

The Tallahassee-St. Marks Historic Railroad State Trail

The Tallahassee-St. Marks Historic Railroad State Trail, Florida's first designated state trail, follows the abandoned railbed of the old Tallahassee-St. Marks Railroad. The trail is managed by the Department of Environmental Protection's Office of Greenways & Trails (OGT). The OGT managed section of the trail runs 16 miles due south from the main trailhead to the coastal City of St. Marks. An additional 4.5 miles north of the main trailhead is maintained by the City of Tallahassee. The Tallahassee-St. Marks railroad was active longer than any other in Florida-- operating for 147 years from 1836 to 1983. This railroad stimulated the region's development and settlement by transporting goods-- including cotton, turpentine and timber-- to Apalachee Bay for shipment. During the Civil War, the railroad transported troops and materials, playing a crucial role in the Confederacy's victorious Battle of Natural Bridge in 1865.

Today, the paved Tallahassee-St. Marks State Trail provides a scenic experience for runners, walkers, bikers and in-line skating. Equestrian riders can enjoy the adjacent unpaved trail. Approximately 1.25 miles south of the main trailhead, outdoor enthusiasts can bike or hike the Munson Hills Trail in the Apalachicola National Forest, where some of the last remaining stands of longleaf pine exist. Finally, at the southern end of the trail, you can enjoy seafood dining and entertainment in the coastal community of St. Marks and learn about the history of the area at San Marcos de Apalachee Historical State Park.



Trail Safety and Etiquette

- Bicyclists and in-line skaters yield to other users; all trail users yield to equestrians.
- Obey all trail rules posted at trailheads.
- Stay to the right except when passing.
- Pass slower traffic on their left; yield to oncoming traffic when passing.
- Give a clear warning signal when passing.
- Always look ahead and behind when passing.
- Travel at a responsible speed.
- Keep pets on a leash.
- Do not trespass on private property.
- Move off the trail surface when stopped to allow others to pass.
- Yield to other trail users when entering and crossing the trail.
- Do not disturb the wildlife.
- Watch out for traffic when crossing the street.
- Obey all traffic signals.
- Helmets for children under 16 required, but recommended for everyone riding bicycles.

Local Contact Information:
The Tallahassee-St. Marks
Historic Railroad State Trail
3900 Commonwealth Blvd., MS 795
Tallahassee, FL 32399
(850) 245-2052

Office of Greenways & Trails
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FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
GREENWAYS & TRAILS

FloridaGreenwaysAndTrails.com

Tallahassee - St. Marks Historic Railroad State Trail



Florida's
first designated
state trail

The Tallahassee-St. Marks Historic Railroad State Trail

Major Activities:
Hiking, biking, in-line skating, horseback riding and birdwatching

Trail Length/Surface:
16 miles, paved 8' wide (a 4.5 mile, paved, 12' wide St. Marks Trail extension continues north from the northern trailhead into the City of Tallahassee)

Fee: None

Counties:
Leon, Wakulla

Nearby Towns:
Tallahassee, St. Marks

Notes:
An adjacent trail is available for equestrians. Horseback riding should be confined to the designated equestrian trail or shoulder areas to avoid damaging the paved surface.

Hours:
8:00am - Sunset, 7 days a week, 365 days a year

Access/Directions:

Main Trailhead
From downtown Tallahassee, take Monroe Street south, which will turn into Woodville Highway (SR 363). After passing Capital Circle (US 319), look for trailhead on right.

