



2026

TrailLink Unlimited



Guides



**Big Spring  
Nature Trail**  
*Arkansas*



## Big Spring Nature Trail

Arkansas

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railroad bed, traveling nearly 3 miles to Denton Ferry.

Big Spring Nature Trail is located in the heart of Cotter, once a railroad boomtown in north-central Arkansas surrounded by the Ozark Mountains. The city sits in a horseshoe bend of the White River, which offers beautiful scenery and gives the town its nickname of "Trout Capital, USA."

The wooded trail begins in Big Spring Park, an important recreational amenity for the community, offering athletic fields, picnic areas, a swimming hole and boat ramp. The park also has two special features: the Anglin-Tinnon Railroad Workers' Memorial, honoring the town's unique history, and the R.M. Ruthven Rainbow Arch Bridge, built in 1930 and included on the National Register of Historic Places. From under the bridge, the trail continues northeast along the east bank of the river on a former



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**States:** Arkansas

**Counties:** Baxter

Length: 2.75miles

**Trail end points:** R.M. Ruthven Rainbow Arch  
Bridge, Big Spring Park to Denton Ferry

**Trail surfaces:** Ballast, Crushed Stone

**Trail category:** Rail-Trail

**Trail activities:** Walking

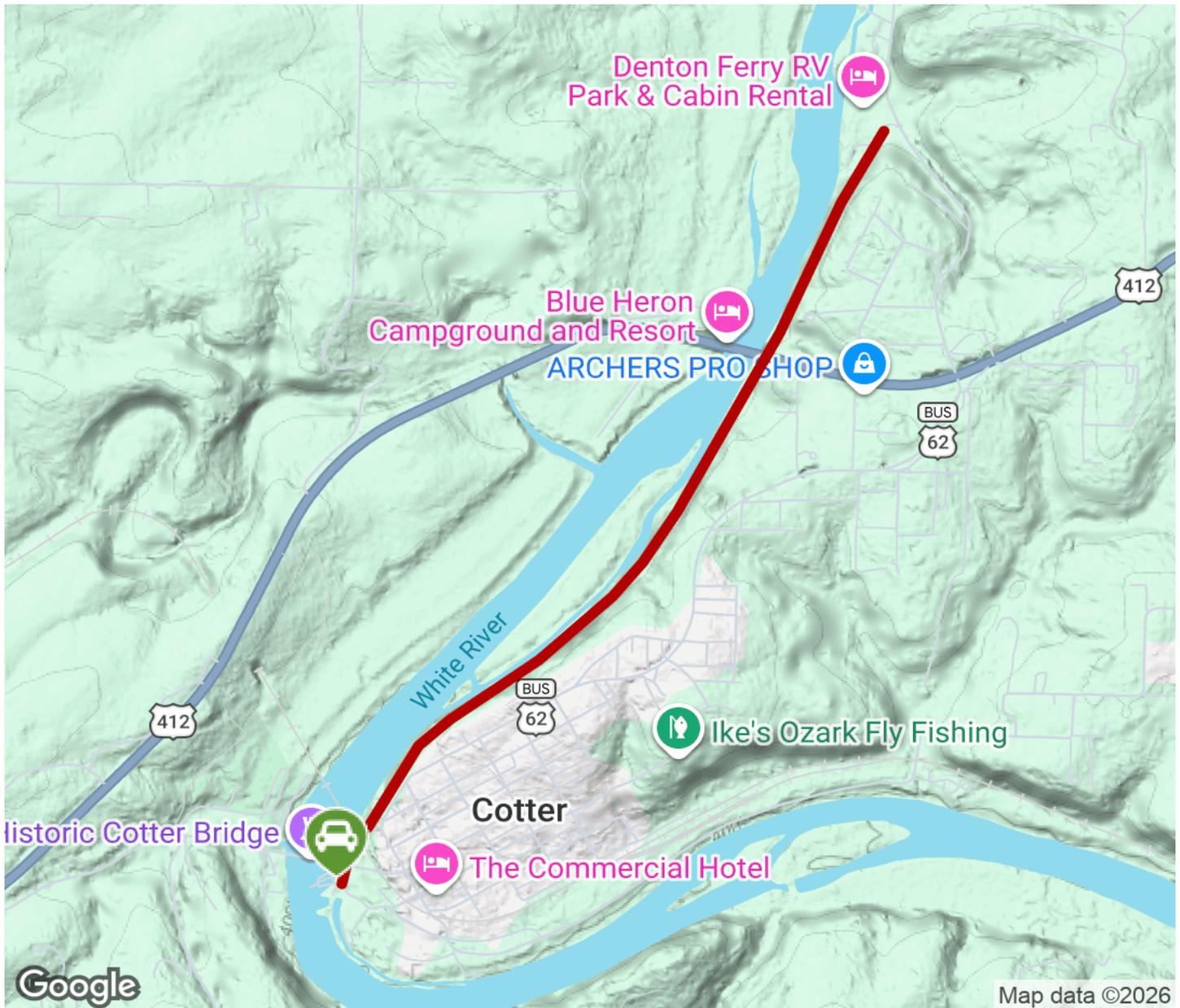
## Parking & Trail Access

Ample parking is available in Cotter's Big Spring Park, on the banks of the White River.



# Big Spring Nature Trail

Arkansas



Trailhead



Restroom



Parking



Water Fountain



Tunnel



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

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