



2026

TrailLink Unlimited 

Guides



**Hudson Valley
Rail Trail**
New York



Hudson Valley Rail Trail

New York

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Offering a picturesque and family-friendly adventure, the Hudson Valley Rail Trail stretches 7.1 miles through hardwood forests, over Black Creek, and under two spectacular stone-arch bridges. Connecting the towns of New Paltz, Lloyd, and Highland, the rail trail follows the former right-of-way of the New York, New Haven, and Hartford Railroad. Two trailside cabooses, one dating to 1915 and the other to 1926, offer nods to the corridor's railroading past.

About the Route

Leaving off in the west from New Paltz Bypass in New Paltz, the trail heads east, paralleling NY 299 through a mixture of commercial areas and wooded canopy. A highlight of this section is a passage through Tony

Williams Park, where trail users can find athletic facilities, picnic tables, and restrooms. Less than 0.5 miles from the park, the trail crosses over Black Creek, which is a popular waterway for kayakers and canoeists. Farther on, the trail runs along a rock cut, where wildflowers bloom in the crevices in the spring. The cut also provides a cool spot to relax on hot summer days.

Near the trail's midpoint, two magnificent arched bridges carry New Paltz Road over the corridor. Shortly thereafter, you'll reach the Highland Rotary Pavilion, named for the Highland Rotary Club, which has made the Hudson Valley Rail Trail a primary project for more than a decade. The park setting offers restrooms, a large parking lot, picnic tables, and drinking water.

Along the route, signage invites trail users to explore the history of the trail and the communities it connects, while trailside exercise stations encourage you to pause for a health and wellness moment. Here, the trail enters the hamlet of Highland and a more residential trail experience. A pedestrian bridge provides safe passage over US 44/NY 55/Vineyard Avenue as the trail continues through these more populated surroundings.

Connections

At the eastern end of the trail, the Hudson Valley Rail Trail connects with the [Walkway over the Hudson](#).

The Hudson Valley Rail Trail is part of the Empire State Trail, a developing 750-mile trail network spanning the state from New York City to Canada and Buffalo to Albany.



TrailLink
by Rails-to-Trails Conservancy

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Hudson Valley Rail Trail

New York

States: New York

Counties: Ulster

Length: 7.1miles

Trail end points: New Paltz Bypass (New Paltz)
to 87 Haviland Rd (Highland)

Trail surfaces: Asphalt

Trail category: Rail-Trail

Trail activities: Bike, Inline

Skating, Walking, Wheelchair Accessible

Parking & Trail Access

The Hudson Valley Rail Trail runs between New Paltz Bypass (New Paltz) and 87 Haviland Rd (Highland), where parking is available.

Parking is also available at:

- Tony Williams Town Park (Highland)
- 101 New Paltz Rd (Highland)
- 75 Haviland Rd (Highland)

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



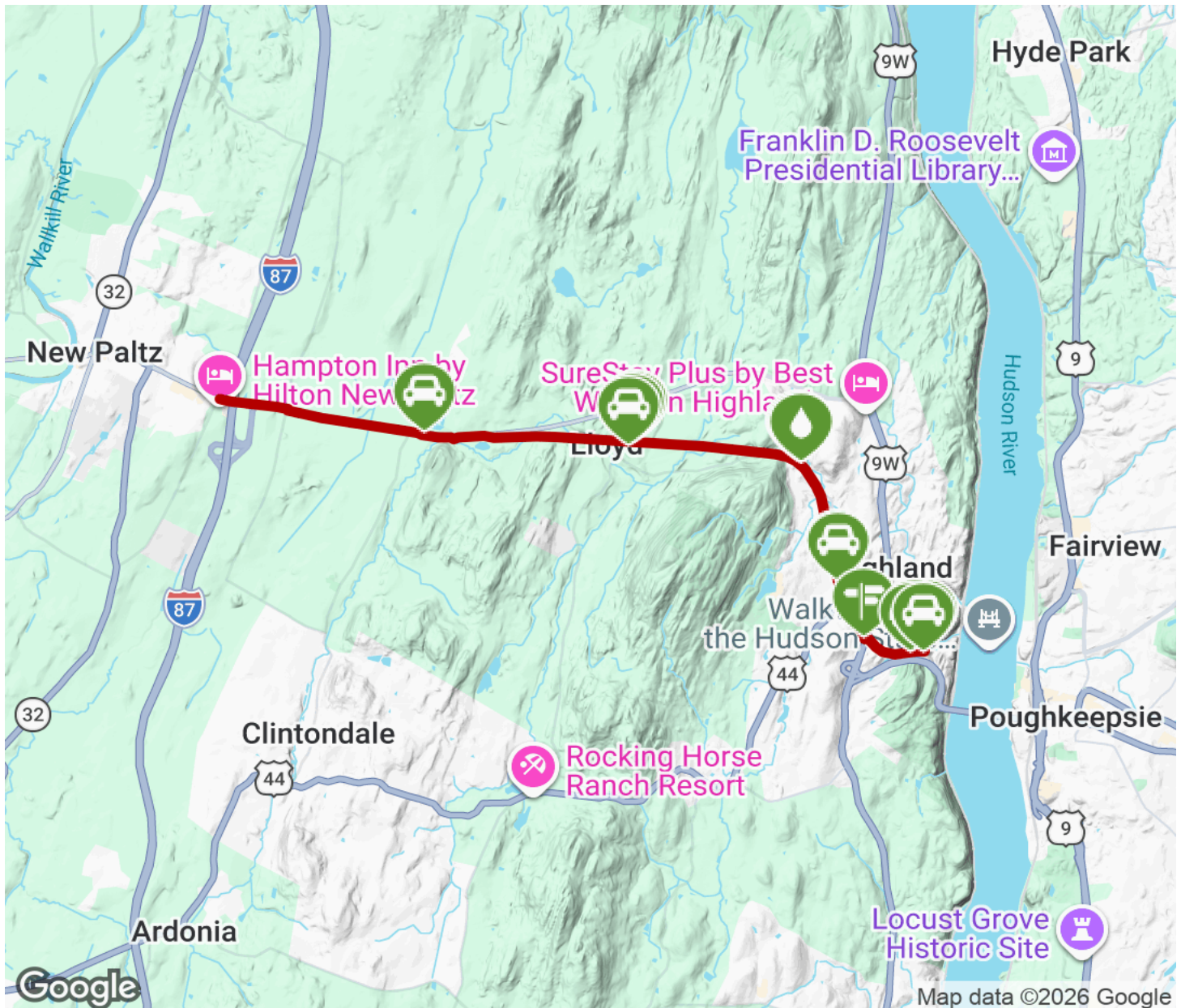
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Hudson Valley Rail Trail

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Trailhead



Restroom



Parking



Water Fountain



Tunnel



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