

Ride Guide

September 2020

[Greenway Ride map on Google](#)

[Greenway Ride map on RideWithGPS](#)

[Greenway Ride Cue Sheet](#)



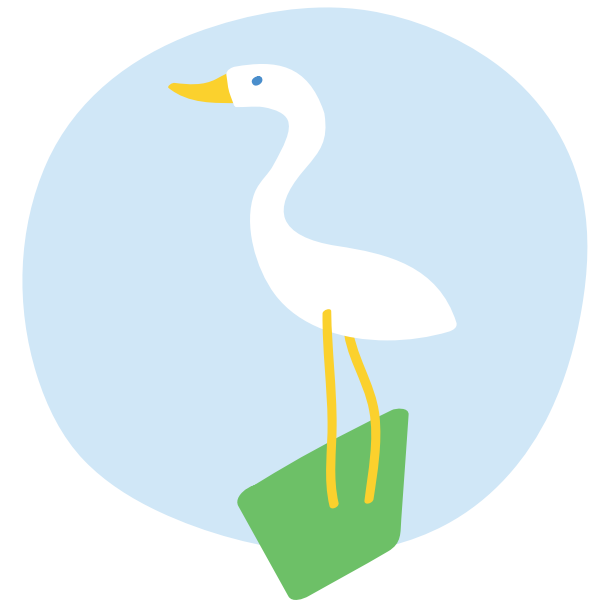
Welcome!

Thank you for participating in the 2020 Greenway Ride presented by Citi Bike!

We are so happy to have you join us for this grand bicycle adventure along Brooklyn's iconic waterfront. Whether this is your first Greenway ride or you're a regular, you're about to enjoy bicycling in Brooklyn at its best. So gear up and grab your family and close friends for this self-guided exploration of the Brooklyn Waterfront Greenway.

There is no better time to discover new destinations and points of interest along the Greenway. The Coronavirus pandemic has introduced more people to the joys and freedom of bicycling for commuting as well as health and wellness. Bike traffic on the Greenway in spring 2020 was five times greater than spring 2019. Just last month Citi Bike hit a new record with more than 100,000 rides in a single day. The "bike boom" has also prompted more conversation about bike infrastructure like greenways and the need for a complete protected network.

Brooklyn Greenway Initiative thanks our long-time supporters and first-time riders for joining us during this profound and unprecedented year. We hope this Ride Guide supports your explorations and inspires you to stand with us as we push for the rapid completion of the Brooklyn Waterfront Greenway and NYC's overall network of greenways as vital public infrastructure for people of all ages and abilities.



Prepare for your Ride

The Brooklyn Waterfront Greenway is the best way to explore and discover parks, neighborhoods, and other points of interest along the waterfront. It offers something for everyone – experienced cyclists, casual recreationalists, families, and people with disabilities. Like any great adventure, be sure to prepare for your Ride.

Plan Your Route

Use the [Greenway Ride map on Google](#) to customize a route that matches your experience and comfort level on a bike. Riders who are less confident riding with traffic should stick to segments of the Greenway that are completely protected. Familiarize yourself with the terrain and turns before heading out.

Ride Safely

Riders should always be alert and aware of their surroundings, especially on busy streets, near parked cars, and at intersections. Control your speed and be prepared to slow down or stop quickly for congestion or road hazards. Respect other cyclists and Greenway users by communicating your movements with hand signals or calling out. Don't text or talk on the phone while riding. Know and follow the full list of biking laws and safety tips found in the [NYC DOT Bike Smart Guide](#).

Be sure your bike is in good repair and the tires are fully inflated before heading out. Bring an extra tube and patch kit on your ride along with water and snacks to stay hydrated and energized. Be sure your cell phone is charged and that you have ID and cash or a credit card for any urgent needs.

Getting Home

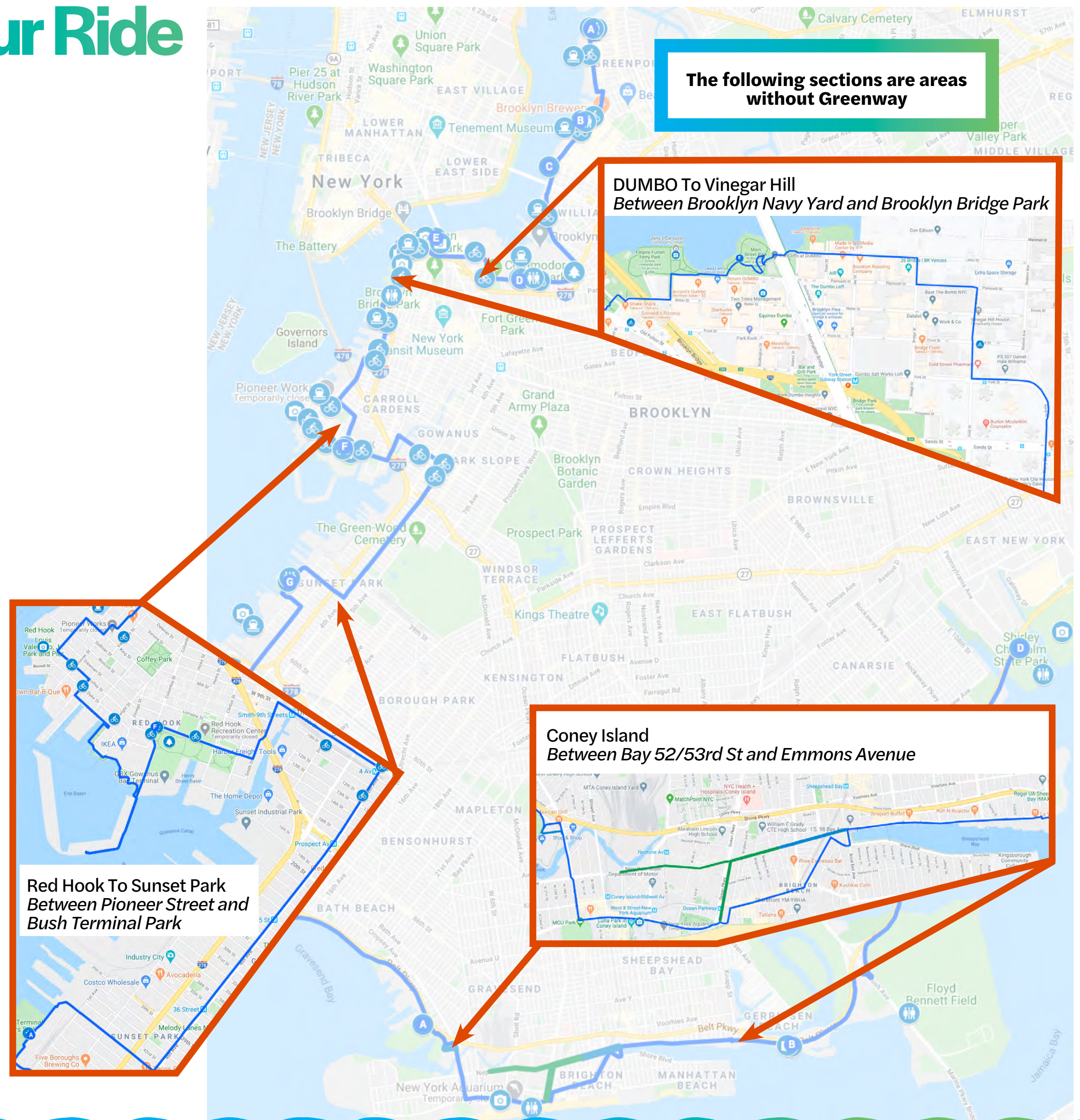
Depending on your planned route, you may find yourself far from where you started and too tired to ride back. Learn more about [bikes on NYC Transit](#) here, including MTA Subway, NYC Ferry and other regional transit.



Prepare for your Ride

Please Note: The Brooklyn Waterfront Greenway is a work in progress. There are segments that are planned but not yet built. Major gaps in the Greenway are highlighted in maps on this page and in more detail on the [Greenway Ride Map on Google](#). Alternate route options can be found on the official [NYC Bike Map](#).

The Greenway Ride is a self-guided, self-supported experience. Only ride where you feel comfortable and safe. Be sure your bike is in good repair and the tires are fully inflated before riding. Know the rules of the road for cyclists and ride respectfully of others.



Greenway Destinations & Activations

Guide by **untapped** new york.
Rediscover your city.



The views from Newtown Barge Park, on the northern tip of Greenpoint, are unparalleled. The Midtown Manhattan skyline is in full view, but so is gorgeous Hunters Point South Park just across Newtown Creek. This park, built atop a former industrial site once lined with barges, was completed in summer 2019 so it's relatively unknown. Come here to get a nice breeze and stunning views, away from the crowds of nearby Transmitter Park.



[City of Water Day – Saturday, September 12th](#)

The Waterfront Alliance celebrates the bodies of water that make up our beautiful city. Join with Newtown Creek Alliance for a talk about the creek, selfie spot, trash pickup activity, and plant ID tutorial at Newtown Barge Park, then venture to other activities listed along the Greenway. Check out the link for further information!



Built on the site of the former Domino Sugar Refinery, Domino Park is a tribute to the diversity and resiliency of generations of Domino workers, their families and their neighborhood. The 5-acre public park in Williamsburg, Brooklyn offers expansive views of the surrounding area and across the river to Manhattan. Some well-placed remnants from the factory dot the park as a reminder of its industrial past. There's also a taco stand from Danny Meyer, courts for sand volleyball and bocce and water features to cool off.



[Fog Bridge](#)

Check out the unusual interactive cooling fog experience that allows you to see the water situated under the pier that was built for this massive factory.



[Greenmarket](#)

Sundays, 9 am - 3pm throughout September come and shop for local produce in partnership with Grow NYC.



[Food System Cycles](#)

Mondays and Thursdays give back in your food scraps to help make compost!

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Just off Williamsburg Street West at the corner edge of the Brooklyn Navy Yard is a gateway into a beautiful native plant and pollinator habitat teeming with life to honor the dead buried there from the Civil War until it was decommissioned in 1910. The Naval Cemetery Landscape which is a small pocket memorial meadow nestled between the BQE and Wallabout Bay is a hidden gem. Drop by to take a self-guided tour of the blooms, buzzings and birds along the boardwalk and stepping stones that make up this uniquely serene space. Please walk bikes on the boardwalk.

Stop by for a free Oxygen Water



Educational Materials and Self-Guided Tour

There are seed packets, miniature notebooks and bookmarks with some reading recommendations for young ones waiting for you at Naval Cemetery Landscape! There will also be a self guided tour brochure that details all the unique elements that make the Naval Cemetery Landscape such a special place for the plants and pollinators that make up its ecology.



The appealing coastal attraction comprises a series of piers filled with recreational facilities, gardens, playgrounds, greenways and grassy areas for hanging out. Each pier has something to offer but the newly opened Pier 2 Uplands has a fantastic water play feature made for adults and kids alike. There is also the recently opened Pier 3 with an interactive Labyrinth that's fun for everyone. You'll find kid-friendly playgrounds at both ends (and some in between); the ones at Pier 6 include swings, slides, a giant sandbox and another water feature. There are also two NYC Ferry landings in the park.



Davina Semo: Reverberation

Come ring one of the bells that's been placed throughout Brooklyn Bridge Park and experience this profound unique work of public art by Davina Semo entitled Reverberation.



Brooklyn Bridge Park Gardens

Learn about the many types of gardens and ecosystems throughout the park through this link which includes downloadable plant lists and guides to improve your knowledge and plant identification skills!

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Erie Basin Park surrounds the Ikea store in Red Hook, offering more than just a ferry landing. With grassy lawns, a Greenway spur, seating, public art, and relics that were retained from the former New York Shipyard, Erie Basin Park provides public access to a waterfront that was historically closed off to the community. Ikea's involvement in the park's creation is an example of how public/private partnerships can transform abandoned waterfront properties.



A quiet natural space in the industrial section of Sunset Park, Bush Terminal Piers Park has spectacular views of the area's tidal pools and the Bay Ridge Channel. It is also quickly gaining popularity among bird enthusiasts. Bird sightings range from geese and herons to bald eagles. This site, once a port complex, was cleaned up and opened as a public park in 2014.



Brooklyn Waterfront Artists Coalition Wide Open 11

Venture over to this unique gallery space for the first half of September to take in some art and amazing waterfront views.



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Initially built as a military supply base during World War I, the Brooklyn Army Terminal is a feat of design by Cass Gilbert, the architect of the Woolworth Building. A multi-decade renovation and reactivation of the terminal by NYCEDC has transformed it into a light manufacturing and office complex that is home to food startups, biotech companies, artist studios, and more. The grounds have been undergoing a savvy redesign by WXY Architecture with more welcoming outdoor space.



Head down to Coney Island for the expansive beach and the famous wooden boardwalk. A home of firsts: America's first rollercoaster as well as where the hot dog was invented, this place is legendary. An off-the-beaten path discovery is the abandoned yellow submarine in Coney Island Creek, located between Kaiser Park and Calvert Vaux Park.



[New York Aquarium](#)

Recently reopened to the public, book your tickets in advance and experience the wonders of water wildlife!



[Wonder Wheel Selfie Spot](#)

The Wonder Wheel turns 100 years old this year! Take a selfie with it to celebrate, even if the ferris wheel remains closed due to the pandemic.



[Nathan's Famous and Coney Island Brewery](#)

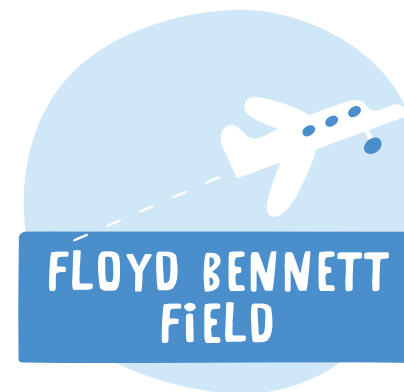
Grab a Nathan's hot dog and stroll down the boardwalk to Coney Island Brewery's outdoor beer garden.

Greenway Destinations & Activations

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Sitting behind dunes along the Belt Parkway in Sheepshead Bay, Plumb Beach offers a sandy beach, tons of wildlife viewing, and serves as a popular site for kite flying and windsurfing. Plumb Beach is perhaps most famous for the many horseshoe crabs that use it during mating season. It's part of the Gateway National Recreation Area and was originally a separate island until the nearby creek was filled in with the creation of the Belt Parkway.



Floyd Bennett Field, New York City's first municipal airport, is considered a historical treasure. Its well-maintained surviving structures represent some of the best examples of early commercial aviation architecture, and it was also the busiest naval air station in the nation during World War II. Today the grounds are available for tours, and are also used as a site for restoring vintage aircraft.



Jamaica Bay Festival – Saturday, September 12th

Happening in collaboration with City of Water Day, come enjoy all the natural beauty that Jamaica Bay has to offer. Participate in fun family friendly activities such as a beach cleaning scavenger hunt, side walk chalk and selfie station!



Greenway Destinations & Activations

Guide by **untapped new york.**
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Have you been to East New York’s new park? This is a perfect location #OnTheBKGreenway to escape Brooklyn’s density. It was named to honor the inspirational Shirley Chisholm, the first Black woman to serve in Congress and first woman to seek the Democratic presidential nomination. Gravel paths for hiking and cycling snake through the park’s golden-hued grasses and high hills, and the views make you feel far outside the city. From Shirley Chisholm State Park’s 150-foot vantage above Brooklyn you can see all of Jamaica Bay, the towers of the Verrazano-Narrows Bridge, and the expanse of Manhattan’s skyline.

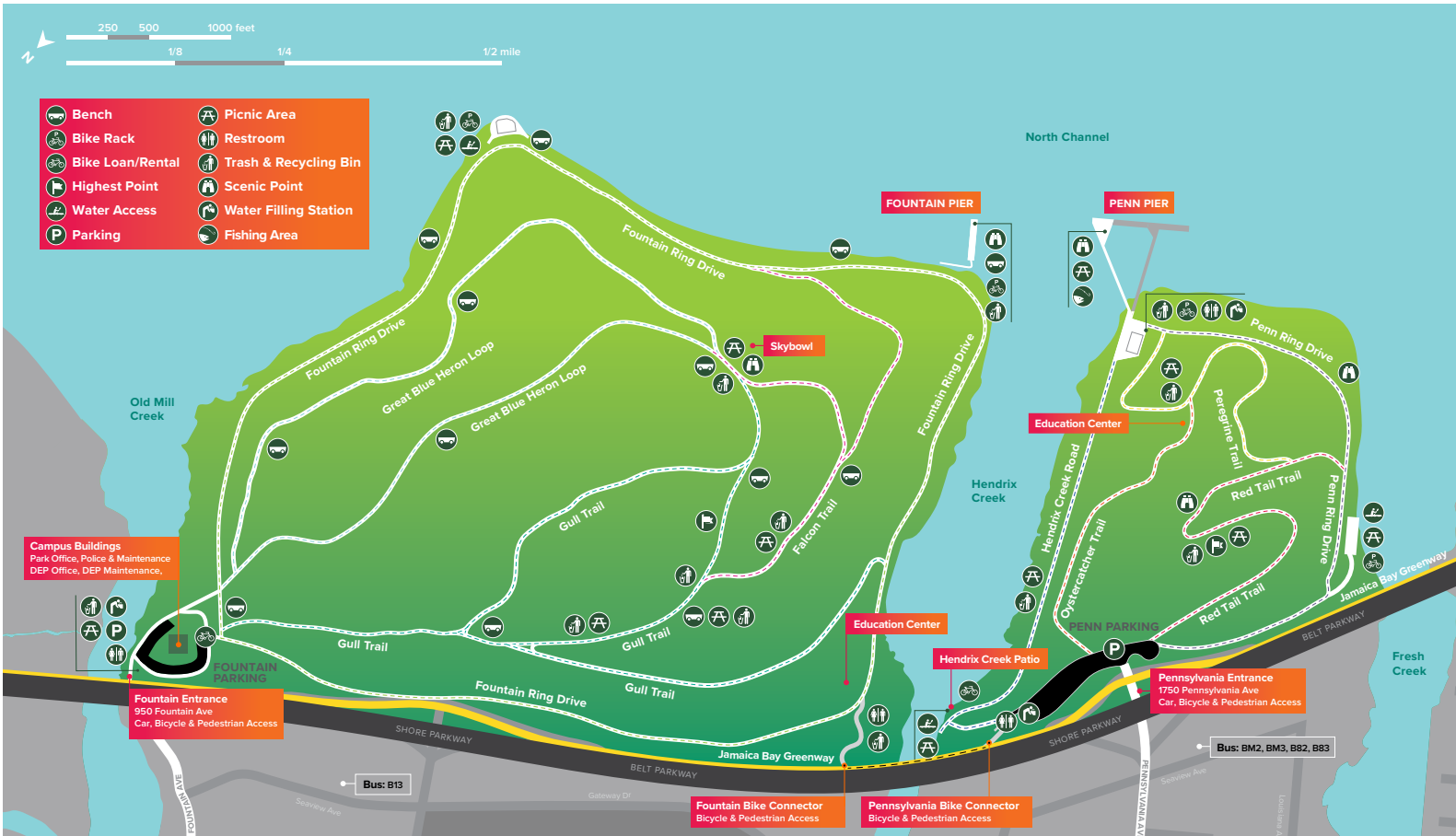
Stop by for a free Clif Bar



Liberty Bell by Nancy Baker Cahill

Projects

Come experience this inspiring interactive augmented reality work of art! Can be located at the 950 Fountain Avenue entrance of the park either by walking, bike or car (limited parking). Follow signs toward Fountain Pier, facing the open Jamaica Bay. Download and Access the 4th wall App (free) and take in this moving AR drawing which will appear over the water through your mobile device. The artwork is also viewable from the Skybowl at the park. *Note:* this is a remote location, roughly a ten-fifteen minute walk from the entrance area. Wheelchair parking is available.



Ask an Educator

Learn from park staff and rangers about all the incredible wildlife throughout this brand new park! Locations will be posted on A-frame signs at each of the park’s entrances on these days:

Tuesday Sept 1st

Sunday Sept. 6th

Thursday Sept. 10th

Saturday Sept 12th

Wednesday Sept. 16th

Sunday Sept 20th

Tuesday Sept. 22nd

Saturday Sept 26th

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[CITIBIKENYC.COM/MAP](https://www.citibikenyc.com/map)

Start your Ride at one of the dozens of Citi Bike stations on the Brooklyn Waterfront Greenway

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Greenway Riders can enjoy a free



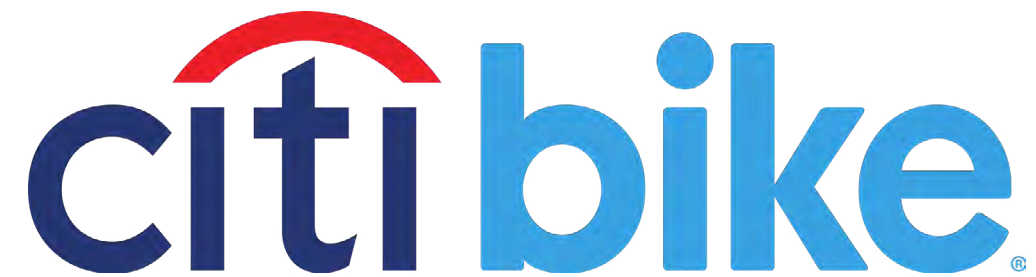
Pick up yours at Greenway rest stops:

**Ride Brooklyn Williamsburg,
50 N 7th St**

**Shirley Chisholm State Park,
1750 Granville Payne Ave (aka Pennsylvania Ave)**

Photo courtesy of Untapped New York

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Experience the best way to get around Manhattan, Brooklyn, Queens & Jersey City with Citi Bike, New York's bike share system.



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Located along a half-mile stretch of waterfront in the northernmost section of Greenpoint, will provide over 4 new acres of publicly accessible open space for the neighborhood. Designed by James Corner Field Operations, the waterfront open space will provide vantage points for the public to enjoy unobstructed city views as well as offer a variety of outdoor amenities.

NYC Councilman
Stephen T. Levin

Public funding for the Greenway Ride and other programming and services to ensure the long-term viability of the Brooklyn Waterfront Greenway generously provided by NYC Council Member Stephen T. Levin, representing Council District 33.



Dedicated to providing innovative energy solutions for electricity and natural gas supply.



Ample Hills Creamery is the beloved Brooklyn-based ice cream company with 9 locations in New York City and New Jersey. Since opening in 2011, it has been rated the #1 ice cream in New York City by Zagat and "Best Ice Cream in America" by Food Network.



Bicycle Shop with convenient locations in Park Slope and Williamsburg and great prices on high quality bikes and service.



Offering choice, quality and value in every aisle is how we hope to make your shopping experience a genuine pleasure. Visit the Brooklyn market at 21 Flushing Ave.

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About Brooklyn Greenway Initiative



Brooklyn Greenway Initiative (BGI) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization committed to the development, establishment and long-term stewardship of the Brooklyn Waterfront Greenway – a 26-mile protected and landscaped route for pedestrians and cyclists of all ages and abilities that, when complete, will connect Brooklyn’s storied and iconic waterfront, parks and open space, commercial and cultural corridors, and new tech and innovation hubs for 2.65 million Brooklyn residents, over 1.1 million people who work in Brooklyn, and more than 15 million annual visitors from across the City and around the world.

Founded in 2004, BGI works with community, nonprofit, business, and government partners to create and fulfill a comprehensive vision for the Brooklyn Waterfront Greenway, while at the same time building awareness and support among residents and employees who live and work along its route.

[Ride Guide Design by Philip Leff](#)

[Map Illustration by Nate Padavick](#)

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Since its founding, BGI has channeled more than \$218 million in public and private investment toward implementation of the Greenway, leveraged public and private investment of \$2.38 million toward creation of the Naval Cemetery Landscape as a new park-like space and memorial meadow adjacent to the Greenway, and conceptualized or supported the development and stewardship of other open spaces and public amenities along the waterfront. Approximately 18 miles of completed Greenway are actively used by an estimated ten thousand cyclists and pedestrians daily.

BGI hosts numerous public events and programs designed to activate the Greenway and Naval Cemetery Landscape, foster critical support and stewardship for this vital public infrastructure, and build awareness and engagement of BGI as the organization dedicated to their long-term care.

