



2026

TrailLink Unlimited



Guides



**Bill and Dustie
MacKay Trail**
Georgia



Bill and Dustie MacKay Trail

Georgia

The Bill and Dustie MacKay Trail (formerly known as the Shortline Trail) spins a short, smooth circuit through Tallulah Gorge State



Gorge. In the late 19th century the railroad granted tourists access to the gorge and its spectacular waterfalls. While you can't see the chasm from the trail, a detour across US Highway 23/441 will take you to its dizzying lip.

In the spring and fall, controlled releases from Tallulah Dam bring kayakers intent on challenging the imposing river, while Halloween heralds the annual Wails to Trails event when costumed hikers haunt the trail.

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About the Route

From its trailhead beside Tallulah Falls Lake, the 1.6-mile paved path meanders through a beautiful southern Appalachian forest and crosses a small suspension bridge over the Tallulah River. Trail users can ride out and back or combine the trail with a short road segment to form a loop.

The route follows the easy grade of the old Tallulah Falls Railway, a great alternative to more arduous hiking trails that scale the nearly 1,000-foot granite walls of Tallulah



Bill and Dustie MacKay Trail

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States: Georgia

Counties: Rabun

Length: 1.6miles

Trail end points: Hwy 441 (Tallulah) to Terrora Cir. (Lakemont)

Trail surfaces: Asphalt,Dirt

Trail category: Rail-Trail

Trail activities: Bike,Fishing,Inline Skating,Walking,Wheelchair Accessible

Parking & Trail Access

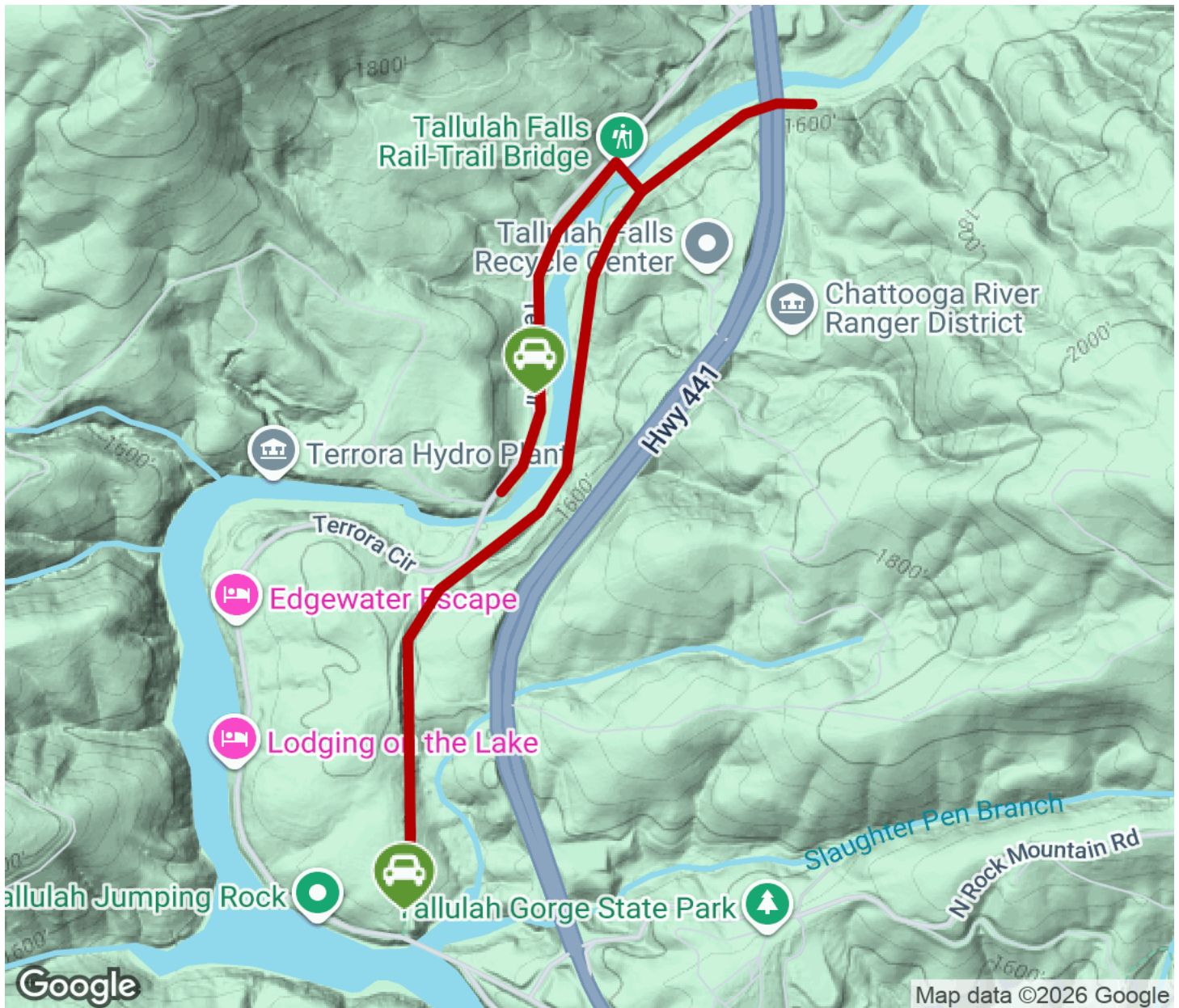
The Dustie and Bill McKay Trail runs between Hwy 441 (Tallulah) and Terrora Cir. (Lakemont), where parking is available.

Parking is available at many points throughout Tallulah Gorge State Park, Please see [TrailLink Map](#) for all parking options and detailed directions.



Bill and Dustie MacKay Trail

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Trailhead



Restroom



Parking



Water Fountain



Tunnel



TrailLink
by Rails-to-Trails Conservancy

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