



2026

TrailLink Unlimited 

Guides



**Green Bay  
Trail**  
*Illinois*



## Green Bay Trail

Illinois

*The 6.5-mile Green Bay Trail runs parallel to Chicago's Metra commuter rail line north of the Chicago city limits. Stretching*



The 6.5-mile Green Bay Trail runs parallel to Chicago's Metra commuter rail line north of the Chicago city limits. Stretching through North Shore towns such as Kenilworth, Winnetka, Highland Park, and Lake Bluff, the corridor is flanked by restaurants, shops, community parks, and beautiful homes. Because the trail stays generally within a mile of Lake Michigan, you can take any number of on-road side trips for beachfront views of the lake.

The Green Bay Trail runs along the east side of Chicago's Metra Union Pacific North line (UP-N commuter rail) almost entirely along the route of the former Chicago, North Shore & Milwaukee (CNS&M) interurban electric railroad, between Wilmette and County Line Rd. in Highland Park, where the trail turns to the Robert

McClory Bike Path.

The trail is suitable for even the youngest of riders, although the route does use some sidewalks and even a very small portion of residential roads in Kenilworth. In addition, the surface alternates between asphalt and crushed limestone. Inexperienced cyclists and those with young children should use particular caution at road crossings and with any road riding.

This is a true multi-purpose trail. Commuters take the trail to train stations along the way, bikes are allowed on the Metra in limited numbers; children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult when bringing a bicycle, and residents and tourists alike use the trail for exercise and car-free travel between communities.

About the Route

Leaving from the southern trailhead in Wilmette, trail users will immediately experience the fresh air and beach-front atmosphere that is comfortably juxtaposed with the business and commuter traffic. The trail itself is paved and well-maintained, accentuating the upscale neighborhoods through which it travels.

Near Highland Park, trail users may find people flocking to Ravinia, one of Chicagoland's best music venues. An open-air, covered pavilion is used for symphony concerts, and dance and pop concerts, while smaller indoor theaters showcase chamber music performances and dance recitals.

By the time the trail reaches the northern end of the trail, trail users will appreciate the many restrooms, public telephones, playgrounds, and parks afforded by the proximity of the commuter line. Another bonus of the adjacent rail line: trail users can just hop on a Metra train for the return trip!



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*Illinois*

**States:** Illinois

**Counties:** Cook, Lake

Length: 6.5 miles

**Trail end points:** County Line Rd. (Highland Park) to 1200 Wilmette Ave. (Wilmette)

**Trail surfaces:** Asphalt, Concrete, Crushed Stone

**Trail category:** Rail-Trail

**Trail activities:** Bike, Inline

Skating, Walking, Wheelchair Accessible, Cross Country Skiing

## Parking & Trail Access

The Green Bay Trail runs between County Line Rd. (Highland Park), where parking is available, and 1200 Wilmette Ave. (Wilmette).

Parking is also available at:

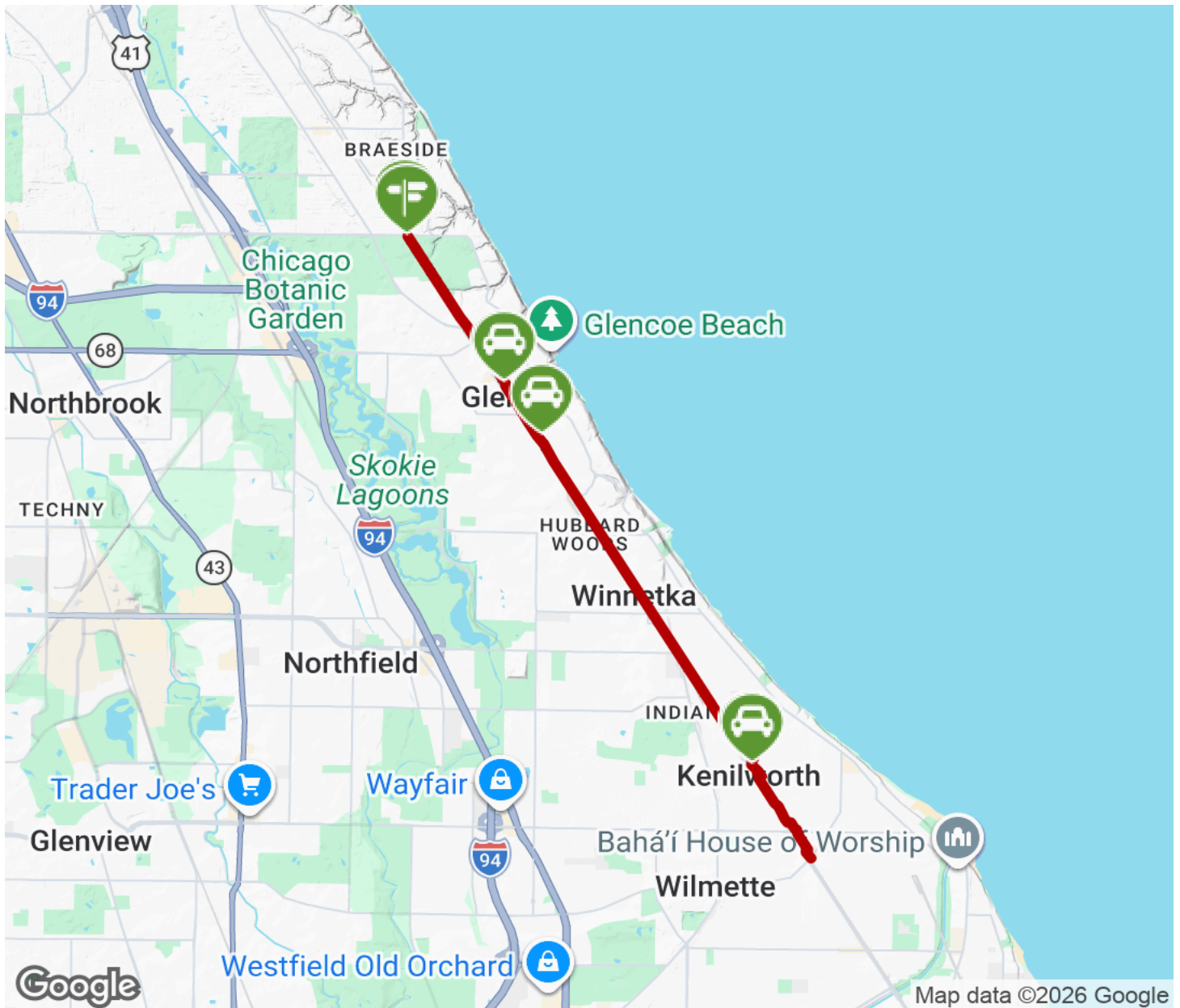
- Glencoe Metra Station, 303 Park Ave. (Wilmette)
- 400 Richmond Rd. (Kenilworth)
- 385 Old Green Bay Rd. (Glencoe)

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



# Green Bay Trail

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Trailhead



Restroom



Parking



Water Fountain



Tunnel



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

**TrailLink.com**