

Self-Guided Easton Tours *Bike or Walk*

HISTORIC WATERFRONT AND RAILS TO TRAILS



Easton Point Landing

Tour Time: 1–3½ hours

Each stop allows you to create your own unique experience

Cycling Time: 45 minutes • Safety Rating (4 of 5)

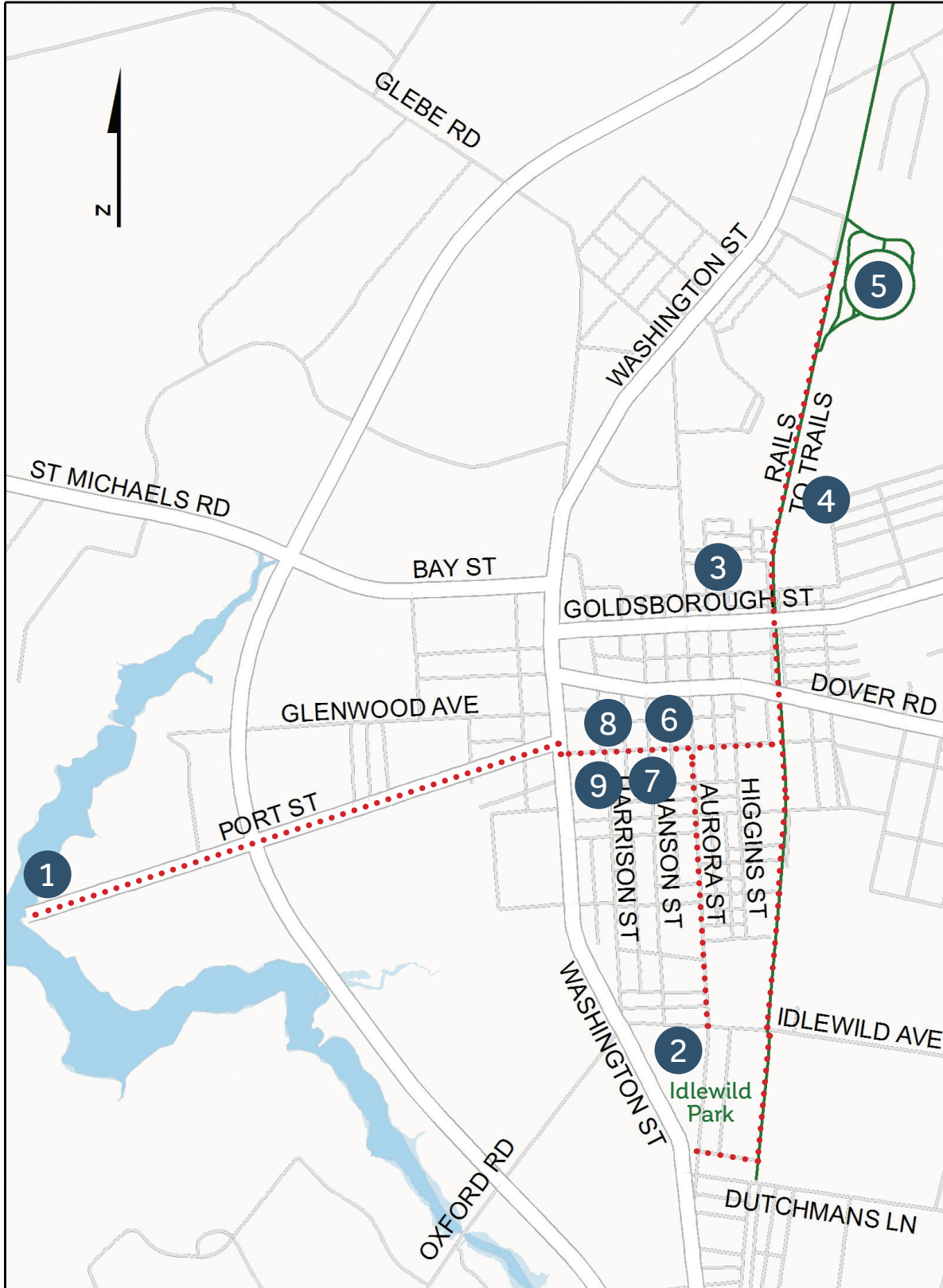
OTHER EASTON TOURS:

Black History • Houses of Worship • Historic Buildings • Fun Facts and Ghost Stories



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- 1 Park at **Easton Point Landing** at Port St.

THINGS TO DO Enjoy Easton's waterfront, rent kayaks at Easton Point Marina, enjoy the views or take advantage of the county boat ramp to fish or catch crabs.

Easton Point, established in the 1790's, was a thriving community where 19 families lived and worked. This landing was the area's transportation hub and link to the larger cities on the Bay. It was used for merchant trade with London and to commute to St. Mary's, Annapolis and Baltimore. During the steamboat era (1819–1930), the landing was the greatest steamboat center on the Eastern Shore. In the late 19th century, the BC&A Railroad docked steam liners here. In more recent times, barges with oil and asphalt have used the landing.

Continue on Port St. through the traffic light at Rt. 322; take a slight jog to right on S. Washington St. Turn left on South St. Turn right onto Aurora St.

- 2 **THINGS TO DO** Enjoy Idlewild Park by riding around or stop to have a picnic.

Turn left on Dutchmans Lane and turn left to enter Easton's Rails to Trails.

- 3 **Easton Rails to Trails:** (1998, TrailLink ID#6016045, 2.5 miles) Runs through the town's historic district. Follow the route of the abandoned railroad line and stop at 46 Pennsylvania Avenue, the old Easton Station of the Baltimore, Chesapeake & Atlantic Railroad, affectionately known as "Black Ashes & Cinders." In the late 1800's, Easton experienced great prosperity due to the advent of the railroad.

Farmers could ship perishable products from the Shore's fertile soil; and formerly isolated communities were linked by the railroad. By 1870, a second train had been added; one for passengers and one for freight. The BC&A line was purchased in 1928 by the Pennsylvania Railroad Co. But the automobile, aided by the Federal Highway Act in 1916, ended the ascendancy of the railroad and the Easton Station was abandoned in 1982. Restored by Historic Easton, Inc., it is now the home of Chesapeake Wildlife Heritage.

- 4 *Continue on the trail and turn right onto Tanyard Wetlands at RTC Park.*



THINGS TO DO Ride the park loop and use the fitness stations! Learn about Tanyard Branch Watershed Project at midshoreriverkeeper.org.

5 Return to Rail to Trails, at the end of the trail turn right and ride the parking lot loop around the A. James Clark Sports Complex at North Easton Park. Exit onto the unpaved track to return to Rails to Trails, go left.

6 Continue on Rails to Trails to South St. Turn right onto South St.

THINGS TO DO Visit The Hill's Archeological Dig Sites and Renovations on South Street. The Hill, bordered by E. Dover, South, Harrison and Talbot streets is believed to be one of the oldest African American settlements in the US. It was settled prior to 1788 as a neighborhood for free blacks and slaves. Frederick Douglass dedicated the churches on The Hill.

7 **Academy Art Museum:** 106 South St. Built in 1820, it was Easton's first chartered school. In the 1960's, it became the home of the Academy.

THINGS TO DO Stop in and view current exhibitions. The Museum's permanent collection includes paintings by Gene Davis, Anne Truitt, modern American and European masters.

8 **Talbot County Visitor and Resource Center:** 11 S. Harrison St. (discovereaston.com, tourtalbot.org) Learn more about things to do and see in Easton and Talbot County.

THINGS TO DO Visit Easton's delectable restaurants and unique shops.

Turn left on S. Harrison St. then right on Glenwood Ave. The Historical Society is at the corner of S. Washington St. and Glenwood Ave.

9 **Talbot Historical Society:** 30 Washington St. (hstc.org)

THINGS TO DO Visit the new museum in the Mary Jenkins House (circa 1790). Exhibits are designed to capture the spirit of Talbot County and feature notable Talbot County residents, Edward and Henrietta Marie Neall Bennett Lloyd, Samuel Hambleton, Frederick Douglass, Frank 'Home Run' Baker and Ruth Starr Rose.

Continue on South St. to Port St. to Easton Point Landing.

