

The Riverview Walkway

2.4 km | paved

The Riverview Walkway is a 2.4 km paved path that starts in the centre of Downtown St. Marys and runs along the Thames River to the St. Marys Quarry, tennis court, and curling rink.

The trail follows the former right-of-way of the St. Marys and Western Ontario Railway, which later became part of the Canadian Pacific Railway (CPR). This line came into town in 1908, providing competition to the well-established Grand Trunk Railway (GTR). After 80 years of activity, CPR abandoned this section of track in 1988. With strong community support, the Town of St. Marys acquired the right-of-way along the Thames River from Queen Street to the cement plant and built the Riverview Walkway in 1992.

The Riverview Walkway takes people past remnants of the milling and quarrying industries that once flourished along the river.



The Loop Trail

13 km | wood chips, grass, dirt path, paved

There are entry points at various spots on the Trail, marked with ③. The St. Marys Loop Trail runs past many historic sites and natural areas. Points of interest include: the home of former Prime Minister Arthur Meighen, the historic Junction Station, the Canadian Baseball Hall of Fame & Museum, and the St. Marys Quarry.

Remember that the "Share the Road" philosophy applies along the entire trail, and some parts of the trail are on Town roads. Please travel safely.

The Grand Trunk Trail

3.2 km | gravel and partially paved

This community walkway started out as part of the historic Grand Trunk Railway (GTR). In 1858, the GTR reached the village of St. Marys from Toronto and points further east. From St. Marys, the line went west to Sarnia, Point Huron and Chicago.

When the railway builders arrived in St. Marys in the mid-1850s, the major challenge for both the structural engineers and the contractors was erecting two extremely high railway bridges. One was needed to cross the Thames River, and the other took a spur line to London across Trout Creek. Both bridges required a row of massive stone pillars to support the girders and tracks. These bridges became landmarks in St. Marys, and are still known as the Sarnia Bridge and the London Bridge.

VIA Rail continues to operate the line to London, but abandoned the line to Sarnia in 1989. In 1995, the Town of St. Marys purchased the Sarnia Bridge from the Canadian National Railway (CNR). A citizens' committee was formed in June 1996 to work towards transforming the former railway line into a trail for everyone.

The Grand Trunk Trail was opened in 1998. The highlight of this trail is the Sarnia Bridge with panoramic views south over the Town, and north to the beautiful countryside.

TownofStMarys.com

St. Marys is located 45 minutes northeast of London and 90 minutes west of Toronto. From Stratford, travel southwest on highway #7 to Wildwood Conservation Area and take the Perth Line 9 exit to Queen Street.



For Tourism Information & Services, please contact us or drop in.
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