



2026

TrailLink Unlimited



Guides



**Willard
Munger State
Trail
(Hinckley-
Duluth)**

Minnesota



Willard Munger State Trail (Hinckley-Duluth)

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The Willard Munger State Trail is a collection of multiple-use trails that include the Willard Munger Trail (Hinckley–Duluth), [Alex Laveau Memorial Trail](#) (which intersect in Carlton), and the [Matthew Lourey State Trail](#), also known as the Boundary segment, the [Gateway State Trail](#) and [Brown's Creek State Trail](#), both near Minneapolis. The trails offer hundreds of miles for hiking, bicycling, in-line skating, cross-country skiing, and snowmobiling. The trails pass through some of Minnesota's most scenic areas, following the route of the railroad that saved many lives during the notorious Hinckley and Cloquet fires in the 19th century.

The Hinckley-Duluth segment of the Willard Munger State Trail stretches 70 miles between central Minnesota and the state's gateway to Lake Superior. The trail follows

the historic 19th-century route of the Lake Superior and Mississippi Railroad that carried goods and passengers between the Twin Cities and Duluth. As it's completely paved and relatively flat, the pathway is perfect for bikers, walkers, and in-line skaters in the warmer months, and is groomed for snowmobilers in the winter.

About the Route

Along the route of the Willard Munger State Trail (Hinckley-Duluth), trail-goers will enjoy stunning natural scenery, especially the northernmost 15-mile section between Carlton and Duluth. Here, the trail travels through rocky cliffs and over the St. Louis River gorge. The trail skirts the northern edge of the Jay Cooke State Park, which—with its pristine forests, waterfalls, and swinging suspension bridge—is definitely worth a stop.

The southern portion of the trail (Hinckley to Carlton) offers open views, rural landscapes, and rustic towns. River crossings, lakes, and ponds add to the picturesque backdrop. Shortly after passing the town of Willow River, the trail travels through the gently rolling terrain of General C.C. Andrews State Forest, a beautiful respite with its tall stands of pine, birch, aspen, and oak trees.

Connections

At the northern end of the trail, trail users can connect to the [Western Waterfront Trail](#) and the [DWP Trail](#).

In Cannon, trail users can connect to the [Alex Laveau Memorial Trail](#).

In Moose Lake, the trail connects to the [Soo Line Trail \(Northern Route\)](#).



Willard Munger State Trail (Hinckley-Duluth)

Minnesota

States: Minnesota

Counties: Carlton, Pine

Length: 71.4 miles

Trail end points: 2nd St. NW (Hinckley) to
Pulaski St. (Duluth)

Trail surfaces: Asphalt

Trail category: Rail-Trail

Trail activities: Bike, Mountain Biking, Inline
Skating, Snowmobiling, Walking, Wheelchair
Accessible, Cross Country Skiing

Parking & Trail Access

The Willard Munger State Trail (Hinckley-Duluth) runs between Pulaski St. (Duluth) and 2nd St. NW (Hinckley), which offers parking.

Parking is also available at:

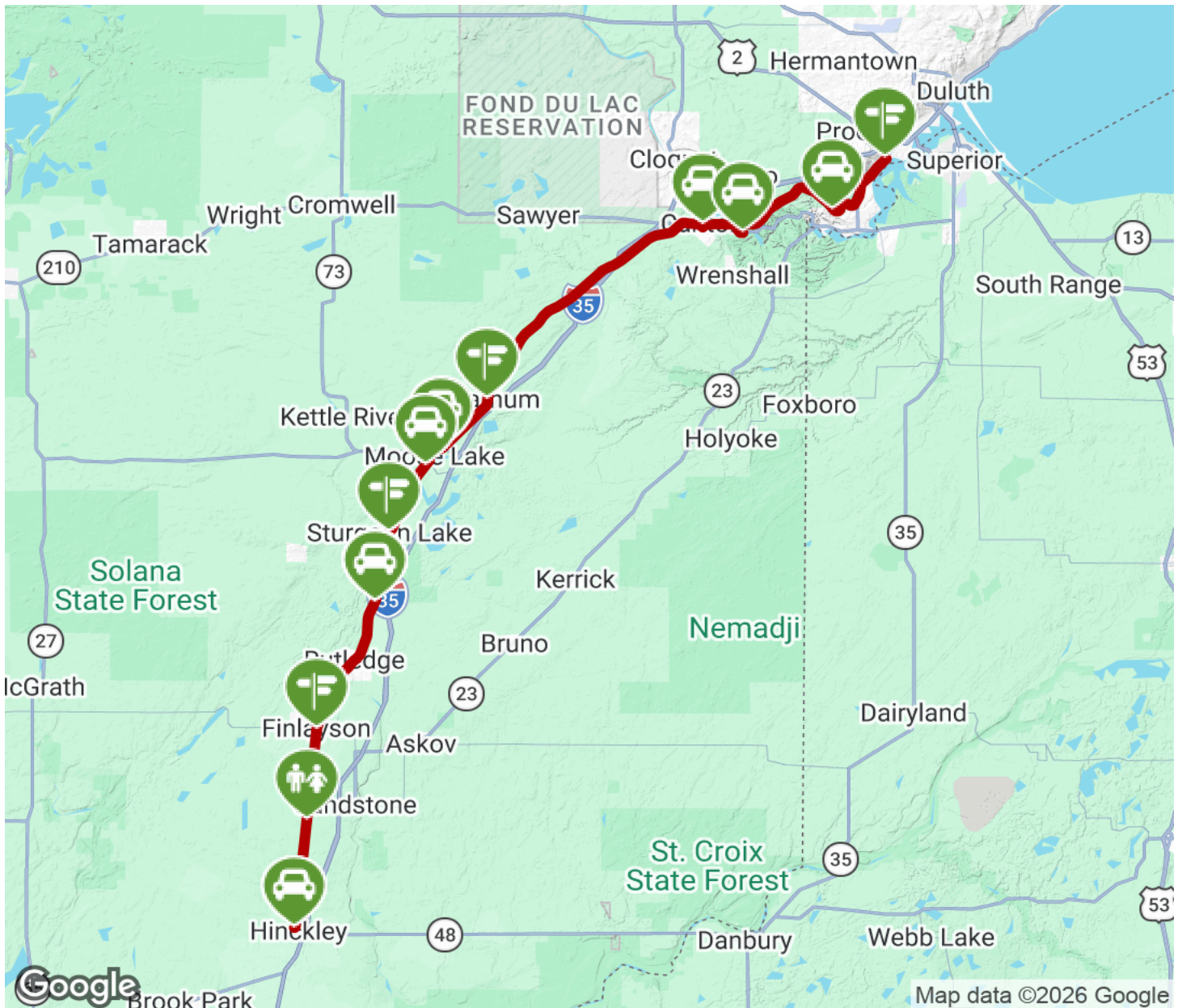
- 8978 Main St (Sturgeon Lake)
- 500 Arrowhead Ln (Moose Lake)
- 90 3rd St (Carlton)

Please see [TrailLink Map](#) for all parking options and detailed directions.



Willard Munger State Trail (Hinckley-Duluth)

Minnesota



Trailhead



Restroom



Parking



Water Fountain



Tunnel



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