



2026

TrailLink Unlimited 

Guides



**Captain John  
Bissell Trail**  
*Connecticut*



## Captain John Bissell Trail

Connecticut

*The Bissell name looms large in this part of New England, and has been immortalized in multiple ways, including the Bissell Ferry, the*



maintained. It parallels Interstate 291 for a spell, then crosses underneath and across a railroad to bring you to the Tolland Turnpike. There's a crosswalk that you can take to reach Chapel Road and the trail continues up to Burnham St. However, past this point, to continue northwest, you'll have to bike on Chapel Road as there is only a sidewalk here. Fortunately Chapel Road is a low traffic road, but of course, take precautions when riding on-street. Stay on Chapel Road for 2.4 miles, then make a left onto Main Street for another half mile. Just before you get to 291, the off-road trail restarts on your right and parallels the highway for 1.4 miles, crossing over the Connecticut River on the Bissell Bridge. Once you are in Windsor, the curves under the highway to the trailhead at Windsor Meadow State Park. Here on the riverbank, you can also find the entrance to the [Windsor River Trail](#).

The Bissell name looms large in this part of New England, and has been immortalized in multiple ways, including the Bissell Ferry, the Bissell Memorial Bridge and now, the Captain John Bissell trail, after the man who started one of the US's first ferry services in 1641, connecting Windsor to South Windsor across the Connecticut River.

Th Capt. John Bissell combines two segments totaling 4.5 miles off-street trail and 2.9 miles of on-street biking in South Windsor. Starting from southeast to northwest, the trail breaks off from another prominent greenway, the [Charter Oak Greenway](#) at the northwest corner of Veterans Memorial Park. The trail ducks under US 6, comes to the Hockanum River and the crosses under I-84 then winds up towards Middle Turnpike/ US 44. Crossing the turnpike, you'll find the trail is wider and better



# Captain John Bissell Trail

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**States:** Connecticut

**Counties:** Hartford

Length: 4.5miles

**Trail end points:** Charter Oak Greenway to Chapel Road at Burnham Street to Main Street to Windsor Meadows State Park

**Trail surfaces:** Asphalt

**Trail category:** Greenway/Non-RT

**Trail activities:** Bike, Walking

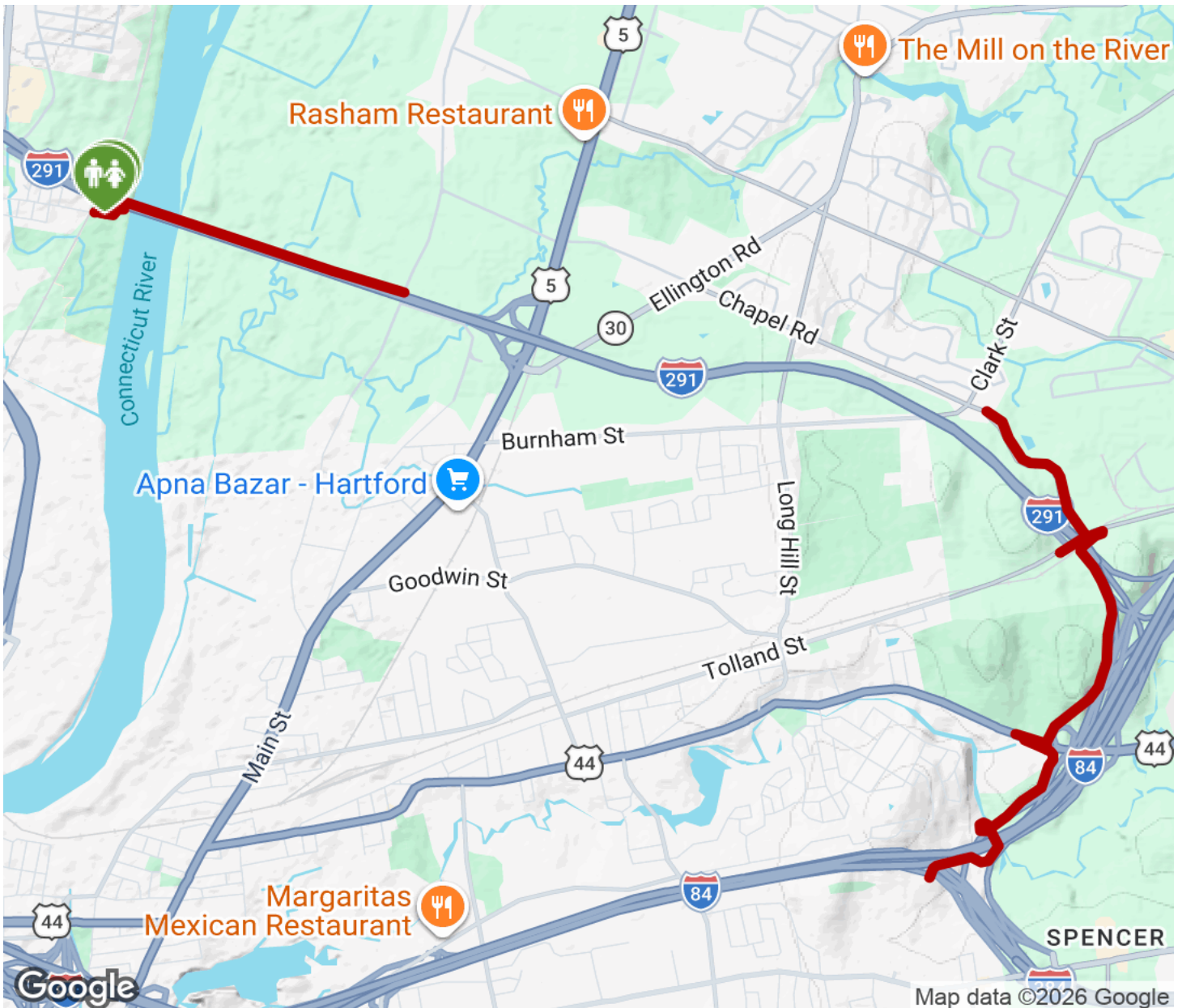
## Parking & Trail Access

Park at the Windsor Meadows State Park parking area at 265 E Barber St, Windsor, CT.



# Captain John Bissell Trail

Connecticut



Trailhead



Restroom



Parking



Water Fountain



Tunnel



**TrailLink**  
by Rails-to-Trails Conservancy

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