

Devon Urban Trail

LOCATION: Town of Devon

LENGTH: 2 km $(1\frac{1}{4} \text{ miles})$ (local trails of approximately 14 km in length)

SURFACE: Most is natural, some has been graveled; other parts have been covered in wood chips.

WIDTH: 2.5 m. $(8\frac{1}{4} \text{ feet})$ (some areas do narrow).

PERMITTED USES: Hiking, Walking, Cycling, Cross Country Skiing.

TRAIL OPERATOR: Town of Devon, Nº1 Columbia Avenue W., Devon, Alberta T9G 1A1. Telephone (780) 987-8300. **TYPE OF TRAIL:** The northern portion of the trail is a natural surface and follows along the edge of the North Saskatchewan River. The southern portion, which is also a natural surface, works its way through a large ravine. Both sections of the trail take you through fairly heavily wooded areas and at most times, you would not even realize that you are in an urban setting.

HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE: Devon was built as a company town for Imperial Oil. It was named for the Devonian rock formation, which holds vast amounts of oil. The discovery well, named Leduc No1, lies just south of Devon. Its completion in 1947 marked the beginning of Alberta's oil boom.

TERRAIN: The trail travels through wooded areas with a number of very scenic views of the North Saskatchewan River and native wildlife. The majority of the trail is quite manageable however there are a few slopes that are steep enough and long enough to get your heart pumping.

ACCESS: The trail can be accessed in Devon by traveling east on Saskatchewan Avenue all the way down into the River Valley. Just past the Golf Course turn off you will find a parking lot. The trail can be accessed just to the east of the parking lot.

SIGNAGE: New signage complete with Trans Canada Trail markers is being developed. The trail signs along this portion of the trail incorporate a map of the Town of Devon with the trail's notes on it. Maps are updated annually.

FACILITIES: The town of Devon has full facilities. The trail passes very close to the Devon Golf Club where all are welcome to stop for a meal or refreshments. The trail also passes through the Lions Campground where washrooms can be found. The University of Alberta Devonian Botanical Gardens are located just a few kilometers north of Devon.

POINTS OF INTEREST: There are a number of natural inhabitants in this area and it is not uncommon to see wildlife such as beavers, deer and coyotes. Just 2 kilometers south of downtown Devon you can find the Leduc Nº1 historical site and museum, which is home to the Canadian Oilfield Hall of

Fame.



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