

MapleHeart Trail

A good route for **All levels of bikers and walkers**

General location Northwest Elkhart County

Route access points

- a** Franklin St parking lot in Elkhart
- b** Intersection of Sterling Ave and Lusher Ave
- c** Ox Bow County Park
- d** Abshire Park in Goshen

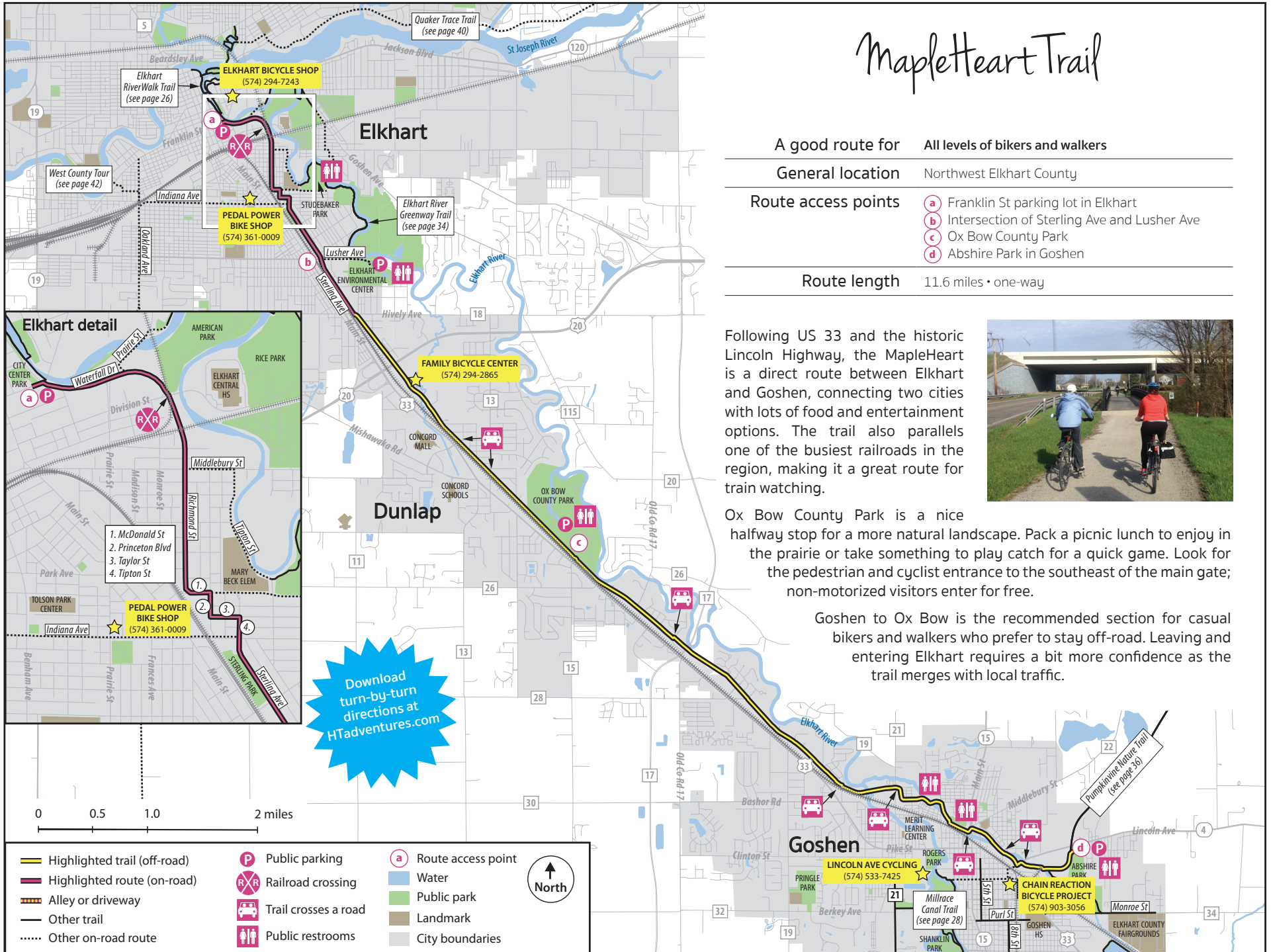
Route length 11.6 miles • one-way

Following US 33 and the historic Lincoln Highway, the MapleHeart is a direct route between Elkhart and Goshen, connecting two cities with lots of food and entertainment options. The trail also parallels one of the busiest railroads in the region, making it a great route for train watching.



Ox Bow County Park is a nice halfway stop for a more natural landscape. Pack a picnic lunch to enjoy in the prairie or take something to play catch for a quick game. Look for the pedestrian and cyclist entrance to the southeast of the main gate; non-motorized visitors enter for free.

Goshen to Ox Bow is the recommended section for casual bikers and walkers who prefer to stay off-road. Leaving and entering Elkhart requires a bit more confidence as the trail merges with local traffic.



What's Your Style?

Everyone has a different reason for getting on the trail or taking off on a county road. Knowing what you most enjoy about biking and walking will help you choose the right route.



CONFIDENT, BUT CAUTIOUS

- Your route is mostly on trail and sidewalk.
- Some sections require merging with car traffic, but only on local, low-traffic roads.
- You will often be in busier parts of town, close to some good food and entertainment.



CASUAL

- Your route is entirely on off-road trails.
- Expect very few road crossings, if any, and lots of opportunities to view wildlife.
- You will be in the quieter, slow-paced corners of our communities.



STRONG & FEARLESS

- Your route is mostly on county roads, but you will also see sections of our off-road trails.
- Some routes have long, straight stretches great for getting in training mileage. Some will require more navigation.
- You will be in the rural areas of the county, passing Amish farms and corn fields.

Gear Up

You can walk and bike in any weather if you have the right gear!

Walking in the rain can be a very relaxing activity, but only if you are dressed right. Wear a venting jacket with hood, waterproof boots, and two pairs of socks. Carry a water-proof bag for items that should not get wet.

Bicyclists should invest in a good riding poncho that attaches over the handlebars to keep your legs dry. Fenders with mud flaps and water-proof shoe covers are well worth the money, too.

The key to walking and biking in cold weather is wearing several layers so you can remove some as your body warms up. Overheating is a real concern, so remember to wear breathable materials. Wide bike tires with tread are a necessity to bike in snow.

CYCLISTS: CHECK YOUR A, B, C'S **A** Air **B** Brakes **C** Chain



Need to make a connection? Check out the Interurban Trolley map and schedule at interurbantrolley.com. You can secure up to two bikes on a rack located on the front or back of any Trolley. Then, sit back and relax awhile.

Note: Bicycles are not allowed inside the Trolley. If the rack is full, you must wait for the next available Trolley. Regular fare is \$1.00 per person for each one way trip. Children 5 and under ride free when traveling with an adult.

Does your bike need a tune-up? Do you need new gear or want to rent a bike for the day? These locally-owned businesses can help you.

Pumpkinvine Cyclery

413 N Main St, Middlebury
Tu-F: 10-6, Sat: 9-4
(574) 825-2252
pumpkinvinecyclery.com

Family Bicycle Center

3410 S Main St, Elkhart
M-F: 9-6, Sat: 9-4
(574) 294-2865
familybicyclecenter.com

Lincoln Ave Cycling

430 W Lincoln Ave, Goshen
M-F: 10-6, Sat: 9-4
(574) 533-7425
lincolnavenucycling.com

Elkhart Bicycle Shop

401 E Jackson Blvd, Elkhart
M-F: 10-6, Sat: 9-3
(574) 294-7243
allaboutcycling.net

Want to connect to a community bicycle shop or advocacy group?

Chain Reaction Bicycle Project

510 E Washington St, Goshen
(574) 903-3056
crbp.org

Pedal Power Bike Shop

1320 Prairie St, Elkhart
(574) 361-0009

Bike Elkhart

bikeelkhart.org

Bike Michiana Coalition

bikemichiana.org