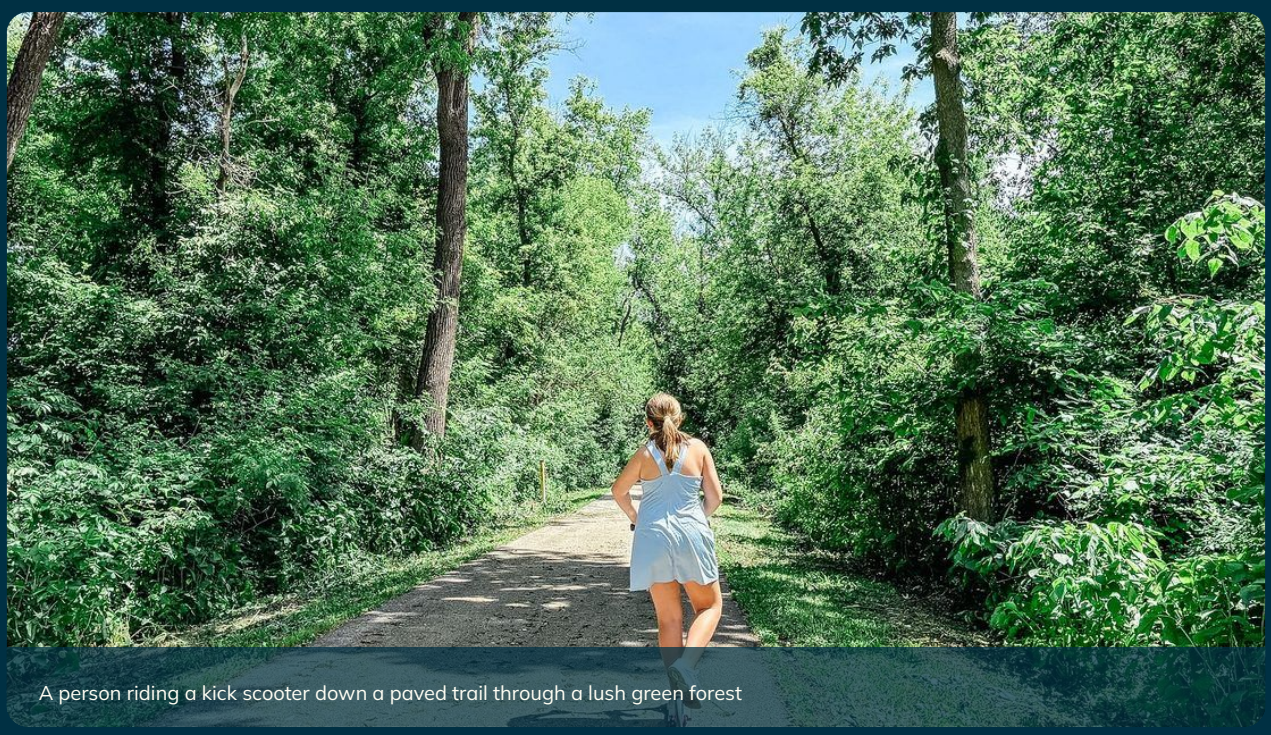
visit nw illinois

MOBILE GUIDE

ITINERARY · NORTHWEST ILLINOIS

ENJOY THE PERFECT FALL ADVENTURE ON THE GREAT RIVER TRAIL

Spend the day exploring the Mississippi River by bike! The Great River Trail travels over 60 miles from Savanna, IL to Rock Island, IL (one of the Quad Cities) and features stunning views along the way. The first 5 miles of the trail are paved and have very limited street crossings, making it a great activity for the entire family. Rent an e-bike from cSavanna Adventures at the start of the trail and head 5-10 miles along the trail for beautiful views, peaceful sounds, and wildlife sightings.



A person riding a kick scooter down a paved trail through a lush green forest

Few Hours	4	Carroll Coun-ty	2
HOW LONG	STOPS	COUNTY	BEST FOR
			Families, Outdoors

OPEN ONLINE

Open the live itinerary
visitnwillinois.com/itineraries/enjoy-the-perfect-fall-adventur...

DAY 1

THE TRIP

Created by Lily from the SHRPA creator visit “Experience Fall on the Mississippi”. Location: Savanna · Distance: > 10 Miles What to bring: Helmet; Camera; Binoculars; Sunscreen; Sunglasses; Water Bottle. SHRPA creator visit: “Experience Fall on the Mississippi”.

DRIVING ROUTE

Open this day in Google Maps

www.google.com/maps/dir/?api=1&origin=Savan...

4 PLANNED STOPS

1

SCENIC STOP

cSavanna Adventures

Savanna

WHY IT BELONGS

cSavanna Adventures is located at the marina in downtown Savanna and takes care of all your outdoor adventure needs. Well-known for their kayak and tubing trips, they also rent e-bikes for an adventure on the Great River Trail. E-Bikes can be rented by the hour and are top-notch. The e-bikes are throttle-controlled and pedal-assisted so you can ride them at your own speed, depending on what you are feeling.

Pro tip: Reservations are required May - October!

Address: Train Caboose, 1 Main St, Savanna, IL

OPEN IN MAPS

2

SCENIC STOP

Spring Lake - Boardwalk

Savanna Township

WHY IT BELONGS

Located just a few minutes ride from cSavanna is a boardwalk where you can see sweeping views of the Mississippi marshes. Spend some time taking in the views, birdwatching, or listening to the relaxing sounds of the nature around you. There does appear to be a short gravel trail there, but it was gated off when I visited the area.

Pro tip: Make sure to take in the views from the path opposite the boardwalk - they are equally impressive!

Address: Savanna Township, IL

OPEN IN MAPS

3

SCENIC STOP

Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge Spring Lake

Savanna

WHY IT BELONGS

Spring Lake is a beautiful area located just off the bike path with benches, viewing lenses, and walking trails. Check out the 4-mile Spring Lake Loop which is gravel and flat, or the tad longer West Break Trail which is a 4.7-mile flat and grassy trail. There is a paved parking lot with plenty of spots and you can see great views even without completing the hikes.

Pro tip: This is a great spot for birdwatching and wildlife spotting!

Address: IL-84, Savanna, IL

VIEW SOURCE OPEN IN MAPS

4

SCENIC STOP

Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge - Ingersoll Wetlands Learning Center

Thomson

WHY IT BELONGS

Head to Ingersoll Wetlands Learning Center to learn about plants and wildlife of the Mississippi, experience hands-on exhibits, and take in gorgeous marsh views and potential animal sightings. The Learning Center is free to visit and is open Monday through Friday from 8am until 4pm. It is also open on Saturdays from May through September.

Pro tip: There is a bike rack at the back of the parking lot and I suggest exploring the Center and then walking around to the back of the Center to take in the marsh views.

Address: 6870 Riverview Rd, Thomson, IL

VIEW SOURCE OPEN IN MAPS