

Top of Superior Hiking Trails



Red Rock Mountain Trail 2

Classification: ■ Distance: 7.7 km (return)

Hike this scenic trail to enjoy spectacular panoramic vistas overlooking the township of Red Rock, Nipigon River, and Black Bay. The Red Rock Mountain Trail is a foot and bike path that goes along the crests and valleys of Red Rock Mountain. Hike the whole trail or try just the loop for a shorter (5.3 km) hike.

This trail provides a stellar view of stunning features of this portion of Lake Superior National Marine Conservation Area. Lake Superior (Nipigon Bay and Black Bay) can be viewed above the town of Red Rock from a series of three viewing platforms.

Directions: From Hwy 11/17 take the turn-off to Red Rock on Hwy 628. Drive 5 km and turn right onto Red Rock Rd No. 1. The trailhead and parking area is just past the Bailey bridge, at the end of Red Rock Rd No.1.



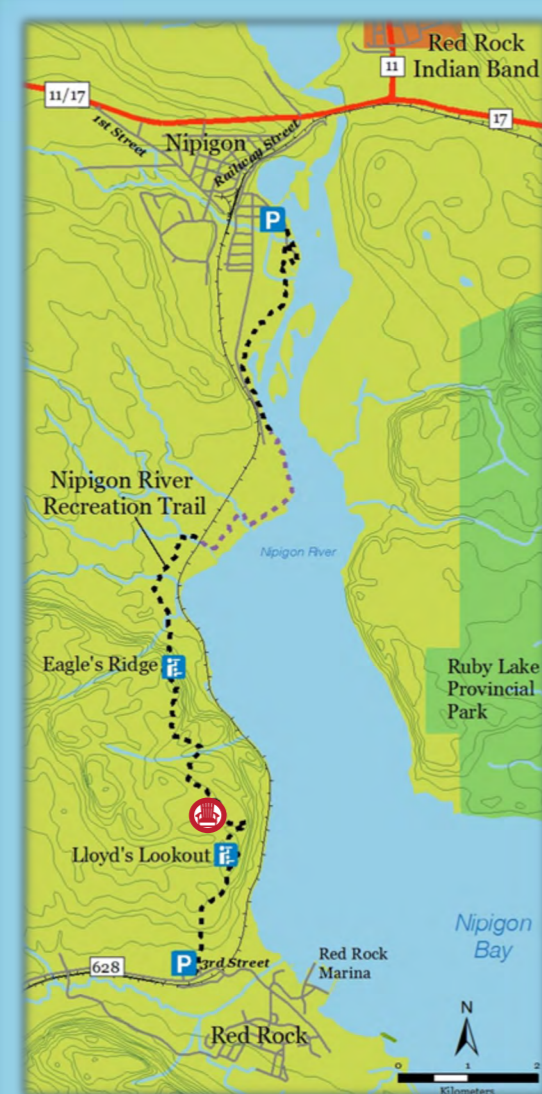
Hurkett Cove 1

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 "Pelee 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 fee of \$2 is required to park and supports Lakehead Region Conservation Authority.



Nipigon River Recreation Trail 3

Classification: ◆ Distance: 8.2 km (one way)

Experience the shoreline of the Nipigon River from Nipigon to Red Rock and along Nipigon Bay. Consider taking a 20 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. Note: Rerouting of a portion of the trail is proposed, which may result in a temporary closure of the section indicated in purple.

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.

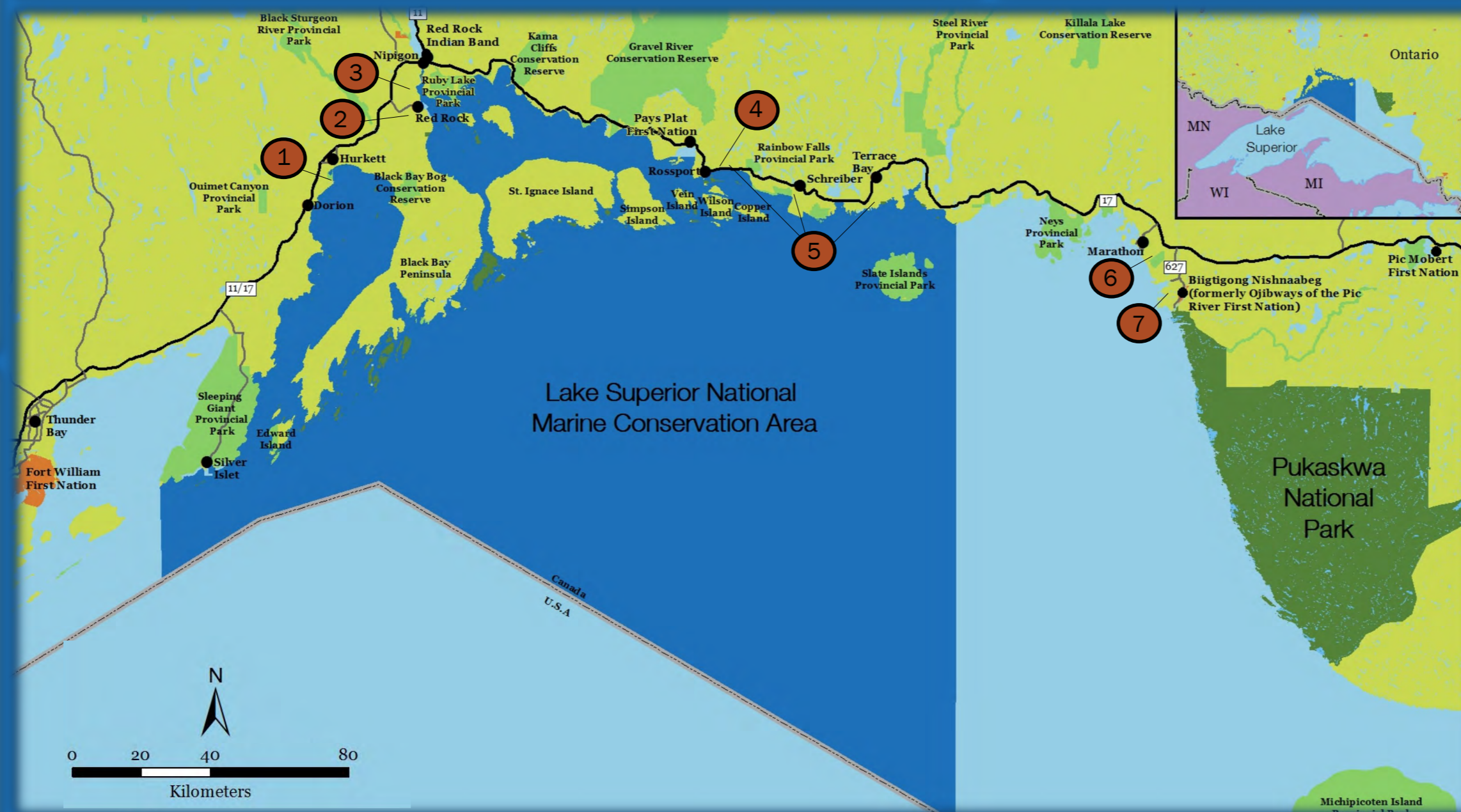


Rossport Coastal Trail 4

Classification: ■ Distance: 1.5 km (one way)

Rossport Coastal Trail is an easy access trail near Rossport. It is mainly a flat, easy stroll, but does have some stretches crossing uneven surfaces such as a small creek and rocky beaches. 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 Wardrope 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.



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.pc.gc.ca/docs/v-q/oursnoir-blackbear/index.aspx

www.ontario.ca/page/prevent-bear-encounters-bear-wise



Parks Canada

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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 gain 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 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 Aguasabon Gorge Road and follow the road to the Aguasabon Gorge parking (A11).

Follow the trailhead signage at each location.

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

To complete the whole 53 km trail usually takes 3-4 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 (A10, A11), beginning at the spectacular Aguasabon Gorge** or at Terrace Bay Beach.



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.



Kewiskaning Coastal Trail 7

Classification: ◆ Distance: 10.4 km (one way)

Kewiskaning 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.

