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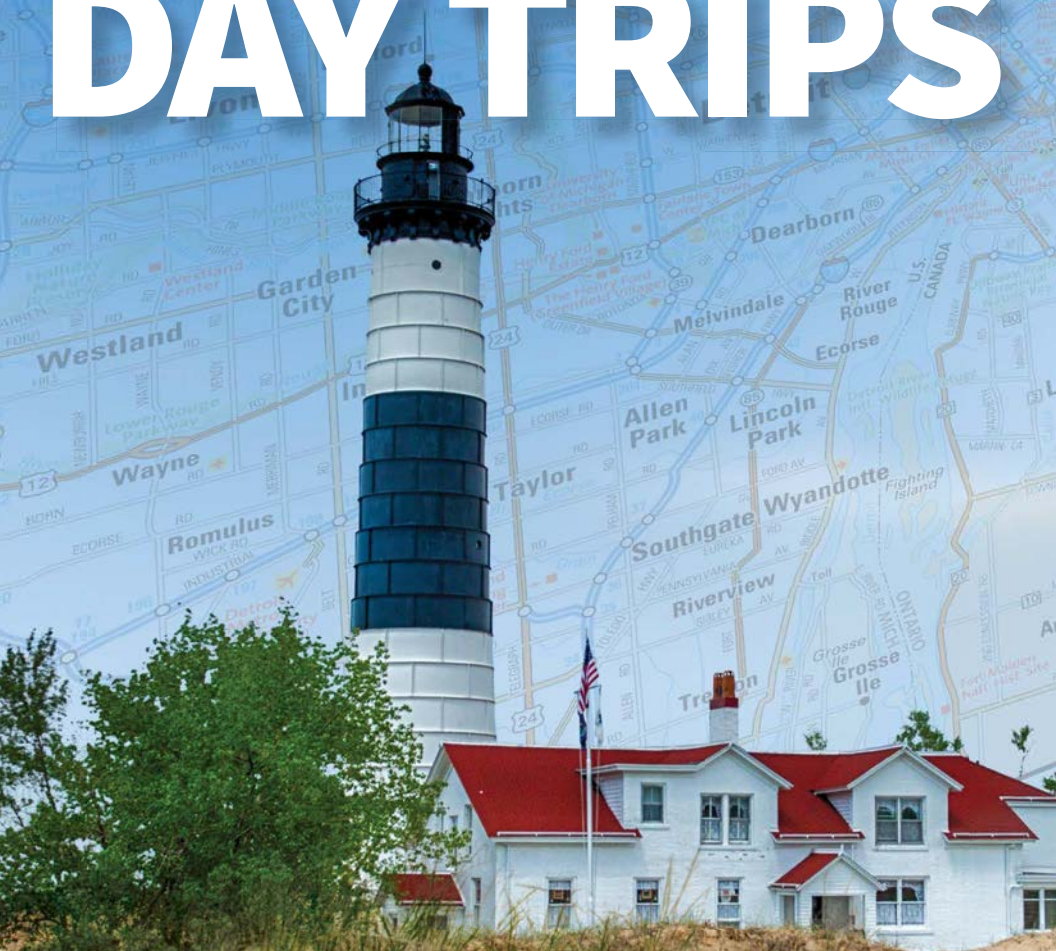
Third Edition

Michigan



BY THEME

DAY TRIPS



Kathryn Houghton
prior edition by Mike Link and Kate Crowley

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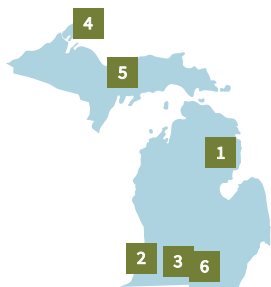
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- 11 Huron River Water Trail, Commerce Township to South Rockwood . . . 13**
There's no hurry when you're on the Huron River.
- 12 Huron Sunrise Trail, Rogers City 13**
Paddle and explore the least publicized of the Great Lakes and see how beautiful it is.

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1 Au Sable National Scenic River

Huron-Manistee National Forests M-33 in Mio to Forest Service Road 4001 in Curran just above Alcona Pond
tinyurl.com/ausablescenicriver

There is nothing like floating down a river, and the Au Sable is world-class. The 22-mile free-flowing section, federally designated as a National Scenic River, is superb and travels through national forests that are home to a variety of wildlife, including Kirtland's warbler and the Karner blue butterfly. The river itself has trout, bass, and walleye. With nearby outfitters who can provide gear and shuttles and a road paralleling the river, there are many options for a day trip or for even longer adventures.

2 Bangor to South Haven Heritage Water Trail

Bangor trailhead North Center Street (0.25 mile north of MI-43), Bangor 49013

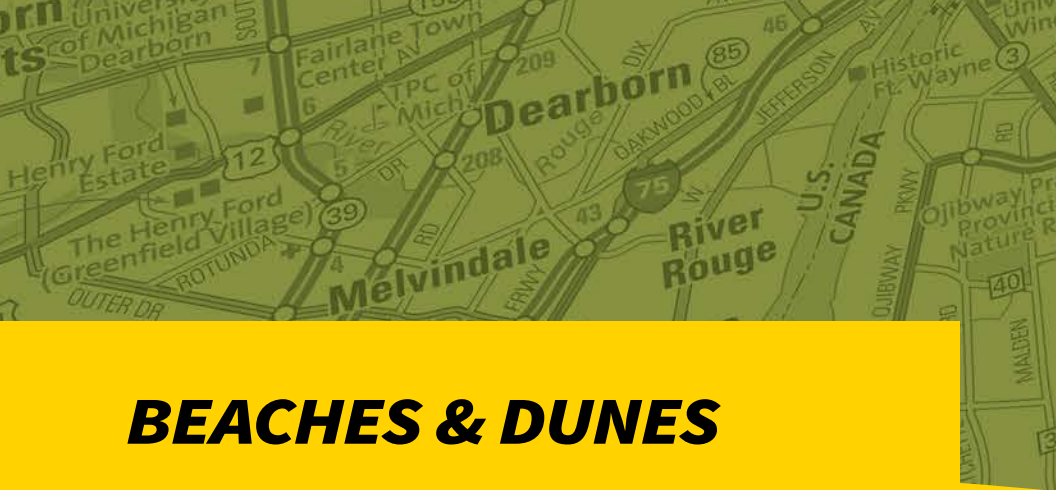
South Haven trailhead South Haven Municipal Marina South, 345 Water St., South Haven 49090
tinyurl.com/bangorsouthhavenwatertrail

On this water trail, birdsong and greenery will be your constant companions. Watch for bald eagles, wild turkeys, spotted sandpipers, great crested flycatchers, and a variety of other species. Though the 21-mile-long water trail has had a reputation for wild and overgrown areas with overhanging branches and downed trees, a multiyear project is focusing on making the entire waterway passable for canoeists. In addition, the project has installed more than a dozen interpretive signs along the route. Check the website above for the most up-to-date information.

3 Battle Creek Linear Park

Multiple trailheads in Battle Creek; see map at website below
bcparks.org/134/linear-park

In addition to fishing, picnic areas, and playgrounds for the kids, Battle Creek Linear Park has six paved loops ranging from 1 to 10.5 miles long—more than 26 miles in all. Whether you want to take an easy stroll or get in a vigorous jog, you're sure to find the path that's right for you. Here, you can also learn about the plants, animals, and history of the Battle Creek area.



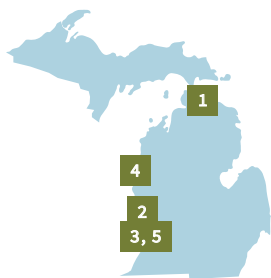
BEACHES & DUNES

- 1 Aloha State Park, Cheboygan**50
A classic wilderness canoe trip and an inland lake with perfect swimming conditions make this a very popular spot.
- 2 Gillette Sand Dune Visitor Center, Muskegon**50
Playing on the dunes doesn't mean knowing the dunes. Take time to visit and learn.
- 3 Holland State Park, Holland**50
Boardwalks and beaches have something for all ages to enjoy; perhaps you'll even want to bring your art supplies.
- 4 Ludington State Park, Ludington**51
With an inland lake and beach at this park, rough water on Lake Michigan won't ruin your swimming trip.
- 5 Oval Beach, Saugatuck**51
A sugar-sand beach, boogie boards to rent, and beautiful country make for a great time.
- 6 Petoskey State Park, Petoskey**52
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- 7 Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore, Munising**52
The chilly waters of Lake Superior might make for shorter swims, but they are guaranteed to be refreshing.
- 8 Port Crescent State Park, Port Austin**53
This park's large shallow bay is warm enough for good swimming and deep enough for migrating loons.
- 9 Redwyn Dunes Nature Sanctuary, Mohawk**53
You could envision a naturalist like Henry David Thoreau hanging out in a place like this.
- 10 Silver Lake State Park, Mears**53
Dunes are worth protecting, but this section of dunes was established to let enthusiasts of motorized vehicles go wild.

(continued on next page)



Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore



1 Aloha State Park

4347 Third St., Cheboygan 49721; (231) 625-2522
tinyurl.com/alohastatepark

This park isn't Hawaii—but in the summer, who needs it to be? Located on Mullett Lake, Aloha State Park campsites, a boat launch, and trails, and the park is only a short distance from the Straits of Mackinac and Lake Huron. The lake is perfect for swimming; it has a sandy bottom and features a nice gradual slope leading to deep water. Let's put it this way—Aloha State Park is a summer destination. A word of warning: if you want to camp here, it's so popular that you must reserve a site at least six months in advance.

2 Gillette Sand Dune Visitor Center

6585 Lake Harbor Road, Muskegon 49441; (231) 798-3573
facebook.com/gillettenatureassociation
tinyurl.com/gillettesanddunevisitorcenter

Located in P. J. Hoffmaster State Park, this center helps visitors understand sand dunes, which are as complex as they are beautiful. The center is centered atop a large sand dune, a perfect place to observe and appreciate the dunes on Lake Michigan's eastern shore. The center's excellent exhibits help visitors learn about dune ecology and just how fragile dunes really are—despite how strong and stable they may seem. The exhibits include dioramas, animations about dune formation, and many learning stations. Take the nearby Lake Michigan Trail to get a stunning look at the dunes and lake.

3 Holland State Park

2215 Ottawa Beach Road, Holland 49424; (616) 399-9390
tinyurl.com/hollandstatepark

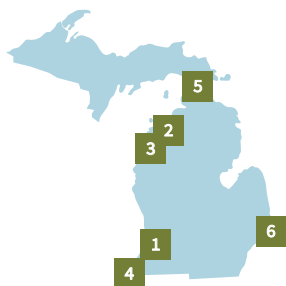
This is not the place to find tulips, but the sunsets here are just as colorful and a perfect complement to Lake Michigan to the west. Lake Michigan isn't the only lake you'll find here, however; the park also includes Lake Macatawa and its beach. Sailboats often dot the blue water of Lake Michigan and add to the picturesque setting, but the beach is still the main attraction. Even if the weather changes, there's



FUN GETAWAYS

- 1 Castle in the Country Bed & Breakfast Inn, Allegan**82
This Victorian mansion has plenty of available amenities.
- 2 Chateau Chantal, Traverse City**82
Here's a château overlooking Grand Traverse Bay.
- 3 Crystal Mountain, Thompsonville**82
With so much fun in an energy-efficient facility, this is pretty close to guilt-free fun.
- 4 Garden Grove Bed & Breakfast, Union Pier**83
Spacious rooms and a spacious vista surprisingly close to Chicago.
- 5 Grand Hotel, Mackinac Island**83
Historic opulence on a remote island in a Great Lake—where else can you find that?
- 6 The Heather House Bed & Breakfast, Marine City**83
When the traffic has a hull, an anchor, and a rudder, you're not on just any street.
- 7 The Historic Webster House, Bay City**84
Nestled in a historic district, this bed-and-breakfast fits right in but has some modern touches.
- 8 The Homestead, Glen Arbor**84
Modern facilities and natural landscapes compete for your attention.
- 9 The Inn at Bay Harbor, Bay Harbor**85
How can something so large be so beautiful and inspiring?
- 10 Inn at Black Star Farms, Suttons Bay**85
This is a first-class farm.
- 11 Keweenaw Mountain Lodge, Copper Harbor**85
This old log lodge fits in perfectly on the wilderness peninsula.
- 12 The Kingsley House Bed & Breakfast, Fennville**85
Beaches, beaches everywhere, and a place to put your personal anchor.
- 13 Lake 'N Pines Lodge, Interlochen**86
Thoreau told of the music of nature; here you can hear that music.

(continued on next page)



1 **Castle in the Country Bed & Breakfast Inn**

340 M-40 S., Allegan 49010; (269) 673-8054
castleinthecountry.com

This refurbished Victorian mansion offers themed rooms for your romantic getaway. With suites, whirlpools, and fireplaces, this 10-room inn provides all the amenities, including kayaks and paddleboats that visitors can use on the private lake. The wooded trails wind through the forest and are great places to exercise and reflect. Side-by-side massages are a nice option for couples.

2 **Chateau Chantal**

15900 Rue de Vin, Traverse City 49686; (800) 969-4009, (231) 223-4110
chateauchantal.com

In an attempt to offer the ideal experience, Chateau Chantal has created many packages visitors can choose from. A wine-pairing/dinner package is just one of the special options you can consider. Situated on a peninsula, the château sits amid a sea of fruit trees and vines and is removed from the noise and energy of Traverse City, providing a quiet place to get away. When coupled with the gleaming water of Grand Traverse Bay, the 65 acres surrounding the château are perfect for photography, painting, or simple relaxation. If you're staying at the inn, the tasting room is close to the guest rooms, and there is a variety of wine to choose from. Cooking classes are offered as well, with dates available at the website.

3 **Crystal Mountain**

12500 Crystal Mountain Drive, Thompsonville 49683; (855) 995-5146
crystalmountain.com

A destination for the entire family, this resort is a great place to be any time of the year. In summer, it offers 36 holes of golf, indoor and outdoor pools, tennis courts, mountain biking, and Michigan's only Alpine slide. In winter, it features downhill and cross-country skiing, ice skating, and snowshoeing. Visitors can enjoy some amenities year-round, such as the fitness center, Michigan Legacy Art Park, and the Crystal Spa, which emphasizes renewal and relaxation with a variety of spa services. Even better, the resort is LEED-certified as





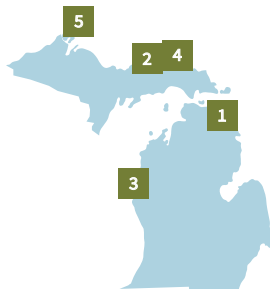
LIGHTHOUSES

- 1 40 Mile Point Lighthouse, Near Rogers City 132**
Forty miles doesn't sound like much to someone in a car, but the ships probably understood the name.
- 2 Au Sable Light Station, Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore, Grand Marais 132**
This national park lighthouse gives you a sense of how isolated the lighthouse keepers were.
- 3 Big Sable Point Lighthouse, Ludington 133**
A beacon for bikers and hikers, sunbathers and swimmers.
- 4 Crisp Point Lighthouse, Newberry 133**
A classic structure on a very long stretch of sand beach located at the end of a long and winding road.
- 5 Eagle Harbor Lighthouse Complex and Museum, Eagle Harbor 133**
Some harbors are boat-friendly, but this one really needed the light to guide the way.
- 6 Fort Gratiot Lighthouse, Port Huron 134**
The old fort is gone, but the light continues to attract attention.
- 7 Grand Traverse Lighthouse, Northport 134**
For over 150 years this light has guided ships on Lake Michigan past Traverse Bay.
- 8 Old Mackinac Point Lighthouse Museum, Mackinaw City 135**
Located in the shadow of the Mackinac Bridge, this light helped ships travel between Lake Michigan and Lake Huron.
- 9 Marquette Harbor Lighthouse and Maritime Museum, Marquette 135**
The color and position of the lighthouse makes it a beacon even when the light is off.
- 10 New and Old Presque Isle Lighthouses, Presque Isle 135**
Old and new lighthouses side by side for you to compare and enjoy.

(continued on next page)



The Crisp Point Lighthouse on Lake Superior



1 40 Mile Point Lighthouse

40 Mile Point Lighthouse Park, 7323 US 23 N., Rogers City 49779; (989) 734-4907
fortymilepointlighthouse.org

This lighthouse, built in 1896, is 40 miles southeast of Mackinac Point and 40 miles northwest of Thunder Bay, so the name is logical if you are navigating the lake. When you visit, take a look around the lighthouse and enjoy its fabulous swath of beach. Unlike most lighthouses, it isn't located near a point or a stream: 40 Mile Light was placed here to fill a void between lighthouses and to make sure navigators could see a lighthouse on their entire journey along this shore. Even so, the Great Lakes can sometimes be dangerous. On October 19, 1905, the *Joseph S. Fay* grounded on a sandbar in heavy seas. Twelve men made it to safety, but the first mate was lost. On that day a total of 27 wooden vessels went down in the Great Lakes. The remains of 150 feet of the *Fay*'s wooden hull still rest on the beach, 200 feet west of the lighthouse.

2 Au Sable Light Station, Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore

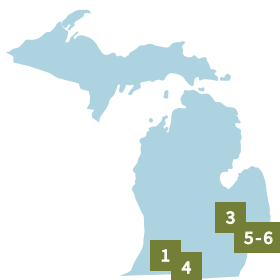
Just north of H-58 and east of Hurricane River Campground, Grand Marais 49839; (906) 494-2660 (summer only), (906) 387-3700
nps.gov/piro/historyculture/ausablelightstation.htm

Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore appears in many sections of this book. There are many options for a day trip there, one of which is the Au Sable Light Station. Completed in 1874, this tall, white tower rises high above the lake and sits amid a complex of buildings. The 3-mile round-trip walk to Au Sable Light Station from the nearest parking lot is a very pleasant hike, both on the old roadbed and along the shore. From the shore you can see portions of old shipwrecks, reminders of why the lighthouse was built. When you visit, take a tour guided by a park ranger to maximize your experience. Tours available Wednesday through Sunday in the summer.



RAILROADS & AIRPLANES

- 1 Air Zoo Aerospace & Science Experience, Portage 148**
Not a typical zoo with animals to observe, here you become part of the space race.
- 2 Amtrak, several cities 148**
Don't overlook Michigan's domestic railroad services for some very special experiences.
- 3 Crossroads Village and Huckleberry Railroad, Flint 148**
Ride a slow-moving railroad at this historic village, and learn about how the railroad got its name.
- 4 Little River Railroad: Coldwater to Quincy, Coldwater. 149**
Small towns and steam engines are perfect partners, and here you can do more than look.
- 5 Michigan Transit Museum, Mount Clemens 149**
If Thomas Edison began his career here, there must be many more stories to uncover.
- 6 Selfridge Military Air Museum, Harrison Township 149**
Letting the military share its own story makes sense; a visit is augmented with great planes.
- 7 Tahquamenon Falls Train and Riverboat Tours, Soo Junction . . . 150**
Forget the car—this wilderness journey takes place by rail, water, and foot and leads to a gorgeous waterfall.
- 8 Yankee Air Museum, Belleville 150**
Take a ride in a historic aircraft at this expanding museum.



2 Various locations

1 Air Zoo Aerospace & Science Experience

Flight Innovation Center 6151 Portage Road, Portage 49002; (269) 382-6555, (866) 524-7966

Flight Discovery Center 3101 E. Milham Road, Kalamazoo, 49002
airzoo.org

Though the name may lead you to believe otherwise, this imaginative museum and amusement facility isn't just about aircraft. While it is home to a wonderful collection of airplanes and a great place to learn about the history of aviation (in both war and peacetime), this museum also features craft that have ventured into space. Go to the Michigan Aviation Hall of Fame and gain an appreciation for the people who have connected us to outer space. You can walk around, observe, and take in the history that is here—but even better, get on the rides and have fun. If you've ever wanted to fly, try out the flight simulators.

2 Amtrak

Blue Water Runs between Chicago and Port Huron

Pere Marquette Runs between Chicago and Grand Rapids

Wolverine Runs between Chicago and Pontiac

amtrak.com/michigan-services-train, amtrak.com/trails-rails-heritage-appreciation-during-your-train-ride

Several Amtrak routes connect Michigan cities to Chicago and provide a relaxing way to see the scenic landscape. All the lines make additional stops in the state as well, and a number of the trips in this book are located near the train lines. Check Amtrak's website for the most up-to-date schedule information.

3 Crossroads Village and Huckleberry Railroad

6140 Bray Road, Flint 48505; (810) 736-7100
geneseecountyparks.org/crossroads-village

The Huckleberry Railroad first began to operate in the late 1850s. Now it is a heritage railroad rather than a functional line, and

A B-24 Liberator, once produced at what is now the Yankee Air Museum





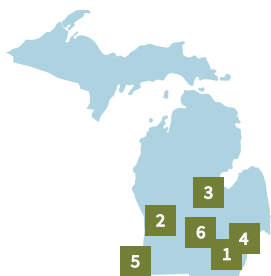
SCIENCE MUSEUMS & NATURE CENTERS

- 1 Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum, Ann Arbor 156**
Ever wanted to be a mad scientist? Well, here you can be a happy one.
- 2 Blandford Nature Center, Grand Rapids 156**
The center features 143 acres in the middle of an urban area and offers a perfect natural setting that mixes urban and rural.
- 3 Chippewa Nature Center, Midland 156**
With the river to explore in the park, and the trails and the Dow gardens resplendent in flora, this nature center remains a place of solitude and reflection.
- 4 Cranbrook Institute of Science, Bloomfield Hills 157**
First-hand science, up-to-date discoveries, and a museum with dinosaurs and bats make this a place you must see.
- 5 Curious Kids' Museum, St. Joseph 157**
This is the place to encourage a budding scientist.
- 6 Fenner Nature Center, Lansing 157**
With live animals, paved trails, and special programs, Fenner is the perfect place to reconnect with the outdoors.
- 7 Hemlock Crossing Park, West Olive 158**
Whether you rent a kayak or don a pair of snowshoes, you can explore Hemlock Crossing in all seasons.
- 8 Huron County Nature Center, Port Austin 158**
If you think a lady slipper is something that goes on a woman's foot, then you need to get to this preserve and learn about the beauty of wild orchids.
- 9 Impression 5 Science Center, Lansing 158**
This museum is designed for visitors to use their five senses as a way to explore science.
- 10 John and Mary Dahlem Environmental Education Center, Jackson 159**
Plop on a bench and wait for the world to come to you; nature is a very accommodating subject.

(continued on next page)



Lady Slipper Orchids are celebrated at Huron County Nature Center



1 Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum

220 E. Ann St., Ann Arbor 48104; (734) 995-5439
aahom.org

If the key to learning is being engaged, then this museum will connect you and your family with science. This museum and a science center combined is a place to bring the whole family to share experiences, ask questions, experiment, and learn. The exhibits change over time, and many explore the concepts that are needed for more complex scientific inquiry, such topics as weather, light, optics, and bubbles. Check the website for information on special exhibits and events.

2 Blandford Nature Center

1715 Hillburn Ave. NW, Grand Rapids 49504; (616) 735-6240
blandfordnaturecenter.org

An urban oasis that brings kids, families, and adults together, this nature center is home to a farm, trails, and a host of educational programs led by naturalists. The center consists of 143 acres in the middle of an urban area and features a visitor center, a wildlife education center, a farm, and hiking trails, giving the visitor many options for a day of exploring. Like so many nature centers, this has become a refuge for injured wildlife that cannot be released into the wild. These animal ambassadors supplement the natural diversity of the landscape and are an excellent way to help kids make connections with nature. To get the full flavor of the center, don't go just once—plan a visit for each of the four seasons.

3 Chippewa Nature Center

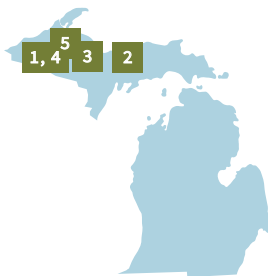
400 S. Badour Road, Midland 48640; (989) 631-0830
chippewanaturecenter.org

Located across the river from downtown Midland, this nature center includes part of the Chippewa Trail, so you can explore by both foot and bike on the center's 19 miles of trails. They also offer Nature Preschool and a Nature Day Camp, along with numerous special programs for adults and families. Features of the center include the Bur Oak Theater, where visitors can watch a series of short informational



WATERFALLS

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A perfect companion to a picnic.
- 2 Alger Falls, Munising** 177
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- 3 Black River Falls, Ishpeming** 177
From pines that rise skyward to water that falls downward.
- 4 Bond Falls, Paulding** 177
Rated one of the most beautiful falls in Michigan.
- 5 Canyon Falls, L'Anse** 177
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- 6 Manabezho Falls, Ontonagon** 178
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- 7 Munising Falls, Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore, Munising** . 178
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- 8 Sable Falls, Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore,
Near Grand Marais** 179
A simple waterfall in a magnificent setting is a cool summer getaway.
- 9 Spray Falls and Bridalveil Falls, Pictured Rocks National
Lakeshore, Munising** 180
The only thing that can rival the cliffs of Pictured Rocks are these waterfalls with
Lake Superior as their backdrop.
- 10 Tahquamenon Falls State Park, Paradise** 180
This is the Niagara of the Lake Superior region, but without all the development
and nonsense.
- 11 Waterfalls of the Black River National Forest Scenic Byway,
Ironwood Township** 181
Take a road trip on a path of watery discovery.
- 12 Yellow Dog Falls, Marquette** 181
A small falls, a big boulder, and a nice afternoon hike.



1 Agate Falls

Agate Falls Scenic Site, Trout Creek 49947; (906) 353-6558
tinyurl.com/agatefalls

An easy waterfall to see on the middle branch of the Ontonagon River, Agate Falls is located at a scenic rest area. The view from the bottom of the falls is really outstanding, though you'll have to leave the main trail to get there. The river itself is 80 feet wide and forested. A hiking bridge, which once carried a Duluth, South Shore, and Atlantic Railway right-of-way, spans the falls. If you want to have a picnic lunch, the rest area has tables. One note of warning: the trail to the falls is steep and can be slippery. *Note:* Michigan Recreation Passport required (see page 5).

Agate Falls



YOUR ALL-IN-ONE GUIDE TO MICHIGAN'S BEST OUTINGS

Discover hundreds of unique attractions! This comprehensive guide is jam-packed with Michigan's top spots for entertainment and enjoyment. Find the fun, the fascinating, and the downright unusual. Take a simple day trip, or string together a longer vacation of activities that appeal to you. Useful for singles, couples, and families—visitors and residents alike—this guide encompasses a wide range of interests.



Features You'll Appreciate

- Sections divided by theme for easy reference—decide what to do, then figure out where to do it
- Destinations based on themes such as Festivals, Lighthouses, Science Museums & Nature Centers, and Sports
- Tips for other things to do in the area
- Handy size that's perfect for traveling

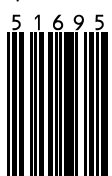
You'll Find

- Beaches, dunes, and waterfalls
- Breathtaking settings for bird watchers and nature lovers
- Island destinations, ships, and shipwrecks

**WITH MICHIGAN DAY TRIPS BY THEME
AT YOUR FINGERTIPS, YOU'LL ALWAYS
HAVE SOMETHING TO DO!**

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