



TEN GREAT BIKE RIDES AND WALKS IN BENICIA



OVERVIEW OF WALKS AND RIDES

VALLEJO

- Easy Bicycle Route
- Moderate Bicycle Route
- Strenuous Bicycle Route
- Parking
- Restrooms
- Picnic Area
- Mileage

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all the rides in this guide are suitable for all types of bikes, except for the Dillon Point ride where mountain or hybrid bikes are recommended

online/digital versions of this guide can be found at:

Benicia Main Street
beniciamainstreet.org



Solano Transportation Authority
sta.ca.gov



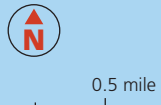
Benicia Magazine
beniciamagazine.com

City of Benicia
www.ci.benicia.ca.us



VisitBenicia.org







Benicia State Recreation Area

Caution
bikes, pedestrians and cars
all share Dillon Point Road

bicycle/pedestrian
bridge over 780

vehicle
entrance fee (\$)

Benicia State Recreation Area
open 8 am – sunset daily

This walk/ride starts at the large parking lot at the end of West K Street. A path separating bikes and pedestrians begins here and is suitable for beginning riders. After one mile, a road will lead you to the end of the walk/ride.

Along the way you will pass a large marsh area where many shorebirds reside.



Benicia State Recreation Area

vehicle
parking fee (\$)



Mount Diablo from
Dillon Point Road

Forrest Deaner
Native Plant
Botanic Garden

Southampton
Bay

Carquinez
Strait



0 0.25 mile

Quick Facts

- Difficulty **Easy (2 short hills)**
- Distance **5 Miles**
- Type **Out and back**
- Time **35 minutes (bike)**
1½ hours (walk)

Dillon Point Walk/Ride (Benicia State Recreation Area)



vehicle entrance Fee (\$)

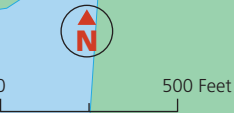
Benicia State Recreation Area

Benicia State Recreation Area open 8 am – sunset daily



trail not suitable for standard road bikes

San Francisco Bay Trail and Bay Area Ridge Trail continue to Glen Cove



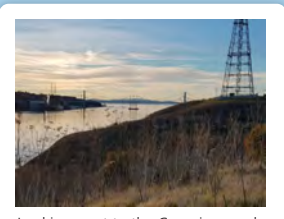
Quick Facts

- Difficulty **Moderate**
- Distance **1.5 miles**
- Type **Loop**
- Time **30 minutes**

This walkride starts at the picnic area just before the Forrest Deaner Native Plant Botanic Garden. Park at the north end of the parking lot and look for a dirt path up the hill. This walk is part of the San Francisco Bay Trail and Bay Area Ridge Trail.

When you reach the first fork bear left. As you ascend the hill, you will reach an overlook of the Carquinez Strait. Continue on the trail and you will return to the starting point.

This trail is suitable for mountain and hybrid bikes.



Looking west to the Carquinez and Zampa Bridges



Looking east to Mount Diablo



Waterfront Walk/Ride

This lovely walk is part of the San Francisco Bay Trail and takes you along portions of the Benicia waterfront. It is a good bike ride for beginners with a few dirt path areas and slight hills. Midway you will go around two homes on Semple Crossing and feel like you are on the Yellow Brick Road.

Once you get to Arneson Park, you can turn back, or continue on West I Street to Ninth Street Park.



Quick Facts

Difficulty **Easy**

Distance
1st St to Arneson Park:
 1.2 miles Roundtrip

To Ninth Street Park:
 2.8 miles Roundtrip

Type **Out and back**

Time
30 minutes to Arneson Park and back
45 minutes to Ninth Street Park and back

Downtown Historic Walk/Ride



Fish-Riddell House (1890)



Frisbie-Walsh House (1850)



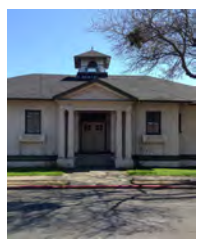
(1886)

Military East
not recommended for kids
or inexperienced cyclists

please use caution on
pedestrian pathway
dismount bicycle if
necessary



St Paul's Church (1859)



primary school (1915)



Peabody Hospital site (1849)



State Capitol (1852)

Quick Facts

- Difficulty **Easy**
- Distance **3 Miles**
- Type **Loop**
- Time **25 – 30 minutes (bike)**
1½ – 2 hours (walk)

As you walk or bike around this area take a moment to appreciate some of the most significant architecture in the history of early California. Most of the buildings that you see were constructed between 1849–1915. Three smaller houses of the same time period are on the North side of East E Street between 1st and 2nd Streets. The Peabody Hospital (1849) on West H Street cared for Benicia residents and miners returning from the Sierra during the Gold Rush period. It closed in 1867. More information at beniciahistoricalmuseum.org

Arneson Park

Benicia Capitol State Historic Park

Fitzgerald Field

Maria Field

Benicia Point

Southern Pacific Train Depot (Benicia Main Street)

Fishing Pier



0 500 Feet

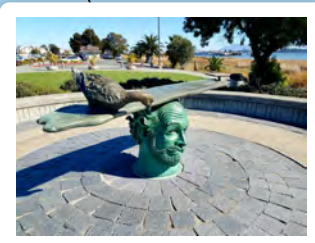
Carquinez Strait



Benicia Marina Walk/Ride

This is the perfect area for beginner riders and a beautiful walk as well. The pavement is smooth and flat, which is also wonderful for rollerblading. It is a part of the San Francisco Bay Trail that runs through Benicia.

At the end of the Marina is a fun sculpture by the renowned Benicia artist Robert Arneson.



Robert Arneson sculpture

Quick Facts

- Difficulty **Easy**
- Distance **1.5 Miles**
- Type **Out and back**
- Time **20 minutes (bike)**
35 minutes (walk)

Carqueinez Strait



Historic Arsenal Walk/Ride



The Benicia Arsenal contains some of the most impressive 19th century military architecture in the United States. Many buildings were constructed with sandstone bricks and had impressive trim. A few of these buildings can be found lower down the hill on Tyler Street. The Clock Tower was the first structure on the highest hill in the arsenal. It was followed by the Commanding Officer's House in 1860 and then the Lieutenant's House (now the Jefferson Street Mansion), Duplex Officer's Quarters, and Officer's homes also on Jefferson Street. Modifications on most of these buildings have been made over time, however, they represent the character of the Arsenal and its importance in Benicia's history.

More information at beniciahistoricalmuseum.org



1 Officer's Home (early 1900's)

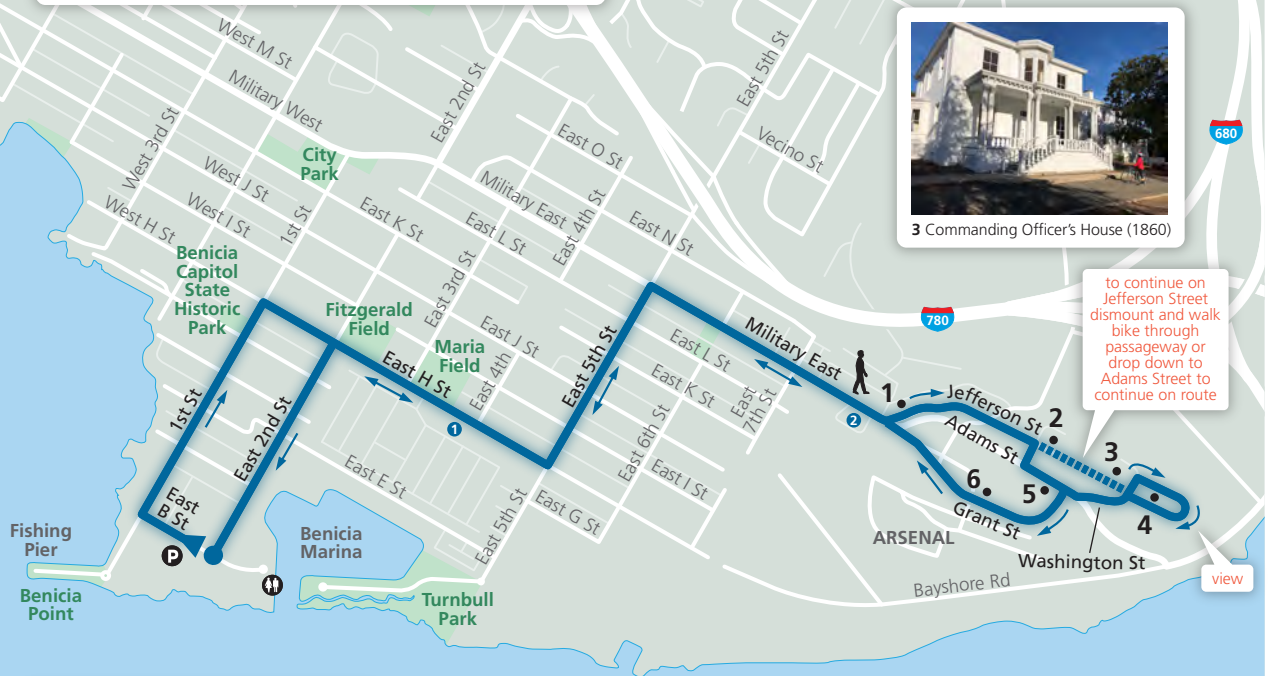


2 Jefferson Street Mansion (Lieutenant's House)(1863)



3 Commanding Officer's House (1860)

to continue on Jefferson Street dismount and walk bike through passageway or drop down to Adams Street to continue on route



Arsenal Walk

An enjoyable walk through Benicia Arsenal can be had by parking along Military East, walking up Jefferson Street, then on to the Benicia Clock Tower, and then returning via Grant Street to the start.

Quick Facts

Difficulty **Moderate**
 Distance **4.5 Miles**
 Type **Loop**
 Time **35 minutes**



4 Clock Tower (1859)



5 Guard House (1872)



6 Bachelor's Quarters (1872)

Carqueinez Strait



0 0.25 mile



Community Park to Southampton Park



Benicia Community Park



Jack London Park



Quick Facts

Difficulty **Moderate**
 Distance **4 Miles**
 Type **Out and back**
 Time **1½ – 2 hours**

This ride is in the heart of the Southampton subdivision. The ride covers four parks: Community Park, Jack London Park, Park Solano and Southampton Park.

There are some moderate hills on this out and back trip.

path through park

path behind school

watch for kids and pedestrians as you pass through Park Solano
dismount bicycle to get over curb and to cross Solano Drive

uphill climb

uphill climb

turnaround



Southampton Park

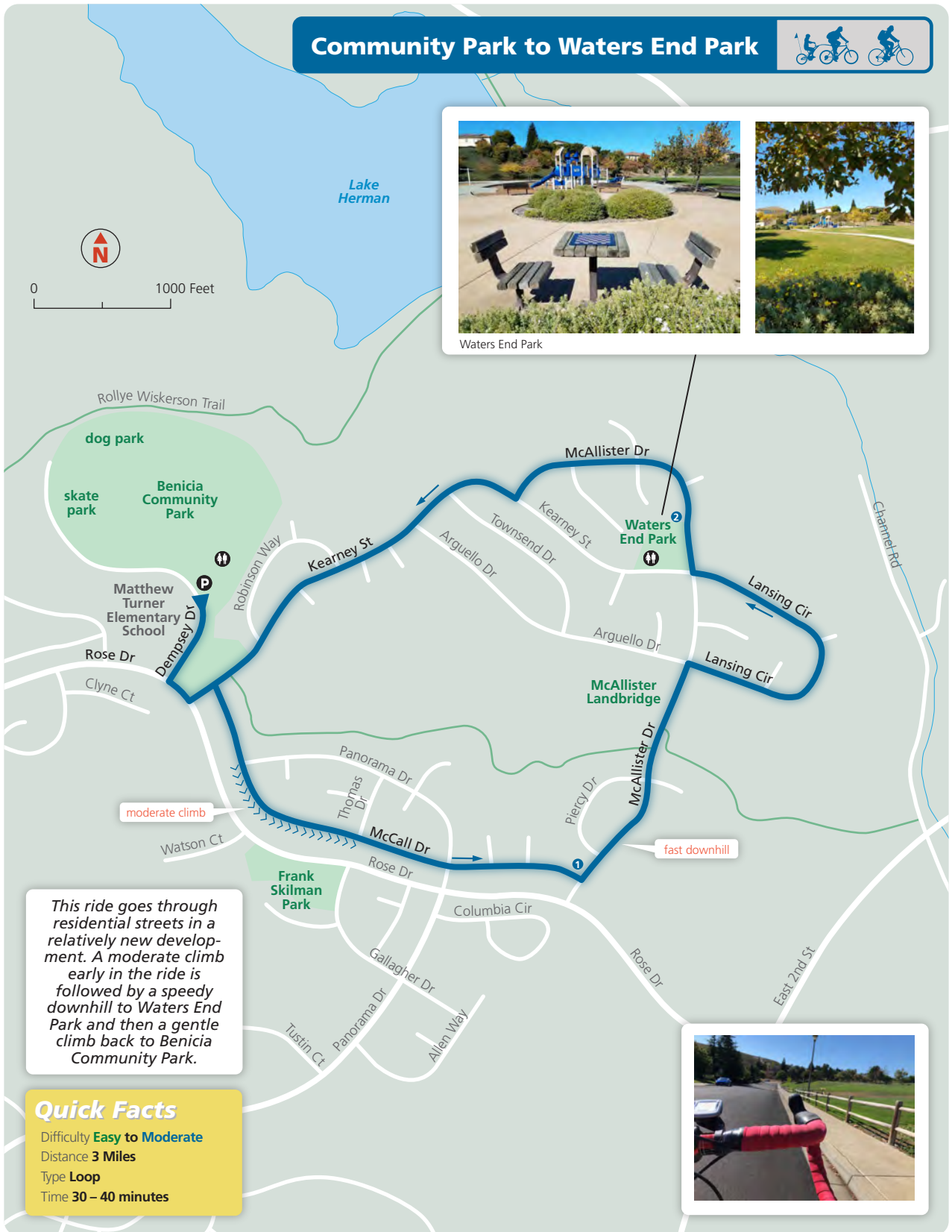
Community Park to Waters End Park



0 1000 Feet



Waters End Park



This ride goes through residential streets in a relatively new development. A moderate climb early in the ride is followed by a speedy downhill to Waters End Park and then a gentle climb back to Benicia Community Park.

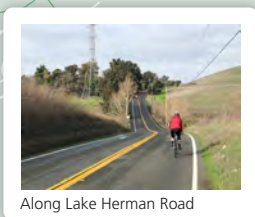
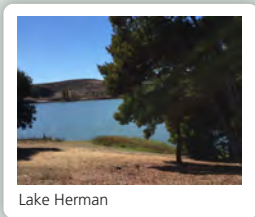
Quick Facts

- Difficulty **Easy to Moderate**
- Distance **3 Miles**
- Type **Loop**
- Time **30 – 40 minutes**





Lake Herman Loop



Quick Facts

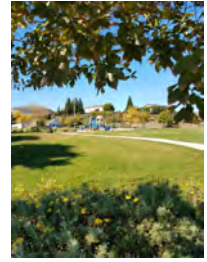
- Difficulty **Strenuous**
- Distance **20 Miles**
- Type **Loop**
- Time **1½ – 2 hours**

This ride starts in downtown Benicia and runs along the waterfront towards the State Recreation Area. It involves a long climb on Columbus Parkway to Lake Herman Road. There is an optional ride up Georgia Street for a more strenuous workout. Enjoy the views from Lake Herman Road before you descend towards Lake Herman. Continue on towards East 2nd Street for views of Mount Diablo. A final climb up East 2nd Street leads to an easy descent down to East Military and the starting point.

Quick Facts

Difficulty **Strenuous**
 Distance **25 miles**
 Type **Loop**
 Time **1½ – 2 hours**

The Grand Tour



Waters End Park



St. Dominic's Cemetery



Benicia State Recreation Area

This ride is recommended for experienced riders due to the relatively steep climbs in the Southampton area. The climbs encountered will, at times, offer fast descents of up to 35 mph.

Starting near the waterfront the ride goes through historic Benicia, the Arsenal, up along a ridge with views of Carquinez Strait, into the Southampton residential neighborhood and then a descent through Benicia State Recreation Area on your way back to the start.



bicycle/
pedestrian
bridge
over 780

long
downhill

uphill
climb

downhill

uphill
climb

downhill

steep, short
climbs on
Vecino and Lindo Streets

Please Be Bike Safe...

Be Smart



Wear a helmet at all times

Be Predictable



Use hand signals and obey traffic rules so motorists can predict your movements



Ride with the direction of traffic

Be Equipped



Use lights at night or when visibility is poor



Use a bell or call out to communicate with those around you



Use a U-lock to lock your frame and at least one wheel to a bike rack or immovable object

Be Alert



Watch other users on pathways including dogs, small children, and joggers



Watch for cars entering the street and drivers opening car doors



For Emergencies Call 911



City of Benicia
www.ci.benicia.ca.us



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VisitBenicia.org



Solano Transportation Authority

www.sta.ca.gov

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