



2025

TrailLink Unlimited 

Guides



**Rhode Island
Avenue
Trolley Trail**
Maryland



Rhode Island Avenue Trolley Trail

Maryland

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The Rhode Island Avenue Trolley Trail provides a safe pathway for students, from kindergartners to doctoral candidates, to walk and bike to school in College Park, Riverdale Park, and Hyattsville. The paved trail follows the route of the trolley that once ran from Washington, DC, to Laurel, Maryland, between 1903 and 1958.

Of course, you don't have to be earning a degree to use the trail. Local residents use the path for after-dinner walks, commuters take it as a shortcut to the Metrorail system, and house cats find it a good place to wait for an indulgent hand to give them a pat. The trail sits on a raised berm and crosses several quiet neighborhood roads, where you can easily pick up the pathway. There are wayfinding kiosks along the route.

Mostly shaded nearly all year by walnut, maple and flowering trees that tower near the trail from neighboring yards, the rail-trail also serves as something of a home-and-garden tour. Residents of the quirky Sears bungalows and rambling colonials along the trail use their yards to showcase their green thumbs.

At the northern end in College Park, there are several businesses within a block of trail, including an impressive herb shop and a corner convenience store, provide diversions during a short stroll. From the intersection of Greenbelt Road and Rhode Island Avenue, the paved rail-trail heads south through primarily residential neighborhoods and through several parks, including the Upper Paint Branch Stream Valley Park. There are two connections to the [Paint Branch Trail](#)—follow Pierce Avenue east at the northern edge of the park or turn off the trail to take the path that heads east just within the park's northern boundary.

The Rhode Island Avenue Trolley Trail continues south through the park and through the historic neighborhood of Old Town, where it passes close to a variety of local businesses, grocery stores, restaurants, parks, museums, and more. The main campus of the University of Maryland is to the west and its Discovery District to the east.

Passing through the town of Riverdale Park and into Hyattsville, the rail-trail runs parallel to railroad tracks. At its southern end in Hyattsville, the trail connects to the [Northwest Branch Trail](#) by Melrose Park. The southern end is also an artisanal pub crawler's dream: three craft breweries, a distillery, and a meadery, all within a two-mile stretch of the paved trail.

Connections

At its northern end, where the trail is commonly known as the College Park Trolley Trail, a bike lane along Rhode Island Avenue extending north of the trail expands bicyclists'



Rhode Island Avenue Trolley Trail

Maryland

States: Maryland

Counties: Prince Georges

Length: 4.3miles

Trail end points: Greenbelt Rd & Rhode Island Ave (College Park) to Charles Armentrout Dr & Northwest Branch Trail at Melrose Park (Hyattsville)

Trail surfaces: Asphalt

Trail category: Rail-Trail

Trail activities: Bike,Inline

Skating,Walking,Wheelchair Accessible

Parking & Trail Access

A variety of public transportation options provide access to the Rhode Island Avenue Trolley Trail.

The College Park-U of MD Metro Station (on the Green Line) and the College Park MARC Station is only two short blocks from the trail. The trail runs directly past the Riverdale MARC Station.

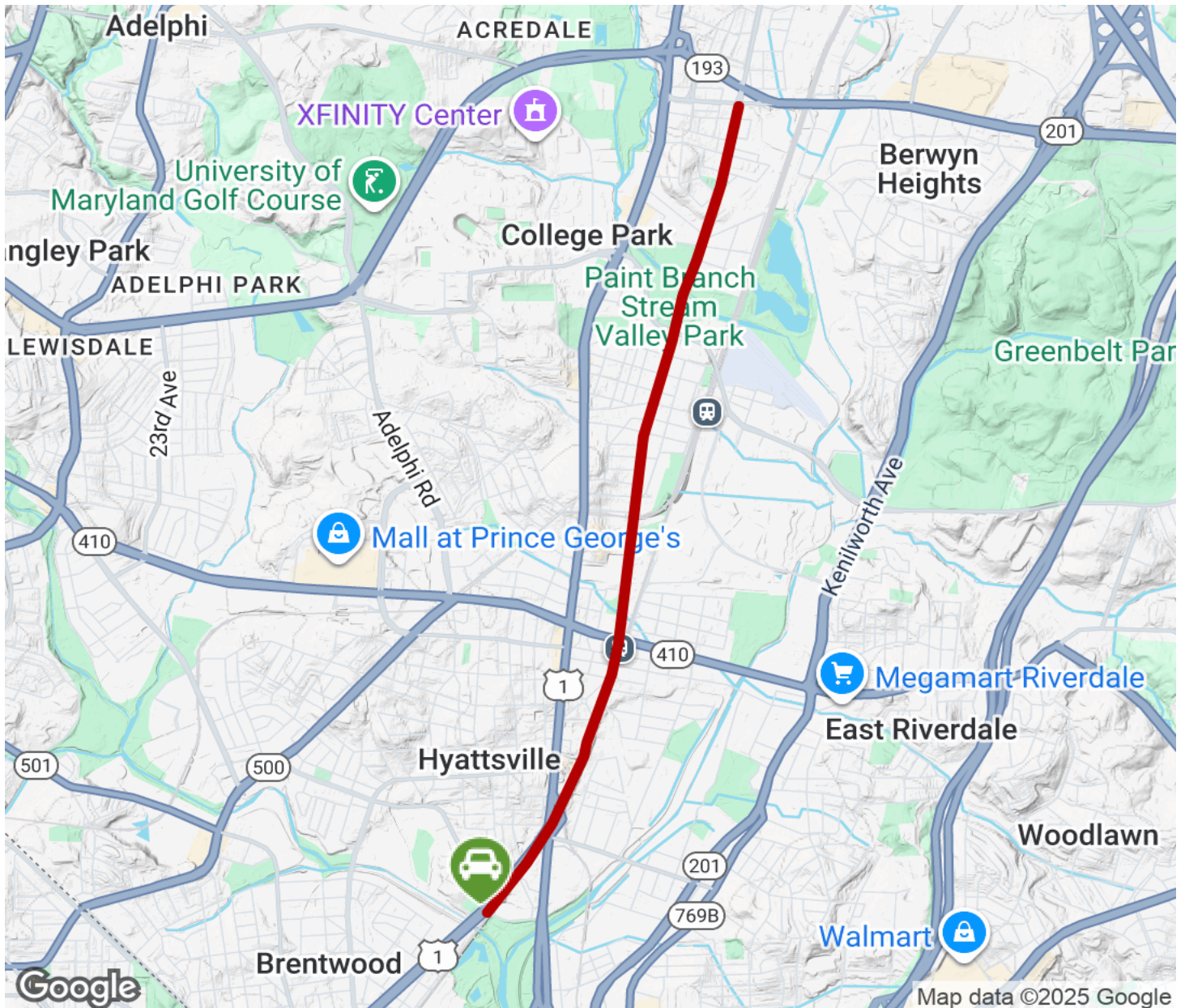
The trail is also accessible via multiple Metrobus routes, TheBus (operated by Prince George's County), and the University of Maryland's shuttle (university ID may be required to ride some routes).

Visit the [TrailLink map](#) for all options.



Rhode Island Avenue Trolley Trail

Maryland



Trailhead



Restroom



Parking



Water Fountain



Tunnel



TrailLink
by Rails-to-Trails Conservancy

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