

# Top of Superior Hiking Trails



## Deer Lake Mountain Trail 3

Classification: ◆ Distance: 6.6 km (loop)

Only a short drive north, Deer Lake Mountain Trail offers a variety of terrain and spectacular views of No Good Lake, Lofquist Lake and a glimpse of Lake Superior in the distance.

With no shortage of stunning vistas this rewarding loop has even more to offer if you include one or both of the spur trails along the way.

Directions: Drive approximately 3.4 km north up highway 585 (at the gas station) off Hwy 17 in Nipigon to the trailhead. Parking is available on either side of the road, and a trailhead sign on the left marks the beginning of your journey. These challenging trails can take four hours to hike, so make sure you pack plenty of water and food, and dress for the conditions.



## Hurkett Cove 1

Classification: ● Distance: 2 km (one way)

Located within Hurkett Cove Conservation Area, this trail is a naturalist's treasure. Over 180 different bird species have been observed at this site, coined the "Peele of the North." An easy, short walk with little elevation brings you through the forest, along the shores of Lake Superior's Black Bay to the rich marshland that draws so many of these birds during their migration. See songbirds along the trail, raptors overhead, and waterfowl and shorebirds in the Cove or along the Black Bay shore. A pavilion with picnic tables and displays can be found just north of the parking lot.

Directions: From Hwy 11/17 just east of Dorion, turn east onto Black Bay Drive. Head east for 2.9 km on Black Bay Drive and follow the signs to Hurkett Cove Conservation Area.

A donation of \$2 is encouraged to park. Donations support the Lakehead Region Conservation Authority.



## Nipigon River Recreation Trail 2

Classification: ◆ Distance: 10.1 km (one way)

Experience the shoreline of the Nipigon River from Nipigon to Red Rock and along Nipigon Bay. Consider taking a 20-30 minute hike starting at the Red Rock trailhead to the first viewing platform at Lloyd's Lookout. A few minutes past that, relax in the Parks Canada Red Chairs. Or, start at the Nipigon Marina trailhead and hike approximately 2-3 kms of flat terrain along the edge of the Nipigon River. Look for otters, blue herons, bald eagles, and white pelicans! If you plan on doing the whole trail, starting at the Red Rock trailhead is recommended.

Directions: To start in Nipigon, turn off Hwy 11/17 onto Railway St. or First St. and follow the signs to the marina. At the marina, the trailhead is on your right, just past the washrooms and RV parking lot, on the far side of the metal bridge that crosses Clearwater Creek. To start in Red Rock, from Hwy 11/17 take the turn-off to Red Rock on Hwy 628. Drive 6.4 km on Hwy 628 and turn left onto Third St., which is just before the railway crossing. The trailhead is at the end of Third St.



## Rossport Coastal Trail 4

Classification: ◆ Distance: 1.5 km (one way)

A true coastal trail with plenty of opportunities to dip your feet in Superior. It is mainly flat, but does have some stretches crossing uneven surfaces such as a small creek and rocky shoreline. Enjoy breathtaking views of Lake Superior, beautiful beaches, and scenery of some of the many islands of the Rossport archipelago.

Directions: Starting at the east end of Rossport Village at Wardrobe Park, the trail meanders east along the shore of Lake Superior to end at the Roadside Park Rest Area just east of Rossport on Hwy 17. Follow the white painted boot prints to stay on track.



## Kama Cliffs Trail 8

Classification: ◆ Distance: 6 km (return)

A multi-use, non-motorized recreation trail. This hike/ride offers some impressive natural wonders that are sure to impress. As the name implies, this trail will bring you to the top of the Kama Cliffs, visible from Highway 17 and overlooking Nipigon Bay and its many islands. One of the most ideal spots for a picnic, be sure to give yourself enough time to sit back and enjoy the view from up top.

Directions: 25 km east of Nipigon along Hwy 17, 0.5 km west of the Jackpine river bridge. Enter Kama Bay Rd. and you will find a parking lot. Once you have parked your vehicle, cross the highway and look for the "Epic Adventures" sign posted at the trailhead.



## Trail Safety and Etiquette



Please stay on the marked trails. Some areas have sensitive vegetation that can be damaged by off-trail use.

Pack out what you packed in. Leave the trail in better condition than you found it.

Always bring along water, food, and a whistle.

Hike with others: don't go alone. Tell someone where you are going and when you expect to be back.

Don't rely on cell service for communication or mapping. Not all areas in the region have cellular coverage. In an emergency, call 911 as soon as you do have a cell signal.

Bring a first aid kit with you and know how to use it.

Keep dogs on leash: don't let them disturb wildlife in their natural environment.

Wear sturdy footwear as trails have uneven terrain and some slippery surfaces that make open-toed shoes or formal footwear unsuitable.



Come prepared for changing weather conditions.

Stretch before, during, and after your hike. Your muscles will appreciate it!

Be bear-wise

Learn about bear behaviour and bear safety tips before heading out on the trail. Carry bear spray. Talk or sing when hiking to make wildlife aware of your presence. If you see a bear, make yourself look big, stay with your hiking partner(s), speak calmly, and slowly back away. **Don't run.**



If you are backcountry camping, make sure to store food and anything with an odour safely, away from your tent.

For more info on bear safety:

[www.ontario.ca/page/prevent-bear-encounters-bear-wise](http://www.ontario.ca/page/prevent-bear-encounters-bear-wise)



## Trail Classification

All trails in this guide have been classified according to Parks Canada's Trail Classification System. An overall preliminary classification has been assigned to each trail. Note: Sections of a trail may be a little easier or a little more difficult than the overall trail classification.

**Easy:** Suitable for all visitors including those with no trail experience; hard packed surface with no obstacles and minimal stairs; estimated time to complete the trail is under 2 hours; little to no elevation gain or loss.

**Moderate:** Suitable for most visitors with basic trail experience who are generally prepared; mostly stable surface with infrequent obstacles, stairs may be present; estimated time to complete the trail is under 5 hours; may experience moderate elevation gain with some short steep sections.

**Difficult:** Suitable for visitors with trail experience and prepared with proper equipment and water; variety of surface types including non-established surfaces; estimated time to complete the trail may exceed 5 hours; may experience major elevation gains with long steep sections.



## Casque Isles Trail 5

Classification: ◆ Distance: 53 km (one way with optional shorter segments)

Directions: For Schreiber Beach, turn off Hwy 17 at Winnipeg St. in Schreiber. Turn right onto Scotia St. and take the next left onto Subway St. After passing under the railway tracks turn right onto Isbester Dr. (A5) and follow the road to the parking lot at Schreiber Beach.

In Terrace Bay, turn off Hwy 17 at Lakeview Dr. and follow the signage to the Waterfront/Beach (A10). Alternatively, turn off Hwy 17 at the Agasabon Gorge Road and follow the road to the Agasabon Gorge parking lot (A11).

Follow the trailhead signage at each location.

Follow the shore of Lake Superior from Rossport through Schreiber to Terrace Bay on this rugged trail, passing by old gold mines, fossil deposits, and rock faces adorned with Indigenous pictographs. With 11 access points over 5 segments, this well maintained and signed trail offers an achievable experience for avid hikers.

To complete the whole 53 km trail usually takes 3-5 days. However, if time is limited, to sample our trail, two shorter hikes are recommended. Consider a 1.5 km hike (~30 minutes, one way) to the east of Schreiber Beach (A5) on the Mt. Gwynne Segment past an enchanting creek to the panoramic view at the Picnic Table Lookout. Or, hike for 1.5 km (~30 minutes, one way) to the tranquility of Danny's Cove on the Lyda Bay Segment, beginning at the spectacular Agasabon Gorge or at Terrace Bay Beach (A10, A11).



## Marathon to Heron Bay Trail 6

Classification: ◆ Distance: 9.4 km (one way)

This part of the Voyageur Trail connects Marathon to Heron Bay following a coastal ridge along the boreal forest.

Group of Seven artists are known to have hiked and camped here a century ago. You can follow in their footsteps and view the scenery that inspired them to paint their iconic works of art. Their paintings illustrate the spell of attraction that these landscapes cast on our Canadian artists.

Along the trail there are spectacular views of Heron Bay and the surrounding area as well as access to Lunam Lake.

Directions: From the north, the Marathon to Heron Bay trail begins at the south end of Hemlo Drive in Marathon. The south end of the Marathon to Heron Bay Trail and the north end of the Kewiskaning Coastal Trail can both be accessed at the end of Lafarge Road in Heron Bay. To get there from Hwy 17, turn south at the junction with Hwy 627, just east of Marathon. To reach Lafarge Road, turn right just after the train tracks, about 6 km after turning onto Hwy 627. The south end of the Kewiskaning Coastal Trail begins at the boardwalk at the mouth of the Pic River. To get there, follow Hwy 627 south and make a right turn onto a gravel road just before crossing the bridge over Pic River to Pukaskwa National Park.



## Kwewiskaning Coastal Trail 7

Classification: ◆ Distance: 10.4 km (one way)

*Kwewiskaning* is the Ojibway word meaning "Where the fish spawn." This trail connects Biigtigong Nishnaabeg (formerly Pic River First Nation) to Heron Bay and joins with the Marathon to Heron Bay portion of the Voyageur Trail.

These trails pass low rocky outcrops, spruce forest, muskeg and large rolling sand dunes located at the mouth of the Pic River. Built on the ancient landscape of the Canadian Shield, enjoy great views of Pic Island, Hawks Ridge, and Marathon.

At the trail's south end at Pic River, there is a 900 ft boardwalk with two observation platforms offering gorgeous views of Lake Superior.





Established in 1976 by founder Thomas McGrath, the Casque Isles Trail continues to be maintained by a dedicated group of volunteers. This 53 km trail showcases the Top of Superior from Rossport through Schreiber to Terrace Bay. It can be hiked as a whole or in 5 separate segments by using one of the 11 access points for those who enjoy shorter day hikes.

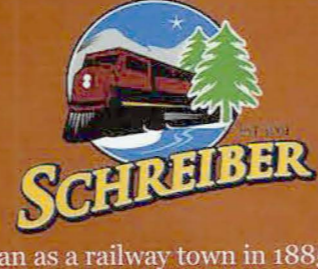
Maps for the Casque Isles Trail and a Trail User Guide can be found by visiting [www.hikesuperior.ca](http://www.hikesuperior.ca). Guided hikes are advertised on [www.facebook.com/CasqueIsles/](http://www.facebook.com/CasqueIsles/)



Rossport is peacefully nestled on one of the most protected harbours on Lake Superior. The village overlooks the pristine Rossport Islands, described as "a Cathedral without Pillars" and, sometimes, the "Peggy's Cove of the North."

Rossport area is a nature lover's paradise. Canada's famous artists, the Group of Seven, drew inspiration from the unique beauty of this area.

The protected waters have become a dream location for kayakers, canoers, boaters, and divers. Favourite destinations by water are Battle Island Lighthouse and the wreck of the Gunilda. [www.rossport.ca](http://www.rossport.ca)



From what began as a railway town in 1885, the welcoming community of Schreiber offers a rich cultural heritage and a pristine natural boreal setting for visitors along the north shore of Lake Superior.

Between the geological outcrops in the landscape and the tales of building the Canadian Pacific Railroad, Schreiber's intriguing history is sure to captivate you! Come and enjoy the Schreiber experience making sure to check out Historic Downtown Schreiber, Schreiber Railway Museum, and Schreiber Beach!

For more information on the Schreiber Experience please visit us online at [www.Schreiber.ca](http://www.Schreiber.ca)



Terrace Bay is a beautiful little town nestled in the boreal forest on the banks of Lake Superior. Framed by the most beautiful scenery on the north shore, there is so much to explore in our lively community.

Experience the Superior Six: the Aguasabon Falls and Gorge, Casque Isles Hiking Trail, Slate Islands Provincial Park, Terrace Bay Lighthouse and Beach, and the Aguasabon Golf Course.

Learn more at: [www.terracebay.ca/explore](http://www.terracebay.ca/explore).



Welcome to Marathon! The Group of Seven were so inspired by the vistas surrounding Marathon that they visited and explored the area for much of the 1920s - walk in their footsteps!

Explore the famous Pebble Beach and Carden Cove, and enjoy Peninsula Golf Course. Penn Lake Park is a jewel within the Town of Marathon, offering fully serviced campsites including Wi-Fi. Provincial and National Parks are only a short distance from Marathon. Come visit, play, and explore Marathon!

[www.marathon.ca](http://www.marathon.ca) 1-807-229-1340



## BIIGTIGONG NISHNAABEG

Biigtigong Nishnaabeg is an Ojibway community whose traditional territory includes the shores of Lake Superior (Gtchi-Gami).

Each year we hold cultural events that include a traditional Pow Wow (the second weekend of July) located at the mouth of the Pic River.

The area is considered a traditional gathering place with much history and cultural significance.

[www.picriver.com](http://www.picriver.com)



The traditional name of Pays Plat First Nation is *Pawgwasheeng*, which means "where the water is shallow." Join us for cultural week (the third week in July), which ends with our annual Pow Wow Friday to Sunday at the Pow Wow grounds in Pays Plat. Enjoy traditional ceremonies, drummers, and dancers. Shop at the vendors display for traditional arts and crafts from Pays Plat. Stop at the food vendors and try some delicious traditional fare.

[www.ppfm.ca](http://www.ppfm.ca)

## Pukaskwa National Park



Pukaskwa National Park is a vast, wild, natural playground found on the edge of the world's largest freshwater lake. It's a place where powerful waves collide with rugged, towering coastlines; a place of endless sunsets over sandy driftwood beaches; a place where everyone can catch a glimpse of the rich traditions, values, and contemporary life of the Anishinaabe. Pukaskwa National Park is a place where Lake Superior's untouched beauty can be seen, experienced, and remembered by all who visit.

Day hiking is a great way to explore Pukaskwa National Park. Whether you are looking for a relaxing stroll or a full-day challenge, we have a trail for you! Day hiking trails range from 1 km strolls on a beach boardwalk to the full day hike to the White River Suspension Bridge. Part of the rugged and beautiful Coastal Hiking Trail, the White River Suspension Bridge crosses 23m high above Chigamiwiniung Falls.

Pukaskwa's Mdaabii Miikna and Coastal Hiking Trail offer premiere Ontario wilderness hiking experiences. Enjoy well-equipped backcountry campsites, beautiful beaches, and awe-inspiring views of the impressive Lake Superior coastline and rugged boreal forest. The Coastal Hiking Trail is a part of the Trans-Canada Trail. Please note: orientation and camping permits are required for any overnight stay in the backcountry.

[www.parkscanada.gc.ca/pukaskwa](http://www.parkscanada.gc.ca/pukaskwa)



Visit **Rainbow Falls Provincial Park** west of Terrace Bay with four trails (13.4 km) to choose from. Hike the linear 1.1 km Rainbow Falls Trails via a series of stairs and platforms along the side of the Whitesand River to the bridge overlooking the cascading waters. For backpackers, continue on along the Casque Isles section of the Voyageur Hiking Trail as part of a longer, multi-day trip.

[www.ontarioparks.ca](http://www.ontarioparks.ca)

Popular day hikes at **Sleeping Giant Provincial Park** include the Sea Lion Trail (2.5 km return) and the Top of the Giant Trail (22 km return). Spectacular scenic vistas await at the end of both trails. For backpackers, try the linear Kabeyun Trail (40 km) along the coast of the Sibley Peninsula, offering some of the best scenery in the province. This park has over 100 km of trails to explore!

**Quimet Canyon Provincial Park** located near Dorion, offers a 1 km barrier-free trail taking visitors to two viewing pods overlooking the expanse of this 150 metre wide, 3.2 km long, and 100 metre deep canyon gorge.

**Neys Provincial Park** located between Terrace Bay and Marathon offers many trails to explore including the Under the Volcano Trail (4.2 km return) and the more rugged Coastal Trail (25.6 km return). Be sure to hike up to the pagoda to view Pic Island, made famous by Canadian Group of Seven artist Lawren Harris. Neys offers 25 km of hiking trails for park visitors.



Whether you're climbing the Sleeping Giant, visiting the City of Thunder Bay, camping on a remote lake, or trolling for the big one on Lake Nipigon, we'll offer you a true taste of everything great in Superior Country. Catch the Superior spirit and soothe your soul.

[www.superiorcountry.ca](http://www.superiorcountry.ca)



The traditional Ojibwe name for the Red Rock Indian Band is *Opwaaganasiniing* which means pipestone in the locative voice.

Opwaaganasiniing Traditional Gathering is held annually the 3rd weekend in July. This event brings together 20-25 drum groups, 300 dancers and over 5,000 spectators. The gathering offers cultural teachings, ceremonies, crafts, traditional dance, music, and local cuisine.

We also host an annual Salmon Derby the weekend after Labour Day. [www.rrib.ca](http://www.rrib.ca)



## Working together to bring great trails to you!

The trails featured on this map are a result of decades of dedication from many players in this region. The trail associations, communities, and conservation agencies presented here are committed to providing high quality trails for residents and visitors alike.

Did you know that the trails featured on the front and back of this map represent over 325 km of trails in this region?

We hope you enjoy your trail experience and encourage you to take the time to explore all the wonders this region has to offer!



Founded in 2010 by Michael Elliott and friends after spending the previous 10 years fostering active lifestyles in region, specifically youth through the facilitation of mountain bike events.

Realising that there was an incredible selection of trails in the region, though very few for mountain biking, Michael create the Singletrack Society.

The mission: to create mountain bike trails that are easily hikeable. Currently, Singletrack society has developed and manages 5 trails and has plans to expand the network of multi-use trails in the region.

Distances in Miles	Thunder Bay	Dorion	Hurkett	Red Rock	Nipigon	Red Rock Indian Band	Pays Plat First Nation	Rossport	Schreiber	Terrace Bay	Marathon	Biigtigong Nishnaabeg	Sault Ste. Marie
Distances in Kms													
Thunder Bay	-	54 mi	57 mi	72 mi	74 mi	75 mi	109 mi	118 mi	131 mi	139 mi	190 mi	199 mi	439 mi
Dorion	87 km	-	3 mi	18 mi	20 mi	21 mi	55 mi	64 mi	77 mi	85 mi	136 mi	144 mi	385 mi
Hurkett	92 km	5 km	-	15 mi	17 mi	18 mi	51 mi	61 mi	73 mi	82 mi	133 mi	142 mi	381 mi
Red Rock	116 km	29 km	24 km	-	11 mi	12 mi	46 mi	55 mi	68 mi	76 mi	127 mi	136 mi	376 mi
Nipigon	120 km	32 km	27 km	18 km	-	1 mi	34 mi	44 mi	56 mi	65 mi	116 mi	125 mi	364 mi
Red Rock Indian Band	122 km	34 km	29 km	20 km	2 km	-	33 mi	43 mi	55 mi	64 mi	115 mi	124 mi	363 mi
Pays Plat First Nation	175 km	88 km	83 km	73 km	55 km	53 km	-	10 mi	22 mi	31 mi	82 mi	90 mi	330 mi
Rossport	191 km	103 km	98 km	89 km	71 km	69 km	16 km	-	12 mi	21 mi	72 mi	81 mi	320 mi
Schreiber	210 km	123 km	118 km	108 km	91 km	89 km	35 km	20 km	-	9 mi	60 mi	68 mi	308 mi
Terrace Bay	224 km	137 km	132 km	123 km	105 km	103 km	49 km	34 km	14 km	-	51 mi	60 mi	299 mi
Marathon	306 km	219 km	214 km	205 km	187 km	185 km	131 km	116 km	96 km	82 km	-	16 mi	255 mi
Biigtigong Nishnaabeg	320 km	233 km	228 km	219 km	201 km	199 km	145 km	130 km	110 km	96 km	25 km	-	255 mi
Sault Ste. Marie	706 km	619 km	614 km	604 km	586 km	584 km	531 km	515 km	496 km	482 km	410 km	411 km	-

This guide is brought to you in part by:  
**Superior North CFDC**  
**SADC Supérieur Nord**

Visiting  
Dorion, Hurkett, Red Rock, Nipigon, Red Rock Indian Band, Pays Plat First Nation, Rossport, Schreiber, Terrace Bay, Marathon, Pic River, or Manitowadge?

Explore...  
**Superior North SPOTLIGHT**  
Online Business Directory  
Find local products, services, events, attractions, accommodations and more..!

[snspotlight.ca](http://snspotlight.ca)



This guide was brought to you in part by:



[www.visitnorthwestontario.com](http://www.visitnorthwestontario.com)



spanning hundreds of years and an exhibit on the world record brook trout caught on the Nipigon River in 1915.

Nipigon's all season trails are waiting to be explored! With breathtaking vistas and diverse wildlife, there are a variety of day hikes to choose from including Deer Lake Mountain, Kama Cliffs, and Mazukama Falls Trails.

For more information on our trails and other attractions, visit [www.nipigon.net](http://www.nipigon.net) or call 1-877-596-1359.

Nipigon is a unique community where unspoiled nature goes hand in hand with rich culture and a storied past.

History buffs will enjoy our Historical Walking Tour or a visit to the Nipigon Historical Museum, featuring artifacts

## LAND OF THE NIPIGON



## WATERWAYS DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

The Land of the Nipigon Waterways Development Association (LNWDA) was established in 1992 as a non-profit trail organization with the promotional theme "Experience the Land of the Nipigon."

Chair Ted Nyman was instrumental in establishing the group, and worked tirelessly to develop the Nipigon River Recreation Trail, which, along with the Red Rock Mountain Trail, are managed under the LWNDA. The current executive of volunteers, staff, and council members from Red Rock and Nipigon ensures the sustainability of the group and the success of its trails.

Contact : 807 887-3151 ext. 26



The Township of Red Rock is nestled on the shores of Lake Superior. It is a vibrant, safe community offering many attractions only minutes off Hwy 11/17.

The community offers a full-service marina with many amenities: an interactive interpretive centre, waterfront restaurant, splash pad, playground, laundry, and wash-room facilities.

The Township of Red Rock is a trailhead hub offering access to the Nipigon River Recreation Trail, Red Rock Mountain Trail, and the new Lake Superior Water Trail, which can be accessed at the mouth of North Trout Creek. [www.redrocktownship.com](http://www.redrocktownship.com)



Lakehead Region Conservation Authority (LRCA) is a community-based environmental agency that provides value-added services to our watershed residents. We are responsible for the wise management of renewable natural resources in our watershed.

Conservation Authorities undertake a broad range of programs, including: watershed management, erosion control, flood forecasting and warning, recreation, plan input and review, water level monitoring, environmental education, and stewardship. We improve quality of life by actively providing Conservation Areas for semi-passive recreation and environmental education opportunities. [www.lakeheadca.com](http://www.lakeheadca.com)



Dorion is a warm, friendly community. Although it is a small community, it is large at heart with some major attractions. A well-groomed trail, walkway, and bridge lead visitors to a spectacular view of Ouimet Canyon. Canada's longest suspension bridge at Eagle Canyon Adventures is also located in Dorion. Besides walking the two bridges, adventurous tourists can also skim over this canyon on a zip-line.

Hurkett Cove Conservation Area is a photographer's paradise. Dorion is also home of the annual Dorion's Canyon Country Birding Festival. Approximately 120 bird species are observed during the two-day festival. Dorion gives you the best of both worlds: rural serenity at a close distance to Thunder Bay. [www.doriontownship.ca](http://www.doriontownship.ca)



Challenge your driving skills by riding in the annual Manitowadge ATV jamboree. Held on the third weekend in July you will pilot your ATV over 100 km of mud, water, rocks, and spectacular scenery.

Riders start the poker run from the community centre, returning for lunch. After completing the afternoon route, riders gather at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish Hall for dinner and prizes. Start the weekend by testing your skills to score a hole in one at the clubhouse. [www.PlayInTheExtreme.ca](http://www.PlayInTheExtreme.ca)



The Nor'wester Voyageur Trail Club is part of the VTA spanning from west of the Casque Isle Trail Voyageur trail club in Rossport through Nipigon to the Ont/Minnesota Border at Pigeon River. The group was officially organized in 2012 with a refocus in 2015 on trails in the Nipigon Area - which includes the Deer Lake Mountain Trail, Mazukama Falls Trail and in the near future the network of trails in Ruby Lake Provincial Park. Please join our Facebook page "Nor'wester Voyageur Trail Club" for trail maps, information and other trail related services offered by our group.