



2024

TrailLink Unlimited 

Guides



**Gitchi-Gami  
State Trail**  
*Minnesota*



## Gitchi-Gami State Trail

Minnesota

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When completed, the Gitchi-Gami State Trail will traverse 88 paved miles between the cities of Two Harbors and Grand Marais on Lake Superior's northern shore. Currently, several segments, totaling nearly 29 miles, are open between the two endpoints. A "West Road" section, forecast for completion in 2016, will extend the trail northward along the shore of Lake Superior, completing the connection to the community of Silver Bay. The trail provides a nonmotorized, safer alternative to MN 61 along the North Shore.

The Gitchi-Gami Trail Association's mission is to promote, plan, and construct the trail to link communities, state parks, and points of interest along the northern shore of Lake Superior. Trail segments pass through five Minnesota state parks along the North Shore,

winding through birch and aspen forests, along cascading rivers and waterfalls, and through historic communities, while providing incredible vistas of Gitchi-Gami herself, Lake Superior.

There are currently five segments completed along the planned 88-mile route: Silver Creek Cliff features more than 4,000 feet of continuous vista along its short 1-mile section just north of Two Harbors, along MN 61. The longest section begins at Gooseberry Falls State Park and runs 17.6 miles to Silver Bay, with a sometimes steep and curving trail that is considered the most scenic portion of the completed trail segments.

A 17.6-mile section from the Gooseberry Falls State Park (3206 MN-61, Two Harbors) north to Silver Bay cuts inland, paralleling the Northshore Mining Railroad. From the ridgeline above Lake Superior, the route offers spectacular views of the region.

The Temperance River segment connects the 3 miles between the towns of Schroeder and Tofte. At Tofte, the trail continues northward along the shore for another 7.5 miles, ending in Lutsen at County Road 5 (also known as Ski Hill Road).

The last completed segment of the trail runs 5.15 miles west from the Cut Face Creek Wayside through Grand Marais to 1st Ave West by Harbor Park (110 Wisconsin St), which is the northern end of the Gitchi-Gami State Trail network along the shore. The section from 8th Ave West to 1st Ave is also known as the Grand Marais Corridor Trail.

Bicycle tune-up stations have been installed at Gooseberry Falls State Park behind the visitor center along the trail and at Split Rock Lighthouse State Park near the park office. Restrooms are available at each of the state parks along the trail and in each town or community along the route.



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**States:** Minnesota

**Counties:** Cook, Lake

Length: 32.02 miles

**Trail end points:** Silver Creek Cliff to Grand  
Marais

**Trail surfaces:** Asphalt

**Trail category:** Greenway/Non-RT

**Trail activities:** Bike, Inline

Skating, Wheelchair Accessible, Walking, Cross  
Country Skiing

## Parking & Trail Access

Parking is available at a number of locations along the trail.  
Visit the [TrailLink map](#) for all options and detailed directions.



# Gitchi-Gami State Trail

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Trailhead



Restroom



Parking



Water Fountain



Tunnel



**TrailLink**  
by Rails-to-Trails Conservancy

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