



2026

TrailLink Unlimited



Guides



# Virginia Blue Ridge Railway Trail

*Virginia*



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Virginia

*The 6.9-mile Virginia Blue Ridge Railway Trail offers a quintessential rail trail experience in central Virginia, midway*



The 6.9-mile Virginia Blue Ridge Railway Trail offers a quintessential rail trail experience in central Virginia, midway between Lynchburg and Charlottesville (less than an hour's drive from each). The trail offers an easy, picturesque route through a beautiful setting with plentiful opportunities to see unique historical sites. Horseback riding is also permitted on the entirety of the trail.

The trail is primarily crushed stone and is wooded much of the way, offering a cool respite even during the summer months. White-tailed deer and other wildlife are plentiful, so trail users should wear blaze-orange clothing during the autumn hunting season. The trail also passes through farm country and open fields. Come in the spring to see wildflowers sprinkling color into the lush green

backdrop.

## About the Route

The Piney and Tye Rivers are constant companions along the trail, and the route crosses five bridges on the nearly 7-mile route, including a photo-worthy covered bridge at Naked Creek. The railbed on which the rail trail now rests was originally built in 1915 to haul timber to local mills. Along the entire trail, trail users can spot relics of this past, such as railcars and a railroad weighing scale on display.

Beginning from the northern trailhead in Piney River, just off VA 151, a renovated depot that serves as a visitor center, and a historical railroad park—complete with a refurbished caboosie—is ready to explore. As the larger of the two trailheads serving this trail, Piney River also offers ample parking for cars and horse trailers, portable toilets, and a kiosk with nature information for kids.

A second, smaller trailhead is located on Roses Mill Road, 1.7 miles east of Piney River trailhead. Amherst County is in the process of expanding the parking lot here. At Hunter's Bend, 1.9 miles south of the Roses Mill Trailhead, the trail passes a gazebo. Just 0.5 miles from Hunter's Bend is the Naked Creek bridge. The trail ends at the Tye River Depot, but note that there is no exit at this southern end; trail users will need to turn around and head north in order to reach the nearest trailhead.



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**States:** Virginia

**Counties:** Amherst, Nelson

Length: 6.9 miles

**Trail end points:** 3124 Patrick Henry Hwy.  
(Piney River) to Tye River Rd. (Tye River)

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

**Trail category:** Rail-Trail

**Trail activities:** Bike, Fishing, Horseback  
Riding, Mountain Biking, Walking, Cross  
Country Skiing

## Parking & Trail Access

The Virginia Blue Ridge Railway Trail runs between 3124 Patrick Henry Hwy (Piney River), and a dead end near Tye River Rd. (Arrington).

Parking is also available at:

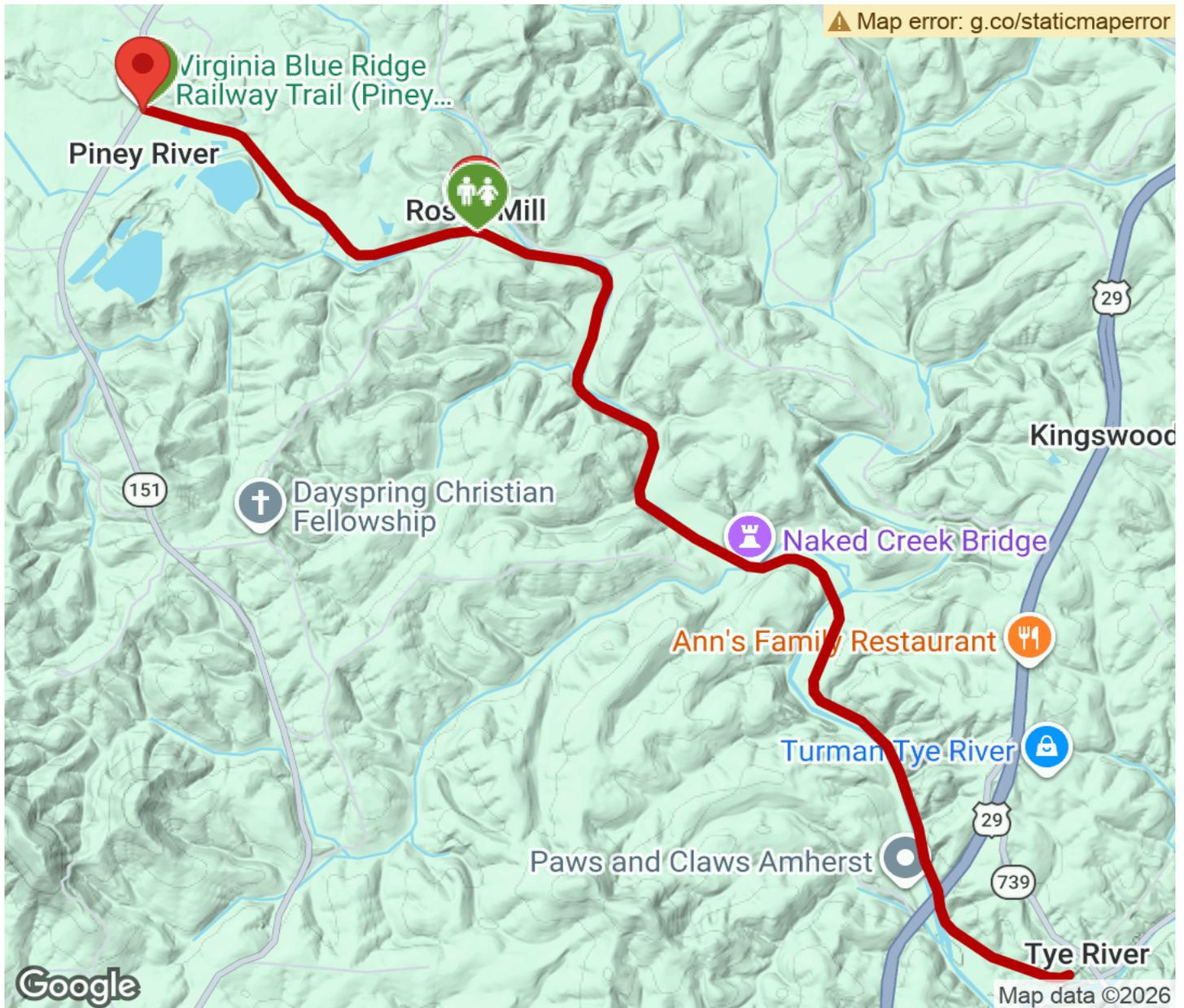
- 1264 Roses Mill Rd. (Amherst)

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



# Virginia Blue Ridge Railway Trail

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Trailhead



Restroom



Parking



Water Fountain



Tunnel



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

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