



2026

TrailLink Unlimited



Guides



**Coastal Rail
Trail**
California



Coastal Rail Trail

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Open in distinct sections while still under development, The Coastal Rail Trail traverses beachside communities in Oceanside, Carlsbad, Solana Beach and Encinitas. Slated to eventually run 44 miles between Oceanside and San Diego alongside the Coaster commuter rail, the rail-trail brings a fun and practical active transportation route to this stretch of the Southern California Coast.

About the Route

As of 2024, five segments of the Coastal Rail Trail are open. Two are in Oceanside, one in Carlsbad, one between Encinitas and Cardiff-by-the-Sea, and one in Solana Beach. Refer to the [TrailLink Map](#) for more information on the trail's complete segments.

The Coastal Rail Trail's northern endpoint is at 248 Tyson St. in Oceanside, adjacent to the Oceanside Transit Center. Two blocks west lies Tyson Street Park, which offers an ocean beach and a large grassy area perfect for picnicking. In Oceanside, two trail segments travel through the city's lively downtown. From the Oceanside Transportation Center, the paved trail runs on the west side of the train track to Oceanside Blvd. A second paved segment south of Loma Alta Creek runs from Morse Street to Vista Way, with a crossing of the active train tracks required at Cassidy Street (adjacent to Lions Club Park).

In Carlsbad, a short segment runs between Oak Avenue and Tamarack Avenue on the east side of the rail corridor.

Between Encinitas and Cardiff-by-the-Sea, the shared-use trail runs from Santa Fe Drive in Encinitas south to Chesterfield Drive in Cardiff. Here, the trail travels uninterrupted on a natural bank lined with shrubbery that lies between San Elijo Ave and the rail corridor.

In Solana Beach, the Coastal Rail Trail runs between Highway 101 and the Coaster line from Ocean Street in the north to Via de la Valle in the south. This segment of trail passes through a busier corridor, along a landscaped area with public art. Here, the trail provides direct access to the Solana Beach Transit Center as well as dozens of restaurants and shops in the city's downtown. The itself can be accessed from Plaza Street near the center of this trail segment.

Once complete, this trail will run all the way south to San Diego. As of 2024, the Coastal Rail Trail's southern endpoint is at Highway 101 & Via De La Valle, in Solana Beach.

Connections

From the northern endpoint in Oceanside, trail users can go north on-road along Cleveland St. for about 0.7 miles to find to the [San Luis Rey River Trail](#).



Coastal Rail Trail

California

States: California

Counties: San Diego

Length: 4.7miles

Trail end points: 248 Tyson St. (Oceanside) to Highway 101 & Via De La Valle (Solana Beach)

Trail surfaces: Asphalt, Concrete

Trail category: Rail-Trail

Trail activities: Bike, Inline

Skating, Walking, Wheelchair Accessible

Parking & Trail Access

The Coastal Rail Trail runs in segments between 248 Tyson St (Oceanside) and Highway 101 & Via De La Valle (Solana Beach)

The region's commuter rails and Amtrak's Pacific Surfliner line provide convenient transit access to the trail. If taking your bike aboard a train, please observe the transit agency's rules. Several train stops are close to the trail:

- Oceanside Transit Center (MetroLink, Coaster, Sprinter, Amtrak)
- Coast Highway (Sprinter)
- Carlsbad Village (Coaster)
- Encinitas (Coaster)
- Solana Beach (Coaster, Amtrak)

Parking is also available at:

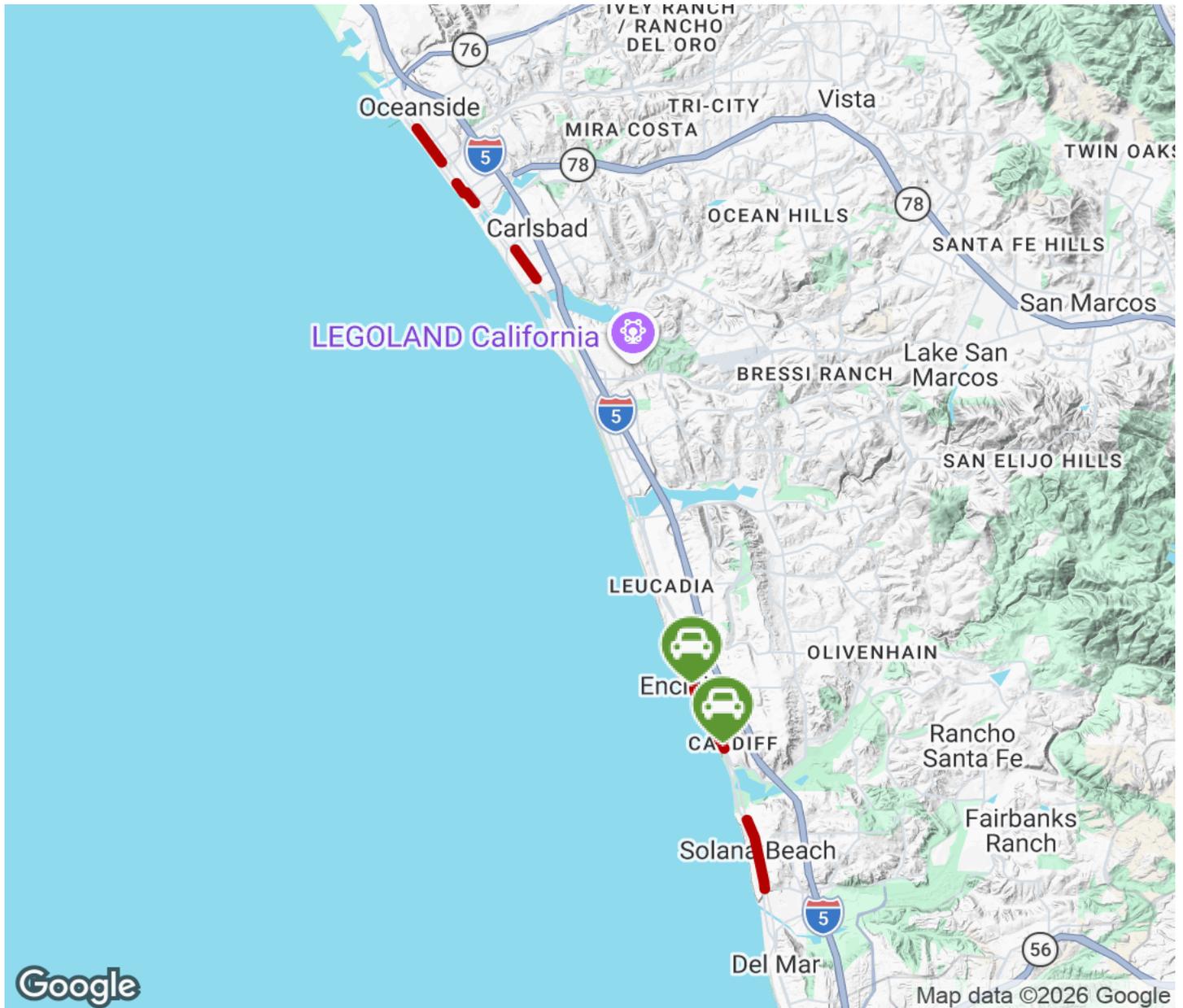
- 1205 S Coast Hwy 101 (Encinitas)
- 2182 San Elijo Ave (Cardiff)

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



Coastal Rail Trail

California



Trailhead



Restroom



Parking



Water Fountain



Tunnel



TrailLink
by Rails-to-Trails Conservancy

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