



2024

TrailLink Unlimited 

Guides



**Derby  
Greenway**  
*Connecticut*



## Derby Greenway

Connecticut

### *Overview Running alongside both the Housatonic and Naugatuck Rivers, the Derby Greenway demonstrates a seamless integration*



#### Overview

Running alongside both the Housatonic and Naugatuck Rivers, the Derby Greenway demonstrates a seamless integration of Connecticut's natural river systems and parks with man-made interventions of the past and present. The new addition of a striking sea green bike-pedestrian bridge on the southern end of the trail exemplifies Derby's ambition to reinvent itself as a modern town while simultaneously providing views of a historical rail line bridge and flood-control dikes that speak to the city's history.

At the trail's western endpoint by the Main Street parking lot, trail users are introduced to both the Housatonic and Naugatuck Rivers. Beyond their aesthetic and recreational

values, both rivers have also played a role in the restoration of the historical Birmingham National Bank, built in 1893, into a restaurant and weekend live entertainment venue, creating greater activity around the Derby Greenway.

Across from the National Bank, the trail moves east along a 10-foot-wide path atop the dike containing the Housatonic River, which was erected after the great 1955 floods that devastated communities near the Housatonic and Naugatuck Rivers. The path leads to a new bike-pedestrian bridge that provides trail users with a great view of the Housatonic River. The trail exits the dike and descends to the boat launch area under the Commodore Hull Bridge, where parking and restroom facilities are provided.

The trail then meanders across O'Sullivan's Island where the trail turns into a dirt path, and cuts through the open park space that hosts myriad deciduous trees, many towering over the park. The trail passes through the peninsula and is flanked by a small swampy area to the east with expansive views of the Housatonic to the west. Leaving the peninsula, the route passes under CT 34 alongside a wooden barricade that separates trail users from an active rail line that runs on top of the Naugatuck River dike. The paved trail continues along the river, providing views of wildlife such as geese and hawks diving into the water for fish.

The trail comes to its eastern endpoint at Division Street at the Derby Hall of Fame Plaza which also includes the historic National Humane Alliance Fountain. Engraved paving bricks surrounding the fountain featuring the members of the Derby Hall of Fame, together with commemorative bricks purchased by many greenway users. The landscaped area also includes a couple of benches for a peaceful respite. There is parking next to the Plaza and also across the street in a shopping center lot.

#### Connections



## Derby Greenway

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**States:** Connecticut

**Counties:** New Haven

Length: 1.97miles

**Trail end points:** 1st St. (Derby) to Division St. (Derby)

**Trail surfaces:** Asphalt,Dirt

**Trail category:** Rail-Trail

**Trail activities:** Bike,Inline

Skating,Wheelchair Accessible,Walking,Cross  
Country Skiing

## Parking & Trail Access

The Derby Greenway runs between 1st St. (Derby) and Division St. (Derby), which offers parking at both ends.

Parking is also available at:

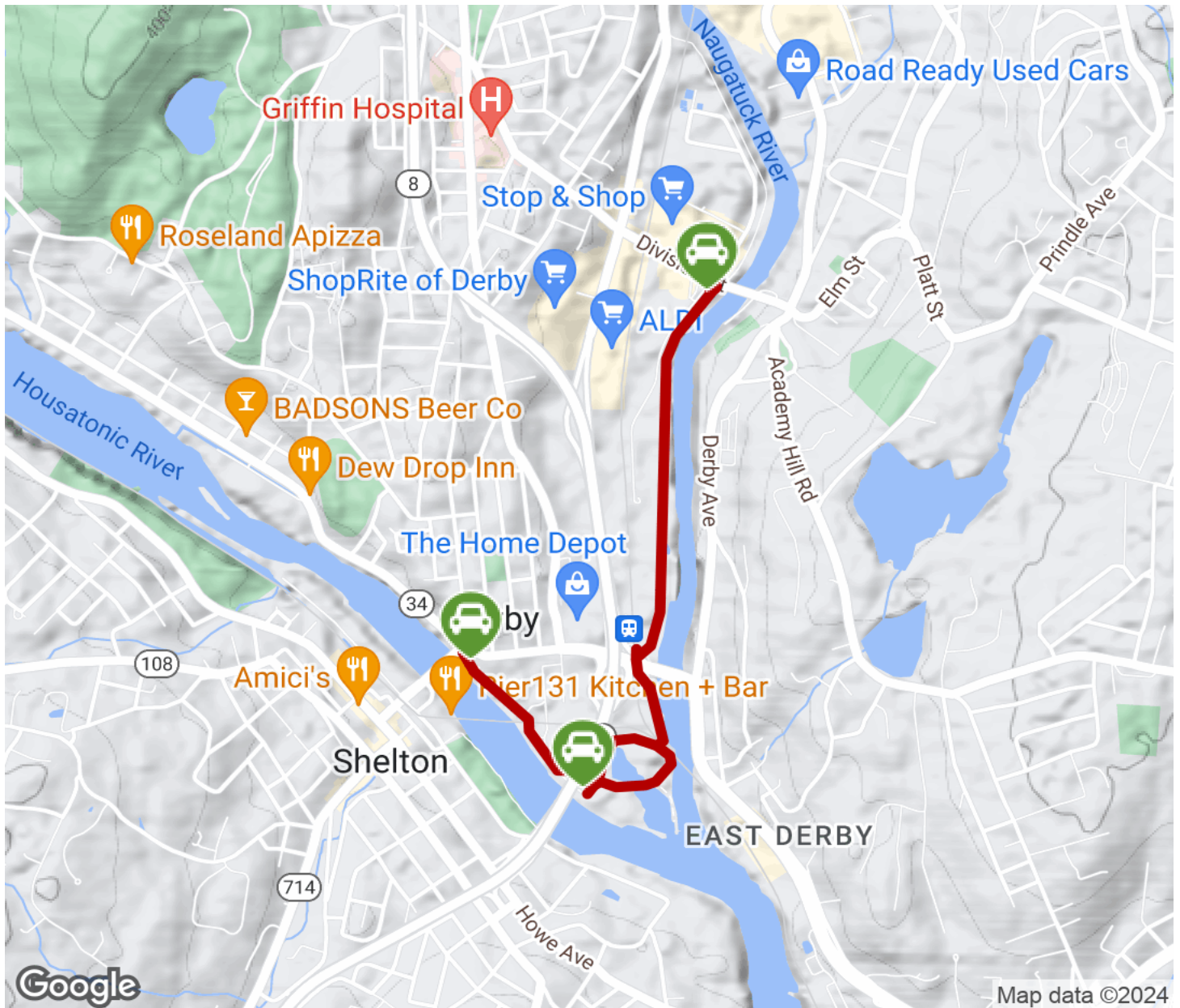
- O'Sullivan's Island Recreation Park, 138 Riverdale Ave (Shelton)

Please see [TrailLink Map](#) for more parking options and detailed directions.



# Derby Greenway

Connecticut



Trailhead



Restroom



Parking



Water Fountain



Tunnel



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

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