



2024

TrailLink Unlimited



Guides



Ashuwillticook Rail Trail
Massachusetts



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Overview

Visitors to the Ashuwillticook Rail Trail will find the full splendor of the scenic Berkshires along a 13.7-mile paved trail. The Ashuwillticook (ash-oo-will-ti-cook) follows MA 8 through the Hoosic River valley between Lanesborough and Adams while providing views of mountains, lakes, and rivers, as well as turning leaves in autumn.

About the Route

The Ashuwillticook Rail Trail leaves off from its northern endpoint at Lime St. in the small town of Adams. The trail here passes through the heart of Adams. Trail users here can see old mill buildings on the far shore of the Hoosic River.

The route parallels the town's restored main street that boasts quaint stores and eateries. Archways and banners throughout Adams sport a black bear riding a bicycle, a nod to both the trail and the resident black bear population. The old passenger station still stands at 10 Pleasant Street, and parking is available at the visitor center, 3 Hoosac Street.

In Cheshire, south of Adams, trail users can find snacks and refreshments in a trailside business housed in an old Boston & Albany Railroad Station.

After passing the 418-acre Cheshire Reservoir, the trail passes by Berkshire Pond. Along its 2.4-mile trailside shoreline, trail users might see anglers casting for bass, northern pike, and yellow perch. Keep your eyes open for ospreys and herons, as well as turtles sunning themselves on logs. The pond also offers views of Mount Greylock, the highest point in the state, across the lake.

The route continues south past Berkshire Pond as it heads south towards Pittsfield. Most trailside stops along this section of the route fall on the wrong side of a busy state highway, so trail users are advised to pack food with them.

Trail History

The Ashuwillticook Rail Trail owes its existence to the Pittsfield and North Adams Railroad, which sought to extend the Housatonic Railroad from Pittsfield, Massachusetts, to Rutland, Vermont, in the 1840s. The Western Railroad acquired the line before its completion, and it was later operated by the Boston & Albany Railroad, the New York Central, and finally the Boston and Maine Railroad. The corridor became disused in 1990, and residents gained support for a multi-use trail. It opened in three phases in 2001, 2004, and 2017.



Ashwilticook Rail Trail

Massachusetts

States: Massachusetts

Counties: Berkshire

Length: 13.7miles

Trail end points: 65 Print Works Dr (Adams) to
850 Crane Ave (Pittsfield)

Trail surfaces: Asphalt

Trail category: Rail-Trail

Trail activities: Bike, Inline

Skating, Fishing, Wheelchair

Accessible, Walking, Cross Country Skiing

Parking & Trail Access

The Ashwilticook Rail Trail runs between 65 Print Works Dr (Adams) and 850 Crane Ave (Pittsfield), where parking is available.

Parking is also available at:

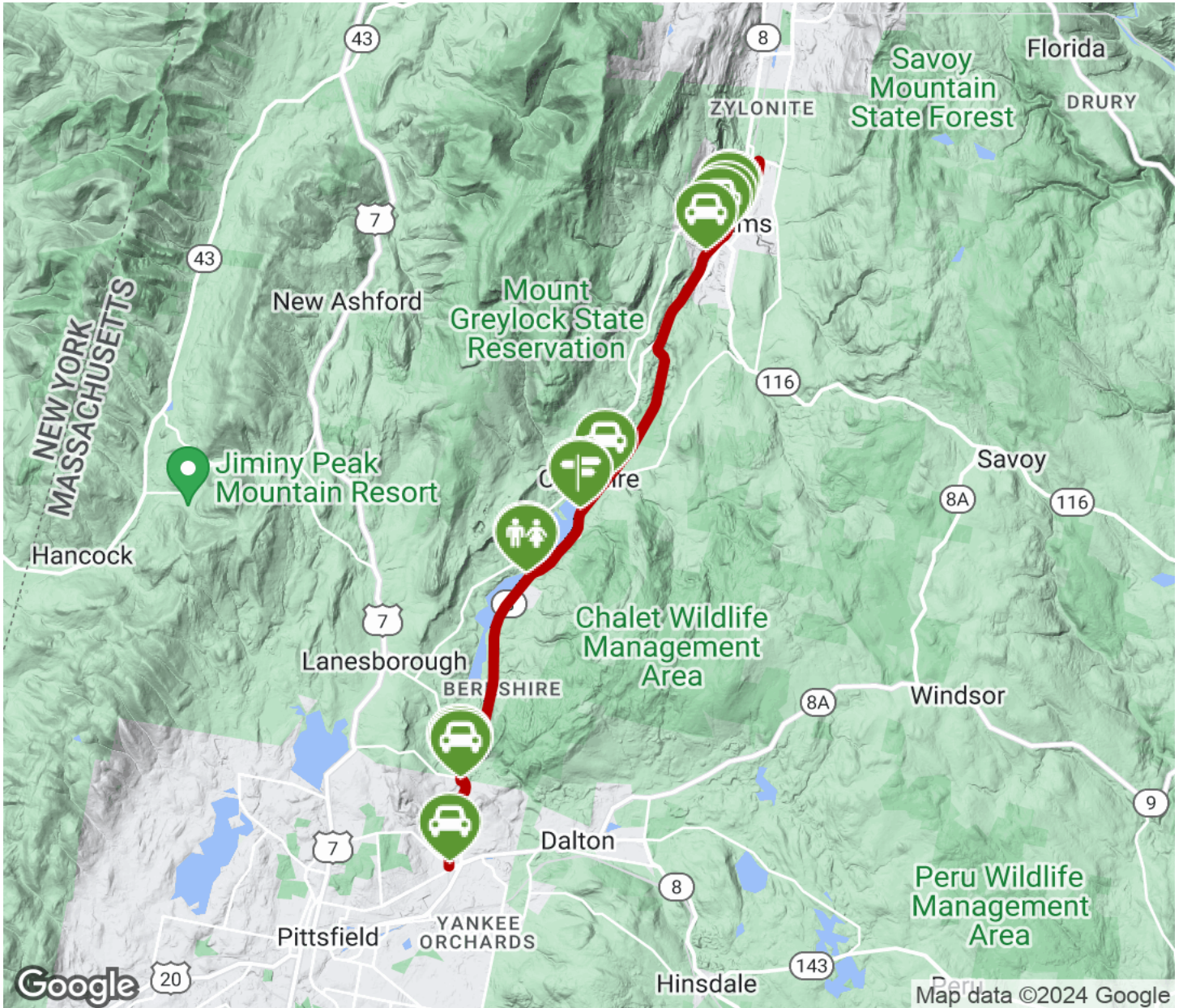
- 3 Hoosac St (Adams)

Please see [TrailLink Map](#) for all parking options and detailed directions.



Ashuwillticook Rail Trail

Massachusetts



Trailhead



Restroom



Parking



Water Fountain



Tunnel



TrailLink
by Rails-to-Trails Conservancy

TrailLink.com