



2026

TrailLink Unlimited 

Guides



**Manitou  
Incline**  
*Colorado*



## Manitou Incline

Colorado

*Notice: Reservations are required to hike the Manitou Trail and can be placed on the city's website. The Manitou Incline is a very*



journey are rewarded with spectacular views. An easier descent can be made by connecting to the Barr Trail, which zig-zags down the slope. Note that the trail is recommended for hikers only and pets are not permitted.

Railroad buffs will want to check out the nearby [Pikes Peak Cog Railway](#) that has been chugging visitors up to the summit of famed Pikes Peak since 1891. The peak rises more than 14,000 feet in the Rocky Mountains.

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The Manitou Incline is a very unusual rail-trail. Built along a former cable car line, the trail goes straight up the side of a mountain, climbing about 2,000 feet over its one-mile length! It was originally built to carry materials for the construction of a hydroelectric plant and water pipeline, but was later turned into a tourist attraction.

The rail-trail begins in Manitou Springs, a community just west of Colorado Springs, and is comprised of a series of wooden steps—former railroad ties—that rise to an average grade of 40 percent. The trail is an intense workout and not for everyone, but those that make the



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# Manitou Incline

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**States:** Colorado

**Counties:** El Paso

**Length:** 1miles

**Trail end points:** Ruxton Ave. to Barr Trail

**Trail surfaces:** Boardwalk,Dirt

**Trail category:** Rail-Trail

**Trail activities:** Walking

## Parking & Trail Access

Take US 24 through Manitou Springs and follow signs for the Pikes Peak Cog Railway. Don't park at the railway's depot, but instead continue past and take a right on Hydro Street. There is a trailhead and paid parking lot at the end of the street.



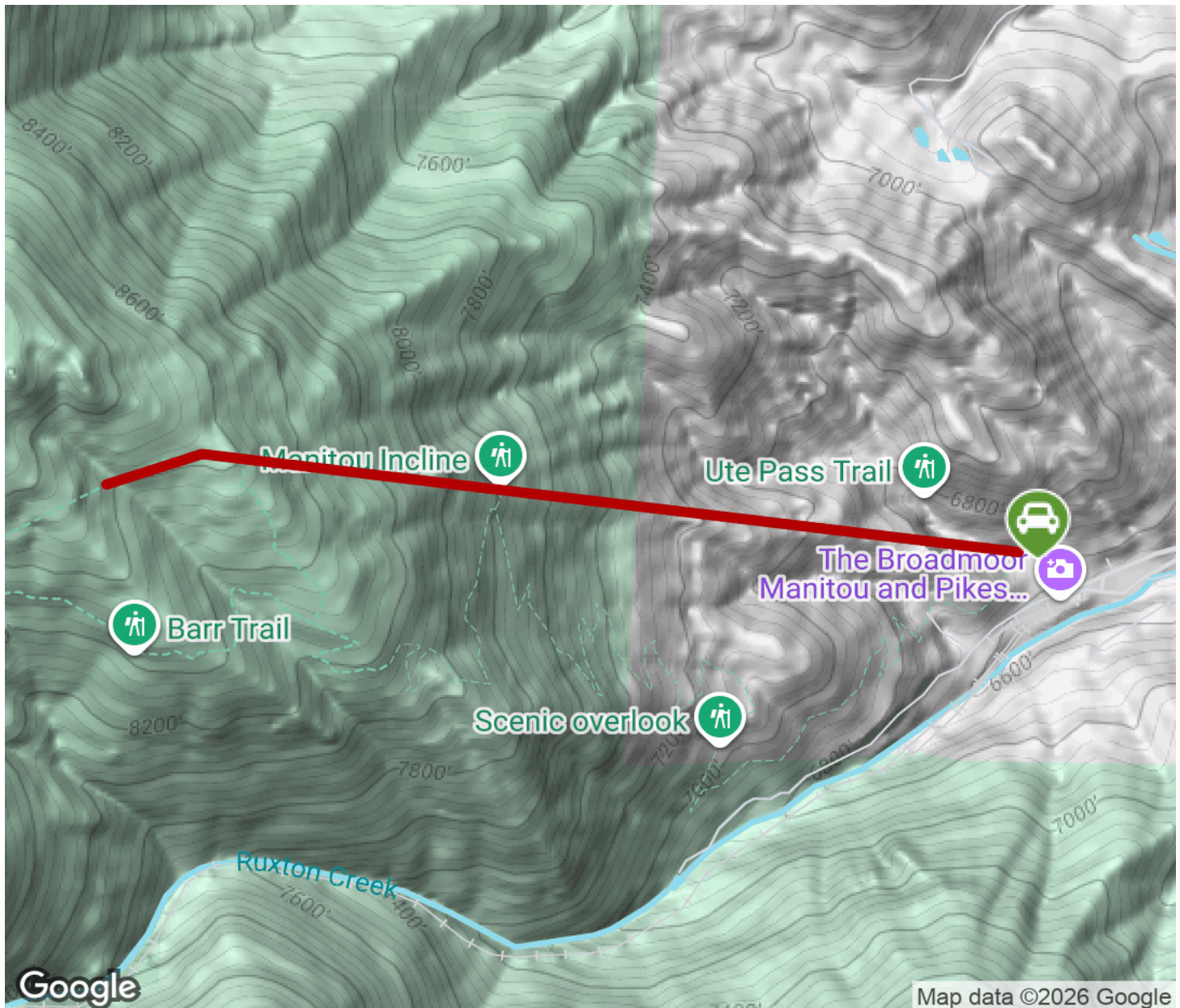
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# Manitou Incline

Colorado



Trailhead



Restroom



Parking



Water Fountain



Tunnel



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