



2024

TrailLink Unlimited 

Guides



**Border to
Boston Trail**
Massachusetts



Border to Boston Trail

Massachusetts

The Border to Boston Trail is a developing trail network that will stretch 70 miles between the New Hampshire border and Boston—



The Border to Boston Trail is a developing trail network that will stretch 70 miles between the New Hampshire border and Boston—providing a continuous route for a variety of non-motorized uses including walking, bicycling, wheelchairs, strollers, rollerskating, snowshoeing, and cross-country skiing, and more.

Currently, the trail network is 44.1 miles long and there are several gaps in the route. There are portions of the trail that run through the communities of Salisbury, Newburyport, , Topsfield, Danvers, Peabody, Salem, Marblehead, Swampscott, Lynn, Saugus, Malden, Everett, Charlestown, and Boston. When complete, the route of the Border to Boston Trail will connect about 20 communities.

The Border to Boston Trail runs along the former corridors of two abandoned rail lines: the Eastern Route Main Line from Salisbury to Newburyport and the Newburyport Branch Line from Newburyport to Danvers. Chartered in 1836, the Eastern Railroad Salem ran north from Boston through Salem and Newburyport; Portsmouth, NH; and into Maine. Its passenger service ended in 1965. Chartered in 1846, the Newburyport Railroad was created to compete with the Eastern Railroad. Due to declining service in the 1930s, the portion of the line between Topsfield and Newburyport was abandoned in 1941. Passenger service continued to Topsfield until 1950 and to Danvers until 1959. Freight service continued until 1977 and the corridor lay dormant until construction of the trail began in 2006.

The construction and continued development of the trail is happening in phases and is a coordinated effort of dedicated individuals, communities, and both state and local government. The Border to Boston Trail itself is part of East Coast Greenway, a connected network of trails that will stretch from Maine to Florida when complete.

The Border to Boston Trail utilizes a number of smaller trails and its route from north to south is as follows:

[Old Eastern Marsh Trail](#) (3.7 miles; paved)

Offering picturesque woodland and marsh surroundings, the Old Eastern Marsh Trail stretches for 3.7 miles between the MA-NH border and the north bank of the Merrimack River. The southern 2.3-mile section of the trail is also known as the Salisbury Rail Trail. The Old Eastern Marsh Trail is part of the Coastal Trails Network, which is developing in the four towns of Amesbury, Newbury, Newburyport, and Salisbury along the Merrimack River.

Following a former railroad corridor, the Old Eastern Marsh Trail is paved, flat, and wide enough for those on the trail to comfortably pass each other. There are mile markers and



Border to Boston Trail

Massachusetts

States: Massachusetts

Counties: Essex, Middlesex

Length: 44.1 miles

Trail end points: Seabrook Firemen's Parking Lot (28 Collins St, Seabrook, NH) to Portal Park (Causeway St & Lovejoy Wharf, Boston)

Trail surfaces: Asphalt, Boardwalk, Concrete, Crushed Stone, Dirt

Trail category: Rail-Trail

Trail activities: Bike, Inline Skating, Wheelchair Accessible, Horseback

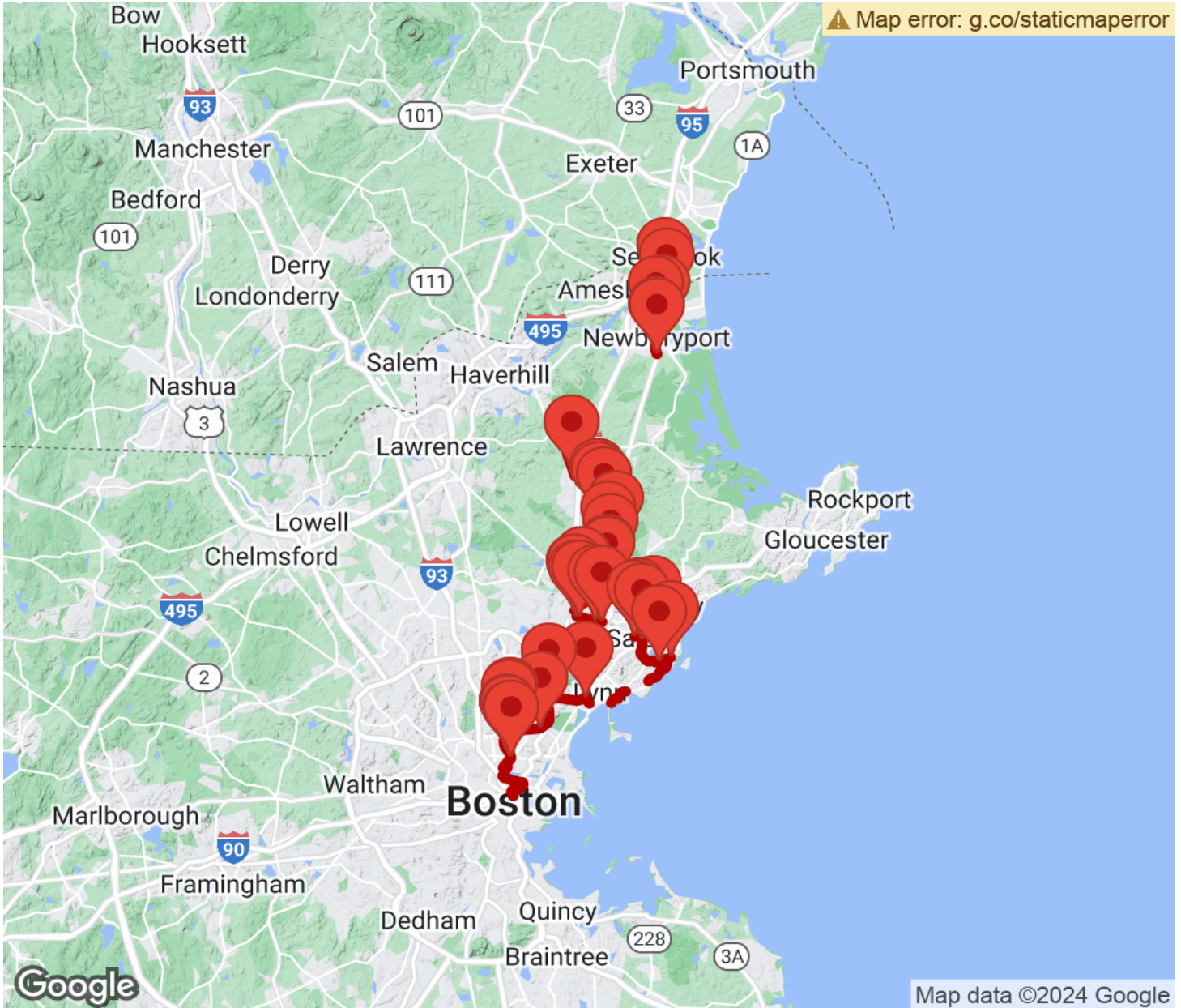
Parking & Trail Access

Parking is available at a number of locations along the trail. Refer to the [TrailLink map](#) for all parking locations, transit options, and detailed directions.



Border to Boston Trail

Massachusetts



Trailhead



Restroom



Parking



Water Fountain



Tunnel



TrailLink
by Rails-to-Trails Conservancy

TrailLink.com