

THE NEPA Party Bike

What is the NEPA Party Bike?

The NEPA Party Bike is a pedicycle business based out of Simpson/Carbondale Pennsylvania. The bike can hold 10 peddlers as well as three bench seat passengers. You can hire us for one of our pre-planned itineraries or contact us to customize your own. Although based in northern Lackawanna County, the pedal pub is mobile and can come to you.

What is a pedicycle?

The technical term for our “party bike”, is a pedicycle, although these machines are also frequently known as a pedal crawlers, pedal taverns, pedal pubs, or bierbikes, depending on what part of the world you’re in at the time. Pedicycles are multi-passenger, rider powered party vehicles. Riders sit on bicycle style seats, complete with pedals, and move the vehicle forward, while a driver, who does not pedal, steers and brakes.

These vehicles were initially invented in the Netherlands as a way to promote a local tavern. They quickly gained popularity around Europe, especially in Germany (no surprise there) and the UK, where they are popular for stag/hen parties (translation: bachelor/bachelorette). The first “pedal-pubs” started appearing in the southern US in the mid-2000’s, soon gaining prominence across the south, the Great Lakes region, and mid-west. These pedal-pubs came equipped with sound systems, musicians on board, grills and tap systems, for a mobile party that could help patrons explore the bar scene or history of a specific locale.

These days, the party bike scene is taking off, and we’re proud to be the first pedicycle in NEPA. While these have traditionally been used solely for pub crawls, the “party” in our “party bike” encompasses any celebration you could think of: weddings, kid’s birthday parties, reunions, fundraisers, and of course, pubcrawls.

Mission-

Our mission is to deliver clients a fun and memorable experience in Northeast PA. Of equal importance is to highlight and emphasize the unique attractions and culture in NEPA, as well as helping others put a spotlight on missions and causes specific to them.

Vision

Our vision is to have the NEPA Party Bike be synonymous with a good time in the greater Scranton area. We hope that by next year we don’t have to describe the “Party Bike”, as it will be generally known. Along with Steamtown, the Railriders, Scranton/Wilkes Barre Penguins, and even The Office, we want the Party Bike to be associated with all the other fun things Scranton and the Northeast has to offer. We aim to continue to explore new itineraries and uses for the Party Bike, as well as acting as an ambassador to both the area and causes we believe in.

NEPA PARTY Bike Fact Sheet



About Us:

The technical term for our “party bike”, is a pedicyle, although these machines are also frequently known as a pedal crawlers, pedal taverns, pedal pubs, or bierbikes, depending on what part of the world you’re in at the time. Pedicycles are multi-passenger, rider powered party vehicles. Riders sit on bicycle style seats, complete with pedals and move the vehicle forward, while a driver, who does not pedal, steers and brakes.

These vehicles were initially invented in the Netherlands as a way to promote a local tavern. They quickly gained popularity around Europe especially in Germany (no surprise there) and the UK, where they are popular for stag/hen parties (translation: bachelor/bachelorette). The first “pedal-pubs” started appearing in the southern US in the mid-2000’s, soon gaining prominence across the south, the Great Lakes region, and mid-west.

These days, the party bike scene is taking off, and we’re proud to be the *first* pedicycles available in Northeast PA. We’re a family run company who’s excited to offer another reason for people to visit the area we grew up in and love. We offer pre-made itineraries in Carbondale, Honesdale, and Scranton, however there is also the option to contact us and customize one to suit your needs.

Statistics:

- **Price:**
2 hrs- \$300.00 3 hrs- \$350.00
- **Capacity:** 10 Peddlers, 3 passengers, driver
- **Speed:** 5-7 mph

Amenities:

- Led Lights
- Color Changing Lights
- Mp3 Player Hookup
- Electric Rechargeable Assist Engine
- Optional Seatbelts
- Cupholders

Uses:

- Pub crawls
- Restaurant Tours
- Family Reunions
- Adult & Children Birthday Parties
- Sports Team Outings
- Local Attraction Rides
- Bachelor/Bachelorette Parties
- Historic Tours
- Corporate Team Building
- Graduation Parties
- Weddings
- Fund Raising Events
- Picnics
- Church Outings
- Summer Camps
- Holiday Outings (Christmas Caroling, Halloween Bar Crawls, St. Patty’s Day Pub Crawls)
- Theme Nights Out

Contact Information:

- **Proprietor:** Mike Lisowski
- **Phone Number:** (570) 561-3616
- **Email:** info@nepapartybike.com
- **Website:** <http://nepapartybike.com/>
- **Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/nepapartybike>
- **Twitter:** https://twitter.com/NEPA_PartyBike
- **Instagram:** <http://instagram.com/nepapartybike>

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- **FIRST OF ALL, WHY NEPA?**

We at the Party Bike were born and bred in Northeastern PA. We love NEPA. We also think it's an extremely underrated area looking to be explored. While much of the state is becoming homogenized, generic, and overly franchised, NEPA retains its unique culture and somewhat behind the times charm. The area has a lot going for it, both historically and moving into the future.

- **WHO DRIVES THE PARTY BIKE?**

We provide well trained drivers for all tours.

- **WHAT HAPPENS IF IT RAINS?**

Not a problem. The Party Bike has a large canopy that protects riders from the elements, which means rain can make touring even more fun. We don't even have a problem with light snow! In the event of extremely inclement weather, the tour can be rescheduled or cancelled with a full refund.

- **WHAT TIME OF THE YEAR DO TOURS OCCUR?**

Tours run year-round. If we stopped life in NEPA just because of some cold or snow, we'd never get anything done. Some of the most fun tours occur during the winter and holiday seasons, and of course St. Patrick's Day is always a busy time for the bike. Dress appropriately and let the exercise keep you warm.

- **DOES THE BIKE HAVE MUSIC?**

Yes. The bike has a stereo system. We have several playlists for you to choose from (and can always customize something in advance), or you are welcome to bring your own iPod (or boom box if you're still holding on to 1999...we don't discriminate).

- **HOW OLD MUST YOU BE TO RIDE THE PARTY BIKE?**

For pub-crawls, everyone on board must be over 21. Children 16 and under must have a chaperone in vicinity of the bike who can be quickly accessed if needed.

- **ARE HELMETS NECESSARY?**

Children 12 and under must wear a helmet, which we provide (although feel free to bring your own). We can provide anyone with a helmet upon request.

- **HOW FAST IS THE PARTY BIKE?**

We usually go between 5-7 miles an hour. Use this information accordingly when planning your customized itinerary.

- **WHAT IS THE MINIMUM NUMBER OF PEOPLE NEEDED TO MOVE THE PARTY BIKE?**

It only takes two people to move the bike while pedaling.

- **IS THERE AN ENGINE?**

The bike has a small electrical assist motor which helps the driver to load and unload the bike from its trailer. It can also be used to help the bike climb hills or depending on the age, fitness level, or overall laziness of patrons.

- **WHAT'S THE PURPOSE OF THE 3 PERSON SEAT IN THE BACK?**

The seat can be used by anyone who simply wants to ride along without pedaling. Word of warning: this may cause some resentment by those pedaling if we hit a hill.

- **CAN WE BRING FOOD?**

Absolutely. There is a secured, 55 gallon, stainless steel cooler on board. Bring whatever you would like. Just don't litter.

- **HOW ABOUT DRINKS?**

As long as the drinks are non-alcoholic. Those who desire adult beverages need not worry. The party bike can make frequent stops at pubs and restaurants for those who need to “wet their whistle.”

- **CAN WE DRINK ON THE PARTY BIKE?**
Water? Sure. Orange soda? No problem. Chocolate milk? Probably not the smartest choice, but go for it. Alcohol? Not in towns with open container ordinances. *Alcohol could be consumed on private residences, resorts, and wedding venues.
- **IS THE PARTY BIKE DANGEROUS?**
The party bike is technically considered a bicycle and abides by the same rules and regulations. As with any vehicle, there’s always a modicum of a risk, which is why we provide the option to wear a helmet at no additional cost. We have never had problems with safety or injuries.
- **HOW MUCH OF A WORKOUT IS THE PARTY BIKE?**
We aren’t necessarily health nuts here at the Party Bike (we enjoy downing beers and pizza in between pedals), but this is a people powered machine and chances are you will put forth some effort. We’ll utilize the engine to ensure you don’t get too sweaty or sore, but the Party Bike is first and foremost, a glorified bike (you’ll be happy for this during the fall and winter seasons).
- **SHOULD WE TIP THE DRIVER?**
We would never say no to tips if the service is a quality service.
- **WHAT DO I WEAR ON THE PARTY BIKE?**
You’ll be outdoors, so use your common sense to dress appropriately for the weather. Also remember that you’ll be peddling. Flip flops or high heels are not a smart option.

Remember to wear clothes with secure pockets (or remember to put wallets and keys in the cupholders in front of you!), as the movement could cause things to fall out. It might be smart for you to bring a backpack or purse as the bike has ample storage space.

- **WHAT DO I NEED TO BRING WITH ME?**
As mentioned previously, you can bring any food or non-alcoholic beverage which can fit in our 55 gallon cooler. We just ask that you abstain from any glass containers. If you’re 21 and want to imbibe, bring an ID and it would also bode well for you to bring cash. While most of our starting points have ATM’s on hand, many bars and restaurants in NEPA do not accept credit or debit cards (all part of the charm). You can also feel free to bring your iPod, costumes, bike decorations, etc.

Party Bike in the Media:

This WNEP story was the first time the Party Bike appeared on the news.

<http://wnep.com/2014/07/11/all-aboard-the-party-bike-in-carbondale/>

The Party Bike appeared on WNEP's Leckey Live in conjuncture with the Honesdale Rotary Club/Honesdale JayCees, in order to help raise awareness for their Halloween Parade and Rachel's Challenge.

<http://wnep.com/2014/10/28/honesdales-halloween-parade/>

The Party Bike was the prize at raffles for the American Cancer Society at Scranton's Andy Gavins, and Clark Summit's State Street Grill in the fall of 2014.

<http://wnep.com/2014/10/27/celebrity-bartenders-raise-money-to-fight-cancer/>

The *Scranton Times-Tribute* did a great write-up on our first inaugural "Tour De Tank" to raise awareness for Veteran's Day.

<http://thetimes-tribune.com/veterans-pedal-13-passenger-bike-to-area-tanks-1.1786904>



Story Ideas:

There's a plethora of story ideas in conjuncture with your ride on the Party Bike. Here are a few of our favorites:

- **The NEPA Party Bike Itself-**
The Party Bike itself is something of a story, as this unique vehicle has not graced NEPA before. Sometimes just telling others about your experience on the Party Bike is more than enough material in itself.
- **Small Business-**
The story of the NEPA Party Bike is an interesting one. The idea first took root when the owner's nephew saw one of these vehicles in a country music video. He, along with his cousins, tracked one down in Philadelphia, rode it, and talked it up so much that one was purchased. It's a family run business and it's always interesting to see how these things evolve and grow.
- **Charity/Giving Back-**
The NEPA Party Bike gets attention wherever it goes, so it only made sense that we should use it to highlight causes we care about, and that other organizations have used it to bring light to causes they wish to gain more exposure. The Party Bike is an especially big supporter of Veteran's and military causes.
- **NEPA as a unique destination-**
We had a lot of naysayers when we first said we were going to base the Party Bike in northeastern PA, but paid no attention as we love this area. We hope the addition of the Party Bike becomes another reason people visit NEPA and to become something of a NEPA tourism ambassador through both local partnerships, and our Party Bike blog.
- **Party Bike & NEPA Beer-**
Northeast PA has a vibrant and growing local craft beer scene. The Party Bike would make for a fun way to go to various Scranton watering holes and try these local offerings.
- **Pedicycles-**
Pedicycles themselves are interesting vehicles. They were initially developed in Europe and first moved across the pond to southern states. They're catching on like wildfire though, and PA has recently gotten into the fun with bikes in Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, and now Scranton. We actually thought we were the northernmost pedicycle in our time zone, until we discovered that one has opened all the way up in Rochester!
- **Inventive Vehicles in NEPA-**
Honesdale was home to the first gravity railway in the United States and Scranton was where the electric trolley was perfected. NEPA has always been in the forefront of innovative ways to travel, so it only makes sense that we are one of the first places in the northeast US to have a pedicycle.
- **The NEPA Party Bike Blog-**
Our NEPA Party Bike blog is chock full of NEPA anecdotes, suggestions, and stories.
(<http://nepapartybike.com/blog/>)
- **Culinary Tour of Scranton, Carbondale, or Honesdale-**
When people think of Pennsylvania-centric food they tend to gravitate towards Philadelphia's cheesesteaks and the Amish's whoopee pies, when in fact NEPA has a very tasty (albeit unhealthy) culinary tradition. Kielbasa. Pierogies. Soppersatta. Old Forge Pizza. Commandeer the Party Bike for a culinary tours in one of the above locations, along with our localized suggestions.