



2024

TrailLink Unlimited



Guides



**North Shore  
Rail Trail**  
*New York*



# North Shore Rail Trail

New York

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The North Shore Rail Trail, formerly known as the Rails to Trails Recreational Path, is a 10-mile multi-use recreational path and runs along the former Wading River railway corridor in Brookhaven—the largest town in Suffolk County, NY. A branch of the Long Island Rail Road, the Wading River railway line was used by Nicola Tesla to commute to his Long Island laboratory. The railway line was abandoned in 1939 and the idea of turning it into a rail-trail was first introduced in the 1970s. Over fifty years later the North Shore Rail Trail, Long Island's first rail-trail, opened to the public in June 2022.

From its eastern endpoint on Wading River Manor Rd, the trail runs west from the hamlet of Wading River to the border between the hamlets of Mount Sinai and Port Jefferson Station. Paralleling NYS Rt. 25A, the North Shore

Rail Trail connects local recreational areas, schools, businesses, residential areas and athletic fields. There are trail kiosks at both endpoints and quarter-mile markers along the route. Whether commuting, exercising or just enjoying some recreation, this trail provides a safer alternative for residents to walk, run and bike.

The North Shore Rail Trail is part of Suffolk's county-wide Hike and Bike Master Plan, whose goal is to create a connected network of trails and fill in existing gaps. Part of this plan includes adding a 175-mile extension (from Battery Park to Montauk) to New York's Empire State Trail, which currently skips Long Island in its cross-crossing of the state.

This ADA compliant trail is 30ft wide with a 10ft paved section down the middle and an additional 10ft on either side, making it quite accessible for those using mobility aids or for families with strollers.

Open from dawn to dusk only, the trail has no lights, benches, garbage cans, water fountains, or restrooms. This is necessitated by its status as an active Long Island Power Authority (LIPA) right-of-way, which means that the LIPA can use the path to access their electric system should the need arise.

Dogs are allowed to be walked on leashes and must be picked up after. This is a carry in/carry out trail—all animal waste and garbage must be disposed of offsite.

No electric or motorized vehicles of any kind are allowed on the trail, including but not limited to ATVs, electric scooters, electric bicycles, electric skateboards, mopeds, cars, snowmobiles and any other recreational motorized vehicles. There is an exception for electric wheelchairs, electric mobility scooters and other mobility aids.

Whether you are going for a long bike-ride, switching up your commute, or just popping over to a friend's house, the North



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**States:** New York

**Counties:** Suffolk

Length: 10miles

**Trail end points:** Wading River Manor Rd  
(Wading River) to Crystal Brook Hollow Rd (Mt  
Sinai)

**Trail surfaces:** Asphalt

**Trail category:** Rail-Trail

**Trail activities:** Bike, Wheelchair  
Accessible, Walking

## Parking & Trail Access

There are no designated parking areas as this trail crosses residential streets, but there are commercial areas with parking lots that may be useful, street parking at most cross streets, and the town community center, The Rose Caracappa Center (739 Route 25A Mt. Sinai, NY), which offers direct access to the trail.

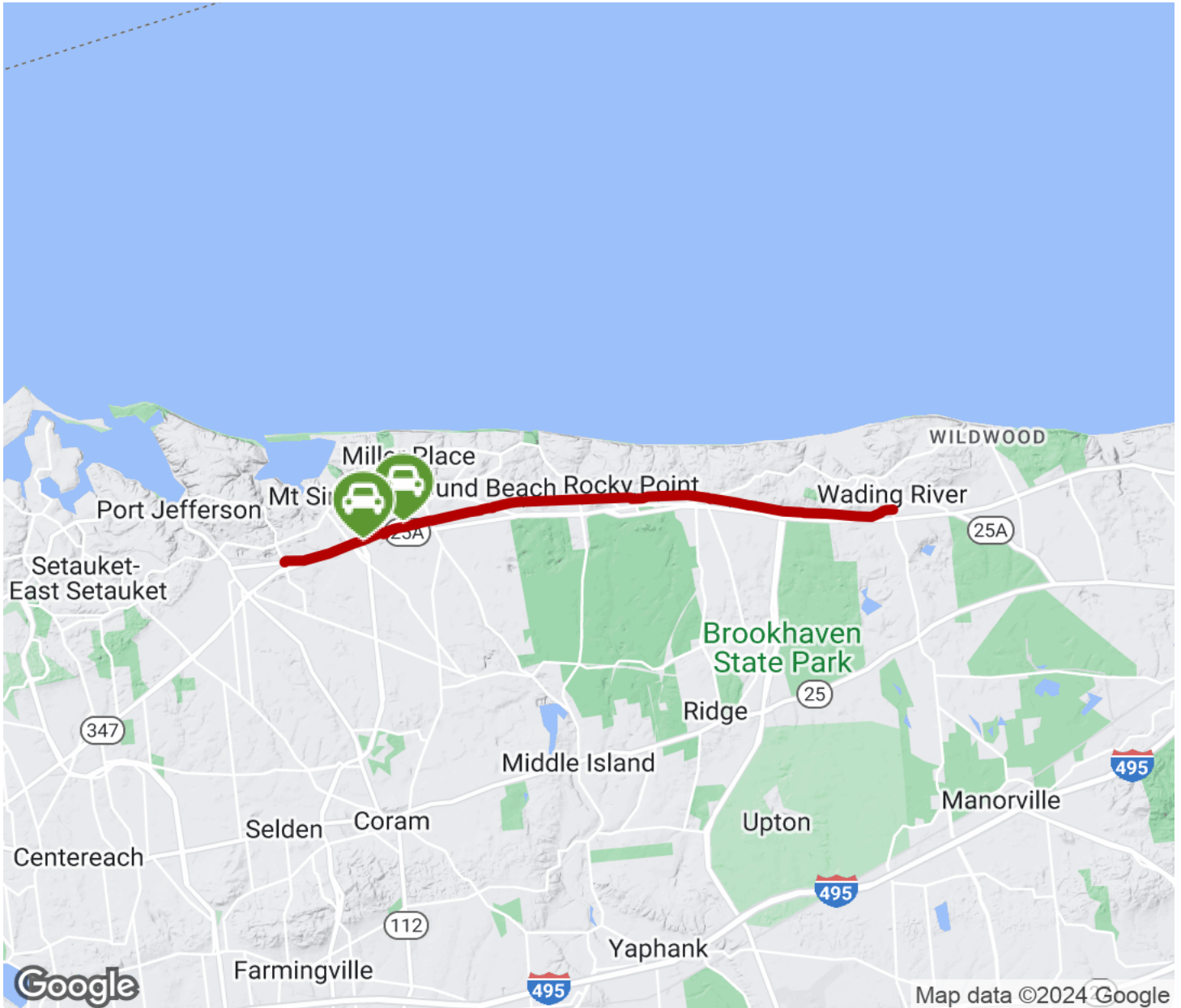
In Mt. Sinai, access the trail from Crystal Brook Hollow Rd, just off Hallock Ave (25A).

In Wading River, access the trail on Wading River Manor Rd, between where it intersects with Charles St and Benjamin St.



# North Shore Rail Trail

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Trailhead



Restroom



Parking



Water Fountain



Tunnel



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

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