



# Contrail</t



## **Corpus Christi Bay Trail** *Texas*



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The Corpus Christi Bay Trail connects many of Corpus Christi's tourist attractions along its nearly 9-mile waterfront route, including the Art Museum of South Texas, Museum of Science and History, and Corpus Christi Marina. The trail begins in the north at the city's American Bank Center arena, where residents and visitors can take in a sporting event or convention. At the southern endpoint, the trail passes directly through the campus of Texas A&M University–Corpus Christi.

The Corpus Christi Bay Trail also links the city's six parks along Ocean Drive on Corpus Christi Bay. While the trail's concrete surface makes it popular for bikers, walkers, and inline skaters seeking space for exercise, the Corpus Christi Bay Trail also has a reputation as a superb spot for bird watching. Threatened and endangered species—such as the brown pelican and American peregrine falcon, among others—often can be spotted from the trail along Oso Creek and Oso Bay.

Trail users should be advised that a significant portion of the Corpus Christi Bay Trail is actually a sidewalk or bike lane, and not a dedicated off-road route. Please be aware that the bike lanes are only divided from traffic by a painted white line. For those interested in biking only on the non-sidewalk off-road sections of the trail, here are the bike-friendly offroad portions:

From the Art Museum of South Texas (northern end of the route) running parallel to N Shoreline Blvd and then S Shoreline Blvd on the coastline/east side until the intersection with Furman Ave, where the two segments of Shoreline Blvd merge together.

There are on-road bike lanes until Ocean Blvd intersects with Ayers St, where a bike-friendly off-road path picks up. Here the paved trail is marked with a dashed yellow line down the middle and it continues for about a mile until the Memorial Garden of Peace (3102 Ocean Dr) where on-road bike lanes take over.

Ropes Park (3102 Ocean Dr), Doddridge Park (3814 Ocean Dr) Swantner Park (5102 Ocean Dr), Palmetto Park (5440 Ocean Dr), and Poenisch Park (5602 Ocean Dr) each briefly provide bike-friendly off-road paths, but the rest of the route along Ocean Dr is composed of sidewalks and/or bike lanes.

The southernmost section of the trail, also known as the Texas A&M Hike & Bike Trail, is completely off-road and curves along the coastline of the peninsula home to the Texas A&M University–Corpus Christi campus. This 1.25-mile segment can be accessed from numerous points around the campus. Its northwest endpoint is located on Oso Dr behind Conrad Blucher Institute and across the street from the Institute's parking lot. The southeast endpoint can be



#### TrailLink.com



States: Texas Counties: Nueces Length: 8.9miles Trail end points: Barge Dock/The Art Museum of South Texas to Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi (Ocean Drive) Trail surfaces: Concrete Trail category: Greenway/Non-RT Trail activities: Bike,Inline Skating,Wheelchair Accessible,Walking

### **Parking & Trail Access**

The Corpus Christi Bay Trail parallels S. Shoreline Boulevard/ Ocean Drive for most of its route. Corpus Christi's public transit system (CCRTA) provides access to the trail. Visit the <u>CCRTA website</u> to use their trip planner tool and refer to the <u>TrailLink map</u> to find the most convenient transit stop for your adventure.

For those traveling to the trail by car, parking is available at Bayfront Park and the American Bank Center at the northern trailhead. Parking can also be found between Sherrill Park and McCaughan Park near the city's marina. Cole Park likewise has its own parking lot farther south or consider parking at the campus of Texas A&M University–Corpus Christi at the trail's southern endpoint. Visit the <u>TrailLink</u> <u>map</u> for all options and detailed directions.



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