



2026

TrailLink Unlimited 

Guides



**Jack A.
Markell Trail**
Delaware



Jack A. Markell Trail

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The Jack A. Markell Trail, or JAM Trail for short, runs for 6 miles between Wilmington and the Delaware River waterfront in nearby New Castle. With relatively few street crossings, the trail provides relaxing long stretches of paved and boardwalk trail that traverses forests and marshy wetlands.

About the Route

The Jack A. Markell Trails northern endpoint is at DuPont Environmental Education Center (Wilmington), which offers interactive exhibits and programming about the area's habitats and wildlife. Downtown Wilmington is accessible via an easy connection from the endpoint, 1.4 miles north via the [Wilmington Riverwalk](#). A bike repair station is also located at the beginning of the trail. Initially

heading west from the DuPont Environmental Education Center endpoint, the first mile of trail traverses the Russell W. Peterson Urban Wildlife Refuge, on a beautiful elevated boardwalk over the freshwater tidal marsh with views of the Christina River. The trail then heads south on a 1.4 mile straightaway, crossing over the Christina River and underneath an overpass carrying I-495, as it continues adjacent to marshy wetlands and power lines.

The trail then crosses under I-295 in a dedicated tunnel before curving southwest adjacent to residential streets in the Wilmington Manor area. A second tunnel carries the trail underneath State Road 13 shortly ahead. After crossing south over Boulden Blvd at-grade, the trail enjoys an uninterrupted 1.75 mile straightaway through a forested thicket which opens up into a large swath of wetland. The straightaway ends at an at-grade crossing at Delaware St, where there is a trailhead with parking. The trail then continues south through a few residential blocks, and passes Young Street Park, home to the New Castle Italian Immigrant Memorial commemorating Italian immigration to the area as early as the 1600s. The trail then shares the road with South Street to continue southeast for 5 blocks on an on-road stretch to its southern endpoint.

The Jack A. Markell Trail's southern endpoint is at New Castle Battery Park (New Castle.) At the park, the trail connects to the [Battery Park Trail](#) which runs along the river to the southwest. A bike repair station, restaurants, and shopping are also available near the park.

Connections

From the northern endpoint, The Jack A. Markell Trail connects to the [Wilmington Riverwalk](#), which continues north into downtown Wilmington. The trail also connects to the [Route 273 Multi-Use Trail](#). From its southern endpoint, a connection is available to the [Battery Park Trail](#).

The trail is part of the developing [East Coast Greenway](#), a



Jack A. Markell Trail

Delaware

States: Delaware

Counties: New Castle

Length: 6miles

Trail end points: DuPont Environmental Education Center (Wilmington) to New Castle Battery Park at South St & W 3rd St (New Castle)

Trail surfaces: Asphalt, Boardwalk

Trail category: Rail-Trail

Trail activities: Bike, Inline

Skating, Walking, Wheelchair Accessible

Parking & Trail Access

The Jack A. Markell Trail runs between DuPont Environmental Education Center (Wilmington) and New Castle Battery Park at South St & W 3rd St (New Castle), with parking available at both endpoints.

The trail is also accessible by Amtrak and SEPTA Wilmington/Newark Line trains at Wilmington Station, via the [Wilmington Riverwalk](#). The trail is also accessible via the DART regional transit system's bus service. If taking a bike aboard a bus or train, please observe the relevant agency's rules and regulations.

Parking is also available at:

- 979 Delaware St. (New Castle)
- 601 Baylor Blvd. (New Castle)

These are approximate addresses, see [TrailLink Map](#) for all parking options and detailed directions.



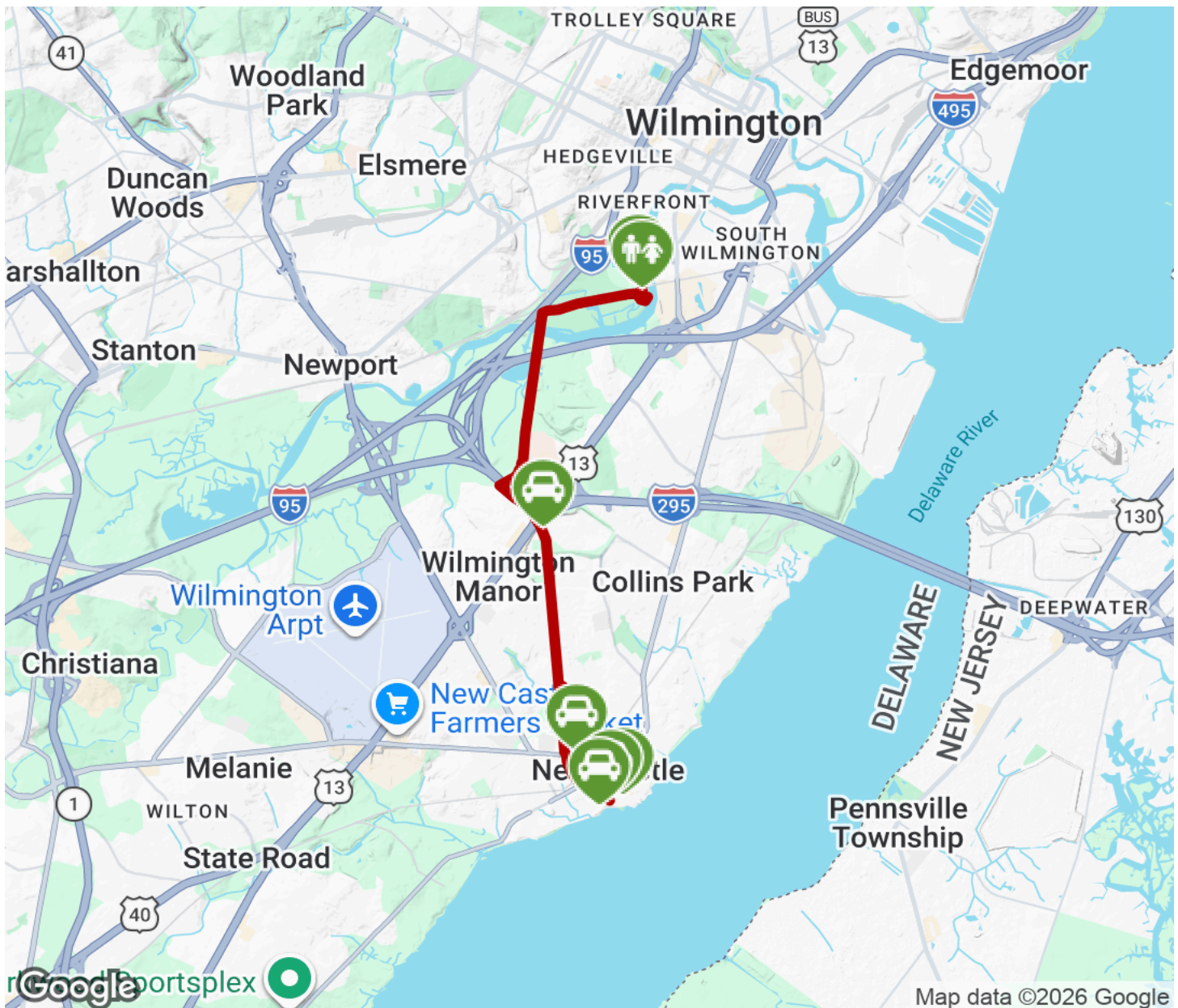
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by Rails-to-Trails Conservancy

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- Trailhead
- Restroom
- Parking
- Water Fountain
- Tunnel