

DELAWARE AND RARITAN CANAL TRAIL

TRENTON TO LAMBERTVILLE

Mercer County, New Jersey



ACCESS

Public Transit

Lambertville is accessible via Transbridge Lines from Doylestown, New Hope and New York.

Trenton is accessible via rail service provided by Amtrak, New Jersey Transit, and SEPTA.

Bicycle

The D&L Trail on the Pennsylvania side of the Delaware River gives access via the bridges at New Hope-Lambertville, Washington Crossing, and Morrisville-Trenton. Walk your bike on the footwalk on the bridges.

East Coast Greenway links to this tour at Trenton. Visit www.greenway.org .

Vehicle Parking

Lambertville Station:
40.364756, -74.945880

Fireman’s Eddy
40.342392, -74.941894

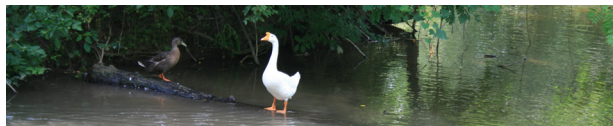
Moore’s Creek:
40.322591, -74.915193

Washington Crossing State Park Trailhead
40.298283, -74.868576

Scudder’s Falls (I-95)
40.264996, -74.847980

East Trenton
40.245001, -74.818941

On-street parking available in Trenton



OVERVIEW

General Characteristics

- Trail length: 14 miles
- Surface: Crushed stone and gravel
- Multi-use trail: biking, horseback riding, cross-country skiing, and mountain biking
- Entirely within the Delaware and Raritan Canal State Park, designated in 1974
- Trail is former tow-path of the Delaware and Raritan Canal which carried shipments of Pennsylvania coal from Philadelphia to New York throughout the 19th Century
- Bike and canoe rentals available in nearby towns for use on the river and canal.
- Very easy to create loop trips of varying lengths by using Pennsylvania side of trail
- Overnight trips are possible

History and Future

Prior to the Civil War, the Belvidere-Delaware Railroad was opened along the Delaware River from Trenton to just below the famous Delaware Water Gap. Eventually part of the famous Pennsylvania Railroad’s route to the Poconos, passenger service ended in 1960. Later, Conrail operated freight service until the line was abandoned in the 1970’s.

Today, boat traffic on the canal is limited to day to canoes and kayaks, but the canal still serves as an important water supply, bringing Delaware River water by gravity to many central New Jersey Communities. The revenue from water bills helps to insure the repair and maintenance of the historic canal and its interesting structures.

Special Amenities

It is very rare to see a fully-watered historic early 19th-century canal, such as the D&R Canal.

Lodging: Charming old inns and B&B’s are plentiful in Washington Crossing and Lambertville – New Hope.

Dining: New Hope and Lambertville offer a wide variety of dining choices.

Washington Crossing Inn: gourmet food in a historic setting (Pennsylvania)

The New Jersey State Capital is close to the trail in Trenton. Turn right from the Trail onto Calhoun Street, and then left in a block onto State Street. The government complex is on the right, while great historic homes line the left side of State Street, many of which are now offices.

Washington Crossing has several historic sites and a large state park to explore. The park is on both sides of the river, linked by a historic truss bridge with a walkway.

It is possible to make a loop using the Towpath of the Pennsylvania Canal (or D&L Trail) for a return trip along the Pennsylvania side.

The D&R trail continues Northwest to Princeton, Bound Brook and New Brunswick, and Northeast to Stockton and Frenchtown.



TRIP IDEAS

Capitol Loop Overnight

Start the trip in Trenton. Before departing, check out the State Capital complex.

Head north on the trail toward Washington Crossing State Park. Stop for lunch at Washington Crossing State Park. Picnic in the park or stop in one of the restaurants adjacent to the trail.

Continue north to Lambertville. Spend the night in Lambertville or across the river in New Hope.

The next day, start in New Hope and head south on the Delaware and Lehigh Canal Trail.

Stop for lunch in the Pennsylvania side of Washington Crossing.

Continue south until the trail crosses the historic Calhoun Street Bridge that connects Morrisville to Trenton. Return to the start of the trip.

Tour length – 30 miles
Biking - 1 hour on day 1, 1.5 hours on day 2
Walking - 4.5 hours on day 1, 5 hours on day 2

Canal Loop

Start the trip at the Lambertville Station Inn.

Head south on the trail toward Washington Crossing and enjoy the dramatic river views.

At Washington Crossing, enjoy lunch, then cross the bridge that leads into Pennsylvania.

Head north on the trail back to New Hope, then cross the river to finish the trip in Lambertville.

Tour length – 15 miles
Biking - 1.25 hours
Walking - 4.75 hours