

Say To Da U.P., eh?

2014 National V-8 Club Tour

Tour Outline – Arrival and Day 1

Arrival Day: Sunday, September 7th. A welcome/information room will be available in the afternoon, at the Days Inn on the west side of Marquette along US41/M-28. Here we will greet arriving tour participants, hand out tour packets, answer questions, as well as provide information concerning the location of the evening's welcome gathering and meal. This will also be time to relax after the trip to Marquette. The Days Inn has provided special group room rates for tour participants and will have a designated parking area for club vehicles. The Comfort Inn and Suites is part of the same property ownership and is also offering special group rates and designated parking. Group rates at the Days Inn are \$89 per night while those at the Comfort Inn and Suites are \$119/night, both plus taxes. In addition the Holiday Inn of Marquette has also reserved a block of rooms for tour participants and also offers a special tour rate of \$85.95/night. They, too, offer a reserved parking area for tour vehicles. **Participants are responsible for their own lodging reservations and may choose from any of the local motels.**

Days Inn – (906)225-1393

Comfort Inn and Suites – (906)228-0028

Holiday Inn – (906) 225-1351

The evening festivities begin at 6 p.m. with the welcome-in party at Tour Chairman Johnson's residence. This is a bash that you will not want to miss. It will be a light supper featuring pasties --- a traditional Cornish miner's self-contained meal, plus salad and dessert. Keweenaw Mountain beer, (cash bar) produced by a well-known local microbrewery, as well as other beverages, will be available. Relax and visit with other tour participants, make new friends, then view Keith Johnson's vehicle collection and pheasantry hobby. You need to register for this event.

Day 1: Monday, September 8, is planned as an easy relaxing day spent locally in the Marquette and surrounding area. The major planned event for today is a pleasant relaxing drive to Big Bay. This tour involves a 30 mile drive that parallels the Lake Superior shoreline.

Big Bay is today a quiet village formerly owned by Ford Motor Company and was a sawmill town. Ford bought the town and sawmill, and produced dimension lumber for his wood needs at the Kingsford station wagon body plant. The mill was later sold to Brunswick, who made bowling pins there. Ford maintained a suite at the **Thunder Bay Inn**. This can be visited upon request, when not occupied. The inn was made famous by Robert Traver/John Volker in his best-selling murder mystery

and movie “**Anatomy of a Murder**”. The Lumber Jack Tavern where the murder actually happened in real life (death) was located about one block south of the inn. **Perkins Park**, the local tourist park, on the shore of nearby Lake Independence was also featured in the movie.

Lake Independence is an impoundment lake caused by the damming of the Iron River. The village of Big Bay is situated along the northwest shoreline, as is the former sawmill.

From Big Bay, one can drive a short distance north to the **DNR Burns Boat Landing** for another view of the Lake Superior and the rugged shoreline. Driving along Squaw Beach on Dam Road (Co. Rd. KCB) will take you to the **Big Bay Light House** now operated as a B & B.

The drive between Big Bay and Marquette offers two possible additional stops. One can climb **Sugar Loaf Mountain** located approximately 10 miles north of the city of Marquette. From the road side parking lot, you can access the (mostly) boardwalk and stairway trail leading to the top of the mountain. The summit provides a lovely overview of the area hills, Superior shoreline, and the town. It is all up hill, but the exercise is well worth the effort. **Little Presque Isle Beach** is 2.5 miles north of Sugar Loaf and after a short walk through the pine woods leads to a pure sand beach and a panoramic view of this wild and beautiful shoreline.

Presque Isle Park is a jewel of a city park in Marquette. The drive to the park is along Lake Shore Blvd which follows the immediate shoreline of Lake Superior. There are numerous opportunities to park your vehicle and access these beautiful sand beaches. The **Black Rocks**, located at the very north end of the park are worth the visit. Visiting this park would make a nice after dinner activity for tour participants, as it does for many local residents.

Other points of interest in the Marquette Area

Museums: The **Marquette Maritime Museum** is located in down-town Marquette, along the lake on Lake Shore Drive. This museum presents the local Lake Superior history and that of local residents who played a significant role in our country's Naval History. The **Marquette Regional History Center** documents the region's history from its founding in the mid-nineteenth Century. **Marquette County Court House** is a majestic Neo-Classical structure constructed between 1902 and 1904 of locally quarried sandstone. Its rise to national prominence was as a major setting in the movie “*Anatomy of a Murder*” in 1959. The **Iron Industry Museum** located just off M-28/US41 nine miles west of Marquette recounts the history of the iron ore mining industry on the Marquette Iron Range. Displays include a very authentically restored 1929 Model A Sport Coupe and a WWII Ford Jeep.

Boat Tour: Those who may want to view the city and its beautiful and rugged shore line can do so from the harbor cruise boat. This boat leaves its dock at the foot of Washington Street at Mattson Park. The ticket office is right at the dock. This tour runs in the afternoons. People desiring to take this tour will probably want to make the drive to Big Bay in the morning.

Shopping: The downtown business district and the North Third Street district offer many unique specialty shops where one can relax and browse, or even pick up souvenirs of the area.

More information involving today's activities can be found by logging onto www.travelmarquettemichigan.com .

Overnight in Marquette. All meals today are on your own.