



L'ÉTOILE DU NORD TRAIL OF THE NORTH STAR

Historic journey through downtown
Saint Paul, Minnesota

See map the other side

L'Étoile du Nord Trail (Trail of the North Star) has been established in the downtown area of St. Paul. The Trail is intended to familiarize hikers with an area of great historical value.

IMPORTANT NOTES

1. Vehicles may be parked free on the streets adjacent to the Cathedral, in designated areas.
2. There is no time limit to finish the hike. Take your time and enjoy the buildings and the surroundings as you go.
3. Wear sensible shoes. This walk is mostly on concrete.
4. Obey all traffic signals at intersections.
5. Water and restrooms are available in public buildings at many places along the trail.
6. DO NOT LITTER. If you eat on the trail, dispose of litter in the proper trash cans.
7. Many questions are intended for educational value, while others are just for fun.

8. Some locations have free information brochures which you can read later for more information.

When finished, present this answer sheet to any Northern Star Council Scout Shop to purchase a medal and/or patch.
Call 651-224-4175 for prices and availability.

The hike begins at 240 Summit Avenue, the historic house of James J. Hill.

1. The mansion built by railroad baron James J. Hill was completed in what year? _____ His nickname was? _____

For questions 2 - 8, explore the interior of St. Paul Cathedral, which was designed after St. Peter's Basilica in Rome.

2. When did construction begin? _____
When was it completed? _____

3. Who was the founder of the Cathedral? _____

4. Who faces the statue of the "Infant of Prague" _____

5. On a column under the dome is a small plaque. What Cardinal came to the Cathedral on October 27, 1936 and later became Pope Pius XII? _____

6. Name the 4 angels on the pillars holding up the dome: _____

Behind the altar are a series of alcoves that contain The Shrine of Nations

7. What does the faucet in The Shrine of Nations dispense? _____

8. How many statues of Saints are in The Shrine of Nations? _____

Across John Ireland Blvd. from the Cathedral is a flag pole with a small marker at the base. It contains the answer to question 9

9. On February 17, 1921, the first _____ in the world took place here.

Next walk along John Ireland Blvd toward the Minnesota History Center. A tall monument erected in memory of Civil War veterans reveals the answers to questions 10 and 11

10. Who was the first man to volunteer in the First Minnesota Infantry? _____

11. When was the monument erected? _____
By whom? _____

Inside the Minnesota History Center:

12. What four animals are depicted by symbols engraved on the rotunda floor? _____

From here, proceed along John Ireland Blvd. toward the State Capitol Building. Along the way answer questions 13 - 20

13. The gray naval gun from the USS sank a Japanese _____ near Pearl Harbor on _____

14. To whom is the statue of the Vietnam Veteran dedicated? _____

15. What quote from Archibald Macleish is on the black Vietnam Memorial wall? _____

16. A statue of a man and boy is of what famous aviator born in Little Falls, Minnesota? _____

17. On the Roy Wilkins memorial "Spiral for Justice", how many "doors" are along the outer walls? _____

18. What do the walls symbolize? _____

To the west of the Capitol Building is a statue of Leif Erickson. On it are answers 19 and 20.

19. What is on the chain around his neck? _____

20. What did Leif Erickson do in 1000 AD? _____

The Minnesota Capitol Building features the largest unsupported dome in the world. Note the 4 gold horses at its base. Search inside the Capitol Building to answer 21-26.

21. What was the approx. cost of the Capitol Building and its land? _____

22. Who was the Capitol Building architect? _____

23. In the first floor portrait gallery, who was the 21st Governor of Minnesota? _____

24. How many columns surround the first floor rotunda? _____

25. What words are on the shields above the eagles on the 3rd floor railings? _____

26. The Supreme Court is on the 2nd floor. How many judges are on the court? _____

Outside again, head east for the answer to 27
27. Whose statue faces the Minnesota Judicial center? _____

Leave the Capitol area and head Southeast on Cedar Street

28. What is the nickname of the Church of St. Louis? _____

29. When was the bell outside the church made? _____

30. Who dedicated the church in the year 1868? _____

31. When was the Central Presbyterian Church founded? _____

32. Who was the first pastor of Central Presbyterian? _____

33. When was the cornerstone laid? _____

Questions continue on reverse

Head South on Cedar Street; you will pass Minnesota Public Radio, the World Trade Center and the Pioneer Press Buildings. Turn right onto Fourth Street.

34. What 3 story statue is inside the St. Paul City Hall and Courthouse? _____

Look on the exterior walls of City Hall for these answers

35. When was City Hall built? _____
 36. What is in the bas relief statue to the right of the door? _____

The next 3 questions are from the statue at Landmark Tower at 4th and St. Peter St.

37. What does the statue "La Nova Vita" represent? _____
 38. When was the statue dedicated? _____
 39. How many heads does it have? _____

Continue west on Fourth Street, the next 3 questions involve the James J. Hill Library

40. When did James J. Hill die? _____
 41. When did the library open? _____
 42. What kind of marble is the library made of? _____

Explore Rice Park for answers 43-49

43. What famous theater is next to Rice Park? _____
 44. When was the park dedicated as a public square? _____

45. What are the streets around Rice Park made of? _____

46. What two U.S. Presidents visited Rice Park in 1883 to celebrate completion of the Northern Pacific Railroad? _____

47. What is the statue of Peppermint Patty kicking? _____

48. What the seated statue of Marcie holding? _____

Charles Schultz, creator of Peanuts, was born and lived in St. Paul; the Peanuts statues in Rice Park were placed there in his honor

49. Whose statue is at the corner of Market and 5th? _____

Visit the displays in the lobbies and basement of the Landmark Center. In the basement:

50. Who was the first District Attorney in 1902? _____

Across Kellogg Street from the Hill Library is the new Minnesota Science Museum

51. Outside the Museum is a painted circle in the pavement. How wide is it? _____
 What does it represent? _____

52. Next to the Museum is a power plant. What is its fuel? _____

Enter the Museum lobby for the next answer; visit the Mississippi River Visitor Center in the lobby while you are there.

53. What kind of skeleton is hanging from the ceiling in the lobby? _____

Return to Rice Park, then continue on to the corner of Seventh and St. Peter for the final question.

54. What restaurant is on the National Register of Historic Places? _____

This trail was originally developed by Boy Scout Troop 499 of Apple Valley, Minn., in connection with Marc Flury's Eagle Service Project and was updated in early 2007.

