pathway with interpretive signs.

**Hours/Season:** Trail open daily to pedestrian use during daylight hours.  
Trail is not maintained during the winter.

## Park Fees



Entrance fees are charged for the Battlefield from May 1 to October 31. *Passes are valid for 7 days.*

- \$5 for cars
- \$3 per adult (age 16 and over) for hiking, bicycling, and horseback riding
- \$10 for a Saratoga National Historical Park annual pass

“America the Beautiful” Federal Interagency Annual, Senior, Access and Military Passes are accepted, and available for purchase at the visitor center.

Valid Golden Age and Golden Access Passes are accepted.

There are no entrance fees for Schuyler House, Saratoga Monument, or Victory Woods.

# 2015 Events

All events are free unless otherwise noted.



## Frost Faire

Visitor Center / Battlefield

Snow or no snow... come enjoy the 20th annual Frost Faire. If there's snow, bring your snow tube or plastic sled for spectacular rides on the "Big Hill." If there's no snow, you can still enjoy horse-drawn wagon rides, a noon-time scavenger hunt, crafts, games, dancing, plus hot chocolate and cookies by the bonfire.

Saturday, January 24

11am – 3pm



## Black History Month

Men of African Descent at the Battle of Saratoga

Visitor Center

About 400 black men served in American Continental and militia units in the Battles of Saratoga. They fought shoulder to shoulder with white soldiers—but an integrated US army would not exist again until the Korean War! That's just scratching the surface of Park Ranger Eric Schnitzer's presentation as he discusses free and enslaved African Americans who fought in "the most important battle of the last 1000 years." *Snow date: Sunday, February 15*

Sunday, February 8

1:30pm – 2:30pm



## Women's History Month

In Their Own Words: Women in the Revolution

Visitor Center

Explore the lives of women who lived during the American Revolutionary War through their stories and excerpts from letters and diaries. How did events around these women affect them? What did they find important to document in their daily lives? How did they deal with life's challenges? Join us for a nice cup of tea and find out. *Snow date: Sunday, March 22*

Sunday, March 15

1:30pm – 2:30pm



## Earth Week

Songs of Nature

Visitor Center

Popular singer and musician Linda Russell returns to the park with her guitar! Come join and sing along to spirited songs about nature, animals, and the Earth Day movement.

April 19 – 25

Sunday, April 19

1:30pm – 2:30pm



Raptors Rock!

Battlefield

Designated by the Audubon Society as an "Important Birding Area" in NY, Saratoga Battlefield is a top destination for birding in Saratoga County! Wildlife educator and rehabilitator Trish Marki will bring a selection of raptors—owls, hawks, falcons—for you to meet up close and to hear about where they live and how they survive in their habitat.

Saturday, April 25

1:30pm – 3pm



Sunset Walk — Woodcock Aerial Displays

Battlefield

Join park naturalist Linda White, meeting by the flag pole at the visitor center parking lot for a walk to Tour Stop 5 and back (1.5 miles each way). See amazing aerial displays by woodcocks, listen for owls, and look for deer or foxes too! Please bring a flashlight, water, and insect repellent, and wear sturdy shoes. *Event cancelled if raining.*

Saturday, April 25

6pm – 7:30pm



## Birding and Nature Walks

Battlefield

Join park naturalist Linda White, meeting by the flag pole at the visitor center parking lot to caravan to special places in the park and see blooming flowers, plants, and migratory birds. Please bring water and insect repellent and wear sturdy shoes. *Event cancelled if raining.*

Saturdays, May 16;

June 13 & 20

10am – 11:30am

# 2015 Events



## Art in the Park

Saturdays, May 23 & 30

### Visitor Center / Battlefield

Meet at the visitor center for basic historical background, then head onto the Battlefield to capture inspiring views in paint, pencil, pastel, or pixel! Let the rangers at the front desk know you are coming as an artist and they will give you a free day pass. If you wish to allow the park to use your art, please provide your e-mail address. 10am – 4pm



## Children's Program Series

Wednesdays, July 1, 8, 15 & 22

### Visitor Center

Educator Shari Crawford delights children while teaching them about the lives of youngsters in 18th-century America. 1pm – 3pm

July 1—Open-Fire Cooking  
July 8—Toys and Games  
July 15—English Country Dancing  
July 22—Laundry and Dress-Up



## Evening Bike Tours

Wednesdays, July 1, 15 & 29;  
August 12 & 26

### Battlefield

Join a park ranger for these gentle rides along 5-mile sections of the park and enjoy lesser-known stories from the past. Meet by the flag pole in the visitor center parking lot. Please bring your bike, water, and insect repellent. Helmets required. *Event cancelled if raining.* 6pm – 8pm



## Independence Day

Saturday, July 4

### Visitor Center

Celebrate and give cheer to 20 immigrants who become citizens of the USA! Enjoy period music, join in 13 toasts to independence and the “new” United States with lemonade, and see cannon and musket firings up close! 10am – 11am

Park Ranger Joe Craig portrays a town crier declaring America's Independence and leads 13 celebratory toasts. Cannons boom and muskets crack to celebrate the day! 2pm – 3pm



## Early Morning History Strolls

July 7, 8, 21 & 22;  
August 11 & 12

### Battlefield

Meet at the visitor center to join Park Volunteers Ray Palmer and Jerry Parker on a series of leisurely guided tours about the first and second Battles of Saratoga. Caravan to various locations, then walk up to 1 mile over uneven ground. Please bring water and insect repellent, and wear sturdy shoes. *Event cancelled if raining.* 9am – 10:30am

Tuesday, July 7—the First Battle      Wednesday, July 8—the Second Battle  
Tuesday, July 21—the First Battle      Wednesday, July 22—the Second Battle  
Tuesday, August 11—the First Battle      Wednesday, August 12—the Second Battle



## Artificers' Weekend

Saturday & Sunday, July 11 & 12

### Battlefield

Armies in the American Revolution were towns on the move and included important craftsmen like blacksmiths, farriers, tailors, chandlers, and tinsmiths. Learn “How it's Made” 18th-century style! Event is free, but battlefield entrance fees apply. 10am – 4pm



## Evening History Strolls

Thursdays, July 23 & August 20

### Battlefield

Meet by the flag pole in the visitor center parking lot to join Park Volunteer Dick Farrell on two guided evening strolls exploring the Battles of Saratoga. Caravan to various locations, then walk up to 1 mile over uneven ground. Please bring water and insect repellent, and wear sturdy shoes. *Event cancelled if raining.* 6pm – 8pm

July 23—the First Battle      August 20—the Second Battle

# 2015 Events



## Noontime August Music Series

Tuesdays, August 4, 11, 18 & 25

Visitor Center

The track is closed but music echoes through the Hudson River Valley. Bring a bag lunch and enjoy the views while listening to concerts at noon every Tuesday. Sponsored by Friends of Saratoga Battlefield. **12 noon – 1pm**

August 4—Elizabeth Huntley with enchanting music of the harp  
August 11—Rich Bala with songs of the Hudson Valley  
August 18—Tom Akstens and Neil Rossi with folk music of the Adirondacks  
August 25—Fort Ticonderoga Fife & Drum Corps with martial music



## 18th-Century Day

Sunday, August 9

Schuyler House, Schuylerville

Step back in time at the historic Schuyler House as the grounds come alive with 18th-century activities. Listen to music, see puppet shows, chair caning, candle dipping, rope making, beer brewing, spinning, dyeing, quilting, tinsmithing, broom making, and more! Hosted by the Old Saratoga Historical Association. **12 noon – 4pm**



## Anniversary Encampment

Saturday & Sunday,  
September 19 & 20

Battlefield

Marking the 238th anniversary of the Battles of Saratoga, come explore the lives of men, women and children of the American Revolution: learn the soldiers' musket drill, smell the aromas of open-fire cooking, hear cannon and musket firings, take part in a scouting mission or help decide a court martial! Event is free, but battlefield entrance fees apply.

- Camps open **Saturday, 9am – 4pm; Sunday, 10am – 3pm**
- Wreath laying by Daughters of the American Revolution and Sons of the American Revolution. All are welcome! **Sunday, 2pm – 2:30pm**



## Art in the Park

Saturdays, October 3 & 10

Visitor Center / Battlefield

Meet at the visitor center for basic historical background, then head onto the Battlefield to capture inspiring views in paint, pencil, pastel, or pixel! Let the rangers at the front desk know you are coming as an artist and they will give you a free day pass. If you wish to allow the park to use your art, please provide your e-mail address. **10am – 4pm**



## Surrender Day

Friday, October 16

Special location: Fort Hardy Park, Schuylerville

Witness the recreated surrender of British General Burgoyne to American General Gates, sing patriotic songs with Schuylerville school children, and drink 13 original toasts to the American Victory! Sponsored by the Village of Schuylerville and Town of Saratoga. **10am – 11am**



## Candlelight Tour

Saturday, October 17

Schuyler House, Schuylerville

Step back in time and experience General Philip Schuyler's 1777 country home in a whole new light! Candle-lit tours of the house are offered throughout the evening with light refreshments, period music, and a campfire to follow the tour. Hosted by the Old Saratoga Historical Association. **6pm – 8:30pm**



## Saratoga NHP Quarter Launch

Tuesday, November 17

Special location: Schuylerville High School, Schuylerville

Join us in celebrating the release of the 2015 Saratoga National Historical Park quarter, the 30th coin in the U.S. Mint's "America the Beautiful" quarters program! This coin is inspired by John Trumbull's painting, "The Surrender of Gen. Burgoyne." Rolls of the newly minted quarters will be sold by the U.S. Mint. This is a once in a lifetime commemoration.

**9am – 10am**

# Saratoga National Historical Park: Displays and Programs

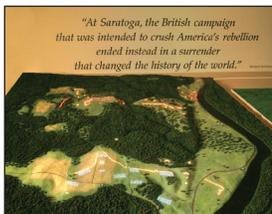
## “Something More at Stake”

Produced in partnership with Friends of Saratoga Battlefield and Skidmore College, this film tells the compelling story of the battles here which helped form a nation and change the world.



## Fiber-Optic Light Map

Get a bird's eye view of the battlefield's four square miles of streams, ravines, and rolling hills on the Hudson River's western bank. During the narration, trails of blue (Americans) and red (British) lights travel the landscape, interjected with cannon fire (yellow) and battle action (white).



## “Saratoga: By Choice or by Chance”

Learn about some of the lesser-known stories behind the Battles of Saratoga from the perspectives of several groups of people who served here: German soldiers, women camp followers, black soldiers, children, and Oneida warriors.



## Timeline Exhibit

Walk through each year of the War for American Independence while seeing highlights of key events and themes. The exhibit also introduces international impacts of the Revolution, as this was by no means only a local affair. Artifacts and artwork help tell the human stories and illustrate what was in many ways a “war of ideas.”



## “Saratoga Landscapes”

A new year-long exhibit, featuring park views through the lens of Ted Anderson, photographer and designer of graphics and exhibitions. To paraphrase Ted, “Behind the simplicity and austerity of such scenes there is a certain joyfulness...and there's always a story.”



## Orientation Talks

Given on request in the visitor center, these informal talks employ a diorama and give visitors an overview of the Battlefield as it looked in October 1777. The programs highlight the crucial role of geography in determining where the fighting happened and how the American defenders used it to their advantage.



## Touring with Technology

Enhance your battlefield tour experience with your own mobile device, cell phone, or MP3 player!

- NEW in 2015—Mobile Web: ask at the visitor center about using our newest touring feature.
- Cell Phone Tours: call 518-665-8185 at each tour stop or hike station and follow the audio prompts. Your regular service provider's rates apply.
- MP3 Tours: audio files are also available for both our Tour Road (driving) and the Wilkinson Trail (hiking) as website downloads “www.nps.gov/sara” through the “Photos and Multimedia” link.



## Official Saratoga Battlefield Guides

Customized, personally guided caravan tours of Saratoga Battlefield with trained, knowledgeable, courteous guides.

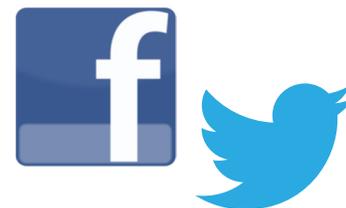
Guided tours are provided by independent contractors with advance reservation only. For scheduling information, please call 518-670-2985 or e-mail “SARA\_info@nps.gov”



## Saratoga is Social!

Join the conversation and share your thoughts, opinions, photos, and park experiences.

Facebook: @saratoganhp  
Twitter: #saratoganhp



## Junior Ranger Program

Younger visitors can learn about the park and its resources through fun games and activities. This free program is designed for students grades K-7.



## Try-On Tent

Especially for our younger visitors, here's a unique way to experience history. Replicas of soldiers' uniforms, equipment, and a tent provide a unique chance to experience a little of what life was like for soldiers during the late 18th century, in a “kid-friendly” way.



## Education Programs

Area schools can take advantage of these free ranger-presented programs throughout the year. They are most popular in the autumn and spring.

More information on these programs can be obtained by calling the visitor center at 518-670-2985.



## Volunteers in Parks

Many park programs call on the time, talent, enthusiasm, and dedication of people of many ages to help provide visitors with historical programs, trail safety, nature walks, site information, area directions, and more.

Area residents interested in learning more about volunteering at Saratoga National Historical Park can call the park volunteer coordinator at 518-670-2983.



# Nearby Areas of Interest

## Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor

[www.nps.gov/erie](http://www.nps.gov/erie)

[www.eriecanalway.org](http://www.eriecanalway.org)

**Albany to Buffalo, NY.** A National Heritage Corridor that helps preserve and interpret the many historical, natural, scenic, and cultural resources of upstate New York's canal systems.

*Saratoga National Historical Park is within Erie Canalway; drive times vary with destination.*

## Fort Stanwix National Monument

315-338-7730

[www.nps.gov/fost](http://www.nps.gov/fost)

**Rome, NY.** American fort defending the headwaters of the Mohawk River, repelled a British expeditionary force in August 1777.

*From Saratoga National Historical Park: approx. 2½ hours*

## Fort Ticonderoga

518-585-2821

[www.fort-ticonderoga.org](http://www.fort-ticonderoga.org)

**Ticonderoga, NY.** Captured by General Burgoyne's army from American forces after a short siege in July 1777.

*From Saratoga National Historical Park: approx. 1¾ hours*

## Mount Independence State Historic Site

802-948-2000

**Orwell, VT.** American fortifications on Mount Independence, across the lake from Fort Ticonderoga.

*From Saratoga National Historical Park: approx. 2¼ hours*

## Hubbardton Battlefield State Historic Site

802-273-2282

**Hubbardton, VT.** Retreating American soldiers fleeing Fort Ticonderoga and Mount Independence were attacked here by pursuing British redcoats on July 7, 1777.

*From Saratoga National Historical Park: approx. 2 hours*

## Bennington Battlefield State Historic Site

518-279-1155

**Hoosick Falls, NY.** British forces from General Burgoyne's army met and were defeated here by American militia troops on August 16, 1777.

*From Saratoga National Historical Park: approx. 1 hour*

## Bennington Battle Monument State Historic Site

802-447-0550

**Bennington, VT.** A 306-foot obelisk marks the location of the storehouse sought by the British in August 1777.

*From Saratoga National Historical Park: approx. 1¼ hour*

## Schuyler Mansion State Historic Site

518-434-0834

**Albany, NY.** The primary residence of American General Philip Schuyler.

*From Saratoga National Historical Park: approx. 1 hour*

## New York State Military Museum

518-581-5100

**Saratoga Springs, NY.** The museum preserves, interprets, and shares the story, history, and records of New York State's military forces and veterans. Features include a special Revolutionary War exhibit.

*From Saratoga National Historical Park: approx. 25 minutes*

## Stillwater Blockhouse Museum

518-664-1847 ext. 39

**Stillwater, NY.** Built in 1927, this replica blockhouse serves as a town historical center.

*From Saratoga National Historical Park: approx. 10 minutes*

## Hudson Crossing Park

[www.hudsoncrossingpark.org](http://www.hudsoncrossingpark.org)

**Schuylerville, NY.** An environmental-based play and exploration park located in the area where British forces crossed the Hudson River en route to Albany in September 1777.

*From Saratoga National Historical Park: approx. 15 minutes*



Saratoga National Historical Park  
648 Route 32  
Stillwater, NY 12170

postage

Recipient



*Happy 25th anniversary to  
Friends of Saratoga Battlefield!  
Thank you for your continued support  
of our programs and events.*



*Happy 20th anniversary to  
Schuylerville Garden Club!  
Schuyler House herb garden  
wouldn't be the same without you.*

---

## For More Information

Saratoga National Historical Park  
648 Route 32  
Stillwater, NY 12170  
518-670-2985  
SARA\_info@nps.gov  
www.nps.gov/sara  
Facebook: @saratoganhp  
Twitter: #saratoganhp

Experience Your America