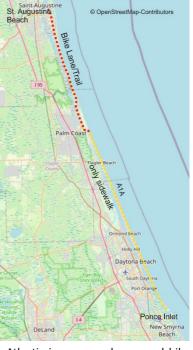
## A1A: Ponce Inlet – Daytona Beach – Flagler Beach – Marineland – St. Augustine Beach along A1A, 60 mi

Unfortunately, this route along the Atlantic Ocean, with its beautiful landscape, is the least developed and you cannot really describe the existing short trail sections as a bike trail, bikers usually share the busy road. Therefore, there is no exact description here with mileage. And I don't really recommend riding this trail.

From Ponce Inlet in the south to Marineland, there is at least one continuous walkway along A1A. But this is not suitable for bicycles for the most part. Around Ponce Inlet and Wilbur-by-the Sea there is a wider sidewalk, but the whole Daytona area has small sidewalks not usable for bikes. From Ormond-by-the-Sea the sidewalk becomes wider and could be used by bicycles, although most of them also ride on the busy road. But soon in Flagler Beach it is narrow again. Only from Palm



Coast, where the A1A turns away from the Atlantic in a curve, does a real bike lane/trail start. We start the description at **Varn Park**, since from there to St. Augustine it is at least a little bit safer.

### Varn Park – Bings Landing – Marineland – Crescent Beach – St. Augustine, 27 mi

Start: Varn Park	N29 32.986 W81 09.709
Bings Landing (Mala Compra Trail)	N29 36.905 W81 12.171
End: St. Augustine Beach, Alligator Farm or	N29 52.880 W81 17.253
Bridge of Lions	N29 53.567 W81 18.654



**Mi 0 Varn Park**, N29 32.986 W81 09.709, with parking and restrooms. Bike lane on the east side of the road. Shortly afterwards, the A1A turns away from the Atlantic in a wide curve. From here the bike trail is partly separated from the road by a line to the right and left of the lane, but partly winding as a trail nicely through the forest.

**Mi 4.5** We reach 16<sup>th</sup> Rd. Here is Mala Compra South Trailhead, N29 36.095 W81 11.842.

Mi 5 Rain shelter with picnic tables, N29 36.539 W81 12.001.

**Mi 5.5 Bings Landing**, N29 36.905 W81 12.171. Large boat dock and parking. Very good restaurant with brisket. On the eastern side of A1A is the start of **Mala Compra MTB Trail**, N29 36.899 W81 12.150.

#### Author's recommendation

Instead of continuing to Marineland you could take the **Mala Compra Trail** to the ocean, see page 102. The park has a one-way mountain bike trail as a loop of 5.5 miles and a 2.5 miles hiking / biking trail, with a branch to the beach through wonderful nature.



Mi 9 River-to-Sea Trailhead shortly before Marineland. Huge parking next to the beach and restrooms. End of the sidewalk and the bike trail, N29 39.989 W81 12.737. For a short while take the shoulder next to A1A.

**Mi 12** After **Matanzas Bridge** starts the bike lane again. It is just a small lane, divided by the road by a line,



on both sides of the road. It is not very safe, and crossing the streets is not secured.

Mi 17 We cross SR 206 in Crescent Beach, N29 46.236 W81 15.253.

**Mi 19** In **Butler Beach**, N29 48.261 W81 15.923, the sidewalk is now wider and can be used by bikes, but the lane is still there.

**Mi 23** In **St. Augustine Beach**, N29 51.650 W81 16.894, we cross SR 312, this is a connection to the St. Augustine – Palatka Trail.

**Mi 25** Near the **Alligator Farm** and **Anastasia State Park** end of bike lane, N29 52.880 W81 17.253. Free parking is possible for a few cars at the begin of Anastasia Park, but there is also Hamilton Upchurch Neighborhood Park with more parking.

It is possible to continue to St. Augustine with the bike. There is a shoulder, but the road can also be shared.

**Mi 27 Bridge of Lions**. Continue straight to the historic part of town.

# Road Connection from A1A Trail to St. Augustine – Palatka Trail, 10 mi

Trail see page 18, map page 10.

I describe here the connection from the A1A bike lane via SR 312 and SR 207 to Vermont Heights Trailhead. SR 312 has a narrow shoulder marked as bike lane, SR 207 a bike lane next to the road. Only the intersections are difficult.



**Mi 0** St. Augustine Beach, intersection A1A / SR 312. Take narrow shoulder along SR 312.

Mi 3.6 Turn left on SR 207, N29 52.068 W81 20.378, shoulder marked as bike lane.

Mi 10 Vermont Heights Trailhead. Connect with Palatka Trail.

It would be possible to reach the SR 207 from St. Augustine historic center, but I didn't try this.