



2026

TrailLink Unlimited



Guides



Western States Pioneer Express Recreation Trail

California



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The Western States Pioneer Trail runs for 34 miles between Jedediah Smith Memorial Trail and Auburn Equestrian Staging



The Western States Pioneer Trail runs for 34 miles between Jedediah Smith Memorial Trail and Auburn Equestrian Staging Area near Gum Lane in Auburn. The trail, open to hikers and horseback riders only, follows the winding course of the American River along the old railroad grade built by the Pacific Portland Cement Company in the early 1900s. The line was used to transport limestone from their quarries near Auburn with the Southern Pacific Mainline in Auburn itself.

The trail is remote and you won't find services along the way. Bring your water and food. For more information, contact the [California Department of Parks and Recreation](#), the trail managers.



Western States Pioneer Express Recreation Trail

California

States: California

Counties: El Dorado, Placer

Length: 34.4 miles

Trail end points: Auburn Staging Area, Gum Lane (Auburn) to Jedediah Smith Memorial Trail and Hazel Avenue (Fair Oaks)

Trail surfaces: Dirt, Gravel

Trail category: Rail-Trail

Trail activities: Horseback

Riding, Walking, Cross Country Skiing

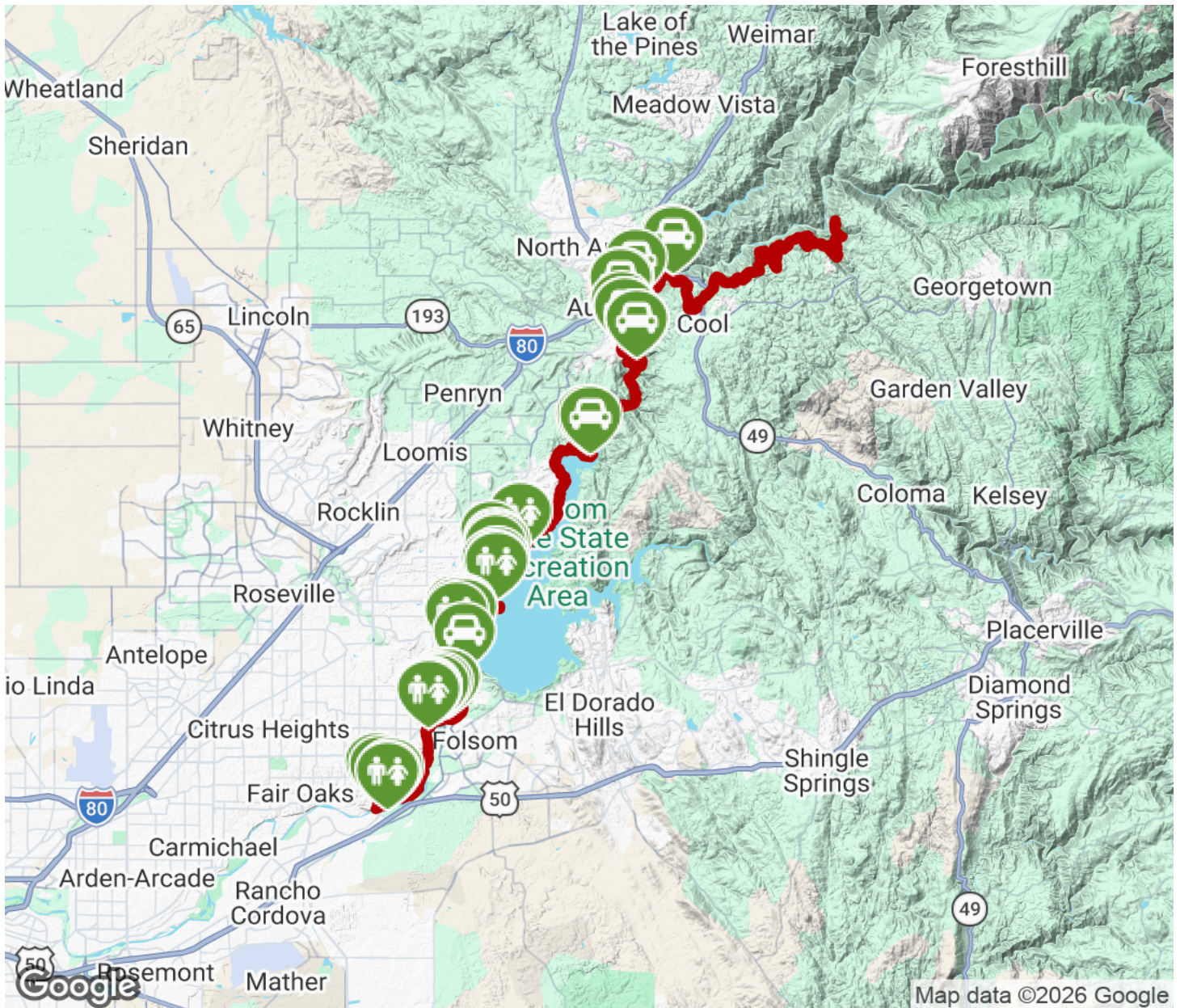
Parking & Trail Access

Access the trail from the [Auburn State Recreation Area](#).



Western States Pioneer Express Recreation Trail

California



Trailhead



Restroom



Parking



Water Fountain



Tunnel



TrailLink
by Rails-to-Trails Conservancy

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