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### **Three Rivers Heritage Trail** *Pennsylvania*



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Three Rivers Heritage Trail features the best that the city of Pittsburgh has to offer, connecting major cultural venues, the downtown area, historical sites, and some of the city's most well-known neighborhoods and parks along 26 miles of riverfront trails. The trail extends outward from the heart of the city along three major paved, connected segments from Point State Park, the urban trail parallels its namesake three rivers—the Allegheny, Ohio, and Monongahela—that helped lift the city into prominence as America's once industrial powerhouse.

Now, the pathway, which began as an idea nearly three decades ago and had its first groundbreaking in 1991—serves as an active transportation and recreation asset, and a major tourism destination, for more than a half

million people each year. Pittsburgh boasts more than 440 bridges and several of the city's most iconic in this category serve as connectors for the trail's various segments.

Portions of the trail are rail-with-trail, where the trail parallels an active CSX railroad. The route is separated from the active railroad by a fence and/or vegetation and 50 feet of distance. Most railroad crossings are lighted, although there is no gate.

Southern Segment: Station Square to Great Allegheny Passage (Monongahela River–South): 6.9 miles

A great place to begin a journey along the Three Rivers Heritage Trail is West Station Square Drive on the southern side of the Monongahela River. Here the Duquesne Incline, one of Pittsburgh's two historical cable cars, travels up the steep hillside 400 feet on an 800-foot track to offer a panoramic view of Pittsburgh and the three rivers.

Heading east on a paved trail beneath the Fort Pitt Bridge, the trail passes by Highmark Stadium and the Gateway Clipper Fleet before reaching historic Station Square, built in the 1870s to greet passengers of the Pittsburgh & Lake Erie Railroad on their way from Youngstown. Ceasing all operations by 1970 and redeveloped in 1976, Station Square is now home to restaurants, bars, shops, and the Monongahela Incline, featuring extensive vistas of the city skyline.

Continuing along the river, the trail passes under the Smithfield Street Bridge—a spectacular structure completed in 1883 with sweeping blue arches of steel—and then beneath the Liberty Bridge and into an industrial area with a series of shared roadways. Turn right onto Second Street, left onto McKean Street, and left onto Fourth Street, where the offroad trail picks up again at about 1.7 miles from the starting point. Note the brightly colored trailside artwork created on the 2016 National Opening Day for Trails by the local community and overseen by former Pittsburgh Steeler Baron "The Artist" Batch.





## Three Rivers Heritage Trail Pennsylvania

States: Pennsylvania Counties: Allegheny Length: 26.6miles Trail end points: 78 Westhall St (Pittsburgh) to 2ND W Run Rd (Pittsburgh) Trail surfaces: Asphalt,Crushed Stone Trail category: Rail-Trail Trail activities: Bike,Inline Skating,Wheelchair Accessible,Walking,Cross Country Skiing

#### **Parking & Trail Access**

The Three Rivers Heritage Trail runs between 78 Westhall St (Pittsburgh) and 2nd W Run Rd (Pittsburgh), which offers parking.

Parking is also available at:

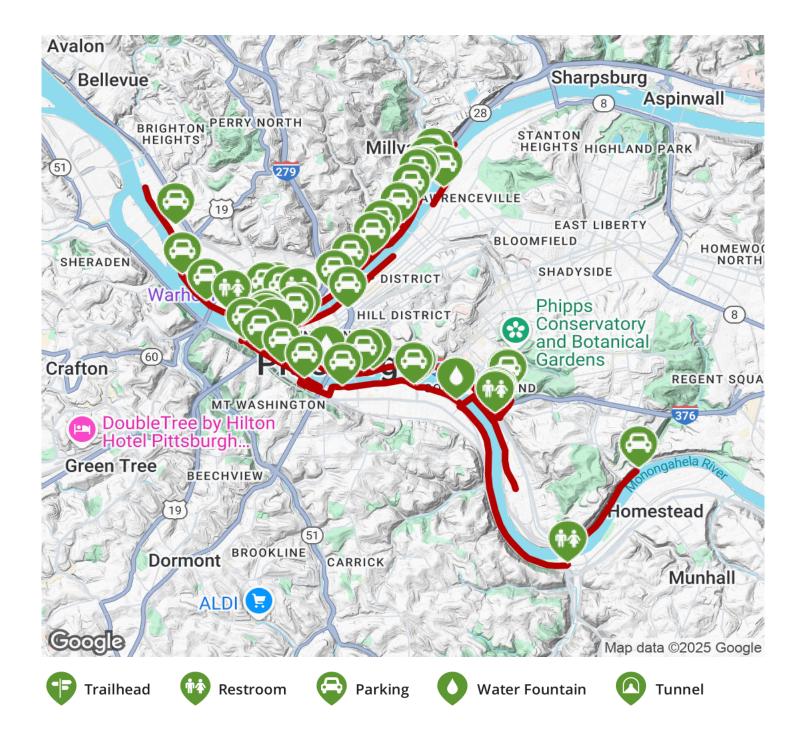
- Millvale Riverfront Park, 70 River Front Dr (Pittsburgh)
- 510 W Station Square Dr (Pittsburgh)
- 1337 River Ave (Pittsburgh)

There are numerous parking options along this route, please see <u>TrailLink Map</u> for all parking options and detailed directions.











TrailLink.com