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Omaha Riverfront Trail Nebraska



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In the south, the trail begins at Missouri Avenue/US 275's approach to the South Omaha Veterans Memorial Bridge. The vehicular bridge, located south of downtown Omaha, includes the separated <u>Veterans Memorial Trail</u>, which connects trail users to Council Bluffs' extensive trail system just across the river.

North of the bridge on the Nebraska side, the Omaha Riverfront Trail was constructed on a levee road. Gates across this portion of the trail are often closed to prevent access by vehicles, but trail use is permitted unless otherwise noted. The trail runs between the Missouri River and active BNSF Railway tracks, but the route is a peaceful place to ride, run, walk or skate. Currently, the best place to exit this section of the trail is at the intersection of Hickory Street and S. 2nd Street. If you're looking for a challenge, consider riding or running up the steep hill on Hickory Street; refer to the map for the exact location.

The middle section of the trail offers a completely different experience than the southern portion. Begin your journey at Heartland of America Park, located just north of ConAgra Foods' corporate headquarters. The park features a large lake with a walking path, several fountains and tour boat rides in the summer. Check out the stunning views of the Omaha skyline to the west of the lake.

From Heartland of America Park, the trail continues north under Interstate 480. The trail next approaches Lewis and Clark Landing, the site of the duo's landing in what is now Omaha in 1804. The park includes interpretive exhibits, memorials and picnic tables along the river, as well as a pedestrian bridge to CenturyLink Center Omaha, home to college sports and other popular events. Just north of Lewis and Clark Landing along the trail is the new regional headquarters for the National Park Service.

Serving as a stunning backdrop to most of the aforementioned locations on the trail, the <u>Bob Kerrey</u> <u>Pedestrian Bridge</u> is an architectural landmark for the region. The bridge, which begins just north of the NPS regional headquarters building, takes trail users to the <u>Iowa Riverfront</u> <u>Trail</u> on the other side of the Missouri River. Just north of the bridge in Omaha sits the headquarters building for Gallup, the famous polling company. The local icon paid for the colorful dancing lights atop the bridge's pylons, which are clearly visible from the company's building and much of Omaha and Council Bluffs.

The middle section of the Omaha Riverfront Trail ends at Gallup's headquarters just south of the oddly-drawn border



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States: Nebraska Counties: Douglas, Washington Length: 20.1miles Trail end points: South Omaha Veterans Memorial Bridge to S. 2nd St. and Hickory St.; Heartland of America Park to Miller's Landing Park; E. Locust St. and Abbott Dr. to Boyer Chute NWR Trail surfaces: Asphalt,Concrete

Trail category: Greenway/Non-RT Trail activities: Bike,Inline

Parking & Trail Access

Parking for the Omaha Riverfront Trail can be found at Heartland of America Park on Douglas Street. Lewis and Clark Landing and the National Park Service regional headquarters also both have large parking lots on Riverfront Drive. Additional parking can be found in a lot off Freedom Park Road near Abbott Drive.

There is a small parking lot at the trailhead for the northern section of the trail at the intersection of E. Locust Street and Abbott Drive. Three more parking lots can be found along the shore of Carter Lake; access them via Abbott Drive or Carter Lake Drive. To the north, park at Dodge Park or Boyer Chute NWR.



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