

8. Duluth Lakewalk Route



View from behind Bayfront Park, photo spot#1

Highlights: There is something for everyone in the **world class tourist area** with great views of the harbor and lake. Along with that a list of activities, restaurants and breweries second to none.

Parking and Directions:

From 35W take the **5th Ave.** Exit and turn right. Head down **Harbor Drive** and take the **first right** which gets you to **Railroad St.** Turn **left** on **Railroad St.** and look to your left for the **Playfront Park parking lot.** Take the walkway through Playfront Park, turn right past the building and then left along the fence to the harbor.

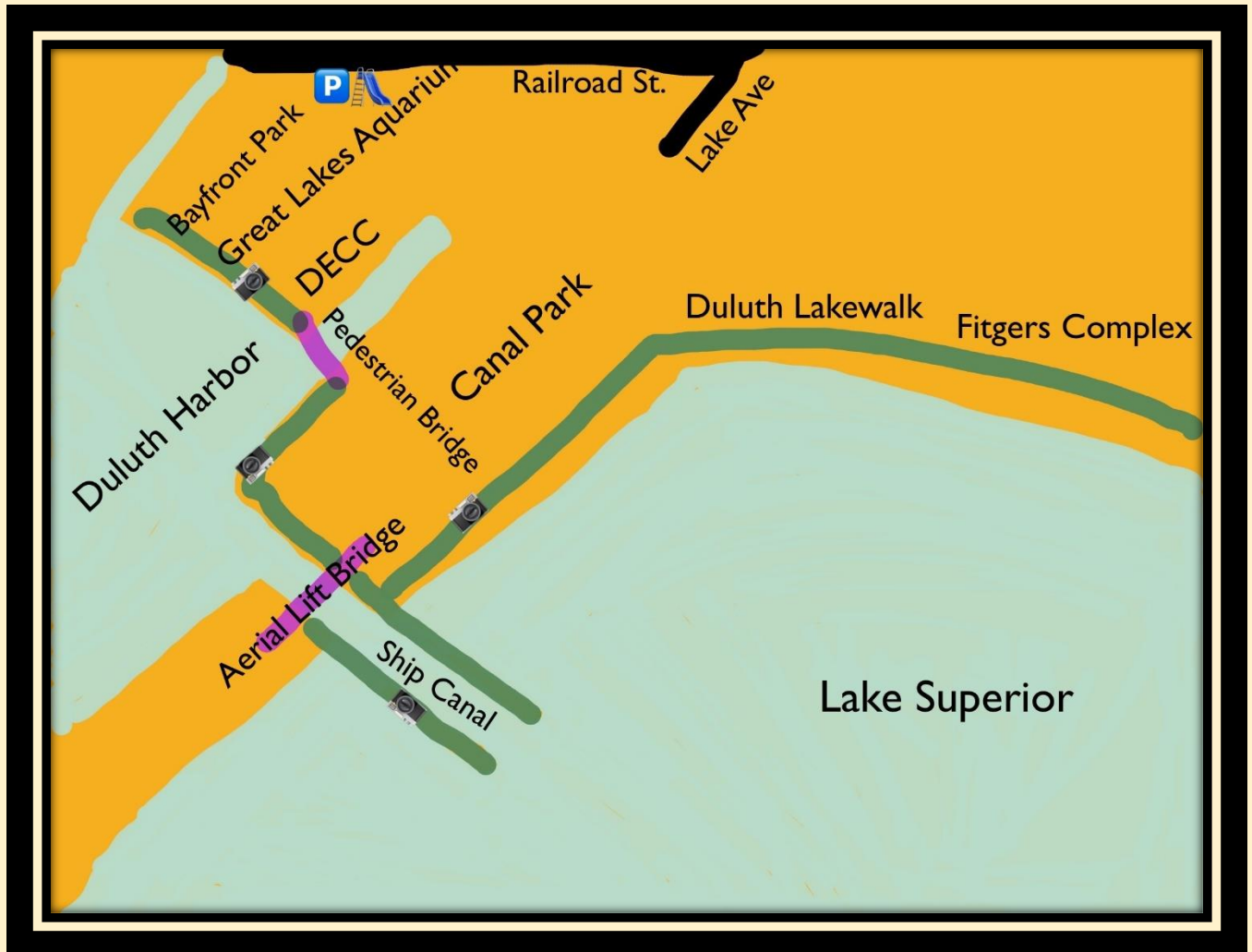


Playfront park next to Bayfront Park

Distance: 4.25 miles Out and Back

Difficulty: easy

Recommended for: all hikers



The Route:

Mile 1: You start in Playfront Park and work your way back to the harbor. In spring, summer, and fall, you will see one-thousand-foot ore carriers or grain ships from around the world. This is **photo spot #1**. Work your way along the harbor until you see a blue pedestrian bridge. Cross the bridge and turn right. **Follow the walkway all the way under the aerial lift bridge. Walk up the steps to your left to the bridge and cross over the bridge. Once over the bridge take a left and head down to the ship canal. At the ship canal first take a left past the hotel on the canal where the walkway ends.** This is a great photo spot especially in late fall early winter when the sun sets in the west. **This is photo spot #2.** In summer and fall you can then head back along the walkway past the bridge, past the first lighthouse and head to the last lighthouse at the end of the canal. This again is a great place for photos of the bridge, or the white lighthouse with

downtown Duluth in the background. This is **photo spot#3**. At the lighthouse at the end is a good place to watch the Wednesday evening sailboat races. **Head back across the bridge and get back down to the walkway. Just before the rocks, the trail heads up to the actual Lakewalk.**

Mile 2: Once on the Lakewalk there are rows of hotels with great views of the lighthouses and ship canal. **This is photo spot #4.** Just before the Lakewalk turns east you will see the **Canal Park Brewery** which has great beer and great food. There is outdoor seating in the summer and fall. Once past the Brewery the Lakewalk turns east and there is a series of panels on the big wall across the tracks. The panels depict the history of shipping in the Duluth harbor. From there head east to a set of stairs that lead you to the **Fitzgers Complex** that includes the Fitzgers Brewhouse with great beer and food. [Fitzger's Lakefront Luxury Hotel | Duluth MN \(fitgers.com\)](#) Explore the shops including a great outdoor clothing and gear shop called Trailfitters. [Trailfitters | Duluth's Outdoor Store](#)

Miles 3 & 4: Enjoy the return trip to the bayfront parking lot.

Extended Route: The Duluth Lakewalk is 7 plus miles so you can hike all the way to Brighton Beach if desired. There are many places to stop and enjoy along the way including the Fitzgers complex which contains Fitzgers Brewhouse. Lief Erickson Park and rose garden, Lake Superior Brewery, and Brighton Beach picnic area.

Family Friendly Route: Family Friendly: The Lakewalk and Canal Park district are world class destinations. The variety of activities and food choices is truly amazing. First there is **Bayfront Park** which is the venue for concerts, and a continuous string of events all summer and fall. [BAYFRONT FESTIVAL PARK – ON THE WATERFRONT | DULUTH, MINNESOTA](#) The **Fourth Fest** has one of the biggest fireworks displays in the Midwest. Winter starts out with one of the biggest holiday light displays in the Midwest with **Bentleyville**. [Visitor Guide – Bentleyville "Tour of Lights" \(bentleyvilleusa.org\)](#) **Playfront Park** is next to the **Bayfront Park** and has a huge variety of things to climb on or swing from. Go to the Canal Park website for a complete list of food and activity options. [Canal Park, Duluth MN | Lodging & Entertainment | Ships](#) Next to Playfront Park is the **Great Lakes Aquarium** with educational displays for all ages. [Great Lakes Aquarium \(glaquarium.org\)](#)



View looking west from the end of the ship canal walkway, photo spot #2



View from the south walkway looking north toward downtown Duluth, photo spot #3



View from Duluth Lakewalk looking southeast, photo spot #4

After the hike:

This is a great place to spend time on a nice day in any season. The Lakewalk is a world class walkway with great views of the lake. Put that with all of the options of the canal park, downtown Duluth and the Duluth historic and arts district, you cannot run out of things to do.

[Canal Park, Duluth MN](#) | [Lodging & Entertainment](#) | [Ships](#)

Strava Link

[JLDuluth Lakewalk \(Bayfront Park to Fitgers\) Route | 3.9 mi Hiking Trail on Strava](#)

