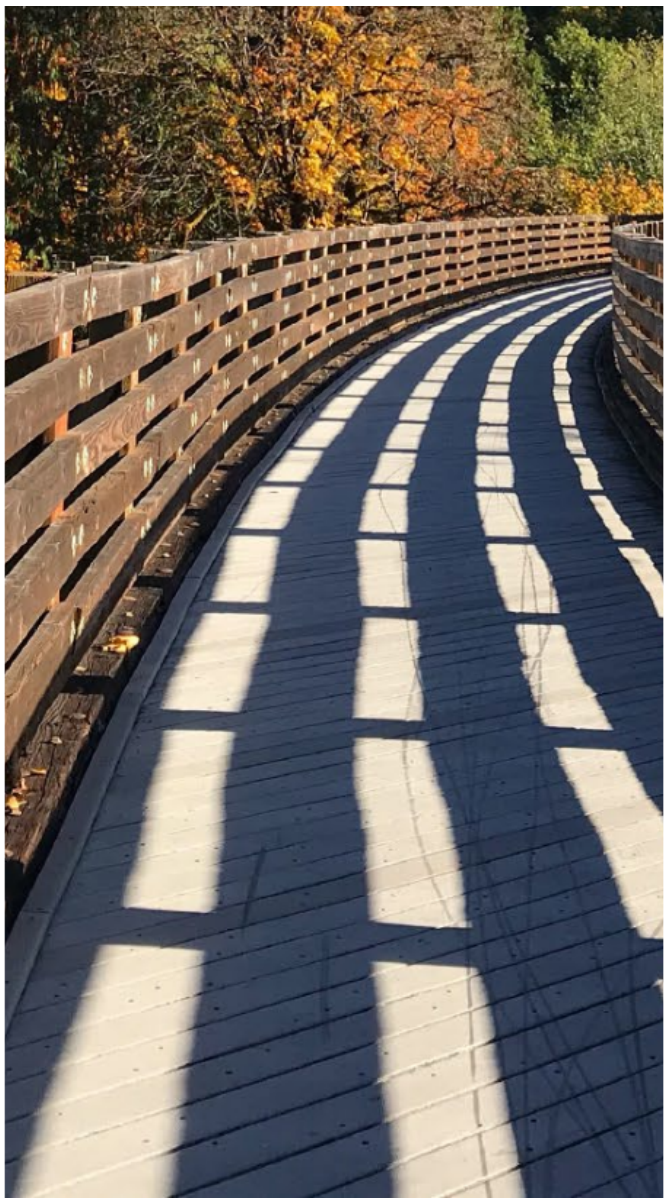
TrailLink
by Rails-to-Trails Conservancy

2026

TrailLink Unlimited

Guides



Urban Trail (St. Joseph Trail System)

Missouri

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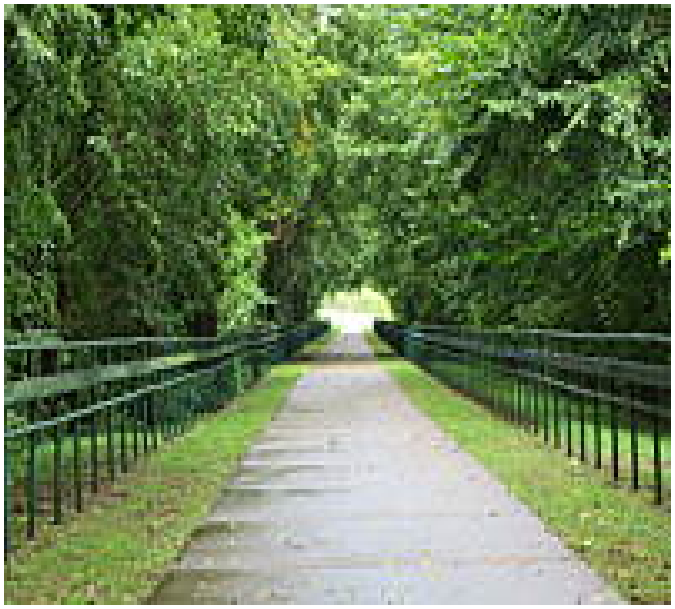

The Urban Trail system in St. Joseph is a suburban jewel, with lush, green scenery along most of its route. The system branches off in several directions, offering a number of customizable routes for a shorter or longer trail experience. Sections of the trail feature steep hills; some may wish to walk their bikes up these sections, but the climbs are never long and the downhill experience on the opposite side is worth the trek.

Hyde Park marks the start of your journey on the Urban Trail system. There are two parking lots at either end of the park; the trail begins at the westernmost end, featuring a wrought iron gate with the name of the park. Note: There are trail paths in the park, but instead of taking those, you will need to cross Mason Road to begin your journey.

This section of the trail parallels Southwest Parkway, with well-marked crosswalks as the trail cuts across the parkway. Greenery is abundant in this section, though shade cover is sparse. The trail continues to wind its way through the parkway, meandering up and down hills. Some are steep and may require walking a bike, but the downhill coast on the well-maintained concrete trail is a smooth ride.

The trail crosses under I-229 and continues through a green landscape. After the next separated-path bridge crossing, the route passes through a residential area, with a recreation center on the left. You'll soon reach a roundabout with red brick. For a longer trail experience, bear left and continue north (directions below).

Heading east: For a shorter trail experience, bear right and continue on. On this section, suburban homes peek through the trees and, as the trail curves to the right, it parallels I-29. An off-street bridge connection will take you over I-29. At the next street intersection, turn left to head down South Leonard Road. At the end of the road, the trail enters a tree-lined area; from here on, the lush green landscape never leaves the trail. The route alternates between open and shaded sections and features a scenic trestle bridge. The trail ends at the intersection with busy South Riverside Road.

Heading north: After bearing left at the roundabout, you'll continue your journey north through a green park area. The trail passes under US 36 and continues to parallel Southwest Parkway. After passing through a local park, there is a short on-street connection through a low-speed residential neighborhood for less than half a mile. At the end of the road, turn left onto Parkway A and follow the bike route signs to pick up the trail. Bear to the right and continue down North Noyes Boulevard for 1.3 miles. At the busy multiway intersection with Ashland Avenue, cross the street first and then turn right onto Ashland Avenue. Keep your eyes peeled for the entrance to the trail, marked by two low brick walls. If you reach the next cross streets—Crescent Drive or Hundley

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States: Missouri
Counties: Buchanan
Length: 15.8miles
Trail end points: Ferndale Ave. south of Karnes Rd. to Hyde Park at Southwest Pkwy.
Trail surfaces: Asphalt,Concrete
Trail category: Rail-Trail
Trail activities: Bike,Inline Skating,Walking,Wheelchair Accessible,Cross Country Skiing

Parking & Trail Access

To reach the Hyde Park trailhead, from I-229, take Exit 3. Head south on S. 22nd St. and turn right onto Mason Road for a little over a mile. Hyde Park is on the left with a large iron gate marking the entrance. There is some parking at this entrance and some parking at the other end of the park, as well.

To reach the northernmost terminus close to the intersection of Ferndale Ave. and Northwest Pkwy., head north on St. Joseph Ave./US 59. Turn right at the exit for Northwest Pkwy., just before Karnes Road. Turn left onto Ferndale Ave. and the trail is on the right. A few parking spots and on-street parking are available.

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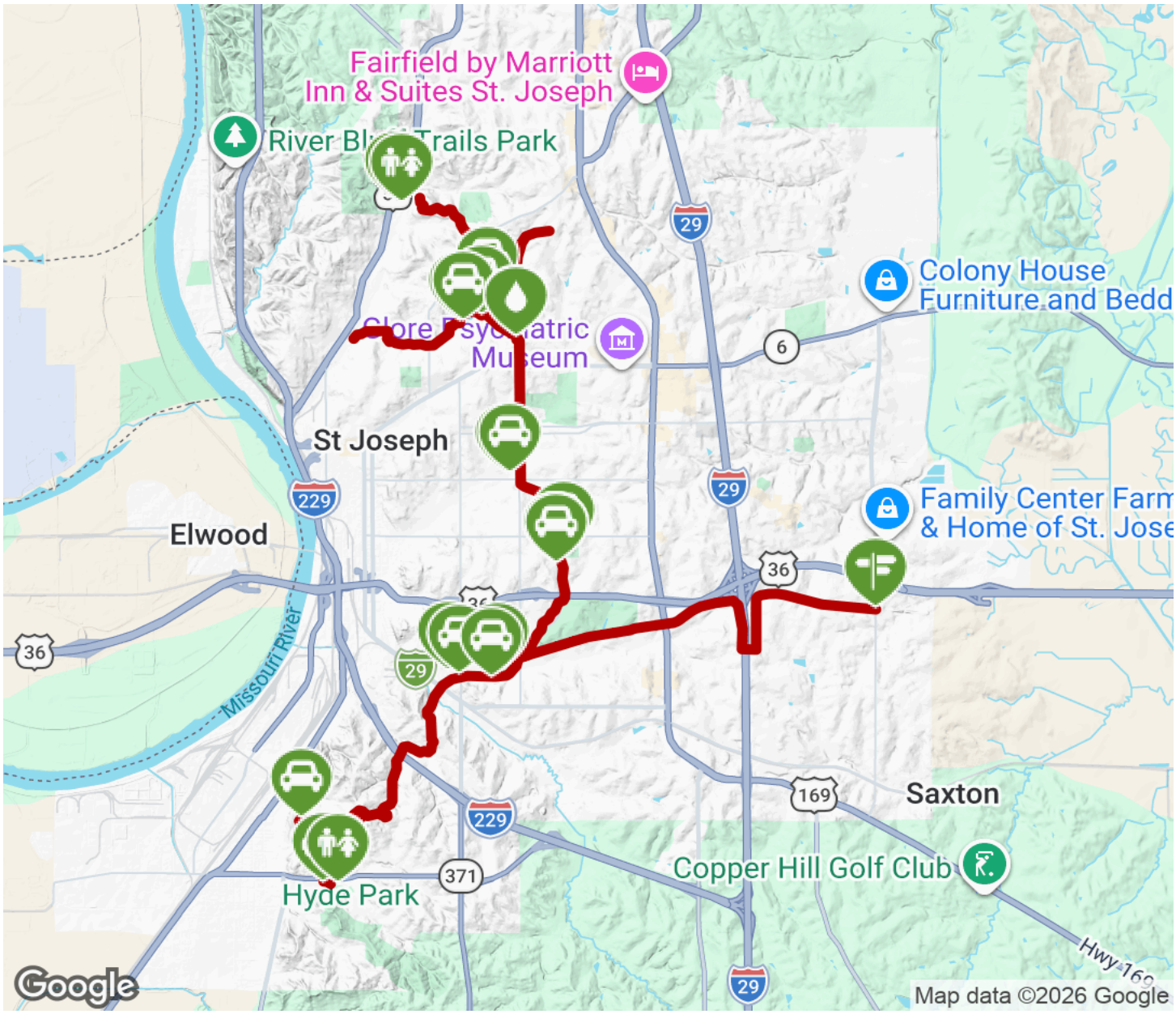

Trailhead Restroom Parking Water Fountain Tunnel

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