



2024

TrailLink Unlimited 

Guides



**Palatka-to-
Lake Butler
State Trail**
Florida



Palatka-to-Lake Butler State Trail

Florida

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Rolling out of the city's west side, the Palatka-to-Lake Butler State Trail offers a slice of quiet paradise, journeying about 36.5 miles to Keystone Heights through well-canopied forests, pine flatwoods, picturesque countryside and wet prairies.

About the Route

The Palatka-to-Lake Butler State Trail has 4.1 miles of paved asphalt in Lake Butler and 32.4 miles of paved asphalt between Hampton and Palatka.

Travelers might see black bears, white-tailed deer, bobcats, turkeys, snakes and even one of Florida's most

famed inhabitants, alligators.

Dogs are welcome, but must remain on a handheld leash (six feet or shorter).

Connections

In Keystone Heights, travelers can make a connection to a [spur trail](#) to travel 7 miles to Gold Head Branch State Park, which offers a wealth of amenities and recreational opportunities, including camping and an equestrian trail.

On the southern end of the trail, only a 2.5-mile gap stands between it and the [Palatka-to-St. Augustine State Trail](#). Together, with an additional planned 25-mile trail between Lake Butler and Lake City, these trails will form the developing 101-mile Lake City-to-St. Augustine Rail Trail.

Trail History

The Palatka-to-Lake Butler State Trail follows the former Norfolk-Southern Railroad right-of-way.



Palatka-to-Lake Butler State Trail

Florida

States: Florida

Counties: Bradford, Clay, Putnam, Union

Length: 36.5 miles

Trail end points: SW 6th Ave (Lake Butler) to Reid St (Palatka)

Trail surfaces: Asphalt

Trail category: Rail-Trail

Trail activities: Bike, Inline

Skating, Wheelchair Accessible, Horseback

Riding, Walking

Parking & Trail Access

The Palatka-to-Lake Butler State Trail runs between SW 6th Ave (Lake Butler) & SE County Rd 237; and between Navarre Ave (Hampton) & Reid St (Palatka).

The three main trailheads for the trail are:

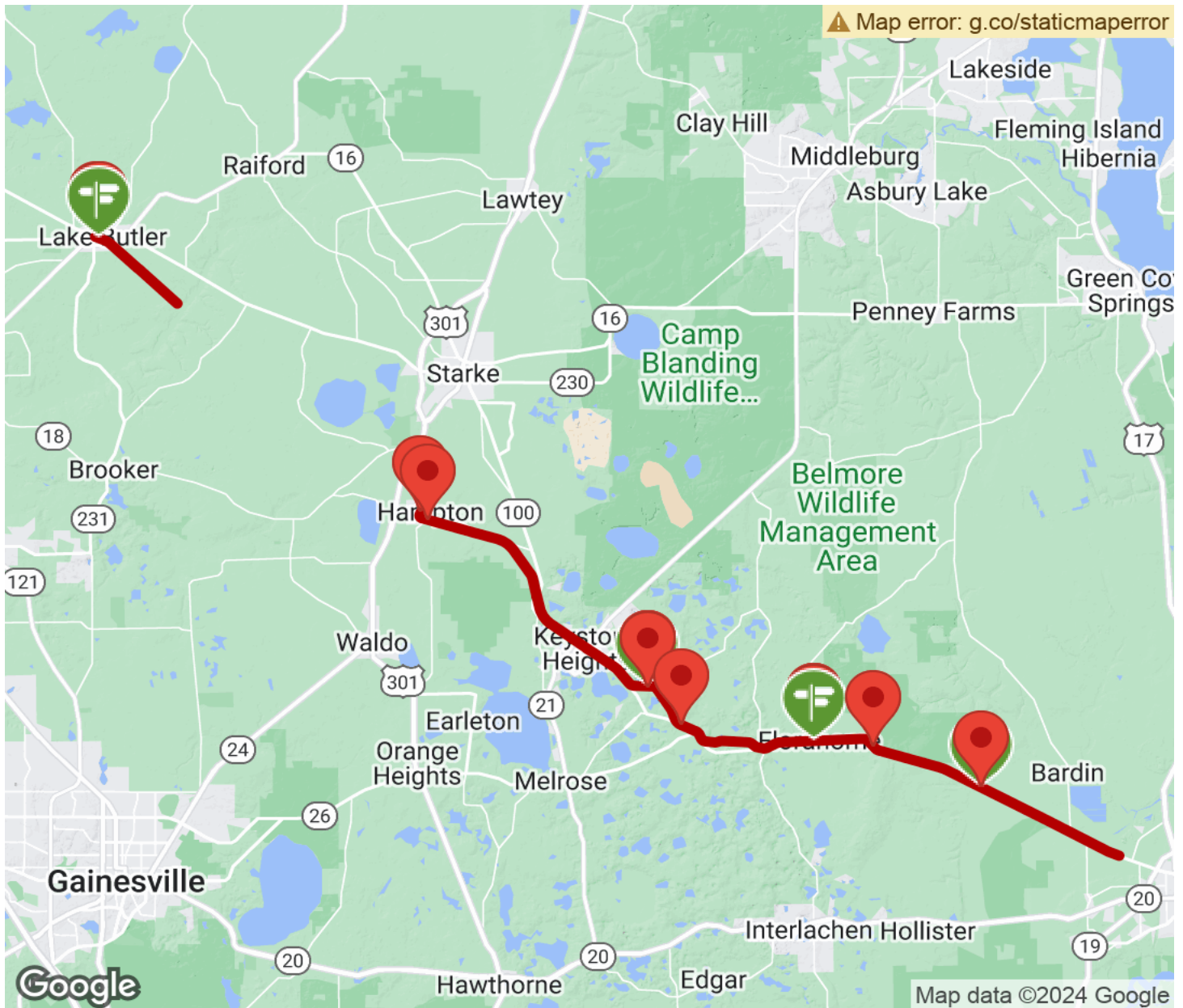
- Lake Butler Trailhead (525 SW 1st St, Lake Butler), which has parking, restrooms, and drinking fountains (located at the restored railroad depot).
- Twin Lakes Park Trailhead (6065 Twin Lakes Rd, Keystone Heights), which has parking, restrooms, drinking fountains, and a playground.
- Florahome Trailhead (105 Coral Farms Rd, Florahome), which has parking, restrooms, and drinking fountains.

Limited parking (4 parking spaces) is also available near the community of Putnam Hall at the intersection of Forest Hills Rd & SR 100 (Melrose). Visit the [TrailLink map](#) for all options and detailed directions.



Palatka-to-Lake Butler State Trail

Florida



Trailhead



Restroom



Parking



Water Fountain



Tunnel



TrailLink
by Rails-to-Trails Conservancy

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