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## **Stavich Bicycle Trail** Ohio, Pennsylvania



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#### Overview

The Stavich Bicycle Trail runs from the Youngstown suburb of Struthers to the outskirts of New Castle, Pennsylvania. Running through the Mahoning River Valley, the route follows a rolling terrain for 10 miles. The route follows an old trolley line, whose builders were not as concerned as their counterparts in the railroad industry about dragging their cars over elevation changes.

The trail passes mainly through unshaded country alongside the active short-line railroad and pastureland. The 7 miles of asphalt in Pennsylvania are newer and smoother than the corresponding 3 miles in Ohio. Mileage markers are featured along the trail, with Mile 0 in Ohio.

#### About the Route

The western end of the Stavich Bicycle Trail leaves off from Broad St., passing the Lowellville Athletic fields less than a mile later, where parking is also available.

The town is known as Little Italy because many Italians started settling here in the late 1800s, and today more than a third of its population claims Italian ancestry. An Italian society hosts a festival in July featuring Italian food, boccie ball tournaments, and a local band. Lowellville also has a long history in the steel industry, first with Ohio Iron & Steel Co. and then with Sharon Steel Corp., until it closed in the early 1960s. Antique cars are on display every Monday evening through the summer across the tracks on Water Street.

After the Ohio state line, the trail crosses over Coffee Run, a small creek, and later crosses underneath US-224. Just before the trail reaches its eastern end in New Castle, the trail takes a slight uphill slope and passes a trailside pond, where ducks are often seen paddling about. The trail's eastern endpoint is located on W Washington St on the west side of New Castle, although trail users will pass parking first before coming to the absolute end.

#### Trail History

Fifty years after the last trolley cars ran on the Penn-Ohio Electric System between Youngstown, Ohio, and New Castle, Pennsylvania, in 1932, travelers on foot, bikes, and skates began using the corridor as the Stavich Bicycle Trail. Opened in 1983 with the help of donations from the local Stavich family and other individuals, the paved trail was an early example for rail trails and is still somewhat uncommon, as it connects two states.







States: Ohio, PennsylvaniaCounties: Lawrence, MahoningLength: 9.9milesTrail end points: 556 Broad St (Lowellville, OH)to W Washington St. (New Castle, PA)Trail surfaces: AsphaltTrail category: Rail-TrailTrail activities: Bike, InlineSkating, Wheelchair Accessible, Walking, CrossCountry Skiing

### **Parking & Trail Access**

The Stavich Bicycle Trail runs between 556 Broad St (Lowellville, OH), which offers parking, and W Washington St. (New Castle, PA).

Parking is also available at:

• 2913 W Washington St (New Castle)

See <u>TrailLink Map</u> for all parking options and detailed directions.









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