

THE CIRCUIT TRAILS

CHESTER VALLEY TRAIL

Exton Park to Old Eagle School Road

Tredyffrin Township, Chester County, Pennsylvania

ACCESS

Public Transit:

SEPTA Bus:

The 205 crosses the trail at Route 29, with certain trips crossing the trail at Cedar Hollow Road

SEPTA Routes 92 and 124 serve multiple points along the Trail between Chesterbrook Boulevard and Old Eagle School Road

Bicycle

There are currently no off-road bicycle trails linking fully with the Chester Valley Trail.

Refer to the Circuit Trails website (circuittrails.org) for recommended bicycle routes linking with the Trail.

Vehicle Parking

Exton Park:

East Swedesford Road Exton, PA 19341
40.040968, -75.602172

Battle of the Clouds Park

Phoenixville Pike Malvern, PA 19355
40.045381, -75.573878

East Whiteland Township Building

209 Conestoga Road
Frazer, PA 19355
40.049467, -75.557509



OVERVIEW

General Characteristics:

- Trail Length: 13 miles
- Newly constructed, multi-use, asphalt trail
- Follows the bed of an early railroad line
- Numerous pedestrian overpasses and tunnels separate the trail from street level
- Mostly flat with occasional hills where the trail diverges from the rail corridor
- The Trail links numerous residential, commercial, retail, and recreational sites

History and Future

For the most part, the Chester Valley Trail (CVT) follows the rail bed of the former Philadelphia and Chester Valley Railroad, an early 19th century line that served farms, quarries and towns in the Chester Valley between Bridgeport and Downingtown. Phase I of the CVT was completed in 2010 and Phase II was officially opened in May 2014.

More phases are under development which will link the trail with Downingtown on the western end and with Norristown on the eastern end. This includes an extension from Old Eagle School Road using new and existing sections in Montgomery County that will link with the Schuylkill River Trail. Links are also being planned with the Patriots Path and Valley Forge National Historical Park.

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SPECIAL AMENITIES

Some features of the historic railroad remain including several beautiful stone colverts.

Exton Park and Battle of the Clouds Park, directly accessible from the trail offer the following amenities:

- Bathroom facilities
- Picnic areas
- Multi-use recreational fields

The pond and wetland area at Exton Park have been of interest to naturalists for at least the past hundred years. In the last thirty years, over 190 species have been observed at the wetlands, including osprey, bald eagle, and great egret.

For experienced cyclists or trail users with a vehicle, two major attractions near the trail are accessible via on-road routes:

King of Prussia Mall:

The largest shopping mall in the US with numerous upscale retailers and fine dining

Valley Forge National Historic Park:

Famed Revolutionary War winter encampment site. The Park contains historical buildings, recreated encampment structures, memorials, museums, and recreation facilities.



TRIP IDEAS

Out-and-Back Double Dozen (Bicycle Trip)

Most of the roads which parallel the Chester Valley Trail are suitable only for very experienced bicyclists, so bicycling trips on this trail are often “out-and-back.” Loop trips will become possible as planned connecting trails are developed.

Park or take public transit to Exton Park. Head east toward King of Prussia.

At the end of the trail, turn around and return to Exton Park.

Optional: Stop at the grocery store directly accessible from the trail at Route 29 to pick up picnic supplies to enjoy at Exton Park.

Tour length: 24 miles

Biking: 2.5 hours

Dinner and a Show

On Foot: Begin at Battle of the Clouds Park

On Bike: Begin at Exton Park

Head east toward King of Prussia

Leave the trail at Conestoga Road (Route 41). Turn right on Conestoga Road toward Lancaster Avenue (Careful: there are no bike lanes or sidewalks on this section.)

At 39 Conestoga Road, enjoy a meal at the Farmhouse Bistro (www.thefarmhousebistro.com) and see a show at the People's Light & Theatre Company, one of Pennsylvania's largest professional non-profit theatres (www.peopleslight.org)

Tour length:

Walking: 1 hour

Biking: 0.5 hours

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TRAIL MAP

