



2024

TrailLink Unlimited



Guides



Tony Knowles
Coastal Trail
Alaska



Tony Knowles Coastal Trail

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The Tony Knowles Coastal Trail follows the coastline of Anchorage along Knik Arm and Cook Inlet. Many rest areas provide scenic views of Anchorage, the surrounding mountain ranges, and tidal inlets. You're also likely to encounter wildlife along the way, especially moose. The Alaska Railroad tracks parallel the trail for about 1 mile (a configuration known as [rail-with-trail](#)), just past the northern trailhead, and passenger and freight trains are a common sight.

The entire trail is paved and suitable for biking, running, walking and skiing. From downtown Anchorage, the northern half of the trail offers a relatively level grade. Toward the southern end of the trail, travelers will find three notable hills as they approach Earthquake Park, Point Woronzof and Kincaid Park. The trail is marked by

mileposts every 0.5 mile with the exception of the first 1+ miles.

At the northern end of the Coastal Trail, the [Ship Creek Trail](#) is mere blocks away, beginning near the Alaska Railroad depot. Visitors can hop on a tourist train to ride north to famed Denali National Park and onward to Fairbanks, or head south to Seward, a popular port for cruise ships.

The Coastal Trail intersects the [Lanie Fleischer Chester Creek Trail](#) at Westchester Lagoon, a little over 1 mile from the former's northern trailhead. The trail skirts the lush shoreline of the lagoon, which offers an unparalleled opportunity for birdwatching, including shorebirds, waterfowl and even eagles.

Wildlife viewing is most abundant along the southern half of the trail, where the trail departs the more populated areas and is surrounded by birch trees and evergreens. The trail skirts Anchorage Airport between mileposts 3.5 and 7.5, and trailside benches provide the opportunity to watch the planes come and go.

The southern terminus of the trail is in Kincaid Park, where a plethora of recreational amenities are available, including soccer fields, a disc golf course, a fishing lake and an archery range. Trails for mountain biking, hiking and cross-country skiing crisscross the 1,400-acre park, and its chalet houses a Nordic ski center.

The pathway is part of a regional 32-mile trail network known as the "[Moose Loop](#)," connecting the Tony Knowles Coastal Trail, Chester Creek Trail, Campbell Creek Trail, and Ship Creek Trail. When viewed on a map, the loop appears to be in the shape of a moose—from its ears and dewlap to its humped back.



Tony Knowles Coastal Trail

Alaska

States: Alaska

Counties: Anchorage

Length: 11miles

Trail end points: W. 2nd Ave & H St. to Kincaid Park

Trail surfaces: Asphalt

Trail category: Rail-Trail

Trail activities: Bike,Inline

Skating,Wheelchair Accessible,Walking,Cross

Country Skiing

Parking & Trail Access

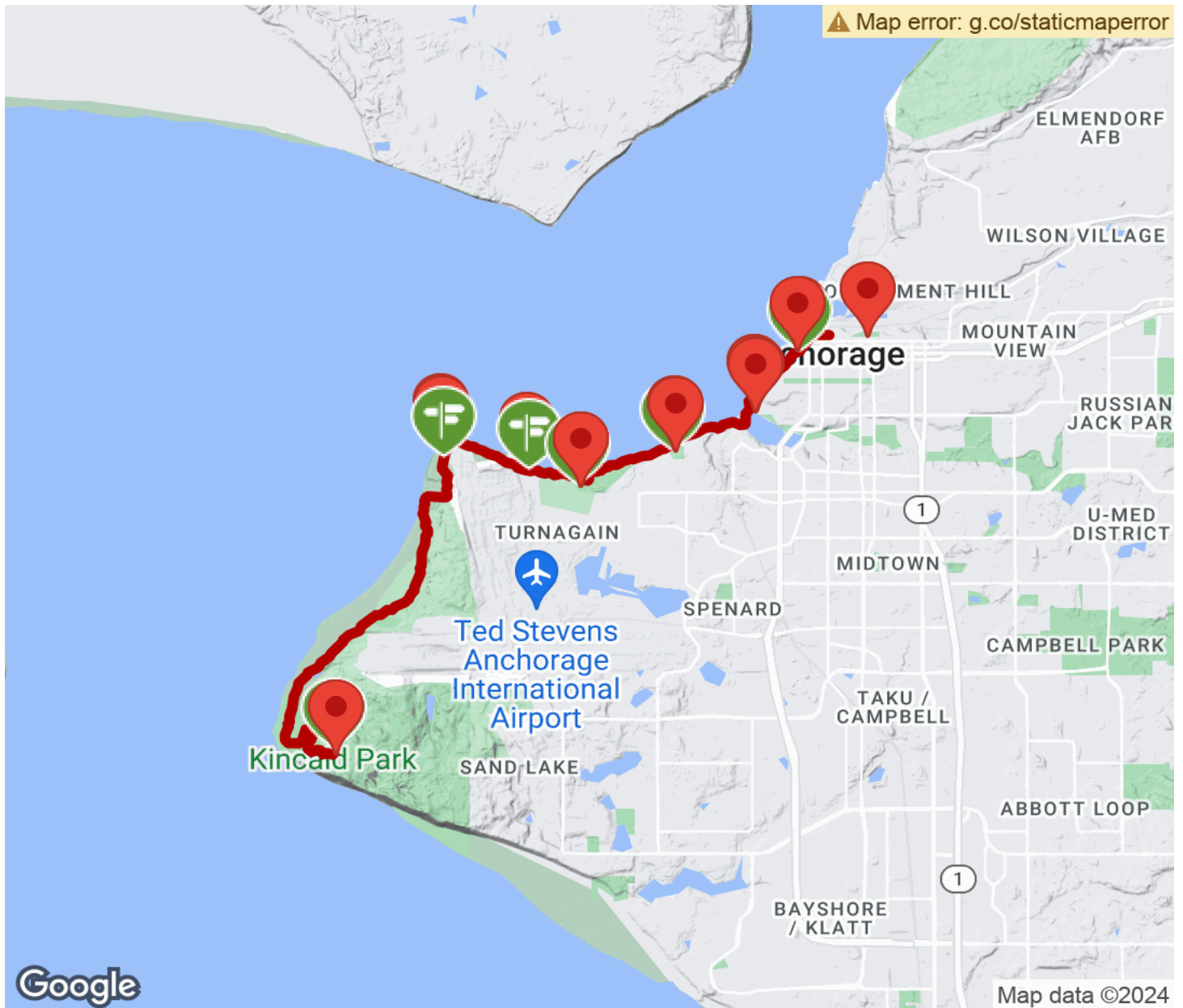
Parking is readily available in the parks along the Coastal Trail, including (from north to south):

- Elderberry Park (1297 W. Fifth Ave.)
- Margaret Eagan Sullivan Park (1824 W. 15th Ave.)
- Lyn Ary Park (2009 Foraker Drive)
- Earthquake Park (5101 Point Woronzof Road)
- Point Worzonof Overlook (9700 Point Woronzof Road)
- Kincaid Park (9401 Raspberry Road)



Tony Knowles Coastal Trail

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Trailhead



Restroom



Parking



Water Fountain



Tunnel



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by Rails-to-Trails Conservancy

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