

May - 6.40 Miles

Bison Trail & Pioneers Park Loop

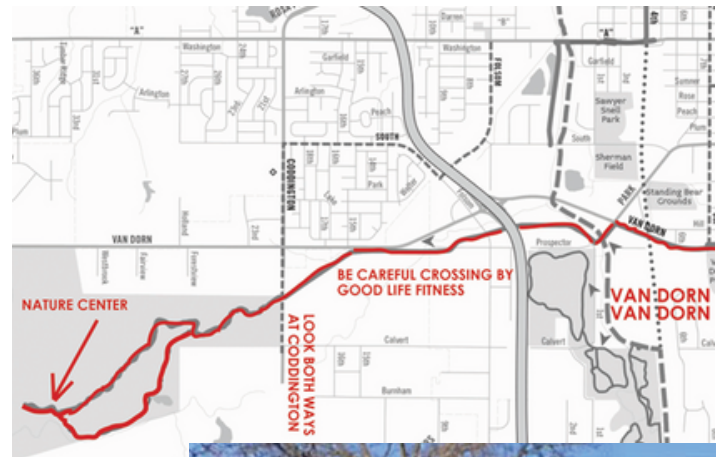


This month, we're exploring Lincoln's west side with two connected favorites: the Bison Trail and the Pioneers Park Loop. These scenic paths offer a mix of city views, quiet nature, and a good chance of spotting wildlife. Whether you're walking, running, or biking, this route gives you a refreshing taste of trails less traveled.

Trail Instructions:

Bison Trail - 2.6 miles

- **Starting Point:** You can begin at Van Dorn Park (9th & Van Dorn) or at the Coddington Ave. entrance to Pioneers Park. We recommend Van Dorn Park for easier parking, better signage, and an early uphill challenge to get your legs warmed up.
- Enter Van Dorn Park from 9th Street, just south of Van Dorn. Look for the Bison Trail sign to begin your route
- **Trail Path:** The trail runs along Van Dorn Street, then turns left onto Park Blvd. After passing Good Life Fitness, cross Park Blvd. carefully to stay on the trail. You'll soon come to a bridge and a four-way intersection of trails.
- To stay on the Bison Trail:
- Cross the bridge and turn right.
- (Going right before the bridge takes you to the Salt Creek Levee Trail; going left before leads to Jamaica North.)
- From there, the trail becomes more peaceful and wooded. Expect a few gentle hills in the middle section. This stretch can feel remote, and it's not unusual to spot deer. The Bison Trail ends at the east entrance to Pioneers Park, where you'll cross S. Coddington Ave



For More Information:

Visit <https://www.gptn.org/lincoln-trail-a-thon>



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Trail Instructions (continued):

Pioneers Park Loop – 3.8 miles

- **Starting Point:** Begin at the east entrance of Pioneers Park, where the Bison Trail ends. You'll see trail signage and small parking areas near the buffalo circle or a gravel lot a bit farther into the park.
- **Trail Path:** As you approach the limestone columns, you'll reach a fork.
 - Veer left to follow the main loop past the outdoor theater, lake, and playground.
 - This direction brings you up a long, steep hill by the sledding area and back around to the columns.
- Want to avoid the hill?
 - Veer right at the columns instead, and you'll head down the slope rather than up.
- **Optional Detour:** There's a short out-and-back section just before the sledding hill. Take this side path to the Nature Center sign and return, or continue farther to explore around the bison pastures. This detour can add mileage or be skipped to keep your loop closer to 3.8 miles.
- **End Point:** The loop finishes where you started — back at the columns.



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