



2025

TrailLink Unlimited 

Guides



**Dawkins Line
Rail Trail**
Kentucky



Dawkins Line Rail Trail

Kentucky

Overview The Dawkins Line Rail Trail is the longest rail trail in Kentucky, spanning 35.3 miles from Hagerhill to Evanston in the



impassable, dividing the trail into two distinct sections. Historical sites also line the trail, including the one-room house where a small-town doctor used to serve mountain patients, century-old cemeteries, homesteads that belonged to turn-of-the-century inhabitants, and the remains of a former vault from an old bank building.

Trail History

Most recently a coal-hauling line owned by the R.J. Corman Company, the railroad corridor was originally constructed in the early 1900s by the Dawkins Lumber Company—hence the trail's name.

Overview

The Dawkins Line Rail Trail is the longest rail trail in Kentucky, spanning 35.3 miles from Hagerhill to Evanston in the eastern part of the state. The rail trail accommodates horseback riders, bicyclists, walkers, and runners, and serves as an adventure tourism attraction. Its primary surface is asphalt.

About the Route

The rail trail crosses eastern Kentucky's striking Appalachian region, passes relics from the coal industry, traverses 24 scenic trestles, and heads through Gun Creek Tunnel, which spans nearly 700 feet. The other tunnel along the trail, the Tip Top Tunnel, is not yet open and is



Dawkins Line Rail Trail

Kentucky

States: Kentucky

Counties: Breathitt, Johnson, Magoffin

Length: 35.3 miles

Trail end points: State Highway 1428
(Hagerhill) to Mine Shaft Road (Evanston)

Trail surfaces: Asphalt

Trail category: Rail-Trail

Trail activities: Horseback Riding, Mountain
Biking, Walking

Parking & Trail Access

The Dawkins Line Rail Trail runs between State Highway 1428 (Hagerhill) and Mine Shaft Road (Evanston).

Parking is available at:

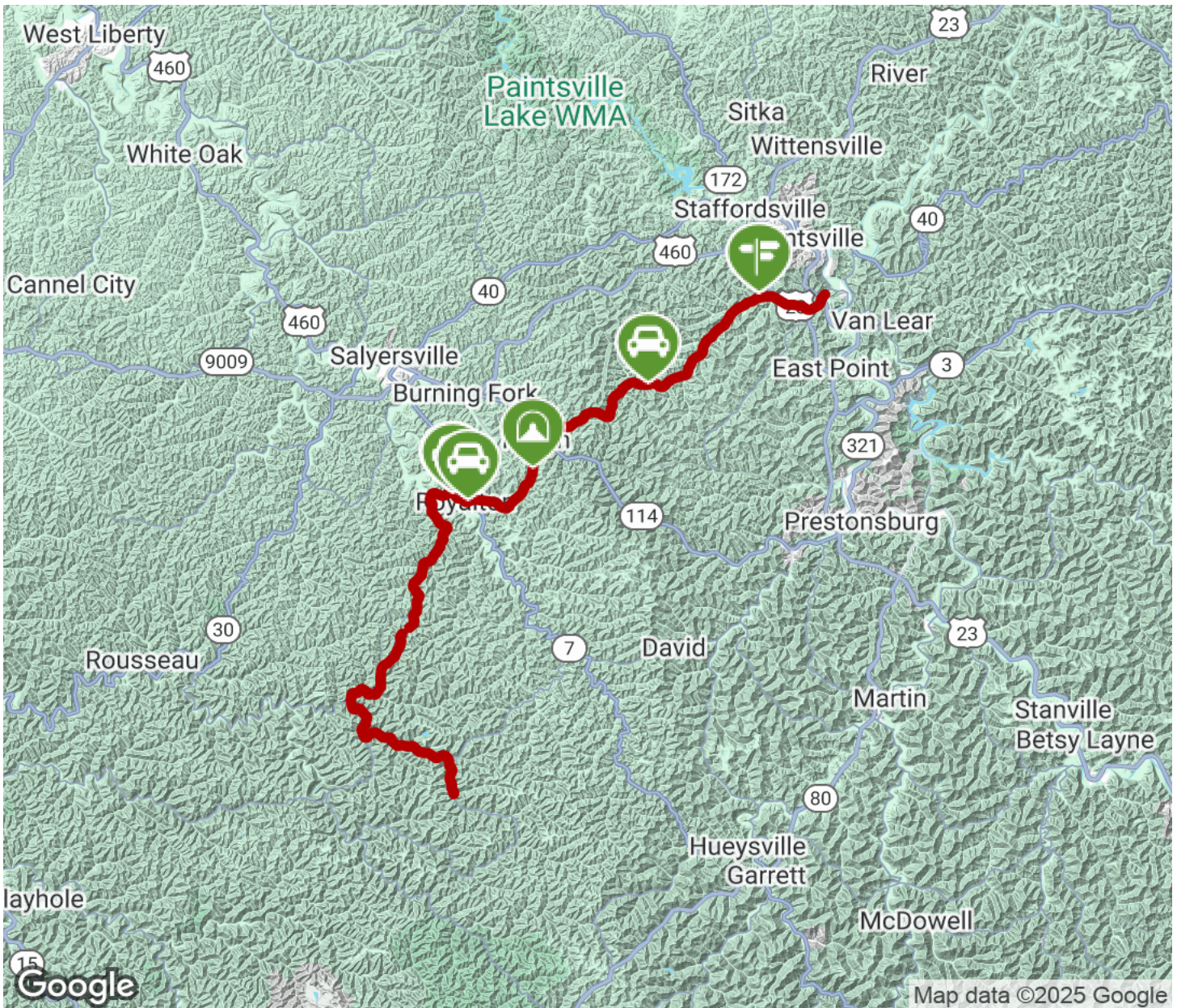
- 65 Little Rd. (Salyersville)

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



Dawkins Line Rail Trail

Kentucky



Trailhead



Restroom



Parking



Water Fountain



Tunnel



TrailLink
by Rails-to-Trails Conservancy

TrailLink.com