

## ROBERT TREMAN STATE PARK

**Description:** Two spectacular waterfalls: 30' Enfield Falls and 115' Lucifer Falls, and many small cascades.

**Location:** This park straddles Enfield Glen and Enfield Creek. The Finger Lakes Trail skirts the south border of the park.

**Directions\*:** This park is easy to reach. The lower parking area offers quick access to Enfield Falls, and the upper parking area to Lucifer Falls (image at right).

**Photography:** While access to the waterfalls is easy, the photographer faces several problems here. This park is crowded in summer, and during the 'leaf peeper' season. If you prefer a natural look to your images, as I do, you will need some patience waiting for other photographers and hikers to move out of the frame.



**Enfield Falls:** This is the lower fall and is a short walk from the lower parking area. During the summer, the stream is blocked downstream from Enfield Falls and the basin becomes a swimming hole. This decreases the apparent height of the waterfall by about 6 feet. In the fall, when the dam is removed, you can walk onto the dry stream bed and get close to the waterfall.

**Lucifer Fall:** This fall easy to reach from the upper parking area. There are several small cascades along the way. Although the trail passes quite close to the stream, you will have some difficulty finding a good location for photography that does not include a substantial number of man-made structures, e.g., stone walls and stairs. (This forces you to deal with the ethics of cloning in Photoshop.) In the image above, I was able to place the tripod so that a stone wall was mostly obscured by shrubbery. You can still see the stair case in the upper right corner.

The other problem is that you are so close to the water that encompassing the entire waterfall in a single frame is difficult. A good opportunity to build your panorama chops! The image above is a vertical panorama of two landscape images.

**Accessibility:** There is a parking fee during the summer season. NY seniors (62+) can get in for free under the NYS Golden Park Program on weekdays. The trail between the two parking areas is 2¼ miles long, and there are a total of 12 waterfalls. This trail closes in winter. The web site says it closes on Nov. 10<sup>th</sup>, but I have been there with the trails open much later. It does not specify when it reopens in Spring. I suspect the staff are quite reasonable about when the closing should occur. Like all gorges in this area, there is a serious risk of falling ice and rocks in winter, so trail closure, when it occurs, should be respected. (An acquaintance of mine and 6 of his friends were fined \$150 each for using the trail while closed.)

The map shows the trail system, but omits any indication of land contours. All the trails are steep

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\* Use the accompanying KML files to generate your own driving directions in Google Earth!

in places although stairs are present on the Gorge Trail. The Red Pine Trail is 'stair free' but offers no views of the waterfalls.

Web: <http://nysparks.state.ny.us/parks/135/details.aspx>  
<http://nysparks.state.ny.us/parks/attachments/RobertHTremanParkMap.pdf>