



2024

TrailLink Unlimited 

Guides



**Route of the
Olympian**
Montana



Route of the Olympian

Montana

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Overview

The 31-mile Route of the Olympian is one of several rail-trails occupying the former Pacific route of the Milwaukee Road, which originally connected the railroad's Wisconsin hub with Washington state—nearly 2,000 miles to the west.

About the Route

The Route of the Olympian has a complex set of use restrictions due to its fragmented course and local transportation needs. From Memorial Day to Labor Day, the westernmost 8.6 miles of the trail from the connection with the Route of the Hiawatha at Taft to the tiny community of Saltese are restricted to non-motorized use

only. ATV and snowmobile use are popular during other seasons of the year.

The stunning Dominion tunnel and trestle are located near the midpoint of this section of the Route of the Olympian. The trestle is restricted to non-motorized use year-round. The trail from the trestle to the trail's eastern terminus is a two-lane road of fine gravel. West of the trestle, the trail turns into a single-lane gravel road and has much more loose surface rock. The Old Dominion trestle is a stunning bridge that cuts through the trees and offers what some consider to be the "view from the top of the world."

Bikers and walkers share the trail with motorized vehicles from Saltese East to St. Regis, as the route provides popular locations for fishing and a local transportation alternative to busy (and difficult to access) Interstate 90. Portions of the route are technically marked as county roads, though they see very little traffic.

Connections

Near the trail's western endpoint in East Portal, trail users can continue along the [Route of the Hiawatha](#) and the [NorPac Trail](#).

The Route of the Olympian is part of the Great American Rail Trail, a 3,700-mile route from Washington to Washington D.C.



Route of the Olympian

Montana

States: Montana

Counties: Mineral

Length: 31.2miles

Trail end points: Route of the Hiawatha (East Portal) to Little Joe Road (St. Regis)

Trail surfaces: Gravel

Trail category: Rail-Trail

Trail activities: ATV, Fishing, Wheelchair

Accessible, Mountain

Biking, Snowmobiling, Walking, Cross Country

Skiing

Parking & Trail Access

The Route of the Olympian runs between Route of the Hiawatha (East Portal) and Little Joe Road (St. Regis).

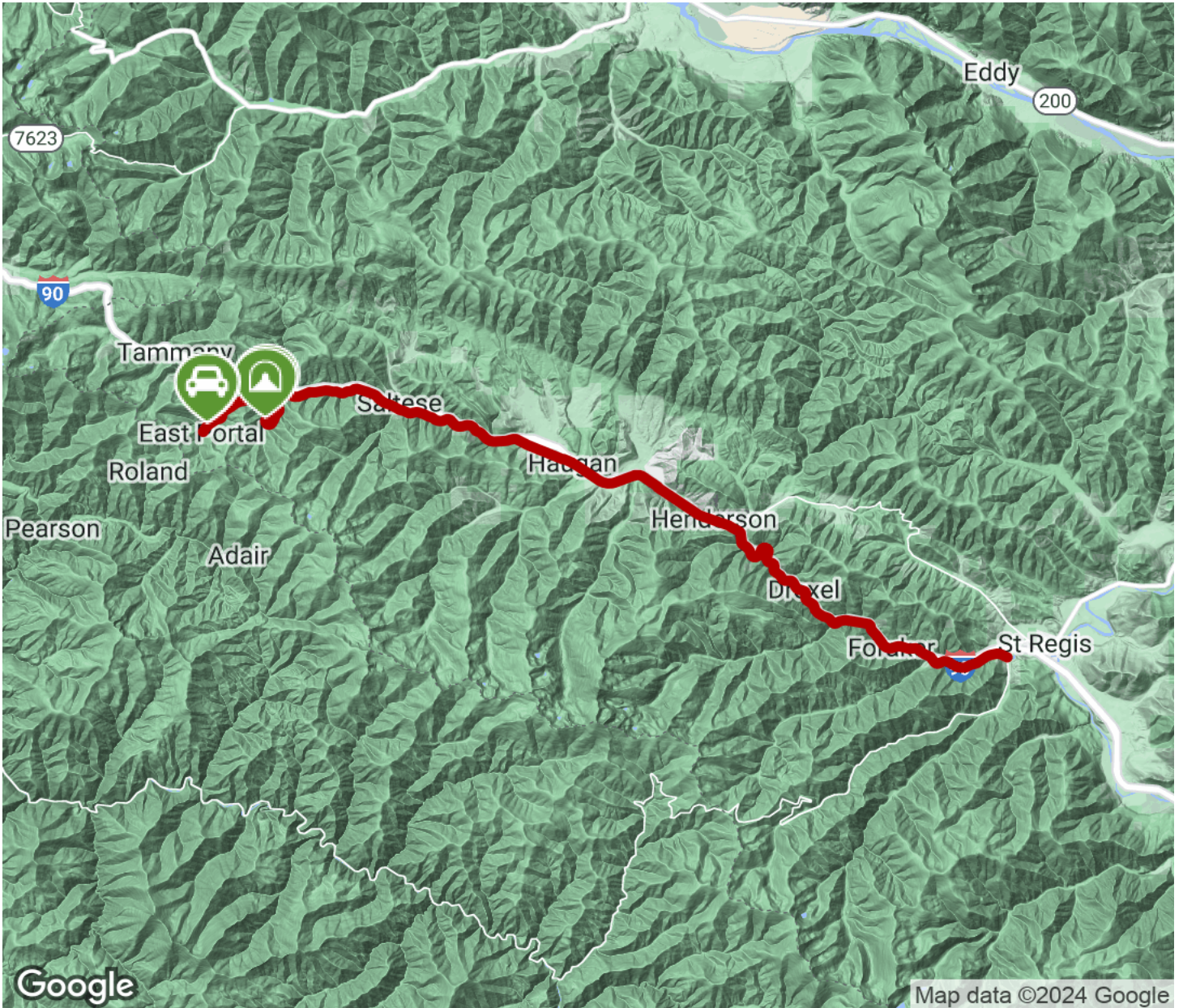
Parking is available near the trail's western endpoint, along the entrance to East Portal Rd., near Rainy Creek Rd. 506.

This is an approximate address, please see [TrailLink Map](#) for detailed directions.



Route of the Olympian

Montana



Trailhead



Restroom



Parking



Water Fountain



Tunnel



TrailLink
by Rails-to-Trails Conservancy

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