



2024

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Guides 🕫 🤝









Gwynns Falls Trail

Maryland



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The Gwynns Falls Trail is a nearly 19-mile continuous corridor that winds through dozens of west and southwest Baltimore neighborhoods, parks, and historical and cultural landmarks and the urban business district. It takes a circuitous route through Gwynns Falls/Leakin Park and southeast to downtown and includes side spurs into adjacent parks and a connection to the Jones Falls Trail at Baltimore's famed Inner Harbor. Along the trail are interpretive signs providing opportunities to learn about this impressive valley's historical significance to Baltimore and the nation.

Winding through Gwynns Falls/Leakin Park—the largest urban forest east of the Mississippi—to the Middle Branch Patapsco River and the Inner Harbor, the Gwynns Falls Trail serves as a key connector for more than 2,000 acres

of publicly owned land and 10 miles of additional hiking trails.

The trail is also a major segment of the developing <u>Baltimore Greenway Trails Network</u>, a Rails-to-Trails Conservancy <u>TrailNation</u> project to create a 35-mile network of trails that will connect more than 75 neighborhoods in Baltimore City.

Although the trail can be accessed from dozens of points along the route, its main access points include the I-70 Park & Ride, Winans Meadow, the Inner Harbor at Light Street, and Middle Branch Park. Starting at the eastern endpoints makes for a moderately uphill trek west.

A good place to start your journey is the I-70 Park & Ride, located adjacent to the northwest section of Gwynns Falls/ Leakin Park. From here, the trail heads east alongside Franklin Town Road and through mature forest to Winans Meadow, a popular section of the park with excellent opportunities for bird-watching, turtle-spotting, and historical exploration. This includes remnants of the 19th-century Crimea Estate, which has a preserved waterwheel and root cellar. The Winans Meadow trailhead offers parking, restrooms, a picnic pavilion, and drinking water.

From Winans Meadow, you'll continue eastward on a pleasant, level trail. You'll then turn north through mature forest toward the mill race sec-tion of the route, which begins at the Windsor Mill Road trailhead. Just before you reach the trailhead, a short 1-mile detour northeast on the Dickeyville Trail, which travels a former section of Wetheredsville Road, takes you to a historical 18th-century mill village in Dickeyville alongside Gwynns Falls.

Continuing southeast along the Gwynns Falls Trail, you'll follow a former millrace path of crushed stone through forest for 3 miles to Leon Day Park, named for Negro League Hall of Fame baseball player Leon Day.

Here, you'll find ball fields, playgrounds, and parking. About





States: Maryland

Counties: Baltimore City

Length: 18.9miles

Trail end points: Park & Ride (I-70 and Security Blvd) to Middle Branch Park (S Hanover St)

Trail surfaces: Asphalt, Crushed Stone

Trail category: Greenway/Non-RT

Trail activities: Bike,Inline Skating,Fishing,Wheelchair

Accessible, Walking

Parking & Trail Access

Parking and trail access is available at a number of locations along the trail. View the TrailLink map for all options and detailed directions.

Parking is located within Baltimore City at the Park & Ride (I-70 and Security Blvd), Gwynns Falls Park/Leakin Park by Winans Meadow (4500 Franklintown Rd), at 4300 Windsor Mill Rd, at Leon Day Park (1200 block of N. Franklintown Rd), at 2700 Frederick Ave, by Carroll Park Golf Course (2100 Washington Blvd), by Carroll Park (Bayard St & Herkimer St), by the Carroll Park access road (1600 block of Washington Blvd), between Light St & E Barre St (parking only at limited times), and in three lots by Middle Branch Park (3301 Waterview Ave); (2825 S Hanover St); (3131 S Hanover St).

There is at least one accessible parking place at the Gwynns Falls Park/Leakin Park lot, at 4300 Windsor Mill Rd, at Leon Day Park, at 2700 Frederick Ave, by the Carroll Park access road at 1600 block of Washington Blvd, and between Light St & E Barre St.



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