



2024

TrailLink Unlimited



Guides



# Acadia National Park Carriage Roads

*Maine*



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*Overview The Acadia National Park Carriage Roads carry hikers, cyclists, and horse-drawn carriages across Acadia National Park*



## Overview

The Acadia National Park Carriage Roads carry hikers, cyclists, and horse-drawn carriages across Acadia National Park much like they have for the past 100 years since their construction, directed and funded by billionaire John D. Rockefeller.

The carriage roads weave through the heart of the park and connect many historic sites, scenic vistas, and hiking areas for 45 miles, with 12 additional miles outside the national park.

The carriage roads are famous for their stone arch bridges that span waterfalls and streams in numerous places along the route and the large granite stone guardrails

which have been known to some as "Rockefeller's Teeth".

As Rockefeller intended, most of the trails are low-grade and have a 16-ft wide smooth gravel surface, similar to the construction of a typical rail trail.

There are numerous routes and ways to explore the Acadia National Park Carriage Roads, and trail users should see the TrailLink Map or the Acadia National Park website for more information.

Note: There are several trail use restrictions in place along the carriage roads. Paradise Hill and Witch Hole Pond loops do not allow horses. Swimming and wading are prohibited in all ponds along the route. The Carriage Roads are closed to motorized vehicles, including Class 2 & 3 e-bikes, segways, and hoverboards. Exceptions are in place for individuals with disabilities.

## About the Route

The northernmost access point for the carriage roads is located at Hulls Cove Visitor Center. From here, the trail travels south, with a loop around Witch Hole Pond. Near here, the Duck Brook Bridge is a fantastic site that spans high above the stream and tree line.

Just south of where the carriage roads pass the Park Headquarters, there is a circuitous route around Eagle Lake that provides some of the most scenic views of the surrounding mountains as well as clear blue water.

Just south of Eagle Lake is Bubble Pond and the nearby Bubble Rock hike which features a 100-ton glacial erratic that appears to be falling off a cliff. From Bubble Pond, there is also hiking access to the summit of Cadillac Mountain which experiences the first sunrise in the United States from October to March.

On the western side of Bubble Pond is Jordan Pond and the



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**States:** Maine

**Counties:** Hancock, Knox

Length: 45miles

**Trail end points:** Hulls Cove Visitor Center, 25 Visitor Center Rd (Bar Harbor) to Jordan Pond Tea House

**Trail surfaces:** Crushed Stone

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

**Trail activities:** Bike, Wheelchair Accessible, Horseback Riding, Mountain Biking, Walking

## Parking & Trail Access

The Acadia National Park Carriage Roads carry visitors throughout the heart of Acadia National Park with many parking options and access options.

Visitors are strongly encouraged to access the carriage roads on one of Acadia's free Island Explorer bus shuttles, which are equipped with bike racks and wheelchair lifts for accessibility. Shuttles provide service to many locations on Mount Desert Island, including carriage road trailheads. See the park's Island Explorer page for more information.

Parking is available at:

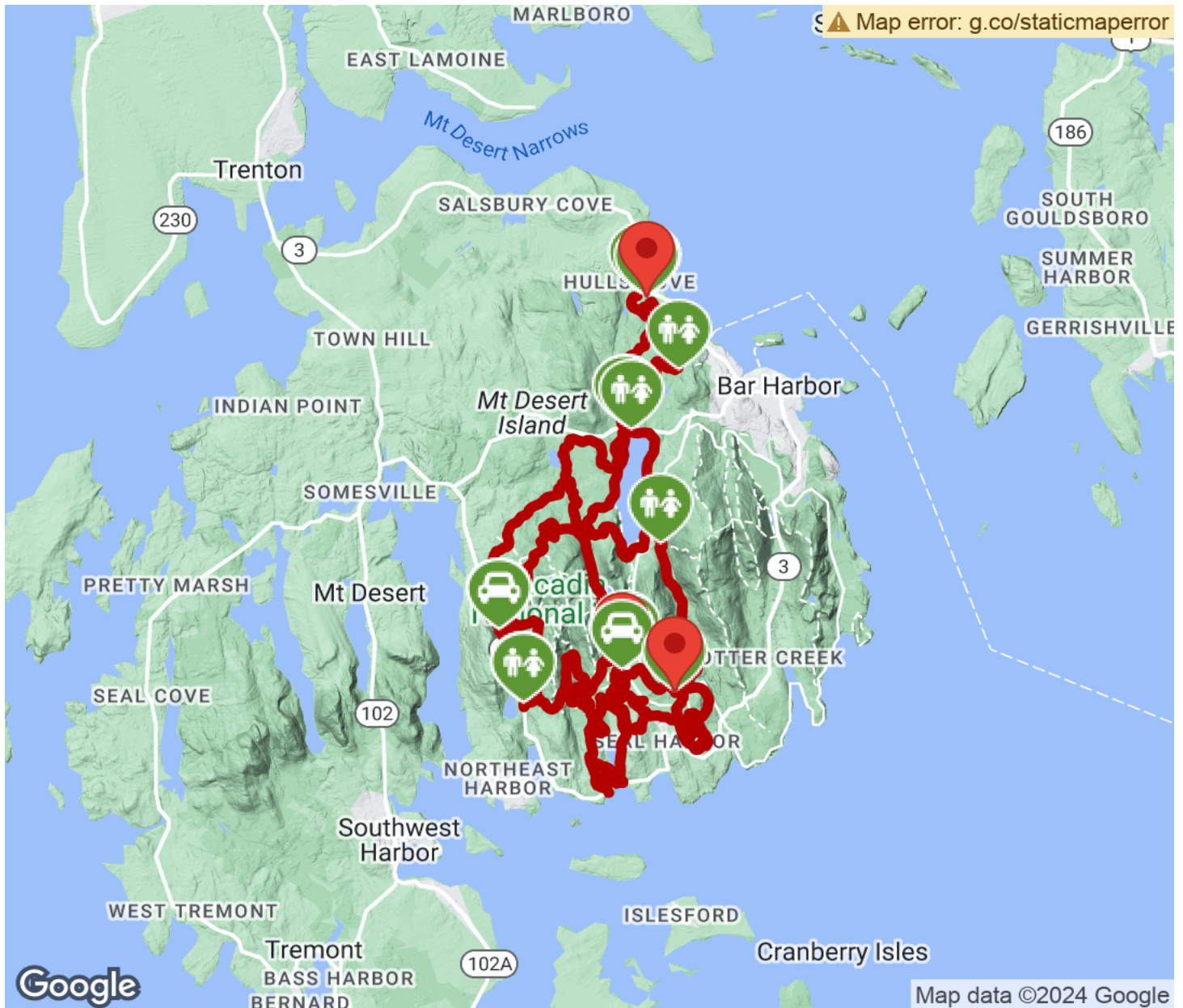
- Hulls Cove Visitor Center, 25 Visitor Center Rd. (Bar Harbor)
- Eagle Lake, 487 Eagle Lake Road (Bar Harbor)
- Jordan Pond Tea House, 2829 Park Loop Road (Seal Harbor)

Please see TrailLink Map for detailed directions.



# Acadia National Park Carriage Roads

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Trailhead



Restroom



Parking



Water Fountain



Tunnel



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