

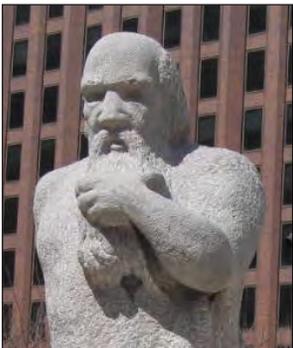


Bicycle Tour of the Benjamin Franklin Parkway and the Schuylkill River Loop

This tour is intended to give you a taste of the cultural and educational attractions on the Parkway and along the Schuylkill River. The 10.4 mile ride starts at LOVE Park, runs past the Philadelphia Museum of Art and loops around the Schuylkill River Trail to East Falls and back. Thank you to Benjamin Cromie, AICP and the Bicycle Coalition of Greater Philadelphia for designing the tour.

Before you Go

1. Check your bike regularly. Make sure the tires are full, the chains are greased and the brakes are tight.
2. Stay off sidewalks - it is illegal to ride a bike on any sidewalk in Philadelphia.
3. Bicycles are legal vehicles. Obey all traffic signals and ride with the flow of traffic.
4. Wear the proper attire. If riding at night, front and rear lights are required by law. Wearing light or retro-reflective material will further increase your visibility.
5. Check the weather before your trip. Bring sunscreen when necessary and always drink plenty of water.
6. Always wear a helmet.
7. For more safety and general riding information, visit www.bicyclecoalition.org.



The Prophet (1974) by Jacob Lipkin.



Kopernik (1973) by Dudley Talcott.

Get on your Bikes and Ride!

- Begin at LOVE Park (also known as JFK Plaza), at John F. Kennedy Boulevard and the Parkway. This is a classic Philadelphia photo opp: the famous *LOVE* sculpture - the first of a series by Robert Indiana - was placed here during the 1976 Bicentennial celebration.
- Immediately behind you is John McArthur Jr's Philadelphia City Hall, which is crowned by Alexander Milne Calder's famous statue of William Penn.
- Stop in the Fairmount Park Welcome Center (right) at the corner of JFK Boulevard and 16th Street for additional information about the beautiful Park and the spectacular Parkway.
- At 16th Street and the Parkway, you will see Café Cret, named for one of Philadelphia's great architects. Cret was the designer of Rittenhouse Square, the Supervising Architect of the Benjamin Franklin Bridge and a principle planner of the Benjamin Franklin Parkway. Stock up on great drinks, sandwiches and more for your journey!
- At 17th Street, you will see Friends Select School, a coed, college preparatory Quaker day school serving 545 students in grades pre-k through 12.
- A memorial to Nicolaus Copernicus *Kopernik* (1973) by Dudley Talcott is on 19th Street.
- Across 18th Street is the Cathedral Basilica of SS Peter and Paul. In the yard outside is *Jesus, the Bread of Life* also known as "Jesus Breaking Bread" (1978) by Walter Erlebacher.



Henry Moore's *Three Way Piece Number 1: Points*. (1964)



Alexander Calder's *Three Disks, One Lacking* (1986) at 17th Street.



Jesus, the Bread of Life (1978) by Walter Erlebacher.

Side trip! the amazing and eerie **Eastern State Penitentiary** is not included in this tour, but it is just a few blocks away at 22nd and Fairmount Avenue. Be sure to visit!



Iroquois (1983) by Mark di Suvero

- Outside the Cathedral Basilica, you will find Philadelphia's Sister Cities Plaza.
- You are now on the beautiful Logan Square. We'll visit the circle within the square and its glorious fountain on the way back up the Parkway. For now, continue biking in the direction of the Philadelphia Museum of Art.
- Keep an eye open for Robert Laessle's memorial to General Galusha Pennypacker (1934). At the age of 22, Pennypacker was the youngest general to serve in the Civil War. Behind General Pennypacker, on Vine Street between 18th and 19th Streets, is the Family Court Building. (John T. Windrim, 1939). With its neighbor to the west, the Free Library of Philadelphia, they resemble twin palaces on the Place de la Concorde in Paris.
- At 19th and the Parkway, you can't miss Alexander Stirling Calder's Shakespeare Memorial (1926). The inscription reads: "All the world's a stage, and the men and women merely players," (from Shakespeare's *As You Like It*).
- Immediately behind the "players" is the Parkway Central Library, the heart of the 54 branch Free Library of Philadelphia system. Home to some 7 million items, Parkway Central sees more than 1 million visits each year. Soon, the Beaux Arts building will feature a state-of-the-art expansion. (Horace Trumbauer, 1927).
- Cross 20th St, and look to the left to see the Civil War Soldiers Memorial (1921) by Hermon Atkins MacNeil. (Its twin is on the other side of the Parkway). Proceed west on the Parkway.
- On your right, you'll notice a large construction site between 20th and 21st Streets. That's the sign of progress! The Barnes Foundation collection is moving from Merion, PA to the Parkway. In addition to one of the finest collections of French Impressionist, Post Impressionist and early Modern paintings in the world, the new building will have classrooms, a 5,000 square foot changing exhibition space, a 150 seat auditorium, a café and a gift shop. It's scheduled to open in Spring 2012.
- One of the most famous sculptures in the world awaits you at the corner of 22nd and the Parkway: *The Thinker* (1925), Auguste Rodin.
- Behind the *The Thinker* is the Rodin Museum, which houses the largest public collection of works by the artist, outside of Paris. The powerful *Gates of Hell* stands at the Museum's entrance. Inside, visitors will discover casts of many of Rodin's best known sculptures, including *The Burghers of Calais* and *Eternal Springtime*, as well as maquettes, drawings, and waxes.
- The bicycle lane transitions abruptly at Eakin's Oval. Please dismount carefully and walk your bicycle in the crosswalk to the outer bike lane around the oval. On your way, look out for the "Stickman" street art, placed in the pavement anonymously in east coast cities from Washington, DC to Montreal.
- To your right, you'll find the bright red abstract Mark di Suvero sculpture, *Iroquois* (1983). Walk your bike across the crosswalk at Spring Garden Street towards the middle of the Oval. Facing City Hall in front of the Philadelphia Museum of Art, is Philadelphia's monument to George Washington. (Rudolf Siemering, 1897).



- To your north, you will see the majestic Philadelphia Museum of Art (left) designed by Horace Trumbauer). Inside, you'll find 200 galleries, and over 225,000 works of art. There are striking Renaissance master paintings, elaborately carved stone alterpieces, and entire period rooms and architectural settings from around the world. Allow lots of time to explore!



Washington Monument (1897) by Rudolf Siemering.



Lloyd Hall

- Walk your bike north past the fountain and across the double crosswalk towards the Rocky Statue at the foot of the Philadelphia Museum of Art. Get back on your bike and ride counter-clockwise around the art museum and past the Azalea Garden.

- At Waterworks Drive, you will see Lloyd Hall (lower left) which marks the beginning of the Boathouse Row, the home of the Schuylkill Navy. This section of the Schuylkill River is a world-class rowing facility. The picturesque buildings along the trail are the headquarters for the rowing clubs and school teams that race along the river. (For a schedule of regattas and other events, visit: boathouserow.org.)



Stickman



SRT mile markers will guide you along the way.

- You are now on the Schuylkill River Trail (SRT). You can ride continuously on an eight mile loop without having to dismount at crosswalks. It looks like a sidewalk, but it is a multi-use trail. Proceed at a measured pace on the right side for the first mile - this is a very popular area for bikers, runners, rollerbladers, dog walkers and skateboarders.

- At the end of Boathouse Row stands a valiant viking. This statue is a representation of Thorfinn Karlsefni, the Danish outlaw explorer and father of Erik the Red, the first European explorer in the New World.

- Follow the right fork in the trail. Before you, in the open field, you will see the statue of a woman, two children and a bear (right). It is called *Stone Age in America* by John J. Boyle (1887).



Statue of Thorfinn Karlsefni (1918) by Einar Jonsson

- If you are in the mood for a picnic, you may want to stop at the Ellen Phillips Samuel Memorial Garden (1933-1961). This garden (right) is a lovely tribute to one of the early members of the Fairmount Park Art Association. The 17 sculptures on display, demonstrating periods in American history, were chosen through three international art exhibitions in 1933, 1940, and 1949.



Statue of General Ulysses S. Grant (1897) by Daniel Chester French and Edward C. Potter

- Just ahead, on the opposite side of the street, you may notice a bucking bronco. This is *The Cowboy* (1908) by Frederic Remington, who appears to be in a hurry. He may be bringing a message to General Grant, sitting regally astride his horse at the entrance to Valley Green Road.





- If you happen by one of the Schuylkill River’s famous regattas, you can join in the fun at the spectator stands (left), just past the Columbia Bridge.
- Kelly Drive, which runs alongside the trail, is named for the river’s most famous rower, the Olympian, John B. Kelly, Sr. He was also the father of Olympic rower John B. Kelly Jr. and the movie star Grace Kelly. A statue in his memory stands just past the stands.



Statue of John B. Kelly (1965) by Harry Rosin



- The Swedish-born artist Carl Milles is known for making child-like images. His *Playing Angels* (c. 1950) are blowing a delightful tune as they fly above a clearing to your left. (left)

- Spanning the Schuylkill River ahead is one of the loveliest works of engineering on the tour: the Strawberry Mansion Bridge (1896-1897; Phoenix Bridge Company).



- One of the great hidden treasures of Philadelphia, the Laurel Hill Cemetery (left) rises above you just past Strawberry Mansion Bridge. Founded in 1836, Laurel Hill is a sculpture garden, horticultural gem and truly unique historical resource that serves as a final resting place for some of the city’s most famous citizens.



Midvale Avenue and Kelly Drive

- You are nearing the midpoint of the tour. If you have not yet availed yourself of one of the wonderful picnicking spots along the way, you may wish to take a quick side-trip to the East Falls neighborhood at Midvale Avenue for a bite to eat.
- Residents of nearby East Falls could once hear the river rush over the falls in this area. With the erection of the dam at the Philadelphia Water Works in 1812, however, the resulting rise in the water level inundated the falls.



The Cherry Trees of Fairmount Park.

- Cross the Schuylkill River along the sidewalk at Falls Bridge (1895, Chief Engineer George Smedley Webster). Falls Bridge is wonderfully over-engineered; it was originally designed to carry railroad traffic on a second deck, above the roadway.



Falls Bridge

- You are now on the west side of the river riding along Martin Luther King (MLK) Drive (formerly West River Drive). MLK Drive is a great place to bike, rollerblade, run, or walk on summer weekends - it is closed to automobile traffic from 6am to 5pm on Saturdays and Sundays from April to October. Throughout this leg of the tour, look out for the beautiful cherry trees planted by the Japan America Society of Greater Philadelphia. They are best enjoyed while in bloom during the annual Cherry Blossom Festival each spring.

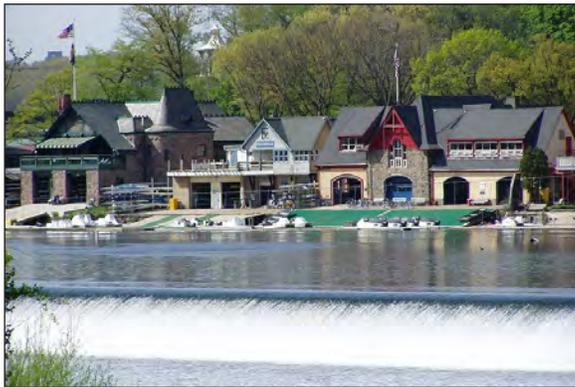


St. George and the Dragon (1877) by Elkington & Company

- After a good ride in this very green section of the tour, you may witness a pitched battle between *St. George and the Dragon* (1877) by Elkington & Company of Birmingham England (left).
- Shortly after, you will also see *Alexander von Humboldt* (1871, by Frederick Johann Heinrich Drake), the German naturalist and explorer enjoying the wildlife along the river bank.
- You will soon reach a clearing and behold the wonderfully iconic view of the Boathouse Row and the Fairmount Waterworks.



Alexander von Humboldt (1871) by Frederick Johann Heinrich Drake



- Follow the trail as you once again cross the Schuylkill River. Slow down as the sidewalk narrows and please share the trail. Cross the street at the Schuylkil River Trail crosswalk.
- At this intersection, you have the option to turn right and visit the wonderfully restored gardens of the Fairmount Water Works or turn left and continue back to the Parkway.



- **To the Fairmount Water Works** - Ride slowly down the steep hill under the bridge. You will emerge on the grounds of the Water Works. When this engineering marvel was built in 1812 as a response to the growing sanitary and water demands of a rapidly growing industrial city, it was the first of its kind in the world. The Philadelphia Water Department maintains a facinating exhibit on the ecology and science of water in our urban landscape. For more information about the grounds and exhibits, visit www.fairmountwaterworks.org. At the end of your visit, reverse your steps down the hill and return to the Benjamin Franklin Parkway.

- **To the Parkway** - Veer left up the hill along the sidewalk. Merge carefully into the bicycle lane when you reach the Parkway.



- At 20th St, you'll see the grand façade of the Franklin Institute. Founded in 1824, this Philadelphia institution features three floors of interactive science exhibitions, a Planetarium, 3D and IMAX Theaters. Their goal is inspiring a passion for learning about science and technology in everyone. Explore and enjoy now, or return later!





- The brilliantly gilded *Aero Memorial* (1950), by Paul Manship, is dedicated to the aviators who died in World War I (left). The bronze sphere is held by the reclining figure of a woman, and adorned with images representing the signs of the zodiac, along with inscriptions of the names of constellations and planets.

- Another major work of note in Aviator Park is the *All Wars Memorial to Colored Soldiers and Sailors* (1934), by J. Otto Schweizer. At the top of the artwork the "torch of life" is depicted guarded by four eagles. On the front side six soldiers and sailors flank the allegorical figure of Justice who holds symbols of "Honor" and "Reward."



All Wars Memorial to Colored Soldiers and Sailors (1934), by J. Otto Schweizer.

- Directly in front of you will be the Moore College of Art and Design (right), a vibrant arts college educating artists and designers for careers in the visual arts. Moore is an exciting cultural and educational destination for visitors and residents alike. The Galleries at Moore are free for visitors, and feature frequently changing exhibitions. The Art Shop is accessible from the outside and inside of the building.



Moore College of Art and Design

- The Academy of Natural Sciences, at 19th and the Parkway, is the oldest natural history museum in the Americas. The wonder of the natural world comes to life for visitors of all ages through hands-on exhibits, live animal shows, video presentations, dynamic speakers, special workshops, classes, and evening programs with environmental themes.



The Academy of Natural Sciences

- The magnificent Swann Memorial Fountain (1924), at the center of Logan Square, was created by Alexander Stirling Calder, as a tribute to Dr. Wilson Cary Swann, founder of the Philadelphia Fountain Society. The fountain sculpture consists of three large Native American figures symbolizing the area's major bodies of water. The young girl leaning on her side against an agitated swan represents the Wissahickon Creek, the mature woman holding the neck of a swan symbolizes the Schuylkill River, and the male figure reaching above his head to grasp his bow - the Delaware River. The fountain is on Spring-Fall, and is visible from both ends of the Parkway.



Swann Memorial Fountain (1924) Alexander Stirling Calder



- The Four Seasons Hotel is on your right, at 18th & the Parkway. It's an elegant spot for dining, accommodations, meetings, and pampering in their spa. Its proximity to all of the Parkway destinations can't be matched. A statue of Polish military genius General Tadeusz Kosciuszko (1979), by Marian Konieczny, would appear to be guarding the hotel (left).

- When you reach 16th St. and LOVE Park, you have officially ended this tour. There's so much more to see in the Parkway Museums District and the Schuylkil River Trail, so grab a treat at Café Cret, and head out again!