



2025

TrailLink Unlimited 

Guides



**Rotary Trail**  
*Alabama*



## Rotary Trail

Alabama

*Overview Birmingham's much anticipated Rotary Trail opened in April 2016. At its entrance, the trail features a 46-foot-tall sign that*



### Overview

Birmingham's much anticipated Rotary Trail opened in April 2016. At its entrance, the trail features a 46-foot-tall sign that reads: "Rotary Trail in the Magic City." It is modeled after the historical "Birmingham the Magic City" sign.

### About the Route

Although only a half mile—stretching from 20th Street to 24th Street—the trail links two of the city's unique attractions. Near its western end, the 19-acre Railroad Park offers the Railroad Park Rail Trail, a skate park, a playground, and overlooks for trainspotting and viewing the city's skyline. Near the east end of the Rotary Trail is a

National Historic Landmark, the Sloss Furnaces, which serviced the city's iron-producing industry for nearly a century.

At its western end on 24th Street, the trail connects with the Hugh Kaul Trail, which continues along 1st Avenue to 38th Street. All three trails are included in the [Jones Valley Trail](#) network, which is part of the Red Rock Trail System, a developing 750-mile network of multiuse trails in Jefferson County. The Red Rock Trail System connects important destinations throughout the region such as Red Mountain Park, which—at 1,500 acres—is one of the largest urban parks in the country.

Bicycles and skateboards are not allowed on Rotary Trail, but on-street bike lanes run along 1st Avenue South and cover the same route. There are picnic tables, benches, recycling and trash cans, device chargers, and pet waste cleanup stations along the trail.

### Connections

At the southern end of the trail, the Rotary Trail connects to the [Railroad Park Rail Trail](#), and at the northern end, trail users can connect to the [Hugh Kaul Trail](#).

All three trails are part of the [Jones Valley Trail](#).

### Trail History

The trail's name comes from the city's Rotary Club, one of the largest such clubs in the world, which spearheaded the project as part of its 100th anniversary celebration in 2013. The rail trail is also known as the "1st Avenue Cut" due to its placement along a former railroad trench 14 feet below street level. This was once part of the Seaboard Air Line Railroad (SAL), which provided freight and passenger service to Birmingham beginning in 1904.



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**States:** Alabama

**Counties:** Jefferson

Length: 0.4miles

**Trail end points:** 2400 1st Ave S (Birmingham)  
to 2000 1st Ave S (Birmingham)

**Trail surfaces:** Concrete

**Trail category:** Rail-Trail

**Trail activities:** Wheelchair

Accessible, Walking

## Parking & Trail Access

The Rotary Trail runs between 2400 1st Ave S (Birmingham) and 2000 1st Ave S (Birmingham).

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

Birmingham's public transit system, BJCTA, provides convenient access to the trail. Visit the [BJCTA website](#) to plan your trip.



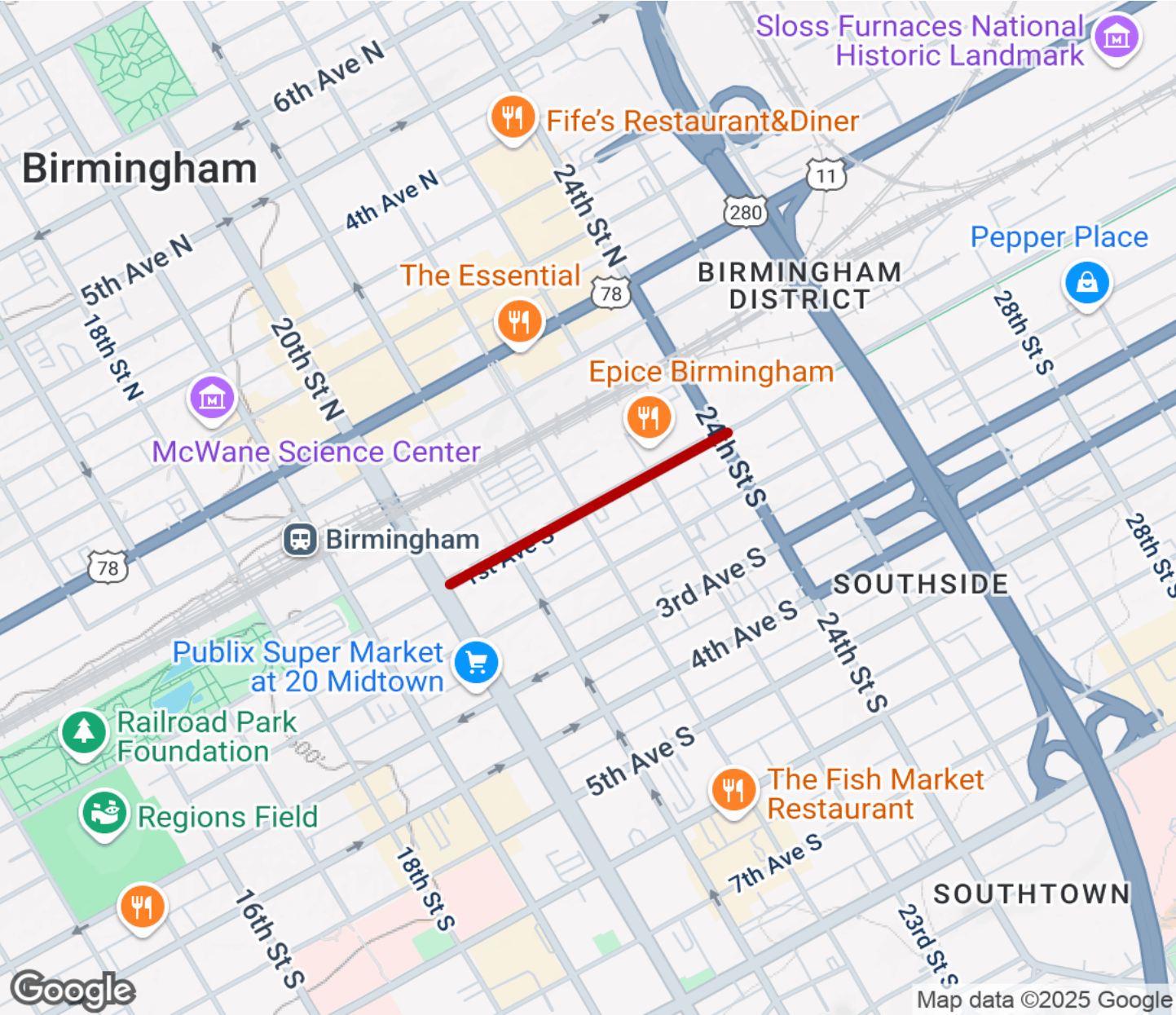
**TrailLink**  
by Rails-to-Trails Conservancy






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-  Trailhead
-  Restroom
-  Parking
-  Water Fountain
-  Tunnel