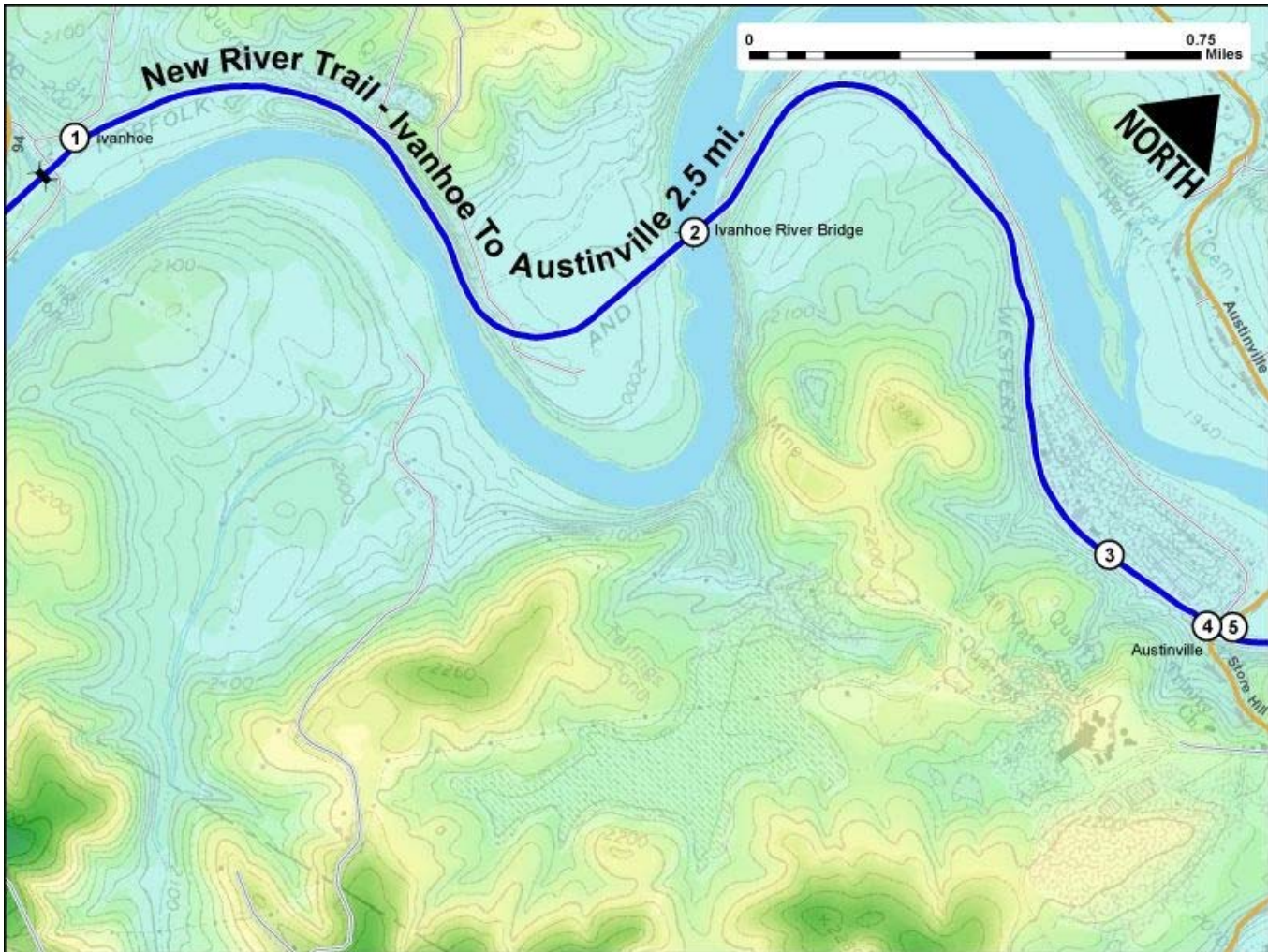


Printed from VirginiaOutdoors.net
New River Trail State Park (Foster Falls)
Ivanhoe to Austinville Map - Blaze Color:



1. GPS: Lat. 36° 50.35, Lon. -80° 57.228

Parking for Ivanhoe Area: Go east on Route 639 off Route 94.

2. GPS: Lat. 36° 50.905, Lon. -80° 56.339

MP 30.3: This 700 foot span over the New River is perhaps one of the most spectacular on the trail. The trail is carried across this bridge by way of open deck spans, creating a sensation of nearly flying over the water below.

3. GPS: Lat. 36° 51.019, Lon. -80° 55.404

MP 29.0: Milepost 29 marks a spot near the location where lead was discovered here in 1756. Soon after the mining of minerals began in earnest. Most of the lead for the Revolutionary War and later for the Civil War came from the Austinville Lead Mines. Later the mine produced zinc, then limestone. When the mines closed in 1981, after operating continuously for over 200 years, they were among the oldest in the nation. From the trail you can look toward the river and see the remains of the Bertha Mineral Company plant. At the top of the hill to the south one can see the headstock and other structures associated with the mining operation. As you approach Austinville the trail passes the loading facilities where open hopper cars were filled with ore and other products on the way to Pulaski's furnaces and other markets.

4. GPS: Lat. 36° 51.05, Lon. -80° 55.191

Parking for Austinville Area: Go west on Route 636 from Route 69. Access SR69 from Hwy 77.

5. GPS: Lat. 36° 51.056, Lon. -80° 55.181

MP 28.8: Austinville was an important stop on the line from Pulaski to Galax from the time rail was first laid in the valley. The area's mining and smelting operations were operating at a very large scale and provided employment for many Welsh immigrants and others who were drawn to the area. The railroad often brought the mines Northern owners and investors from their homes along the steep hillsides in Pulaski.

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