



2026

TrailLink Unlimited 

Guides



## Allegheny Highlands Trail

*West Virginia*



# Allegheny Highlands Trail

West Virginia

*The Allegheny Highlands Trail (AHT) follows the original route of the West Virginia Central and Pittsburgh Railway, built by Henry*



The Allegheny Highlands Trail (AHT) follows the original route of the West Virginia Central and Pittsburgh Railway, built by Henry Gassaway Davis in 1884. The rail-trail is in two segments totaling 30.8 miles. For 26 miles, this exceptionally scenic trail provides panoramic views of the West Virginia countryside, as it passes through a mountainous region with small towns and rural farmland. A separate roughly 5-mile segment extends north from the Town of Davis.

## About the Route

On the southern end of the 26-mile segment, the trail begins in downtown Elkins, adjacent to the West Virginia Railroad Museum. From there, it heads north to the Highland Park trailhead and then gradually ascends

for about 15 miles, passing around Pheasant and Polecat Knob mountains. The rural views and mountainous backgrounds provide numerous opportunities for photos. Beyond the mountains, the trail starts to descend more steeply and approaches the small town of Parsons.

A short, easy-to-follow on-road section of the trail in Parsons offers the chance to grab a bite to eat at any of the several restaurants. The trail crosses the Shavers Fork River on the restored Western Maryland Railroad bridge and continues through Mill Race Park. A ramp from the park ascends to the bike lane on the Black Fork River bridge. The next trailhead is located just over the Black Fork River on the southern side of US-219. The remaining section is paved and follows the beautiful Black Fork River to the community of Hendricks.

A separate 5-mile segment extends north from the Town of Davis, between Synergy Hwy and E Portal Rd.

There are plans to extend the Allegheny Highlands Trail north to Mt. Storm Lake, making it about 44 miles. The railroad grade, though not developed as part of the AHT, continues along the beautifully scenic Blackwater River to Thomas as the [Blackwater Canyon Trail](#). Be warned: it's steep.

## Connections

The northern end of the 26-mile segment connects to the [Blackwater Canyon Trail](#).



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

**TrailLink.com**



# Allegheny Highlands Trail

West Virginia

**States:** West Virginia

**Counties:** Randolph, Tucker

Length: 30.8 miles

**Trail end points:** Elkins Depot Welcome Center (315 Railroad Ave, Elkins) to Main St/WV-72 (Hendricks)

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

**Trail category:** Rail-Trail

**Trail activities:** Bike, Horseback

Riding, Mountain Biking, Inline

Skating, Walking, Wheelchair Accessible, Cross

## Parking & Trail Access

The Allegheny Highlands Trail runs between the Elkins Depot Welcome Center (315 Railroad Ave, Elkins), where there is parking, and Main St/WV-72 (Hendricks), with an additional section that runs between Synergy Hwy (Davis) and E Portal Rd (Davis).

Parking is available at:

- Maplevue Dr (Elkins)
- Old Route 219 (Gilman)
- Triplett Lazy Run Rd (Kerens)
- Shavers Fork Rd (Montrose)
- Nursery Bottom Rd (Bretz)

These are not official addresses, please visit the [TrailLink map](#) for all parking options and detailed directions.



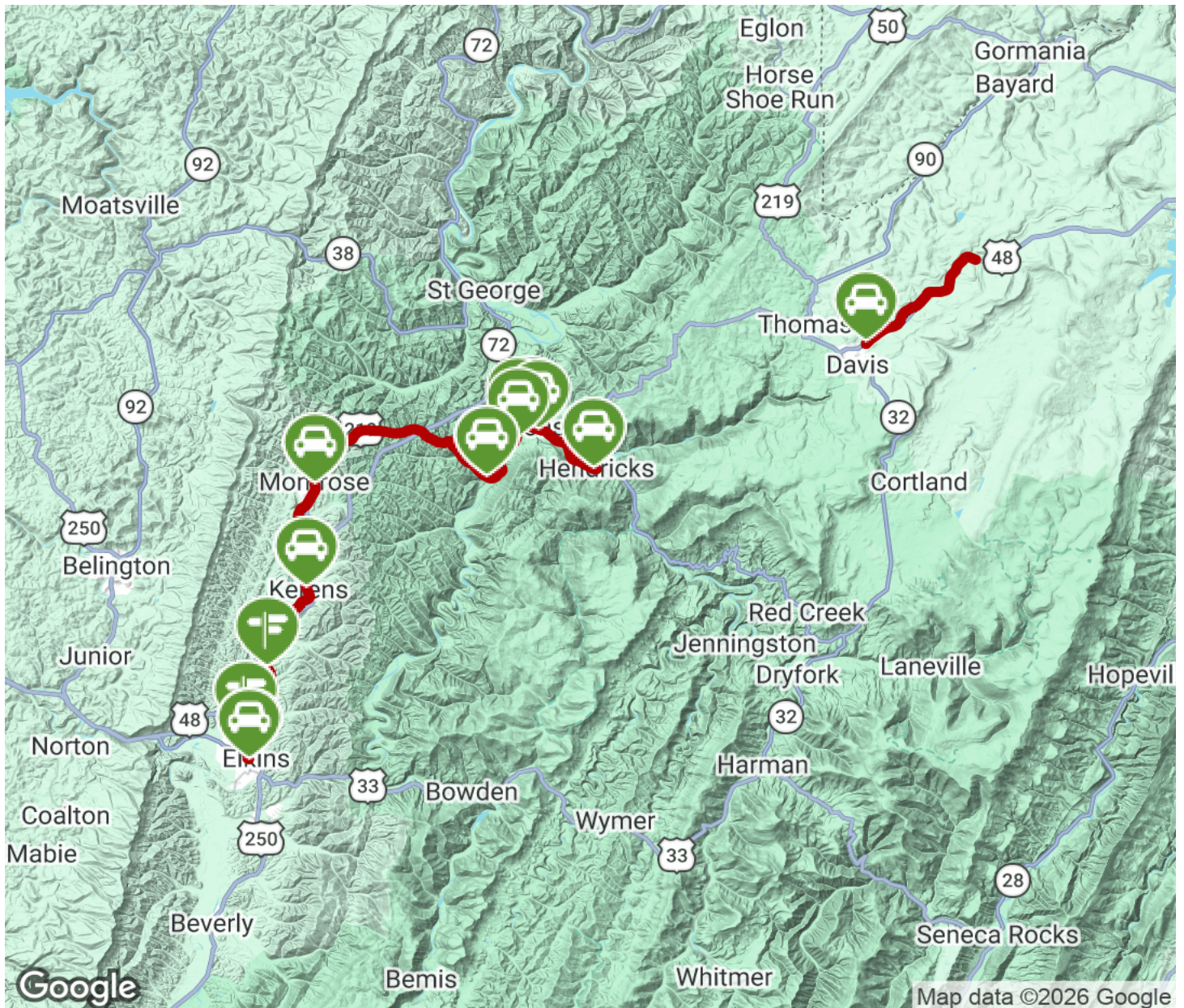
**TrailLink**  
by Rails-to-Trails Conservancy

**TrailLink.com**



# Allegheny Highlands Trail

West Virginia



Trailhead



Restroom



Parking



Water Fountain



Tunnel



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

**TrailLink.com**