

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, kayaking, and snorkeling opportunities for visitors.

Photo by Bryan Dort - Photic Zone



1b Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Center

Explore the exhibits at Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary's visitor center, the Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Center. Experience the maritime history, shipwrecks, and archaeology of the Great Lakes, and much more. Walk the deck of a life-sized schooner battling the Great Lakes storm and then dive in and explore a shipwreck—without getting wet! thunderbay.noaa.gov or call 989-884-6200



Alpena Shipwreck Tours

Explore the shipwrecks of the 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. Daily tours begin in June and continue through the color season. 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 Alpena. It is a Michigan Central 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

This museum offers experiences in art, history and science. Visitors will 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 fossil they find, rotating art galleries featuring both local, regional and nationally renowned artists, wildlife 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



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.

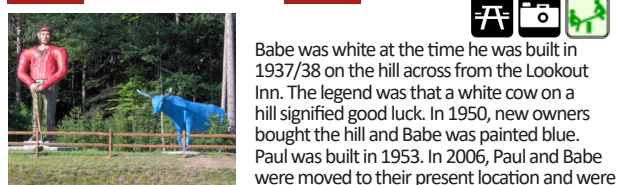
8 Long Lake Park

10 miles north of Alpena on the east side of Long Lake, this 68-acre county park has 105 campsites adjacent to the 5,652 acres of water that make up Long Lake. 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 Northern Lights Arena & APlex

This is a class-A facility with 2 sheets of ice offering open ice skating, drop-in hockey, and figure skating and is home ice for the Alpena Wildcats (high school hockey). A 1/8 mile walking track is free to the public. For more information, please call Northern Lights Arena at 989-356-1878. northernlightsarena.com
The APlex is a state-of-the-art facility that seats 650 and offers a state of the art kitchen and a/v. The facility also features a gymnasium, four regulation-sized tennis courts, two multi-purpose rooms, an aerobics area, outdoor beach volleyball courts, corporate fitness area, and locker facilities. The APlex offers an active schedule of sports, fitness classes, and camps year-round for all ages. For more information, please call 989-354-6164. aplex.com

10a Paul Bunyan 10b Shinga-ba-Shores



Babe was white at the time he was built in 1937/38 on the hill across from the Lookout Inn. The legend was that a white cow on a hill signified good luck. In 1950, new owners bought the hill and Babe was painted blue. Paul was built in 1953. In 2006, Paul and Babe were moved to their present location and were restored in 2007. Shinga-ba-Shores is located across US 23 from Dinosaur Gardens. Completed in 1998, this volunteer-built 8,500 square foot playground was designed and built from the ideas of area children. The playground reflects Native Americans, farming, lumbering, and Great Lakes trades. The park features a pavilion and ball fields as well.

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 Farmer's Market.....	May - Nov
Alpena Blues Festival.....	June
Besser Museum Log Cabin Days.....	June
Rockport Recreation Day.....	June
Thunder Bay Maritime Festival.....	July
Independence Day Celebration.....	July
Maritime Festival.....	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
Live Theaters.....	Year Round

Tourism Information 2019

Alpena CVB & Welcome Center visitalpena.com 1-989-340-2288 420 N. Second Ave. Alpena	Michigan DNR michigan.gov/dnr
ARTrail 200-mile arts & culture trail along coastal Northeast Michigan artownmichigan.org	Up North Trails Our Trails Take You Farther. 5,300 miles of trails across Northern Michigan upnorthtrails.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 Michigan Sea Grant www.miseagrants.umich.edu
Cover photo (shipwreck) courtesy of Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary
BROCHURE COMMODITY CODE 8014-0746

HERITAGE ROUTE 23

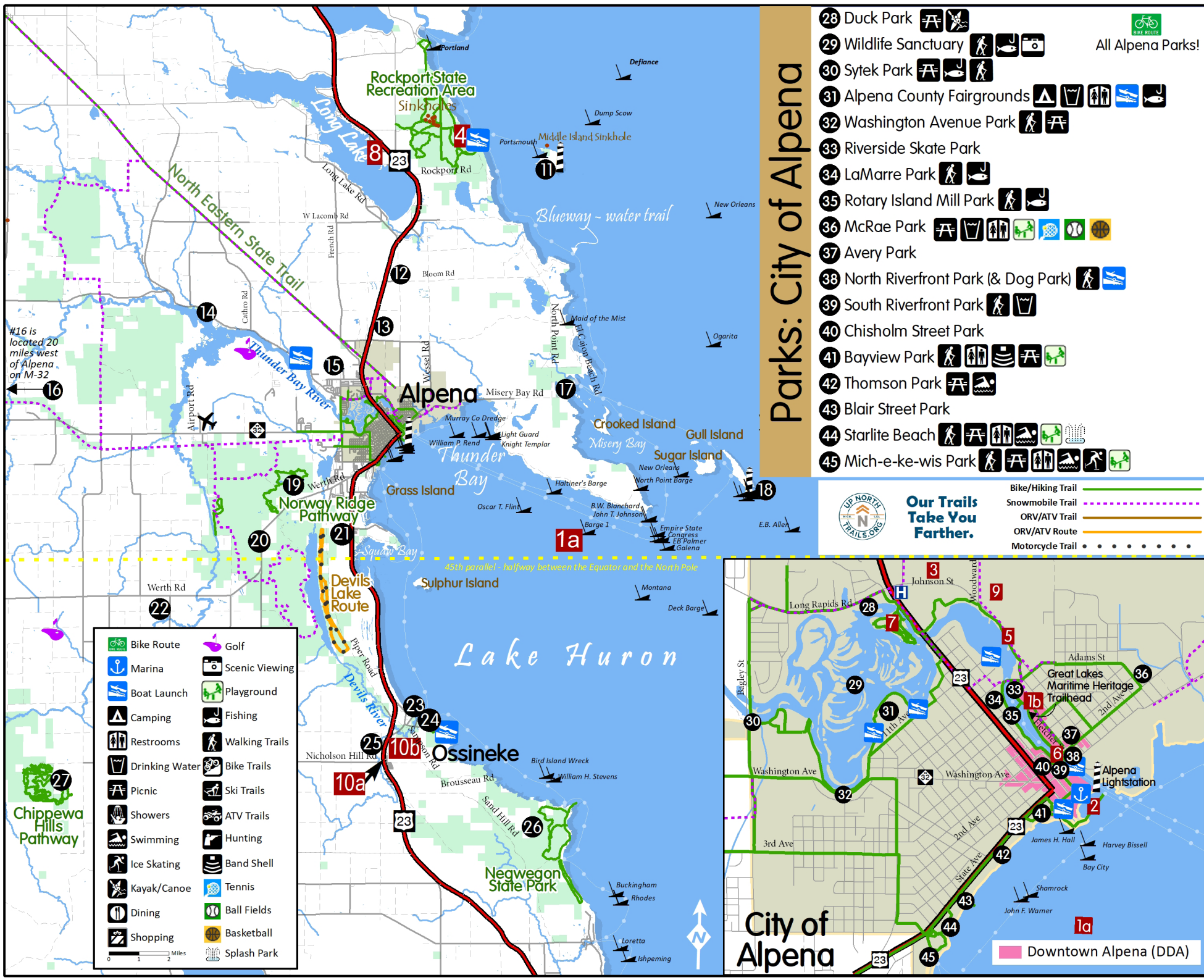
Mackinaw City, Cheboygan, Rogers City, Alpena, Harrisville, Oscoda, AuSable, East Tawas, Tawas City, Au Gres, Omer, Standish

Featuring online...

and

Sunrise Coast Birding Trail

www.heritage23.com



Parks: City of Alpena

- 28 Duck Park
- 29 Wildlife Sanctuary
- 30 Sytek Park
- 31 Alpena County Fairgrounds
- 32 Washington Avenue Park
- 33 Riverside Skate Park
- 34 LaMarre Park
- 35 Rotary Island Mill Park
- 36 McRae Park
- 37 Avery Park
- 38 North Riverfront Park (& Dog Park)
- 39 South Riverfront Park
- 40 Chisholm Street Park
- 41 Bayview Park
- 42 Thomson Park
- 43 Blair Street Park
- 44 Starlite Beach
- 45 Mich-e-ke-wis Park

All Alpena Parks!

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...an official 200-mile Pure Michigan Byway along Lake Huron's coast.

- 1-10** Featured attractions described on reverse
- 11** Middle Island Light
Lighthouse trips 989-884-2722. Narrated 3-4 hour tour includes boat ride, nature walk, and lighthouse viewing. May - October. www.middleislandkeeperslodge.com.
- 12** Arzo Sports & Fun Park
Bumper cars, go-karts, batting cages, miniature golf, driving range, and ferris wheel. Located on Bloom Road. www.arzopark.com 989-358.1111
- 13** Alpena Township Park
Four Little League baseball fields.
- 14** Campers Cove RV Park & Canoe Livery
5005 Long Rapids Road. (989)356-3708. camperscove@charterinternet.com
- 15** Alpena Golf Club
Public golf course. 1135 Golf Course Road. 989-354-5052. www.alpenagolfclub.com
- 16** Thunder Bay Resort
Elk view dinner ride. Golf, lodging & RV Park. 27800 M-32, Hillman. (800)742-3380. www.thunderbayresort.com
- 17** Alpena Township Nature Preserve
133 acre natural area off Misery Bay Road.
- 18** Thunder Bay Island Light
No public access. Viewable from the water.
- 19** Norway Ridge Pathway
4.5 miles of hiking, mountain biking and groomed ski trails. Trailhead off Werth Road.
- 20** Devils Lake Trails
26 miles of groomed snowmobile trails.
- 21** Thunder Bay RV Park & Campground
4250 US 23 South. (989) 354-2528.
- 22** River's Edge Golf Club
Public golf course. 6373 Werth Road. 989-354-4312. www.riversedgealpena.com.
- 23** Sanborn Park
Local park located in Ossineke.
- 24** Ossineke State Forest Campground
Rustic campground with 42 sites on a first come, first serve basis. Day use area with Lake Huron access.
- 25** Dinosaur Gardens
Prehistoric zoo and mini-golf. 11160 US 23 South. 989-471-5477. www.dinosaurgardensllc.com.
- 26** Negwegon State Park
Undeveloped State Park with nature trails and backcountry camping. A designated Dark Sky Preserve!
- 27** Chippewa Hills Pathway
Over 14 miles of hilly, heavily wooded landscape. Single-track bike trails, walking, skiing!
Fishing and scuba diving charters also available. Contact the Alpena CVB 1-989-340-2288 or visitalpena.com