

Say To Da U.P., eh?

2014 National V-8 Club Tour

Tour Outline – Day 2 and 3

Day 2, Tuesday, September 9th. This day's tour takes us to Munising, a mill town located at the head of Munising Bay. It has a lovely harbor protected by the 13,000 acre Grand Island located less than a mile off-shore. There is a well-marked **state roadside park and scenic over-look** located just past Christmas, but before Munising, at the top of the hill. This makes a nice introductory stop before proceeding into town. Many people like to stop at the post office at Christmas to mail a letter to family or friends to get the Christmas postmark on it.

The main attraction of the area is **Pictured Rocks National Lake Shore**. This shoreline extends north for a distance of 40 miles. It involves spectacular 200 foot high rock cliffs, unique stone formations and beautiful sand beaches.

Pictured Rock Tour boats run from the downtown dock along the shoreline. This tour is about 2.5 hours in length. This is a great way to see this Lake Superior treasure.

Shipwreck Boat Tours, also originating in Munising, are glass bottom boat tours viewing 3 shipwrecks which rest in the immediate area. The crystal clear waters of Lake Superior allow viewing to a considerable depth. The boat tour lasts 2 hours.

Grand Marais (Grand Harbor of Refuge) - optional driving tour. If more driving in your V-8 is desired, a 50 mile drive to Grand Marais is suggested. The road winds through the buffer zone of the National Lakeshore in the hardwood forests which comprise the majority of the forest cover in the region. You can access Lake Superior at Twelve Mile Beach, pull off and view the impressive Grand Sable Dunes and also view Grand Sable Lake. The town of Grand Marais was originally developed as a saw-mill town, producing millions of board feet of primarily white pine lumber.

Tahquamenon Falls – This tour offers a second option for those who are a bit more adventurous. After this visit to Michigan's largest waterfalls, you can continue east to the village of Paradise on the shore of White Fish Bay. From there it is a short drive to White Fish Point, home of the fascinating **Great Lakes Shipwreck Museum**, migratory bird observatory and lighthouse.

If one chooses either of these two driving tours, you will probably opt not to take either of the boat tours.

For additional information logon to -

Munising www.munising.org .

Pictured Rocks National Park www.nps.gov/piro

Grand Marais www.grandmaraismichigan.com

Seney Wildlife Refuge <http://www.fws.gov/refuge/seney/>

Tahquamenon Falls <http://www.michigan.org/property/tahquamenon-falls-state-park/>

Overnight in Marquette. Meals on your own.

Day 3, Wednesday, September 10, 2014. This is the day we tour to Houghton/Hancock, Copper Harbor and the **Keweenaw Peninsula**. Today's drive will be the longest of the tour with about 200 miles covered. Because of this we suggest you by-pass many points of interest today and catch them on the return trip tomorrow. There will be plenty of time then and you will want to spend your time today on the peninsula and at Copper Harbor. We suggest you travel for about an hour and then stop for breakfast at the **Hilltop Restaurant** in L'Anse. This is 'Standard Operating Procedure' for many locals traveling from Marquette to the Copper Country. The Hilltop is famous for the huge, delicious, one pound cinnamon rolls. Two or more people might want to split one roll, if health issues are not a problem.

The **Keweenaw Peninsula** is known as the Copper Country due to the extensive amount of copper mining which took place there in the later part of the 19th and early part of the 20th century. As you travel today, you will be passing the ruins of this by-gone industrial activity.

From L'Anse we travel around the tip of Keweenaw Bay, then up the west shore through Baraga and Chassell and on to Houghton. We'll cross the lift bridge over the Portage Ship Canal to Hancock.

Continuing north we pass former mine locations of Centennial, Wolverine, Kearsarge, Ahmeek and Mohawk in Keweenaw County. This is Michigan's most

remote, ruggedly beautiful and sparsely populated county. A scenic lake shore drive takes up through **Eagle Harbor**. The view from this crest is spectacular and scenic turnouts provide plenty of opportunity to pause and enjoy them. The second gear descent at the end brings us into Copper Harbor. You are now 1990 miles from Miami, Florida. Copper Harbor is the home port of the boat “*Isle Royal Queen*”, running between here and Isle Royal National Park on the north shore of Lake Superior. In Copper Harbor one can visit the light house (one of several in our week of touring), walk the town – it won’t take long, and visit **Fort Wilkins State Park**. The fort was established in 1844.

Leaving Copper Harbor we’ll follow along the south shore to Lake Superior. Again mining structure ruins are numerous, as is an abandoned dredge on the shore of Torch Lake on the return to Houghton.

For additional information logon to -

Keweenaw Convention and Visitors Bureau: www.keweenaw.info

Copper Country Trail: www.coppercountrytrail.org

Copper Harbor: www.copperharbor.org

Overnight in Houghton. Meals on your own.

Travel Lodge of Houghton \$72.60 w/tax

906-482-1400

<http://www.travelodgeofhoughton.com>