



2024

TrailLink Unlimited



Guides



**Bill and Dustie
MacKay Trail**
Georgia



Bill and Dustie MacKay Trail

Georgia

The Bill and Dustie MacKay Trail (also known as the Shortline Trail) spins a short, smooth circuit through Tallulah Gorge State



In the spring and fall, controlled releases from Tallulah Dam bring kayakers intent on challenging the imposing river, while Halloween heralds the annual Wails to Trails event, when costumed hikers haunt the trail.

The Bill and Dustie MacKay Trail (also known as the Shortline Trail) spins a short, smooth circuit through Tallulah Gorge State Park. From its trailhead beside Tallulah Falls Lake, the 1.7-mile paved path meanders through a beautiful southern Appalachian forest and crosses a small suspension bridge over the Tallulah River. You can ride out and back or combine the trail with a short road segment to form a loop.

The route follows the easy grade of the old Tallulah Falls Railway, a great alternative to more arduous hiking trails that scale the nearly 1,000-foot granite walls of Tallulah Gorge. In the late 19th century the railroad granted tourists access to the gorge and its spectacular waterfalls. While you can't see the chasm from the trail, a detour across US Highway 23/441 will take you to its dizzying lip.



Bill and Dustie MacKay Trail

Georgia

States: Georgia

Counties: Rabun

Length: 1.7miles

Trail end points: Terrora Cir. to Y Camp Rd.

Trail surfaces: Asphalt,Dirt

Trail category: Rail-Trail

Trail activities: Bike,Inline

Skating,Fishing,Wheelchair

Accessible,Walking

Parking & Trail Access

Tallulah Gorge State Park is on US Highway 23/441 in North Georgia, just north of the town of Tallulah Falls. To reach it from town, drive north about 0.5 mile and turn left at the first park entrance, just past the dam. Continue along the park road to the Shortline Trail parking lot (user fee). The trail lies just south of the main park entrance.



Bill and Dustie MacKay Trail

Georgia



Trailhead



Restroom



Parking



Water Fountain



Tunnel



TrailLink
by Rails-to-Trails Conservancy

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