



2015 Grand Illinois Trail And Parks BIKE TOUR

June 14 - 19, 2015

Get set for the 13th annual Grand Illinois Trail And Parks (GITAP) bicycle tour in mid-June of 2015. It's a new departure for the ride, using the Grand Illinois Trail as a starting point to go south for some wonderful riding, scenery, cultural activities, and sites.

This unforgettable six-day ride will be making a loop through Illinois prairies, farmland, woodlands, river edges, and towns and cities — Kewanee, Hampton, Galesburg, Canton, and Chillicothe — with significant history. Enjoy overnights filled with good food and good fellowship, all in support of the League of Illinois Bicyclists, a nonprofit organization dedicated to improving bicycling conditions statewide.



“Good Biking” by 2014 GITAP rider Michael Surgeon

Highlights include:

- Overnights at campgrounds next to Illinois' Mississippi and Illinois rivers.
- Two nights including a layover day in Canton, near many cultural sites and exciting biking with scenic viewpoints.
- The opportunity to ride to Lewistown on the layover day and visit the Dickson Mounds Museum, a National Historic Site and major U.S. on-site archaeological museum that offers a unique opportunity to explore the world of the American Indian through 12,000 years of human experience in the Illinois River Valley.
- Lewistown is also the hometown of author Edgar Lee Masters and inspiration for his *Spoon River Anthology*, an important piece of American literature published in 1915 that demystified rural, small town American life.
- An overnight at Galesburg's Carl Sandburg College on its spacious campus.
- A Chillicothe campsite located close to downtown, in a green, open park right next to the Illinois River.



“The Big River” by 2014 GITAP rider John Craven

Experience Illinois' historic and cultural charms on scenic bike terrain with up to 225 other riders! We hope you'll join us!



2015 GITAP — Ride Basics

- A loop ride – starting and ending at Kewanee High School – with free parking for the week.
- Many daily mileage choices totaling anywhere from 300 to 500 miles for the week. The longest day's basic route is typically about 60 miles.
- The topography this year varies with some short-to-moderate hills along with flat countryside.
- Tent camping at county and city parks as well as one college campus.
- All breakfasts and dinners included.
- Showers and luggage transportation provided.
- T-shirt, emergency SAGs (support and gear), bike repair, and refreshment stops included.
- Nightly meetings including ride information, awards, and our fun **Velosophie** program – discussions of interesting literature led by our own experienced riders.
- An optional five night package of motel accommodations (at extra cost), most of them close to the campsites.

Registration Information

GITAP has grown in popularity and ridership over recent years, and typically reaches or nears its maximum capacity of riders yearly. **Registration is first-come, first-served, and we encourage you to register early.**

Fees: Basic: \$460
Current LIB Members: \$425
Children 12-15 years old: \$345
Children 11 or under: \$230
Add \$25 for registering after June 1

All League of Illinois Bicyclists members receive a registration discount. If you're not a LIB member, we invite you to join online at www.BikeLIB.org/join. A basic LIB membership starts at only \$25! If you are a member, but unsure if your membership is still active, please e-mail lib@bikelib.org for more information.

Online registration with electronic payment is available at www.Active.com. A processing fee will apply.

Type in GITAP in the search field or go to:

<http://www.active.com/kewanee-il/cycling/races/grand-illinois-trail-and-parks-ride-2015>

If you are interested in the motel package, please check the box on the registration form and we will provide more detailed information including additional fees for this option. We will also hold your registration check until we can confirm that your motel space has been reserved.

Master sports masseur Glen Morey will be offering a number of camp amenities, including tent, towel, chair, and luggage services. Contact him directly through www.eventsbikerideservices.com for more information.

Cancellation and Refund Policy:

Full refund minus a \$15 cancellation fee before April 15

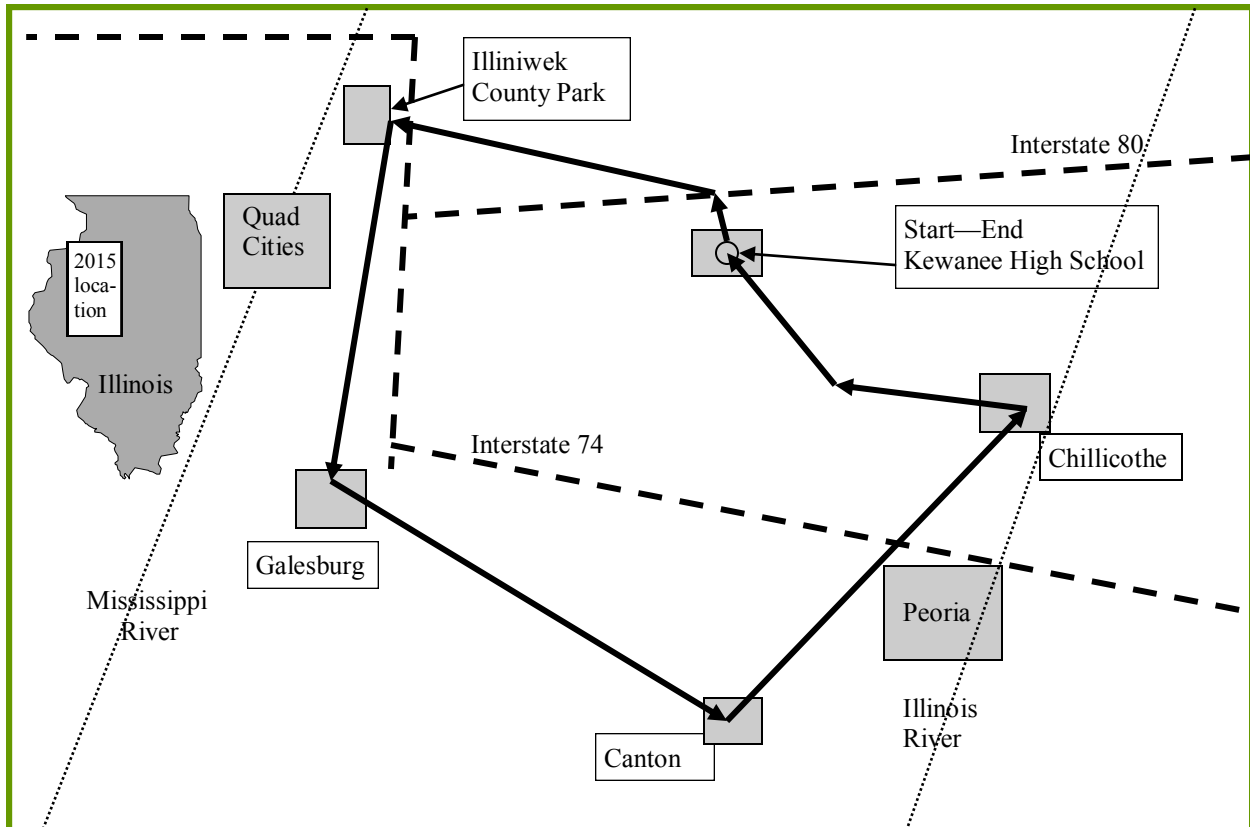
Half refund before May 15

No refunds after May 15

Proceeds from GITAP directly support the League of Illinois Bicyclists, a non-profit organization dedicated to improving bicycling conditions in Illinois. LIB is the statewide advocate for all Illinois bicyclists, promoting bicycle access, education, and safety. GITAP is sponsored by the League of Illinois Bicyclists with support from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources.

Questions? Contact Chuck Oestreich at chuckace2@gmail.com or 309-788-1845.

For general information about GITAP and the League of Illinois Bicyclists, please visit www.BikeLIB.org.



The 2015 GITAP Route (miles are approximate):

Start at Kewanee High School, Kewanee, Illinois

Sunday, 6/14 — to Illiniwek County Park, Hampton — 55 or 80 miles

Monday, 6/15 — to Carl Sandburg College, Galesburg — 60 or 90 miles

Tuesday, 6/16 — to Big Creek Park, Canton — 55 or 80 miles

Wednesday, 6/17 — Layover at Big Creek Park — 30 to 100 miles (or zero)

Thursday, 6/18 — to Shore Acres Park, Chillicothe — 55 or 85 miles

Friday, 6/19 — to Kewanee High School, Kewanee — 45 or 60 miles

The GITAP Photo and Video Contest

Make sure to bring your camera on GITAP. Your memorable photos could be winners in our annual contest. We have six categories: Best All-Around, Best Scenic, Best Bicycling, Best Humor, Best State Park, and Best Video.

Helping Out

Do you know someone — perhaps a significant other — who would like to be a part of GITAP, but not participate in the biking? Perhaps you're with a group of riders that want to ferry a vehicle around for the week. We are looking for volunteer drivers and extra vehicles to give us a hand especially in case of emergencies. Interested? Email Chuck at chuckace2@gmail.com to work out details.

GITAP Entry Form – 2015

Complete and sign one form per rider. Copies are acceptable.

Name _____ M/F _____ Age _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

E-mail _____ T-shirt size: S__ M__ L__ XL__ XXL__ (Included)

Emergency Contact: Name: _____ Phone _____

How did you find out about GITAP? _____ Your bike club? _____

_____ Check here if you plan to use motels for the entire ride at your own expense. We will send you the motel package info as soon as possible and hold your ride registration check until we receive your motel package registration.

_____ Check here if you are interested in participating in the *Velosophie* program — a lively, nightly discussion about bicycling related reading materials that are sent to you in advance of the ride.

Ride Fee: \$460	_____
\$425 Current LIB members	_____
\$345 Children (12-15 years); \$230 (11 years and under)	_____
Add \$25 for registering after June 1	_____
Extra T-shirts: S__ M__ L__ XL__ XXL__ (\$10 each)	_____
Optional - Additional donation for LIB's advocacy work	_____
Total	_____

Make checks Payable to **League of Illinois Bicyclists.**

Mail to: GITAP; Chuck Oestreich; 816 - 22nd Street; Rock Island, IL 61201

Release of Organizers and Sponsors: In signing this for myself or the named participant, I understand that participation in the Grand Illinois Trail And Parks (GITAP) ride, as in any bicycling or athletic event, may involve hazardous activity. I agree to accept and assume all risk and danger incidental to the GITAP ride occurring prior to, during, or subsequent to the actual ride, including but not limited to the risk of physical injury, mental injury, emotional distress, trauma, death, contact with other participants, equipment failure, inadequate safety equipment, the effect of weather including extreme temperature or conditions, traffic, contact with motor vehicles of all types and descriptions, collision with other riders, pedestrians, animals, fixed objects, or conditions of the road. I waive any and all specific notice of the existence of the risks and hazards. I, for myself, and anyone acting on my behalf, agree to absolve all organizers, sponsors and their representatives, singly or collectively, of all blame for any injury, misadventure, harm, loss, or inconvenience suffered as a result of taking part in the GITAP ride or in any of the activities associated with it. I agree to obey all traffic laws, signs, and signals. In addition, I hereby grant permission to the organizers of the GITAP ride and its authorized agents to use my name and photographs, video tapes, motion pictures, recordings, and any other record of my participation in this event for any purpose. I agree to the above waivers and disclaimers.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Signature of parent or guardian for rider 17 years of age or under:

WAIVER MUST BE SIGNED

Your cooperation is important - we must do our part to "Share the Road!"

I agree not to ride two or more abreast when doing so may impede traffic. I agree to follow all other rules of the road, which apply to both cars and bicycles.

Signature: _____

(LIB recommends that you complete the brief "Adult Bicyclist" quiz at www.BikeSafetyQuiz.com to learn valuable bike safety