



# Rochester's Genesee Riverway Trail Guide



City of Rochester, NY



Turning Point Park

## GENESEE RIVERWAY

The Genesee Riverway is the 13 mile-long corridor of the Genesee River stretching from the Erie Canal as it enters the city, bisecting the central business district and flowing north into Lake Ontario at the Port of Rochester in Charlotte.

The Genesee River's current route, carved by glacial erosion 10,000 years ago, features a series of three waterfalls. At the turn of the 19th century, immense hydropower generated by the falls attracted millers, industrialists, and workers to this frontier wilderness. When the Erie Canal opened up trade routes in the 1820s, Rochester became America's first "boom town".

Today, long past the era of using the falls as hydropower, the Riverway is as integral to community life as ever. Its breathtaking scenery includes a spectacular mid-city gorge and more than 30 miles of connected waterfront. From beaches to forever wild areas, the Genesee Riverway is the setting for countless recreational activities.

Riverway resources range from passive and active recreational to the cultural, historical and educational. It provides the setting for 11 parks (including a zoo), a sports arena, convention center, historic districts, diverse residential neighborhoods, manufacturing, and retailing. It is the lifeline of our heritage, connecting our past with our future.

The river corridor is also the backdrop for special events like:

- ROC the Riverway Weekend with activities to highlight the river's assets
- An international regatta that attracts competing crews from the U.S. and Canada
- The Maplewood Rose Festival
- The Lakeside Winter Celebration
- Neighborhood celebrations and festivals
- Concerts at various sites from spring through autumn
- A myriad of races, walks, rides, fundraisers and tours

### THE GENESEE RIVERWAY (SEE MAP ON REVERSE)

#### ATTRACTIONS MAP LOCATIONS

| SCENIC VIEWS & SPECIAL ATTRACTIONS     |                |
|--|----------------|
| Lake Ontario . . . . .                 | 1 2 3 4 34     |
| Lighthouse, Pier, & Carousel . . . . . | 1 2 3          |
| Three Waterfalls . . . . .             | 11 12 13       |
| Dynamic River Gorge . . . . .          | 5 8 9 11 12 13 |
| Historic Parks & Gardens . . . . .     | 8 9 28 31 34   |
| Zoo . . . . .                          | 8              |
| Nature Walks . . . . .                 | 5 8 34         |
| Skyline . . . . .                      | 24 25 27 28    |

| WATER ACTIVITIES                       |                 |
|--|-----------------|
| Swimming . . . . .                     | 1 31 34         |
| Fishing . . . . .                      | 1 8             |
| Tour Boats & Docking . . . . .         | 2 4 24          |
| Canoeing, Kayaking, & Rowing . . . . . | 4 5 25 27 31 34 |

| SPORTS & ACTIVITIES        |                |
|----------------------------|----------------|
| Volleyball . . . . .       | 1              |
| Golf . . . . .             | 31 34          |
| Field Sports . . . . .     | 31             |
| Tennis . . . . .           | 9 31           |
| Spectator Events . . . . . | 16 17 21 29 31 |
| Ice Skating . . . . .      | 31             |
| Skateboarding . . . . .    | 32             |

| HISTORY & CULTURE                      |   |
|--|---|
| Historic Sites & Districts . . . . .   | 3 6 7 10 11 13 14 15 18 19 20 22 23 26 28 30 31 |
| Museums . . . . .                      | 3 13 17 20                                      |
| Library, Concerts, & Theater . . . . . | 13 17 19 20 21                                  |
| University . . . . .                   | 29  |

| SERVICES                      |                   |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| Restrooms . . . . .           | 1 8 9 13 28 31 34 |
| Restaurants & Shops . . . . . | 2 10 13 14        |
| Entertainment . . . . .       | 17 33             |

FIND UPDATES, ACTIVITIES, AND EVENTS BY CALLING OR VISITING VISITROC AT:

585.279.8300 Or toll-free at 800.677.7282

<https://www.visitrochester.com>



Lower Falls



Mount Hope Cemetery



Genesee Valley Park\*

## GENESEE RIVERWAY TRAIL

The Genesee Riverway Trail is a multi-use trail that links the Lake Ontario State Parkway Trail, Empire State Trail, and the Genesee Valley Greenway Trail. It weaves through parks and the city, featuring the Riverway's vast array of recreational, historical and cultural attractions, and diverse neighborhoods.

The Genesee Riverway Trail is intended for walking, running, bicycling, skating, skiing, and other non-motorized uses. The trail also provides access to the river for canoeing, kayaking, rafting, fishing, and bird-watching.

The trail consists of over 20 miles of paved trail. In some areas the trail parallels both sides of the river while in other sections it crosses the Genesee using the river's many bridges, including the 6 pedestrian only structures.

The trail is supported by a signage system that includes kiosks at major access points, directional signs, trail markers, and warning signs.

The majority of the Genesee Riverway Trail is accessible. Sections of the trail that have steep, rough, or narrow areas are noted on detailed kiosk trail maps and on warning signs along the trail.

For more information about the trail, call 311 or visit [grtrail.org](http://grtrail.org).

\*Park designed by Frederick Law Olmsted

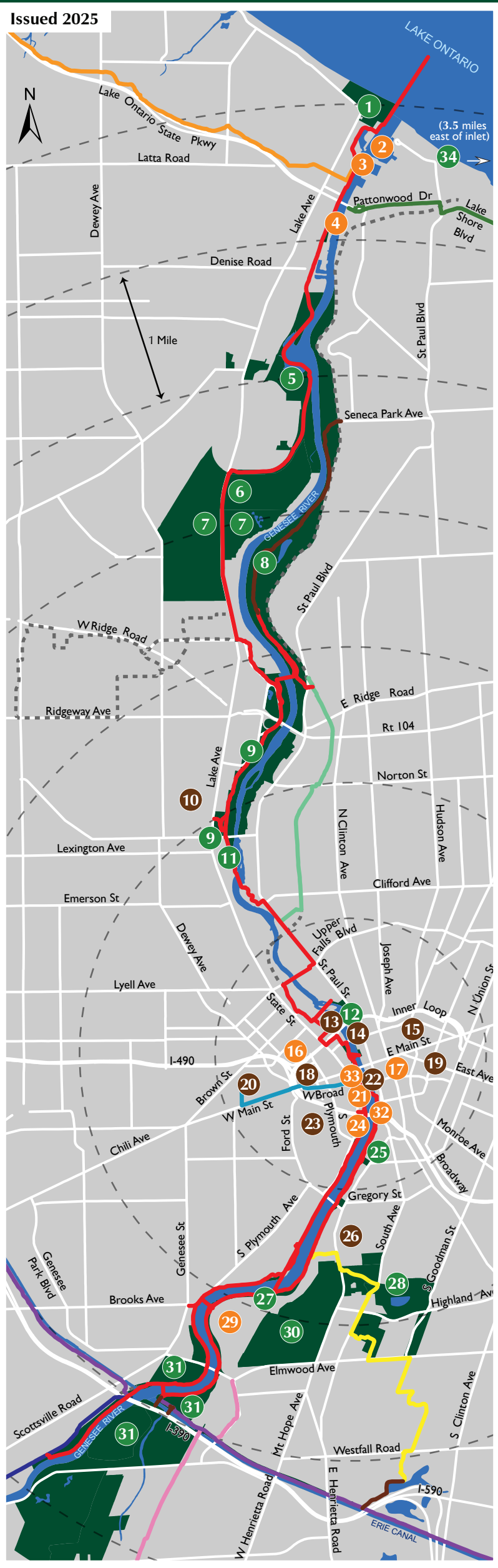


Highland Park\*



Maplewood Rose Garden\*





## TRAIL LEGEND

- Genesee Riverway Trail
- Empire State Trail (Canalway Trail)
- Genesee Valley Greenway Trail
- Irondequoit Lakeside Trail
- Lake Ontario State Parkway Trail
- El Camino Trail
- Highland Crossing Trail
- Heritage Trail
- Lehigh Valley Trail
- Planned Trails
- Connecting Routes

R Restrooms  
 \*Park designed by Frederick Law Olmsted

## ATTRACTIONS

### PARKS

- BAUSCH & LOMB RIVERSIDE PARK** 27  
Trails and canoe access.
- DURAND EASTMAN PARK** 34 R  
Beach, hiking, picnic areas, golf, arboretum, and scenic views of Lake Ontario.
- GENESEE GATEWAY PARK** 25  
Promenade with views of the city skyline. Boat mooring, canoe launch, playground, and basketball.
- GENESEE VALLEY PARK\*** 31 R  
Picnic areas, play fields, tennis, golf, outdoor pool, indoor ice-skating, canoeing, and rowing.
- HIGH FALLS TERRACE PARK** 12  
Scenic overlook to High Falls and the river gorge.
- HIGHLAND PARK\*** 28 R  
Annual Lilac Festival, arboretum, conservatory, playgrounds, amphitheater, and memorial gardens.
- LOWER FALLS PARK** 11  
Scenic overlooks to Lower Falls, Middle Falls, and the river gorge.
- MAPLEWOOD PARK\*** 9 R  
Rose Garden, tennis, pickleball, playground, trail, and scenic overlooks.
- ONTARIO BEACH PARK** 1 R  
Beach, bathhouse, boardwalk, pier, historic carousel, playground, picnic areas, volleyball, band shell, community center, and concessions.
- SENECA PARK\*** 8 R  
Trails with scenic overlooks to the river gorge, pond, picnic groves, playground, and the Seneca Park Zoo.
- TURNING POINT PARK** 5  
Wooded trails with scenic views of the river gorge and a winding boardwalk over the river.

### CEMETERIES

- HOLY SEPULCHRE CEMETERY** 7
- MOUNT HOPE CEMETERY** 30  
America's first municipal Victorian cemetery. Burial place of Susan B. Anthony and Frederick Douglass.
- RIVERSIDE CEMETERY** 6  
Historic cemetery with distinguished architecture and statuary.

### HISTORIC DISTRICTS & SITES

- BRIDGE SQUARE / CASCADE** 18  
Erie Canal era warehouses adapted to high-tech business and residential loft district.
- BROWN'S RACE / HIGH FALLS** 13  
Scenic views of High Falls with a historic pedestrian bridge spanning the gorge to the Genesee Brewery.
- CORN HILL** 23  
Victorian residential district. Dining, Genesee riverwalk, and the annual Corn Hill Arts Festival.
- EAST AVENUE** 19  
Avenue of mansions, museums, and stately trees. George Eastman House, Rochester Museum and Science Center, and the Little Theater.
- ERIE CANAL AQUEDUCT** 22  
1842 stone arch canal structure subsequently used as a subway, rail line, and road. Dining and cafes.
- GROVE PLACE** 15  
Eastman School of Music, dining, and 19th century brick residential area.
- MAPLEWOOD** 10  
Tree-lined residential neighborhood with historic Seneca Parkway, dining, and services.
- MOUNT HOPE** 26  
Arboretum district with historic homes, breweries, shops, and dining.
- OLD ROCHESTERVILLE** 14  
Former industrial area now converted to upscale housing, dining, and nightlife.
- SUSAN B. ANTHONY** 20  
Victorian neighborhood, Olmsted Brothers- designed Susan B. Anthony Square, and the Susan B. Anthony House Museum.

### POINTS OF INTEREST

- BLUE CROSS ARENA AT THE WAR MEMORIAL** 21  
Venue for indoor professional sports and other large events. Plaza on the river.
- CENTER CITY** 17  
Downtown dining, shopping, entertainment, historic architecture, and parks. The Strong Museum, The Eastman School of Music, and the Riverside Convention Center.
- CORN HILL LANDING** 24  
Mooring and services for boats with riverside dining.
- FLOREANO ROCHESTER RIVERSIDE CONVENTION CENTER** 33
- GENESEE / CHARLOTTE LIGHTHOUSE** 3  
Historic stone lighthouse (1822) overlooking the Port. Tours, interpretive center, and scenic vistas.
- INNOVATIVE FIELD** 16  
Venue for outdoor sports and other large events.
- PETTEN STREET HAND-CARRIED BOAT LAUNCH** 4
- PORT OF ROCHESTER** 2  
Beach, boat mooring, marine services, cruises, dining, and entertainment.
- ROC CITY SKATEPARK** 32  
Outdoor, custom concrete wheel- friendly public recreation facility located along the Genesee River.
- UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER AND MEDICAL CENTER** 29