



2026

TrailLink Unlimited 

Guides



**Pere
Marquette
State Trail**
Michigan



Pere Marquette State Trail

Michigan

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About the Route

The section between Baldwin and Reed City is about 17 miles long and has a crushed limestone surface. The trail passes nearby wetlands, showcasing wildflowers and streams, and offers trailside benches to rest and enjoy the scenery. Along the way, the trail crosses over Baldwin River and Sanborn Creek; pass by bogs, lakes, and ponds; and trek through tamarack stands and rolling fields.

Reed City is charming small town community that makes a nice rest stop with a welcome center (including

bathrooms) located in the Reed City Depot. The eye-catching building is modeled after the original 1892 train station.

The section between Reed City and Ewart is about 12 miles long and is paved. Following the Hersey and Muskegon rivers, the route includes a scenic overlook with beautiful views of the Muskegon River midway between Hersey and Ewart. This portion of the trail passes farms, woodlands, and wildflowers. There is a restored rail depot in downtown Ewart, where there are also restaurants, shops, and more. Riverside Park offers options for picnicking and camping.

The section between Ewart and Claire is about 26 miles long and paved with asphalt. After crossing the Muskegon River bridge, there are two tunnels as the trail gently climbs a ridge. The trail's highest elevation is where it crosses M-66, after which it slowly decreases in elevation to pass through an area of wetlands and lakes surrounding the village of Lake Station.

The eastern end of the trail is located at the Clare Depot in downtown Clare.

The trail is managed by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources.

Connections

In Reed City, the trail intersects the [White Pine Trail State Park](#) just east of Old US 131/Chestnut Street.

To continue east from the trail's eastern end in Clare, continue on the [Pere Marquette Rail-Trail](#) via a 2.3-mile on-road connection to travel 30 miles to Midland.

Trail History

The trail runs along a former CSX Railroad line.



Pere Marquette State Trail

Michigan

States: Michigan

Counties: Clare, Lake, Osceola

Length: 57.2 miles

Trail end points: Maple St (Baldwin) to Clare Depot, 201 W 4th St. (Clare)

Trail surfaces: Asphalt, Crushed Stone

Trail category: Rail-Trail

Trail activities: Bike, Mountain Biking, Inline Skating, Snowmobiling, Walking, Wheelchair Accessible, Cross Country Skiing

Parking & Trail Access

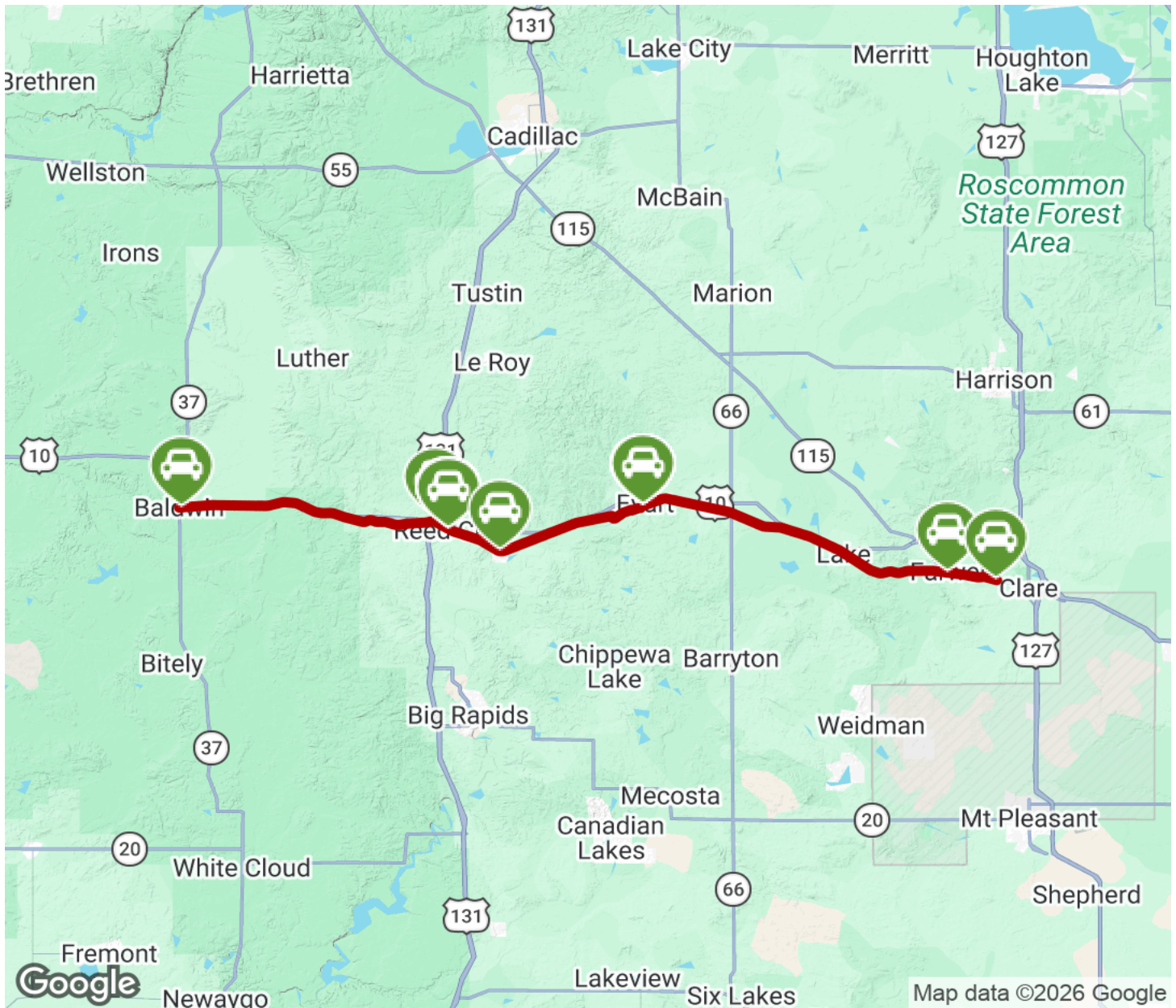
The Pere Marquette State Trail runs between Maple St (Baldwin) and Clare Depot, 201 W Fourth St (Clare), where parking is available.

Visit the [TrailLink map](#) for all parking options and detailed directions.



Pere Marquette State Trail

Michigan



Trailhead



Restroom



Parking



Water Fountain



Tunnel



TrailLink
by Rails-to-Trails Conservancy

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