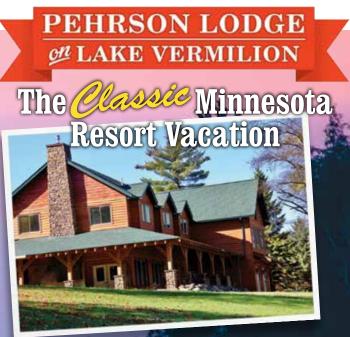
FREE **GREE COMPARE COMPARE ELY · LAKE VERMILION · VOYAGEURS NP**

Summer 2018



- YOUR MAP OF THE LAKE COUNTRY...PG 6
- LOCAL EVENTS...PGS 10-13
- AH, WILDERNESS!...PG 14
- AND MUCH, MUCH MORE!

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Our new for 2018 Lodge offers a SPECTACULAR view for your vacation enjoyment or special event. The perfect venue for events of up to 125 people!

ome North to create timeless memories at Pehrson Lodge: catch your first fish, begin a lifelong friendship, enjoy an evening campfire with grand-parents and cousins, learn to waterski, kayak or sail. These are the memories that make life special. Join us!

—The Hanson Family



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ave fun golfing our spectacular 18-hole course nestled on over 3 acres of forest complete with a stream and waterfall!

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And While You're Here... Your directory of just about everything there is to do in the Lake Country

DON'T MISS >>

TAKE A TOUR OF THE SOUDAN MINE



You can experience what work was like for Soudan's iron miners on a tour at the Soudan Underground Mine State Park. It's a great choice when the weather's not so nice, since it's always a constant 55-degrees a half-mile underground. You'll descend in the

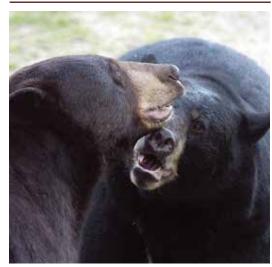
original elevator to the mine's 27th level, where you'll take a train ride to underground exhibits, all with an experienced interpreter. The Soudan Mine was Minnesota's first and richest iron mine. Call 218-300-7000 for more information.

TUESDAY NIGHT LIVE! IN ELY

If it's summer in Ely, you can count on free, live music every Tuesday night. This year, the annual musical series runs from June 19-Aug. 21. Come hear top musicians from around the area perform at Ely businesses and take advantage of other Tuesday night perks. Definitely worth the trip to town.



WILD BEARS >>



VINCE SHUTE SANCTUARY

If you want to see black bears in the wild, this is the place. Named after an Orr area logger who lived his life in the deep woods and came to befriend the wild creatures around himW the sanctuary provides a safe viewing platform to watch the bears that come to feed on sunflower seeds and other foods put out by sanctuary staff.

See more details on pgs. 25-26

Just the Facts

Lake Vermilion/Soudan Mine State Park Soudan, MN • Park & exhibits open daily. Mine tours begin May 26. 218-300-7000

Bear Head Lake State Park Ely, MN • Park, campground, trails, fishing & swimming beach. Open daily • 218-235-2520

International Wolf Center Ely, MN • Open 10-5 May 14-June 10, 9-6 June 10-Aug. 12, 10-5 thereafter. 218-365-4695 • wolf.org

Embarrass Heritage Homestead Tours Embarrass, MN • Thurs, Fri & Sat at 1 pm or by appt. 218-984-2084 • www.embarrass.org

Orr Visitor Center and Wetlands Walk Orr, MN • Open 8-4 M-F. Wetlands Walk open daily 218-757-3288

Vermilion Interpretive Center Ely, MN • Open 12-4 Tues-Sat 218-365-3226 VNP Kabetogama Visitor Center County Rd. 123 • Open daily 9-5 May 26-Sept. 30 www.nps.gov/voya • 218-875-2111

VNP Ash River Visitor Center Off County Rd. 129 • Open 9-5 May 26-Sept. 30. 218-374-322

Dorothy Molter Museum 2002 E. Sheridan St., Ely, MN • Open 10-5 daily May 26-Sept. 9 • 218-365-4451 • www.rootbeerlady.com

Ely Chamber of Commerce 1600 E. Sheridan St., Ely, MN www.ely.org • 218-365-6123 • 800-777-7281

North American Bear Center Ely, MN • Open 9-6 daily May 26-Sept. 9 218-365-7879 • bear.org

Vince Shute Wildlife Sanctuary Orr, MN • Open 5-8 pm Tues-Sun, May 26 - Sept. 2 218-757-0172 • americanbear.org



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Please call sites for information on special programs & exhibits.

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EAGLE ISLAND DREAM

Have you ever dreamed of owning a lake home on your own private island? If you've had those kinds of dreams, Eagle Island might be the property for you. Located in the central part of Lake Vermilion, this 5.5-acre island and 4,500 sq ft architecturallydesigned home offers the opportunity to truly get away from it all. Included with the property is a membership at Shamrock Landing, conveniently located about 5 minutes by boat from Eagle Ísland. \$1,495,000 #134195

LAKE VERMILION

West-facing 2-acre property with 300 ft of lakeshore. The property features a custombuilt main house with timber frame design, plus guest house, protected cove with boathouse, sand beach and 3-car garage w/shop. \$795,000 #133208

LAKE VERMILION

Stunning 3 BR, 4 BA home with 310 ft of lakeshore and nearly 3 acres. Spacious kitchen with granite counters, living room with fireplace, large MBR suite with walk-in closet, 4-season porch, 3-car heated garage. \$849,500 #132902

LAKE VERMILION

Cozy 2 BR cabin on east facing lot w/105 ft of lakeshore. FP, large deck, fully screened gazebo plus 2-stall garage and lakeside storage shed. Beautiful views of Big Bay & Moose Island. **\$249,900** #134309



LAKE VERMILION

Incredible big water views from this 4 BR, 2 BA home. The home includes a fireplace, large dining area, main level laundry, large lakeside deck, 2-car garage, storage buildings and more! \$299,999 #128711









www.cbpropertiesnorth.com

EAGLES NEST 3

Stay in the well-appointed 2 BR apartment over the heated 3-car garage while building your new home. Beautiful lake views from the 11x14 deck. The 8.70-acre lot has 270 ft of shoreline. New well being installed. \$349,900 **#129325**

LAKE VERMILION Beautiful 3,100 sq ft home w/190 ft of lakeshore. Includes large commercial grade kitchen, FP, MBR suite, 4-season porch, rec room, wine room plus a 2-stall heated garage and dock. **\$639,900** #134302

LAKE VERMLION RESORT

This is a premier parcel with nearly 10 acres of land and 300 ft of shoreline. Several cabins and outbuildings. Great property for a family retreat or subdivision. \$750,000 #126572

MARINA / CABIN RENTAL

Centrally located on Lake Vermilion. 8 acres, 1,100 ft of shoreline, 5 refurbished rental cabins, docks w/60 boat slips, general store, bottle shop, bait and fuel, boat/engine repair, boat storage! \$1,495,000 #132272

to the LAKE COUNTRY

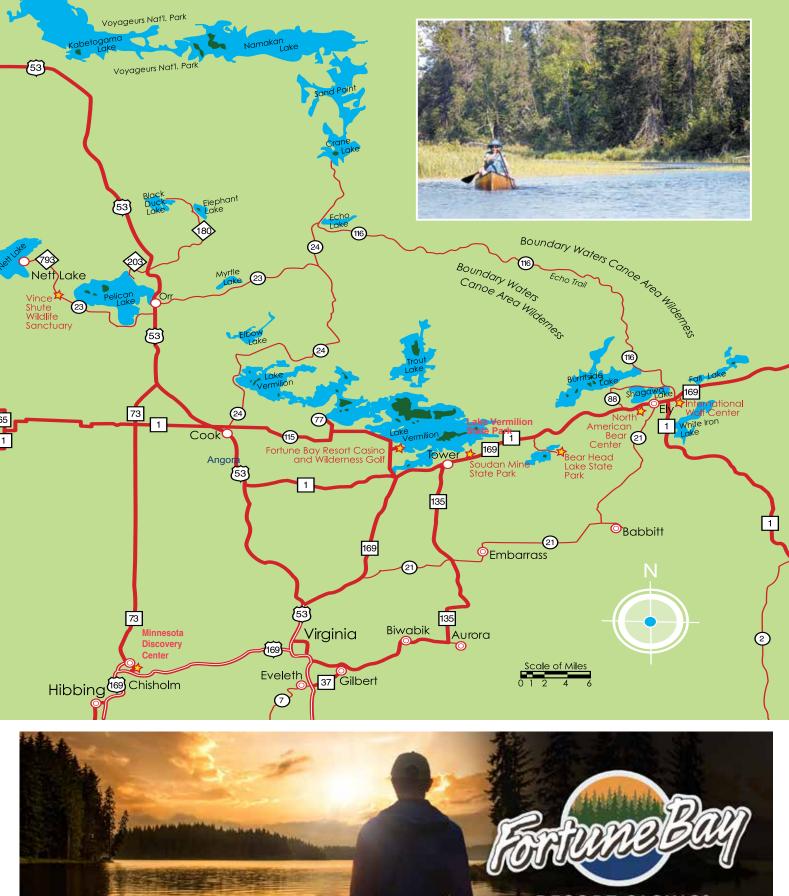
Whether you're new to our area, or a regular visitor, we're happy to have you in the Lake Country and we've produced this guide specifically to make

your stay here the best it can be. Those of us who produced this guide have traveled ourselves and we know the kinds of questions you might have when visiting far from home. We've worked hard to produce a visitors guide that gives you the basics, plus a lot more.

Inside, you'll find a treasure trove of valuable information about just about everything there is to do in a Lake Country summer. We've got stories and features on area parks, the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness, wildlife, local history, nature, and the arts. You'll also find we're not trying to cover all of northern Minnesota.

For us, home is the Lake Country that extends from Voyageurs National Park to Lake Vermilion to the Ely area, and we know it well. And we hope as you get to know our little piece of paradise, you'll come to love it here as much as we do. Maybe we'll be able to call you "neighbor" someday!





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#132136 *First time on market,* 4 BR year-round lake home, move-in ready. T&G paneling, incredible lake views. Level lot, boathouse, 4 docks, 2+ stall tuck under garage/shop. **\$597,500**



#134331 Executive 3+ BR lake home, 192 ft lksh, gourmet kitchen, great room w/fplc, wet bar, 3-season porch, sauna, and tuck under garage. 2 garages and boathouse. **\$849,500**



#131959 Year-round lake home, 5 acres, 100 ft lksh, west facing level lot, fireplace, full basement with sauna, 4-season porch, drilled well. Two garages! PRICE REDUCED! \$329,000



#132908 Ely Island, rustic cabin, 6.2 wooded acres, 425 ft lakeshore. Great room, screen porch, sandy beach, towering pines, electricity! **\$147,000**



McKinley Park Acres Hand-scribed log home, 2,000+ sq ft, 420 ft lakeshore, tall pines, large deck, level lot, log boathouse. Call for details!



#133654 "Idyllic" on Lake Vermilion, sleeps 24, 6 BRs, 2.6 private acres, boathouse, sauna. Sold furnished w/kayaks, canoes. Conditional Use Permit to operate as a B&B included. \$849,000



#131299 Custom family retreat with hand-scribed log details,
"Ole Swanson" granite fireplace, guest area above garage. 2.5 acres, 280 ft of lakeshore! This is your "Cabin Life!" \$1,189,000

#132955 Island retreat!

Spacious 2 fplc, 2 BR, plus

large loft, deck. Private

docking on both sides of

island, level lot, compliant

septic. \$447,000



#132911 Towering pines! 2 BR lake home, open design, spacious kitchen, vaulted ceilings, full basement w/in-floor heat, 325 ft lksh, 1.9 wooded acres. First time on the market! \$494,500



#134215 Frazer Bay. 2 BR, yearround cabin w/fireplace, T&G paneling, deck, detached heated garage w/extra sleeping, level lakeside yard for family games. \$342,500



#131831 Lake home with 4 BRs, 4 BAs, custom built on 2+wooded acres, 170 ft of west facing lakeshore, 2 fireplaces. Att. 3-stall garage, oversized boathouse. A stunning property! \$1,350,000



#133396 Priced to sell! Custom rebuilt 3 BR, 2.5 BA on 52 acres. 4-season sunroom, deck, metal roof. A walk to dock/deeded lake access. \$393,500



Frazer Bay, Lake Vermilion. Stunning 3+ BR, 4 BA on 5+ acres and 250 ft of lksh. Great room w/fplc, rec room, office. Attached 3-car garage, sauna by the lake. Very private! \$598,500



#133244 Hand-scribed log yearround cabin, 2 BR, 2 BA, spacious kitchen on 88 ft of ideal sandy beach w/lift out dock. 15 minutes from Cook. Sold fully furnished. \$394,900



#131354 Multi-rec. property! 200 acres, much on Little Fork River. Open fields, trails, timber cabin in exc. cond. Adjoins acres of state land. This is truly a "one of a kind" property. \$347,500



#134008 The Landing Restaurant on Lake Vermilion. Dining, patio, 36 boat slips, all furnishings, On/off liquor sales, 325 ft lksh! \$699,000

"Barb was very professional and attentive, we'd recommend her to anyone." client

#134062 2 BR cedar-

sided cabin, 750 ft + actual

lksh, 6 acres, 2 BR plus

loft, T&G with wood fplc.

Screen porch, boathouse.

\$479,500

EXPLORE >> LAKE COUNTRY COMMUNITIES

Ash River Trail

Located on the edge of Voyageurs National Park, this small resort community is the perfect destination if you're looking to really get away from it all. From the six distinctive resorts found here, you have direct access to over a thousand miles of pristine, pine-studded shoreline.

Babbitt

Located on the eastern end of the Mesabi Iron Range, Babbitt remains an active mining town. Nearby Birch Lake, a sprawling reservior just northeast of town, offers scenic vistas and great fishing. Only two portages away from the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness.

Cook

A thriving timber town that serves the western end of Lake Vermilion and the Littlefork River Valley. This bustling community hosts interesting shops and a wide range of medical services for when you twist your ankle out on the trail.

Crane Lake

If you're looking to relax, you've come to the right place. Located at the border, with Canada on the opposite shore, Crane Lake offers a full service outpost, with a wide range of resorts, houseboat rentals, and outfitters, whether you're headed to the Boundary Waters or Voyageurs National Park.

Ely

The community at the end of the road. Once a mining town, it's become the gateway to the Boundary Waters and with outfitters galore, it is now widely viewed as one of the top outdoors towns in America. It's got the best shopping north of Duluth, a thriving arts community, and great restaurants.

Embarrass

Once a Finnish enclave, this is a community that is still proud of its heritage and its reputation as the coldest place in the Lower '48. You can visit the Sisu Heritage Museum and take a tour of restored Finnish log cabins and other outbuildings.

Lake Kabetogama

Well-known as a fishing hotspot, Lake Kabetogama is home to numerous top-notch resorts all located right on the edge of Voyageurs National Park. From here, you can access all of the park's major lakes.

Orr

If you want colorful history, Orr has it in spades. This former frontier town has stories that put the Wild West to shame and you can read about it in the book Unforgettable Orr, available at the Orr Visitors Center. It's the gateway to Voyageurs National Park and the Vince Shute Wildlife Sanctuary.

Tower-Soudan

They're the oldest communities north of Duluth, founded in 1883 just ahead of the opening of the Soudan Mine, Minnesota's first and deepest iron mine. These former mining towns are tying their future to beautiful Lake Vermilion, a top destination for visitors and new residents to the area. A new harbor in downtown Tower is becoming the focal point for significant new development.

Welcome to 2192 Birch Point Road Lake Vermilion ~ Tower, Minnesota

Isn't it time?

I o experience the joys of a lake home on Lake Vermilion? A renowned walleye and muskie fishing lake, it has been named by National Geographic as one of the most scenic fresh water lakes in the U.S. With 365 islands, 40,000 acres of water and 1,200 miles of shoreline there is always something to discover!

> his Private Stone Villa Retreat has 12,800 FSF, 5 bedrooms, 6 bathrooms and abundant entertaining spaces. The quality craftsmanship and materials include Lannon stone construction inside and out, solid oak paneling and wood ceiling beams.

The sprawling stone and concrete terraces overlook the lake with panoramc views. The home sits on 2.2 acres with 245 ft. of sandy lakeshore. All furnishings and outdoor furniture remain with home. Just move in!

> Offered at \$1,595,000 Visit: http/2192BirchPointRd.relahq.com for more info

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Summer EVENIS&FESTIVALS

There's always something happening in the Lake Country!

JUNE

SAUNA DAY, June 2, at the Nelimark Homestead and Museum in Embarrass. 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Traveling saunas on display, live music, games, demonstrations, Finnish foods and goods for sale. See www.sisuheritage.org for more.

SPRING ART EXPO, June 8-29. Local art exhibited at businesses throughout Cook. Sponsored by Northwoods Friends of the Arts. See nwfamn.org.

ANNUAL VFW/ JUNIOR LEGION CLASSIC, June 8-10. Baseball tournament at Veterans Memorial Field in Ely. \$5 adults/ \$3 students

TAKE-A-KID FISHING, June 8-10. Minnesota residents 16 and older fish for free when they accompany an angler 15 and younger. For more, visit www.dnr. state.mn.us.

COOK TIMBER DAYS,

June 8-10, celebrating the impact of the timber industry on Cook and the surrounding area. Parade, food, live music, softball tourney, pet show, fireworks, and more. Visit their Facebook page.

CHILDREN'S ARTS CAMP,

June 11-13, 9 a.m. to noon at the Miner's Dry House in Ely for ages 7-12. See elygreenstone.org or call 218-235-1721.

COOK MUSIC IN THE PARK, Every Wednesday evening through August. Begins June 13, 6 p.m. at the gazebo in downtown Cook, featuring local musicians. Food available.

PETER MITCHELL DAYS,

June 15-17. 60th anniversary of Babbitt's biggest festival of the year. Check out

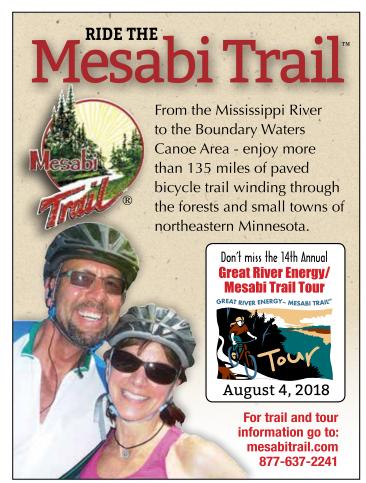


their Facebook page for more.

TUESDAY NITE LIVE, June 19 through August 21. Enjoy live music every Tuesday evening at several Ely venues. Music times vary. Maps and event info available at Ely Chamber of Commerce. Shop local businesses for Tuesday specials.

LAND OF THE LOON FESTIVAL,

June 16-17 in Virginia, celebrates the culture and customs of the diverse people who settled in Northeastern Minnesota.



Inma's
Example a second a sec

HARVIA Hours: M-Sat: 10 AM-5 PM 218.741.0204

Hours: M-Sat: 10 AM-5 PM 218.741.0204 625 9th St. North, Virginia, MN 55792 IrmasFinlandHouse@gmail.com



Kick-off parade at 9 a.m. on Saturday. 218-749-5555 or visit landoftheloonfes-tival.com.

LAKE VERMILION POWWOW,

June 22-24. Traditional dancing, drumming and food on the Vermilion Reservation. Camping available. Call 218-750-7772 or 218-780-1478 for more information.

JULY NORTHERN LIGHTS MUSIC FESTIVAL, July 1-21, presents three weeks of opera,

July 1-21, presents three weeks of opera, solo recitals, orchestral, and chamber music at various venues. This year's opera is The Barber of Seville. See www.northernlightsmusic.org for more. JULY 3RD FUN DAYS, downtown Orr. Boat parade, family fun during the day and fireworks at night.

TOWER-SOUDAN 4TH OF JULY CELEBRATION, July 4. One of the oldest, largest and best celebrations in the area. 10K run, parade, children's activities, entertainment, fireworks!

4TH OF JULY IN ELY, July 4. The true small town parade starts at 1 p.m., with family activities to follow and fireworks at 10 p.m. over Miner's Lake.

CRANE LAKE 4TH OF JULY, July 4. Annual parade on Gold Coast Rd. begins at 7 p.m., with food, music, and fireworks at dusk. See visitcranelake.com for more.



ELY GREENSTONE'S STAR SPANGLED ART SHOW & SALE, July 8-10, from 1 to 4 p.m. daily at Ely Arts & Heritage Center. Opening Night Reception, Saturday, July 7, from 7-9 p.m., \$20 ticket. Call 218-235-1721 or visit www.elygreenstone.org.

CRANE LAKE'S VOYAGEUR DAYS,

July 12-15. A midsummer version of Crane Lake's annual Labor Day festival. Traditional fish fry plus races, kids activities, canoe rides, music, bingo, art show and an old-fashioned ice cream social. See visitcranelake.com for more information.



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SIR G'S LEGION MIDSUMMER CLASSIC, July 12-15. Baseball tournament at Veterans Memorial Field in Ely. \$5 adults/ \$3 students.

ELY WATERCOLOR SHOW & SALE, July 17-21, featuring watercolor artists from Ely and surrounding area at Ely Arts & Heritage Center. Art available for purchase. No admission fee.

LILYPAD PICNIC, July 21, from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., in Ely. A fun picnic at Whiteside Park in honor of Lily the Bear, with games and music. Sponsored by Northwoods Bear Foundation. More info at www.lilypadpicnic.com.

FINE ART & ARTISAN FAIR,

July 27 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and July 28 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Amici's Event Center in Ely.

Left: Bicyclists take part in the annual Mesabi Ťrail Tour.

Facing page: The Lake Vermilion Antique and Classic Boat Show, and the team penning competition at the Embarrass Fair.

ELY'S BLUEBERRY ART FESTIVAL.

July 27-29, Whiteside Park in Ely. 260plus exhibitors displaying original art and handcrafts, 30-plus food vendors, music, children's events, stage shows. 218-365-6123 or events@ely.org.

AUGUST GREAT RIVER ENERGY/MESABI TRAIL TOUR '18, Aug. 4. Designed for all riding abilities. Choose from four different routes of 71, 52, 25 or 11 miles. Music, food, exercise and fun. 218-749-4331 or visit mesabitrail.com.

CELEBRATING CANOES: PAST &

PRESENT, Aug. 24-26, Semer's Beach on Shagawa Lake and Camp Widjiwagan on Burntside Lake, Ely. Canoeing film festival, classic canoe and boat show, canoe races, live canoeing-inspired music, and canoe-related vendors. For details, visit ymcamn.org/camps/camp_widjiwagan.



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EMBARRASS REGION FAIR, Aug. 24-26 at Timber Hall in Embarrass. An oldfashioned fair with demolition derby, mud run, animals, garden exhibits, 5K walk/run and much more. Visit their Facebook page.

BOUNDARY WATERS BLUES FEST, Aug. 31-Sept. 1, in Winton. Great music, great fun. See elyblues.com for more.

SEPTEMBER CRANE LAKE'S LABOR DAY CELEBRATION, Aug. 31-Sept. 3. Head to the border for a full weekend of activities, including music, food, end-ofseason sales, kids' games, 5K race, and more. See visitcranelake.com for more.

LAKE VERMILION ANTIQUE AND CLASSIC BOAT SHOW, Sept. 3, noon to 4 p.m. If you love the look of lovingly restored wooden boats, this is the show for you. It's an annual event held at The Landing on the westernmost tip of Lake Vermilion. See acbs.org/event/2018-lakevermilion-antique-classic-boating-show.

ORR EXPO 2018, Sept. 8-9, at the Orr Center in Orr. Learn homesteading and sustainable living from folks with a wide range of skills, including organic growing, renewable energy, and natural health. Call 218-780-5300 or visit www.orrcenter.com.

ELY'S HARVEST MOON FESTIVAL, Sept. 7-9. More than 125 artists and crafters, demonstrations, food, live music at Whiteside Park. See www.ely.org for more.

SISU COMMUNITY NIGHT OUT, Sept. 9, 4 p.m. Live music and supper



at the restored Seitaniemi Housebarn in Waasa. 218-984-3012 or www.sisuheritage.com for more.

ELY MARATHON, Sept. 21-22. 5K Glow Run at 7 p.m. on Friday. Full, half, and kids marathon races on Saturday. See elymarathon.com for more info and to register.



AH, WILDERNESS

A m I crazy? That was the thought that kept running through my mind recently as I carefully picked my way through tangled alder and floating muskeg on just another of what I like to call my "blank spot on the map" treks.

As a general destination, I was right at home, working my way into yet another remote corner of the Lost Lake Swamp, near Lake Vermilion. It was late June, and my goal was to reach an enormous beaver pond that sits along the headwaters of the Little Fork River, in roughly the northwest corner of the swamp.

You won't find it on a map. The U.S. Geological Survey's Lost Lake quadrangle provides the most detailed look, on paper, at this remote area, but the best it can do is signify thousands of acres with the little "swamp" icon that the USGS has used for many years on its maps. And that can't possibly describe in any useful sense the complexity of the wetland environment in the Lost Lake Swamp. On this most recent trek, I found the swamp overflowing from the abundant June rains, like a huge overland river of water flowing slowly to the northwest. It was like walking through a version of the Everglades, minus the alligators. For more than two miles, almost every step challenged the limits of my rubber boots, although I somehow avoided filling them until my return trip, hastened by impending rain.

I understand that, in June, I should be using my recreational time to do the normal things, like fishing. Instead,



Above: Looking to the west across the Lost Lake Swamp.

Left: Hooded mergansers are commonly found on beaver ponds in the Lake Country.

Below: A patch of bunchberry.





there I was, on a cool, muggy day, decked out in camouflage and bug dope, carrying lunch and my camera gear into terrain that would very closely approximate most people's version of hell on Earth.

Am I crazy? It's a recurring question on such journeys.

I blame my predilection for extreme wandering mostly on Google Earth which has given digital form to those blanks spots on the map, with satellite images that show in detail landscapes that, on USGS maps, used to be consigned to those generic swamp icons or simply to that cheery, unmarked green, interrupted only by the occasional topo line, that fills in the blank spots on higher ground.

It's the blank spots that catch my eye. Lately, I've been eyeing beaver ponds. Zero in on a satellite image close enough in the North Country, and you discover a landscape that's littered with the telltale signatures of beaver activity, and they provide a reasonable destination for someone who is regularly in need of an excuse to explore.

On Google Earth, I had recently spotted one of the biggest beaver ponds I've ever seen, and I was headed out to take a firsthand look.

Traveling across the swamp is never predictable. The terrain is constantly changing, from tamarack to ash, to willow, to black spruce, to open,



Above: A panorama of my destination, the giant beaver pond.

Left: A redwinged blackbird mans its territory at the pond.



sedge-filled fens. And navigating in such terrain is incredibly difficult. Even with a compass in hand at all times, it's tricky to follow a bearing since landmarks are rarely visible. In an alder thicket, you're lucky to see twenty feet ahead. I had brought my iPhone, and I was glad for its GPS app, which provided a valuable correction on my errant bearings more than once. I prefer to rely on a map and compass, but this was one of those places, where the limits of the old technology were readily apparent.

I eventually arrived at a tiny upland island, that formed part of the north shore of the beaver pond and, with great difficulty, picked my way through one of the worst tangles of downed trees and dense brush that I've ever encountered, until the panorama of the pond was before me.

I had hoped to photograph ducks and other waterfowl on the pond. They were there, to be sure, along with herons, cormorants, and pied-billed grebes, whose loud, strange calls set an appropriate mood. But the pond was so large, that most were far away. I sat on the shore for almost an hour, mostly just watching, taking a few



shots of redwings and one of the grebes that happened to pass my way.

I wondered how long it had been since human eyes had looked out across this place. The USGS map did indicate the little pinprick of an island I was sitting on, so at least one intrepid surveyor had once passed by this way. That may, very well, have been the last time, however. I saw no sign of human activity. Just wilderness, left to its own devices.

own devices. Perhaps that's what I enjoy most about my journeys to the blank spots. Even here in the North Country, we're surrounded by the signs of the human world, with our roads and towns, and fields, not to mention a forest that was entirely reshaped by humans. Beyond the roads, far off into the swamps or the deepest woods, those signs recede and eventually disappear, and that's where we still meet nature as it is. As it's always been. Call me crazy, but I still find some solace in that.

COOK AREA FARMERS' MARKET June 16 to ... End of September

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Camping

From rustic wilderness campsites to fully-modern RV camping grounds, the Lake Country offers camping options for all tastes and budgets.

The U.S. Forest Service operates several campgrounds in the area, and all include wells, comfortable camping sites, and most have swimming beaches and docking.

The Minnesota DNR also offers camping opportunities at Bear Head Lake State Park, the new Lake Vermilion State Park, and at other lesser-used campgrounds on Lake Vermilion and Lake Kabetogama.

Campers can access remote campsites managed by the U.S. Park Service at Voyageurs National Park, but almost all require boat access. The same is true for hundreds of remote wilderness campsites managed by the Forest Service and located in the 1.1 million-acre Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness. You'll need a canoe, and a willingness to pack your gear across sometimes difficult portages to access these spectacular camping opportunities.

See the following list for information on the many camping opportunities in the Lake Country.

PUBLIC CAMPGROUNDS

Bear Head Lake State Park 9301 Bear Head Lake State Park Rd Ely • 218-235-2520 Operated by Minnesota DNR

Birch Lake Campground Located 13 miles SE of

Ely off of Forest Rd 429 218-235-1299 or 218-365-7600 Operated by U.S. Forest Service

Echo Lake Campground Located 22 miles NE of Orr 218-666-0020 Operated by U.S. Forest Service

Fall Lake Campground Located six miles E of Ely 218-365-2963 or 218-365-7600 Operated by U.S. Forest Service

Fenske Lake Campground Located on the Echo Trail, ten miles N of Ely 218-235-1299 or 218-365-7600 Operated by U.S. Forest Service

Heritage Park and Campground 4789 Salo Rd, Embarrass 218-984-2084 or 218-410-7080 Operated by Town of Embarrass Hoodoo Point Campground 5788 Hoodoo Point Rd Tower • 218-753-6868 Operated by City of Tower

Lake Vermilion State Park

Brand new public campground now open • 218-300-7000 Operated by Minnesota DNR

Lake Jeanette Campground

Located 32 miles NE of Orr 218-666-0020 Operated by U.S. Forest Service

McKinley Park Campground

Located on Lake Vermilion, Soudan 218-753-5921 or 218-780-6860 Operated by Breitung Township

Pfeiffer Lake Campground Located 12 miles SW of Tower 218-229-8800 Operated by U.S. Forest Service

South Kawishiwi River Campground Located ten miles S of Ely off Hwy. 1 • 218-235-1299 or 218-365-7600 Operated by U.S. Forest Service

Wakemup Bay Campground Located 7 miles NE of Cook on Lake Vermilion • 218-235-2520 Operated by Minnesota DNR

Woodenfrog Campground Lake Kabetogama 218-235-2520 Operated by Minnesota DNR

In addition to these public campgrounds, many area resorts also offer space for tent or RV camping.

Hoodoo Point Campground

LAKE VERMILION OFFERS MORE THAN JUST GREAT FISHING

Our campground offers: Electric and water hook-ups, dump station, laundromat, convenience store, 2 boat launches, bathroom/shower facilities, boating/waterskiing, fishing, picnic area, playground, paved hiking trails, swimming, ice cream, old-fashioned candy and more!

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LAKE VERMILION SOUDAN UNDERGROUND MINE STATE PARK >>

FISHING AND FUN

New state park campground now open

S ince opening several years ago, the Lake Vermilion-Soudan Underground Mine State Park has mostly been a work in progress. But this year, the park is coming into its own, with the addition of the new Vermilion Ridge Campground which opened last fall.

The campground includes 33 individual sites, along with three spectacular group camps that can house up to 60 people each. One of the camps is designed for tents, with more rustic bathroom accommodations, while the other two can house both tents and RVs, and share a full, modern bathroom and shower facility. Each of the group camps also features a large, fully screened picnic shelter with a long counter and shelves for food preparation and serving, and electrical service.

All of the buildings in the campground are attractively designed, with exteriors of wood, with stone accents. Gone is the "Oxford Brown," which was once the standard color for state park buildings, replaced by a mid-shade



Top: Fishermen work the state park shoreline.

Above: The new entrance to the park, located on Hwy. 169, just east of Soudan.







green.

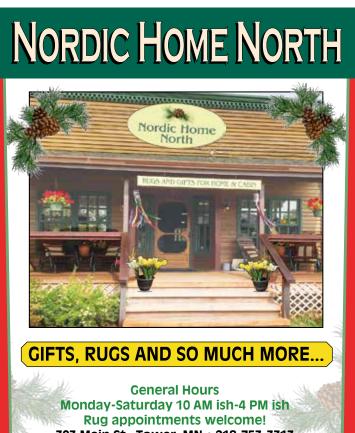
The new facility also sports some of the latest technology to reduce resource use from the campground's operations. The bathroom and shower buildings all sport solar panels to heat water and indoor lighting is all high-efficiency LED. Low-flow water fixtures are installed throughout, and water usage is reduced even more by recycling treated graywater from hand-washing and showers for toilet flushing.

The campground also includes a sizable new public lake access, located at Cable Bay. The site includes parking for more than a dozen vehicles with trailers, and a wide concrete ramp which will be served by two large docks.

State officials had promised that the new park would reflect the changing desires of 21st century campers, and there's little question that the new campground will be remarkably different from thosew found at most other state parks. Gone are the small, closely packed campsites, designed primarily for tent campers. The new sites are widely spaced and can accommodate either tents or RVs. Most come with electrical service and all will have Internet access.

"The sites are much bigger and more dispersed than at other state park campgrounds," notes Project Manager Christa Maxwell. "We were looking for high Above left: A campground visitor checks out a new informational sign.

Above: The park's many wetlands attract wildlife of all kinds. Don't forget your binoculars!



303 Main St., Tower, MN • 218-753-3313 www.nordic-home.com • marit@nordic-home.com





quality over quantity."

Visitors to the park's campground will now find plenty to do, including boating, kayaking, and canoeing on Lake Vermilion, or hiking on the growing network of trails in the 4,048-acre park. You'll find trails that pass through spectacular old-growth pine forests, skirt along lush wetlands, and rise to the top of dramatic overlooks. The varied habitat within the park makes it an outstanding spot for birdwatching, so bring your binoculars and a good bird guide with you on the trail.

This summer, park staff expect to have a new lakeside trail open for use, which will be connected to the new campground by a section of boardwalk.

If you only have time for a short visit, the park has a beautiful day use area, located at the entrance to Armstrong Bay, in the northeast corner of the park. The facility is accessible by both vehicle and by boat. You'll find picnic facilities, bathrooms, and a large fishing pier. Armstrong Bay is protected from the wind and larger waves that can sometimes be found on Lake Vermilion, so it's a good place to explore by canoe or kayak.

Another of the park's major amenities is also now complete and it's sure to entice biking enthusiasts. One of the new sections of the Mesabi Trail now passes through the park, and it's part of what will eventually be a 165-mile long biking and walking corridor stretching from Grand Rapids to Ely. But even though the stretch to Ely isn't yet completed, the park's new section of bike trail is connected to several miles of existing bike trails between Tower and Soudan, which now provide a continuous bike connection from the park to shops and restaurants in Tower.

The opportunities just keep expanding, and the best is yet to come. On tap for future years, visitors will see more camping opportunities, more trails and other activities, and a park lodge overlooking Lake Vermilion.

If you'd like to camp at the new Vermilion Ridge Campground, you can find make a reservation on the DNR's website at www.dnr.state. mn.us. But you might want to hurry. Available sites at the new facility are filling up quickly.

For more information, you can contact the state park at 218-300-7000.

Visit Us Again! Nothing Beats Fall in the Lake Country



HIT THE TRAIL>>



Mountain biking is an increasingly popular outdoor activity and visitors will now find more opportunities than ever to hit the trail here in the Lake Country.

The area has long offered an almost limitless number of logging roads and backwoods trails that adventurous bikers can explore. But with the rising interest in mountain biking, new and challenging trails are being developed across the area. In fact, some are already open.

Giants Ridge has been offering mountain biking opportunities for a number of years on their established 25-mile network of cross-country ski trails, which are open for fat tire biking in winter and fat tire and mountain biking in the summer months. But the facility will be substantially upgrading its offerings this year, with

Right: Mountain biking at Giants Ridge.

significant new additions on tap for next year.

Giants Ridge is already a well-known ski destination, but its high-speed chair lift will sport racks to attach mountain bikes beginning

this summer. That means you'll be able to hit the top the easy way and enjoy the thrill of negotiating your way back to the bottom on any of three purpose-built single-track mountain bike trails designed for varying levels of skill. Expect these trails to be open as early as mid-July.

But the best is yet to come, with ten



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additional miles of chair-lift access trails and about 25 miles of new single-track trail on schedule for next year.

If you're looking for a great mountain biking experience this year, head to the Lookout Mountain wayside just off Hwy. 53 north of Virginia. That's where a local biking club opened the area's first true single-track mountain biking trail system in the area in 2016, and it's been a big hit with riders. The roughly seven miles of trail wind their way to the top of Lookout Mountain, just north of Virginia, offering outstanding overlooks and a wide range of challenges to maintain the interest of riders of all skill levels. Much of the trail passes through heavily wooded terrain and the trail itself is barely a foot or two wide in most places. As with most high ground in the North Country, the trail is full of tree roots, boulders and rock cobble, all of which is left in place as part of the challenge.

While the trail is built to IMBA standards, it should be noted that those standards provide no guarantee you aren't going to crack your head open on a rock or smash into a tree, so don't even think about running the trail without a helmet. It's a serious adventure, which means you need to pay attention at all times or you can injure yourself. On the other hand, handled with care and at an appropriate speed, it's tons of fun.

And there's plenty more to come, as regional planners in the Lake Country are

LAKE COUNTRY HIKING TRAILS>> SECRET/BLACKSTONE TRAIL

This gem of a trail system can be found near the end of the Fernberg Road, about 18 miles east of Ely. The 3.5-mile loop trail follows a winding path of moderate terrain, with a few steeper hills. The trail leads hikers from high scenic overlooks, to wetlands, to waterfalls. A mixed forest provides habitat for many species of wildlife, so don't be surprised to see signs of bear, wolves, or even moose. Much of the surrounding forest was heavily

working to build some serious cred with mountain and fat tire bikers. In fact, earlier this year, a state economic development agency, known as the Iron Range Resource and Rehabilitation Board, approved a \$4.5 million funding package to expand mountain biking trails in the region. It's a huge financial commitment and it should open opportunities as early as late summer or fall.

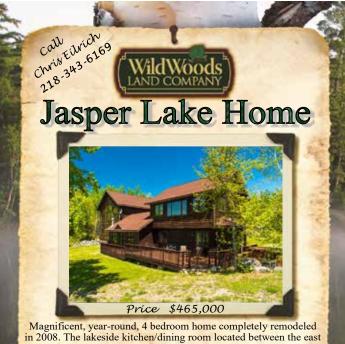
One of those exciting options is being built just outside Chisholm. It's called the Redhead trail system, and the 25-mile system will encompass four mine pit lakes, waterfalls, and spectacular vistas.

If this all sounds enticing, you'll want to make sure to put some serious mountain biking on your Lake Country itinerary.

damaged by the massive 1999 blowdown that flattened nearly 350,000 acres of the Superior National Forest, so it is a good spot to see the effects of that storm, as well as the forest's recovery.

The trail's ultimate destination is a rock cliff overlooking Ennis Lake. The cliff is popular with rock climbers and it provides an outstanding vista.

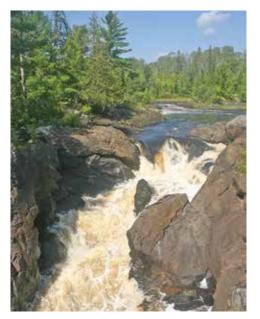
Pick up a trail guide at the U.S. Forest Service visitors center, located on Hwy. 169 on the east end of Ely.



Magnificent, year-round, 4 bedroom home completely remodeled in 2008. The lakeside kitchen/dining room located between the east wing of the home, which has 3 bedrooms along with 2 baths, & the west wing, having a large living room, loft, 1 bedroom & bath. The living room with large wall of windows overlooks approximately 275 feet of shoreline. Attached oversized 2 car garage.

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VERMILION GORGE TRAIL

The Vermilion Gorge trailhead is located in the community of Crane Lake, 27 miles northeast of Orr. Trail parking is 0.1 mile past the U.S. Park Service office on the left. At a leisurely pace, you can hike this 1.5 mile one-way trail in about three hours. The first two-thirds of the trail is relatively easy, with a wide, gravel trail bed.

But once you reach the river, the trail turns upstream and narrows and the gravel



Left: The Vermilion River Gorge

Above: Bear Head is a friendly and quiet state park located between Tower and Ely.

fades to a natural trail surface. This is the steepest and most interesting part of the trail, and you'll notice a dramatic change in vegetation as you climb. The aspen/birch forest, with its dense understory, gives way to an open, park-like grove of red pine. Interpretive signs describe the historical development of the area, including logging, mineral prospecting, and the colorful fur trade era.

The deep gorge formed where the Vermilion River empties into Crane Lake is a dramatic sight and definitely worth the hike. But be careful with small children on this portion of the trail. The steep cliffs can be dangerous.

Stop in at the LaCroix Ranger District visitors center, on Hwy. 53 in Cook for a map of the trail.

BEAR HEAD LAKE & LAKE VERMILION STATE PARK TRAILS

While most people probably think of these parks for their namesake attractions, they each offer excellent hiking opportunities. Bear Head Lake, located halfway between Tower and Ely, offers a great selection of hiking trails through a wide variety of hilly terrain. Stop at the park office at the entry and pick up a trail map.

For years, visitors to the Soudan Underground Mine took the mine tour and assumed they'd seen all the park had to offer. In fact, there has long been great hiking at this park, much of it through beautiful old-growth pine. Park trails are generally wide and flat, and accessible to hikers of all abilities.

With the 3,500-acre addition that formed Lake Vermilion State Park, the number of trails has expanded and more trails are in the works. Visit the Soudan Mine visitors center for a map of all the latest trails.



BASS LAKE TRAILS

Located six miles north of Ely just off the Echo Trail, the Bass Lake trails are among the most popular in the area. A series of loop trails circumnavigate Bass and Dry lakes, and a portion of Low Lake, and they take hikers through historically and ecologically unique terrain along the way. These trails have it all, including remote backpacking campsites, scenic overlooks, waterfalls, sandy beaches, and more.

Allow yourself at least four hours to hike the trail, longer if you want to pack a lunch, a swimsuit, and make a day of it. You'll want sturdy footwear, since the trail is rugged in many spots.

Bass and Low lakes occupy a long narrow basin that glaciers carved out of Pre-Cambrian rock. Prior to 1925, the two lakes were separated by a ridge of glacial gravel which acted as a natural dam between the two lakes. Logging operations in the area led to the construction of a sluiceway to move logs from Bass Lake to Low Lake, a drop of nearly 60 feet. Seep-



age soon weakened the sluiceway as water moved through the gravel adjacent to the structure. In April of 1925, the sluiceway and glacial ridge collapsed in a gigantic washout that created a 250-foot gorge in a matter of hours.

This catastrophe lowered the level of Bass Lake 55 feet in just ten hours. Bass Lake was reduced to about half its original size and two small lakes became isolated in the old lake bed. Approximately 250 acres of land was then exposed and a portion of the trail now winds along the former Left: One of the best parts of hiking in the Lake Country is the opportunity to gather wild foods, like blueberries. Peak berry time runs from mid-July through August.

lakebed.

Pick up a trail guide at the U.S. Forest Service visitors center, located on Hwy. 169 on the east end of Ely.

LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN TRAILS

Managed by the U.S. Forest Service, the Lookout Mountain trails, located four miles north of Virginia, offer a wide range of trails for hiking, and skiing in winter. As the name suggests, some of the trails will have you climbing and they offer fantastic views to the north and west, including the enormous wind turbines at nearby Taconite Ridge. In late July, you might also explore some of the open rock ledges near the top of the mountain, which can be a good spot to find wild blueberries. You'll find maps at the trailhead, located right off Hwy. 53, north of Virginia.







9257 E. Olson Rd., Lake Vermilion, Cook • 218-666-0100 Only 3 miles north of Cook off Hwy. 24

LIFE IN THE WILD>>

BIRDS & BEARS

Few places in the Lower 48 states have the variety of wildlife found in the Lake Country, and that's one reason that wildlife watching has become such a big draw.

Summer in the Lake Country is prime time for most area wildlife, whether it's the more than 150 species of breeding birds, or large mammals like moose, wolves, and black bears. If you're hoping to spot some interesting wildlife during your visit, here's what you need to know.

ELY AREA

There are plenty of opportunities to view wildlife at the "end of the road." The International Wolf Center and the North



American Bear Center, both located on the edge of town, provide a great way to learn more about these two large predators.

The Bear Center, located on Ely's west side, features live bears in an outdoor enclosure as well as indoor exhibits highlighting the work of renowned bear researcher Lynn Rogers. Call 1-218-365-7879 or visit www.bear.org for more.

You can watch wild bears as they climb trees and interact at the Vince Shute Sanctuary near Orr. The center is open to the public in the evenings, Tues.-Sun. through Sept. 2.

The International Wolf Center, found on the east side of Ely, has live wolves on display as well as indoor exhibits and special educational programs offered daily. Call 218-365-4695 or visit wolf.org.

VINCE SHUTE SANCTUARY

If you want to see black bears in the wild, this is the place to go. The sanctuary,

DINING Your guide to good food in the Lake Country





located about 15 miles west of Orr, is known around the world as a gathering spot for hundreds of black bears, who visit the sanctuary for the smorgasbord of food put out by sanctuary staff.

It was Vince Shute, a logger, who began the feeding of the bears decades ago. While he once shot bears that raided his camp, at some point Vince realized that the bears weren't mean, they were just hungry, and over the years he became a fast friend to many of the bears in his woods. When he died, the American Bear Association assumed control of the property and switched the bears from their former diet of donuts and other sweets to healthier foods, like sunflower seeds, nuts, and dried fruit. The organization also built a viewing platform that now allows the public to view bears, often dozens at a time, as they feed and relax on the sanctuary grounds. The sanctuary is open evenings, from 5-8 p.m. Tuesdays through Sundays, closed Mondays. The 2018 season runs May 26-Sept. 2. A modest entry fee (\$10 adults, \$8 seniors, \$5 children 6-17, free under five) is required to help defray the cost of the nonprofit operation. Learn more at americanbear.org, stop at the Orr Visitor Center on Hwy. 53 for a map, or call 218-757-0172.

THE ECHO TRAIL

Stretching 70 miles from near Ely to Echo Lake, north of Orr, the Echo Trail offers a fascinating journey through some of the most spectacular scenery in the Upper Midwest. It's located along the edge of the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness, so wildlife is abundant. For anyone hoping to spot a moose or a timber wolf, a day trip of exploration along the Echo Trail or one of its many side trails, is a good bet. Try the Bass Lake or Angleworm trails, both located north of Ely. The Stuart River portage is also scenic and long enough, at a mile and three-quarters, to provide your

guarante

morning's exercise. Next time, try it with a canoe on your back!

If you're a birder, the varied habitat along the Echo Trail gives you one more good reason to go. It passes through the heart of the region's true boreal forest and it offers excellent habitat for species like three-toed woodpeckers, Cape May and pine warblers, yellow-bellied flycatchers, boreal chickadees and spruce grouse.

DARWIN MYERS WMA

The Darwin S. Myers State Wildlife Management Area in Embarrass encompasses a 748-acre wetland area that had been turned into wild rice paddies and then abandoned. The area is important habitat for many birds and other animals, including nesting sandhill cranes.

You'll find the WMA about two miles southeast of the junction of Hwy. 135 and County Road 21 in Embarrass. From the junction, travel south about two miles to Soini Road (County 558). Head east about a mile and you'll find the management area on your right. There's a small parking lot and walking trails that follow the old dike system created during its wild rice production days. The dikes form a number of separate large pools that are highly attractive to a wide range of birds.



NEW EXHIBITS!

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For hours and more info visit: www.bear.org

STRETCH YOUR LEGS>>

Take a guided bird walk

Bear Head Lake State Park • 8 a.m.-10 a.m. Saturday mornings, beginning May 12 thru July 28. Meet at the park office for a guided walk to listen and look for the variety of bird species within the park. A limited number of binoculars will be available for free checkout or bring your own. Dress for the weather. Insect repellent is recommended.





Stroll the Orr Bog Walk

Purple-fringed orchids and pelicans are among the highlights to watch for along this half-mile boardwalk that begins at the Orr Visitor Information Center, just off Hwy. 53. Passing through a wide variety of wetland types, the Bog Walk offers a good location for birding, particularly along the shore of the Pelican River, where red-necked grebes, white pelicans, and bald eagles are frequently sighted.

Soudan above-ground mine tour

While the underground mine tour is the most popular activity at the Soudan Underground Mine, a self-guided tour of the aboveground facilities is also quite interesting. If you time it right, watching the giant hoist in operation during an underground tour is definitely impressive. Great views of miles of forest to the south is another perk of the above-ground tour.



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A SENSE OF HISTORY>>

MUSEUMS & MORE



TOWER-SOUDAN DEPOT MUSEUM

Learn about Tower-Soudan history at this small, but fascinating museum, located inside Tower's historic train depot. You can also tour the restored train cars and caboose located next to the museum. The museum is open daily in the summer. It's located just off Hwy. 169 in Tower, adjacent to the Tower Civic Center.

ELY ARTS & HERITAGE CENTER

Located at Pioneer Mine on Ely's north side, the site is managed by Ely

Greenstone Public Art (elygreenstone.org). The mine is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The Shaft House, 401 North Pioneer Rd., is open Memorial Day through Labor Day on Tuesdays from 2-5 p.m. and Fridays, 3-6 p.m., or by appointment. Photos and artifacts from the underground mine which closed in 1967 are displayed. The Miner's Dry House, 105 Miner's Lake Landing Rd., features events, art shows and classes throughout the year and is located alongside the Trezona Trail. Call 218-365-2142 for more information.

ELY-WINTON HISTORY MUSEUM

Located on Ely's Vermilion Community College campus, this center shows the local history of logging and mining through artifacts, photographs and displays. Open Tuesday-Saturday, 12-4 p.m., Memorial Day-Labor Day. Call 218-365-3226 for more.



NELIMARK HOMESTEAD

Located on Hwy. 21, just across from Timber Hall in "downtown" Embarrass, the Nelimark Homestead is open 10 a.m-4 p.m., Thursday, Friday and Saturday from May 31 through September.

Fridays are bread days, with fresh bread and treats like Finnish biscuit and cinnamon rolls.

Historic buildings on the property are open for viewing, decorated with authentic items from the past.

Longtime resident Gary Rantala will offer Conversational Finnish classes at

DINING Your guide to good food in the Lake Country



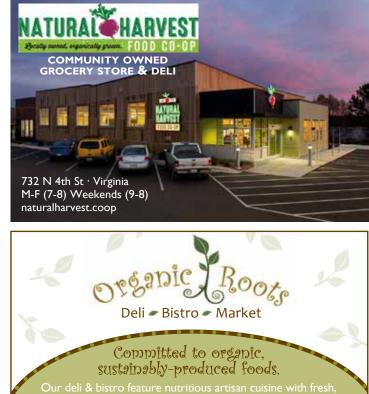
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141 E. Chapman Street, Ely PH: 218-365-2799 www.organicrootsbistro.com 1 p.m. on Thursdays and a "Walk in the Finnish Woods," highlighting history of the park trail, flora, fauna, and scientific names at 3 p.m.

The museum offers handcrafted items, books on local and Finnish history, and baked goods. For more information, call 218-290-0882.

US HOCKEY HALL OF FAME

Hockey fans visiting the Lake Country won't want to miss a stop at the U.S. Hockey Hall of Fame Museum, in Eveleth. It's America's hockey showcase, highlighting and honoring the contributions to the game from outstanding coaches, players, and others who have helped promote American hockey through the years.

Eveleth has long been known as "The Capital of American Hockey" and enjoys a rich hockey tradition,

having produced more top quality players than any community of its size in the country.

You'll find the hall of fame just off Hwy. 53 in Eveleth, where its big, white edifice sits prominently along the highway. It's open Monday-Saturday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Sunday 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Memorial Day-Labor Day. After Labor Day, it's open Friday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday 9 a.m.-5 p.m., and Sunday 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Adult admission: \$8, discounts for seniors and children age 17 and under. Visit www.ushockeyhall.com for more information.



DOROTHY MOLTER MUSEUM

Learn about the life of the last resident of the Boundary Waters Wilderness at the Dorothy Molter Museum in Ely. Her original wilderness log cabin was painstakingly moved and re-assembled in Ely and is now home to the museum that bears her name. Dorothy was famous for her homemade root beer, which prompted her common nickname, "The Root Beer Lady."

The museum is open 10 a.m.-5 p.m. daily from May 26-Sept. 9 and on weekends through Sept. 30. Open Saturdays only in October. Call 218-365-4451.

GREYHOUND BUS MUSEUM

Hibbing was the birthplace of the Greyhound Bus Company, and this museum, located at 1201 Greyhound Blvd. in Hibbing, offers a fascinating look at the history of this venerable American institution, founded in 1914. Visitors will hear and see the story of Greyhound and will have the opportunity to tour 18 historical buses. It's rated 4.3 stars on Google reviews as a great peek into some real Americana. It's open daily in the summer; call 218-263-5814 for most current hours.



FEATURE>>

a-FLUTTER

O ne of the best parts about exploring the backroads in the Lake Country is that you never know what you'll find. Everyday, it's something new. Recently, it was a flutter of butterflies that caught my eye. Yes, a "flutter" is one of those official names for a grouping of butterflies, just as a group of crows is known as a "murder" and a flock of owls is known as a "parliament."

Like a lot of forest roads in summer, the wildflowers were pretty sparse, but that didn't seem to bother all the butterflies, which clearly had other food sources on their minds. While we often associate butterflies, (insects of the order Lepidoptera), with flowers and nectar, only some butterflies actually feed on flowers and many of those rely more frequently on other foods in the forest.

Indeed, to a northern pearly-eye, few foods are as enticing as a pile of fresh wolf scat, and it was just such a pile, covered with a half dozen of these common forest butterflies that initially drew my attention to this lepidopteran bonanza. Pearly-eyes are one of a number of "eyed" butterfly and moth species. Butterflies, particularly medium-to-large species, are generally easy to spot and relatively slow moving, which would normally make them vulnerable to





Top: A tiger swallowtail feeds on the flowers of Labrador tea.

Above: A northern pearly-eye soaks up the sun.

Right: A gray comma laps up minerals along a gravel road









predators. But they have developed a number of defenses, including mimicry, either of butterfly species, such as monarchs, that taste bad, or by growing large fake eyes on their wings that confuse potential predators.

Northern pearly-eyes rarely, if ever, visit flowers, relying instead on animal scat, carrion, and mineral-rich mud puddles— hardly the fare we normally associate with butterflies.

On this same road, I found several other butterflies, most of which paid no attention to the few scattered wildflowers. A portion of the trail passed through a boggy area and that's where I found most of the butterflies,



including a tiger swallowtail, which was actually feeding on Labrador tea flowers. Most of the other butterflies were more interested in sipping moisture up from the road's gravel surface, benefitting from both the moisture as well as the dissolved minerals.

The Lake Country is home to a healthy population of butterflies, in part because there's little commercial agriculture here, which means the landscape isn't bathed in pesticides. That's good for the butterflies, and for those of us who enjoy seeing these colorful splendors of nature.



Top left: A dun skipper feeds on a mint flower. Skippers are a relatively abundant family of small, fast-moving butterflies that are common in the Lake Country.

Top middle: A white admiral is easily recognized by its mostly black or dark brown wings, with a prominent white stripe.

Top right: A northern crescent laps up moisture from a forest road right next to a much larger Atlantis fritillary.



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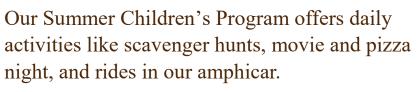


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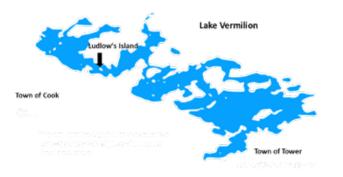


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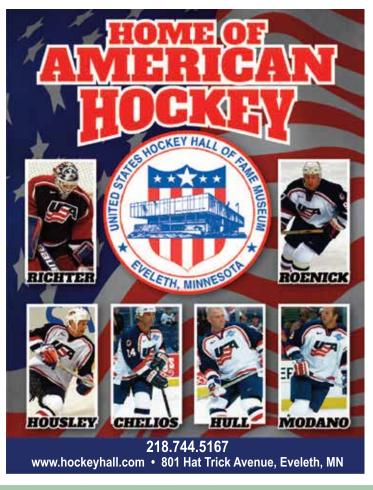
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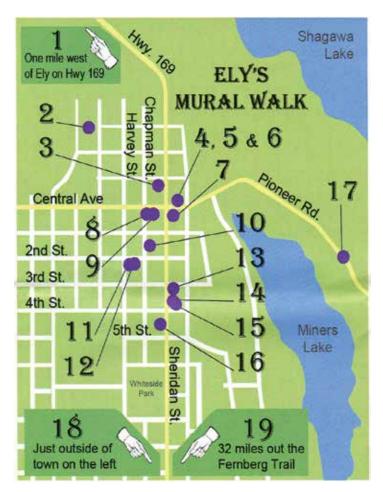
Art and history. Those are two things that have come together in a great way in Ely. The city's entrance sign claims just 3,460 residents, but at times it seems there are at least that many artists in this former mining town. Art is virtually ev-



erywhere in Ely. It's on display in local shops and galleries, and it prominently graces the sides of nearly two-dozen buildings in town, which have formed the backdrop for giant and entertaining murals, many of them connected to Ely's colorful human or natural history.

Now you can take a self-guided tour of Ely's outdoor murals. When in town, ask for a copy of the new Ely Mural Walk brochure, which features the work of ten different artists, representing work spanning from 1939 to the present. It's available at any number of businesses around town. You'll find photos and brief descriptions of 19 separate murals, most located within walking distance in and around the downtown. It's a great way to stretch your legs on a beautiful day in the Lake Country.







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Area Churches



BABBITT

Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd 10 Central Blvd, Babbitt, MN 55706. 218-827-2301 • Sunday Worship 9 a.m. VBS June 11-15, "A Mighty Fortress."

BRITT

Sand Lake Chapel (Conservative Congregational Christian Conference) 9038 Biss Rd, Britt, MN 55710 Pastor Richard Lohry 218-741-1899 Sunday Worship 10:15 a.m. Sunday School (Sept-May) 9 a.m. slchapel@centurylink.net www.umcfellowship.org

СООК

St. Mary's Catholic Church 124 5th St SE, Cook, MN 55723 218-666-5334 • Masses: Sunday 8 a.m., Tuesday 9 a.m., Thursday 8 a.m. www.stmmhc.com

CRANE LAKE

Crane Lake Chapel 7399 Handberg Rd, Crane Lake, MN 55725. Sunday Service 11:30 a.m.

ELY

St. Anthony's Catholic Church 231 E Camp St, Ely, MN 55731 218-365-4017 • Masses: Saturday 5 p.m., Sunday 10 a.m. Tues, Thurs & Fri 8 a.m. Please visit our website for parish events and offerings, www.stanthonysely.org

Grace Lutheran Church (ELCA) 301 E Conan St, Ely, MN 55731 218-365-5605 • Sunday 9:30 a.m. Nursery available

Ely Gospel Tabernacle Church

3 East Allaire St, Ely, MN 55731 218-365-5272 Sunday School 9 a.m. for all ages (Sept-May) • Sunday Worship 10 a.m. and Sunday Children's Church 10:30 a.m. Bible Study Wednesday 6:30 p.m.

Ledgerock Community Church

1515 E Camp St, Ely, MN 55731 218-365-4890. Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m. Free Community Dinner every third Saturday, 5-7 p.m. Men's & Women's Bible Study, Tuesday 9:30 a.m. Sunday school for all ages 11 a.m.

First Lutheran Church (LCMS)

915 E Camp St, Ely, MN 55731 218-365-3348 • Services: Sunday 10:30 a.m., Monday 6 p.m. secretary@firstlutheranely.org *Pastor, Jonathan Varns*

Praise Fellowship Center

302 E Boundary St, Ely, MN 55731 218-365-6033 • Sunday Bible Class 9 a.m. • Sunday Worship 10 a.m.

St. Mary's Episcopal Church

715 S Central Ave, Ely, MN 55731 218-365-4914 • Sunday at 9:30 a.m. Attire is canoe country casual Well-behaved dogs are welcome

EMBARRASS

Evangelical Free Church of Embarrass 5606 Taylor Rd, Embarrass, MN 55732 218-984-3402 • Sunday School 9 a.m. Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m. www.efreechurch.com Listen to messages at sermonaudio.com/efce

ORR

Holy Cross Catholic Church

10696 Shady Grove Ln, Orr, MN 55771 218-757-3273 • Masses: Saturday 5 p.m., Tuesday 5:30 p.m. www.stmmhc.com

SOUDAN

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

36 Church St, Soudan, MN 55782 218-753-5341 • Services: Sunday 8:30 a.m. w/Communion • Contemporary service last Sunday of month with music www.stpaulschurchsoudan.com

TOWER

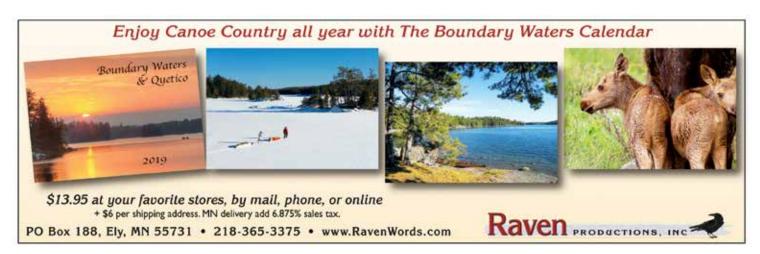
St. Martin's Catholic Church 108 N Second St, Tower, MN 55790 218-753-4310 • Masses: Sunday 10:30 a.m., Wednesday 9 a.m., Friday 8 a.m. Confessions are a half hour before Masses Adoration: Wednesday 8 a.m., Friday 7 a.m. www.stmmhc.com

St. James Presbyterian Church

302 Spruce St, Tower, MN 55790 218-753-6005 • Sunday Worship and Sunday School 10 a.m. • Adult Sunday School 9 a.m. *Pastor Doug Workman* www.stjamespres.wixsite.com

Immanuel Lutheran Church

304 Spruce St., PO Box 466, Tower, MN 55790 • 218-753-2378. *Liz Cheney, pastor* Sunday Worship Service 10 a.m., Vacation Bible School, ages preschool – sixth grade, July 9-13 www.towerlutheran.com Where All Are Welcome.







Left: Paddling a traditional voyageur canoe on Rainy Lake.

Above: A Lake Kabetogama walleye.

in the park and kayaking has become increasingly popular as well.

If you're looking to spend some time in the park, you've got lots of choices. A number of family-run resorts are found along the edges of the park and offer comfortable accommodations and, in most cases, use of boats, canoes, swim-

As the nation's only true water-based national park, the 219,000-acre Voyageurs National Park is best seen from one of its several large lakes. While you can reach its three main visitor centers by road, the interior of the park is accessible only by water.

Unlike the Boundary Waters Canoe

Area Wilderness to its east, Voyageurs National Park is open to motor use and also offers boat tours to many scenic and historic sites within the park. But while motorboats are commonly used, the park also offers great opportunities for those seeking a quieter experience. Canoeing has always been a common mode of travel



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ming beaches, and more. The Park Service also maintains more than 200 water-access campsites, which feature picnic tables, fire grates, tent pads and bear-proof food lockers. Most of these campsites are located on islands and they offer a fabulous opportunity to experience the park at its rustic best. All sites now require a reservation based on a new policy. See www.nps. gov/voya/index.htm for details.

If you want to explore the park, but aren't looking to rough it, you can rent a houseboat, which can sleep several people in style, and be free to travel throughout most of the park's major lakes.

Other popular activities in the park include:

Fishing—The big border lakes are famous for their fishing. Everything from walleye to northern pike to monster sturgeon ply these waters and anglers by the thousands test their skills and their luck on the lakes in the park every year. Peak times run from fishing opener (May 12 this year) to late June, and then again in later summer right through the fall, although fishing can be good just about anytime if you know where to go. If it's your first time fishing in the park, consider hiring a guide. Just contact any local resort and they'll put you in touch with a reputable one.

Birdwatching—Voyageurs National Park is home to an impressive vaLeft: The sprawling wilderness lakes of Voyageurs National Park are a kayaker's dream. And with more than 200 water-access campsites in the park, multiday trips are growing in popularity.

riety of birds in the summer months. It's one of the best places in North America to view warblers on their summer breeding grounds. The Locator Trail on Lake Kabetogama is a popular spot to see warblers, since it passes through a variety of habitats, giving birders the opportunity to see many different species. In addition, the park's vast lakes attract other highly sought-after birds like common and Caspian terns, white pelicans, peregrine falcons, bald eagles, and loons.

¹⁶³ Hiking—A number of hiking trails exist within the park, offering access to remote lakes and the vast forests associated with the park. The longest trail, the 24-mile Kab/Ash Trail, runs along the park's south side. The trail's four access points allows users to hike just a portion of the trail at any time.

Touring the Ellsworth Rock Gardens-This unusual rock garden, located on Lake Kabetogama, contains a total of 62 terraced flower beds, that were









Top Left: A new recreational trail is now open near the Rainy Lake Visitor Center.

Above: One of two tour boats to operate in the park.

Left: The historic Kettle Falls Hotel, accessible only by water, is a popular destination in the park

filled at one time with more than 13,000 blooming lilies.

Tour boat rides— Voyageurs is a water-based park, so you'll need a boat to really experience its beauty. If you don't have one yourself, consider a tour boat trip from either the Rainy Lake or Kabetogama visitor centers. Reservations for all tours are now made by going online at Recreation.gov or by calling the National Call Center at 877-444-6777. You can also stop in at either visitor center and purchase tickets at least a half hour before scheduled departures.

For more information on boat tours, naturalist-led hikes and talks, as well as other special programs, call 218-286-5258 or 218-283-6600.



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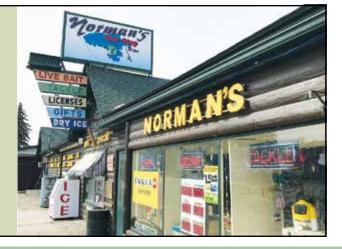
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ICONIC EXPERIENCES>>

SHORE LUNCH Your best meal in the Lake Country

When it comes to iconic Lake Country experiences, few things can top a shore lunch after a morning spent catching walleye. Pulling up to a bedrock point or pine-studded island on a beautiful day for a meal of fresh fish, fried up with a few onions and spuds over a wood fire, is as close to heaven as it gets. Throw in some beans, warm bread and your beverage of choice, and you just may forget to go back to fishing!

Depending on where you are, just about any flat, open location will do for a shore lunch. The Lake Country is home to thousands of miles of public shoreland, particularly on lakes in the Superior National Forest, so there are plenty of locations from which to choose.

On Lake Vermilion, you



can take advantage of eight shore lunch locations maintained by the Vermilion Lake Association. These are ideal spots, scattered across the big lake, complete with a fire grate and a wilderness latrine. They're available for day use on a first-come, first-served basis.

On Vermilion's west end, you'll find two shore lunch spots near the entrance to Norwegian Bay, one on the north shore and the other on the south. You'll also find one toward the northeastern tip of Black Bay. In the



lake's mid-section, you'll find lunch spots at Bystrom Bay and Wolf Bay, and on the Tower end, you'll find sites on the lake's north shore, near Bear Creek, in Mattson Bay and Swedetown Bay, both located in the new Lake Vermilion Soudan Underground Mine State Park. You'll find GPS coordinates and a map at www.vermilionlakeassociation.org/shore-lunch-sites.

If you do enjoy a shore lunch, just remember to clean up after yourself, so the next person can enjoy it as much as you!







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Area public beaches

Pfeiffer Lake Beach

Located between Tower and Cook about four miles south of Hwy. 1. It's a nice, quiet beach on a small clear water lake with an adjacent U.S. Forest Service campground.

Bear Head Lake Beach

Located between Tower and Ely, at Bear Head Lake State Park. This small beach is lightly used and the water is clear. But watch out for the drop-off if you have young kids.

Semer's Park Beach

Located on Shagawa Lake in Ely, it's busier than most other area beaches, but it has a pavilion and nearby restaurant that make it attractive.

McKinley Park Beach

Located on Lake Vermilion, near Soudan, it's a popular spot with a campground store, showers, playground.

Hoodoo Point Beach

Located on Lake Vermilion, near Tower, the shallow water makes this a good option for young children. There are also pockets of natural clay along the shore that keep the kids entertained. Campground store, showers, playground.

Orr Public Beach

Located on Pelican Lake just north of Orr's downtown, this is a popular spot with local residents.

GOOD TIMES>>

SHOP FOR LOCAL FOODS

Farmers markets are held weekly during the summer in Ely (Tues. 5-7 p.m., starting May 29), Tower (Fri. 4-6 p.m. starting in mid-June), and Cook (Sat. 8 a.m.-1 p.m., starting June 16). Enjoy fresh,



quality produce, artisan breads, preserves, and local specialties produced by area residents. It's a great way to "shop locally!"

RIDE THE LAKE VERMILION MAIL BOAT

Looking for a great way to explore Lake Vermilion with a seasoned captain at the helm?

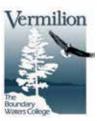
You can see over 80 miles of this scenic lake by catching a ride on the mailboat, based out of Aronson



Boat Works, located just west of Tower on Hwy. 169.

Lake Vermilion is home to hundreds of water-access-only residents during the summer months, and it's one of the few places in the country where the U.S. Post Office still delivers the mail each day by boat. The mail boat departs from Aronson's six mornings a week, at 9 a.m. The cost is \$20 for adults, \$12 for children 12 and under. Call 218-753-4190 for reservations.





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MAKING THE BEST OF IT>>

Northeastern Minnesota may be best known for its spectacular lakes and forests, but it's also built a reputation as the home of some of the world's most cutting-edge physics research, currently taking place right here in the Lake Country.

Research into the nature of sub-atomic particles known as neutrinos is underway at an underground facility located north of Orr, near Ash River. It's known as the NOvA detector and its operated by the University of Minnesota



and Fermilab. The detector is massive, measuring twice the size of a basketball court and five stories high. Whether your interest is physics, engineering, or science in general, a visit is a must and it's a great way to spend a rainy day. The facility offers regularly-scheduled tours every Thursday 10-4 through the summer, but they're so friendly they provide special tours for just about any size group Monday-Thursday if you call ahead at 218-374-2400. Then hit "0" to get to the receptionist.

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June 29 · NWFA Gallery 5-7 PM • Photo Contest, Reception, Closing Celebration. Photo Awards, 50/50 Raffle

> Contact Us! NWFAMN.org 210 S. River St., Cook, MN 218-780-7130

READ A NEW BOOK

Local libraries are located in Cook, Orr, Ely, Virginia and Babbitt.



VISIT A FAMILY FRIENDLY FARM

Connecting people to animals and the land is the mission of Cook's Country Connection, near Cook. It's a petting zoo filled with everything from barnyard chickens, to llamas, to exotic pigs, and it's open to the public. Visit www. cookscountryconnection.com for times and prices.

TAKE A TRIP TO ELY

If you haven't made a trip to Ely yet, get in the car. The International Wolf Center, the North American Bear Center, or the Dorothy Molter Museum will keep the kids entertained without spending a lot of money. The Wolf Center's indoor viewing area is a series of carpeted stairs, a perfect place for children to burn off some energy. Then have lunch at any of the fine eating establishments in town and check out some of the shops and galleries in downtown Ely afterwards.



EXPLORE AMERICAN INDIAN HERITAGE



The Bois Forte Heritage Center tells the story of the Bois Forte people, who have called the Lake Country home for more than 250 years. The center is very nicely designed and extremely informative. You can explore the facility on your own, or center staff will happily offer a guided tour.

The center is open Tues.-Sat., 9 a.m.-5 p.m. and is located on the Fortune Bay Resort grounds, on Lake Vermilion. Admission is \$5 for adults, \$3 for kids 4-12 and seniors, \$15 for families of four or more. 218-753-6017.

FIND A FORECAST FOR THE NORTH SHORE

The weather is often different along the North Shore of Lake Superior. Check the weather for places like Silver Bay or Grand Marais and consider a day trip to the big lake. It's a lot closer than you think!



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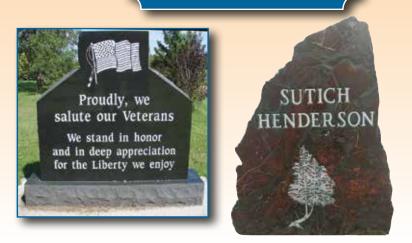
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THE BOUNDARY WATERS

For many visitors to the Lake Country, a trip into the 1.1 million-acre Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness is the quintessential northwoods experience. But for those who haven't ventured into the wilderness before, planning a trip can be a daunting task.

There are so many things to consider. Where do you go? How do you obtain a permit? What should you pack? And, perhaps most importantly, with more than

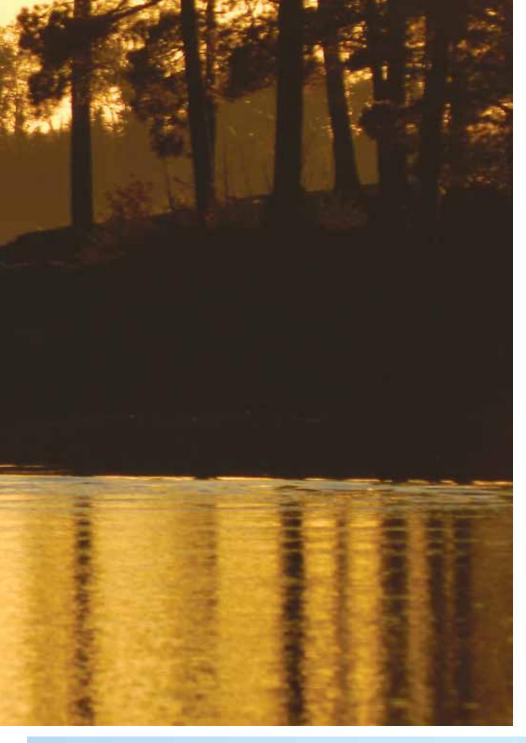
Outfitters can help you navigate the process

a thousand lakes and at least as many portage trails, how will you keep from getting lost?

All good questions. Luckily, they all come with easy answers, if you know the right people. There are more than a dozen reliable, experienced outfitters in the Ely and Crane Lake areas who can provide you with everything

Continued on page 46





Outfitters Guide Making your canoe adventure easier

RIVER POINT OUTFITTING CO. PO Box 397, 12007 River Point Rd. Ely, MN 55731 • 218-365-6604 or www.elvoutfitters.com, info@elyoutfitters.com, Boundary Waters canoe outfitting and canoe rentals. Paddle the Quiet Side®

CANOE COUNTRY OUTFITTERS 629 E. Sheridan St., PO Box 30 Ely, MN 55731 • 218-365-4046 www.canoecountryoutfitters.com BWCA-Quetico canoe trips, campground, cabins, towboat services.

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ANDERSON CANOE OUTFITTERS 7255 Crane Lake Rd., Crane Lake, MN 55725 218-993-2422 or 1-800-777-7186 canoe@anderson-outfitters.com. Anderson's is a complete canoe outfitter, gas, bait, and grocery store.

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you need, whether it's for an afternoon's paddle, or a month-long journey deep into the wilderness. Outfitters make it easy providing you with canoes, camping gear, and even pre-packed meals for everyone (you can also choose to bring your own food if you prefer).

If you're just looking for an easy ad-

venture, a day trip is a great option, says Jane Koschak, who operates River Point Resort and Outfitters near Ely. Pack a lunch, your swim trunks, and a bucket for blueberries and you've got the makings of an outstanding day in the wilderness. Most outfitters will provide you with a canoe for the day, and can even supply a guide if



you'd like. A guide is particularly helpful if you're looking to catch some fish, or if you've never attempted a backcountry adventure before.

There are also many great day-trip options that can give even the novice adventurer a taste of the Boundary Waters without spending a lot, or having to camp overnight. And while overnight stays in the wilderness require permits that are subject to quotas, there's no limit on day use in the





Boundary Waters.

The Forest Service does require a free, self-issuing permit, but you'll find those readily available at every established wilderness entry point.

Still, for many, the true wilderness experience can only come from a longer venture into the canoe country, and that's where outfitters can really be your friend.

Before contacting an outfitter, however, think about a few questions. Such as, how many days would you like to be out? How many will be in your party? And what kind of a trip are you looking for?

Trips generally fall into one of three categories, including:

Base camp— which involves paddling to a nice campsite and using that as your home base for various activities.

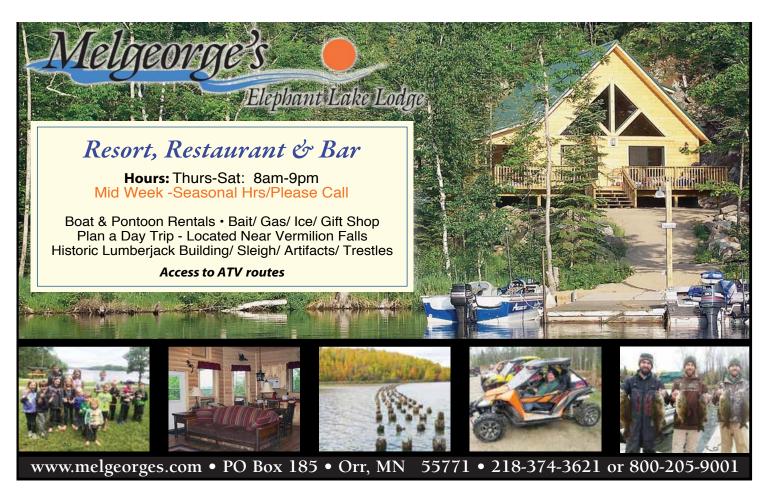
Touring— which involves a longer journey, typically with a new camp every evening.

Fishing— you get the idea.

The focus of your trip will help determine the best routes, gear, and destinations. While every Boundary Waters lake has fish, some offer a lot better fishing than others. If you just want to see the sights, your outfitter can recommend some of the most scenic routes in the area. If you're base-camping, you'll really want a nice campsite, probably with a beach and some good fishing or berry-picking nearby.

While entry permits can be a hassle for the uninitiated, your outfitter knows how to navigate the bureaucracy as well as the portages, and they'll take care of that for you. That's not to say that a permit is always available for every entry point. Sometimes, you might have to settle for your second or third choice entry, unless you've reserved a permit well in advance.

The bottom line is, a visit to the Boundary Waters is an experience you'll remember for a lifetime, so don't be intimidated by the logistics involved. Contact an outfitter and you'll find smooth paddling ahead.



THE BOUNDARY WATERS>>

MAKEA DAY OF IT

If you're looking for a taste of the Boundary Waters but don't have the time for a longer adventure, there are a number of great day trips that offer a true wilderness experience, even if it's only for an afternoon. Here's a couple of our favorites:

NORTH HEGMAN LAKE

While the easy paddle to North Hegman Lake is most famous for its pictographs, there's so much more to do on this popular day trip that starts just off the Echo Trail. Your only real portage starts at the Hegman Lake parking lot, located about 15 miles north of Ely. From there, most people make a beeline for the lift-over portage into North Hegman Lake, but you'd do well to explore South Hegman if you have time. A large bay on the east side of the lake is worth exploring for its interesting rock formations and a picturesque little waterfall.

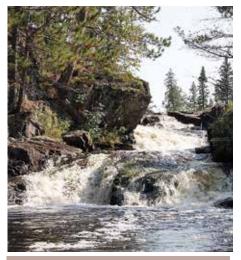
You'll find the region's most famous pictographs on an impressive east-facing rock cliff at the northern tip of North Hegman. Enjoy them, but don't head back to the parking lot until you've slowly paddled the narrow channel that takes you into Trease Lake just a few hundred yards to the north. The channel is lined by floating bog and you'll find insect-eating pitcher plants and tiny sundews if you look closely enough.

This trip can easily be done in three hours, but why not pack a lunch and make a day of it?

LITTLE INDIAN SIOUX RIVER

Paddling rivers is a very different experience from lake paddling, and many folks prefer it. You're always close to shore, and each new river bend offers a new vista. The Little Indian Sioux River is on the far western end of the BWCAW, and is as readily accessible from the west side of the Echo Trail as from Ely.

From the entry point, most travelers head north, and to do that you'll need to use the westerly access. If you're heading south, look for a small pull-off near where



Picturesque Sioux Falls on the Little Indian Sioux River. It makes a nice destination for a wilderness day trip.

the river crosses the Echo Trail and park there.

Heading north, many travelers use the gorge, known as Devil's Cascade, at the north end of Lower Pauness Lake as their destination. To the south, a good cut-off for a day trip is Sioux Falls, which is bordered by a nice flat rock outcropping which makes a great spot for a picnic lunch.





FEATURE >>

LAKE COUNTRY 365

Summertime is great in the Lake Country, but those who have experienced all four seasons up here know that there's just as much to do the rest of the year.

Unfortunately, many visitors only experience one season, and undoubtedly head home wondering what those of us who live here do the other nine months of the year.

They might be surprised to learn that we spend almost as much time in the great outdoors those other months as we do in the summer. That's because each season brings its own unique weather and a whole host of fun activities that keep Lake Country residents busy the entire year.

In fact, believe it or not, most residents here will tell you their favorite season isn't summer, it's autumn. It's a spectacular time to enjoy the area's forests and lakes. The weather is often still mild right through September. The fall color season is amazing, starting with the oranges and scarlets of the red maples in mid-to-late September, followed quickly by the brilliant golden hues of the aspen and birch. Mix in the deep greens of the pine, spruce and balsam fir, and it's a tough combination to beat.

Autumn is a great time to be in the woods. The crisp days make for perfect weather for hiking or hunting, both popular fall activities. And we won't even mention how good the fishing gets as the water starts to cool. We'll keep that little secret for the locals!

By November, it's deer hunting season, which is essentially an extended holiday here in the Lake Country. Hunters of all ages, both men and women, boys and girls, fan out through the woods, often



Above: Lake Country residents don't just hunker down inside for the winter. In fact, with months of great snow conditions, dogsledding, snowshoeing, icefishing, and snowmobiling are all popular activities.



spending a week or more at their remote hunting cabins. It's a time when families across the generations get together without all the distractions that seem to intrude on normal life these days. For many it's the highlight of the year and bagging a c



year, and bagging a deer is just a bonus.

By the time deer season winds down, the first snow of the winter is usually on the ground and folks are gearing up for the long cold season. Up here, the snow usually lasts from mid-November to mid-April, which is one reason so many residents take up winter sports. By Thanksgiving, the lakes are frozen up and the ice fishing season is underway, since the local anglers all know that the best fishing comes with the early ice. It's often the best fishing of the year, and fishing enthusiasts make the most of it. By



mid-December, there's usually enough snow for skiing, dog sledding, snowshoeing, and snowmobiling and that's when winter in the Lake Country hits high gear.

Winter festivals and special events are popular. Ely's Winter Festival, held each year in early February, features exquisite snow sculptures and ten days worth of activities. Later in the month, the Wolftrack Classic Sled Dog race is another popular event.

While winter is an active time for many residents, it's also a time of year when things slow down and the hubbub of the Left: Fall is a spectacular, if all too brief, season in the Lake Country.

Below: The persistent cold of a Lake Country winter may frost your eyelashes, but it provides for months of exceptional winter recreation.



busier seasons quiets down. Here, where many weeks can pass between even the briefest thaws, the winter snow blankets the trees, often for months at time. It's like a Christmas card, but in real life.

Does it get cold? You bet it does... really cold at times. But even a minus 45-degree morning has its own unique appeal. It's a time to bundle up, strap on the snowshoes, and trek out into the woods to experience the rarified air, to hear the sounds of booming lake ice and the crack of trees as they pop in the intense cold. When you return home to find your face frosted all the way up to your eyebrows, you know its deep winter in the Lake Country.

While it takes its own sweet time, spring does eventually arrive here in the north, and it's a well-earned celebration after the long winter. Spring can be a time of setbacks, and it's not uncommon to see snow in the Lake Country even for fishing opener. But spring means summer can't be far behind, and another busy season is about to get underway.





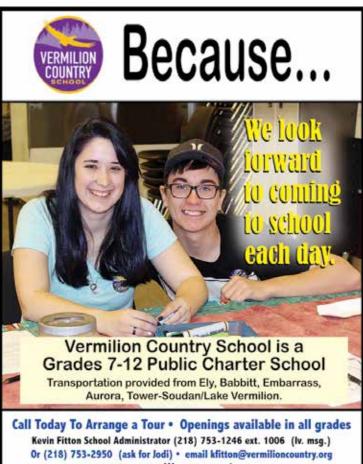
The Lake Country has quietly become one of the hottest golf destinations in the Upper Midwest, thanks to the construction of three top-rated courses in recent years. The Wilderness at Fortune Bay, The Quarry at Giants Ridge, and The Legend, also at Giants Ridge, have been rated as some of the top courses in Minnesota, year after year.

The 9-hole Ely Golf Club, just south of town on

County Road 21, is open from 8 a.m to 7 p.m., seven days a week. Call 218-365-5932 for more information.

The 18-hole Wilderness at Fortune Bay has won so many top awards, we don't have room to list them all. For information, or a tee time, call 1-800-992-4680.

The Legend and The Quarry at Giants Ridge in Biwabik, have both consistently been rated among the top public courses in the



www.vermilioncountry.org

country. Call 1-800-688-7669 for information or tee times.

Wolf Ridge Golf Course is located west of Lake Vermilion, in Angora. It has a reputation as an interesting and challenging course. Call 877-666-0218 for more information.

The 18-hole, par 71, Virginia Golf Course is open to the public and offers a full service golf shop. It is located at 18th Street North in Virginia. Call 218-748-7530 for more information or to reserve a tee time.

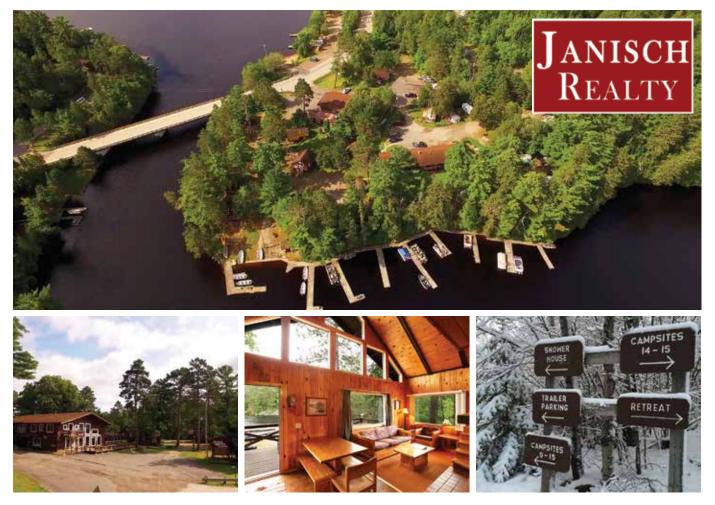
■ Vermilion Fairways in Cook is located on Highway 24, about two miles north of the city limits. The 9-hole course is open seven days a week. Call 218-666-2679 for more information.

■ **Babbitt Golf Club** is located on St. Louis County Road 70, just west of Babbitt. Call 218-827-2603 for more information.



218-365-5932 • Call for Tee Times • Edge of Ely on S. Central Ave.





Silver Rapids Lodge

A Unique Opportunity - Own your own thriving business

ELY, MINNESOTA Silver Rapids Lodge is For Sale. This business is a well maintained full service Boundary Waters Area resort. Financeable books and excellent development opportunities with an assumable SBA Loan! A one of a kind property at the confluence of White Iron and Farm Lake includes 59.7 acres with 3,040 feet of lakeshore that is split between White Iron & Farm Lake. The lakes are multiple use recreation lakes & also a direct entry to the BWCA. The property features individual small cabins, large group cabins, hotel units, camping and RV sites, and large dining area with a full commercial kitchen, a full bar, banquet areas, retail space, a marina, boat gas sales, rental boats, a 40 person sauna, laundry facilities, recreation space and ample room for expansion in this growing market. Just 3.5 miles to town, the resort is convenient to Ely area amenities such as the North American Bear Center, the International Wolf Center, shopping, and fine dining. Don't miss this turn key opportunity to own your own popular business in the Boundary Waters Area. This offering represents a rare opportunity to acquire a well maintained and full service profitable resort in a growing market.

OFFERED AT	\$3,750,000	
DETAILS	4 BD/1 BTH	2,080 SF
	54 ACRES	6,010 FT SHORELINE
ON THE WEB	JANISCHREALTY	COM MLS#130483

Burntside Lake Estate

Landmark Burntside Lake estate offers ELY. MN ultimate privacy, epic views. Serene retreat has only one neighbor (also for sale) & is otherwise surrounded by thousands of acres of federal & state land, mostly federal land between this home & the BWCA. Finely crafted, no detail overlooked, world class finishes, every amenity, high tech Crestron automation, 3 bedrooms (each w/its own private deck) The home is nestled on 57 acres & 2100 ft shoreline, just a short boat ride across calm water to Burntside Lodge. 2 story great room, lakefront deck, stone fireplace, and a stainless/granite Wolf kitchen w/island. Unparalleled lakeside master w/dual en suite. Garage, boathouse, sauna, guest cabin, separate 2 acre parcel for storage. Taken w/ neighboring property also for sale, the two are completely private, surrounded entirely by state and federal land & together represent the largest private land holding for sale so close to the BWCA.

OFFERED AT	\$3,000,000	
DETAILS	3 BD/ 3 BTH	3,710 SF
	57 ACRES	2,100 FT SHORELINE
ON THE WEB	JANISCHREAL	TY.COM MLS# 133777





Burntside Log Masterpiece

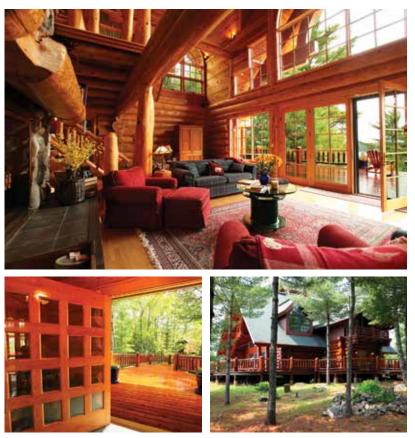
Furnished Burntside Lake log home with ELY, MN panoramic views of both main lake & North arm. Set on approximately 600 ft of South facing shoreline & 17 acres of 200 yr old white pines, surrounded on 3 sides by State & Federal forest. The home was custom built in 2000 by a woodworker for his family. An open great room features a 2 story fieldstone fireplace with a 14 ft hearth & floor-ceiling glass opening to the screen porch & huge deck. There is a stainless DCS/Sub Zero kitchen with an island. The dining room seats 22 people at a custom table. Also includes other stunning custom furniture. Infloor heat for winter use. 2 story guest cabin/workshop. The boathouse is also used as a screen porch that is 14 ft from the waters edge. Permanent dock, heavy duty tram from dock up to home's lakefront deck. Short boat ride across calm water to Burntside Lodge. A wonderful gathering place to relax, enjoy each other & the extraordinary beauty of Burntside!

 OFFERED AT
 \$1,490,000

 DETAILS
 4 BD/ 2 BTH
 4,625 SF

 17.3 ACRES
 600 FT SHORELINE

 ON THE WEB
 JANISCHREALTY.COM MLS# 133784



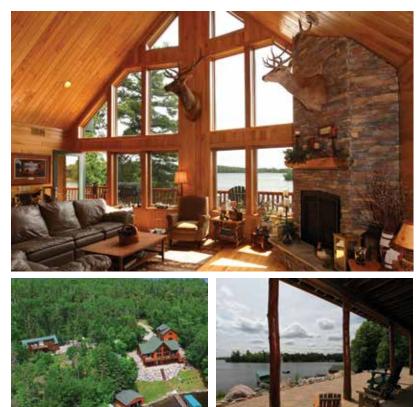




Superior Vistas

HOVLAND, MN A Premier custom builder's own private estate, set at waters edge on Lake Superior! Just 18 mi to Grand Marais, 4 to Devils Kettle Falls, 15 to Isle Royale Ferry, 22 to Canada. Mesmerizing views of Lake Superior toward Isle Royale. Set on 479 ft coastline & 3 wooded acres. Custom built 2004 by master builder for his family, 4,877 SF, 3+BR-all main floor lakeview/3BTH cedar sided home, attached 2 stall garage, guest cabin, workshop. Great room offers natural light pouring in window walls, soapstone fireplace, in-floor heat & glass doors open to 80 ft lakefront deck. Stainless/granite kitchen with island open to great room & dining room-all lakeside. Lakeside main floor master with fireplace, bath with lakeview tub, glass doors open to lakefront deck. Main floor guest BRs, bath & laundry. Upstairs lakeside office could be addl BR. Walkout garden level could be family room or addl BR. Additional frontage & acreage available.

OFFERED AT	\$1,750,000	
DETAILS	3 BD/ 3 BTH	4,877 SF
	3 ACRES	479 FT SHORELINE
ON THE WEB	JANISCHREAL	TY.COM MLS# 133157



Sunny Daisy Bay Estate

TOWER. MN Secluded one owner Lake Vermilion estate with sand shoreline, island studded views of both Daisy Bay & Big Bay. On South facing shoreline, close to town, golf, dining. In-floor heat all 3 floors, central air, central vac, covered entry. 3 car gar with apartment above includes 1BR/1BTH/ granite kitchen, in-floor heat both floors. 2nd garage with rec room above includes 2 beds/toilet, lakeside deck. 2 stall boathouse with double rails. 3 docks. Home features prow front ash great room with two story stone fireplace, Floor-to-ceiling glass open to 54 ft lakefront deck. Huge stainless/ granite/hickory kitchen with buffet & island open to lakeside dining & great room. Lakeside main floor master with walk-in closet, granite bath, glass door open to lakefront deck. Main floor laundry. Walkout lower level with 2BR (1 non-egress), family room with full bar open to 54 ft lakefront patio, gradual open yard to sandy shore. Seasonal waterfall.

OFFERED AT	\$998,500	
DETAILS	4 BD/ 3 BTH	2,600 SF
	1.4 ACRES	250 FT SHORELINE
ON THE WEB	JANISCHREAL	TY.COM MLS# 132457

Vermilion Legacy Property

COOK, MN Two private peninsulas including a secluded bay. 6,840 ft pristine coastline & 44.83 never logged acres located in an area of breathtaking scenery where there are sparkling bright blue bays created by numerous small islands & miles of picturesque coastline. Choice of building sites offer mesmerizing wrap around blue water vistas & sounds of water lapping shore. From the south peninsula, see east into Norwegian Bay, south 3 miles across Wakemup Bay, west for island studded sunsets & north into your own private bay. From the north peninsula, see south into your own private bay, west for island studded sunsets and north into Black Bay. Overhead the stars & the great Northern Lights. Towering 200+ year old pines, rock outcroppings, even a sandy swimming spot. Historic cabin grandfathered on North peninsula. Property can be divided. Swim or catch Walleyes right off your dock, relax & make memories at this rare & ideal setting for a legacy property.

OFFERED AT	\$998,500
DETAILS	44.83 ACRES
	6,840 FT SHORELINE
ON THE WEB	JANISCHREALTY.COM MLS# 133234



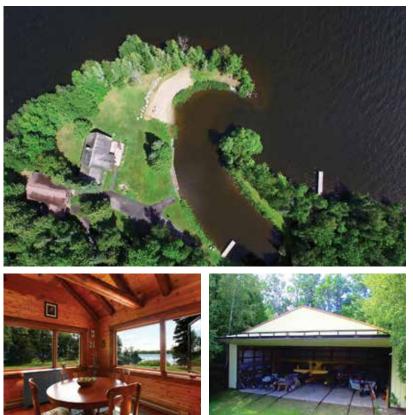




Big Bay & Floatplane Harbor

Lake Vermilion log cabin retreat TOWER, MN with panoramic waters edge views of Big Bay, sand beach, level park-like lot, BWCA access! Set on approximately 11 acres & 2,200 ft of shoreline, just 9 mi to town. The property includes your own private marina/seaplane base plus 3 bedroom guest house, 4 stall garage & hangar/boathouse. Authentic original year round log cabin features a vaulted great room with wrap around lakefront glass & a massive greenstone wood burning fireplace. The kitchen features a terrazzo floor and an island open to the great room. A main floor log trussed master bedroom with lake views out windows on both sides adds to this home. Main floor bath & laundry. Main floor office/guest BR. Spacious loft. Second home on the property was built in 1990. 3 BR/1BTH Scandinavian-style year round guest house has attached garage, kitchen, living room, sauna & outdoor hot tub just feet from the waters edge!

\$995,000	
5 BD/ 4 BTH	2,600 SF
11 ACRES	2,200 FT SHORELINE
JANISCHREALT	Y.COM MLS# 132701
	5 BD/ 4 BTH 11 ACRES











Luxury Country Living

MT. IRON, MN Private estate set on wooded acres featuring a river & 2 ponds, beautiful country views & abundant wildlife! 10 miles to Hibbing. Large att. garage and covered & enclosed porches. A vaulted great room features a massive fireplace & opens to a firepit patio & 3 season porch. Hickory/granite kitchen features AGA stove & 2 islands. Wine cellar. Cedar sauna, heated 48x36 det. garage, 60x36 detached garage with a 36x20 heated workshop.

OFFERED AT	\$889 <i>,</i> 500	
DETAILS	3 BD/ 3 BTH	5,240 SF
	30 ACRES	3,858 FT SHORELINE
ON THE WEB	JANISCHREAI	TY.COM MLS# 133962

1 Mile of Vermilion

COOK, MN Rare getaway retreat includes private bay, private island, 54 acres, 3 handmade cabins on the waters edge (sleeps 18), hillside fields of blueberries, forests of tower-ing pines, rock outcroppings, bluffs w/majestic views, walk-ing trails, several incredible building sites, active eagles nest. Adjoins state/state forest lands. 10 miles to BWCA.

OFFERED AT	\$1,769,000	
DETAILS	4 BD/ 1 BTH	2,080 SF
	54 ACRES	5,288 FT SHORELINE
ON THE WEB	JANISCHREAL	TY.COM MLS# 130116

All of Little Timber Island

TOWER, MN Log cabin retreat, your own private island on Lake Vermilion. Restored historic cabin in towering pines plus a guest cabin at waters edge, furnished. Main cabin offers great room with a vaulted ceiling, a fireplace, blue water vistas, and a modern kitchen. Year round guest cabin with a fireplace and screen porch. Hot tub, happy hour point with a 9 mile sunset view, and a swimming cove.

OFFERED AT	\$698,500	
DETAILS	3 BD	TWO CABINS
	5.75 ACRES	2,195 FT SHORELINE
ON THE WEB	JANISCHREAL	TY.COM MLS# 132728

Vermilion Paradise

TOWER, MN Custom Furnished home with sand shoreline, private gradual lot, beautiful Big Bay/Ely Island views! Just 3 miles to town. Cedar sided home with a chalet front great room at waters edge, fireplace, glass doors to lakefront deck. Kitchen with double ovens & island open to great room. Lakeside master. Walkout lower level. Oversize boathouse. Permanent dock. 4 car garage. Separate guest quarters with private bath.

OFFERED AT	\$695,000	
DETAILS	5 BD/ 3 BTH	3,600 SF
	2.75 ACRES	245 FT SHORELINE
ON THE WEB	JANISCHREAL	TY.COM MLS# 133041

Big Sturgeon Comfort and Class

SIDE LAKE, MN Custom lake home at waters edge with sandy swimming shoreline, private level lot, beautiful blue water views! South facing lakeshore on Big Sturgeon! Brick home with attached & detached garages. Two story tall great room with natural light pouring in, two sided gas fireplace. Spacious lakeside dining room, mission style glass doors to huge lakefront patio. Stainless kitchen. Main floor lakeside master. Dock & private boat launch!

OFFERED AT	\$549 <i>,</i> 900	
DETAILS	3 BD/ 4 BTH	3,310 SF
	2.2 ACRES	150 FT SHORELINE
ON THE WEB	JANISCHREAL	Y.COM MLS# 133108

Waconda Bay Sunsets

COOK, MN West facing Lake Vermilion retreat in coveted Waconda Bay, set on 2 acres w/open lakeside yard gently sloping to 191 ft of sandy swimming shoreline. Two story walls of glass showcase beautiful captured sunset views! Just 10 mi to town. 2,700 SF, 3 BR/3BTH home, great rm w/massive stone fireplace, stainless & granite kitchen, full lakeside deck, attached 3 stall garage, guest cabin, sauna, and boathouse!

OFFERED AT	\$630,000	
DETAILS	3 BD/ 4 BTH	2,780 SF
	2 ACRES	191 FT SHORELINE
ON THE WEB	JANISCHREAL	TY.COM

Cabin Living At Its Best

TOWER, MN Furnished Lake Vermilion log sided retreat right out of "Cabin Living"! Private swimming cove, very private gradual lot, big water views of prime Frazer Bay & sunsets! Relax with family & friends—easily sleeps 8. Great location—walking distance to Mom & Pop convenience store (ice cream), landings & full marina close by. Private 3 acres w/291 ft shoreline, centrally located on the lake just 15 miles to town.

OFFERED AT	\$765,000	
DETAILS	3 BD/ 3 BTH	2,069 SF
	3 ACRES	291 FT SHORELINE
ON THE WEB	JANISCHREALTY.COM MLS# 131515	

McKinley Park Toes In The Sand

TOWER, MN Dig your toes into the sand beach or relax in front of choice of fireplaces as the sun sinks down into the water—see 6.5 miles all the way across Big Bay. Secluded Lake Vermilion beach house set on over 3 acres of towering pines, prime McKinley Park Acres, private gradual lot, mesmerizing sunset views! Updated 3,800 SF, 3+BR/3BTH home, 2 stall garage. Wrap around deck, boat launch & gazebo on the beach!

OFFERED AT\$624,500DETAILS3 BD/ 3 BTH3,800 SF3.5 ACRES132 FT SHORELINEON THE WEBJANISCHREALTY.COM

















Timber Frame Masterpiece

COOK, MN Lake Vermilion Douglas Fir timber frame retreat with island studded 2 mile view of water & sky! Private gradual lot with shoreline on prime Frazer Bay, close to town, golf, dining. Two story tall foyer with an alabaster chandelier. Dream kitchen includes SS Wolf & Jenn-Air appliances, warming drawer, double ovens, Volga Blue Granite counters & island. Waterfront master with travertine bath. Loft bedroom with bath. Walkout LL.

OFFERED AT	\$859,875	
DETAILS	3 BD/ 4 BTH	4,131 SF
	2 ACRES	196 FT SHORELINE
ON THE WEB	JANISCHREAL	TY.COM MLS# 132726

Bear Island Sun and Sand Beach

ELY, MN Bear Island Lake home on 300 ft SW facing shoreline, SAND BEACH, private gradual lot, beautiful island studded views, paved road to Ely. Clear water, sun all day long & gorgeous sunsets! Huge kitchen open to dining & living-all lakeside, wrap around lakefront deck. Lakeside master. Walkout basement with glass doors to patio. Open yard, 2 stall garage, RV garage, storage building, boat launch, & log sauna by the lake!

OFFERED AT	\$469 <i>,</i> 000	
DETAILS	2 BD/ 2 BTH	1,232 SF
	2.5 ACRES	320 FT SHORELINE
ON THE WEB	JANISCHREAL	TY.COM MLS# 133407

Luxurious Giants Ridge Home

BIWABIK, MN Stunning like new executive home at Giants Ridge Golf & Ski Resort commands views of slopes & sunsets. Short golf cart ride to championship golf, sand beach, docks! 4BR (2 masters) 4BTH (heated floors all baths) and walk-in showers. Vaulted great room w/glass doors open to sunset deck & gazebo. Chef's kitchen w/island. Walkout garden level w/fam rm, wet bar, fitness rm w/sauna & shower. Cent air. Att. 2 car gar.

OFFERED AT	\$449,500	
DETAILS	4 BD/ 5 BTH	3,400 SF
	0.3 ACRES	GIANTS RIDGE AMENITIES
ON THE WEB	JANISCHREAI	LTY.COM MLS# 133506

To The BWCA From Your Dock

ELY, MN Secluded waterfront retreat offers S.-facing excellent swimming shoreline at the edge of the BWCA, just a short boat ride from your dock up to Basswood in the BW & only 7 miles to Ely. Mist Bay, Fall Lake. Yr rnd home features panoramic faraway views set in towering pines on private point at end of road. 3 car garage w/insulated workshop. Lakefront livingrm w/wood burning firepl open to enclosed lakeside porch. Dock.

OFFERED AT	\$425,000	
DETAILS	3 BD/ 2 BTH	1,800 SF
	1.7 ACRES	260 FT SHORELINE
ON THE WEB	JANISCHREALTY.COM MLS# 133796	

Niles Bay Sand Beach!

COOK, MN Lake Vermilion year round home on fantastic South facing sand beach & open level yard offers blue water vistas all the way across Niles Bay! Great central location on the lake, just 5 miles to dining, 23 miles to town. Kitchen with island open to vaulted great room, view & lakeside wrap around deck. Main floor lakeside master. Walkout lower level. Garage, dock, boat launch, and fish cleaning building.

OFFERED AT	\$399,500	
DETAILS	3 BD/ 2 BTH	2,432 SF
	0.6 ACRES	101 FT SHORELINE
ON THE WEB	JANISCHREALTY.COM MLS# 131876	

10 Private Acres On Eagles Nest 4

ELY, MN Secluded lake home adjoining Bear Head Lake State Park, private bay, private park like yard with towering pines, beautiful views! Close to town, set at the end of the road on 10.5 acres & 770 ft of shoreline on Eagles Nest Lake 4, opposite shoreline pristine wilderness. Sunroom with glowing wood floors. Dock, 2 stall garage, year round guest cabin with covered patio, wood shed, storage building, historic log cabin sauna by the lake!

OFFERED AT	\$369,500	
DETAILS	3 BD/ 2 BTH	2,474 SF
	10.5 ACRES	770 FT SHORELINE
ON THE WEB	JANISCHREALT	Y.COM MLS# 133408

Eshquaguma Perfect Sand Beach

GILBERT, MN One owner beachhouse at waters edge offers sugar sand beach, private golf course, mesmerizing blue water vistas! On paved road on Lake Eshquaguma, 15 mi to Virginia. Yr rnd home and guest cabin. Vaulted great rm w/stone fireplace, glass doors open to waterfront deck. Spacious kitchen. Main flr master. Walkout beach level w/2 lakeside BRs, family rm, sauna. Dock. Tennis and dining at Eshquaguma Country Club. 2 car garage.

OFFERED AT	\$349,750	
DETAILS	4 BD/ 3 BTH	3,048 SF
	1 ACRES	100 FT SHORELINE
ON THE WEB	JANISCHREALTY.COM MLS# 133776	

9 Acres On Armstrong Lake

ELY, MN Easy one level living in this one owner Armstrong Lake home with mesmerizing blue water vistas on 9 private acres & South facing shoreline, set back off paved Hwy 169 in beautiful Eagles Nest area, close to state parks, town, golf, dining. 3+ stall garage with area for workshop (40 x 26). Prow front great room with natural light & lakefront views, stone firepl, glass doors open to lakeside deck. Kitchen with sit around island.

OFFERED AT	\$349,500	
DETAILS	2 BD/ 2 BTH	1,050 SF
	9 ACRES	690 FT SHORELINE
ON THE WEB	JANISCHREALTY.COM MLS# 133420	











Log Cabin at the Golf Course

GILBERT, MN Custom log home on a level lot on a private golf course with a dock on Lake Eshquaguma at the country club. Just 12 miles to Virginia. Home features a vaulted great room and brand new granite and cherry kitchen. Main floor master with a private bath & doors to deck. Spacious loft with a bath. Full lower level offers a bedroom with a full bath. Golf cart garage, paved drive, and cart path to course.

OFFERED AT	\$299,500	
DETAILS	4 BD/ 4 BTH	2,988 SF
	1.5 ACRES	PRIVATE DOCK
ON THE WEB	JANISCHREAL	TY.COM MLS# 132585

Superior Architectural Stunner

HOVLAND, MN Architect Mulfinger designed & premier contractor built this immaculate Lake Superior home. Set at waters edge on level lot & accessible shoreline—launch kayak. 18 mi to Grand Marais, 4 to Devils Kettle Falls. All BD's lakeview, heated 2+ car gar, gated drive. Great rm w/panoramic lakeside windows, stone fireplace, lakefront covered patio. Granite kitchen w/island. Downstairs game rm, sauna, wine cellar.

OFFERED AT	\$745,000	
DETAILS	4 BD/ 3 BTH	2,372 SF
	1.35 ACRES	228 FT SHORELINE
ON THE WEB	JANISCHREAL	TY.COM MLS# 133189

Ely Lake Sandy Swimming

EVELETH, MN 3 BR home w/excellent swimming & great fishing, just 5 mi to town. Beautifully remodeled 2009, 3BR/1BTH on one level. Dock, lakeside deck, room for garage. Kitchen w/ island open to dining rm & livingrm--all right on waters edge offer beautiful water views, loon calls & lake breezes! Open yard for activities under mature trees w/gorgeous Fall color. City sewer. Make this your year round home or excellent vacation rental!

OFFERED AT	\$239,500	
DETAILS	3 BD/ 1 BTH	1,344 SF
	0.4 ACRES	126 FT SHORELINE
ON THE WEB	JANISCHREAL	TY.COM MLS# 134079

Kawishiwi Trail Summers

ELY, MN Classic Boundary Waters Lake retreat at waters edge, level shoreline, exquisite sunset views, old fashioned enclosed front porch, modern kitchen & bath! Farm Lake, less than 1 mile from your dock to the BW. Motorboat access to 3 lakes (Farm, Garden, White Iron). Only 8 miles to Ely on paved road. Stone cabin w/massive fireplace, lakefront deck—elegance of bygone era but w/modern amenities. Garage. Newer roof, electric. Drilled well.

OFFERED AT	\$174,500	
DETAILS	1 BD/ 1 BTH	576 SF
	0.5 ACRES	100 FT SHORELINE
ON THE WEB	JANISCHREAL	TY.COM MLS# 134384



Superior

HOVLAND, MN The Lake Superior homesite of your dreams! Beautiful level building site w/gradual slope to water on Chicago Bay &

stunning views of Lake Superior. Spectacular rock outcropping way across Niles Bay. Park like forest of giant whispering pines. behind building site. Community septic system and electricity. Surveyed, septic sites, electricity nearby. Adjacent lots available.

OFFERED AT \$245,000 DETAILS **1.24 ACRES** ON THE WEB

216 FT SHORELINE JANISCHREALTY.COM MLS# 133158

Burntside

ELY, MN Breathtaking 62 acre legacy property. Large old growth forest with 1402 ft of shoreline at the end of the road on Burntside Lake adjoining the

BWCA. Choice of building sites, good road access & electricity. Giant pines, trails, rock outcropping peninsulas & protected coves.

OFFERED AT DETAILS ON THE WEB \$978,000 1,402 FT SHORELINE **62.8 ACRES** JANISCHREALTY.COM MLS# 133107



Vermilion

Wildwood TOWER, MN Point with panoramic sunset views set in towering pines, rock outcroppings, protected sandy cove

natural

OFFERED AT \$139,000 12 ACRES DETAILS ON THE WEB JANISCHREALTY.COM MLS# 133305



Armstrong Lake

300 FT SHORELINE

ELY, MN Secluded peninsula with South facing swimming beach, located off paved Bear Head State Park Rd. Incredibly clear water & great

OFFERED AT	\$199,000	
DETAILS	3.25 ACRES	860 FT SHORELINE
ON THE WEB	JANISCHREALTY	COM MLS# 134156

Lots and Land!

Vermilion

COOK, MN Rare South-facing road accessible parcel adjoining 1,000's of acres of State land - unrestricted South/ Southwest sunset views all the

OFFERED AT \$225,000 DETAILS ON THE WEB

4.6 ACRES 247 FT SHORELINE JANISCHREALTY.COM MLS# 133799



Giants Ridge

BIWABIK, MN Rare, large lots w/city utilities, paved road. Prime location in quiet bay at Giants Ridge Golf & Ski Resort. Great building sites w/ high ground. Simple covenants.

OFFERED AT DETAILS ON THE WEB \$129,500-\$179,500 5.2-8.5 ACRES 400-2,300 FT SHORELINE JANISCHREALTY.COM MLS# 133978



Vermilion

COOK, MN Drive to the Lake Vermilion homesite of your dreams. SW-facing natural shoreline. Great building site with high ground, beau-

just 3 miles to BWCA. Warm western exposure with tiful trees, rock outcroppings & gradual elevation. Electricirocky point, electricity at back of property. ty nearby. Road access building lots of this quality are rare.

> OFFERED AT DETAILS ON THE WEB

\$195,000 3.9 ACRES **375 FT SHORELINE** JANISCHREALTY.COM MLS# 132518



Vermilion

COOK, MN Beautiful island cabin sites with stunning views set in majestic pines. Prime central location on Lake Vermilion. Five exceptional

fishing! Building site already prepped. Driveway, electricity, building sites have been surveyed, septic sites approved, and well, septic system & 2 stall garage with area for workshop. electricity is available. Gentle elevations & sunny exposure.

> OFFERED AT \$84,500-\$112,500 DETAILS 4.5-7.9 ACRES ON THE WEB

197-278 FT SHORELINE JANISCHREALTY.COM MLS# 133814









Moosebirds Is For Sale!

COOK, MN Cash flowing robust iconic Lake Vermilion business with financeable books & excellent growth opportunities! Well maintained property includes lakeshore, docks, general store, ice cream, gift shop, lake house rental, campground, boat rentals & biggest selection of bait on the west end of the lake. General Store offers T-shirts, sweatshirts, northwoods gifts and a large grocery department. The friendliest place on the lake!

OFFERED AT	\$895,000
DETAILS	STORE - BAIT - RV PARK - BOAT RENTAL - CABIN
	4.39 ACRES 160 FT SHORELINE
ON THE WEB	JANISCHREALTY.COM MLS# 132469

Glenwood Lodge/Family Retreat

TOWER, MN Secluded waterfront retreat 1/4 mile from Boundary Waters, 20 miles to town by road, 5 miles by boat. 7 furnished cabins at waters edge, 8 docks. Forests of towering pines, rock outcroppings, walking trails, sandy swimming. Complete with storage buildings, bait house, boats, bar. Operate it as a resort or convert to private family retreat.

OFFERED AT	\$1,250,000	
DETAILS	14 BD / 8 BTH	7 CABINS
	21 ACRES	650 FT SHORELINE
ON THE WEB	JANISCHREALTY.C	OM MLS# 133601

Landmark Historic Bar/Brewery

TOWER, MN Keystone property at center of Harbor Renaissance on Lake Vermilion. The harbor offers the only docking at a downtown area on the lake. 3 story solid concrete building with apartment, highway & river frontage, originally a brewery and recently the Iron Ore Bar, potential for brewpub/restaurant with riverside deck, shops, lodging. Room for more buildings on acreage. Re-open tomorrow!

OFFERED AT DETAILS	\$173,500 5,376 SF	
ON THE WEB	1.34 ACRES NEW TOWER HARBOR AREA JANISCHREALTY.COM MLS# 133592	

Winton Roadhouse

WINTON, MN Roadhouse at the edge of the BWCA with people coming & going in & out of the Boundary Waters every day to a cold beer & excellent conversation or stopping by for food & drink specials, special events, pool league, live music! Well maintained property includes full bar, liquor store, tiki bar & ice bar. DON'T MISS THIS FANTASTIC OPPORTUNITY TO OWN YOUR OWN POPULAR BOUNDARY WATERS AREA BUSINESS!

OFFERED AT	\$149,900
DETAILS	3,120 SF
ON THE WEB	JANISCHREALTY.COM MLS# 132739



Angle Inlet

ANGLE INLET, MN Stone cabin with panoramic views on Lake Of The Woods. Short boat ride to mainland. A stone mason's life's work. Furnished, stone

fireplace, custom furniture, workshop, boathouse, dock, trolley lift blue bay. Borders State land. Half log sided home w/walkout LL, & even a boat included with this beautiful one of a kind property. upscale kitchen. 2BR guest cabin, oversized boathouse, dock.

OFFERED AT \$399,900 1.350 SF DETAILS 1.3 ACRES **780 FT SHORELINE** ON THE WEB JANISCHREALTY.COM MLS# 133961

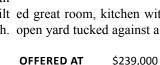


Fall Lake

ELY, MN Secluded log cabin retreat w/panoramic water views, set in pines. S.-facing sandy swimming shoreline at the edge of the BWCA on Fall

Lake. 5 minute boat ride into the BWCA. Authentic log cabin built ed great room, kitchen with water view, deck. At waters edge, from trees on the property in 1996, Roll in dock w/electric winch. open yard tucked against a spectacular rock outcropping. Dock.

OFFERED AT DETAILS ON THE WEB \$349,500 800 SF **15 ACRES 527 FT SHORELINE** JANISCHREALTY.COM MLS# 132999



823 SF 2.6 ACRES 263 FT SHORELINE



Gold Island

TOWER, MN Island retreat with shoreline & docks on both sides of island, Sand beach, private gradual lot, Mesmerizing waters

Main Cabin + 1 BR/1BTH Guest Cabin + 360 SF Sauna. site. One of a kind property awaiting the nest of your dreams!

1,768 SF

1.200 FT SHORELINE

OFFERED AT \$398,500 DETAILS 4.5 ACRES ON THE WEB JANISCHREALTY.COM MLS# 133603



BWCA Boundary

ELY, MN Extremely rare year round Voyaguer Log Cabin--EAST PROPERTY LINE IS THE BOUNDARY WATERS! Farm Lake - just

OFFERED AT	\$273,900	852 SF
DETAILS	2 ACRES	230 FT SHORELINE
ON THE WEB	JANISCHREALTY.COM MLS# 132871	

ON THE WEB

DETAILS



a 1 minute paddle from your dock to the BWCA (Kawishi- oramic island views! Adjoins over a million acres of Fed land wi River)! 1BR log cabin, lakeside deck, sauna, boathouse. (incl BWCA). Original 1940 cabin, lg yard, boathouse, dock.

OFFERED AT	\$169,000	960 SF
DETAILS	1.4 ACRES	136 FT SHOR
ON THE WEB	IANISCHREA	ITY.COM MIS#

Vermilion

TOWER, MN Like New! Private one owner Lake Vermilion home & guest cabin. S.-facing shoreline, gradual lot, towering pines, sparkling

OFFERED AT \$495,000 2,843 SF DETAILS 2.57 ACRES 200 FT SHORELINE ON THE WEB JANISCHREALTY.COM MLS# 133854

ate Islands & Boat Access!



TOWER, MN NEW in 2014 year round secluded island cabin on Lake Vermilion, Short boat ride to Glenwood Lodge/ 2BR+loft. launch. Vault-

North Vermilion

Pine Island

DETAILS ON THE WEB JANISCHREALTY.COM MLS# 133302

TOWER, MN Lake Vermilion adjoining the BWCAmesmerizing 200 degree 2 mile blue water views E., S. & W. Incredible setting

Island Views

ting for Lake Vermilion re-

treat on private level lot,

136 ft South facing SAND/ PEBBLE SHORELINE. Pan-

TOWER, MN

edge views! 1,768 SF Half Log Sided Retreat. 2 Bed/1 BTH for cabin w/panoramic island studded views. Electricity on

OFFERED AT \$175,000 5 ACRES 825 FT SHORELINE JANISCHREALTY.COM MLS# 132725

RELINE

133304

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Dream set-



Leading the waterfront market! More Janisch Realty listings sold than any other firms. - RAOR 2017



Birch Point Paradise - Nantucket Style Home With 5 Guest Cabins

TOWER, MN A private Lake Vermilion family compound. Formerly the site of the historic Birch Point Inn which was famous for its incomparable sand beach, towering pines and mesmerizing blue water vistas. This property is set on South facing shoreline and is located on a paved road on prime Big Bay. It is close to town and just minutes from golf and dining. BWCA access is also nearby. The Nantucket style main home sits at the waters edge and the open floor plan aligns with the shoreline. The original Birch Point Inn fireplace is among the unique attributes of this property. A chefs kitchen opens to the great room, the dining room, and the 3 season porch—all lakeside. There is a waters edge master with a private bath. Five matching cedar shake cabins allows the property to easily sleep 30. Outdoor amenities include a level grassy yard, a shuffle board court, gardens, mossy stone walls, a boathouse with a sauna, a hot tub, 4 garage stalls, and a dock with a lift. Magical nighttime ambiance. Truly one-of-a-kind, idyllic northwoods retreat!

OFFERED AT	\$1,490,000	
DETAILS	3 BD / 3 BTH	4,538 SF
	2.7 ACRES	200 FT SHORELINE
ON THE WEB	JANISCHREAL	TY.COM MLS# 130254

"The finest Realtor I've ever worked with in my life." - Tim K.

