



2025

TrailLink Unlimited 

Guides



**Vernon Rails-  
to-Trails (Hop  
River State  
Park  
Rockville  
Spur)**  
*Connecticut*



# Vernon Rails-to-Trails (Hop River State Park Rockville Spur)

Connecticut

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The Rockville Spur, a section of Vernon Rails-to-Trails, is a stone-dust rail-trail stretching 4.2 miles into the heart of historical Rockville. The trail begins on Warren Avenue in Vernon, but trail users will likely start their journey 0.2 miles away, at the Vernon Rails-to-Trails Park on Church Street. The park was once the site of a train depot and today serves as the trailhead for Vernon's rail trails, including the Rockville Spur. At this outdoor museum, panels tell the story of the Hartford, Providence & Fishkill Railroad, and remnants of the railroad bring the history to life.

The suburban scene quickly changes into a serene wooded corridor. The trail soon comes to one of the trail highlights: the bridge over the scenic Tankerhoosen River. This waterway was the economic lifeblood of

Rockville during the town's industrial heyday. The view upriver, with trees crowding its banks, is Tankerhoosen Lake, one of seven ponds on the river. It's worth pausing the journey at this point to take it all in. Continuing on, the trail comes to the I-84 underpass, the only road crossing not at grade. In the space between the tunnels, there's another treat: murals bursting with color on the walls, the work of local artists and schoolchildren.

The next intersection is across the busy CT 30 (Hartford Turnpike). The trail continues through the woods with unmarked paths feeding into it from nearby homes, proof of how popular this trail is with residents. At the 3.25-mile mark (West Street), trail users will notice that the trail narrows into little more than a swath in the grass as it emerges into a residential neighborhood. Just shy of Vernon Avenue, the spur reaches its northern end abruptly on an earthen mound atop an old bridge abutment. Trail users can either retrace their steps back or use the path on the left to go down the embankment (be careful; the soil is loose) onto Vernon Avenue.

## Connections

At the southern end of the trail, trail users can continue along the [Hop River State Park Trail](#)



# Vernon Rails-to-Trails (Hop River State Park Rockville Spur)

Connecticut

**States:** Connecticut

**Counties:** Tolland

Length: 4.2miles

**Trail end points:** High St. (Rockville) to Hop River State Park Trail

**Trail surfaces:** Crushed Stone,Dirt

**Trail category:** Rail-Trail

**Trail activities:** Mountain

Biking,Walking,Cross Country Skiing

## Parking & Trail Access

The Rockville Spur runs between High St. (Rockville) and the Hop River State Park Trail.

Parking is available at:

- 51 Church St. (Vernon)

Please see [TrailLink Map](#) for detailed directions.



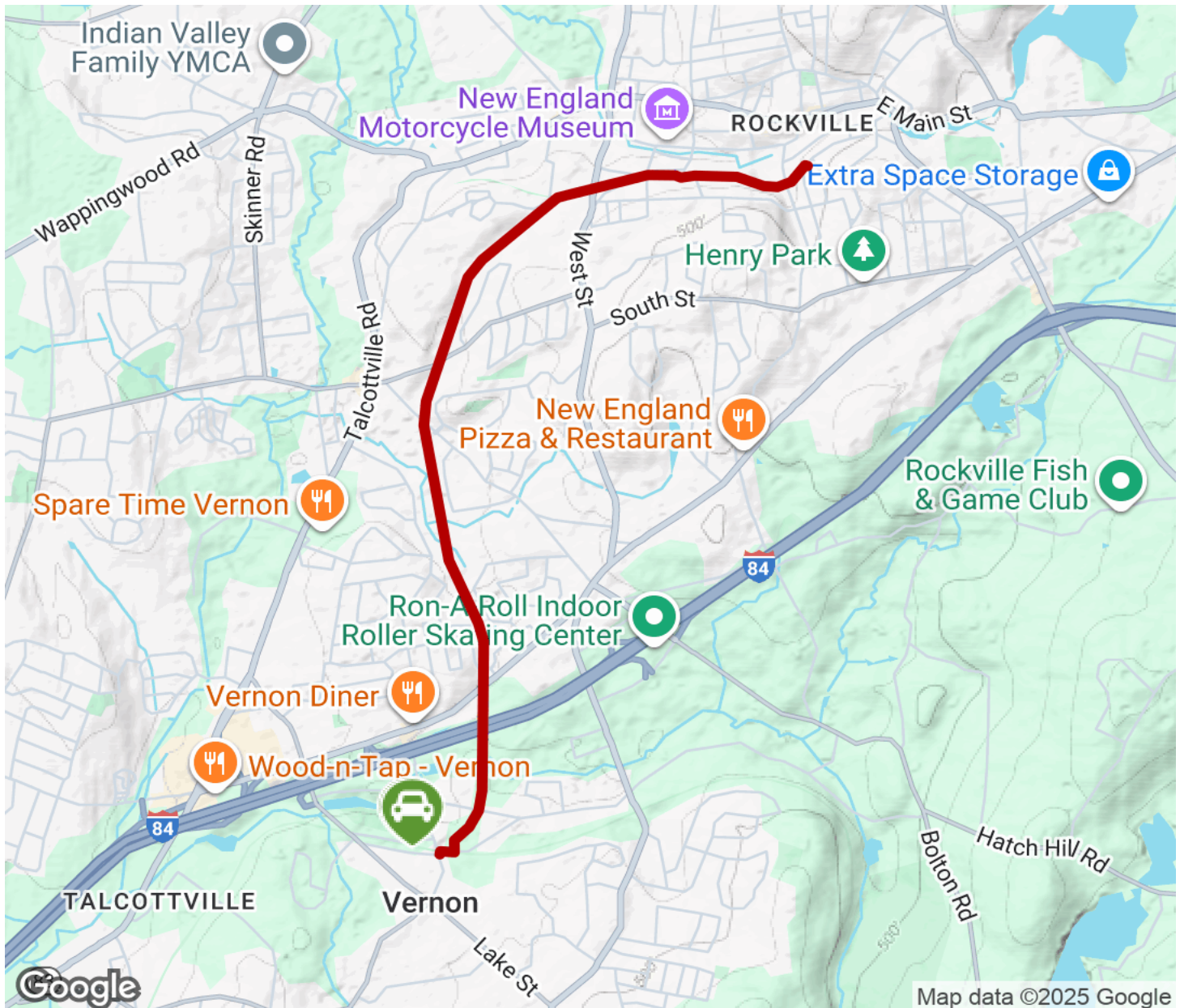
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# Vernon Rails-to-Trails (Hop River State Park Rockville Spur)

Connecticut



Trailhead



Restroom



Parking



Water Fountain



Tunnel



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