

Pedestrian Friendly

Downtown Akron is a vibrant, walkable Downtown promoting pedestrian activity with tree-lined streets, well marked crosswalks, deep red brick sidewalks, a uniform and attractive streetscape program, flower-filled planters, hanging baskets, flowerscapes and historic buildings with stories to tell.

Downtown's walkable, 42-block area is an entertainment and dining destination with unique restaurants, theaters, art and other cultural attractions, diverse businesses and an active nightlife, all within easy walking distance. These abundant amenities in close proximity have earned a "walk score" (walkscore.com) of 92, making it a "Walker's Paradise."

Benefits of Walking

Walkable neighborhoods offer surprising benefits to the environment, our finances, our health and our communities:

- **Environment:** Cars are a leading cause of pollution and climate change. Your feet are zero-pollution transportation machines.
- **Finances:** Walking means an immediate decrease in driving costs and ultimately health care costs.
- **Health:** Walking can help lower blood pressure, manage weight, lower LDL and raise HDL cholesterol, improve your mood and a myriad of other health benefits.
- **Communities:** Studies show that for every 10 minutes a person spends in a daily car commute, time spent in community activities falls by 10 percent. Walkability is important to local restaurants and merchants who rely on foot traffic.

Tips for Pedestrians

- Cross only at crosswalks. Don't cross between parked cars.
- Make eye contact with drivers at intersections before entering crosswalks.
- Look left, right then left again and keep looking while crossing the street.
- See and be seen – drivers need to see you to avoid you.
- Wear listening devices in only one ear.
- Watch for turning vehicles at intersections, even if you have the right-of-way and are proceeding lawfully.

Tips for Drivers

- Stay focused and alert for pedestrians.
- Watch for pedestrians before executing any turn.
- Pay attention to traffic control signals and posted signs.
- Don't text while driving or engage in any activity that takes your focus away from driving.

Downtown Akron Partnership is committed to keeping Downtown Akron a safe, clean and vibrant place to work, live and play.

Downtown Akron Partnership Ambassadors Hours of Operation Cleaning Ambassadors:

Mon-Fri 7 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Safety Ambassadors:

Mon-Thurs 7 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Friday 7 a.m. - 11 p.m.

Saturday 11 a.m. - 11 p.m.

To report a cleaning issue or a non-emergency safety concern, email safe@downtownakron.com or call **330-374-7612** or **330-374-7676**.

To request an escort, report a problem or request a lockout or jump start or other ambassador services, contact the On Duty Supervisor at **330-706-7383** or the Operations Manager at **330-706-7374**.

To report an emergency situation, call **911**.



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Akron, Ohio 44308

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330-374-7676 • fax 330-374-7620

info@downtownakron.com
safe@downtownakron.com
clean@downtownakron.com

*Promoting and building
a vibrant and valuable Downtown*



Downtown Akron Partnership's free parking app **Parking Friend Akron** is available in iPhone and Android versions with parking information and a Downtown map that allows users to search for restaurants, nightlife, retail and other destinations.



Downtown Akron: a Walkable Downtown



Why not walk?

www.downtownakron.com/walkdowntown

The Downtown Neighborhood

Downtown Akron is a clean, safe and vibrant gathering place in the center of the city with 50 casual and upscale restaurants, an active nightlife, historic buildings, cultural and entertainment venues, a thriving arts community, green spaces, a diverse business environment and unique shopping experiences.

More than 4 million visitors take advantage of Downtown amenities each year that include Lock 3, Lock 4, Akron Art Museum, Main Library, Canal Park Stadium, the Towpath Trail and Akron Civic Theatre. More than 31,000 employees work Downtown daily and 1,600 people call it home.

The Downtown resident population has soared over the past five years with new townhomes, lofts and apartments with additional residential options on the horizon.

Historic and architectural gems hidden throughout Downtown, make any walking journey an adventure.

Visit www.downtownakron.com/walkdowntown for information on walkable points of interest including: walking tours, historic landmarks, architecture, restaurants, nightlife, art walks, entertainment, recreation and culture.

Towpath Trail Access

Walking the towpath today is like walking through history. Mules towed boats along the canal from the towpath. It would take a boat all day to be raised and lowered through the locks.

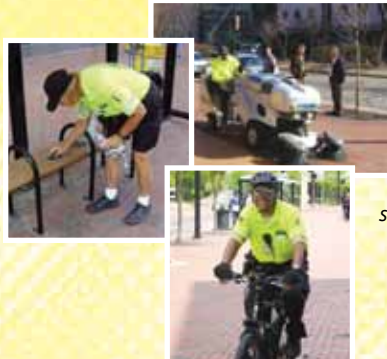
Businesses sprang up to meet the needs of those passing through and Akron was born.

There are several points to access the Ohio & Erie Canalway Towpath Trail in Downtown Akron: Spaghetti Warehouse, the Richard Howe House, Lock 1, Lock 2, Lock 3, Lock 4, State Street, Bowery/Quaker, the Towpath Bridge at the Innerbelt (Route 59), Beech Street and the Mustill Store.



Free weekly summer concerts at Lock 3 and Lock 4 bring thousands of spectators Downtown to enjoy lively entertainment. Events and summer festivals on Main Street provide great food and music as well as a sense of community.

Local arts groups organize monthly Artwalks that feature more than 20 galleries and independent artists the first Saturday of each month (except January).



Downtown ambassadors keep sidewalks clean and safe providing a welcoming environment with safety escorts and other courtesies to make the Downtown experience enjoyable for everyone.

GO events encourage Downtown employees to get out of their offices at lunchtime with unique programming hosted by Downtown businesses and organizations. Events include walking tours, fitness days, outdoor recreation, book clubs and more.



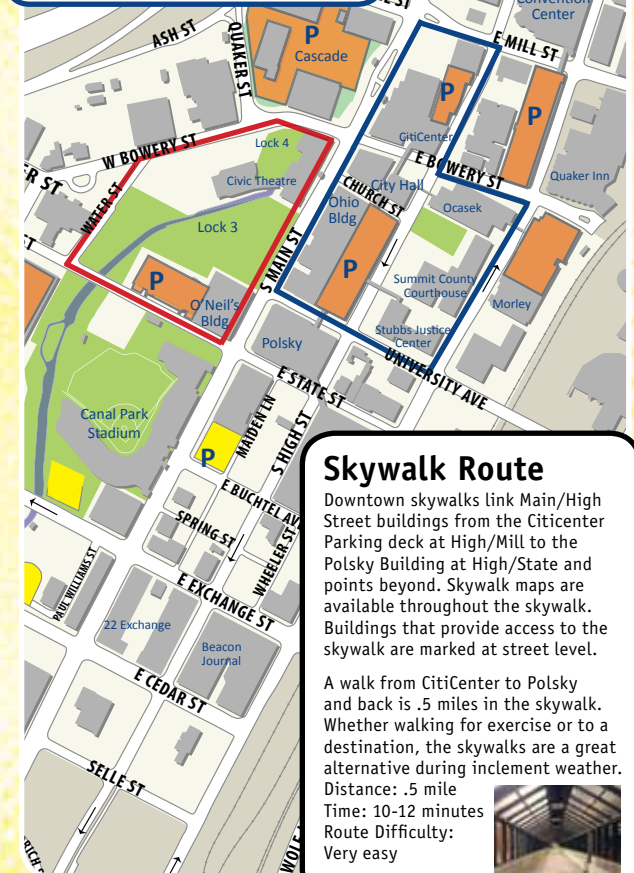
Soothing green spaces, tree-lined streets, flowerscapes, planters and flower baskets create a tranquil environment conducive to walking for pleasure or to your destination.

Red Route

Start at Lock 3 and head north past the Civic Theatre to Main/Bowery. West on Bowery past Lock 4 and Akron Children's Hospital to Bowery/ Exchange. East on Exchange to Main. North on Main will take you back to Lock 3.
Distance: 1.1 miles
Estimated time: 25-30 minutes
Route difficulty: Easy

Blue Route

The Downtown terrain on north/south streets (Main, High and Broadway) is relatively flat. For a more aggressive walk, include some of the east/west connecting streets with a steep eastbound grade. Start at the Ohio Building and head south on Main St. to University Ave. East on University to Broadway; north on Broadway to Bowery; west on Bowery to High; north on High to Mill; west on Mill to Main; south on Main back to the Ohio Bldg.
Distance: 1.4 miles
Estimated time: 35-40 minutes
Route difficulty: Moderate



Skywalk Route

Downtown skywalks link Main/High Street buildings from the CitiCenter Parking deck at High/Mill to the Polsky Building at High/State and points beyond. Skywalk maps are available throughout the skywalk. Buildings that provide access to the skywalk are marked at street level.

A walk from CitiCenter to Polsky and back is .5 miles in the skywalk. Whether walking for exercise or to a destination, the skywalks are a great alternative during inclement weather.
Distance: .5 mile
Time: 10-12 minutes
Route Difficulty: Very easy

