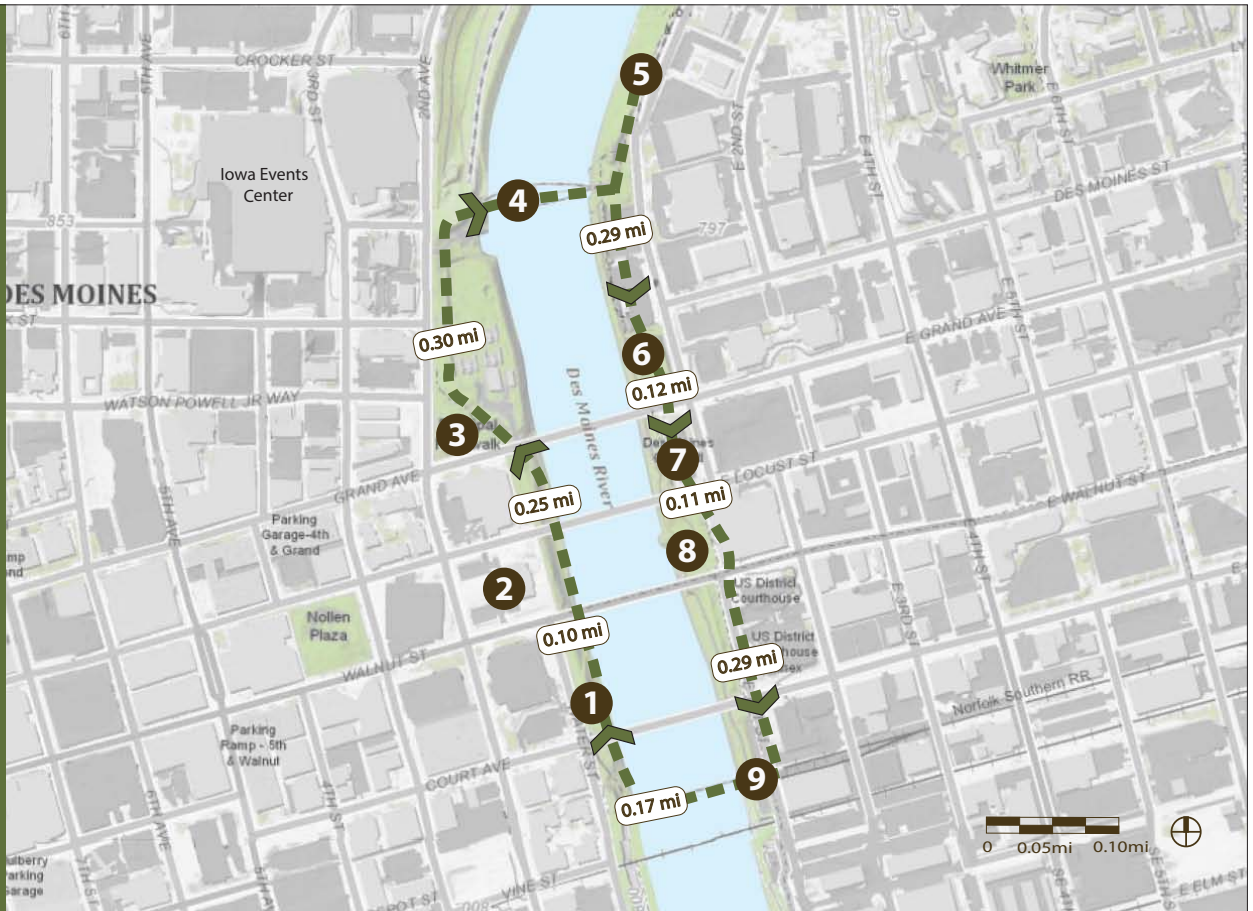




ALONG THE PRINCIPAL RIVERWALK



Embrace the river 1.63 miles

For more information, visit principal.com/riverwalk.

Whether you like to warm up for your exercise with a cup of coffee or reward yourself after, the best place to start enjoying The Principal Riverwalk is the Hub Spot on the north side of Court Avenue, with its dramatic **Dangos (1)**, five sculptures by artist Jun Kaneko. Begin your walk by heading north from the Hub Spot along the promenade. As you pass by the **World Food Prize Hall of Laureates (2)**, shift your attention to the water and feel a sense of intimacy with the river that's unique to our city. Four seasons of the year, you'll see waterbirds; in winter, look for American bald eagles soaring overhead.

As you walk north to Grand Avenue, you'll see the **Hansen Triangle Park (3)** with *Quantum Leaf*, a soothing sculpture. Ahead, the **Iowa Women of Achievement Bridge (4)** comes into focus as the path lifts up from the Des Moines River and continues across the bridge. Check out primo views up and down the river. On the east side of the bridge, you're only a few steps from the **Robert D. Ray Asian Garden (5)** with its red Chinese pavilion. Take a few minutes to enjoy the tranquility and beauty of the setting and the bridge.

South of the bridge, say hello to the anglers casting below the Center Street Dam, then continue to the **Brenton Skating**

Plaza (6), where you may luck into a skating class on a winter morning. A few steps ahead, you'll pass through the **Long Look Garden (7)** with its branching Joel Shapiro sculpture behind City Hall. It's a great place to watch the sun set.

From the Long Look Garden, continue south to the **Simon Estes Amphitheater (8)**, where summer evenings bring a variety of entertainers, and a picnic on a blanket is the perfect way for enjoying a sunset. Continue south on the sidewalk, under a row of old oaks, with panoramic views of the city.

Finally, cross the iconic red **Union Railway Bridge (9)**, where you're likely to see weekend bridal parties posing for photos or a couple leaning on a railing and enjoying a cocktail at sunset. From there, turn right past the pump station to return to the Hub Spot.

Still feel like moving? From the Riverwalk, trails stretch in every direction, including north to Saylorville Lake, south to the James W. Cownie Sports Complex, or west to Gray's Lake Park and Des Moines Water Works Park.

Route Scout Isobel Osius, downtown resident since 2005 and member of the Downtown Neighborhood Association. For more info, see desmoinesdna.com.