

CYCLING *the* COMMONWEALTH

1 Virginia Capital Trail



The Virginia Capital Trail is a unique bicycle and pedestrian route linking the first settlement in Jamestown, the Colonial Capital in Williamsburg, and Virginia's modern seat of government in Richmond. When complete, the 54-mile-long shared-use trail will highlight the rich historic, cultural and environmental assets along the Route 5 Virginia Byway – the corridor of America's first westward expansion and the oldest inland transportation route in North America. Upon completion, the trail will feature interpretive sites with information kiosks and bicycling and pedestrian amenities to accommodate users of all ages and abilities.

In Williamsburg, the trail begins at the Governor's Mansion and follows the Colonial Parkway to Jamestown Island, the site of the first permanent English settlement in the New World. The trail then turns west, crossing the Chickahominy River, running through historic Charles City County, passing original James River plantations, the homes of Presidents John Tyler and William Henry Harrison, and numerous Revolutionary War and Civil War battlefields. In eastern Henrico County, the trail returns to the banks of the James River and reaches the heart of the modern waterfront in downtown Richmond, where it connects to the Canal Walk and the James River Park System.

Groundbreaking for the Virginia Capital Trail took place in June 2005. The trail is under construction, and the first phase is scheduled to open by the end of 2006.

*Cyclists should be especially careful crossing the movable-span bridge over the Chickahominy River. A new fixed-span bridge is expected to be complete by mid-2009.

3 Tobacco Heritage Trail



The Tobacco Heritage Trail is an ambitious project that will eventually link Brunswick, Charlotte, Halifax, Lunenburg and Mecklenburg counties with 174 miles of transportation and recreation corridors. The 70-mile phase from Lawrenceville to Clarksville is under active development. Right of way has been acquired, and the first five-mile segment from Broadnax to LaCrosse is open. Using abandoned rail beds, bridges, rights of way and state roadways, the planned system will provide a network to boost transportation, tourism and economic development in rural, historic southern Virginia.

The first section of the Tobacco Heritage Trail was officially opened in September 2005.

2 Virginia Creeper Trail



The Virginia Creeper Trail is a 34-mile-long former railroad bed that has become a multi-purpose trail stretching from the mountains to the valleys. It owes its popularity to outstanding scenery, encompassing two geographic regions of Virginia. The Blue Ridge Mountains lie to the east, and the Ridge and Valley province of Virginia extends to the west. Because of this geographic variety, the Creeper Trail can be divided into distinctly different yet equally beautiful halves. Take two days to see both parts of the trail or ride the entire length from White Top to Abingdon in a single day-long excursion.

Under Development...
High Bridge Trail State Park is under development, and it will create a 34-mile rail-to-trail conversion from Burkeville in Nottoway County to rural Pamplin City in Appomattox County. Attractions along the trail include the college town of Farmville, and High Bridge, which played a role during the final Confederate retreat to Appomattox Courthouse.

