

## SEE ART HISTORY COME TO LIFE

Follow the Hudson River School Art Trail, which takes you to the sites that inspired America's first great landscape painters. Walk in Thomas Cole's footsteps, and compare his 19th-century paintings with the same magnificent views as they appear today.

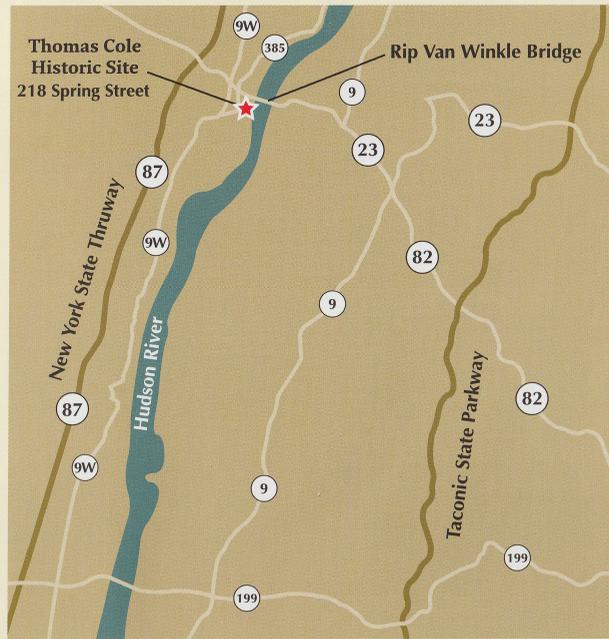
Maps, directions and more information are available at the Thomas Cole Historic Site and at [www.hudsonriverschool.org](http://www.hudsonriverschool.org)



Inside panel, clockwise from top right: Asher Durand, Portrait of Thomas Cole (detail), 1837. The Berkshire Museum, Pittsfield, MA; The Main House, photo by Rudie Berkhout; View from the West Porch; Thomas Cole, Prometheus Bound, c. 1846. On extended loan from the Catskill Public Library, New York. Gift of Florence Cole Vincent as a memorial to her grandfather, the artist; Thomas Cole's Old Studio, photo © John Thorne. This panel: Thomas Cole, The Clove, Catskills, 1827. New Britain Museum of American Art, New Britain, CT. Photo of Kaaterskill Clove today © Francis Driscoll.

## Hours & Admission

The Visitor Center is open and guided tours of the Main House and Studio are offered May through October. Please visit our website, [www.thomascole.org](http://www.thomascole.org), for exact opening and closing dates and up to date ticket prices, or call 518-943-7465.



## Directions

The Thomas Cole National Historic Site is located near the Rip Van Winkle Bridge, in the village of Catskill, New York, at the foot of the Catskill Mountains in the Hudson Valley.

### FROM NYC OR ALBANY:

Take NYS Thruway (I-87) to Exit 21 (Catskill). Make a left at the traffic light, then proceed 2 miles as the road becomes Main Street, Catskill. At the only traffic light on Main Street, make a left onto Bridge Street. Turn left onto Spring Street (Route 385). The Thomas Cole Historic Site is six blocks down on the right.

### FROM TACONIC PARKWAY:

Take the Hudson exit (Route 82 North) towards the Rip Van Winkle Bridge. Follow Route 82, which becomes Route 23 West, and cross the Hudson River via the Rip Van Winkle Bridge. Turn left at first traffic light onto Spring Street (Route 385).

**THOMAS COLE NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE**  
218 Spring Street, Catskill, NY 12414  
(518) 943-7465 • [www.thomascole.org](http://www.thomascole.org)

The Thomas Cole Historic House is non-profit organization and an affiliate of the National Park Service.

<sup>1</sup> Thomas Cole in his Essay on American Scenery, 1836.



# THOMAS COLE

NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE



*Where American Art Was Born*



**VISIT THE PLACE WHERE AMERICAN ART WAS BORN**

## **DISCOVER THE INSPIRING STORY**



of how one man invented a new way of looking at America, and through his paintings enabled future generations to “know better how to appreciate the treasures of their own country.”<sup>1</sup>

See the studio where Thomas Cole created his masterpieces, walk in his footsteps through the nearby hiking trails where the breathtaking views remain pristine, watch a film that tells the story of his rise to prominence, and tour the peaceful home and gardens where history was made.

The Thomas Cole National Historic Site is a National Historic Landmark that welcomes thousands of visitors each year, featuring changing exhibitions of landscape paintings, guided tours of his gracious 1815 home and studio, a museum shop stocked with art books and creative gifts, and a place to sit and enjoy a cup of coffee while admiring the landscape.



### **THOMAS COLE AND THE HUDSON RIVER SCHOOL**

Regarded as the founder of America's first major art movement, known as the Hudson River School, Thomas Cole (1801–1848) is a central figure in the development of American culture. The art movement that he launched had a major influence on America's understanding of its natural environment, its national destiny, the idea that nature reflected the divine, and the desire for touring and preserving the country's natural wonders.

*“...the enlightened of all ages and nations have found pleasure and consolation in the beauty of the rural earth.”<sup>1</sup>*

— Thomas Cole