



Massachusetts Walking Tour

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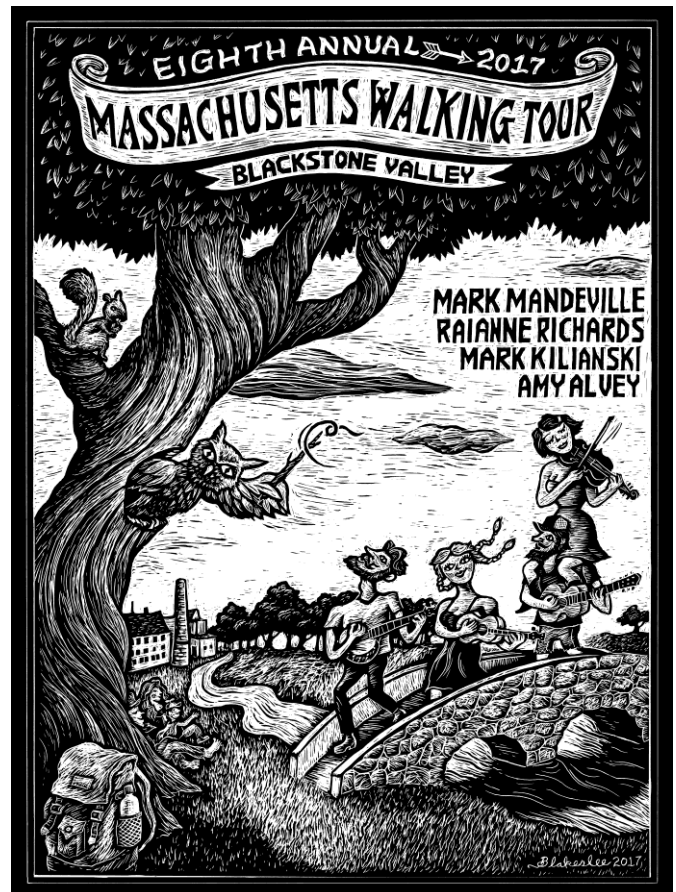


**Blackstone
Heritage
Corridor**

Eighth Annual Massachusetts Walking Tour prepares for 11 day trek through the Blackstone Valley

The Eighth Annual Massachusetts Walking Tour, founded by songwriting duo Mark Mandeville & Raianne Richards, will be coming this year to the Blackstone Valley – performing 11 free community concerts while traversing the state *on foot*. Since 2010, Mandeville and Richards have organized now over 100 coffeehouse style concerts which showcase local musicians and artists across the state – creating a quality evening program for all ages and an opportunity for talent young and old to be enjoyed by a listening audience. Venues chosen for these community concerts include public libraries, town parks, and historical properties – and this year all events have been funded through grants from the Massachusetts Cultural Council program.

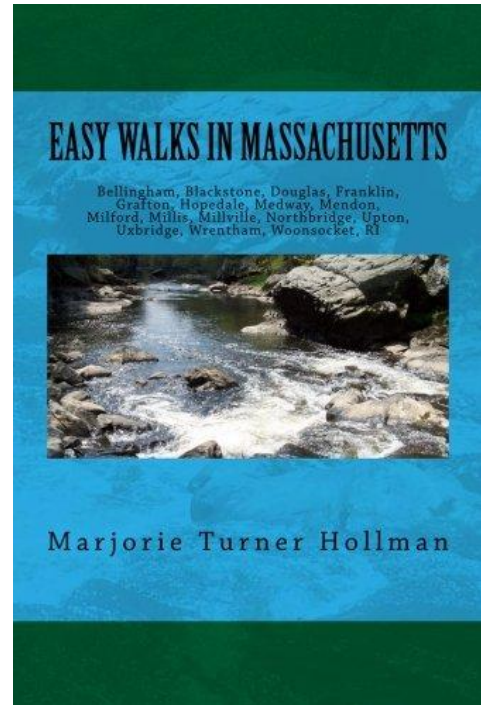
Carrying approximately 40-50 lbs of gear and instruments, the Massachusetts Walking Troupe, including veteran members Mark Kilianski (guitar, banjo) and Amy Alvey (fiddle), will be hiking from concert to concert using the Blackstone Valley's many recreational trails – Southern New England Trunkline Trail (SNETT), Charles River Bikeway, and trails within DCR's Riverbend Farm to name a few.



In addition to evening concerts, the troupe will also be organizing a series of short group hikes wherein the community will be invited to meet up with the Massachusetts Walking Tour as they travel between towns. These public hikes will highlight some of the Blackstone Valley's recreational hiking trails, routes which appear in local author Marjorie Turner Hollman's book *Easy Walks In Massachusetts*. All routes will be displayed and downloadable at www.masswalkingtour.org.

The Eighth Annual Massachusetts Walking Tour will take place between June 15 and June 24, starting in Webster and ending in Blackstone. All concerts will be from 6-8pm and here is a complete listing of events:

- June 15 – Memorial Beach – Webster MA**
- June 16 – EN Jenckes General Store – Douglas MA**
- June 17 – River Bend Farm – Uxbridge MA**
- June 18 – Kiwanis Beach – Upton MA**
- June 19 – Hopedale Unitarian Parish – Hopedale MA**
- June 20 – Milford Senior Center – Milford MA**
- June 21 – Medway Public Library – Medway MA**
- June 22 – Bellingham Public Library – Bellingham MA**
- June 23 – Franklin Public Library – Franklin MA**
- June 24 – Blackstone Boys and Girls Club – Blackstone MA**



For more information on these events or for videos of previous year's Massachusetts Walking Tours, please visit www.masswalkingtour.org. If you are an artist or musician from the towns above, and you would like to be involved in an event, send an email to masswalkingtour@gmail.com or find the Massachusetts Walking Tour on Facebook.