



2026

TrailLink Unlimited



Guides



**Big Spring
Nature Trail**
Arkansas



Big Spring Nature Trail

Arkansas

Big Spring Nature Trail is located in the heart of Cotter, once a railroad boomtown in north-central Arkansas surrounded by the



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



Big Spring Nature Trail

Arkansas

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

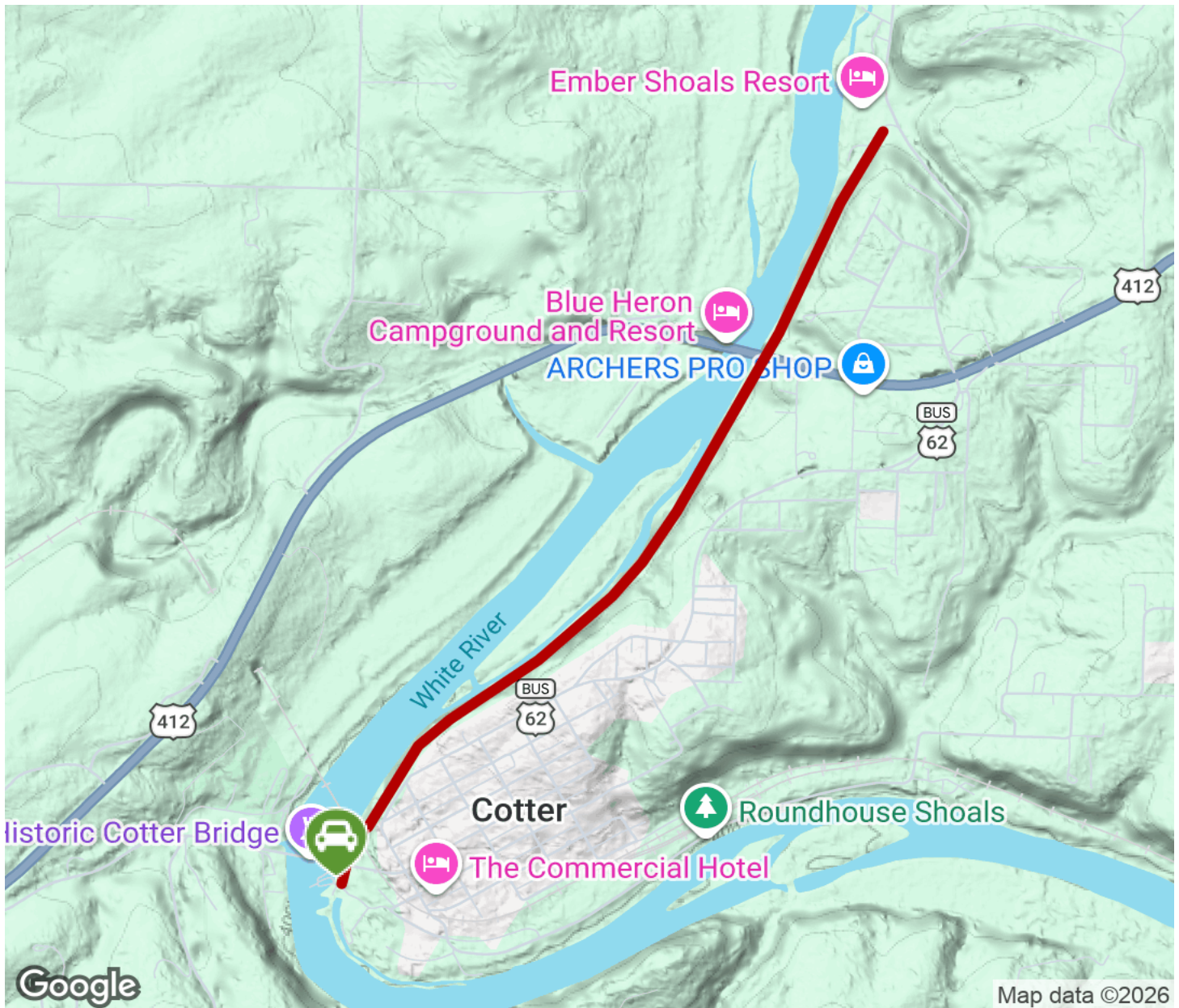
Parking & Trail Access

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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