



2026

TrailLink Unlimited 

Guides



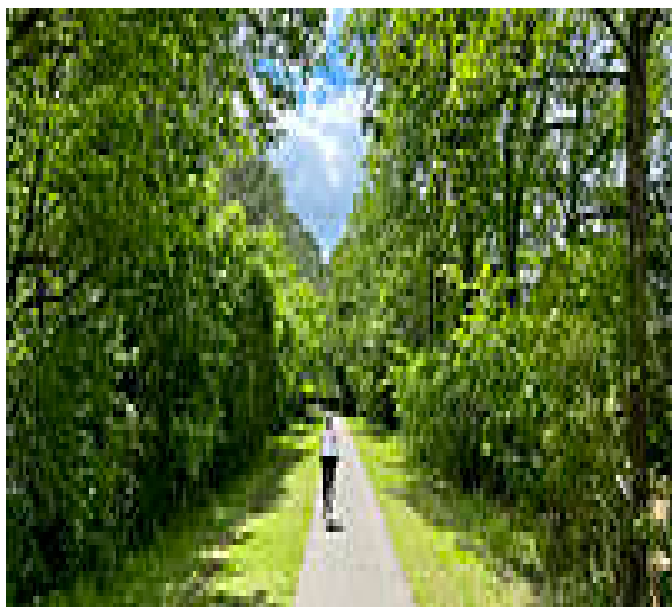
**Chief Ladiga
Trail**
Alabama



Chief Ladiga Trail

Alabama

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The Chief Ladiga Trail is steeped in history and nature, traversing the historic Alabama communities of Anniston, Weaver, Jacksonville, and Piedmont as it weaves through the countryside, forests, and wetlands of Calhoun and Cleburne Counties. The paved pathway is a celebration of northeast Alabama's rich and beautiful natural landscapes, from pastoral views to mountainous terrain, and of the hundreds of species of plants and wildlife that call it home, including the red-tailed hawk and blue-gray gnatcatchers that dance with you as you move along the trail.

In Cleburne County, at the eastern end of the trail, some equestrian use is allowed. Water and resources are also limited east of Piedmont, as the route heads into other, more rural communities surrounding the Talladega

National Forest. Horses are not allowed on the trail

About the Route

Leaving off from the trail's western endpoint in Anniston, the trail is relatively flat but will slowly gain around 700 feet in elevation throughout its whole route.

Heading northeast from Anniston, in 1 mile the trail reaches Weaver. When the trail reaches Jacksonville after another 3.2 miles, the trail passes through Jacksonville State University. With ample parking, water, and restrooms, this is another good place to refresh before heading farther east. Germania Springs Park in Jacksonville offers a playground, shelter, and shade, as well as restrooms and parking.

Just before entering Piedmont (9.6 miles after exiting Germania Springs Park), the trail crosses the Old Cherokee Indian Boundary, which marked the divide between the Creek and Cherokee Nations until the signing of the Treaty of Cusseta. Piedmont, a community with several trail access points, is the final stop for refreshments and restrooms.

Exiting Piedmont, about 13 miles remain until the trail's eastern end at the Alabama-Georgia state line. Note that the trail quickly becomes more rural and remote, and cell phone service is limited. Also, take note of areas where the trail surface is bumpier because of root damage.

This section of the trail through Talladega National Forest and the southern foothills of the Appalachian Mountains is awe-inspiring, offering vistas that give way to impressive rock formations revealed by the construction of the Seaboard Air Line Railroad a century ago. Along the way, trail users are treated to various views of Dugger Mountain, the second-highest peak in Alabama, as well as glimpses of Mount Cheaha, the highest peak in the state. The trail comes to its eastern endpoint in the town of Estom Hill, along the AL/GA state line.



TrailLink
by Rails-to-Trails Conservancy

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Chief Ladiga Trail

Alabama

States: Alabama

Counties: Calhoun, Cleburne

Length: 39.5 miles

Trail end points: Anniston to Silver Comet Trail (AL/GA State Line)

Trail surfaces: Asphalt

Trail category: Rail-Trail

Trail activities: Bike, Horseback Riding, Inline Skating, Walking, Wheelchair Accessible

Parking & Trail Access

The Chief Ladiga Trail runs between Anniston and the Silver Comet Trail (AL/GA State Line), with parking available at both ends.

Parking is also available at:

- 7201 Alexandria-Jacksonville Hwy (Jacksonville)
- 916 Francis St W (Jacksonville)
- Germania Springs Park, 540 Roy Webb Rd (Jacksonville)

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



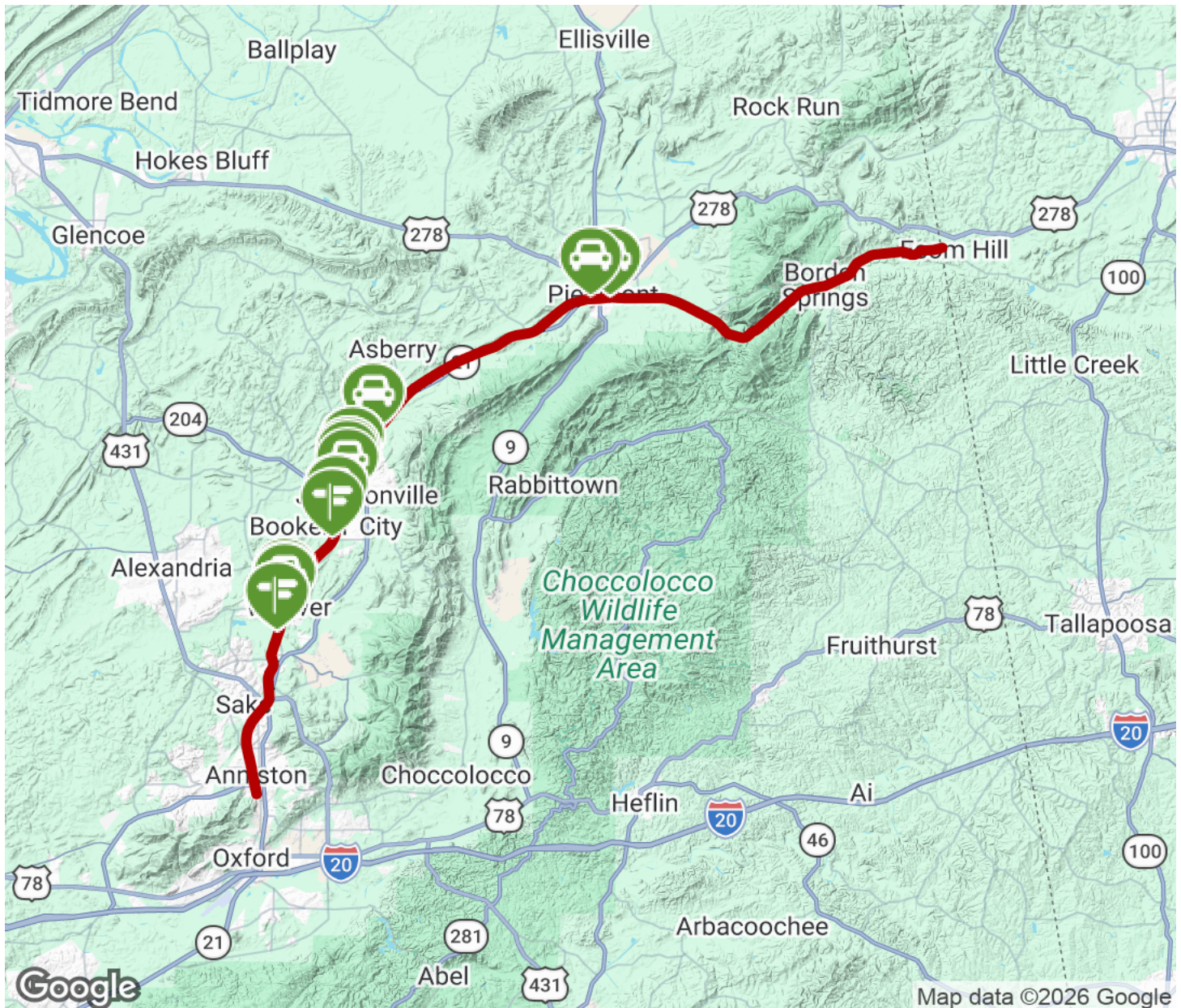
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Chief Ladiga Trail

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Trailhead



Restroom



Parking



Water Fountain



Tunnel



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