

## 10. Buckingham Creek (Twin Ponds )Route



View from Twin Ponds to Stone Bridge, this is photo spot #1

**Highlights:** This trail is all about the overlooks. Incredible views of Enger Tower, Enger Golf Course, The Aerial Bridge, The Ship Canal, Downtown Duluth, The Lake Superior Shoreline and Eastern Duluth, Park Point and St. Louis Bay.

**Parking and Directions:** From 35W take the Mesabi St. exit and head up to East Ninth St. Take a left on Ninth St. and follow it until it merges with West Skyline Parkway. Follow West Skyline Parkway until you get to Twin Ponds. Look for the parking lot on the right side before the Stone Bridge. On the Northeast side of the lot look for the sign for the Traverse Duluth Bike Trail.

**Distance:** 4 miles Up and Back

**Difficulty:** A little Strenuous heading up the switchbacks to the top of the hill but easy after that.

**Recommended for:** most hikers



## The Route:

**Mile 1:** From the parking lot, head up the bike trail which includes several switchbacks (this is the hardest part of the hike). About half way up you will see your first view of Enger Tower, be patient, there are better views at the top of the switchbacks. At the top are fantastic views of Enger Tower and Enger Golf Course. **This is photo spot #2.** The trail heads down a bit and you will see your first view of the Aerial Lift Bridge and canal. Again, be patient, there will be better views. The trail then heads into a stretch of rock outcrops and pine forest. At about a mile in you end up on a short stretch of a gravel road that dead ends. Look for the trail on the left side of the end.

**Mile 2:** Shortly after you get into a wooded area, you come out with a wooden bridge and a clear view of the bridge, ship canal and Lake Superior. **This is photo spot #3.** There are more great overlooks ahead. At about a mile and one half you enter into a wooded forest with boardwalks and bridges. At a mile and three fourths you come to a wooden bridge over a small creek. Soon after this you enter a wide-open area with views of eastern Duluth and the Lake

Superior shoreline. **This is photo spot #4.** You will see abandoned school buildings overhead and this is the point to turn around if you are doing the regular hike.

**Mile:** 3 and 4

Follow the bike trail back to the parking lot. At one point there are two ways to go. **Stay left on the trail. Don't forget to get more photos on the way back.**

**Extended Route:** Instead of stopping at the two-mile mark. Continue on the bike trail to Central Entrance or beyond.

**Family Friendly Route:** There is swimming at Twin Ponds in the summer but **be very careful of the traffic here.**



**View of Enger Tower, photo spot #2**



**View of Enger Golf Course, photo spot #2**



**View Park Point and Duluth Harbor, photo spot #3**



**View of Ariel Bridge and Lake Superior, photo spot #3**



**View of Lake Superior Lakeshore and east Duluth, photo spot #4**

## After the hike:

When done and you are both hungry and thirsty, are you in luck. A very short way from Lincoln Park is the **Lincoln Park Craft District**. [Lincoln Park Business Group – The Community That Works](#) There are top notch breweries, cideries and restaurants and **Love Creamery**. Check out **Trip Advisor** for a complete listing and reviews of all the great places.

Strava Link <https://www.strava.com/routes/3230978580390603518>