

1a Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary

The sanctuary is dedicated to protecting the Great Lakes and their rich history. In this 4,300 square-mile marine protected area, the cold, fresh water of Lake Huron preserves a nationally significant collection of nearly 200 historic shipwrecks. Through research, education, and community involvement, the sanctuary ensures future generations will enjoy these irreplaceable underwater treasures from our past. Shipwreck sites in sanctuary waters offer incredible diving, paddling, and snorkeling opportunities for visitors. thunderbay.noaa.gov

1b Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Center

Explore the exhibits at Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary's Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Center. Open and free to the public 360 days of the year, experience maritime history, shipwrecks, and archaeology of the Great Lakes, and Science on a Sphere®. Walk the deck of a life-sized schooner battling a treacherous Great Lakes storm and then dive in and explore a shipwreck—without getting wet! Special event space, meeting rooms, digital theater, Green Roof-Deck overlooking Thunder Bay River, and bikes available for rent. Check thunderbayfriends.org or call 989-884-6200 for upcoming events. thunderbay.noaa.gov or call 989-884-6200

Alpena Shipwreck Tours

Explore the shipwrecks of Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary on the 65-foot glass-bottomed *Lady Michigan*! Two large viewing wells on the main deck give passengers a front row view of shipwrecks on the bottom of Lake Huron. Departing from the port of

Alpena, the *Lady Michigan* will take you on a comfortable adventure into the heart of Lake Huron's Shipwreck Alley. Tours begin in May and continue through October fall color. Tickets can be purchased online, by calling 888-469-4696, or at the Sanctuary Gift Store located at 500 W. Fletcher Street in Alpena. The *Lady Michigan* docks just behind the Heritage Center. Group and private charters are welcome. alpenashipwrecktours.com

2 City of Alpena Marina

A full-service marina in the heart of downtown. It is a Michigan National Reservation System harbor and has a Marina Store & Maintenance Facility, Haul-in/Haul-Out Capability, Wireless Internet Service, Water & Electrical Service, Pump-Out Facility, Gasoline & Diesel Fuel, Winter Storage Options, Launch Ramps, Boaters Restrooms, and Fish Cleaning Station. alpena.mi.us

3 Besser Museum for Northeast Michigan

Experience art, history and science! You'll be delighted by the Museum's eight-acre campus with a historic village, full-dome planetarium, Foucault pendulum, Devonian fossil pit where visitors can keep all the fossils they find, rotating art galleries featuring local, regional and nationally renowned artists, wild-life exhibits featuring native and non-native specimens, and thousands of artifacts from early man! An exhibit on regional resources and the flourishing industries that contributed to the development of Northeast Michigan is also featured. 491 Johnson Street. 989-356-2202. bessermuseum.org

4 Rockport State Recreation Area & Besser Natural Area

A designated Dark Sky Preserve!

This park, with spectacular Lake Huron views, is located 10 miles north of Alpena. Situated on the Alpena/Presque Isle County line, east of US 23, the property covers nearly 6 square miles. The park features an inactive limestone quarry, a deep water harbor with boat launch, trails, parking and picnic areas, 8 large and several small sinkholes and miles of forested land. michigan.gov/rockport

5 Alpena Bi-Path

Bike, walk, roller blade and skateboard on the 18+ miles of paved pathway and access all of the waterfront parks in the city. The Bi-Path follows along the top of the breakwall at the marina, allowing an unobstructed view of Lake Huron. Follow the shore of the Thunder Bay River through the Alpena County Fairgrounds. The Bi-Path winds through downtown Alpena spanning the Thunder Bay River connecting the Maritime Heritage Trail to Rotary Island and the Marina, among other landmarks. The bike path continues south to Starlite Beach and Mich-e-ke-wis park past the southern business district. Bike rentals are available at the Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Center.

6 Downtown Alpena

The heart of historic Downtown Alpena - where businesses provide old-fashioned personal service and quality - is nestled between the Marina on Thunder Bay and the Maritime Heritage Trail on the Thunder Bay River. Visit Downtown for all of your retail, service and professional needs, enjoy our wide variety of dining and entertainment...and don't forget to pause and enjoy the view. alpenadowntown.com

7 Island Park - Alpena Wildlife Sanctuary

A 17-acre island jewel surrounded by the Thunder Bay River which winds through the 500-acre wildlife sanctuary of water, low islands and waterfowl. Several paths lead through varied ecosystems including sand dunes, meadows, woodlands, gentle slopes, and marsh areas. Viewing and fishing platforms (one handicapped-accessible viewing platform) are located at various points on the island. Kayak/canoe rentals and launch site available.

8 Long Lake Park

10 miles north of Alpena on Long Lake, this 68-acre county park has 105 campsites adjacent to 5,652 acres of water. Water and electricity are available at 80 of these sites with the other 25 sites considered primitive. Park facilities include restrooms/showers, dumping station, concession stand, concrete boat ramp, three docks, nature trails, two pavilions (with electricity), picnic tables, two playgrounds, two swimming beaches, and outdoor trailer storage. Special activities include an annual pig roast and a weekly pot luck dinner. Open May 15 to Sept 15. Camping is permitted after Sept. 15 until Nov. 1 on a daily rate schedule. A park caretaker is on-site. alpenacounty.org

9 Thunder Bay Resort

Winter's white blanket, proud evergreens and Thunder Bay's horse drawn sleigh ride invite you to cuddle up as you travel through our northern woods. From the sleighs, you will view bull elk with world-class antlers. Warm up in front of the split stone fireplace inside the Elk Antler Log Cabin as your gourmet 5-course feast is prepared atop two antique wood cook stoves! Any time of the year Thunder Bay Resort makes an ideal destination and location for couples, families, and small to medium size business meetings or retreats. Our Elk Viewing Carriage Ride with Gourmet Dinner & Wine Tasting is magical and romantic, making it perfect for your special occasion. We are experienced at planning Group Events, Vow Renewals and Wedding Celebrations. The beautiful 18-hole golf course is fun and challenging. Don't miss our beautifully landscaped RV Park! 800-729-9375 or thunderbayresort.com

10 Chippewa Hills Pathway

Chippewa Hills Pathway is one of the best groomed cross-country ski trails open to mountain biking in northeastern Michigan. It follows a roller-coaster route through a northern white cedar swamp and dense trees. For the most part it is high and dry and mostly singletrack. The path, like most other Michigan cross-country pathways, is amply marked and relatively hazard-free, except for a few sandy patches. The trailhead is located 11 miles west of Ossineke on Nicholson Hill Road. michigandnr.com/parksandtrails

Fishing and scuba diving charters also available. Contact the Alpena CVB 1-989-340-2288 or visitalpena.com

Check out our video series featuring.....

Shipwreck Alley
Also featuring: Tuttle Marsh, Ocqueoc Falls, Historic Mill Creek, & Silence (winter!)
youtube.com/us23heritageroute

Festivals & Events

Thunder Bay International Film Festival.....	January
Reel Fun Ice Fishing Tournament.....	February
Concerts in the Park (Bayview Park).....	All summer
Downtown Street Performers.....	Summer
Great Lakes Underwater Robotics Competition.....	May
Alpena Blues Festival.....	June
Besser Museum Log Cabin Days.....	June
Rockport Recreation Day.....	June
Thunder Bay Maritime Festival.....	July
Independence Day Celebration.....	July
Michigan Brown Trout Festival.....	July
Art on the Bay.....	July
Alpena County Fair.....	July/August
Ramblin' Rods Car Show.....	August
Antique Steam Engine & Tractor Show.....	August
Michigan Trails Day.....	September
Downtown Chowder Cook-Off.....	October
Light Up the Season Weekend.....	November
Holiday Parade (day after Thanksgiving).....	November
Alpena Farmer's Market.....	Year Round
Live Theaters.....	Year Round

Tourism Information

Alpena CVB & Welcome Center visitalpena.com 1-989-340-2288 420 N. Second Ave. Alpena	2021 Michigan DNR michigan.gov/dnr Up North Trails Our Trails Take You Farther. 5,300 miles of trails across Northern Michigan upnorthtrails.org
ARTrail 200-mile arts & culture trail along coastal Northeast Michigan artownmichigan.org	Sunrise Coast Birding Trail 145-mile birding trail along coastal Northeast Michigan sunrisecoastbirding.org

Funding for this brochure was made possible through: MI Department of Transportation
Technical assistance and brochure design provided by: Northeast MI Council of Governments
Video funding was provided by: Michigan DEQ Coastal Zone Management Program
Cover photo (Lake Huron) courtesy of Northeast MI Council of Governments
Cover photo (shipwreck) courtesy of Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary
BROCHURE COMMODITY CODE 8014-0746



Alpena, Michigan



Featuring online... **ARTrail** and **Sunrise Coast Birding Trail**

www.heritage23.com



PARKS: CITY OF ALPENA

- 32 Duck Park
- 33 Northern Lights Arena/APlex
- 34 Wildlife Sanctuary
- 35 Sytek Park
- 36 Alpena County Fairgrounds
- 37 Washington Avenue Park
- 38 LaMarre Park
- 39 Riverside Skate Park
- 40 Rotary Island Mill Park
- 41 McRae Park
- 42 Avery Park
- 43 North Riverfront Park (& Dog Park)
- 44 Chisholm Street Park
- 45 South Riverfront Park
- 46 Bayview Park
- 47 Thomson Park
- 48 Blair Street Park
- 49 Starlite Beach
- 50 Mich-e-ke-wis Park



Our Trails Take You Farther.

- Bike/Hiking Trail
- Snowmobile Trail
- ORV/ATV Trail
- ORV/ATV Route
- Motorcycle Trail



- ### Alpena - Ossineke Area
- The US 23 Heritage Route...a 200-mile official Pure Michigan Byway along the Sunrise Coast.
- 1-10** Featured attractions described on reverse
- 11 Thunder Bay Karst Preserve
Mystery Valley, Stevens Twins Sinks, and Bruski Sinkhole. caves.org/conservancy/mkc/preserve_mv.html
 - 12 Emily Min Hunt Nature Preserve
Off Shubert Hwy. huronpines.org/min-hunt
 - 13 Middle Island Light
The lighthouse can be viewed from the water.
 - 14 Arzo Sports & Fun Park
Bumper cars, go-karts, batting cages, miniature golf, driving range, and ferris wheel. Bloom Road. www.arzopark.com
 - 15 Alpena Township Park
Four Little League baseball fields.
 - 16 Campers Cove RV Park & Canoe Livery
5005 Long Rapids Road. (989)356-3708. camperscovecampground.com
 - 17 Alpena Golf Club
1135 Golf Course Road. 989-354-5052. alpenagolfclub.com
 - 18 Alpena Township Nature Preserve
133 acre natural area off Misery Bay Road.
 - 19 Thunder Bay Island Light
No public access. Viewable from the water.
 - 20 Thunder Bay River State Forest Campground
10 rustic sites on Indian Reserve Rd.
 - 21 Norway Ridge Pathway
4.5 miles of hiking, mountain biking and groomed ski trails. Trailhead off Werth Road.
 - 22 Devils Lake Trails
26 miles of groomed snowmobile trails.
 - 23 Thunder Bay RV Park & Campground
4250 US 23 South. (989) 354-2528.
 - 24 Partridge Point Park
Calm water kayaking, fishing, duck hunting, and fossil hunting in Alvar Limestone from the Devonian Period. South Partridge Point Rd - last driveway on the right before the asphalt.
 - 25 River's Edge Golf Club
6373 Werth Road. 989-354-4312. riversedgealpena.com.
 - 26 Sanborn Park
Local beach park.
 - 27 Ossineke SF Campground
Rustic campground with 42 sites on a first come, first serve basis. Day use area with Lake Huron access.
 - 28 Dinosaur Gardens
Prehistoric zoo and mini-golf. 11160 US 23 South. 989-471-5477. www.dinosaurgardensllc.com.
 - 29 Shinga-ba-Shores
The playground reflects Native Americans, farming, lumbering, and Great Lakes trades.
 - 30 Paul Bunyan & Babe
Babe was white when built in 1937/38 on the hill across from the Lookout Inn. The legend was that a white cow on a hill was good luck. He was painted blue in 1950. Paul was built in 1953. In 2006, they were moved to their present location.
 - 31 Negwegon State Park
Undeveloped State Park with nature trails and backcountry camping. A designated Dark Sky Preserve!