



2024

TrailLink Unlimited 

Guides



**Redbank  
Valley Rail  
Trail**  
*Pennsylvania*



# Redbank Valley Rail Trail

Pennsylvania

*Overview The Redbank Valley Rail Trail carries trail users along the forested banks of Redbank Creek for nearly 51 miles to the*



The absolute northern endpoint of the Redbank Valley Rail Trail is located in Brookville at a parking lot just off Madison Ave. From the parking lot, the short Depot Street Spur brings trail users to the main route in less than a mile. Here, trail users can bear right onto a well-maintained crushed-limestone surface that travels alongside its namesake Redbank Creek. To the left, a short, currently closed, segment of trail heads over a bridge to a closed tunnel and a portion of trail that will eventually extend to Second Street in Brookville. There are currently no plans to reopen this trail; please do not enter the tunnel for your safety.

Summertime heat is greatly reduced as the trail heads through a cut into a limestone hill just past mile 5.5. Thermometers here and at a bridge just a few hundred yards away indicate the temperature difference. In 2 miles, the Summerville trailhead—the site of the town's old railroad station—offers parking, a portable toilet, and a map kiosk. The trail meanders mostly through forested and rural areas for the next 8 miles, after which the route passes through the small communities of Mayport and Hawthorn.

Continuing 4 miles on the trail along the creek, the trail cuts through New Bethlehem and then reenters the woods before entering the impressive 517-foot Climax Tunnel, built in 1872 and renovated and reopened to the public in 2018. As the trail meanders back to the east, trail users can see a large sculpture of a hand with two bright red cardinals. Just past mile 33, the trail offers a camp shelter featuring a sheltered picnic table, permanent pit toilet, and bike repair station. Dubbed Ray's Place, the Adirondack shelter was established in 2016 as a memorial to one of the trail's dedicated volunteers. Just beyond lies the entrance to the 640-foot Long Point Tunnel. This tunnel has yet to be reinforced or improved, and trail users are advised to use good flashlights.

Sligo Spur: 9.0 miles

At mile 36 in Rimersburg, trail users have the opportunity to

## Overview

The Redbank Valley Rail Trail carries trail users along the forested banks of Redbank Creek for nearly 51 miles to the Allegheny River and along a 9-mile perpendicular spur to Sligo.

The entire trail rarely exceeds a 1% grade along the entire route, making for a pleasant journey. Cellular service is somewhat limited along the mostly rural trail, and there are long stretches without drinking water or restrooms, so be sure to carry plenty of water. It is also important to bring a good flashlight if planning on visiting the Climax or Long Point Tunnels.

Brookville to Rimersburg/Sligo Spur: 36.2 miles



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**States:** Pennsylvania

**Counties:** Armstrong, Clarion, Jefferson

Length: 50.8 miles

**Trail end points:** 1441 Madison Ave.  
(Brookville) to Armstrong Trail (Templeton)

**Trail surfaces:** Ballast, Crushed Stone

**Trail category:** Rail-Trail

**Trail activities:** Mountain

Biking, Walking, Cross Country Skiing

## Parking & Trail Access

The Redbank Valley Rail Trail runs between 1441 Madison Ave (Brookville), where parking is available, and the Armstrong Trail (Templeton).

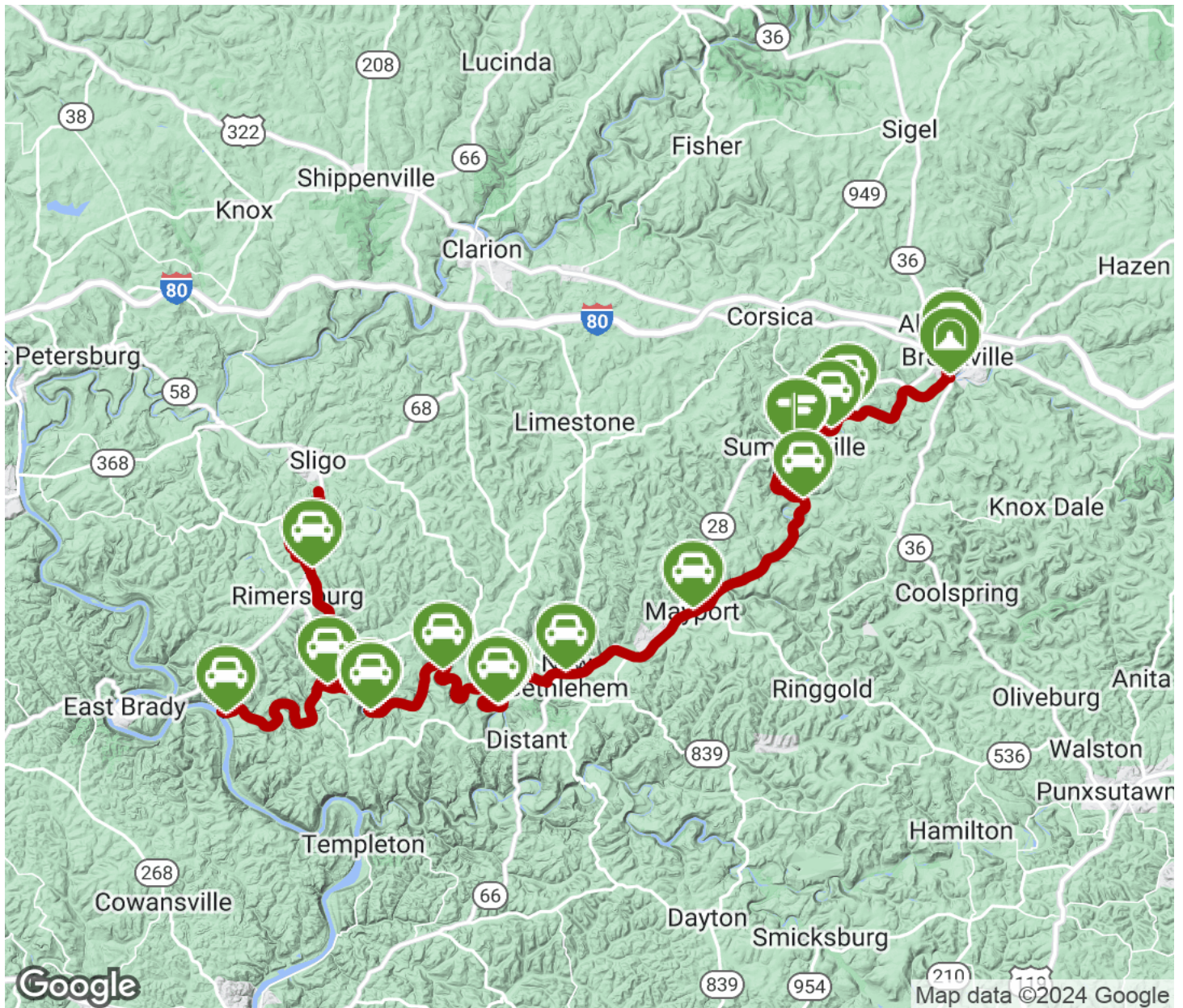
Additional parking can be found in Summerville, along State St., and in New Bethlehem along Arch St.

These are approximate addresses, please see [TrailLink Map](#) for all parking options and detailed directions.



# Redbank Valley Rail Trail

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Trailhead



Restroom



Parking



Water Fountain



Tunnel



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