



2025

TrailLink Unlimited



Guides



## Arizona Canal Path

*Arizona*



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## Overview

The Arizona Canal Path is one of the longest multi-use trails in Maricopa County, running between Peoria, Glendale, Phoenix, Scottsdale and the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community along both sides of the Arizona Canal, one of the county's vital waterways. The trail, paved at times and unpaved at others, provides access to a large number of residences, commercial centers, schools and other recreational opportunities.

## About the Route

Starting at the trail's northwestern endpoint in northern Glendale and heads southeast, crossing through Paseo Neighborhood Park and Thunderbird Paseo Park. This

section of the trail encompasses shrubs, trees and open greenspaces. South of these parks, the trail is a bit less green with the dry surroundings of the canal hemmed in by suburban Phoenix.

The trail continues south for a while before skewing north as it passes downtown Scottsdale. One highlight in the charming downtown Scottsdale is the stunning Soleri Bridge and Plaza, which opened in 2010.

As the trail leaves downtown Scottsdale, it heads north and then west again and then exits the dense urban environment that characterizes the western portion of the trail. The end portion of the trail passes through arid and flat environments hemmed in by some farmlands.

The eastern end of the trail is sudden dead end by the Granite Reef Dam, but trail users may continue along the South Canal Path to loop back into suburban Scottsdale.

## Connections

At the trail's northwestern end, it connects to [Skunk Creek Trail](#).

In Phoenix, the [Cave Creek Wash Trail](#) connects to the Arizona Canal Path.

Near the Phoenix Airport, the trail connects to the [Old Cross Cut Canal Park Path](#) and the [Crosscut Canal Path](#).

In Scottsdale, the trail intersects with the [Indian Bend Wash Path](#) and [Pima Road Trail](#).

At the eastern end of the trail, it continues south as the [Southern Canal Path](#).



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**States:** Arizona

**Counties:** Maricopa

Length: 72miles

**Trail end points:** Skunk Creek Trail, near 73rd Ave. (Peoria) to S Canal Service Rd. (Salt River Pima-Maricopa Community)

**Trail surfaces:** Asphalt, Concrete, Crushed Stone

**Trail category:** Greenway/Non-RT

**Trail activities:** Bike, Inline Skating, Wheelchair Accessible, Horseback

## Parking & Trail Access

The Arizona Canal Path runs between Skunk Creek Trail, near 73rd Ave. (Peoria) and S Canal Service Rd. (Salt River Pima-Maricopa Community).

Parking is available at:

- Thunderbird Paseo Park, 59th Ave & Thunderbird Rd (Glendale)
- 6505 N 20th St (Phoenix)
- 7301 E Indian Bend Rd (Scottsdale)

See [TrailLink Map](#) for all parking options and detailed directions.



# Arizona Canal Path

Arizona



Trailhead



Restroom



Parking



Water Fountain



Tunnel



**TrailLink**  
by Rails-to-Trails Conservancy

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