



2024

TrailLink Unlimited 

Guides



**Shore  
Parkway  
Greenway**  
*New York*



# Shore Parkway Greenway

New York

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## Overview

The two diverse sections of the Shore Parkway Greenway blend urban and scenic, offering views of sights ranging from the Statue of Liberty to wildlife refuges. The entire route follows the Belt/Shore Parkway, and trail users can expect to witness takeoffs and landings at the nearby John F. Kennedy International Airport; cargo liners along Jamaica Bay; and a number of beaches, salt marshes, freshwater ponds, and maritime forests.

### Bensonhurst Park to Owl's Head Park (5.1 miles)

The shorter western section of the Shore Parkway Greenway extends between Bensonhurst Park and Owl's Head Park for just over 5 miles. This segment along Upper

New York Bay is the more scenic of the two, providing impressive views of Coney Island, the historical Fort Hamilton Army Base, the Verrazzano-Narrows Bridge, Staten Island's Fort Wadsworth and Battery Weed, the Statue of Liberty, and One World Trade Center.

The fully paved trail is wheelchair accessible, with separate sections for cyclists and pedestrians. There are several restrooms, benches, and parking areas along this stretch, which are heavily used by families, children, professional athletes, and everyone in between.

### Howard Beach to Brooklyn (7.9 miles)

At nearly 8 miles, the longer eastern segment follows the Belt/Shore Parkway southwest between Howard Beach, and Queens and Brooklyn. Although this section is paved, it contains steep slopes and bridges that make it unsuitable for wheelchair users. The shadeless concrete surface could be useful for athletic training or commuting purposes. A portion of the trail between Flatbush Avenue and Howard Beach is also considered part of the Jamaica Bay Greenway.

From its eastern at 84th Street, the trail parallels the parkway, passing Spring Creek Park on the left in 0.4 miles. This stretch of trail can become quite noisy and unpleasant at times, as it closely follows the parkway. The water and greenery on the opposite side of the trail provide some relief, although smells from the Fountain Avenue Landfill natural restoration area can be overwhelming.

At Canarsie Pier, trail users can find parking, restrooms, and a drinking fountain. Continuing down the trail, the route passes several parks and recreation areas around mile 5, including Four Sparrow Marsh and the North Forty Natural Area in Floyd Bennett Field. This historical (now deactivated) airfield provides trail users with the exciting experience of biking along its runways. The field is located within the three-part Gateway National Recreation Area, where former landfills



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**States:** New York

**Counties:** Kings, Queens

Length: 13 miles

**Trail end points:** Owl's Head Park Dog Run (Bay Ridge) to Bensonhurst Parkway, 9000-9038 Bay Pkwy (Bath Beach) to Lew Fidler Park (Sheepshead Bay) to 84th St. (Howard Beach)

**Trail surfaces:** Asphalt, Concrete

**Trail category:** Greenway/Non-RT

**Trail activities:** Bike, Inline

## Parking & Trail Access

The Shore Parkway Greenway runs between Owl's Head Park Dog Run (Bay Ridge) and Bensonhurst Park, 9000-9038 Bay Pkwy (Bath Beach) and Lew Fidler Park (Sheepshead Bay) and 84th St. (Howard Beach).

Parking is available at:

- 326 Sterling Dr (Brooklyn)
- 9000 Bay Pkwy (Brooklyn)
- Canarsie Pier (Brooklyn)

See [TrailLink Map](#) for all parking options and detailed directions.

The trail is also accessible via public transportation. Please see New York MTA for more information.



# Shore Parkway Greenway

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Trailhead



Restroom



Parking



Water Fountain



Tunnel



**TrailLink**  
by Rails-to-Trails Conservancy

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