

Potomac Heritage

Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail
Southern Maryland On-Road Bicycling Route
Prince George's County, Maryland

Explore Southern Prince George's by Bicycle

"...vastly changed from the days when it carried the ships of the tobacco trade..."



Linking People and Places

The Potomac Heritage Trail On-Road Bicycling Route in southern Prince George's County makes connections among parks and hiking trails, historic sites and districts, boat landings, commercial centers, residential areas, and offers views of Washington, D.C.; the Potomac River and tributaries; and Mount Vernon.

Layers of the Past and the Changing Present

The story of the Potomac River corridor in southern Prince Georges County begins with the end of the last major ice age and the arrival of people who became known as Piscataways. Most scholars agree that, by the 16th century, the Piscataway Indians were a distinct nation of people living year-round in permanent villages. Along the route you are following, the name of these first people is used as the name of a creek, a town and a national park established to preserve the view from Mount Vernon Estate and Gardens

Fort Washington Park, rich in years of military use, was once integral to the Nation's coastal defenses; the Fort's strategic role was replaced during the Civil War by Fort Foote to the north, anchoring the ring of Civil War defenses—the "Circle Forts"—around Washington, D.C. In addition to the preservation of fortifications, both parks today provide exceptional views and recreational opportunities.

The connection between people and land is also

The route also embraces the dynamic interaction between lands and waters and traces later periods of history: "Want Water," a 17th century historic site, and the original "market town" of "Aire" (in the vicinity of Silesia) anchors the history of the Broad Creek Historic District and Harmony Hall area, while St. John's Episcopal Church and Cemetery, built in 1766, is the oldest church in the County.

evident in three demonstration farms. On the north end of the route, Oxon Cove Park features a working farm representative of the early twentieth century. In the southern part of the route, the Accokeek Foundation at Piscataway Park manages the National Colonial Farm, the Robert Ware Straus Ecosystem Farm and related visitor and educational facilities; the site also offers access to the Potomac River.

Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail

Included in County plans since 1975, the Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail is a developing network of locally-managed trails for non-motorized travel between the Chesapeake Bay and Allegheny Highlands. The bicycling route, which connects south into Charles and St. Mary's counties, was recognized as part of the Trail network in May 2005

in response to an application submitted by the County to the National Park Service. Additional trails in this part of the County—for hiking, bicycling, horseback riding and paddling—may also be recognized in the future.

More Information

Prince George's County:

Visitor Information

<http://www.goprincegeorgescounty.com/Visitors/>

Department of Parks and Recreation, Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission

Oxon Hill Manor, Henson Creek Trail, Harmony Hall Regional Center, Piscataway Creek Stream Valley Park

<http://www.pgparcs.com>

301-699-2407

Oxon Hill Bicycle and Trail Club & Southern Prince George's Trails Coalition

see cue sheet at: <http://www.ohbike.org>

The Accokeek Foundation at Piscataway Park

National Colonial Farm & Ecosystem Farm

<http://www.accokeek.org>

301-283-2113 (Visitor Center open daily)

Maryland Dept. of Transportation Bicycle Safety

http://www.sha.state.md.us/safety/bicycle_safety.asp

Maryland Office of Tourism

www.visitmaryland.org

Adventure Cycling Association

Tidewater Potomac Heritage Bicycle Route (map set)

<http://www.adventurecycling.org/routes>

National Park Service

National Capital Parks-East, including:

Oxon Cove Park, Harmony Hall, Fort Foote Park,
Fort Washington Park and Piscataway Park

<http://www.nps.gov/nace>

301-763-4600/Fort Washington Park Visitor Center
301-839-1176/Oxon Cove Park Visitor Center

Office of Communications, National Capital Region

<http://www.nps.gov/ncro>

202-619-7222

Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail

<http://www.nps.gov/pohe>

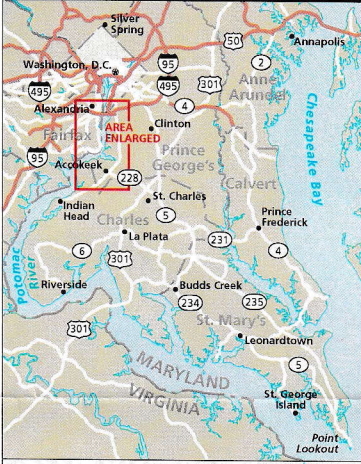


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Potomac Heritage Trail On-Road Bicycling Route



To National Mall & Memorial Parks, Union Station and Chesapeake & Ohio Canal Towpath



The Potomac Heritage Trail On-Road Bicycling Route in southern Prince George's County, Maryland, is part of the "Tidewater Potomac Heritage Bicycling Route" mapped by Adventure Cycling Association and local volunteers.



The route depicted on this map uses public roadways. All bicyclists should wear a helmet; follow all laws and regulations; and use caution, especially on Oxon Hill Road, Livingston Road and Old Fort Road.

Potomac Heritage Trail On-Road Bicycling Route	National Park Service	Bicycle Rental	Store
Potomac Heritage Trail (planned)	Local parks	Boat launch	Visitor Center
Henson Creek Trail		Food service	
Mount Vernon Trail		Gas Station	
Other Trail		Lodging	
Other Trail (planned)		Parking	
Foot trail			

