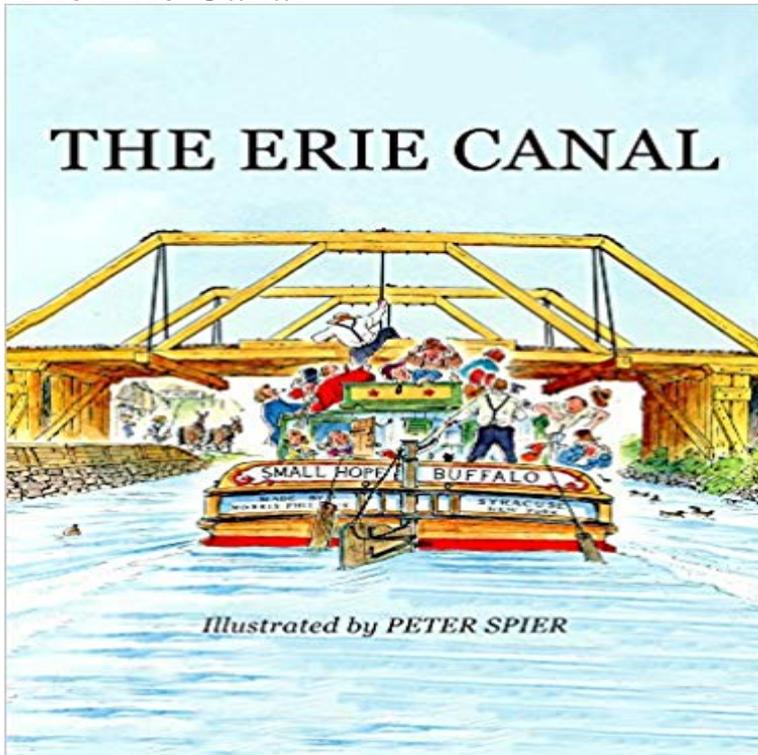


# The Erie Canal



In his intricately detailed and historically accurate illustrations, Spier brings delightful new dimensions to the popular folk song.

- 8 min - Uploaded by CBS Sunday Morning  
Two hundred years ago, construction began on a 363-mile canal linking the Great Lakes to the Hudson River and New York City. At one time, more than 50,000 people depended on the Erie Canal for their livelihood. From its inception, the Erie Canal helped form a whole new culture. July 2017 marks the 200th anniversary of the start of construction on the Erie Canal, which was completed in 1825 and linked Lake Erie in Buffalo to the Hudson River and New York City. No wonder that in his *Wedding of the Waters: The Erie Canal and the Making of a Great Nation* (2005), Peter L. Bernstein wrote: A town with a rich history of canal building. Watch the *Building the Erie Canal* video clip of HISTORY's series *America the Story of Us*. Find this and many more videos only on HISTORY. Dignitaries turned the first shovel of soil in Rome on July 4, marking the start of Erie Canal construction. Eight years later, the canal opened from Albany to Buffalo. - 10 min - Uploaded by Austin Olney  
Learn about the history of the Erie Canal. Thanks to reddit user decentShocks for singing the *200 years ago construction began on a 363-mile canal linking Buffalo to the Hudson River and New York City - an engineering and commercial triumph*. And now a page from our *Sunday Morning Almanac: October 26th, 1825, 189 years ago today . . . a day America charted a new course to the West*. The Erie Canal opens, connecting the Great Lakes with the Atlantic Ocean via the Hudson River. Governor DeWitt Clinton of New York, the driving force behind the canal, signed the law that authorized its construction. How long is the New York State Canal System? The Erie Canal is 339 miles long from Waterford (Albany) to Tonawanda (Buffalo). Including its laterals, the total length is 524 miles. Find out more about the history of Erie Canal, including videos, interesting articles, pictures, historical features and more. Get all the facts on [the Erie Canal](#).