



2024

TrailLink Unlimited



Guides



**Marvin
Braude Bike
Trail**
California



Marvin Braude Bike Trail

California

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Overview

Arguably the most iconic trail in California, the Marvin Braude Bike Trail—commonly referred to as The Strand by residents—hugs Los Angeles County’s coastline from its upscale neighborhoods in the north to its historically working-class (but increasingly upscale) neighborhoods in the south. While the trail travels along the beach for the majority of its 22 miles, it also takes trail users through a wide range of neighborhoods and landscapes. Stops at the Santa Monica Pier, the Venice Boardwalk, and the downtowns of LA’s South Bay cities are a must.

About the Route

The northern endpoint along the trail is located at Will

Rogers State Beach and the base of the Santa Monica Mountains, near the homes of many famous Hollywood actors. Here, trail users can take a moment to sit on a bench, watch a pickup game of beach volleyball, and breathe in the salty ocean air. As the trail continues south, the freeway and trail begin to diverge, with the rhythmic crashing of the Pacific Ocean’s waves replacing the low hum of traffic along the Pacific Coast Highway. Cafés and cabanas crop up between the trail and the imposing cliffs, where a long row of bright-white Santa Monica hotels and condominiums are perched.

After 3.5 miles, the trail sails under the Santa Monica Pier and continues south through Santa Monica. Along the way are plentiful bathrooms, water fountains, and playgrounds, as the city takes pride in its oceanfront facilities. When you reach the Venice Boardwalk in 1.8 miles, the trail splits in two: a bicycle-only facility closer to the ocean, and a grand pedestrian promenade with a lively mix of shops, eateries, and street entertainers.

The beachfront path ends at the Venice Fishing Pier, and the route turns inland to go around Marina del Rey. At the pier, the route turns left on Washington Boulevard for a 1-mile on-road portion. At Mildred Avenue, the paved pathway picks up again on the right. The trail continues for 1.4 miles until it ends at Fiji Way. Take a right on Fiji Way, following the bike lane back toward the ocean. In 0.7 miles, the trail approaches a roundabout and trail users should be able to see the entrance to the paved pathway once again. After 0.1 miles, the trail reaches a T intersection overlooking Ballona Creek.

The final 12 miles of the trail through South Bay feel slightly more industrial as the route travels past the Los Angeles International Airport, an oil refinery, a power plant, and a wastewater treatment facility. But don’t let these land uses deter you! Nestled between them are some of the quaintest beachside communities in all of Southern California. Peel off at Manhattan Beach, Hermosa Beach, or Redondo Beach for



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States: California

Counties: Los Angeles

Length: 21.9miles

Trail end points: Will Rogers State Beach,
17000 CA-1 (Los Angeles) to Torrance County
Beach, 289 Paseo De La Playa (Torrance)

Trail surfaces: Asphalt, Concrete

Trail category: Greenway/Non-RT

Trail activities: Bike, Inline

Skating, Wheelchair Accessible, Walking

Parking & Trail Access

The Marvin Braude Bike Trail runs between Will Rogers State Beach, 17000 CA-1 (Los Angeles), and Torrance County Beach, 289 Paseo De La Playa (Torrance), with parking available at both ends.

Parking is also available at:

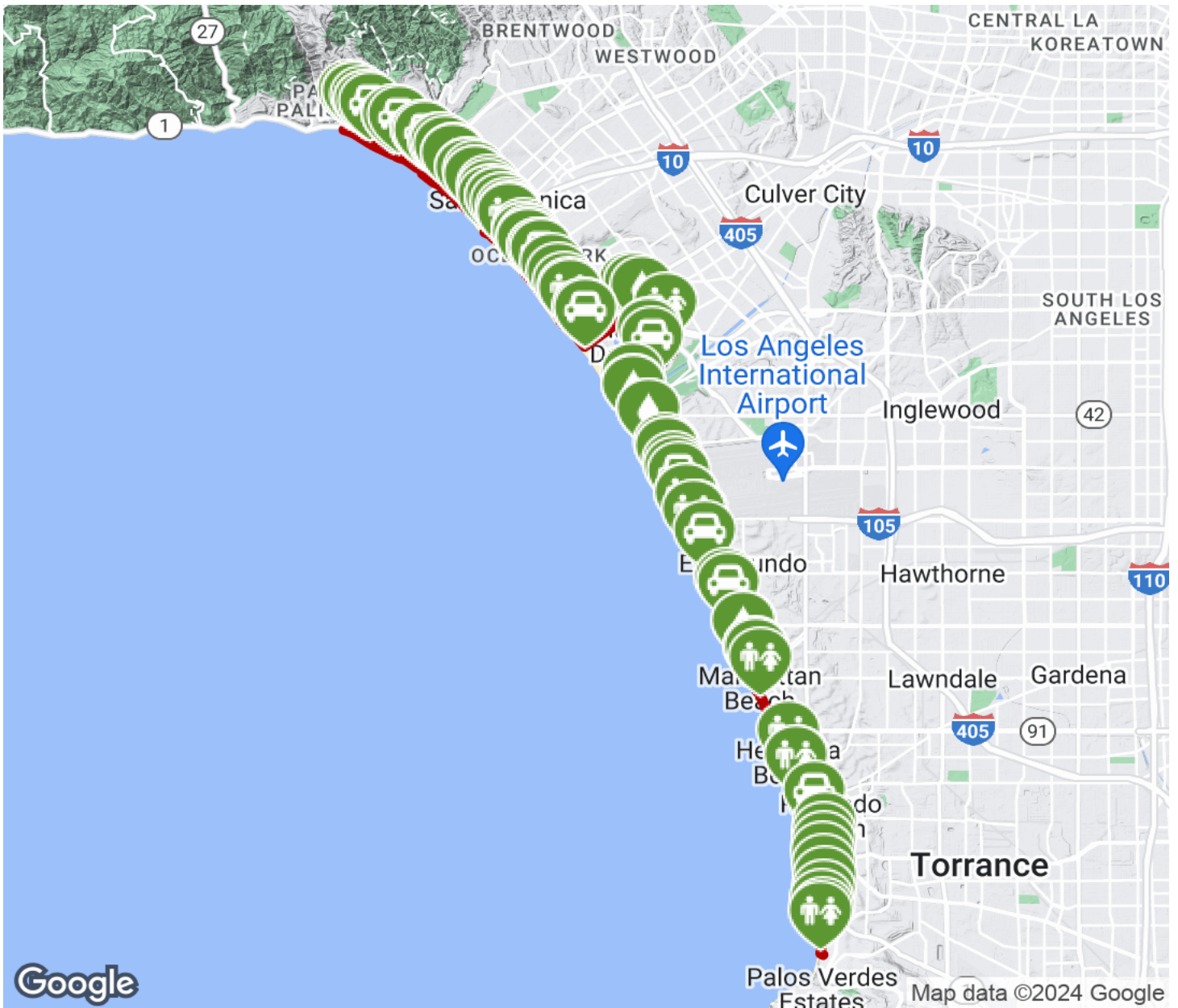
- Palisades Park, 772-798 CA 1 (Santa Monica)
- Santa Monica State Beach, 1150 E. Pacific Coast Hwy (Santa Monica)
- and Santa Monica Pier, 15 Colorado Ave Santa Monica).

See [TrailLink map](#) for all parking options and detailed directions.



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Trailhead



Restroom



Parking



Water Fountain



Tunnel



TrailLink
by Rails-to-Trails Conservancy

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