

Black Bank - Ontario's Roof

Be sure to download the Bruce Trail App or Map 21 from the [Bruce Trail Conservancy](#). The maps shows 3 parking areas along Prince of Wales Road between County Road 21 and 20 Sideroad. I refer to these as the Northern, Central and Southern parking areas.

My hike made a figure 8 loop, taking about 4 hours to complete and spanning 13 kms.

You can do this hike in a variety of ways:

1) North-Eastern Loop

6.6 kms, 2 hours, moderate

Park at the Central Parking Area and walk east and north along the Bruce Trail to County Road 21. Walk along County Road 21 and Prince of Wales Road back to your car.

2) North-East there-and-back

6.8 kms, 2 hours, moderate

Park at the Central Parking Area and walk the Bruce Trail in a north-easterly direction to County Road 21. When you get there, retrace your steps.

3) South-Western Loop

5.6 kms, 2 hours, moderate

I parked at the Central Parking area. From here walk south along Prince of Wales Road to 20 Side Road. Here you join the Bruce Trail which you follow back to your car. This is by far the most spectacular hike you can do in this area, owing to the stupendous views, but it is also harder than the north-easter loop. Doing it in this direction gets the road walking out of the way first and you climb up rather than descending.

4) Hike it all

13.2 kms, 4 hours, moderate/challenging

You can do both loops by parking in the Central Area. Do the north-eastern loop first, have lunch in your car and save the southwestern loop to the end.

5) Hike and bike

13.2 kms, 3½ hours, moderate

If you are not into road walking, you can do the roads by bike. Park at the southern parking area, cycle to Black Bank (there the north-eastern loop meets County Road 21) and hike from there back to your car along the Bruce Trail. Doing it this way allows you to cycle most of the way downhill (although there are some uphill too, especially in the beginning) and save the best hiking to the end.