



2024

TrailLink Unlimited 

Guides



**Dover
Community
Trail**
New Hampshire



Dover Community Trail

New Hampshire

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The Dover Community Trail snakes its way through the heart of the Garrison City—so nicknamed for the fortified log houses, or garrisons, built by 17th-century settlers—offering a variety of trail surface types and activities for visitors.

Technically starting at the southeastern endpoint on Central Ave., the trail heads straight north and makes its way through quiet residential areas. The canopy of surrounding trees provides ample shade and a pleasant setting. After about 0.3 mile, you'll pass through a short tunnel underneath Silver Street and continue north, crossing a few roads and neighborhoods. Be sure to follow the trail signs in this area to stay on the correct course.

After passing Washington Street, the trail crosses over a

beautiful trestle high above the Cocheco River and continues to the Dover train depot/station in downtown Dover (see the active railroad line that the train station services on the north side of the trestle). With a trailhead, parking, and ample restaurants and shops just one or two blocks west, this is the best place to begin your journey.

From the train station, exit the parking lot and turn left onto the sidewalk along Chestnut Street to cross the railroad tracks. Note that this section follows city sidewalks, and there are no signs to help with navigation. After two blocks, turn left onto Fourth Street and follow the sidewalk until you reach a bridge that crosses the Cocheco River.

Here, just before the bridge, turn right (heading north) to enter another off-road section of trail that skirts the north side of the river. The trail also leads you past Beckwith Park and Dover Cassily Community Garden—both great community assets. This section has a dirt and crushed-stone surface and is suitable for walking and mountain biking only; it offers a great nature escape in the center of town.

You'll cross Whittier Street and then follow the north side of Whittier Falls Way, a quiet neighborhood street, before crossing under Spaulding Turnpike and continuing off road. Here, the route continues to follow the north side of the Cocheco River and is surrounded by a nice wooded area, providing contrast to the more urban section near the center of town. The western terminus of the trail is along Watson Road, just east of the river.

There are plans to extend the trail south and ultimately connect it with other sections of trail in and around the Seacoast Region.



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States: New Hampshire

Counties: Strafford

Length: 4.2miles

Trail end points: Watson Road between
County Farm Road and Sandpiper Dr. to
Central Ave. and Rutland St. (Dover)

Trail surfaces: Asphalt,Crushed Stone,Dirt

Trail category: Rail-Trail

Trail activities: Bike,Inline

Skating,Wheelchair Accessible,Walking,Cross
Country Skiing

Parking & Trail Access

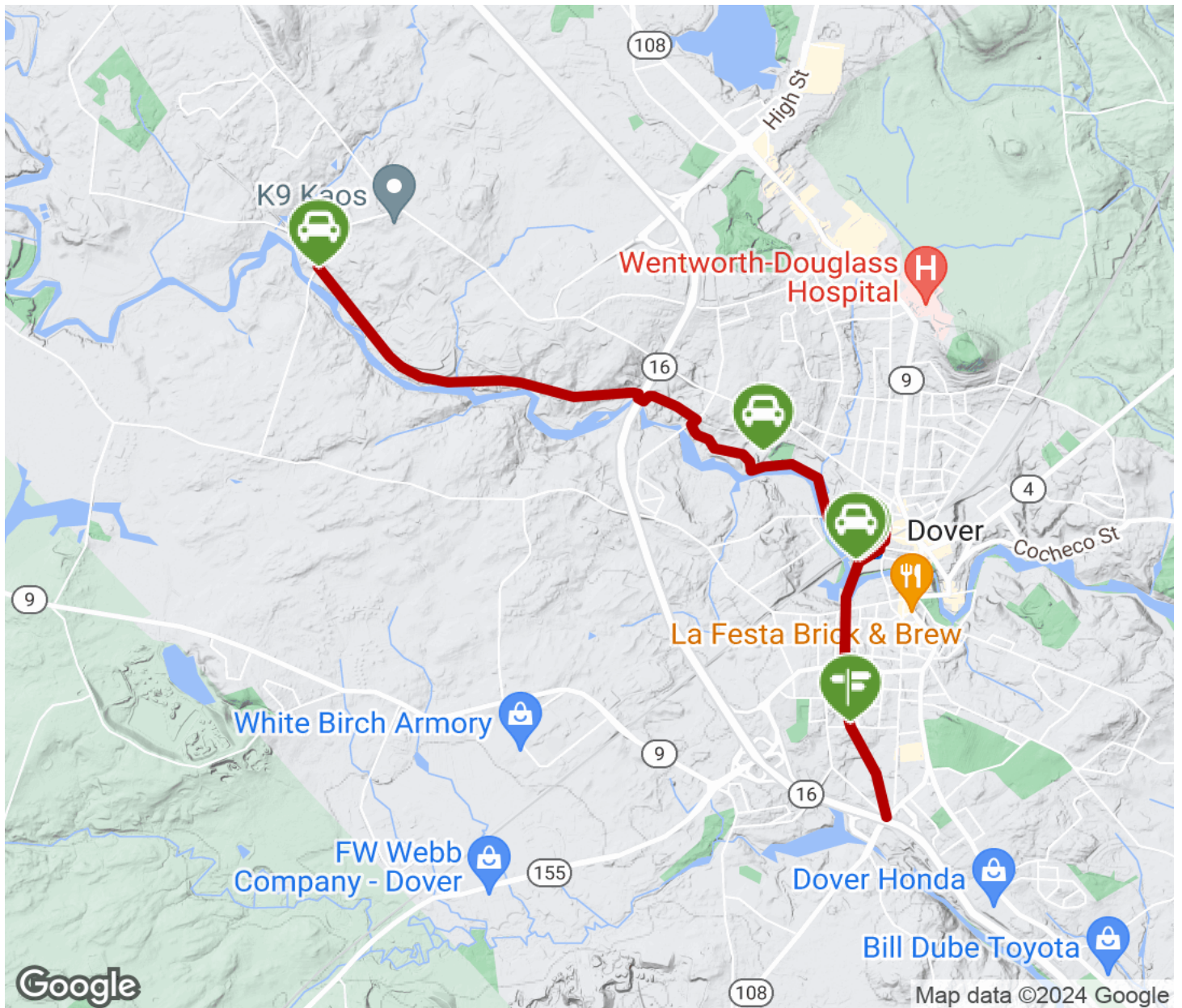
There is parking for this trail at 33 Chestnut St., at Beckwith Ballfields along Hillside Dr. and at the western terminus along Watson Rd.

See [TrailLink Map](#) for more information.



Dover Community Trail

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Trailhead



Restroom



Parking



Water Fountain



Tunnel



TrailLink
by Rails-to-Trails Conservancy

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