



2026

TrailLink Unlimited



Guides



Chippewa River State Trail

Wisconsin



Chippewa River State Trail

Wisconsin

The 30.4-mile Chippewa River State Trail runs between Eau Claire and Durand, Wisconsin. Snowmobiles are permitted between



The 30.4-mile Chippewa River State Trail runs between Eau Claire and Durand, Wisconsin.

Snowmobiles are permitted between Porterville Road and Durand.

NOTE: A State Trail Pass (\$25 annually/\$5 daily) is required between Eau Claire and the Pepin County line for bicyclists and in-line skaters ages 16 and older. Snowmobilers must display either a Wisconsin registration or a snowmobile State Trail Pass. For information, go to dnr.wi.gov/topic/parks/trailpass.html.

About the Route

The trail kicks off in the north at the confluence of the Eau Claire and Chippewa Rivers in downtown Eau Claire's Phoenix Park, where visitors can access a walking labyrinth, amphitheater, farmers market, restrooms, parking, and the southwestern endpoint of the 28-mile Old Abe State Trail, which heads to Cornell. Heading southeast, the trail crosses over a 500-foot-long trestle that used to carry train cars of the Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul, and Pacific Railroad.

The trail hugs the shoreline of the Chippewa River as it winds south to Owen Park, which features the Sarge Boyd Bandshell, listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Riding past, trail users may witness an Eau Claire Municipal Band concert, wedding, play, or other lively public events.

Long, straight stretches of trail await trail users as they leave the city and enter farm country; enjoy the fresh air and the fragrant aroma of the many wildflowers that dot the region. Near the trail's halfway point, the trail reaches the Caryville trailhead, just off WI 85, which provides restrooms, drinking fountains, and ample parking. The route then winds along the banks of the river in a deciduous forest until reaching Meridian, an unincorporated community in the town of Peru.

At about 22 miles, after passing two trestles over the snaking Cranberry Creek, the trail enters the town of Old Tyrone, a ghost town marked by an interpretive plaque. A shelter perched above the trail, just a few steps up the cliffside, offers picturesque views of the nearby river bend.

The trail terminates at the Tarrant Park trailhead in Durand, approximately 6.5 miles past the junction of the Red Cedar State Trail. Here, trail users can find ample parking as well as a registration office for purchasing State Trail Passes. About a mile and a half farther west of Tarrant Park, Lower Chippewa View Park provides beautiful waterside views.

Connections



Chippewa River State Trail

Wisconsin

States: Wisconsin

Counties: Dunn, Eau Claire

Length: 30.4 miles

Trail end points: Phoenix Park, 330 Riverfront Terrace (Eau Claire) to E. Main St. (Durand)

Trail surfaces: Asphalt, Boardwalk, Cinder, Concrete, Gravel

Trail category: Rail-Trail

Trail activities: Bike, Fishing, Mountain

Biking, Inline

Skating, Snowmobiling, Walking, Wheelchair

Parking & Trail Access

The Chippewa State Trail runs between Phoenix Park, 330 Riverfront Terrace (Eau Claire), and E. Main St. (Durand).

Parking is available at:

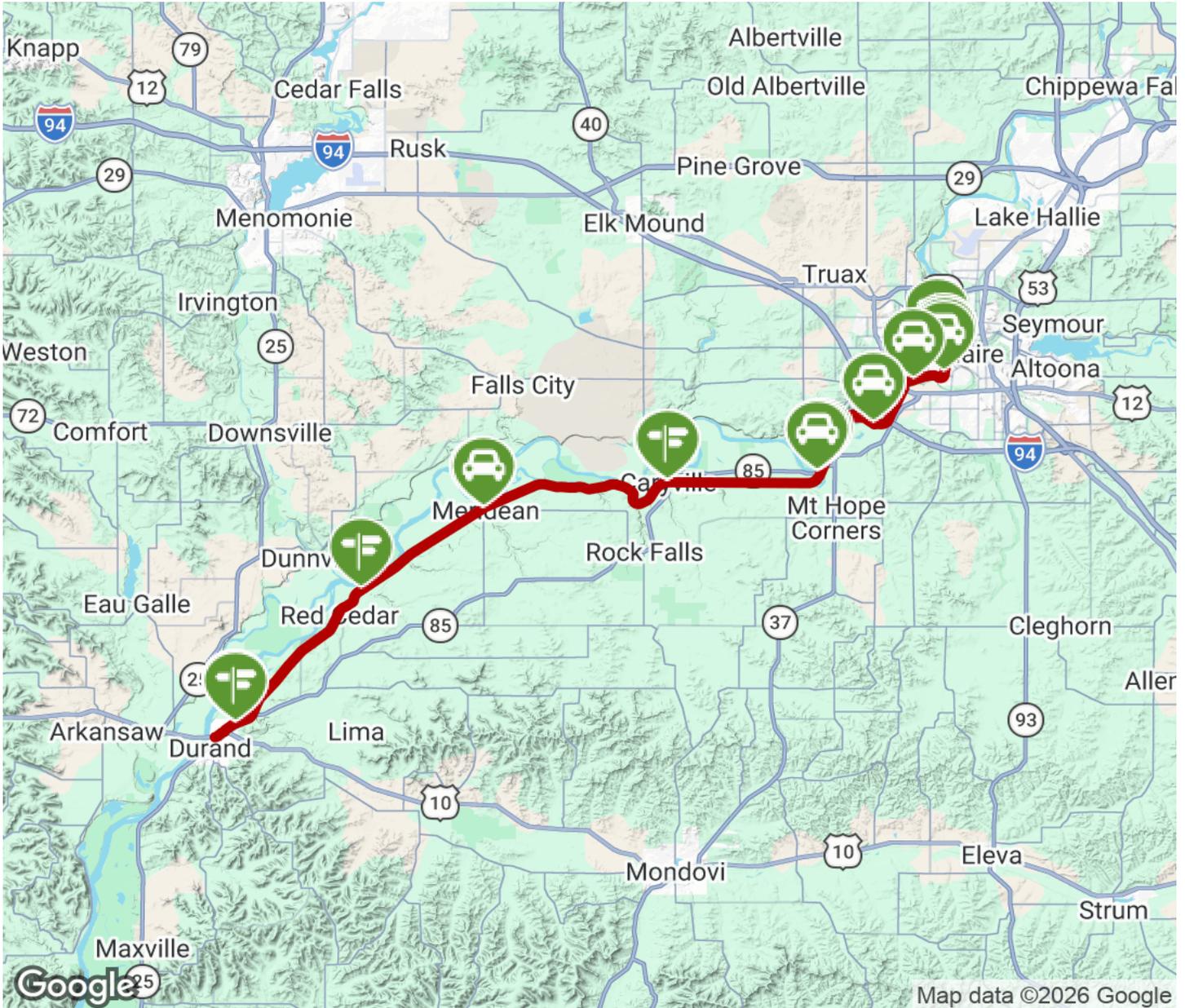
- Owen Park, 501 1st Ave (Eau Claire)
- 9555 194th Ave (Mondovi)
- E7289 160th Ave (Mondovi)

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



Chippewa River State Trail

Wisconsin



Trailhead



Restroom



Parking



Water Fountain



Tunnel



TrailLink
by Rails-to-Trails Conservancy

TrailLink.com