

Edith Kohlbach

**Bike Trails  
in  
Florida – West  
Including  
Coast – to – Coast Navigation**

## Contents

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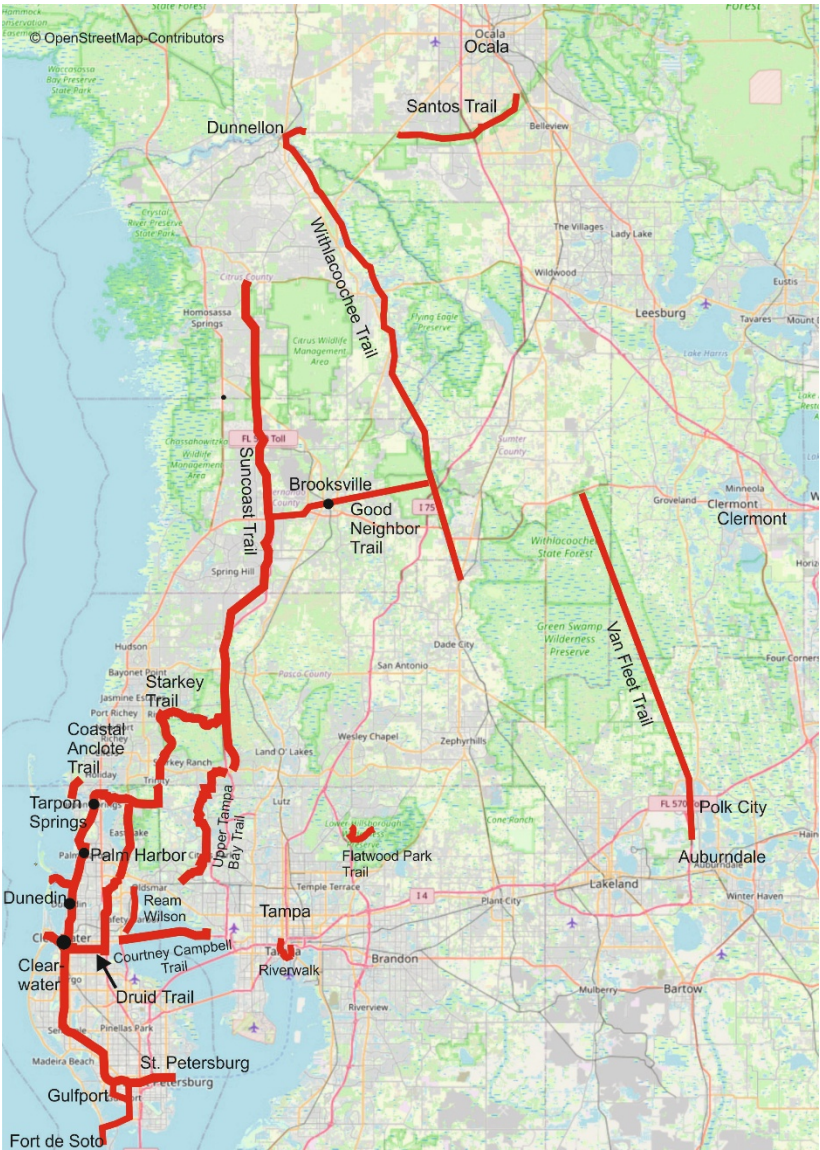
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### Florida - West

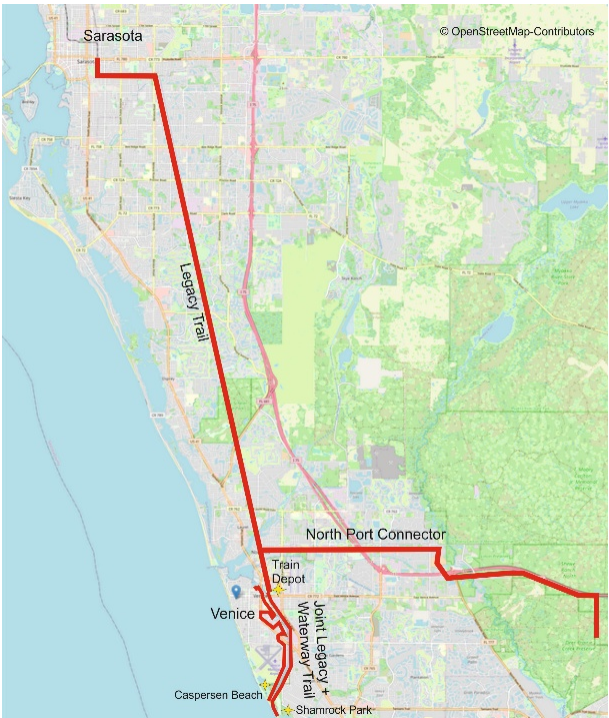


# Contents

## Florida – North West



## Sarasota – Venice area





## Contents

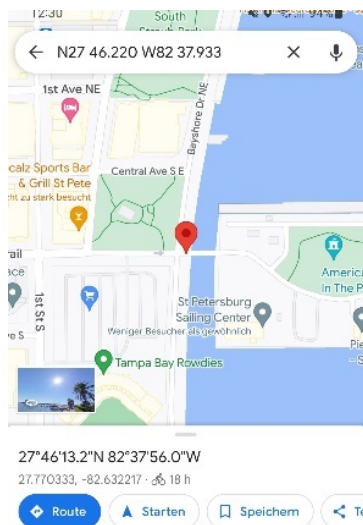
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### The GPS coordinates in this book are in the format

hhdd°mm.mmm specified. The degree character is replaced by space, the first 0 omitted.

### Know how to navigate with the GPS points?

Open google maps, put in the letters, numbers and blanks just like it is written in the book and your route will be shown.



Gainesville

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Florida North - West

Gainesville

This city fortunately has some good bike lanes and trails. We mention here only the famous Gainesville – Hawthorne Trail (15 mi) and the Downtown Connector (4 mi) to this trail.

Depot Park

This Park around the old railway station is a very popular leisure park with play grounds, restaurants, parking. The downtown connector to the Gainesville – Hawthorne Trails runs just along it.



<b>Start:</b> NW 16 <sup>th</sup> Ave	N29 39.995 W82 19.551
Boulware Springs Park	N29 37.270 W82 18.578
<b>End:</b> Hawthorne Trailhead	N29 35.243 W82 5.362

## Gainesville

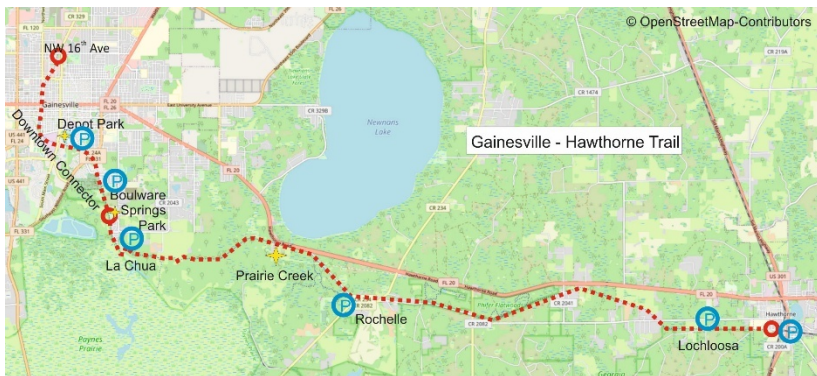
### Downtown Connector, 4 mi

The Downtown Connector is a real trail, secluded from the road, but with a few smaller intersections. Along the way sometimes the old railway tracks are still visible. Despite it is a city trail, it's quite peaceful and shady.

**Mi 0** Start in the north at NW 16<sup>th</sup> Ave, N29 39.995 W82 19.551.

**Mi 2.3** To the left is the Depot Park, a trails runs through the park. To reach the Hawthorne Trail just continue straight.

**Mi 4** Start of Gainesville – Hawthorne Trail, N29 37.270 W82 18.578.



### Gainesville – Hawthorne State Trail, 15 mi

This beautiful trail runs from the City of Gainesville's Bouwre Springs Water Works to the town of Hawthorne. It passes through the Paynes Prairie Preserve State Park and the Lochloosa Wildlife Management Area along a former Atlantic Coast Line Railroad line. Crossing a few county roads, but no major intersection. A wonderful path through true Florida nature for recreation, shady, but no food or drink along the route.

From its western endpoint, the trail soon leads to the Paynes Prairie overlook, and 2 miles from the trailhead the trail enters the preserve itself. Several trailside

## Gainesville

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overlooks offer views of the prairie, home to bison, wild horses, and numerous alligators. There are also several hiking trails.

**Mi 0 Boulware Springs Park**, N29 37.270 W82 18.578. Parking, potty, restroom, shelter, tools. Start of the trail. A mile into the trail, a side trip on the **La Chua Trail** leads to another viewing area; bicycles are not permitted on this unpaved spur. Parking, outlook, hiking path.

**Mi 2** Hammock hills and curves for one mile, maybe the most exciting part of the trail.



**Mi 4.8 Prairie Creek Boardwalk**, N29 36.646 W82 14.849. Take a minute to see this beautiful swamp, maybe even watch interesting birds.

**Mi 6.4 Rochelle Trailhead**, N29 35.744 W82 13.666, parking. A Potty is a little later, after mile marker 6.5.

**Mi 13.8 Lochloosa Trailhead**, N29 35.259 W82 6.701 parking, bench.

**Mi 15.1 Hawthorne Trailhead**, N29 35.243 W82 5.362, parking, potty.



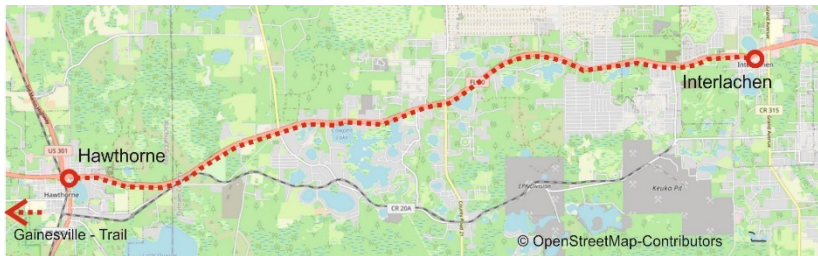
## Gainesville

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From Hawthorne Trailhead it is just 1 mile to Florida road 20. Along this road is now a new trail to Interlachen.

### Hawthorne – Interlachen SR 20 Trail, 13 mi

State Road 20 runs between Gainesville and Palatka. A part of it has a new bike trail. If you're looking for someplace to ride some hills, get a workout riding, this is the trail for you. It's probably the most hilly paved trail around. Not super scenic, no shade, because it does go along the State Road, but it's a safe ride off the road. And can be reached easily from the Gainesville – Hawthorne Trail.



**Mi 0 Hawthorne,** N29 35.777 W82 4.986,

**Mi 13 Interlachen,** N29 37.735 W81 52.934.





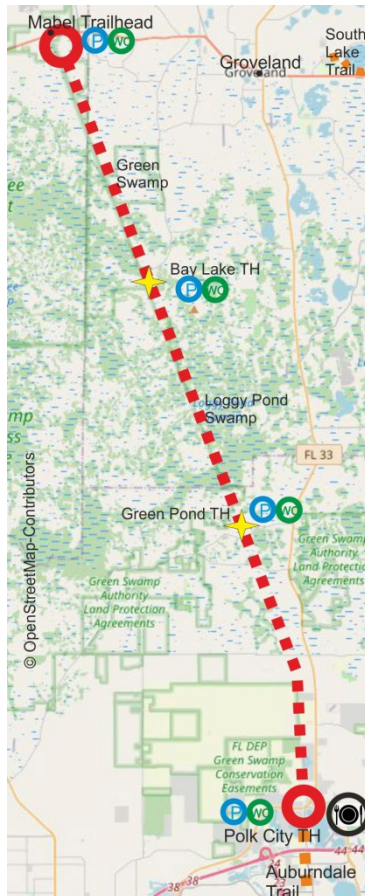
## Van Fleet and Auburndale Trail

### Florida West

#### General James A. Van Fleet State Trail, 29.2 mi

The General James A. Van Fleet State Trail, a former railroad track, extends 29.2 miles from Polk City to Mabel and traverses three counties: Polk, Lake and Sumter. This mostly shaded trail is enjoyed by beginner and experienced cyclists alike, it is noted for being one of Florida's most rural trails. Along this state trail are many benches with beautiful vistas including open cattle land, protected state forests and wetlands. But nothing else. If you need to exercise, need your legs to be moving, this is perfect; if you like to do some sightseeing along the trail it might be a bit boring. Places to eat or drink only near Polk City. Mileage on the trail starts at Polk City, this description starts at Mabel Trailhead, 7981 CR 772 (SR 50), Webster. Speed Limit 20 MPH.

<b>Start Mabel Trailhead:</b>
N28 34.704 W81 58.599
<b>End Polk City Trailhead,</b>
<b>Start Auburndale Trail:</b>
N28 10.840 W81 49.658
<b>End Auburndale, Berkley Rd:</b>
N28 04.638 W81 49.062



**Mi 0 Mabel Trailhead:** If you are coming from Groveland don't take the first exit to Mabel TH, it is very bad. Go just a bit farer and take the next turn. Parking lot with picnic pavilion, barbecue grill and restroom facilities with water; N28 34.704 W81 58.599.

**Mi 9.1 Bay Lake Trailhead:** Parking lot with picnic pavilion and restroom facilities, no water, N28 27.291 W81 55.329. Under the bridge just north of the TH you can

## Van Fleet and Auburndale Trail

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sometimes find alligators. **Mi 14.2 Sven's Place**, N28 23.120 W81 53.494. Sven lives near the trail and likes to talk to bikers, some chicken running around.

**Mi 19.1 Green Pond Trailhead:** Parking lot with picnic pavilion and barbecue grill. Restroom facilities (with water) north of this trailhead. N28 19.138 W81 51.735. Ranger Station.

**Mi 29.2 Polk City Trailhead**, 7683 Berkley Road Polk City / Hwy 33, N28 10.840 W81 49.658. Parking lot with picnic pavilion and barbecue grill. Restroom with water 0.5 mi into the trail. A convenience store and diner are nearby at Hwy 33.

The trail continues south as Auburndale Trail.



Mabel Trailhead



## Auburndale Trail, 7.2 mi

The Auburndale Trail connects Polk City and the Van Fleet Trail with Lake Myrtle in Auburndale; it is flat and invites walkers, joggers, cyclists, and inline skaters.

**Mi 0** Continue after the parking lot. The trail is first shady, then open and sunny along a power line. Within P.C. city limits it is called Polk City Trail, later Auburndale Trail.

**Mi 5.3** Start of extended sports fields. A little later is the Lake Myrtle.

# Van Fleet and Auburndale Trail

**Mi 6.6** At Denton Ave Auburndale Trailhead, parking, restroom, water, picnic table.

**Mi 7.2** End of trail at Berkley Rd, N28 04.638 W81 49.062.



End of Trail at Berkley Rd / Plymouth Rd



## Santos Paved Trail

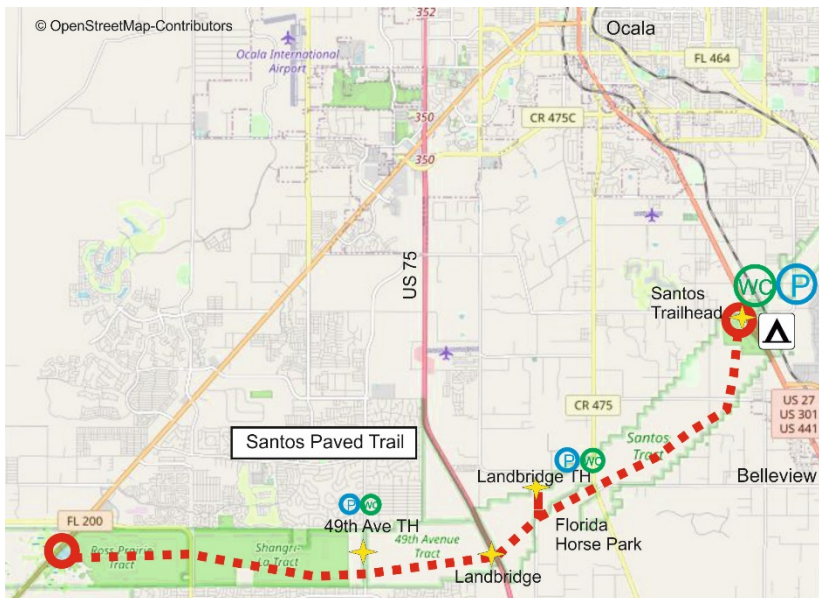
### Santos Paved Trail, 17 mi

The well paved trail devoid of any cracks or bumps is part of the Marjorie Harris Carr Greenway and runs 15.6 miles from Santos Trailhead to State Road 200. It will navigate you with rolling hills, curves and valleys through unique Florida ecosystems with opportunities for wildlife viewing. There are signs on the surface of the trail with information on your location in the



event of an emergency. Speed Limit 20 mph. An unpaved equestrian trail parallels portions of the paved trail. The trail crosses over I-75 on the iconic Land Bridge, which allows safe passage for wildlife, cyclists, hikers and equestrians. In addition, there are two quiet road crossings and four tunnels. It is mostly shady, only the last couple of miles more open and sunnier.

Future connectivity to Dunnellon Silver Springs and beyond is programmed.





# Santos Paved Trail

**Santos Trailhead** and Campground, 3080 SE 80th Street, N29 06.311 W82 05.707, very large parking, start of MTB trails, restrooms, water, bike wash, tools. Next to the trailhead on SE 80<sup>th</sup> street is the Santos bike shop.

**Santos – Bellevue MTB Trail:** Besides the paved trail Santos includes 80-plus miles of single-track diverse bike trails for beginners as well as expert-level trails that will challenge even the most elite riders.

<b>Start:</b> Santos Trailhead	N29 06.311 W82 05.707
Land Bridge	N29 03.761 W82 09.608
<b>End:</b> County Road 200	N29 02.882 W82 17.243

**Mi 0** Take the paved trail through beautiful shady hammock with pine, oak and palm trees. Attention, MTB and equestrian trails cross often. During my ride in February, I could see plenty of Eastern Tent Caterpillars (*Malacosoma americanum*) in the trees.



**Mi 4.6 Tunnel.** A little later is the extensive Florida Horse Park on the left. At **mi 6.0** next tunnel.



## Santos Paved Trail

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**Mi 6.3** The trail turns left, right is a path to the **Landbridge Trailhead** with bike and horse trailer parking, N29 03.588 W82 09.252. Restrooms, water, tables. Milage without side trip. Soon next tunnel.

**Mi 7.5** Iconic Land Bridge, N29 03.122 W82 10.127. Many species have been documented to use this bridge, including bear, with-tailed deer, bobcats and snakes.



**Mi 10.0** Shortly before the 3<sup>rd</sup> tunnel is 49<sup>th</sup> Ave Trailhead (N29 02.451 W82 12.062) to the left, parking, water, Potty.

**Mi 15.6** End of trail at County Road 200, N29 02.882 W82 17.243. No trailhead, parking or water. The trail including 2 side trips to the trailheads is 17.0 miles.

On this road to the right is a Wal-Mart center after 1 mile.

# Dunellon and Withlacoochee Trails

## Dunnellon Trail, 4 mi

This beautiful 4-mile trail connects the Withlacoochee River in Dunnellon with the Withlacoochee Trail. Map see Withlacoochee Trail.

<b>Start:</b> Bridges Rd Trailhead, 12334 S. Bridges Rd, with parking.	N29 02.628 W82 26.128
<b>End:</b> Gulf Junction Trailhead	N29 01.595 W82 28.261

**Mi 0** Bridges Rd TH, take the paved trail. Beautiful ride along the Withlacoochee River. At **Mi 1** there is the Blue Run Trailhead with parking and Potty to the right, continue straight. At **Mi 1.6** we cross the river on a bridge, **Mi 2.6** tunnel near a gas station.

**Mi 3.6** Gulf Junction Trailhead, start of Withlacoochee State Trail.



Bridges TH in Dunnellon

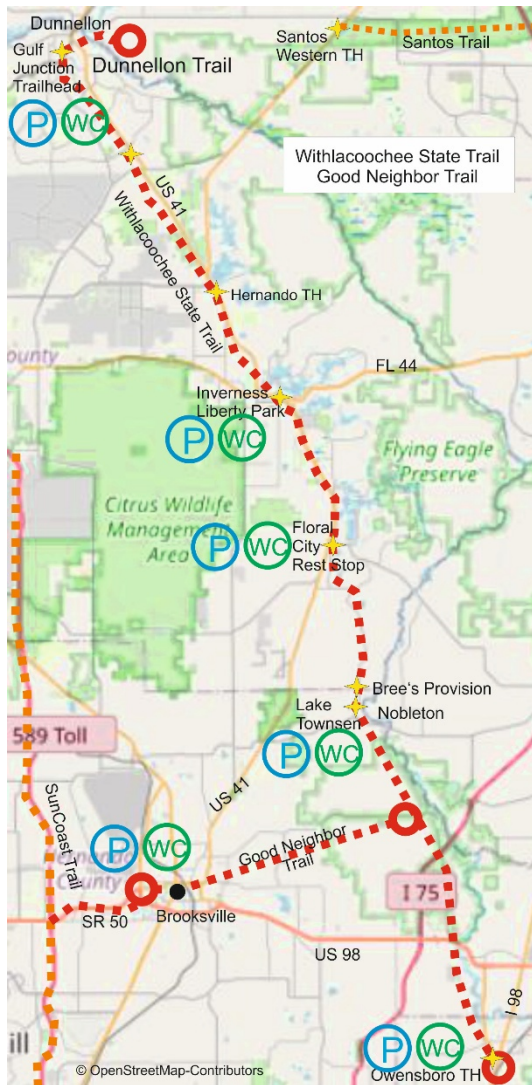
Gulf Junction connects the 2 trails

## Dunnellon and Withlacoochee Trails

### Withlacoochee State Trail, 46 mi

With a generally flat terrain and many access points, the trail is an ideal venue for all skill and fitness levels of cycling, running, walking and skating. An unpaved equestrian trail parallels portions of the paved trail. The trail corridor traverses three counties (Citrus, Hernando and Pasco), offering an enjoyable, varied journey as it runs through small towns, ranches and six distinct natural communities between Citrus Springs and Dade City. For much of its length, the trail parallels the Withlacoochee River, a state-designated paddling trail. At 46 miles, the Withlacoochee State Trail is one of the longest paved rail-to-trails in Florida and can even be extended with the Dunnellon Trail to 50 miles.

Partly canopy for shade, partly open and sunny, bring enough water, speed limit 20 mph. Several slow traffic roads to be crossed with stop sign. Mile marker on pavement from southern start. Along the trail are still the old railways signs, showing the miles to Richmond. Also, there are nesting posts for the Blue Birds.



## Dunellon and Withlacoochee Trails



Mile	Location	GPS
0	Gulf Junction TH, parking, restrooms.	N29 01.595 W82 28.261
4.5	Citrus Springs TH, large parking, restrooms, water, tables	N28 58.542 W82 25.778
10.6	Lemon Dr Hernando, Burger Station	N28 54.129 W82 22.616
10.9	Hernando TH, parking, restrooms, tables, water. Refreshments nearby. Cross SR 486	N28 53.924 W82 22.472
16	Inverness Liberty Park, restrooms, water, tables, Trek Bike Store (rental).	N28 50.463 W82 19.860
18.8	Paved trail to Fort Cooper State Park. Between here and Floral City several places to have drinks or food.	N28 48.246 W82 18.630
23	Floral City Rest Stop, restrooms, water, parking, bike shop (rental). Now through mostly forested areas with a few horse/cattle farms and swamps along the way.	N28 44.994 W82 17.799
30	Bree's Provision, a must stop along the trail. Very nice coffee shop and biker's meeting point.	N2839.549 W82 16.654
30.7	Lake Townsen Regional Park near Nobleton, parking, restrooms, water, picnic, kayak launch. The best place to catch river views and put in your canoe or kayak. From here the trail crosses the Withlacoochee State Forest and Croom Wildlife Management Area.	N28 39.024 W82 16.488
35.3	Croom MTB parking, potty, table	N28 35.767 W82 13.929
35.8	<b>Good Neighbor Trail connection</b>	N28 35.365 W82 13.712



## Dunnellon and Withlacoochee Trails

40	Heavily used Ridge Manor TH, just off US 98/SR 50. Fortunately, a state-of-the-art overpass leads safely across the congested roadway. The trail continues, lined with trees on both sides.	N28 31.608 W82 13.114
46	End at Owensboro TH just before meeting US 98/SR 50 again; a fairly spartan dirt lot with a trail map and a historical marker, just off US-301, and a short drive from I-75. About 20 parking spaces, no potty or water.	N28 26.759 W82 11.345

**Dunnellon:** This small town is located on the Rainbow and Withlacoochee rivers and has something to offer everyone: from beautiful Rainbow Springs State Park and the awesome rivers to strolling the lovely tree lined streets of the Dunnellon Historic District. Take a break in Dunnellon and enjoy true old-time charm. It is worth to be connected to the Withlacoochee Trail.



**Hernando:** For me this little town situated at the Lake Hernando is the best stop for lunch at this route. Several restaurants, but I liked the Burger Station. Had very good ribs and a cold beer.

**Inverness** is a very pretty little town along the route. There are benches everywhere and some spots where you can enjoy the little lakes. Close to the trailhead is the old train station and depot, now you can have a drink there.



There is a motel directly at the trail: Central Motel – Inverness, 721 US Highway 41 South, [www.centralmotel.com](http://www.centralmotel.com).



## Dunellon and Withlacoochee Trails

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Burger Station



Inverness – Train Station

**Floral City** not only has a beautiful bike rest stop, but also several restaurants in the area. Try Shamrock Inn next to the Rest Stop with German beer. Check out Avenue of the Oaks for a picturesque Old Florida feel of southern living.



**Croom MTB – Trail:** At mile 35 of the Withlacoochee State Trail Croom is Florida's most extensive and highest elevation trail system with over 50 miles of single track.



**Ridge Manor:** Just 1 mile west from Ridge Manor TH is at the intersection of I 75 / FL 50 Days Inn, a hotel often used by bikers, and several good restaurants, like El Sol de Mexico.

## Good Neighbor Trail

### Good Neighbor Trail to Brooksville, 13 mi

The Good Neighbor Trail connects the Withlacoochee State Trail to Brooksville and fills a gap in the broader Coast-to-Coast connector project. It connects with an overpass to SR 50. From there is a new trail along SR 50 to Ridge Manor and the SunCoast Trail.



The linear paved trail follows a former narrow gauge railroad corridor to a depot in Brooksville dating back to 1885. They needed a way to ship out the milled lumber to sawmills. As part of the Rails to Trails program, the old railroad track bed is now the Good Neighbor Trail and an important connector to the Coast-to-Coast Trail.

Map see page 17.

Mile	Location	GPS
0	Withlacoochee Trail / Good Neighbor Trail start at Croom	N28 35.365 W82 13.712
10	Railroad Depot Museum	N28 32.934 W82 23.149
12	Tom Varn Park Trailhead	N28 33.251 W82 24.254
13	End of trail at SR 50	N28 33.120 W82 25.303

**Mi 0** The trail runs straight on the old track through **Withlacoochee State Forest** (Croom Tract). A couple of forest roads cross in this area, as well as the **Florida National Scenic Trail**.

**Mi 4.5** After crossing Spirit Woods Trail we come through rural areas with vast farms. **Mi 8.5** We reach and cross Mondon Hills Rd, N28 33.326 W82 21.670.



## Good Neighbor Trail

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**Mi 10.2 Brooksville,** Good Neighbor Trailhead with shelter, restrooms and parking for a few cars, N28 32.934 W82 23.149. Here is the original railroad depot from 1885 with the museum. The little one-room schoolhouse next to it was rebuilt, but nonetheless worth a visit.



If you are hungry **Coney Island Drive Inn** (E Jefferson St) just off the trail before reaching the TH is the place to go.

**Mi 12** Tom Varn Park Trailhead with parking and restrooms.

**Mi 13** End of Good Neighbor Trail after Overpass at SR 50.

Connection to SunCoast Trail: Along SR 50 is a new trail (4 mi) leading to SunCoast SR 50 Trailhead, path from trail to overpass.

### Brooksville

**Parking:** In South Brooksville several trailheads with parking; East Liberty St / S Lemon Ave. Tom Varn Park, 301 Darby Ln / SR 50A, with parking, restrooms, playground, N28 33.251 W82 24.254.

**Bike Shop:** Brooksville Bicycle Center, 1110 Jefferson St, N28 33.188 W82 24.618, Tel. 352 799 7607; right on the trail.



**Motel:** In West Brooksville the older Oaks Motel is right on the trail, 630 S Broad St, Brooksville, (352) 796-4807. No guarantee that it is okay.

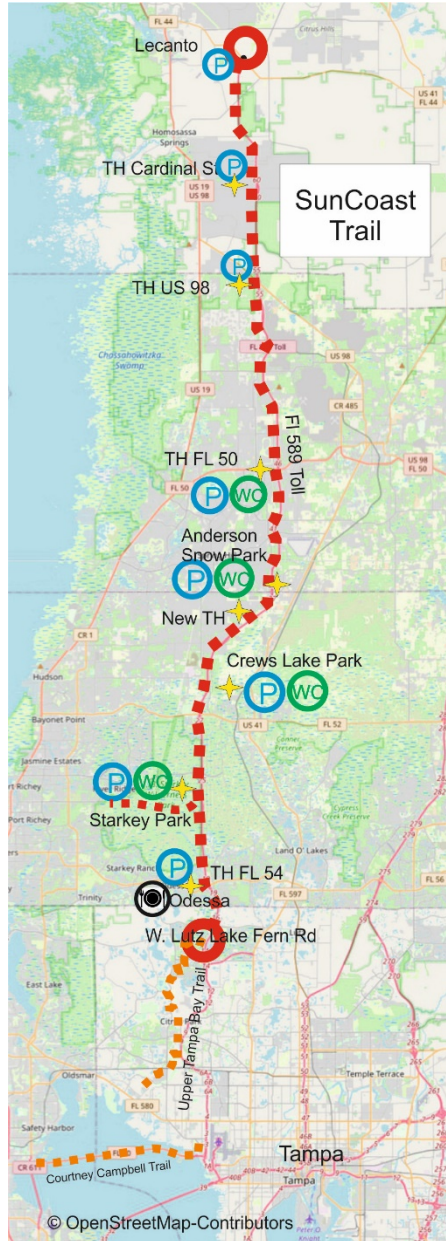
## SunCoast Trail

### SunCoast Trail, 56 mi

The SunCoast Trail was built at the same time as the SunCoast Parkway 589 as part of the master transportation plan for the region and parallels the highway on the western side. However, I was not very enthusiastic, in contrast to the many beautiful trails in Florida, which lead through open nature, this trail always goes along parkway 589 and thus you always have noise and usually blazing sun instead of beautiful scenery. But if you live in the area, it is wonderful to have such a trail for your exercise in front of your home, but if you live far away it's not worth the long drive.

Along the trail there are not many restrooms or water, no restaurants. Several roads have to be crossed. Since the trail is mostly fenced in from both sides access is only from the few trailheads, for residents there are some small access points.

The northern start is in Lecanto at Hwy 44, also named W. Gulf to Lake Rd. There is a trailhead (N28 51.966 W82 30.697) with parking, but no facilities. Construction work is in progress to extend the highway and the trail to the north, opening 2025/2026. The former parking fees at the trailheads have been waived.





## SunCoast Trail



The noisy SunCoast Parkway 589 is always in sight, the area not very pleasant, in the north you see from time to time a gopher tortoise. But unlike other trails in Florida there are some hills in the northern section.

Mile 0	Trail start at W. Gulf to Lake St, TH, parking, no facilities	N28 51.966 W82 30.663
7.8	Trailhead W. Cardinal St, parking, no facilities	N28 45.804 W82 30.029
13	Overpass and trailhead US 98 (N28 41.389 W82 30.115), parking, no facilities. Trail is a little more pleasant and shady from here.	N28 41.309 W82 30.016
22.3	Farm with small animals.	N28 33.871 W82 28.840
25	Overpass to Trailhead SR 50, large parking, restrooms, maintenance station, water. Trail is now more even.	N28 31.881 W82 28.857
30	Trail access at crossing of Spring Hill Rd, unofficial parking	N28 28.247 W82 28.884
31.5	<b>Anderson Snow Park</b> on the left. The Park is a major area sports complex for softball and soccer. It also has parking, restrooms, water, picnicking, playground, and concession.	N28 27.239 W82 29.075



## SunCoast Trail

	<p>Shortly after is the <b>Whimsical Wind Chime Tree</b>:</p> <p>It was created by Gus Guadagnino as a memorial to his mother. This giant live oak tree with four trunks was the centerpiece for his memorial garden where he placed a bronze plaque dedicated to his mother, Josephine Guadagnino. Shortly thereafter, others began memorializing their own loved ones at the site by hanging wind chimes in the tree. Now, fifteen years later, there are literally hundreds of wind chimes here.</p>	N28 27.239 W82 29.075
33	New trailhead in construction near County Line Rd, access open, parking not yet (2023/12). Trail now very boring.	N28 26.127 W82 29.159
39.3	At Shady Hills Rd Connector to <b>Crews Lake Park</b> under the toll road, 0.1 mi Crews Lake Park Gate	N28 22.326 W82 32.623 N28 22.534 W82 32.405
42.3	Intersection with SR 52, no parking, but nearby at Concourse Rotary Pavilion	N28 19.863 W82 33.202
45.7	Intersection with Ridge Rd (no parking)	N28 16.923 W82 33.098
48	<p>To the right newly paved trail into <b>Starkey Wilderness Park</b>. This side trip is highly recommended. After the noisy highway trail, a lovely quiet path is meandering through a pine forest, newly paved. After 7 miles it ends at the entry gate for cars, and you go all the way back. Starkey Trail End, N28 15.372 W82 38.343. Restrooms and water at the start and the end.</p> <p>Milage not included in SunCoast description. See also page 27.</p>	N28 14.975 W82 33.065
52.2	<p>Trailhead FL 54, parking, Porta Potty, service station. Not far are several restaurants, the first along the route.</p> <p>I recommend using this TH for riders going north instead of Lutz Fern TH, it is free.</p>	N28 11.364 W82 32.730

SunCoast Trail

	For bike problems there is a bike shop close by: <b>Trek O Lakes</b> , located at the corner of FL 54 and Bexley drive directly behind the Racetrack gas station.	
54.8	End of trail at Lutz Lake Fern Rd. A connection continues to the trailhead shared with Upper Tampa Bay Trail.	N28 09.384 W82 32.415



Up and down



SR 98 Overpass



Whimsical Wind Chime Tree



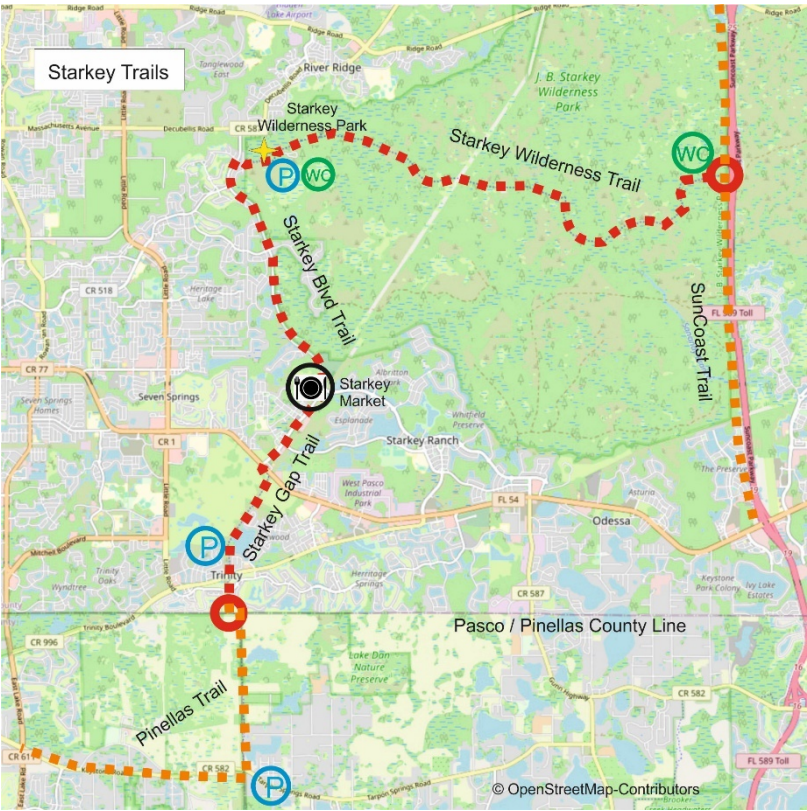
Starkey Wilderness Park

# Starkey Trails

## Starkey Trails, 14.5 mi

These trails are an important connection of the Coast-to-Coast Trail. From the SunCoast Trail there is the newly paved trail to the Starkey Wilderness area. From there the Starkey Blvd Trail starts.

In Starkey Wilderness Park Camping is possible, Tent, Cabin, Shelter and Pavilion Reservations: (727) 834-3247.



0	At SunCoast mi 48 is the beginning of the newly paved trail into <b>Starkey Wilderness Park</b> . This side trip is part of the Coast-to-Coast Trail. After the noisy highway trail, a lovely quiet path is meandering through a pine forest. After	N28 14.975 W82 33.065
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## Starkey Trails

	7 miles entry gate for cars, and if you want to go back to the SunCoast you just ride back. Restrooms and water at the start and the end.	
7.6	Starkey Bike Trailhead, follow the trail. Mi 8 Turn left on <b>Starkey Blvd Trail</b> .	N28 15.174 W82 38.778
11.5	<b>Starkey Market</b> , a very interesting stop. Shop and restaurant, large garden for a wonderful break.	N28 12.496 W82 38.306
12.3	Cross SR 54 and continue on the <b>Starkey Gap Trail</b> .	N28 11.993 W82 38.799
14	At intersection with Trinity Blvd large gravel parking.	N28 10.790 W82 39.219
14.5	At the county line Pasco / Pinellas the trail changes the name. This is the end of the Starkey Gap Trail and the northern start of the Pinellas Trail. No trailhead, no parking.	N28 10.405 W82 39.204





## Upper Tampa Bay Trail

### Tampa – St. Petersburg Area

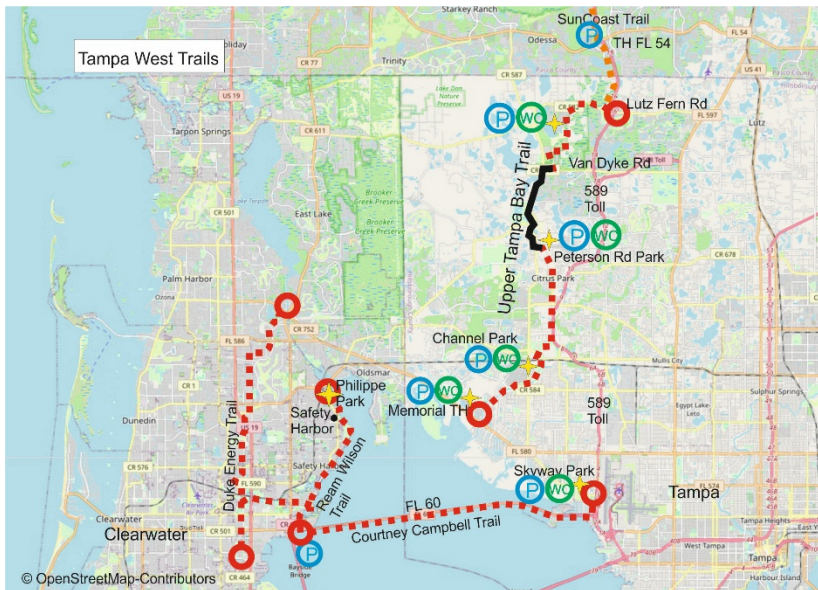
#### Upper Tampa Bay Trail, 14.6 mi

When doing research on this trail I met several problems. First, in google maps I could not see the whole trail. In the internet it is described: *Upper Tampa Bay Trail is a 14.3 mile out and back trail located near Tampa, Florida.* So, my impression was it starts at the end of SunCoast and ends at the channel in Tampa. That is not correct. Even traillink says:

*Length: 16.5 miles. Trail end points: Old Memorial Trailhead at Memorial Hwy & Montague St (Town 'n' Country) and Suncoast Trail at Suncoast Pkwy/FL 589 & W Lutz Lake Fern Rd (Keystone).*

This is not correct. I found out: Start is at the end of SunCoast on Lutz Fern Rd, after 1.3 miles there is the Lutz Fern Trailhead, then the trail goes to Van Dyke Rd, 4.4 miles. After Van Dyke Rd is a gap of 3 miles and I don't recommend riding it, it is the busy Gunn Hwy without bike lane.

Unlike the SunCoast Trail, parking fees of 2 \$ are charged at all THs.



## Upper Tampa Bay Trail

### North-Section, from north to south, 4.4 mi

0	Start at the end of SunCoast Trail at Lutz Lake Fern Rd. Continuation as Upper Tampa Bay Trail off the road through nature.	N28 09.384 W82 32.415
1.3	Lutz Lake Trailhead. Restrooms, water, maintenance, shelter.	N28 09.517 W82 33.474
4.4	End of trail at Van Dyke Rd. Gap of 3 miles to Peterson Road Park via busy Gunn Highway.	N28 07.740 W82 34.430

There is talk of closing the gap in the future, but so far, no construction is in sight.



Start of trail at Lutz Fern Rd



Lutz Lake Fern TH

### South-Section, from south to north, 7.3 mi

This section provides a scenic escape from its congested surroundings. The original section winds through suburban Citrus Park on an unused railroad corridor and extends along the west bank of the Channel A waterway, a drainage canal.

0	Memorial Trailhead, 7499 Montague Street, parking, water, no facilities. Start at the bridge over the channel. Nice section along the channel.	N28 0.998 W82 36.410
1.5	Channel Park TH, large parking, restrooms	N28 1.702 W82 35.364
2.6	Rocky Creek dam, a little later wooden bridge	N28 2.161 W82 34.620
3.75	We meet a trail. If you come from the north this is a very critical point, because	N28 2.764 W82 34.138

## Upper Tampa Bay Trail

	you would go straight, but that would be wrong. Coming from north turn right and leave the SunCoast Pwy. Coming from south, turn left along noisy Pwy 589. No sign.	
5.4	Overpass, followed by Citrus Park TH, shelter, no water or facilities	N28 4.188 W82 34.195
6.2	Ehrlich Rd, please don't cross straight, take the traffic light.	N28 4.723 W82 34.167
7.3	Peterson Road Park, ball fields, playgrounds, restrooms, water.	N28 5.671 W82 34.524



*Wooden Bridge*

## Courtney Campbell Trail

### Courtney Campbell Trail, 10 mi

This is one of the most scenic trails in Florida, it goes from Tampa to Clearwater directly across the Bay along Hwy 60. There is traffic noise of course, but it is worth it. Trail securely separated from the highway, several maintenance stations and restrooms.



0	Skyway Park Sports Complex, parking, restrooms, start of Campbell Trail. After 0.7 mi cross to western side of hwy.	N27 58.451 W82 32.891
2	Parking (fee) at Ben T. Davis Beach. At start and end of the trail are parking lots with fee, in between free parking.	N27 58.118 W82 34.384
2.4	Traffic light. A sign sends bikers on the north side of the highway. Don't do it, south side is much nicer, the northern trail would join the southern trail before the pedestrian bridge.	N27 58.241 W82 34.722
5	Pedestrian bridge	N27 58.180 W82 37.510
10.3	End of trail in Clearwater, start of Ream Wilson Clearwater Trail.	N27 57.633 W82 42.317

### Ream Wilson Trail (4.6 mi)

This is a popular trail, that connects Tampa Bay at Safety Harbor to Coachman Ridge Park in Clearwater. It is heavily used by the community as a means of transport or recreation. Beautiful ride with the bay on one side and stately mansions on the other.



## Courtney Campbell Trail

Map see page 29.



0	Start at the end of Courtney Campbell Trail. Follow the trail along Bayshore Blvd.	N27 57.658 W82 42.284
0.8	To the right the trail connects with Duke energy trail, continue straight.	N27 58.240 W82 42.284
1.1	Coopers Bayou Park with parking	
2.5	Downtown Safety Harbor, official end of the trail. Turn right to the marina and follow the trail in the park.	N27 59.396 W82 41.280
2.8	The trail reaches Bayshore Dr, you can ride on the sidewalk, but better on the street, free for bikes. Don't miss it, beautiful stretch. Soon you enter <b>Philippe Park</b> , very busy on weekends, picnic area, beaches, parking.	
4.6	End of the trail at the boat ramp.	N28 0.835 W82 40.962

## Ream Wilson Connector to Duke Energy Trail

Navigation is sometimes difficult, as there are many turn-offs.

0	Start is mile 0.8 of the Ream Wilson Trail. Soon you reach Del Oro Park with parking, followed by an overpass over Mc Mullen Booth Rd.	N27 58.240 W82 42.284
1.2	At Alligator Kapok Park you can turn right or left	N27 58.293 W82 42.991
2.3	Underpass Hwy 19	N27 58.574 W82 43.763
2.6	Duke Energy trail at the still in construction bridge 3/2025.	N27 58.464 W82 44.041

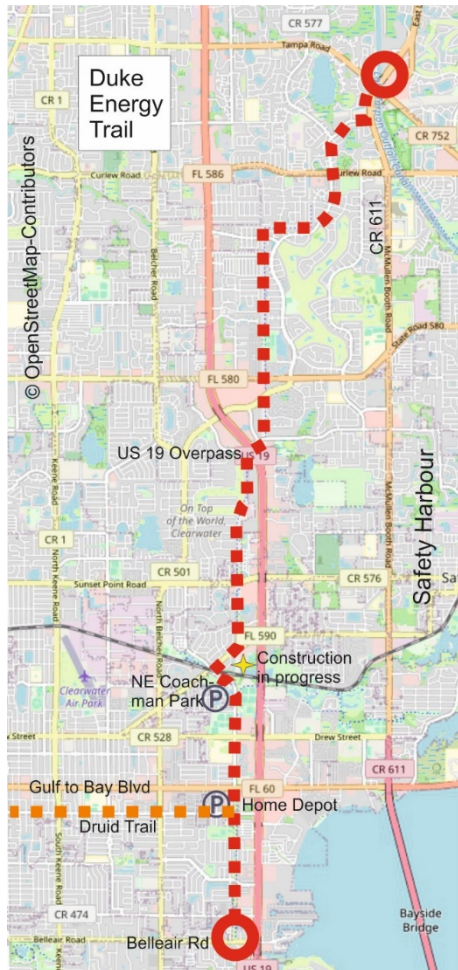
## Duke Energy Trail

### Duke Energy Trail, 10 mi

The Duke Energy Trail utilizes, as its name might suggest, power line corridors for most of its route. Although it might therefore not be the most beautiful trail in the State, it is a wonderful idea to convert this otherwise unusable land for recreation of the residents.

There is not much parking along the trail, but maybe is not necessary for the residents. At the southern end best option is Home Depot parking just next to the trail and 1.5 mi from the start. There are many roads to cross, so take your time.

There is still a gap in the route where it will cross over Lake Tarpon Outfall Canal. The bridge is scheduled for completion in second half of 2024. Take a left on Ream Wilson Trail, see page 33.



### Druid Trail

South of Home Depot starts the Druid Trail, a connection to the Pinellas Trail. Druid Rd parallels route 60, the trail joins the Pinellas after 4 miles in Clearwater (N27 57.571 W82 47.817) and continues 3 more miles as Clearwater Memorial Causeway to the beach.

# Duke Energy Trail



Mile	Location	GPS
0	At Belleair Rd, no parking	N27 56.315 W82 44.028
1.3	Crossing Druid St, Start of <b>Druid Trail</b> on the left, connecting to the Pinellas Trail and Clearwater Beach.	N27 57.404 W82 44.020
1.5	Before crossing Hwy 60 Home Depot	N27 57.598 W82 44.051
2	SPC parking, huge empty parking lot	N27 57.888 W82 44.032
2.7	Construction of bridge. Take a left on Ream Wilson Trail.	N27 58.458 W82 44.026
3	NE Coachman Park, parking, porta potty, benches.  Directly after the park is a railroad crossing, turn right to join Duke Energy Trail again.	N27 58.596 W82 44.224
5.5	Overpass	N28 0.519 W82 43.863

**Duke Energy Trail**

10.2	End of trail at busy intersection Tampa Rd / SR 611. No parking.	N28 3.681 W82 42.691
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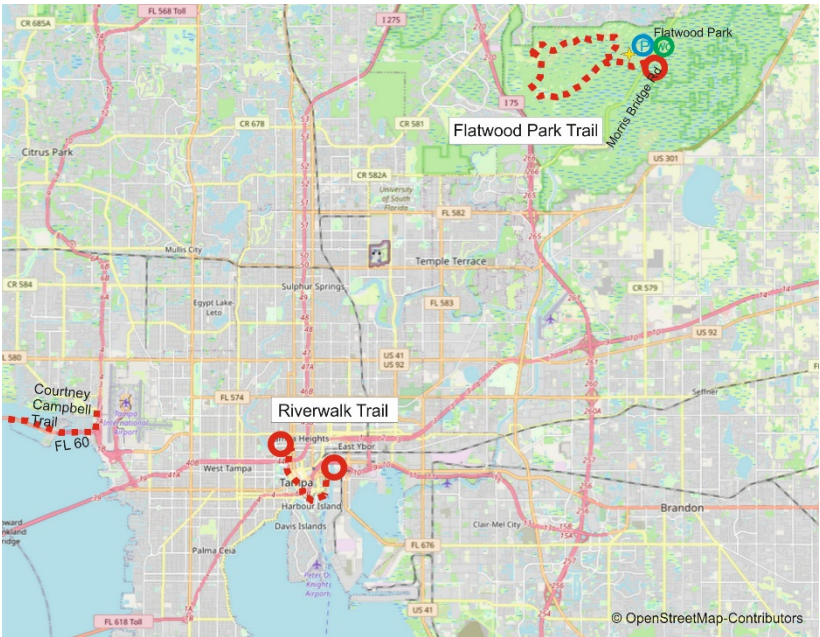
This is the end of the Duke Energy Trail and signs say, the beginning of Pinellas Trail, the branch starting at Keystone Rd. But this is not yet connected, a 1-mile gap is still missing, see Pinellas North Loop, page 57.





# Tampa East

## Riverwalk Trail, 2.5 mi



The path is located in downtown Tampa, along the Hillsborough River. It is lined with beautifully landscaped parks and plazas, each offering something different. Cotanchobee Fort Brooke Park at the south end of the Riverwalk features a playground for the kiddos, and includes a memorial to Tampa's First People, as well as one dedicated to fallen soldiers and first responders. The Kennedy Boulevard Plaza is 0.3 miles of over-water paths, punctuated with shade features reminiscent of ships' sails. The plaza leads to Curtis Hixon Waterfront Park, hugely popular, with a million annual visitors coming for its events, its Great Lawn, terraced



## Tampa East

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seating, dog park, high tech playground and interactive water fountains. Waterworks Park lies at the north end of the Riverwalk, and is great for kids, with its playful splash feature - a giant yellow bucket dumps water onto the kids below. In the park, a natural spring known as Ulele flows directly into Hillsborough River.

Don't expect to ride fast. The path is very popular by pedestrians, bicyclists are allowed, but have to pay attention. For foreigners it's a beautiful spot to get the first glance of Tampa. There are several places to park, I parked along the street near Water Works Park at pay parking, it was 2 \$ per hour.

North end of trail not far from Water Works Park at N Blvd, N27 57.657 W82 28.056. Just follow the well marked path, end at Tampa Bay History Center, N27 56.513 W82 26.992.

It is possible to continue north, a new trail leads north along Meridian Ave, but it is not so beautiful anymore and has a lot of intersections. In March 2025 there was construction going on, so it's possible that this will be a new trail with the name **Selmon Greenway**.

### Flatwood Park Trail, 7 mi loop

The Flatwood Trail is a loop of 7 miles, and if this is not enough exercise for you ride it twice. The trail is wide with no speed limit, and the only car could be a ranger. It is a popular trail for road biking, running, and walking, but you can still enjoy some solitude during quieter times of day, there are also hiking trails. The perfect place to forget the hustle and bustle of the city. The trail is open year-round and is beautiful to visit anytime. Dogs are welcome, but must be on a leash.

To access this trail, drive to Flatwood Park off Morris Bridge Rd, N28 6.831 W82 18.394. There is parking and restrooms, the loop starts after 0.6 mi.

Midway, at mi 3.25, is a shelter with cold water and a second access road.

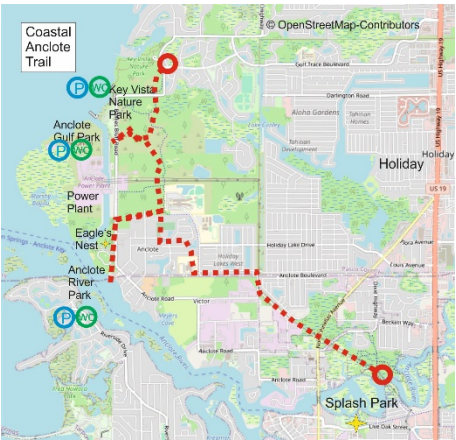


# Coastal Anclote Trail

## Coastal Anclote Trail, 12 mi round trip

This beautiful neighborhood trail in **Holiday** starts near **Key Vista Nature Park** in the north with side trips to **Anclote Gulf Park** and **Anclote River Park** and ends at Anclote Blvd in the south. The direct trail is marked with 3.3 miles, but with the side trips I did 12 miles as a round trip.

North parking is perfect in **Key Vista Park**, provides views of Anclote Key and the Gulf of Mexico. The **Anclote Gulf Park** has a beautiful view over the Gulf, a popular fishing pier and a dog park, as well as a boardwalk that leads to Key Vista Nature Park. The **Anclote River Park** has a sandy beach and boat launch on the Gulf. And don't forget to stop at the eagle's nest, it is after the power plant when you cross the road.



There is supposed to be a connection to the Pinellas Trail, but the bridge is damaged and closed since many years. Try in North Tarpon Springs leaving Pinellas at Splash Park, N28 9.231 W82 45.166, through Live Oak St, turn right on N Pinellas Ave and reach the starting point at Anclote Blvd. Only 2 miles.

<b>Start:</b> 0.2 mi north of Key Vista Park.	N28 12.123 W82 46.629
Key Vista Nature Park	N28 11.965 W82 46.761
Anclote Gulf Park	N28 11.563 W82 47.273
Anclote River Park	N28 10.561 W82 47.252
Former end: Anclote Blvd	N28 10.375 W82 45.925

**Coastal Anclote Trail**

But 03/2025 a new part was in construction and hopefully one day the bridge will be repaired.	
Final end at damaged and closed bridge:	N28 9.627 W82 44.852



*Anclote River Park*



## Pinellas Trail

### Fred Marquis Pinellas Trail, 46 mi

This is Florida's most popular and unique urban pathway, and it also plays a big role in the Florida **Coast-To-Coast Trail**. You'll not stay hungry on this trail, there are lovely restaurants everywhere. The section between Tarpon Springs and Dunedin is the highlight of the area with eateries and breweries along the bikeway. Also, along the trail several bike shops. But it can be very crowded, especially on weekends.

At the Pasco / Pinellas County Line is the end of the Starkey Gap Trail and the name changes to Pinellas Trail. There is no parking, but only 0.5 mi north is a gravel parking at intersection with Trinity Blvd (N28 10.790 W82 39.219). The trail is very well made and wide, major intersections with overpass, smaller crossings often with blinking lights. Surprisingly the drivers in this area are very well accustomed to bicycles, they stop and are careful.



## Pinellas Trail

<b>Start:</b> County line Pasco / Pinellas	N28 10.405 W82 39.204
Tarpon Springs downtown	N28 8.758 W82 45.282
Wall Springs Park	N28 6.427 W82 46.225
Dunedin downtown Railroad Museum	N28 0.706 W82 47.322
Clearwater downtown	N27 57.935 W82 47.817
<b>End:</b> St. Pete, Demens Landing Park	N27 46.197 W82 37.708



**Mi 0** Northern start at Pinellas County line, no trailhead, N28 10.405 W82 39.204. If parking is needed there is a small gravel parking just 0.5 north at the Starkey Gap Trail. The trail runs along the vast Brooker Creek Preserve, a refuge for the many gopher tortoises (*Gopherus polyphemus*) and even a gator in the pond. The gopher tortoise is seen as a keystone species because it digs burrows that provide shelter for at least 360 other animal species. There is a public gate a little later at Keystone Rd, N28 8.648 W82 39.666.

## Pinellas Trail

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**Mi 2** Pinellas Trail turns right along Keystone Rd, much noisier now, small gravel parking, N28 8.703 W82 39.046.

**Mi 5** Intersection Keystone Rd / East Lake Rd. (Hwy 611), N28 8.928 W82 41.756. Straight along Keystone Rd (582) the Pinellas Trail and the C2C continue, left along East Lake Rd is a new branch of the Pinellas Trail, ending shy of Duke Energy Trail, see Pinellas North Loop, see page 57.



**Mi 6.5** On the left side road to **Richard Ervin Park**, N28 9.196 W82 43.248. No official trail parking, but comes in handy if you need parking in the north of Pinellas. Parking, but no restrooms.

**Mi 7.5** Trail turns right into Melon St, residential area, N28 8.943 W82 43.807.

**Mi 8.3** Underpass US 19, N28 9.381 W82 44.406.

**Mi 9** **Splash Park**, N28 9.231 W82 45.166, parking. From here the Coastal Anclote Trail can be reached through Live Oak St, see page 39.

## Tarpon Springs

Tarpon Springs has a lovely downtown. The Welcome Center is in the old Train Depot right on the trail, 160 E Tarpon Ave, N28 8.937 W82 45.285, phone: 727.937.8997, E-Mail: [tarpon.historical@verizon.net](mailto:tarpon.historical@verizon.net).



Right on the trail is Brighter Days Brewing Company, but also many shops, restaurants. Even a smoker with BBQ on the left, **Da Spot**.

**Mi 11.5** In Palm Harbor an interesting stop next to the trail is **Suncoast Primate Sanctuary**, N28 7.131 W82 45.768. The Sanctuary provides a home to more than 100



## Pinellas Trail

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abandoned animals, including chimpanzees, orangutans, monkeys, reptiles, tropical birds and more. Open to the public Thursday - Sunday from 10:a.m - 4:p.m. At other times you can glance from the trail through the fence and watch some monkeys.

**Mi 12.3 Conservation Park**, N28 6.700 W82 45.961, shelter, benches, no parking.

**Mi 13 Wall Springs Park**, N28 06.427 W82 46.225. This is the best parking possibility in the north of Pinellas Trail.

### Wall Springs Park

Wall Springs Park is 210 acres that connects to the Pinellas Trail in Palm Harbor. This Park provides a viewing area and boardwalk of the natural spring that once was used as a spa and bathing area. There is a 35-foot observation tower to enjoy views of the Gulf of Mexico. There is also a picnic shelter, restrooms, large parking, even a paved bike trail.



**Mi 15 Palm Harbour**, de Bine Brewing Company, N28 4.715 W82 46.048. Behind is **Pop Stansell Park** with parking and restrooms.

A little later is a bike shop next to the trail, Tarpon Tom's E-Bikes, phone (727) 223-4406, N28 4.483 W82 46.077.

**Mi 17 Dunedin Overpass**, N28 3.343 W82 46.608, under the overpass is **Dunedin Youth Guild Park**, a gravel parking, no restroom. A little later shelter, benches, water and bicycle tools. From here the Gulf of Mexico is just two blocks away, worth the brief detour for lovely coastal scenery. See Honeymoon Island.



## Pinellas Trail

### Honeymoon Island

For a side trip to the beach turn right 0.5 mi after the overpass on Causeway Blvd on the sidewalk. At the start of the bridge is on the left side a wide trail, but bicycles are also allowed to use the full lane of the road, since there are many pedestrians and on the bridge the paths narrows. Along the causeway are nice beaches with parking for car drivers. After 3 mi entrance to **Honeymoon Island State Park** (N28 03.592 W82 49.059), fee for bicyclists is 2 \$.

This barrier island state park offers 5 miles of beaches, 3.5 miles of wooded hiking trails, nature center with gift shop and scenic views, 2 cafes, a new playground and wildlife including gopher tortoises, dolphins, manatee, eagles, owls, osprey and 100 of species of birds. Numerous parking areas welcome visitors. A paved bike trail takes you around, at the end is the osprey trail, 2 miles, open for bicycles, but very rough and sandy.

Honeymoon and neighboring **Caladesi Island** were originally part of a large barrier island that split in half during a major hurricane in 1921. The waterway between the islands is known as Hurricane Pass. Caladesi is only accessible via private boat or ferry.

Honeymoon Island and Caladesi Island are two gems in the Florida State Park system. Tampa Bay's two northernmost barrier islands are completely pristine and undeveloped and a world away from the hustle and bustle of nearby Clearwater Beach.



*Honeymoon Island*

## Pinellas Trail

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### Continuing the Pinellas:

**Mi 19.5 Josiah Cephas Weaver Park**, N28 1.212 W82 47.320, very good parking right at the trail. A little later starts downtown Dunedin, a very congested area.

**Mi 20** Just after crossing Skinner Blvd is **Kafe Racer**, N28 0.940 W82 47.316; a nice combination of coffee shop with bike shop.



From here downtown Dunedin starts. This area is very congested especially on weekends, but beautiful. The highlight on the Pinellas Trail.

### Dunedin

Dunedin is a charming and active town along the Gulf Coast, known for its Scottish celebrations, quaint downtown, and wooded and subtropical setting. Explore Dunedin's bike-friendly downtown with bike shops and rental businesses, outdoor dining spaces, breweries and even accommodation close to the trail.

Around Main St and the old Dunedin Railroad station is the historic center of the town. The station with clock tower accommodates now the Dunedin Historical Society Museum, N28 0.706 W82 47.322. And very often they play music on weekends.

## Pinellas Trail

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### **Accommodation close to the trail:**

**Palm Court Motel**, 2090 Bayshore Blvd / Palm Blvd, Dunedin (1 mi south of the overpass), phone 727-736-0441, [stay@palmcourtmoteldunedin.com](mailto:stay@palmcourtmoteldunedin.com). Very nice located directly on the trail, opposite of golf court.

**Seaside Artisan Motel**, 1064 Broadway, phone 727.736.4657. Budget friendly motel. Rooms provide a refrigerator and air conditioning.

**Amberlee Motel**, 1035 Broadway, phone 727.733.3228. Budget friendly motel downtown Dunedin close to the trail. Rooms provide a kitchenette, air conditioning, and a refrigerator, pool, free Wi-Fi and parking.

**Holiday Inn Express**, a bit more expensive.



## Pinellas Trail

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### Continuing the Pinellas:

**Mi 22.5** After crossing SR 19, through downtown Clearwater, there is no more trail but a well-marked bike lane on the road, N27 58.629 W82 47.758. Use caution through here because the trail crosses roads with heavy traffic.

**Mi 23.5 Clearwater** downtown, N27 57.935 W82 47.817. Possible side trip to the marina and some nice restaurants.



### Clearwater

The city had a population of 117,292 in 2020 and is the county seat of Pinellas County and the smallest of the three principal cities in the Tampa–St. Petersburg–Clearwater metropolitan area. Along the trail it is very different from charming Dunedin, take a right downtown to see the marina and maybe take the ferry to **Clearwater Beach** or ride the Memorial Causeway Bike Trail.

**Mi 24** After crossing Turner St (N27 57.571 W82 47.817) we are back on a real trail. At this corner the **Druid Trail** is crossing. To the east it connects in 4 miles to the **Duke Energy Trail**, to the west to Clearwater Beach via **Clearwater Memorial Causeway**.



## Pinellas Trail

### Clearwater Memorial Causeway Trail, 3 mi

**Start from the Pinellas Trail:** at crossing with Turner St there is a sign to the beach, N27 57.571 W82 47.817.

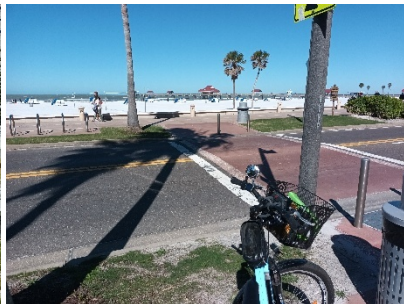
This trail connects the Pinellas Trail to Clearwater Beach across the Memorial Causeway. If you want to join the trail from the marina there is a spiral trail taking you up. It is a wide trail, separated from traffic as it slopes up Memorial Causeway Bridge, with overlooks jutting out allowing trail users to pause and enjoy in the views of Clearwater Bay.

Once the trail enters Clearwater Park it becomes significantly more crowded and you must be keen about following the trail as there may not be clear wayfinding signage at this point. The trail rounds the busy Pier 60 Park, which hosts a fishing pier and large playground, and then heads south along Gulfview Boulevard, past a series of beach resorts. There's beach parking with bike racks and public restrooms.

At the start of the bridge, inland from the beach, is a small free car parking: N27 58.140 W82 48.680. All other parking lots in Clearwater Beach are with a fee.

### Clearwater Beach

is a very busy tourist town with white sandy beaches and emerald water and many tourists walking the streets. Pier 60 is a top attraction in the area, with a 1,080-foot fishing pier and a recreational park with telescopes and covered pavilions.



### Continuing the Pinellas:

**Mi 25.5 Belleair**, N27 56.096 W82 48.029. Now the trail is much more peaceful, residential area.

**Mi 27** Overpass West Bay Dr (686) at **Largo**, N27 55.011 W82 48.040. Again at Ulmerton RD (688), N27 53.688 W82 47.970.

## Pinellas Trail

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**Mi 32.5 Seminole City Park**, restrooms, parking, playground, benches, bicycle tools, N27 50.389 W82 48.110.

**Mi 34 Blossom Lake Park**, N27 49.751 W82 46.980, restrooms, water, shelter, parking.

**Mi 35 Beautiful Long Bayou Footbridge**, N27 49.060 W82 46.035, which spans Boca Ciega Bay half a mile over water. Then a long overpass in commercial district.

**Mi 35 Target Mall**, N27 48.678 W82 45.397. Campers and trucks park overnight in the target parking lot. A little later **Mall** with empty parking lot, N27 48.469 W82 45.037.

**Mi 38 Mall** with huge parking, should be possible to use, N27 47.520 W82 44.222.



**Mi 39** At 5<sup>th</sup> Ave N Arc with sign St. Petersburg, N27 46.620 W82 44.199.

**Mi 42 Childs Park Sports Complex**, N27 45.761 W82 41.678. Parking, restrooms.

A little later on the right starts **Skyway Trail** (N27 45.761 W82 41.502), a beautiful 5-miles trail south to Clam Bayou Nature Preserve, see page 53. Follow Pinellas Trail. At 31th St is

an interesting restaurant: The Garden". After this follows the **Warehouse Art District**, N27 45.940 W82 39.857, with art inside and out.

**Mi 45 Tampa Bay Ballpark**. We are now in **downtown St. Petersburg**, several restaurants.

## Pinellas Trail

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**Mi 46 Demens Landing Park**, end of Pinellas and western start of the Coast-to-Coast Trail, N27 46.197 W82 37.708.



### St. Petersburg

Downtown St. Petersburg near Demens Landing are several restaurants. The gleaming new 26-acre St. Pete Pier combines the peaceful blue waters of Tampa Bay with the vibrant greenery of downtown St. Petersburg's parks, creating the ultimate place to stroll, bike, dine, drink, shop, swim, and

take in a concert and more.

If someone wants to start the trail from this side it might be difficult to find parking for the car. Demens landing has small public parking, but only during the day and for 3 hours. There are several parking garages.



## Pinellas Trail

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### North Bay Trail, 3 mi

At Demens Landing starts the North Bay Trail. It heads north along Tampa Bay, offering enjoyable views of the water, busy marinas, palm trees and beaches. The end cannot be determined exactly, the path becomes narrower and narrower and turns into a sidewalk. There are many pedestrians on the trail, you can only drive slowly.





## Pinellas Trail

### Pinellas to Fort De Soto (15 mi) with detour to Gulfport (31.5 mi)

This picturesque route combines four shorter trails: Clam Bayou Trail, Skyway Trail, Bayway Trail and Gulfport Trail /Bike Route.



**Mi 0** Beginning at the popular Pinellas Trail east of 7th Terrace South, N27 45.762 W82 41.374, the paved trail cuts through Child's Park Recreation Center. From there it follows the course of a stream as it winds south past Thurgood Marshall Middle School and Twin Brooks Golf Course. In the beginning it is called Clam Bayou Trail, later Skyway Trail.

**Mi 1.4** From the right joins the trail from Gulfport, N27 44.776 W82 41.314, it continues through the highlight of the route: the **Clam Bayou Nature Preserve** with

## Pinellas Trail

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a trailhead. Parking, benches, kayak launch, no restroom or water. This estuarine environment has been restored after years of destructive urban development. The trail is elevated, providing a good vantage point from which to take in the diverse native habitats of the park, including marsh and mangrove forest. The Park is a birder's paradise, with a wealth of wading birds including the roseate spoonbill, ibis, egret, blue heron, pelicans and many more. Clam Bayou is popular with kayakers too, for obvious reasons.

Continuing south, the trail begins to parallel 37<sup>th</sup> Street.

**Mi 4** At the corner of US 19 and the Pinellas Bayway (toll), N27 43.147 W82 40.866 it meets the **Bayway Trail**, which heads west towards Fort De Soto. This corner can be a bit confusing, since an older trail heads south and dead ends after a short while. The Bayway Trail runs parallel to the toll road (CR 682/ 679 / 54<sup>th</sup> Ave.) and passes multiple coral-



colored residential developments and crosses the bay thrice. One crossing takes you to an islet that is mostly condominiums and single-family homes. The second crossing takes you to Isla del Sol, which hosts a country club and marina.

**Mi 6.6** After the second bridge the trail to St Pete Beach goes straight, to Fort De Soto left.

**Mi 11.5** After Bunces Pass Bridge is the official entrance to Fort De Soto Park. No more rangers there to pay, cars have to pay at a machine (6 \$), bikes can enter for free.

**Mi 15** Historic Fort De Soto.

### Fort De Soto Park

Fort De Soto was created in 1963 and is named for the Spanish Explorer Hernando de Soto who explored and conquered the native populations in the area of western Florida, the coast of the Gulf of Mexico and through central and South America. The largest park within the Pinellas County Park System, Fort De Soto park consists of 1,136 acres made up of five interconnected islands (keys): St. Christopher Key,

## Pinellas Trail

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Madelaine Key, Bonne Fortune Key, St. Jean Key and Mullet Key, the largest of the islands and where many of the attractions in Fort De Soto Park are located. This includes fishing, two piers, trails for hiking, cycling and kayaking, the ferry to Egmont Key State Park and Shell Key, beaches, picnics, boat launch, camping, playgrounds, dog parks, the Quartermasters Museum and much more.

The 12-inch mortar battery, located at the fort for which the park was named, was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1977. Adding to the historical interest at Fort De Soto, two British breech-loading, rapid-fire rifles of 1890 vintage were installed in March 1982. Markers showing the original building locations and a Quartermaster Storehouse Museum add to the park's historic interest.



### Continuing to Gulfport:

To head back there is only this one trail, but after passing through the Clam Bayou preserve it is possible to make a nice detour to Gulfport and reach the Pinellas 1 mile west of the starting point.

Ride back 13.5 mi to the former point: **Mi 1.4** After from the right the trail from Gulfport joins, N27 44.776 W82 41.314.

**Mi 0** There turn left to Gulfport. There is no sign, but a paved trail. Soon the trail ends, but signs show the bike route to Gulfport through quiet neighborhood.

**Mi 1.5** To the left is Beach Blvd, N27 44.536 W82 42.470, the main hotspot of the village. Stroll down to the beach and find plenty of good restaurants and watering holes.

**Mi 3** Follow the bike route signs back and reach the Pinellas at N27 45.874 W82 42.476.

## Pinellas Trail

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### Gulfport

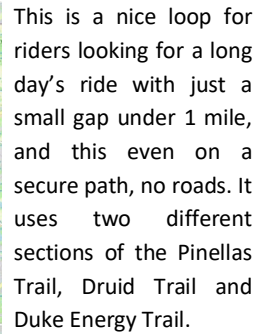
The friendly, small waterfront community of Gulfport has been celebrating its weirdness since before it was cool to do so. It's also been a long-time haven for the LGBTQ+ community in Tampa Bay. The city's eclectic collection of artists, writers, musicians and small business owners along with its walkable downtown and sparkling bayfront make this a must-visit place and reminds a bit of Key West.

Over the years this artsy colorful small town has become known for its Tuesday fresh market, live music, art exhibits, as well as its Geckofest! Being located on scenic Boca Ciega Bay, Gulfport has many seafood restaurants for visitors to choose from. Local favorites include freshly caught fish, oysters, and shrimp are all must-tries in the area.





## Pinellas North Loop, 39 mi



Mile	Location	GPS
0	Pinellas Trail intersection Keystone Rd / East Lake Rd. This branch of the Pinellas Trail runs along East Lake Rd.	N28 8.928 W82 41.756
4.3	John Chestnut Sr. Park, where there are nature trails and a lookout tower offering views over Lake Tarpon. Parking, restrooms, playground.	N28 05.279 W82 41.978
5.7	End of the upgraded trail, follow the small sidewalk 0.2 mi until <b>Boot Ranch Apartment Homes</b> . See map.	N28 04.131 W82 42.342
6.5	Intersection SR 611 / Tampa Rd. Follow Duke Energy Trail for 9 miles until Druid St.	N28 3.708 W82 42.671

## Pinellas North Loop

15.5	Druid St, turn left, connecting to the Pinellas Trail and Clearwater Beach.	N27 57.404 W82 44.020
19.5	Intersection with the Pinellas Trail in Clearwater, turn right and follow the Pinellas north.	N27 57.571 W82 47.817
39	Back at intersection Keystone Rd / East Lake Rd.	N28 8.928 W82 41.756

### Loop - Gap

From Boot Ranch Apartments no sidewalk along the busy road, but since Duke Energy Trail is just less than a mile away clever riders found a shortcut. Ride inside the **Boot Ranch Apartment Homes complex**, turn left on Seagate Dr, follow a foot path under the bridge and arrive at the intersection.



On the other side of the road is the northern end of Duke Energy Trail.

### Sarasota - Venice

#### Legacy Trail, 22.5 mi

The Legacy Trail's northern endpoint is at 2240 Fruitville Rd (Sarasota). The Legacy Trail was originally ending in Venice at Historical Train Depot, it is marked with yellow stickers, starting a bit later than Fruitville Rd with 18.4 and ending at the train station with 0. Near Fruitville Rd at Ringling Blvd is a bike shop and Five-O coffee shop with delicious donuts. SW of the trail start is Payne Park with parking.

Now it has been extended by 5 miles under the name Venetian Waterway Park Trail. So, some people say, the Legacy Trail is 18.5 miles long, some say it is 22.5 miles ending at Shamrock Park. We describe it here from Sarasota to Shamrock Park.

The trail runs through coastal communities between Sarasota and Venice. Through wetlands and coastal forests, the trail's interpretive signs point out local history and help users identify birds, lizards, snakes, tortoises, and rabbits that make homes in the area. Much of the trail is exposed, but shaded benches with drinking fountains appear nearly every mile, making journeys of several lengths comfortable.

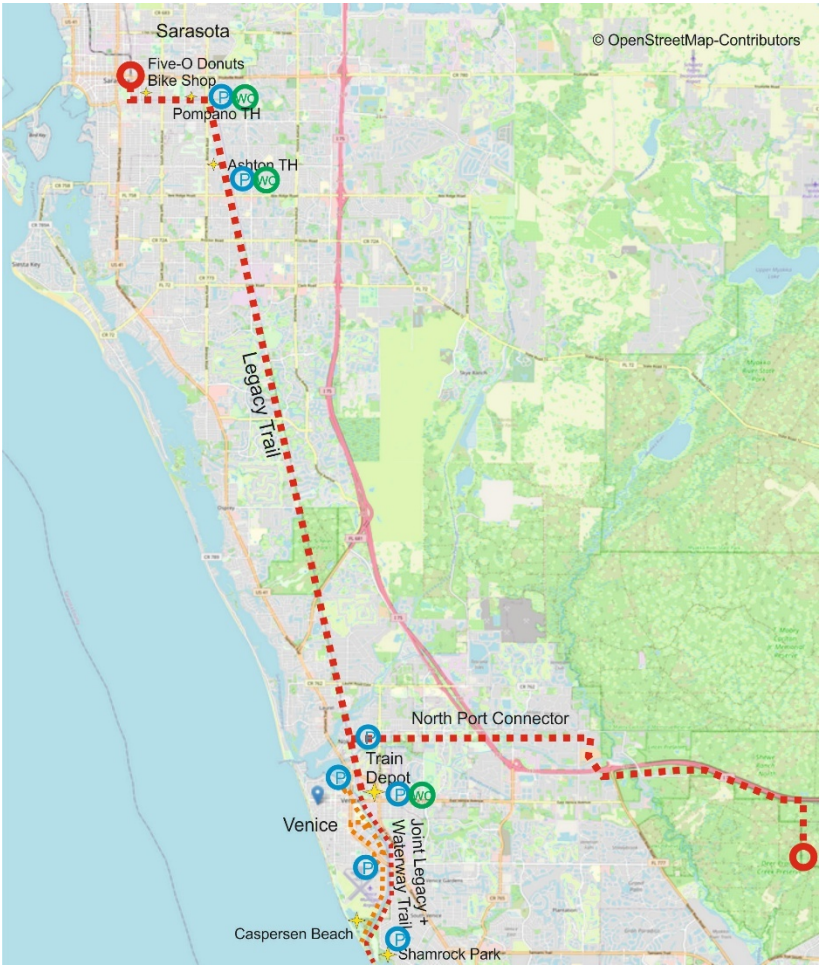
#### Amish Snowbirds

Don't be surprised to see many Amish people riding and walking on the trail. Pinecraft within the city limits of Sarasota draws some of the area's most unique and special snowbirds – members of Amish and Mennonite orders who flock to this winter haven, often riding large-wheel adult tricycles with large baskets on the back -- a replacement for horse-and-buggy transportation, which is not allowed on city streets.



# Sarasota - Venice

A handful of Amish restaurants serve up delicious home-cooked food Monday through Saturday. Perhaps the most famous of these is Yoder's Amish Village, try the delectable pot roast and some of the best (and biggest!) fried chicken you've ever eaten, but it's really best known for its incredible homemade pies. Next to the trail is the "Der Dutchman" Restaurant, also famous for its hearty, home-cooked meals and baked goods.





## Sarasota - Venice

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In Sarasota, the trail makes its way through suburban residential areas with many intersections, but always with a button for safe crossings. Two new overpasses near Sarasota were finished in 2025.

Mile	Location	GPS
0	2240 Fruitville Rd (Sarasota), no parking	N27 20.24 W82 31.537
1.5	<b>Pompano Trailhead</b> , parking, restrooms, water. Soon the trail turns south.	N27 19.811 W82 30.462
3.9	<b>Sarasota Springs Trailhead</b> , parking, parking, restrooms, playground	N27 18.448 W82 29.360
6	<b>Ashton Trailhead</b> , parking, restrooms, water	N27 16.6 W82 28.924
8	<b>Culverhouse Nature Park</b> , home to a sizable community garden.	N27 14.941 W82 28.524
11.7	Intersection, on the right Osprey Junction Trailhead, parking, restrooms  The trail crosses now <b>Oscar Scherer State Park</b> , which offers ample opportunities for outdoor recreation. The trail runs practically directly through the middle of the park, and trails within offer scenic detours through the forested acres on either side.	N27 11.779 W82 27.781
16	After an overpass the trail reaches the urban area of Nokomis. A bit later is Laurel Park with restrooms and water.	N27 8.301 W82 26.953
17	Nokomis River Park, here starts the Connector Trail to North Port	N27 7.364 W82 26.740
18.5	After an overpass we finally reach the <b>Historic Train Depot</b> in Venice and can even visit one of the circus train cars. At Venice Ave finally the 0 marker. The trailhead by the depot has parking, restrooms, and drinking water.  The trail continues south along the Intercoastal Waterway (ICW), eastern side.	N27 5.987 W82 26.650

## Sarasota - Venice

20	Circus Bridge to Tamiami Trail, here you can cross to the island side, where is the Venetian Waterway Park Trail.	N27 4.720 W82 25.792
22.5	End of Legacy Trail at Shamrock Park & Nature Center which features more walking trails, sports courts, and views of the intracoastal.	N27 2.936 W82 26.147

### Venice

In Venice, trail users are soon greeted by the **Historic Venice Train Depot** (303 E Venice Ave, N27 6.057 W82 26.427). Situated adjacent to a palm-tree-dotted waterway, the Mediterranean Revival style building dates back to 1927 and was once considered the finest station on the line. Next to the depot stands a bronze statue of circus star Gunther Gebel-Williams and a Ringling railroad car, as tracks were once used by the Ringling Bros and the Barnum & Bailey Circus. The car was Gunther’s living quarter and is open to the public.



Sarasota - Venice

Venetian Waterway Park Trail, 5 mi

The Venetian Waterway Park Trail runs parallel to the Legacy Trail on the western bank of the Intracoastal Waterway (ICW), from near the Historic Venice Trail Depot to Caspersen Beach, perhaps best known for the prehistoric shark teeth that wash up on shore. Using the Circus bridge to cross gives at least part of a loop.

Mile	Location	GPS
0	Venetian Waterway Park near northern island bridge (Hwy 41), parking under the bridge. The trail has to leave the water two-times to avoid private property, but is easy to follow.	N27 6.174 W82 26.681
3.4	After crossing Tamiami Trail the path reaches the water again, there is Venetian Waterway Trailhead with a little kiosk with map and large parking. The trail runs along the airport.	N27 4.692 W82 25.842
5	Caspersen Beach, end of trail. The Park was 03/2025 closed.	N27 3.352 W82 26.295



## Sarasota - Venice

### Venice – North Port Trail Connector, 14 mi

The **North Port Connector** provides a link between the **Legacy Trail** and **North Port** as part of an evolving regional trail system. Portions of the Connector run more as a bike route than a trail - a mixture of bike lanes, sidewalk, and shared-use trail. Although it is not a separate bike trail, the route is very well signposted. Not much populated, no water, no help in case of problem.



*End Point in North Port*

Map see page 60.

Mile	Location	GPS
0	Nokomis River Park (parking), start of the Connector Trail to North Port. Follow the sign to a quiet neighborhood street.  After Albee Farm Rd is a bike lane. At Pinebrook Rd starts a real trail separated from the street. But only until the bridge. From there bike lane.	N27 7.364 W82 26.740
5.8	Sleeping Turtles Preserve North with parking.	N27 7.358 W82 21.094
6.3	At the end of the road right on S Moon Dr. Quiet neighborhood road through farmland.	
8.6	Deer Prairie Creek Preserve North, parking and potty. From here road, but no cars allowed. Soon the trail is near the noisy I 75.	N27 6.460 W82 19.137
10.7	TH for Alphabet hiking trail, unpaved. Now new multi use trail.	N27 6.025 W82 17.168
14.2	End of trail in North Port; kiosk, shelter, tools, no restroom or water.	N27 4.680 W82 15.300



## C2C Trail: From Titusville to St. Petersburg

### C2C: Titusville to St. Petersburg

This route from the Atlantic Ocean to the Gulf of Mexico is app. 230 miles. There is not a single trail with this name, but the route consists of several individual trails, each of which has its own name and the C2C uses all or just parts of it. I published a guide about the bike trails in the East, many of them are part of the C2C.

<http://www.bikecentralflorida.com/>

Since so many people are constantly asking about this route and complete and current information is not so easy to find (I checked the internet for weeks), I decided to write a second book for Florida – West including navigation for the C2C. And yes, there is already a book about the C2C from Nanci Adler, I bought it, but was not impressed. It is just not what I need. I want precise information about navigation, what I didn't find there; but it is a good book for sightseeing, if you are interested in your surroundings.



I know that the average C2C rider loads his bike with overnight luggage, even a tent, and off he goes. Other people prefer the comfort of an organized group, where the luggage is transported to each overnight accommodation.

My way to check out the trails is, that I look for several places to stay overnight close to the trails and park my car there. I ride and check on the trails in my surroundings,

## C2C Trail: From Titusville to St. Petersburg

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always have to go back and forth, then I move my car with luggage to the next location.

Sometimes it is just not easy to find accommodation close to a trail. Hotels mostly never, AirBnB is the better choice. Some people like to set up a little tent. There are only a few campgrounds near the trail, mostly in parks, and it is sometimes difficult to get a reservation. But I know that some people like to camp alone in remote areas and so far, it seems to be no problem.

### How to ride it from East to West

The C2C is a route across the state from the Atlantic Ocean on its east side to the Gulf of Mexico on its west end. The official start at the Atlantic coast is Playalinda Beach, Merritt Island. Total miles (approximately) 230 from Max Brewster Bridge in Titusville, 240 miles from Playalinda Beach. Effective January 1, 2024, the entrance fees to the park will be \$25 per vehicle or \$20 per motorcycle and \$15 per pedestrian/bicycle for a 7-day visit.

The road is closed for bikes during rush hour, 6:00 – 9:00 AM, 3:00 – 6:00 PM.



Many riders recommend that it is better to start in the east. Why? It is said, that from Playalinda Beach to Titusville westbound there is nearly no traffic in the morning, much more eastbound; same is true for the SR 50 gap, where westbound mornings is much less traffic than eastbound to Orlando. Sundays is even better. During the week the road is closed for bicycles during rush hour.

Why does the C2C ends in St. Petersburg and not before in Dunedin, at the Gulf of Mexico? Would make more sense, if you take the name literally. But the reason is mostly because the Pinellas Trail was established long before the C2C notion took hold and the idea of the C2C developed from St. Pete.

Same question could arise on the east side. Why not start the trail in New Smyrna Beach, Flagler Avenue, with a lot of places to see, eat, and rest on the beach? I personally prefer this idea and have the details at page 71. At Maytown Spur these two alternatives join.

## C2C Trail: From Titusville to St. Petersburg

Don't expect to see many C2C signs on your ride. This route consists of several individual trails and along the trails is directional signage with the names of these trails. However, sometimes the C2C is mentioned.

There are numerous bike shops along the route, especially in the west. Only a few are mentioned here, try to google in the area where you have a problem for the nearest shop.

### You would use these trails:

For details and complete description of these trails see the Book "Bike Trails in Central Florida", East and West edition. (E) means the trail is in the Book **Bike Trails in Central Florida – East**. However, if you don't have the book "East" you'll find enough information in this book to navigate.



- East Central Regional Rail Trail, ECRRT: Titusville to Green Springs (E)
- Spring-to-Spring Trail: Green Springs to Lake Monroe Park (E)
- Cross Seminole Trail: Northern start until transition to Seminole Wekiva Trail (E)
- Seminole Wekiva Trail: Transition to southern end (E)
- West Orange Trail: Clarke Rd near Ingram Outpost TH to the end at Killarney Station (E)
- South Lake Trail: all of it to Groveland (E)
- Withlacoochee Trail: only Ridge Manor Trailhead to Good Neighbor Trail connection (see page 17)
- Good Neighbor Trail: all of it (see page 20)
- SunCoast Trail: SR 50 TH to Starkey Wilderness Park branch (see page 23)
- Starkey Trails: all of it (see page 27)
- Pinellas Trail: all of it (see page 41)



For the way back Amtrak could be a solution. Amtrak St. Pete to Sanford or Deland: \$40 per person that includes bike transfer. They have a separate car for bikes, which is very secure. Not every train takes bikes. Go online and it will show you which trains transport bikes.

## C2C Trail: Stage 1, Titusville - Sanford

### Stage 1: Titusville – Sanford, 45 mi

The official eastern start of the Coast-to-Coast Trail is **Playalinda Beach Parking** at the Atlantic Ocean. It belongs to the Canaveral Seashore National Park and requires an entrance fee and no overnight parking. There is no bike trail yet, but 10 miles on a two-lane road to Max Brewster Bridge. In April 2024 construction started to extend the bike trail from **Max Brewster Trailhead** resp. **Parrish Park** just east of the bridge to Playalinda Beach.



Sometimes even **Titusville Welcome Center**, 419 Hopkins Ave, is mentioned as the official start. It is downtown historical Titusville just 700 ft from the bike lane in Main St, has parking, restrooms and maps. But no Atlantic Ocean. You can park there during your trip, but please let the staff at the Welcome Center know the vehicles will be there for more than one day.



Closest motel to Merritt Island starting point is **Sunrise Inn**, 612 South Washington Avenue, Titusville.

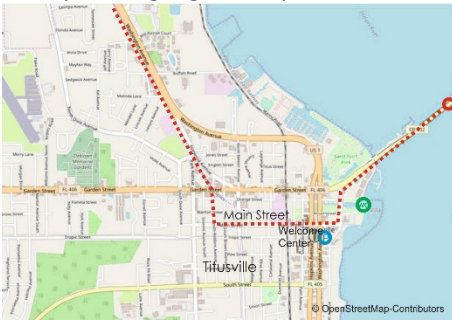


**UMC Chain of Faith Bike Stop**, Mims, N28 39.958 W80 50.846, 6.5 miles from bridge in Titusville. This stop is usually open Saturday morning, and has possibility to camp overnight. It is also possible to stay at other days, but you must call before. Could even park your car there. David & Janice Boggs will help you, for reservations call 321 289-5048 or 407 406-7702, [raidersfan48@yahoo.com](mailto:raidersfan48@yahoo.com).



# C2C Trail: Stage 1, Titusville - Sanford

At the end of the **Max Brewster Bridge** turn left into Indian River Ave bike lane and soon right into Main St, where a bike lane is marked green on the street. After the railway crossing it gets tricky, because the trail ends for a short section. Continue until Canaveral Ave, turn right and soon the ECRRT trails starts, followed by the overpass at Hwy 406.



Mile	Location	GPS
0	Trailhead east of Max Brewster Bridge	N28 37.691 W80 47.290
1.5	At the end of the bridge turn left into Indian River Ave bike lane and soon right into Main St.	N28 36.928 W80 48.335
2.5	Overpass at Hwy 406. From now on it is easy, just follow the ECRRT Trail.	N28 36.929 W080 49.030
6.5	<b>UMC Chain of Faith Bike Stop</b>	N28 39.958 W80 50.846
11	<b>White Sands Buddhist center</b> (Aurantia Rd). Don't forget to visit.	N28 43.391 W80 53.050
18.5	Maytown Spur Trailhead. Here is a trail fork. To the right is the ECRRT to Edgewater, follow the ECRRT to Osteen to the left.	N28 48.427 W80 57.583
25.5	Trailhead Gobbler's Lodge Rd. If you need accommodation try Gobbles Lodge nearby.	N28 50.717 W81 03.645
32	Osteen Civic Center, take the overpass	N28 50.777 W81 09.720
37	<b>Green Springs Park</b> . At this point only the name changes, stay on the Springs-to-Springs Trail.	N28 51.847 W81 14.809

## C2C Trail: Stage 1, Titusville - Sanford

41.5	Don't stop at the Gemini Springs Main Entrance, continue to the small parking at North Entrance and turn left into Monroe Park Trail.	N28 52.039 W81 18.670
44	<b>Lake Monroe Park</b>	N28 50.456 W81 19.292
44.5	Leave Lake Monroe Park and follow the bike lane along Hwy 17 (bridge) until Wayside Park. This is the end of the Spring-to-Spring-Trail meeting the Riverwalk Trail (Sanford) and the beginning of the Cross Seminole Trail, Mile Marker 27.7.	N28 50.032 W81 19.396
45	Mile Marker 25.5 at the intersection of SR 46 with Monroe Rd, turn right.	N28 49.921 W81 19.183

**Sanford** could be the end of the first stage of the C2C. Near this major intersection it is possible to find accommodation for the night. And don't forget to make a side trip to the beautiful Riverwalk Trail along the Zoo to the Marina.



Travel Lodge, N28 52.039 W81 18.670. 1 mile from the trail. A bit earlier, in Deltona, is Hampton Inn right next to the trail.



Gemini Springs Park and Lake Monroe Park (phone 386-736-5953) have campgrounds on reservation, \$25 per night + tax. Some people say for bicyclists the fees are waved. But no guarantee.

Next morning just follow the Cross Seminole Trail.



## C2C Trail: Stage 1, Titusville - Sanford

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### Alternative: Start in New Smyrna Beach, 22 mi to Maytown

In my opinion New Smyrna Beach, Flagler Avenue, would be the perfect start of the C2C. It is right on the Atlantic Ocean, there are hotels and parking all around. If you want to start at Playalinda Beach you must stay overnight in Titusville, drive all 10 miles out in the morning and all 10 miles back, and that on a road, no bike trail. In addition, there is a fee: Effective January 1, 2024, the entrance fees to the park will be \$25 per vehicle or \$20 per motorcycle and \$15 per pedestrian/bicycle for a 7-day visit.



Along lovely Flagler Avenue are several hotels, restaurants and bars, so it would be perfect to arrive the day before. However, parking close to the beach is not free in this area, along Flagler Ave only 4 hours.

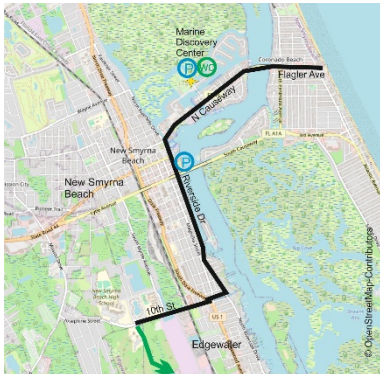
**Trailhead:** Marine Discovery Center, 520 Barracuda Blvd, N29 2.169 W80 55.081. At the center there is now a new trailhead with parking and restrooms, a new trail connects to the trail at North Causeway Rd. From there you can head towards the beach or towards Riverside Drive.

To reach the ECRT Trail it is only 4.5 miles and only 2 miles of it on a quiet road.

## C2C Trail: Stage 1, Titusville - Sanford

### New Smyrna Beach – Maytown Spur

Mile	Location	GPS
0	New Smyrna Beach, Flagler Ave beach access	N29 2.310 W80 53.723
4.5	ECRRT Trail from Maytown Spur ending at 10 <sup>th</sup> Street	N29 0.075 W80 55.587
22	Maytown Spur	N28 48.427 W80 57.583



**Mi 0** Starting at the beach follow Flagler Ave. There is no sidewalk or shoulder, but the speed limit is only 20 mph. **Mi 0.5** Over the North Causeway bridge is a wide shoulder, after the bridge take the bike trail on the left side of the road.

Just 0.2 mi off the trail is the new **Marine Discovery Center Trailhead**, N29 2.169 W80 55.081, with parking. You can park for several days if you let the Center know.

**Mi 1.9** Turn left on the sidewalk in Riverside Dr. On the left you'll pass Riverside Park and have to change to the other side. Or, better, use the quiet road.

**Mi 3.5** Turn right into 9<sup>th</sup> St. At US 1 use the red light on the left to cross US 1 and continue on wide sidewalk along 10<sup>th</sup> St.

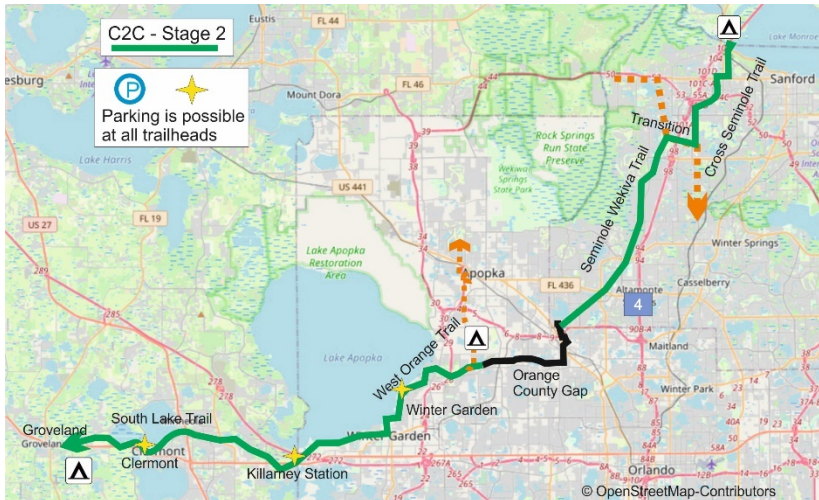
**Mi 4.5** On the right Newport Sound Apartments, on the left start of the ECRRT (no parking). Follow this trail all the way until Maytown Spur, where it joins the route from Titusville. Arriving at Maytown Spur you don't need to turn left for the trailhead, just follow the trail to Gobbler's Lodge TH.





## C2C Trail: Stage 2 Sanford – Winter Garden – Groveland

### Stage 2: Sanford – Winter Garden – Groveland, 51 mi



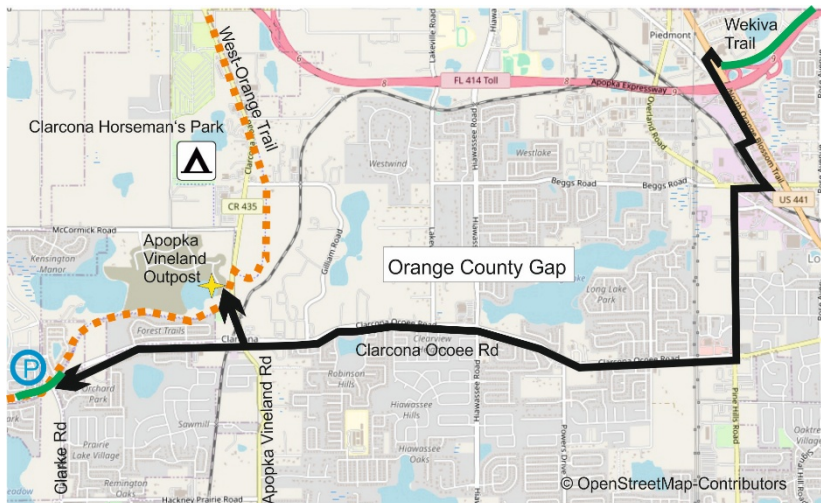
Continue on the Cross Seminole Trail, after 4.8 mi transit to Seminole Wekiva Trail. Ride Wekiva until the end.

Mile	Location	GPS
0	Mile Marker 27.5 at the intersection of SR 46 with Monroe Rd, follow the trail. This is no fast fun ride today.	N28 49.921 W81 19.183
4.8	Trail – intersection, turn right to join the Seminole Wekiva Trail. If you arrive at Lake Mary TH, you went too far.	N28 46.752 W81 20.817
5.5	Arriving at the Seminole Wekiva Trail via an impressive bridge over I 4. Turn left.	N28 46.748 W81 21.432
9	Jones Trailhead	N28 44.481 W81 22.790
15	San Sebastian Trailhead, continue. After crossing busy SR 436 we see the 2.5 mi marker.	N28 39.960 W81 24.680 N28 39.826 W81 24.887
18.5	Near SR 441 final end of Seminole Wekiva trail.	N28 38.125 W81 27.187

## C2C Trail: Stage 2 Sanford – Winter Garden – Groveland

### Orange County Gap

Now we have a gap of about 6 miles. The trail ends at busy 4-lane Orange Blossom Trail (SR 441) and we need to cross it. There is no pedestrian crossing, very dangerous. Turn right for 0.1 mile and cross at the pedestrian light, then turn left and ride back 0.5 mile. There is a small shoulder, just before Brownell private road. Turn right on Brownell. Follow one block and turn left on Apopka Blvd, small road, no sidewalk. Follow about ¼ mile and turn right on Beggs Rd. Follow 1 block until Pine Hills Rd and turn left on small sidewalk. Follow 1 mile to Clarcona-Ocoee Rd, turn right. This road has a mix of good sidewalks, bike lanes or trails. Follow about 3 miles to the intersection with Apopka Vineland Rd. Turn right, after 800 ft on the left is Apopka Vineland Outpost at the West Orange Trail. If you missed this intersection and stay on Clarcona-Ocoee Rd you would soon see the trail at Clarke Rd.



Orange County will soon start constructing a multi-use trail facility, which will connect the Clarcona-Ocoee Connector Trail to the west and the Seminole Wekiva Trail to the east.

## C2C Trail: Stage 2 Sanford – Winter Garden – Groveland



Camping is possible at **Clarcona Horseman's Park**, 3535 Damon Rd, Apopka, (407) 886-6255, N28 37.587 W81 30.119. Should even be possible without reservation, but call before 6 pm, 23 \$. From the Apopka Outpost the Park is 1 mile north by bike trail, while the C2C would go west.

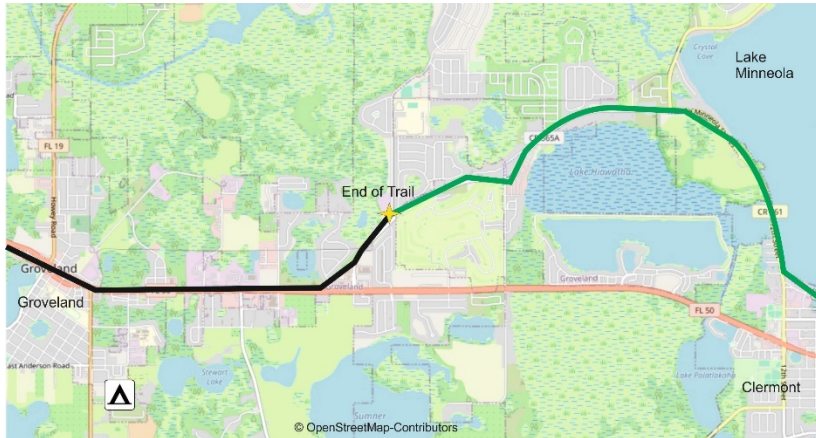


Since some bikers would stay overnight in the camping, we start the mileage now with 0.

0	Apopka Vineland Outpost	N28 36.928 W81 30.002
1.8	Ingram Outpost Trailhead	N28 36.435 W81 31.548
6.5	Winter Garden Chapin Station	N28 34.009 W81 34.873
13	<b>Killarney Station.</b> The actual point between the two trails is west of the station. Continue on South Lake Trail.	N28 32.804 W81 39.414 N28 32.888 W81 39.444
21	Clermont Waterfront Park	N28 33.684 W81 45.56
25.8	End of South Lake Trail at Silver Eagle Road (Groveland)	N28 33.897 W81 49.124

## C2C Trail: Stage 2 Sanford – Winter Garden – Groveland

26	Use the sidewalk of 565A towards FL 50. Turn right on Eagles Xing St., turn right on SR 50	N28 33.495 W81 49.582
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Winter Garden, Clermont or Groveland are perfect places to spend the night.



**Edgewater Hotel**, 99 W Plant St, Winter Garden, (407) 654-6921. This is a boutique hotel right at the trail. Their rooms have some period decor, they have the old school check in, and their breakfast is delicious.

**Lake Minneola Inn**, 508 South Main Avenue, Minneola, (352) 394-0134. Wonderful lake location close to the trail.

**Tri Lake House**, AirBnB in Clermont. Perfect place for the Coast to Coast trip. Just two blocks off the trail right in the charming heart of downtown Clermont.



**Wilotree Park** 6548 Groveland Airport Rd, Groveland, N28 32.135 W81 50.761, (352) 429-0210, has primitive camping, no water, no electricity, but outside bathrooms & showers. Also hostel-style rooms for rent super cheap.

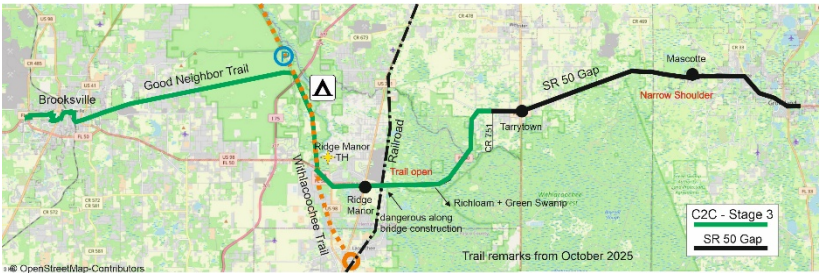


# C2C Trail: Stage 3 Groveland – SR 50 Gap – Brooksville

## Stage 3: Groveland – SR 50 Gap – Brooksville, 45 mi

### SR 50 Gap

Now we have a 28-mile gap along busy SR 50. As of August 2025, construction was in progress from west to east to widen the 2-lane road and add a bike lane/trail to the state road. Many bicyclists found alternative routes going north (all paved) or south through Green Swamp Wilderness, where part of the road is dirt road or even sandy. <https://ridewithgps.com> shows you alternatives along quiet rural roads, but the trip will be much longer, 40 – 45 miles, and navigation is not easy. An alternative through Green Swamp is mentioned at the end of this stage.




We describe in this book the current condition of SR 50 (August 2025):



### SR 50 Direct

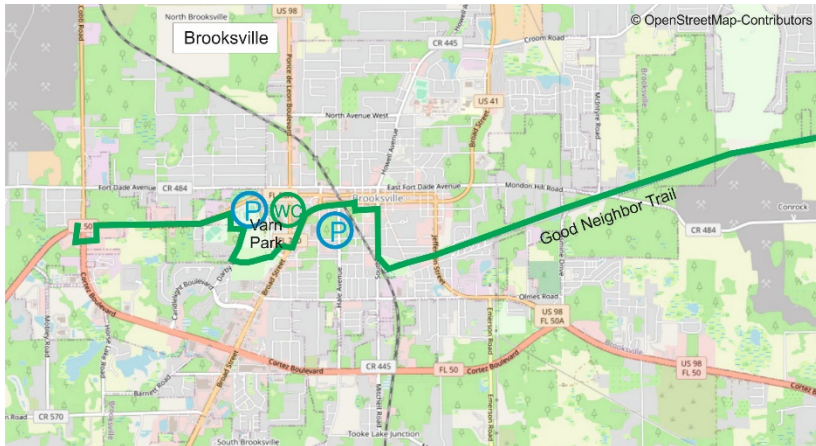
Mile	Location	GPS
0	Start on SR 50, Groveland, bike lane on both sides of the road	N28 33.495 W81 49.582
1.5	At SR 33 in Groveland end of bike lane, bad and narrow sidewalk. This ends after Groveland. No shoulder.  The road is just 2-lanes here, no construction in sight.	N28 33.497 W81 51.083

## C2C Trail: Stage 3 Groveland – SR 50 Gap – Brooksville

5	After Mascotte, CR 565, very narrow shoulder, not for recumbent trike.	
15	Tarrytown, after crossing CR 737 shoulder better. SR 50 also named Cortez Blvd.	N28 33.312 W82 3.773
16	From intersection with CR 751 SR 50 widens to 4-lane road with bike trail on southern side, officially open.	N28 33.328 W82 4.514
21	Side trip to Richloam General Store possible (0.6 mi). It is just a few 100 feet to <b>Richloam General Store</b> , N28 30.086 W82 6.797, but a trip to another century and worth the detour. Riders doing the Green Swamp alternative will pass by this store. 	N28 30.455 W82 7.264
24	After intersection with Treiman Blvd (301) in Ridge Manor bike trail is officially open. Southern side of the road.	N28 30.471 W82 10.219
27.2	Withlacoochee Trail overpass. Take the little path to the left onto the overpass and turn north on the Withlacoochee Trail.	N28 31.346 W82 13.053
27.5	Ridge Manor Trailhead	N28 31.608 W82 13.114
32	Good Neighbor Trail connection, turn left	N28 35.365 W82 13.712
42	Railroad Depot Museum	N28 32.934 W82 23.149
45	Brooksville, new overpass at Cortez Blvd. Close by is Crank Works Bicycles.	N28 33.120 W82 25.303

## C2C Trail: Stage 3 Groveland – SR 50 Gap – Brooksville

	End of stage 3, continue with stage 4 next day on trail along SR 50.	
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### Brooksville accommodation



In East Brooksville near intersection with Hwy 75 several hotels just 1 mile from Withlacoochee trail, I like Days Inn. In West Brooksville the older Oaks Motel right on the trail, 630 S Broad St, Brooksville, (352) 796-4807.

Dolan House B&B, 701 Museum Court, Brooksville, Phone: (352) 631-8822, [www.dolan-house.com](http://www.dolan-house.com). Highly recommended.



**Cypress Glen Campground**, Silver Lake Road, N28 34.222 W82 12.688, phone (352) 797-4140. Near Ridge Manor Trailhead.

**Silver Lake Campground**, 31472 Silver Lake Rd, Brooksville, N28 34.497 W82 13.168. Off the Withlacoochee trail between Ridge Manor TH and Good Neighbor Trail start; only with reservation. There is a gate to the trail.

## C2C Trail: Stage 3 Groveland – SR 50 Gap – Brooksville

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**Parking:** In South Brooksville several trailheads with parking; East Liberty St / S Lemon Ave. Tom Varn Park, 301 Darby Ln / SR 50A, with parking, restrooms, playground, N28 33.251 W82 24.254.

### **Bike Shop:**

**Brooksville Bicycle Center**, 1110 Jefferson St, N28 33.188 W82 24.618, Tel. 352 799 7607; right on the trail.

**Crank Works Bicycles**, N28 33.120 W82 25.303, N28 33.120 W82 25.303, phone (352) 593-4176, [crankworksbikes.com](http://crankworksbikes.com).



## C2C Trail: Stage 3 Groveland – SR 50 Gap – Brooksville

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### Alternative through Green Swamp Wilderness

Even after the trail along SR 50 is finished, some riders would still like to do the Green Swamp/Richloam WMA alternative, because of the adventure and the remoteness of the area. Ride with GPS shows many possibilities like:

<https://ridewithgps.com/routes/45175722>

I want to recommend a route with easier navigation using some parts of the new SR 50 trail. The gap would be 35 miles instead of 28 miles direct. The on-road riding east of the swamp has light traffic, followed by 16 miles of hard-packed dirt, but near the Van Fleet Trail, there is about 1.5 miles of sand or soft dirt, where you might have to push your bike. Best done on a weekend.

Mile	Location	GPS
0	Start on SR 50, Groveland, bike lane on both sides of the road	N28 33.495 W81 49.582
1.3	At Gadson St in Groveland, turn left.	N28 33.475 W81 50.845
1.8	Turn right E Anderson Rd. From here Wilotree Park with camping is not far.	N28 33.060 W81 50.846 N28 32.135 W81 50.761
2.8	Left, follow now Empire Church Rd	N28 33.057 W81 51.826
7	Left, follow now S Bay Lake Road, CR 565, still paved	N28 31.784 W81 54.760
12.8	We cross Van Fleet Trail near Bay Lake TH, but continue on CR 565. Now hard packed dirt.	N28 27.328 W81 55.346
13.3	Turn left onto Logging Rd	N28 27.323 W81 55.887
15.6	Left onto Center Grade Rd	N28 27.179 W81 57.359
23.5	Turn slight right onto Lacoochee Rd	N28 28.113 W82 4.047
24.4	Turn left onto Richloam Clay Sink Rd	N28 28.917 W82 4.120
27.7.	<b>Richloam General Store.</b> Since the new trail along SR 50 was nearly done in March 2024 I recommend to continue to this trail.	N28 30.086 W82 6.797
28.4	SR 50. On the left side is a new paved trail, not officially open, but possible. Then it	N28 30.455 W82 7.264

**C2C Trail: Stage 3 Groveland – SR 50 Gap – Brooksville**

	ends at a railroad overpass they are building, this is a dangerous part for a couple of miles. And within a mile there is the new trail open until Withlacoochee Overpass, 6.2 more miles	
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*Soon the whole trail will look like this.*

**Richloam General Store**

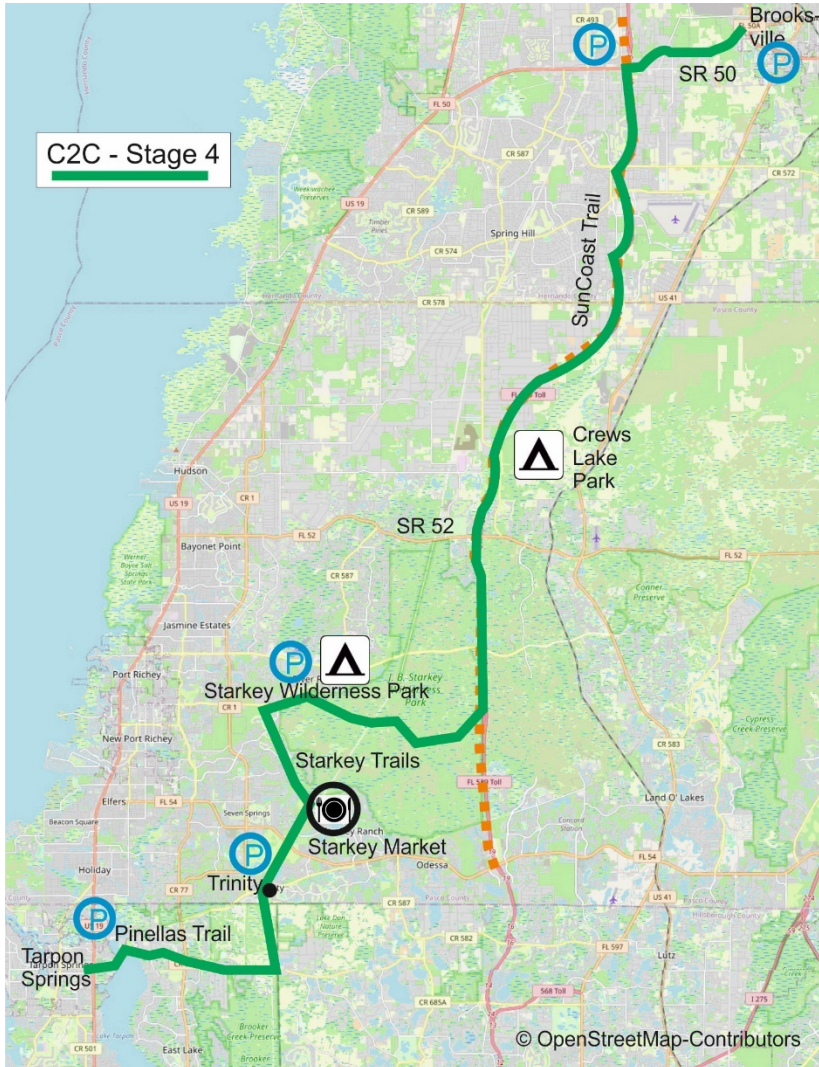
This beautiful store is near the end of the dirt road, 0.6 mi before reaching SR 50, 38219 Richloam Clay Sink RD, N28 30.086 W82 6.797, but a trip to another century. This little store is very well conserved and worth the detour. Snacks and drinks are available.



## C2C Trail: Stage 4 Brooksville – SunCoast TH SR 50 – Starkey – Tarpon Springs

### Stage 4: Brooksville – SunCoast TH SR 50 – Starkey – Tarpon Springs, 55 mi


Between Brooksville and SunCoast Trailhead SR 50 (4 miles) is a new trail now on the southern side of SR 50, so there is no more gap on this stage.



C2C Trail: Stage 4 Brooksville – SunCoast TH SR 50 – Starkey – Tarpon Springs

SunCoast SR 50 Overpass



 **Crews Lake Park, off the trail, N28 22.534 W82 32.405.** Ten campsites are available for overnight tent camping at the park. There is also a group tent camping area. Reservations must be made in advance through the Pasco County Parks & Recreation Department.

In **Starkey Wilderness Park** right on the trail Camping is possible, Tent, Cabin, Shelter and Pavilion. Reservations: (727) 834-3247.

Mile	Location	GPS
0	Brooksville, end of new paved trail at SR 50. After the new overpass follow the trail along SR 50, southern side.	N28 33.120 W82 25.303
4	After passing the Pkwy 589 intersection you see the SunCoast Trail overpass. Just before take the path to the left to the SunCoast TH SR 50. Don't go north over the overpass, but south along Pkwy 589.	N28 32.011 W82 28.876



## C2C Trail: Stage 4 Brooksville – SunCoast TH SR 50 – Starkey – Tarpon Springs

13	At Shady Hills Rd Connector to <b>Crews Lake Park</b> under the toll road, 0.1 mi Crews Lake Park Gate, camping possible	N28 22.326 W82 32.623 N28 22.534 W82 32.405
26	Turn right on the newly paved trail into <b>Starkey Wilderness Park</b> .	N28 14.975 W82 33.065
33.5	Starkey Trail Bike Trailhead, after 0.5 mi turn left on Starkey Blvd Trail.	N28 15.174 W82 38.778
37.5	Starkey Market, very nice stop.	N28 12.496 W82 38.306
38	Cross SR 54 and continue on the Starkey Gap Trail.	N28 11.993 W82 38.799
39	At intersection with Trinity Blvd large gravel parking.	N28 10.790 W82 39.219
40.5	Pinellas Trail North, start of Pinellas Trail	N28 10.405 W82 39.204



*Starkey Market*



*Pinellas North*

### Continuing Stage 4:

40.5	Pinellas Trail North, start of Pinellas Trail	N28 10.405 W82 39.204
42.5	Pinellas Trail at Keystone Rd, small gravel parking	N28 08.703 W82 39.046
45.5	Intersection Keystone Rd / East Lake Rd. (Hwy 611) Straight along Keystone Rd (582) the Pinellas Trail and the C2C continue.	N28 8.928 W82 41.756
55	Downtown Tarpon Springs.	N28 8.758 W82 45.282

## **C2C Trail: Stage 4 Brooksville – SunCoast TH SR 50 – Starkey – Tarpon Springs**

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### **Tarpon Springs**

Tarpon Springs has a lovely downtown. The Welcome Center is in the old Train Depot right on the trail, 160 E Tarpon Ave, phone: 727-937-8997, E-Mail: tarpon.historical@verizon.net.

It might not be easy, depending on the season, to find accommodation. But the place is worth staying overnight, it has many nice restaurants and places to visit.

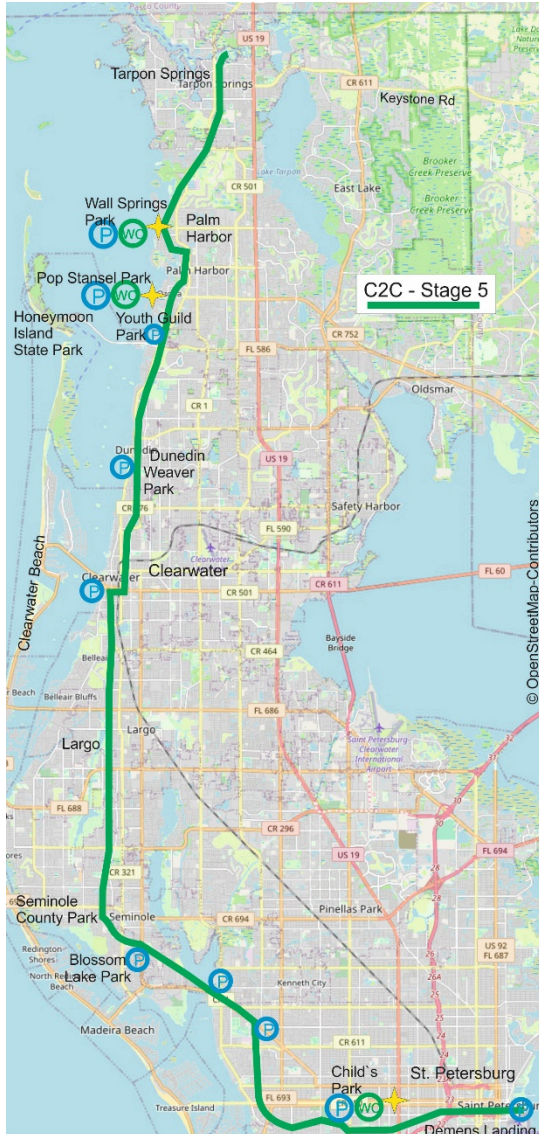
Also, from the Splash Park in North Tarpon Springs is a side trip possible to the Coastal Anclote Trail, see page 39.



*Tarpon Springs*

## C2C Trail: Stage 5 Tarpon Springs – Dunedin – Clearwater – St. Petersburg

### Stage 5: Tarpon Springs – Dunedin – Clearwater – St. Petersburg, 38 mi



From Tarpon Springs to Clearwater is the most beautiful section of the C2C Trail, but also the liveliest with Dunedin as the highlight. It is always crowded, but especially on a sunny weekend.

Navigation is easy, just follow the Pinellas Trail. For a detailed description of this section see Pinellas Trail, page 41.

Near this stage of the tour, it is easy to find accommodation, since it is a very congested area. See hotels near Dunedin (page 46) in the Pinellas description, for example I found a very nice AirBnB in Largo just a few feet from the trail.

So far, I don't find any tent camping.

## C2C Trail: Stage 5 Tarpon Springs – Dunedin – Clearwater – St. Petersburg

Mile	Location	GPS
0	Tarpon Springs, Splash Park	N28 9.231 W82 45.166
4	Wall Springs Park	N28 6.427 W82 46.225
11	Dunedin downtown Railroad Museum	N28 0.706 W82 47.322
15	Clearwater downtown	N27 57.935 W82 47.817
38	South End of Pinellas Trail in St. Pete, at Demens Landing, corner of First Ave and Bayshore Dr SE	N27 46.220 W82 37.933



### St. Petersburg

St. Pete is a great city to end the tour as it might be the single most bike-friendly city in the entire state. Downtown St. Petersburg near Demens Landing are several restaurants. Famous for C2C riders: Courigan's Irish Pub, 1 Beach Drive SE, just before the end of the trail.

Next to Demens Landing is the new St. Pete Pier! This gleaming new attraction on the city's picturesque combines the peaceful blue waters of Tampa Bay with the



## C2C Trail: Stage 5 Tarpon Springs – Dunedin – Clearwater – St. Petersburg

vibrant greenery of downtown St. Petersburg's parks, creating the ultimate place to stroll, bike, dine, drink, shop, swim, take in a concert and more. A perfect place to finish this exciting 240-miles ride.



If someone wants to start the trail from this side it might be difficult to find parking for the car. Demens landing has small public parking, but only during the day and for 3 hours. There are parking garages very close to Demens Park.



See more of St. Petersburg trails, page 52.

## How to Ride from West to East

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### How to Ride from West to East

In this book we start in the east, in Titusville. And you would use the same trails going from west to east using the GPS points. But to make it easier I'll explain here:

Appr. Mile	Location	GPS
0	South End of Pinellas Trail in St. Pete, at Demens Landing, corner of First Ave and Bayshore Dr SE. Follow the Pinellas Trail to the end.	N27 46.220 W82 37.933
42	Intersection Keystone Rd / East Lake Rd. (Hwy 611) Straight along Keystone Rd (582) the Pinellas Trail and the C2C continue.	N28 8.928 W82 41.756
47	Pinellas Trail North, end of Pinellas Trail. Just stay on the trail, now Starkey Trail. Follow the trail all the way to Starkey Wilderness Park and through the Park.	N28 10.405 W82 39.204
54	Starkey Trail Bike Trailhead, follow the trail.	N28 15.174 W82 38.778
62	You reach the SunCoast Trail, turn left.	N28 14.975 W82 33.065
83	SunCoast Trail overpass, near SunCoast TH SR 50. Just before take the path down SR 50. Trail along the road.	N28 32.011 W82 28.876
87	Brooksville, new overpass, follow the new trail into town.	N28 33.120 W82 25.303
90	Railroad Depot Museum. Follow the Good Neighbor Trail.	N28 32.934 W82 23.149
100	Good Neighbor Trail connection, turn right on Withlacoochee Trail.	N28 35.365 W82 13.712
105	Withlacoochee Trail overpass. Take the little path down to SR 50. New trail now, but ends at Treiman Blvd. You can ride the new, not open trail, but only until construction of railroad overpass. After	N28 31.346 W82 13.053

## How to Ride from West to East

	this trail (not yet open) to Tarrytown. Now shoulder until Groveland.	
132	Groveland. Turn left into Eagles Xing St	N28 33.495 W81 49.582
133	Start of South Lake Trail at Silver Eagle Road. Stay on this trail, later named West Orange Trail.	N28 33.897 W81 49.124
146	Killarney Station, follow West Orange Trail	N28 32.888 W81 39.444
157	Ingram Outpost Trailhead	N28 36.435 W81 31.548
157.6	Clarke Rd. Leave the trail for the Orange County gap and go east on sidewalk along Clarcona-Ocoee Rd	N28 36.550 W81 30.993
161.6	Turn left into Pine Hills Rd (sidewalk)	N28 36.683 W81 27.110
162.6	Turn right into Beggs Rd.	N28 37.536 W81 27.116
163	After the underpass turn left along Orange Blossom Trail	N28 37.540 W81 26.807
163.7	After the intersection with SR 441 (underpass) start of Seminole Wekiva trail. Follow the trail until the end.	N28 38.125 W81 27.187
182	Mile Marker 27.5 at the intersection of SR 46 with Monroe Rd, follow the trail over the Hwy 17/92 bridge to Lake Monroe Park.	N28 49.921 W81 19.183
185	At Dirksen Dr near Gemini Springs Park important trail intersection. Turn right on the Springs-to-Springs Trail. This Trail, later named East Central Regional Rail Trail, ECRRT continues now to Titusville.	N28 51.987 W81 18.877
235	Titusville Parrish Park	N28 37.691 W80 47.290

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See also the book

**Bike Trails in  
Florida  
East and South**



Edith Kohlbach