2 Tawas Point State Park & Lighthouse

A nature lover’s paradise! The park sits on a point that juts out into Lake Huron. Sandy beaches run along both the bayside and lakeside of the point.

For hikers, an interpretive trail runs from the campground to the tip of the park’s sandy crescent. Because of its location it attracts a large variety of waterfowl and shorebirds.

A birding festival occurs the 3rd weekend in May. The site also is home to a large monarch butterfly population.

Campground: There are 193 modern sites, 4 cabins, and a yurt with a shallow, kid-friendly swimming beach. There is also a pet-friendly beach, horseshoe pits and a volleyball area.

Day-Use: The day use area has a mile of sandy beach on Lake Huron with picnic tables and grills. There is a beach concession that offers great food and drinks. A catch and release fishing pond is also available.

Tawas Point Lighthouse: Located within Tawas Point State Park, the lighthouse has been in service since 1876. At night, the keeper’s house and tower are illuminated with exterior lights. Tours are available during the summer months.

Directions: From East Tawas, take US 23 north one mile to Tawas Beach Road. Turn right and proceed 2.5 miles. A DNR entry fee/permit is required.

3 East Tawas City Park Campground

Long one of Michigan’s most popular family campgrounds, the East Tawas City Park features 178 available camp sites with full hookups including Cable TV. The park Day-Use area features a 300 foot sandy beach, picnic area, playground and pavilions.

From US 23 in downtown Oscoda, travel west on the River Road to board the Wanigan, a replica of the saw. Hike the 260 steps down to the edge of the river to board the Wanigan, a replica of the floating cook shacks that followed the river log drives.

4 Northeast MI Regional Farm Market

Operated Wednesdays at AuSable Shoreline Park in Oscoda and Saturdays at Gateway Park in Tawas City. This market runs rain or shine from Memorial Day until October. Great vendors offer heirloom veggies, organically grown greens, cheeses, berries, honey products, prepared foods, pastries, eggs, potted herbs, soap, large bouquets, plants, and much more. Share the hand that feeds you!

5 Turtle Marsh

Wonderful bird-watching opportunities abound. This 5,900 acre wetland complex. Of special interest are the Osprey nesting platforms. Herons, Blackbirds, plus many other wetland bird, insect, mammal, reptile, amphibian and plant species make this park a true haven during the spring and fall migratory seasons. It is a stopover for several types of waterfowl. Turtle Marsh is a favorite destination during the annual Mid May Turtle Marsh Birding Festival.

Location: From Oscoda, take US 23 approximately five miles to Turtle Marsh Rd, then turn left into the entrance road. From Tawas, travel north on Wilbur Rd to Sherman Rd, turn left on Tuttle Marsh Rd, left on Swan Creek Rd, left on Davison and follow to Tuttle Marsh Rd.

6 Lumberman’s Monument

This huge bronze memorial to Michigan’s lumberjacks sits at the top of a high bluff overlooking the sparkling waters of the AuSable River. Erected in 1932, interpretive signs and exhibits tell the story of moving logs from the forests to the mills. Children enjoy climbing the log jam and using the crosscut saw. From the top you can see the man-made channel the river to board the Wanigan, a replica of the floating cook shacks that followed the river log drivers.

Location: Intersection of River Road and Monument Road.

7 Huron National Forest & River Road National Scenic Byway

From US 23 in downtown Oscoda, travel west on the River Road to board the Wanigan, a replica of the saw. Hike the 260 steps down to the edge of the river to board the Wanigan, a replica of the floating cook shacks that followed the river log drives.

The day use area has a mile of sandy beach on Lake Huron with picnic tables and grills. There is a beach concession that offers great food and drinks. A catch and release fishing pond is also available.

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Location: Intersection of River Road and Monument Road.

8 AuSable River Queen

A double-decker, authentic paddle wheel riverboat, affectionately painted in Red, White and Blue. Two-hour excursions offer a view of wildlife and beautiful scenery and you can relax as the captain narrates this area’s colorful history. It is a popular fall color destination, requiring reservations for weekend trips. The AuSable River Queen is accessible with a heated lower deck, snack bar, and onboard restroom facilities. It accommodates four tour bus groups and can be reserved for wedding receptions or special occasions.

www.ausableriverqueen.com

9 Oscoda Area Beaches

Public parks and piers along Oscoda’s Lake Huron shoreline include uncommon stretches of “Sugar Sand” swimming beaches. Oscoda Township Beach Park is located at the east end of River Road. The park features a 300 foot hundred observation and fishing pier, playground equipment, skateboard ramps and obstacles, water spray park, basketball court and public restrooms. Free concerts are offered at the “Community Bandshell” at 7 pm Thursday evenings during the summer. Three miles north of downtown are the Huron Sunrise Park and the MOCOT Net Area. These two parks provide public access to one mile of undeveloped Lake Huron beach and shoreline. Oscoda public parks are open from sunrise to 10 pm.

oscomo.com  oscodachamber.com

10 AuSable Shoreline Park

The site has everything a water lover could want. The park has a beautiful sandy beach, harbor, boat launch, and marine facilities. There are fully handicapped accessible trails featuring including a birding platform, boardwalk and picnic facilities just south of the AuSable River Bridge.

Features:

- Shipwreck Alley, O’quesee Falls, and Historic Mill Creek!
- Check out our video series... Tuttle Marsh
- Also featuring: Shipwreck Alley, Ocqueoc Falls, and Historic Mill Creek!
- Tourism Information
- Oscoda-Ausabie Chamber of Commerce
dochamber.com
- Oscoda Area Convention & Visitors Bureau
tawasarea.com
- Tawas Area Chamber of Commerce
tawas.com
- Oscoda-Ausabie Chamber of Commerce
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