



2024

TrailLink Unlimited 

Guides



**Washington
Secondary
Bike Path**
Rhode Island



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The Washington Secondary Bike Path offers just over 19 miles of paved trail from Cranston (Providence's southwestern neighbor) to Coventry. The rail-trail, Rhode Island's longest, follows the former Hartford, Providence and Fishkill Railroad. Although sections of the trail have their own distinct local names—Cranston Bike Path, Warwick Bike Path, West Warwick Greenway, Coventry Greenway, and Trestle Trail—the overall experience is seamless. The trail is also part of the expansive and developing East Coast Greenway, which connects paths throughout New England and all the way down to Florida.

Locals will tell you that the farther west you travel on the trail, the prettier it gets; their advice rings true, so a nice place to begin your journey is in the middle and then head west for a well-shaded and scenic ride. (You could also

start at the west end and ride toward the middle to enjoy a slight downhill grade.) This western half has a rural feel to it and includes a parallel bridle path.

The eastern half of the trail is more urban in flavor with residential and commercial areas pressed close alongside. This Cranston end of the trail is not as well maintained, and though it serves as a useful route for residents, tourists may not find it as appealing.

A good mid-route starting point is the trail parking lot adjacent to Horgan Elementary School in West Warwick. (Riverpoint Park, also located in this area but a touch farther from the trail, is another option.) Be sure to take a moment to check out the bright red New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad caboose on display at the east end of the school complex; while it's only 200 feet from the path, the sight lines are such that it can be easy to miss. Once on the path, head southwest, wending through the heart of West Warwick. From here to the west end of the trail is an 11-mile ride.

Although numerous street crossings occur along this section, each is well marked and most are across smaller secondary roads with little traffic. These crossings also provide a convenient way to step off the trail and grab a bite to eat or hit a restroom—useful options since there are few amenities along the trail itself.

As you enter Coventry, you'll find yourself sharing the trail with bikers, joggers, dog walkers, families with young children, and leisurely amblers—and it's no wonder that the trail is so popular, as it's smoothly paved and surrounded by tall trees. The nearby Pawtuxet River has a sinuous route, so you'll cross it a couple of times on beautiful bridges with nice views.

As you traverse Coventry, look for a short section of preserved railroad track that parallels the trail; a trailhead kiosk here provides information about the trail's history. Continuing



Washington Secondary Bike Path

Rhode Island

States: Rhode Island

Counties: Kent, Providence

Length: 19.2 miles

Trail end points: Dead end of Depot Ave, near its intersection with Cory Ave (Cranston) to Railroad St & Log Bridge Rd (Coventry)

Trail surfaces: Asphalt

Trail category: Rail-Trail

Trail activities: Bike, Inline

Skating, Fishing, Wheelchair

Accessible, Horseback Riding, Walking, Cross

Parking & Trail Access

Parking is available at multiple locations along the trail. Visit the [TrailLink map](#) for all options and detailed directions.

