



2024

TrailLink Unlimited



Guides



**Lamoille  
Valley Rail  
Trail**  
*Vermont*



# Lamoille Valley Rail Trail

Vermont

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Closure Notice: Some sections of the LVRT were damaged in July and December 2023 by heavy rain and flooding. Those areas will be repaired during the 2024 construction season, and there will be temporary closures to short segments of the LVRT as crews complete the work. The LVRT website and maps will be updated throughout the construction season with additional details as repairs progress.

Visit the [Vermont Rail Trail System website](#) for the latest updates on status and closures.

The Lamoille Valley Rail Trail (LVRT) is a year-round trail in northern Vermont that stretches 93 miles between St. Johnsbury and Swanton. The trail passes through the spine of Vermont's Green Mountain Range, from the

Connecticut River to Lake Champlain. Covering five counties and 18 towns, the LVRT is the longest rail-trails in New England. As of July 2023, the Lamoille Valley Rail Trail (LVRT) is complete and open to the public.

The rail-trail is built along the former route of the Lamoille Valley Railroad, which once served as a vital east-west transportation corridor from 1877 until its closing in 1994. The railroad was known as the covered bridge line and was a leaf peeper train for scenic tourism. The Vermont Association of Snow Travelers has supported the project for many years and helps to maintain the trail. The rail-trail's elevation grade never exceeds 3 percent, making it accessible to a variety of trail users.

Starting from the trail's southern endpoint in St. Johnsbury, the route offers a variety of scenic landscapes, including gorgeous wetlands and Joe's Pond, a locally popular fishing, boating, and residential area. Heading north, the trail first parallels both US 5 and the Passumpsic River before turning west to run along Whiteman Brook. Tunnels help trail users avoid road crossings at US 5 and I-91 and also provide a cool spot in the warmer months. After heading under I-91 and reaching Mt. Vernon Street, you'll enter a 1.5-mile section of the trail, also known as the Three Rivers Bike Path, which heads to the southern edge of St. Johnsbury, where you'll find a small parking lot.

Beginning at Vermont Route 15 (VT-15), you'll head northeast along Joe's Pond, a gorgeous lake with a variety of activities available. Take a break at the Joe's Pond Trailhead and enjoy the scenic views over the water. This trailhead has restrooms, picnic tables and pavilion, benches, and a large sandy parking lot. Flanked by trees for most of the route, the trail passes through a small residential area near the intersection of VT-15 and US 2, just before the trail begins to run along the shore of Joe's Pond. Heading towards Danville, the trail snakes in and out of wooded areas and farm fields and crosses over a few local roads. You'll encounter dramatic outcrops of bedrock—



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**States:** Vermont

**Counties:** Caledonia, Franklin, Lamoille

Length: 93miles

**Trail end points:** Across from the Swanton Historical Society (58 S River St, Swanton) to 543 Main St (St. Johnsbury)

**Trail surfaces:** Crushed Stone, Dirt, Gravel

**Trail category:** Rail-Trail

**Trail activities:** Bike, Horseback

Riding, Mountain

Biking, Snowmobiling, Walking, Cross Country

## Parking & Trail Access

The Green Mountain Transit (GMT) system provides access to the trail. It serves the communities of Burlington, Essex, South Burlington, Shelburne, Williston, Winooski, Milton, Hinesburg, and part of Colchester. Options include using the Jeffersonville Commuter to access the trail in Jeffersonville from Burlington and the 116: Richford/St Albans Commuter route to access the trail in Sheldon. Commuter routes are limited to morning and late afternoon/early evening. Visit the [GMT website](#) to plan your adventure.

Rural Community Transportation (RCT) serves the counties of Caledonia, Orleans, Essex, and Lamoille, providing fare-free shuttle and commuter bus routes. Use the Jay-Lyn Shuttle to access the trail in St. Johnsbury from Lyndonville, the Route 100 Commuter between Morrisville and Waterbury, and the US2 Commuter to access the trail in St. Johnsbury from Montpelier.

In the mornings and late afternoons, it is possible use the 14/15 Commuter running between Hardwick and Morrisville in order to skip the current trail gap. In Hardwick, the bus stop is on Wolcott Street and about 0.4 miles from the trail. To reach the trail from the bus stop, head south on Wolcott Street and then east on West Church Street. Follow West Church Street as it turns south and then east on North Main Street. In Morrisville, the bus stop is outside the RCT Office and about 0.6 miles from the trail. To reach the trail from the bus stop, head northwest on Harrel Street. Turn south to follow Historic VT-100 until it intersects with the trail.

According to the Ride RCT Guide, buses are equipped with a bike rack on the outside. However, riders are responsible for safely securing their own bikes. Bikes may also be brought onto the bus if the bike rack is full and the driver says it is safe to do so. Visit the [RCT website](#) for more information and to use their trip planner tool.

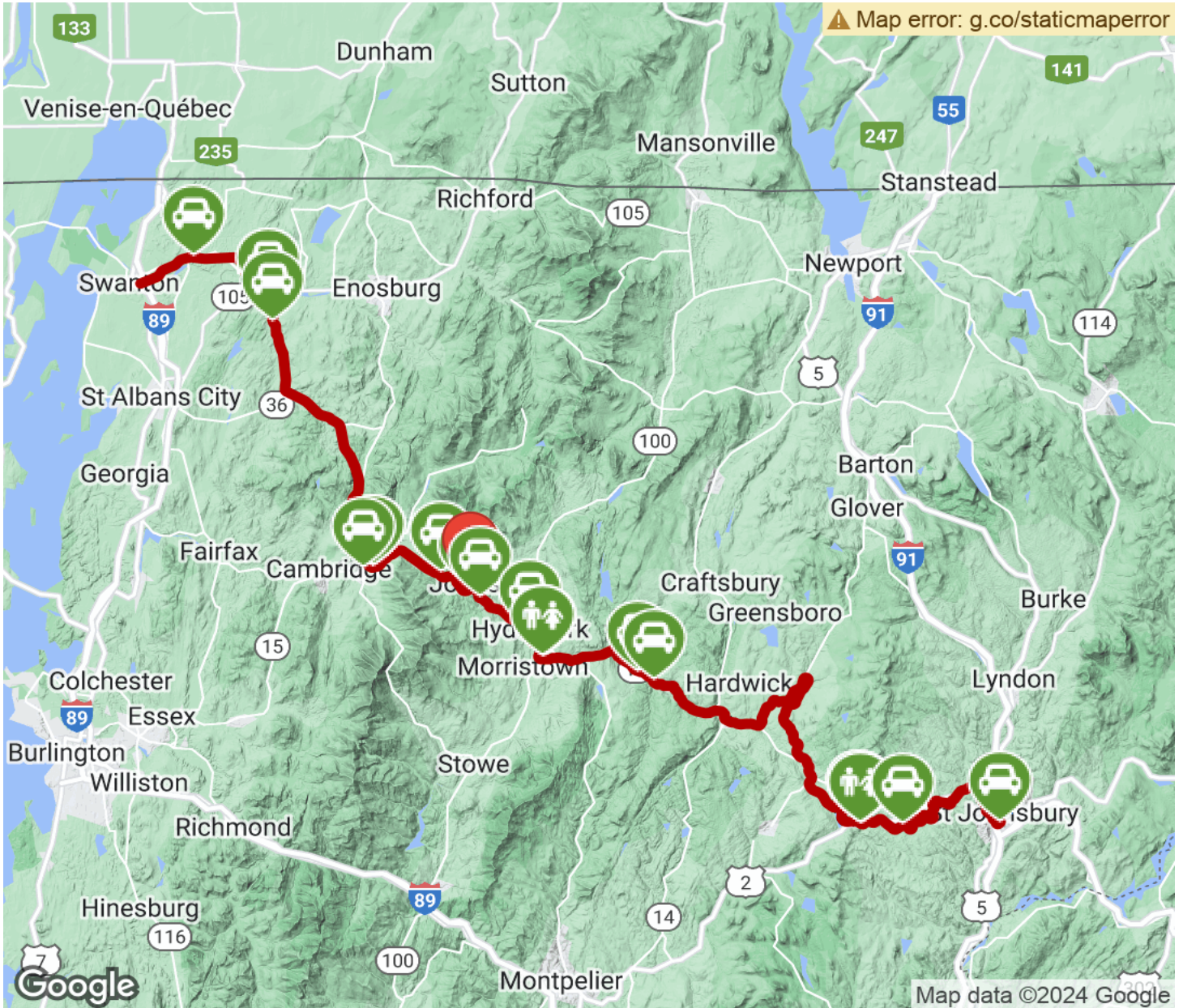
For those driving, parking is available at a number of locations along the trail. View the [TrailLink map](#) for all options and detailed directions.





# Lamoille Valley Rail Trail

Vermont



Trailhead



Restroom



Parking



Water Fountain



Tunnel



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

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