



# TrailLink Unlimited Guides 🐨 📎 🟵



Katy Trail State Park Missouri



## Katy Trail State Park

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#### Overview

At 239 miles long, Katy Trail State Park spans nearly the full width of Missouri and is the country's longest continuous rail-trail, intersecting with rural farmland, scenic small towns, and centers of commerce and government on its route paralleling the Missouri River. Along the way, it invites its walkers, runners, and riders on a journey to explore the history of the state.

#### About the Route

The Katy Trail uses the old railroad mileage system with mile marker 0 located at the railroad's old genesis in St. Louis. The easternmost terminus of the trail is located at mile market 26.9 but the first official trailhead is located at mile marker 29. There is also ample trail access located at mile marker 39.5 in the historic town of St. Charles, where the trail threads between the state's first capitol building and a restored depot building. Trail users can take advantage of trailside businesses here, including a bike shop, café, brewery, and several historical B&Bs.

The trail continues along the riverbank to mile marker 66.3 in Augusta, which features a brewery and a bike shop right next to the trail, as well as several scenic wineries and B&Bs just up the hill. It continues on through fertile floodplains to Dutzow (mile marker 74) and McKittrick (mile marker 100.8), both of which provide jumping-off points to catch the Amtrak Missouri River Runner train across the river in Washington and Hermann, respectively. With advance reservations, cyclists can bring their bikes aboard for a \$10 fee. Equestrians can ride horses on this stretch between Portland (mile marker 115.9) and Tebbetts (mile marker 131.2).

As the Katy Trail carries on toward Rocheport (mile marker 178.3), trail users pass towering bluffs carved by the Missouri River and approach the trail's only tunnel, cut through solid rock. During their famous Corps of Discovery expedition, Meriwether Lewis and William Clark wrote about "curious paintings" left by Native Americans on the projection of limestone here.

In Boonville (mile marker 191.8), riders may wish to check on the restoration progress of the original MKT rail bridge. Although Katy Trail traffic currently routes over the adjacent US 40 bridge, the preservation of the original MKT rail bridge serves a critical role in keeping the Katy Trail's railbanked corridor legally intact. At this point, the trail crosses and deviates from the Missouri River to head southwest toward Sedalia (mile marker 229), home to a fully restored trailside depot that offers a wide range of Katy Trail memorabilia for sale.

Equestrians can ride between Sedalia and Clinton (mile





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States: Missouri

Counties: Boone, Callaway, Cole, Cooper, Henry,

Howard, Montgomery, Pettis, St.

Charles,Warren

Length: 238.7miles

Trail end points: Machens Rd. (St. Charles) to

601 E Sedalia Ave (Clinton)

Trail surfaces: Crushed Stone, Gravel

Trail category: Rail-Trail

Trail activities: Bike, Wheelchair

Accessible, Horseback Riding, Walking

## **Parking & Trail Access**

The Katy Trail State Park Trail runs between Machens Rd. (St. Charles) and 601 E Sedalia Ave (Clinton).

Parking is available at:

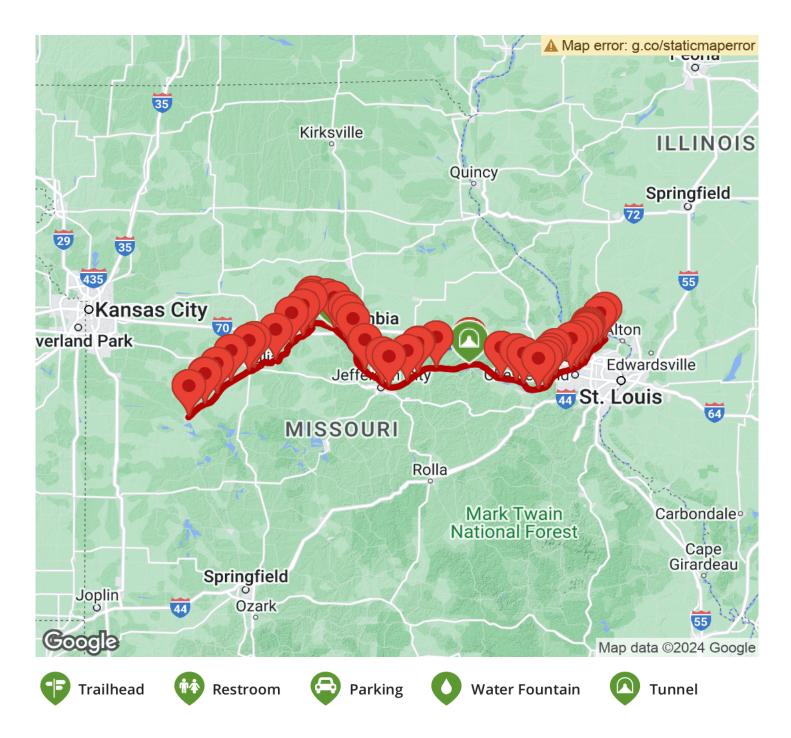
- 6990 S Missouri 94 (St. Charles)
- 5551 Co Rd 4011 (Tebbetts)
- 1385 Price Ln (Clinton)

Parking is available at numerous points along the trail route. See <u>TrailLink map</u> for all parking options and detailed directions.



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