



# D&R Canal Towpath Ride



**For more information  
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# General Tips

### Plan ahead.

Read the route directions before beginning the ride.

### Obey safety laws.

Obey all rules of the road! Keep right; ride with traffic, not against it. Obey all traffic signs and signals. In New Jersey, a bicyclist has the same rights and responsibilities as a motor vehicle driver.

### Use signals.

Show your intention clearly when turning and changing lanes.

### Share the road/trail.

Be aware of and respect the rights and safety of other road and trail users, especially children, pedestrians, and joggers.

### Be aware of road conditions.

Users should take the trail as they find it. NJDOT does not guarantee that the trail is completely free from conditions that may be a hazard to bicycle traffic. In preparing this route, every attempt has been made to select roads that can provide a quality bicycle touring experience. However, some route segments may have adverse conditions.

Road conditions continually change: pavements deteriorate, roads are resurfaced, more development leads to increased traffic. Conditions listed in this route were effective at this printing.

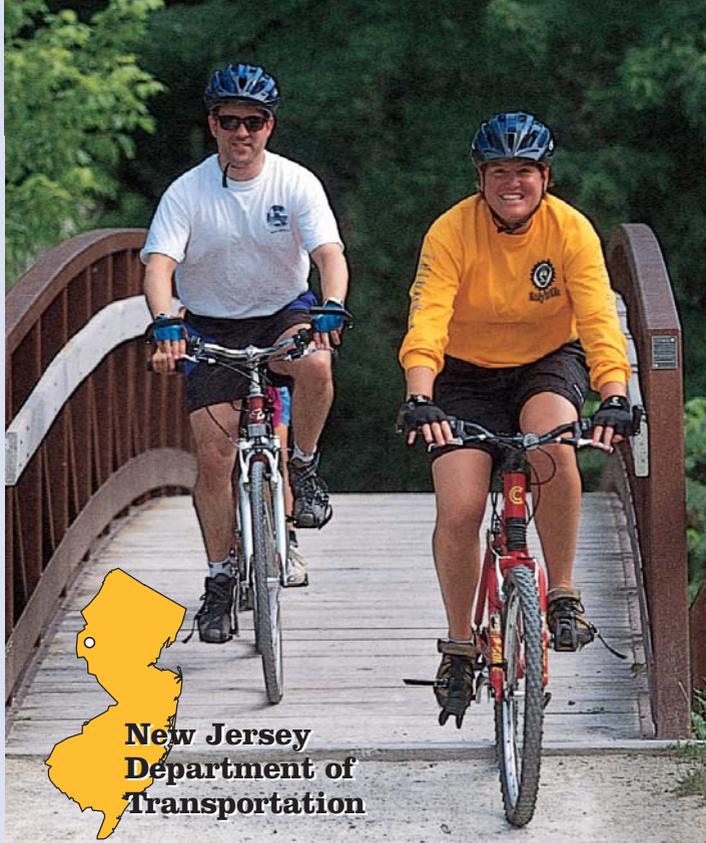
Your comments will be useful in updating or revising the route. E-mail comments to [Bicycle.Advocate@dot.state.nj.us](mailto:Bicycle.Advocate@dot.state.nj.us).

### Be aware of traffic patterns.

Plan trips to avoid peak traffic hours. This route generally utilizes low traffic volume roads. However, be careful if you bicycle during peak commuter traffic.

# D&R Canal Towpath Ride

## A Tour Guide for Cyclists



**New Jersey  
Department of  
Transportation**



## D&R Canal Towpath Ride

Cyclists of all ages have made the D&R Canal Towpath Ride one of New Jersey's favorite riding tours. Whether you're captivated by history, a love of nature, or just looking for a wonderful afternoon of great exercise, the D&R tour offers something for everyone. You'll pass by 19th century mills and lockkeeper houses, stone-arched culverts, and an abundance of river wildlife as you ride along the

former towpath and railroad tracks that run along the Delaware River from Ewing to Frenchtown.

If you're ready to take a break from all that pedaling, there are plenty of places to eat and shops to browse in, right off the path. One more reason the route is so popular, is the trail is surfaced with compacted grit, providing a smooth, enjoyable ride.

In its heyday the main canal connected the Delaware and Raritan rivers from Trenton to New Brunswick. Between 1834 and 1933, it was used for transporting goods, mainly coal, to the industrial cities in northern New Jersey and New York City.

The area, designated as D&R Canal State Park in 1974, is made up of 60 miles of canal paths winding through quaint little towns, beautiful scenery and a pristine wildlife corridor.

### The Northern Section.

Traveling between Prallsville Mills, the headquarters of the D&R Canal Commission, and Frenchtown, you'll actually pass through the Bull's Island section of the D&R Canal Park. This is where the feeder canal actually begins. Between Prallsville Mills and Frenchtown, you can create a loop trail by traveling the towpath in one direction and Route 29 (there is a wide paved shoulder) in the other.

When you reach Frenchtown, you'll be following an abandoned railroad right of way. Parking is available at Prallsville Mills, Bull's Island, and in Frenchtown, just off Bridge Street.

### The Central Section.

This part of the ride passes through the picturesque river towns of Lambertville and Stockton and fine tree-lined streets, Victorian houses, Federal row homes,

as well as unique shops and galleries just off your route. Look for parking facilities at Route 523 on the northern end of this section, or right off Route 202 on the southern end. Try Jimison Farmstead in Lambertville.

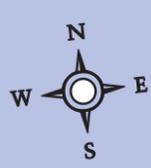
### The Southern Section.

Between Lower Ferry Road in Ewing Township and Lambertville, the path passes through Washington Crossing State Park, which boasts a number of recreational diversions. No need to worry about parking — it's available next to the towpath. You can get to the main section of the park on a loop road via a pedestrian bridge that crosses Route 29. Limited parking is also available at other access points along the canal.

### Of Special Note:

- This ride is not intended for those who cannot control their bicycle.
- This trail is popular for pedestrians, too. Their rights and safety must be respected.
- The trail is intersected by roadways in several locations.
- Just south of Lambertville, there's a short section with a steep drop-off; and the river is within ten feet of the towpath.

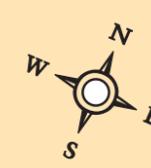
# D&R Canal Towpath Ride



**NORTHERN SECTION**  
12.2 MILES



**CENTRAL SECTION**  
4.0 MILES



**SOUTHERN SECTION**  
10.8 MILES

## NORTHERN SECTION

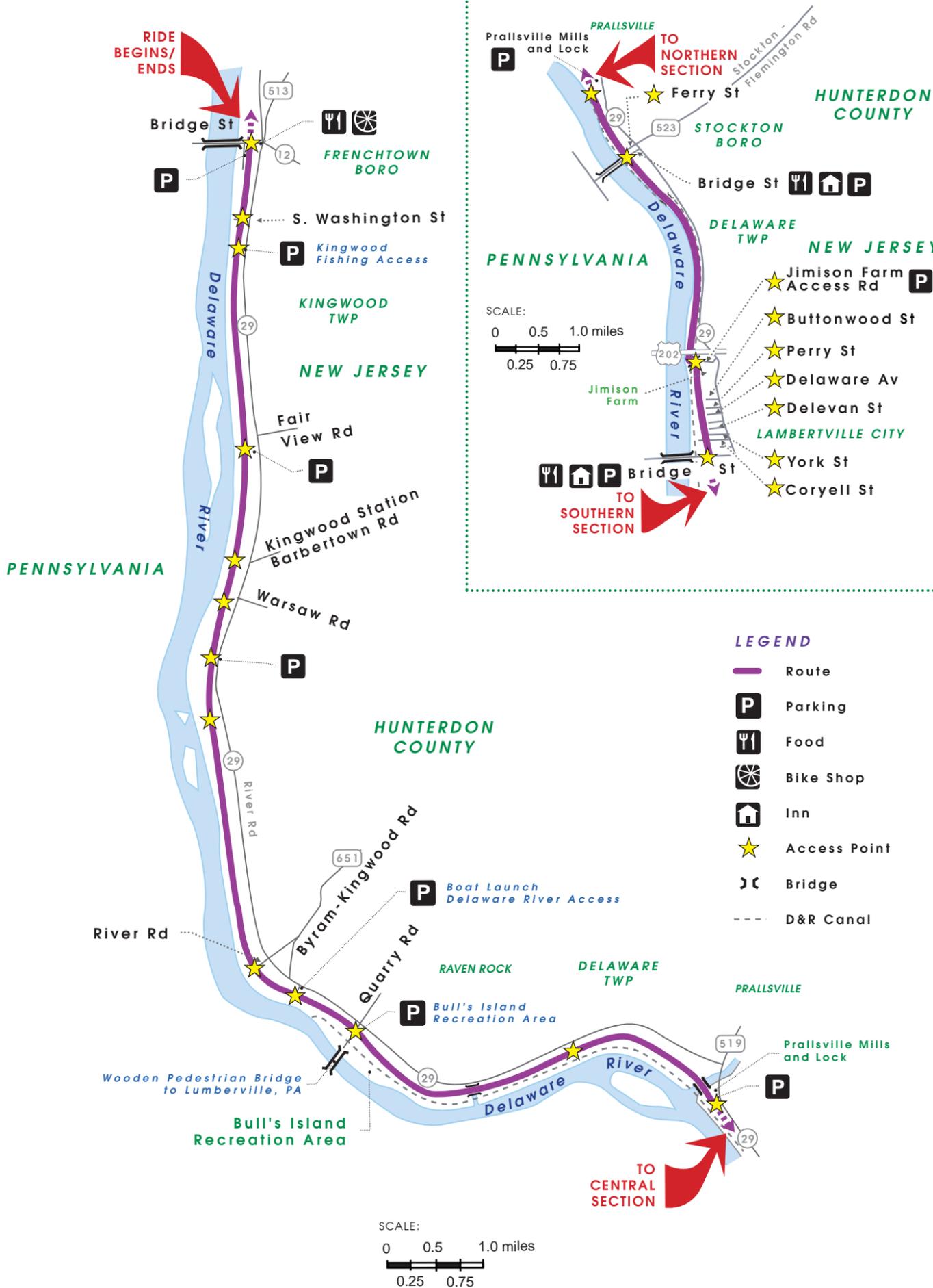
Cumulative Mileage	Route Direction
0.0	Bridge St, Frenchtown. Access Point
0.8	S. Washington St Access Point
1.0	Kingwood Fishing Access Parking Area. Access Point
2.6	Access point near Fair View Rd
3.5	Access point near Kingwood Station Barbertown Rd
4.1	Access point near Warsaw Rd
5.0	Access point. Informal parking
7.9	River Rd. Access Point
8.4	Byram River Access. Access Point (Boat Launch Delaware River Access). Access Point
9.3	Bull's Island Recreation Area (at Quarry Rd). Access Point
10.3	Wooden pedestrian bridge
11.2	Access point
12.2	Prallsville Mills and Lock. Access Point

## CENTRAL SECTION

Cumulative Mileage	Route Direction
12.2	Prallsville Mills and Lock. Access Point
12.7	Ferry St. Access Point
12.8	Bridge St, Stockton. Access Point
13.4	Canal switches sides
15.2	Route 202 overpass
15.3	Jimison Farm. Access Point/Trail switches sides
15.8	Buttonwood St. Access Point
15.9	Coryell St. Access Point/Several Access Points from here to Bridge St, Lambertville
16.0	Bridge St, Lambertville. Access Point

## SOUTHERN SECTION

Cumulative Mileage	Route Direction
16.0	Bridge St, Lambertville. Access Point
16.05	Ferry St. Access Point
16.1	Wooden bridge
16.2	Mt. Hope St (Cavallo Park). Access Point
16.4	Bridge
16.6	Bridge (Path switches sides)
17.4	Old River Rd. Access Point/bridge/parking area
19.2	Access Point/bridge
21.8	Access Point/bridge/parking area near Fiddler's Cr Rd
22.4	Church St. Access Point
23.1	Grant St. Access Point
23.6	Washington Crossing State Park. Access Point
25.1	Exercise area
25.5	Bridge
26.0	Scudder Falls Access Point/bridge
26.1	River Rd. overpass
26.3	I-95 overpass
26.9	W. Upper Ferry Rd. Access Point
27.3	Wilburtha Rd. Access Point
27.6	Railroad trestle
27.8	Lower Ferry Rd, Ewing Twp. Access Point



The State of New Jersey has published this map to aid the cyclist and takes no responsibility for user's safety and in no way warrants the safety or fitness of the suggested routes. Ride carefully. This map illustrates the route and should be used for general wayfinding purposes.