

**1** Paddle Mystic — Mystic River Adventure Company  
15 Homes Street

Your adventure starts here! Paddle Mystic is an adventure company that offers unique and memorable experiences for everyone! Want to ride over — or even under — the famous bascule bridge? Paddle Mystic can take you right up close! See historic boats, houses, and the picturesque landscape of this town that Thrillist ranked best small town to visit in Connecticut.

.01 miles to Mystic River Bascule Bridge  
Right on Holmes Street, then right onto East Main Street

**2** Mystic River Bascule Bridge  
East Main Street

Designed by Thomas Ellis Brown, and built by J.E. FitzGerald Construction, the Mystic River Bascule Bridge first opened — literally — in 1920. Now, nearly 100 years later, it opens over 2000 times per year, giving passage to nearly 12,000 vehicles every day. Twin motors open the 85-foot movable span 40 minutes past the hour during daylight. Did you know that the bridge carried streetcars until 1928?

0.2 miles to John Kelley Statue  
Continue along West Main Street

**3** John J. Kelley Statue  
Corner of Bank Street & West Street

John Kelley was a member of two United States Olympic Marathon teams and won the marathon at the 1959 Pan American Games. He began racing during his college years and placed Top 10 in the Boston Marathon multiple times before winning it in 1957. This life-size bronze statue of the famous marathoner and his dog, Brutus, was dedicated in 2014.

0.4 miles to Mystic Seaport Lighthouse Vantage Point  
Back on West Main Street, left onto Gravel Street

**4** Mystic Seaport Lighthouse Vantage Point  
Corner of Gravel Street & Eldridge Street

Pedal through history as you travel through this historic district neighborhood. The corner of Gravel Street and Eldridge Street is the perfect view of the Mystic Seaport Lighthouse, a replica of the Brant Point Lighthouse that currently stands in Nantucket. This replica features authentic lighthouse history: a working 4th order Fresnel lens, on loan from the Coast Guard.

0.3 miles to Peace Nature Sanctuary  
Follow Eldridge Street, then right onto Pearl Street,  
left onto Starr Street, right onto River Road

**5** Peace Nature Sanctuary  
233 River Road

This beautiful 45 acre park was once owned by author and explorer Mary Jobe Akeley. Its elevation is a scenic paradise of Pink Lady Slippers and classic New England foliage during Fall. The market trails are bicycle-ready and open dawn 'til dusk. The Peace Nature Sanctuary was once the site of Camp Mystic, an all-girls summer nature camp.

0.1 miles to Osprey Nest  
Continue on River Road

**6** Osprey Nest  
River Road

Ospreys were driven to the edge of extinction in the 1960s and early 1970s. Now, the osprey population is thriving. The Connecticut Audubon Society stewardship program collects data on Ospreys nesting in the state. With more than 200 volunteers, Osprey Nation has grown to become one of the largest citizen science projects in New England.

0.7 miles to Mystic River Boat Launch  
Continue on River Road

**7** Mystic River Boat Launch  
600 River Road

Located on the west bank of the Mystic River, beneath the I-95 overpass, the Mystic River Boat Launch provides paddle views of the historic river corridor. Suited for small vessel launching, the launch is also a popular fishing site.

Continue 1.3 miles on River Road

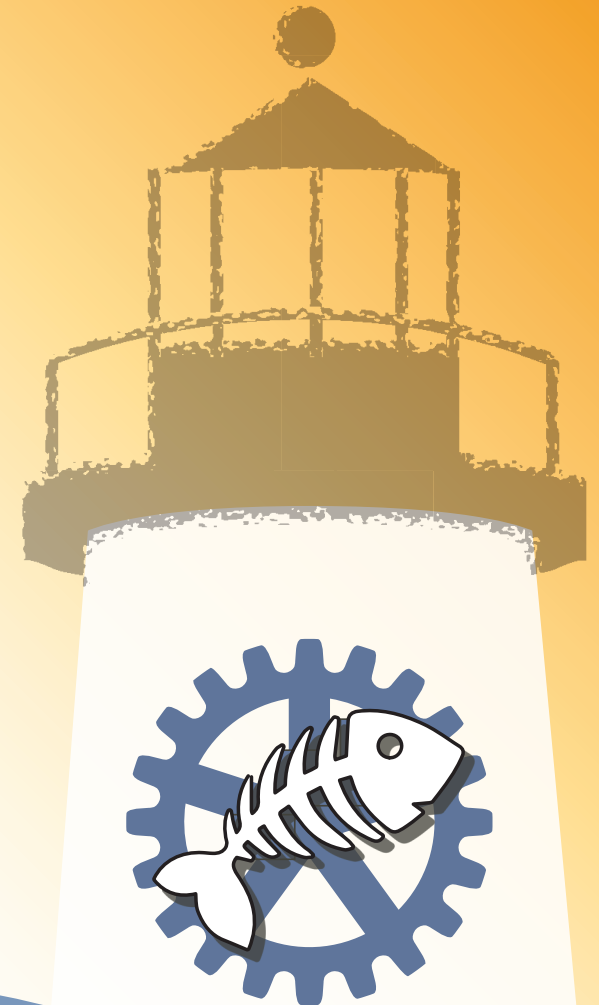
**8** River Road Scenic Drive  
River Road to Old Mystic Center Road (Rt. 27)

The north end of River Road — River Road Scenic Drive — is a beautiful wooded stretch of winding rural New England that follows the Mystic River to its source in Old Mystic.

Reverse course 3.2 miles back to Paddle Mystic

**9** Paddle Mystic — Mystic River Adventure Company  
15 Homes Street

Welcome back to Paddle Mystic! We hope you enjoyed pedalling through the historic village that Thrillist ranked best small town to visit in Connecticut!



# PEDAL MYSTIC

## SCENIC BIKE TOUR

15 Holmes Street 860-245-6086  
paddlemystic.com

# PEDAL MYSTIC SCENIC BIKE TOUR



## Welcome to Mystic!

Many people outside New England first discovered Mystic as the setting for the 1988 film, *Mystic Pizza*, starring unknown actors Julia Roberts and Matt Damon. Nearly a decade later director Steven Spielberg would film scenes for *Amistad* at Mystic Seaport. But Mystic is rich in history, dating back to a Pequot village overlooking the western bank of the Mystic River.

In fact, the name Mystic is said to be a derivation of *missi-tuk*, a Pequot term describing a large river with waters driven into waves by tides and wind. Mystic was a thriving seaport in the 19th century. Now, the largest maritime museum in the country is here, Mystic Seaport.

Mystic today is also home to quaint and unique shops, restaurants, galleries, all dotted along a beautiful and historic New England landscape.

The Paddle Mystic Scenic Bike Tour is a self-guided 6 mile bicycle tour that starts downtown and follows the Mystic River north along its western bank, giving you a wonderful ride through history and majestic coastal scenery.

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