







4 EAST WETLANDS

This nature preserve is considered one of the most remarkable wetlands restoration areas in the desert Southwest.

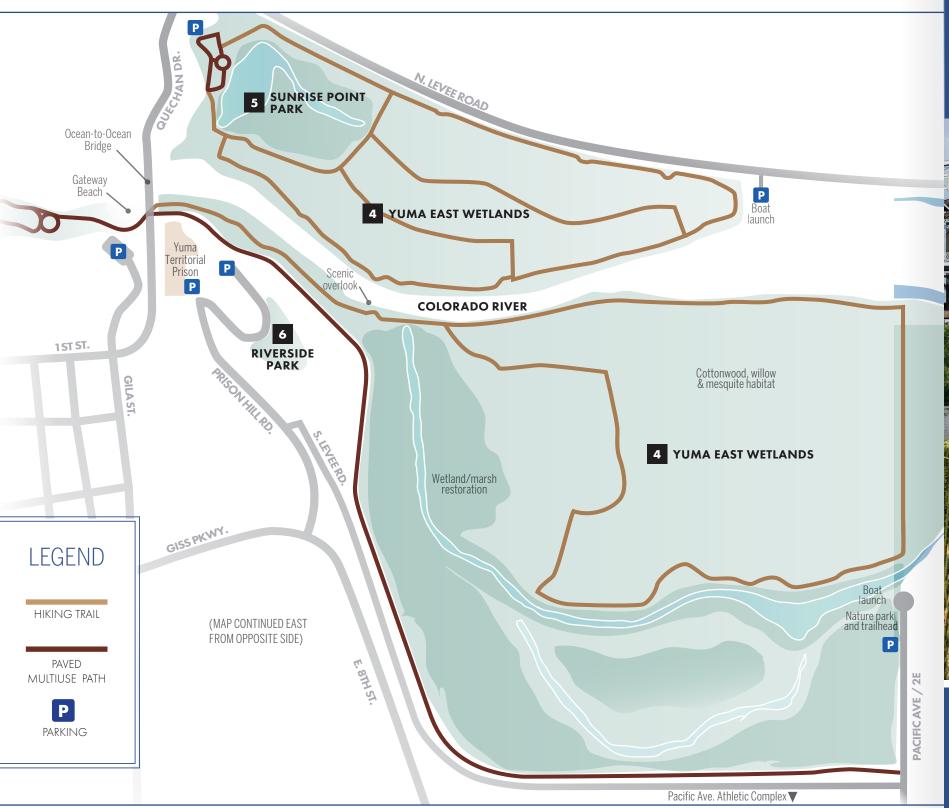
Through a unique partnership among the Quechan Indian Tribe, City of Yuma, Arizona Game and Fish Department, and the Yuma Crossing National Heritage Area, more than 200,000 native species of trees and grasses have been planted over its 400 acres since 2004. On the south side of the Colorado River, there is a 3.5-mile signed hiking trail. For those interested in a shorter walk, there is a beautiful overlook along the river about one-half mile upstream from Gateway Park, affording a 360-degree view of the wetlands. Part of the paved riverfront path extends along the edge of the Yuma East Wetlands on a canal levee.

5 SUNRISE POINT PARK

On the north side of river, the Quechan Indian Tribe has developed a spectacular park amidst the wetlands, Sunrise Point Park (Anya Nitz Pak), overlooking a restored marsh and 40 acres of the finest stands of native cottonwoods and willows along the lower Colorado River. The park is reflective of the tribe's culture, so please be respectful of its authentic features.

6 RIVERSIDE PARK

The park is located close to the Colorado River, between the Yuma Territorial Prison and the Yuma East Wetlands, and features picnic tables, barbecues, a ramada, and restrooms. A highlight of the park is more than 3,000 feet of track for a ½ scale steam railroad built and maintained by the Yuma Territory Live Steamers railroad club. The club offers public rides on certain weekends between October and May. Go to the website at YumaLiveSteamers.org for more information and schedule details.



Yuma, Arizona WATERFRONT PARKS & TRAIL SYSTEM Along the Colorado River





1 WEST WETLANDS

This park was the original site of Yuma's "City Dump". It closed in 1970, and Yumans dreamed of converting these 110 blighted acres into a beautiful riverfront park. Today these dreams are becoming a reality.

With local, state and federal financial support, the first phase of the park opened in 2002, including the lake, picnic ramadas, boat ramp, restrooms, parking and picnic areas. Each year since, more and more features have been added, including the Ed Pastor Hummingbird Garden, a lighted multi-use pathway, Army of the West statue, a disc golf course, and the Stewart Vincent Wolfe Memorial Playground, that kids love to call "Castle Park".

Improvements to the park's riverfront include clearing and planting the bank line, riverfront trails and beaches, and wan education grove where all ages can learn about the wetlands environment.

2 PIVOT POINT INTERPRETIVE PLAZA

This spot is impossible to miss, as a massive 1907 Baldwin steam locomotive is located on the exact spot where the first train entered the Arizona Territory in 1877. With 16 colorful panels describing how people crossed the mighty Colorado River at Yuma over the centuries, the plaza provides an excellent introduction to the history of the Yuma Crossing, a National Historic Landmark. It also preserves the concrete pivot on which the original swing-span bridge turned to allow steamships to pass on the river which — before dams were built and water was diverted to Los Angeles, Phoenix and Las Vegas — came up to the level of the plaza. A staircase from the plaza leads into Gateway Park.

3 GATEWAY PARK

This is Yuma's downtown riverfront park, and one of the busiest in the park system. With convenient vehicle access off Gila Street and shaded parking under Interstate 8, Gateway Park has a large beach, picnic ramadas close to the water, restrooms, playground, and large stretches of tree-covered lawns. It is located at the center of the riverfront multi-use pathway, with a magnificent view of the historic Ocean-to-Ocean Highway Bridge.

Don't miss the detailed trail map and information on the Yuma East Wetlands restoration area, Sunrise Point Park, and Riverside Park on the opposite side! ►



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