



2025

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Guides 🕫 🤝









Bay-Zil Rail Trail Michigan



Eastern Michigan's 7-mile Bay-Zil Rail Trail is lined with trees and traverses picturesque farmland. The paved rail-trail follows the



system are currently open.

The Bay-Zil Rail Trail is also part of an even bigger trail network across the entire state: the Iron Belle Trail. This project will stretch more than 1,200 contiguous miles from Detroit to the Michigan/Wisconsin border.

Eastern Michigan's 7-mile Bay-Zil Rail Trail is lined with trees and traverses picturesque farmland. The paved rail-trail follows the former Detroit and Mackinac Railway, which hauled both timber and passengers during its heyday in the early half of the 20th century.

True to its name, the trail links to the Zilwaukee Pathway on its southern end and will link to the Bay County Riverwalk on its northern end. For now, the Riverwalk is only 2 miles away and that gap is actively being worked on. In this way, the Saginaw County to Bay County Connector is helping to close a crucial gap in the larger Great Lakes Bay Regional Trail. Once fully constructed, this regional trail will consist of nearly 100 miles of trail connecting Midland, Bay, and Saginaw counties, and the many destinations along the route. More than 60 miles of the





States: Michigan

Counties: Bay, Saginaw

Length: 7miles

Trail end points: Near Melbourne Rd., north of Zilwaukee to East Hotchkiss Road and Brooks

Street (Frankenlust Township)

Trail surfaces: Asphalt
Trail category: Rail-Trail

Trail activities: Bike, Inline Skating, Walking

Parking & Trail Access

Parking is available at the Bay-Zil Trailhead, located at the north end of the trail, at the intersection of Hotchkiss Road and Brooks Street in Bay City.







