



2026

TrailLink Unlimited



Guides



**Galena River  
Trail**  
*Illinois*



## Galena River Trail

Illinois

*The Galena River Trail is built upon an old railroad spur of the Burlington Railroad main line, constructed in 1886. The spur linked*



the location of these and other highlights, visit the [Jo Daviess Conservation Foundation](#).

The trail continues south, following the river and tracks to Aiken. The trail includes picnic tables along the way, interpretive signs, an information kiosk and porta potty at the trailhead under US 20/Spring Street.

The Galena River Trail is built upon an old railroad spur of the Burlington Railroad main line, constructed in 1886. The spur linked Galena to Galena Junction, where the main railroad line—still active—follows the Mississippi River. Trains on the spur stopped running around 1960. You can still see some of the old signal foundations along the trail between the railroad bridge underpass and where the trail joins South Park Avenue.

The trail corridor is mostly wooded, providing cool shade on hot summer days. In winter, the trail makes for a peaceful cross-country skiing or snowshoeing venture.

Some of the trail highlights include wetlands, limestone bluffs and the original stone foundation of an old house. Wildflowers and wildlife abound. For more details about



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**States:** Illinois

**Counties:** Jo Daviess

Length: 8miles

**Trail end points:** Galena Recreational Park at Field St. to S River Rd. (Aiken)

**Trail surfaces:** Crushed Stone

**Trail category:** Rail-Trail

**Trail activities:** Bike, Mountain

Biking, Walking, Wheelchair Accessible

## Parking & Trail Access

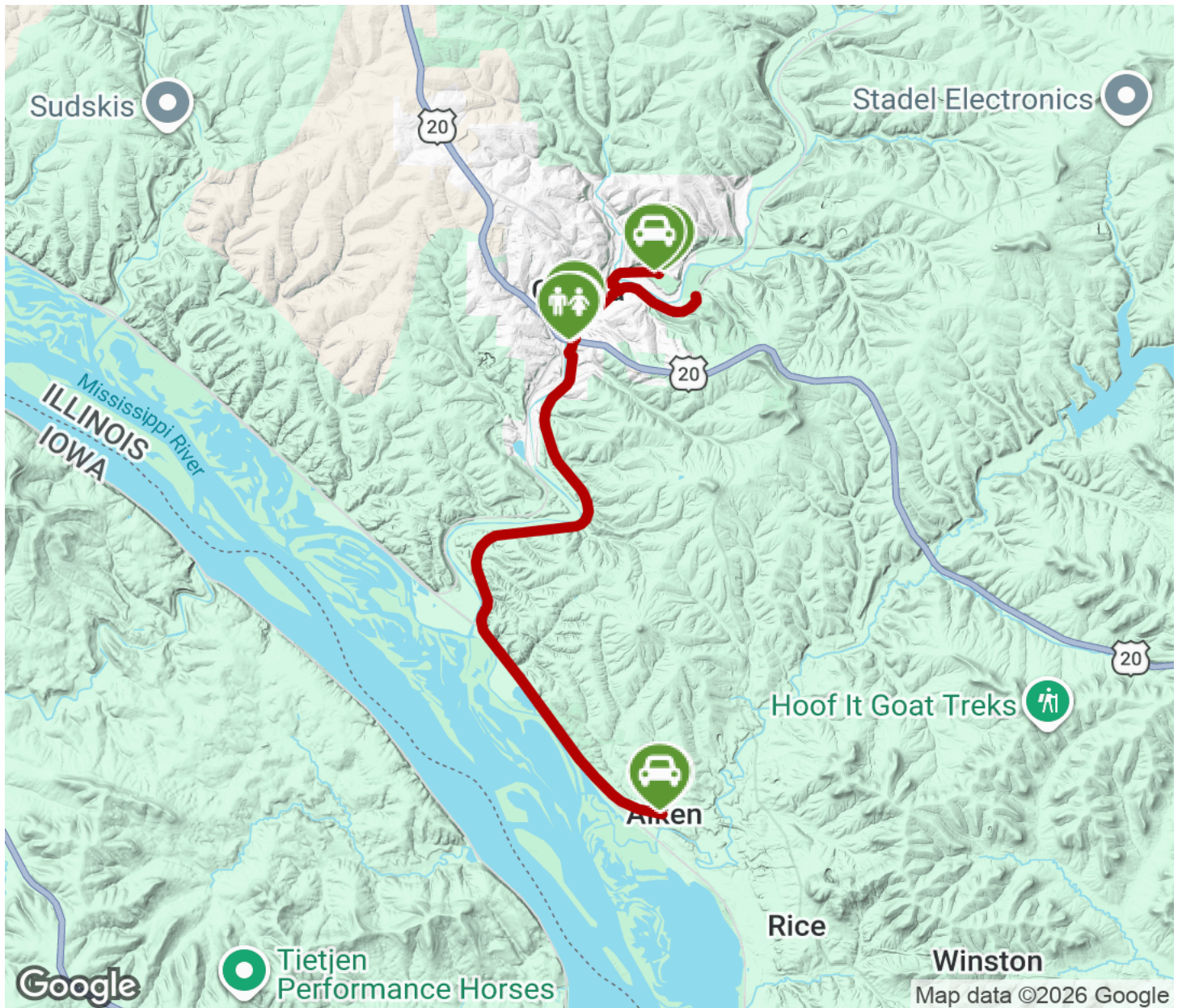
There is parking at each of the trail's three trailheads, starting at the northern trailhead at Galena Recreation Park, 1721 Field St, the Galena trailhead at 1107 Park Ave and the southern trailhead in Aiken along S River Rd.

See TrailLink Map for more detailed information.



# Galena River Trail

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Trailhead



Restroom



Parking



Water Fountain



Tunnel



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

[TrailLink.com](https://www.TrailLink.com)