



2024

TrailLink Unlimited



Guides



**Jekyll Island
Trail**
Georgia



Jekyll Island Trail

Georgia

Overview At more than 24 miles long, the Jekyll Island Trail carries visitors through a landscape they're unlikely to encounter



Overview

At more than 24 miles long, the Jekyll Island Trail carries visitors through a landscape they're unlikely to encounter elsewhere in Georgia. As the last outpost before the Atlantic Ocean, the 7-mile-long barrier island features sandy beaches, live oaks draped in Spanish moss, and the historic vacation homes of the early 20th century's rich and famous.

The mostly paved, interconnected trail system encircles the island, a popular destination for sunbathers, campers, and golfers. It stretches from Driftwood Beach in the north, where ghostly remnants of a forest march into the surf, to the growing southern beach. Although the trail is paved, side trails may be dirt or packed sand. Wildlife,

such as deer or terrapins, is often seen on the trail; visitors are asked to report sightings of invasive species, such as feral hogs or coyotes.

The island, a former plantation, is now owned by the state. Several buildings of the historic Jekyll Island Club still stand, and visitors can walk where the Vanderbilts, Rockefellers, and Morgans once played.

About the Route

A central starting point for the 16-mile main loop is the Village Green at the eastern end of Ben Fortson Parkway/GA 520, which crosses the East River from the mainland. Heading north, the trail passes numerous hotels overlooking the beach. Boardwalks cross the dunes to access the beach.

In 1.7 miles, the trail veers one block inland as a side path along Beach View Drive. In 2.3 miles, turn right to connect to the North Loop Trail, which passes through marshes and the eerie Driftwood Beach. The trail turns left in 1.4 miles at a fishing pier and begins its southern journey through a shady forest.

In 1.3 miles, after passing the 200-site campground, trail users will find the remains of the circa 1743 Horton House, one of the oldest surviving structures in the state. This route through a forest at the edge of a marsh ends at the airport in 2.3 miles; the trail enters the historic district in less than 1 more mile. The well-manicured lawns of the old Jekyll Island Club are home to "cottages" that look more like mansions. The historic district also houses the Georgia Sea Turtle Center, where injured turtles are rehabilitated and studied, and the Jekyll Island Museum.

The route around the southern section of the island crosses the parkway and heads south, passing Summer Waves Water Park in a mile. In 2 miles, the trail—which sometimes takes the form of a side path and sometimes a crushed-stone path—



Jekyll Island Trail

Georgia

States: Georgia

Counties: Glynn

Length: 24.8miles

Trail end points: 1198 Riverview Dr (Jekyll Island) to 100 St Andrews Dr (Jekyll Island)

Trail surfaces: Asphalt,Boardwalk,Concrete, Crushed Stone,Dirt

Trail category: Greenway/Non-RT

Trail activities: Bike,Inline

Skating,Fishing,Wheelchair

Accessible,Walking

Parking & Trail Access

The Jekyll Island Trail runs between 1198 Riverview Dr (Jekyll Island) and 100 St Andrews Dr (Jekyll Island), with parking at both ends.

Parking is also available at:

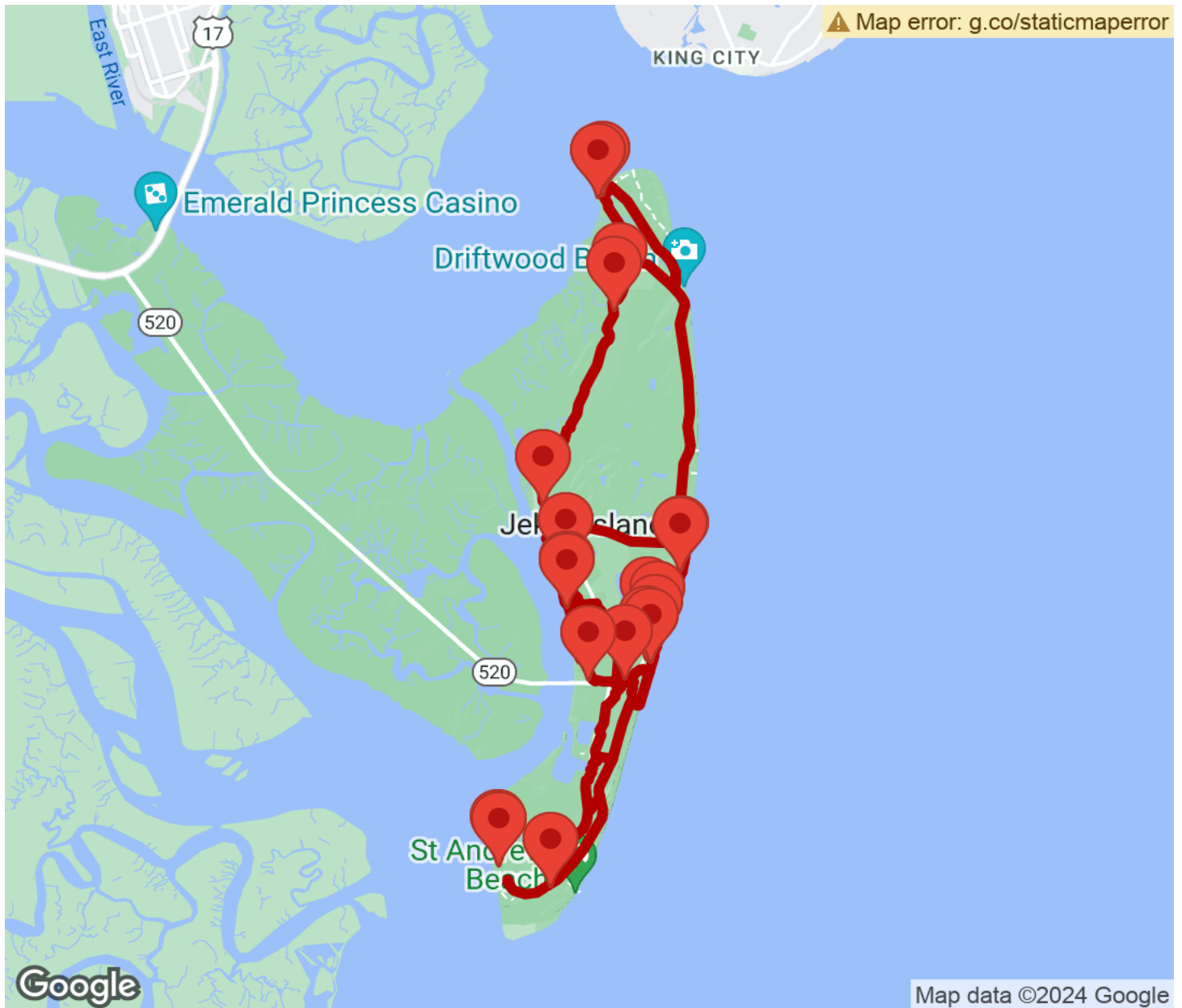
- Jekyll Island Airport, 500 Riverview Dr (Jekyll Island)
- 364 Riverview Dr (Jekyll Island)
- Jekyll Island Oceanview Beach Park, 549 Beachview Dr N (Jekyll Island)

See [TrailLink Map](#) for all parking options and detailed directions.



Jekyll Island Trail

Georgia



Trailhead



Restroom



Parking



Water Fountain



Tunnel



TrailLink
by Rails-to-Trails Conservancy

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