

Ballston Spa Walking Tours



The history-laden village of Ballston Spa is a charming place, perfect for a peaceful and relaxing walk.

There are fascinating stories behind the Victorian décors of its buildings, churches, and homes.

Why not take a guided tour to learn more about the village's historic structures and fascinating residents from the past?

Overview

Ballston Spa began as a resort town, where afflicted visitors could "take the waters" of its numerous mineral springs (hence the word "spa" in the village's name).

As time went on, Ballston Spa's popularity as a resort diminished while that of nearby Saratoga Springs grew.

Ballston Spa went through a transformation and became a center of industry. Two creeks that flowed through the village powered mills that produced textiles, paper bags, and other products. Ballston Spa has also been the home of one of the nation's largest tanneries, a law school of great renown, and a chocolate factory.

Tours will highlight the village's varied history.

What Is That?

A "signature" of Ballston Spa, the **Old Iron Spring** has greeted visitors for many years.



It began as a source of spring water that was available at no charge to members of the public. It is located in a park-like setting that has an excellent view of Brookside--a former inn which now is the home of the Saratoga County Museum.

Your Tour Guide

David Fiske has researched and written numerous local history articles which have appeared in the weekly newspaper, *Ballston Spa Life*. He is a librarian, and has authored or contributed to several books on historical topics. Mr. Fiske has resided in the Ballston Spa area for over 25 years.



As a former trainer, Mr. Fiske has experience conveying information in an educational setting. He appears locally as a historical lecturer.

Historical Tidbits

- ♦ The area was raided by British forces and Tories during the American Revolution
- ♦ Famous people who spoke here include: Horace Greeley and John C. Calhoun.
- ♦ The submariners memorial is the first one dedicated to the submariners from a state rather than the sub on which they served.

Take a walking tour to learn *even more* intriguing facts about Ballston Spa and the interesting individuals who have contributed to its history. Tours consist of easy walks (about 2 miles) over mostly flat terrain.

No time for a tour right now? Do your own tour later! *Ballston Spa History Walkaround* is available as a book from amazon.com, or as an e-book from smashwords.com.

Rates

Standard tour: \$8 per person. For parties of more than one, the charge is an initial \$8 plus just \$3 for each additional person.

Custom tours can be arranged. Advance notice is required. Please call.

Tour customers may also purchase (at time of tour) a copy of Mr. Fiske's guidebook, *Ballston Spa History Walkaround*, at the discounted price of \$5 (tax included).

Schedule

The standard tour lasts about 75 minutes. Tours can be conducted any day of the week, but must be arranged by appointment.

Contact Information

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