At the north end of Key West the trail splits. To the right, trail users can stroll along the palm lined N. Roosevelt Blvd to Bayview park. To the left, trail users will see picturesque views of the Atlantic as they wind around the island. While in Key West, be sure to visit Fort Zachery in Key West, be sure to visit Fort Zachery Taylor Historic State Park, the southernmost state park.

The rest area and gazebo at the Saddlebunch keys is a perfect place to rest and learn about the ecology of the keys. Another scenic rest area is at mile marker 6, Boca Chica, where spectacular sunsets can be experienced.

and fishermen.

In Big Pine Key, keep an eye out for key deer, a small species of deer found only in the keys. As the trail continues south, several more Flagler historical bridges are open for trail users. The historic Kemp Channel bridge has beautiful views and is popular with walkers, bicyclists, views and is popular with walkers, bicyclists,

Lower Keys

Big Pine Key to Key West

(Mile Marker 35 to 0)





Bahia Honda State Park is next and offers some of the nicest beaches in the keys. The nature trail to the historic Bahia Honda bridge provides a scenic overlook and photo opportunity. On the south side of the Bahia Honda Bridge is Spanish Harbor. This rest area is a perfect place for picnics by the large lagoon perfect place for picnics by the large lagoon phat was once a quarry for the Flagler Railroad.

Just past Curry Hammock, the rest stop at Grassy Key offers bicyclists and hikers a scenic trail through hardwood hammock and mangrove habitats. To access the next section, trail users can travel over the iconic Seven Mile bridge. This bridge has a narrow five-foot shoulder and heavy vehicular traffic but is used often by experienced cyclists.

(Mile Marker 60 to 35)
Upon arriving in Marathon, the trail continues past Curry Hammock State Park. This park offers a recreational area along the water and is popular for kayaking and kite boarding.

Middle Keys Grassy Key to Spanish Harbor Key Make another stop at Long Key State Park, a popular spot for bird watchers. Further down the trail, enjoy the views from the Long Key historic bridge, Tom's Harbor Cut bridge, and Tom's Harbor Channel bridge. These historic bridges are popular with fishermen, hikers, bicyclists, and other trail users.

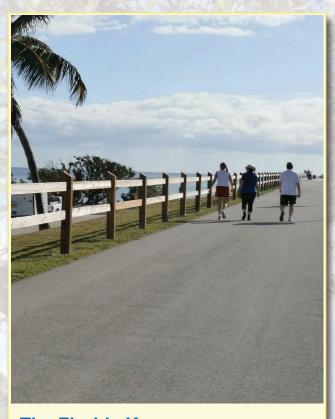
Further south, a 20-mile trail section passes through the islands that make up the Village of Islamorada. While in the area, stop into Windley Key Fossil Reef Geological State Park to learn about the geology of the Florida Keys. Side trips on the water can include Lignumvitae Key Botanical State Park, Indian Key Historic State Park, and San Pedro Underwater Archaeological Preserve State Park. Popular fishing spots in this area include the historic Channel 2 and Channel 5 bridges.

15.5-mile multi-use trail runs by numerous businesses and parks in Key Largo and Tavernier. A side trip to John Pennekamp Coral Reef State Park provides a nice rest stop and opportunity to learn about the coral reef ecosystem.

Shaded in places by tropical vegetation, a

Upper Keys (Mile Marker 106.5 to 60)





The Florida Keys Overseas Heritage Trail

The Florida Keys Overseas Heritage Trail (FKOHT) is an ongoing project supported by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Florida Department of Transportation, and Monroe County. When completed, this world-class, multi-use trail will traverse the Florida Keys from Key Largo to Key West. The goals of the FKOHT are to link communities by providing a safe and continuous multi-use path, offer an alternative form of transportation, help mitigate congestion, promote health opportunities, and provide a mechanism for the preservation and use of the 23 historic Flagler railroad bridges. Educational kiosks, roadside picnic areas, scenic overlooks, fishing piers, water access points, and bicycle and jogging paths are available along the trail serving both residents and visitors to the Florida Keys.



Historic Bridges

The 23 historic Flagler bridges form a central component of the Florida Keys Overseas Heritage Trail, providing opportunities for fishing, sightseeing, recreation, and historical reflection. Before the City of Miami existed, Henry Flagler envisioned a railroad across the sea that would promote a cultural and economic connection with Cuba, the Panama Canal, and South America. By 1905 Flagler had begun construction on the Keys section of his Florida East Coast Railroad. On January 22, 1912, Henry Flagler rode the railroad to Key West where the project was heralded by the press as the "Eighth Wonder of the World." Ten thousand celebrants crowded the streets of Key West for a weeklong celebration of this momentous occasion. The railroad transformed the wilderness of the Florida Keys into an economically viable destination. Today all the remaining 23 Flagler railroad bridges have been listed on the National Register of Historic Places and are managed by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection's Division of Recreation and Parks as part of the Florida Keys Overseas Heritage Trail.





Florida Department of Environmental Protection Division of Recreation and Parks Florida Keys Overseas Heritage Trail 3 La Croix Court, Key Largo, FL 33037 (305) 853-3571

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Florida Keys Overseas Heritage Trail

Linking Island Communities



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