

TAHQUAMENON SCENIC BYWAY

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Points of Interest
 Boat Launch
 Highway M-123 Corridor
 North Country National Scenic Trail





From its source, the Tahquamenon River meanders 94 miles before emptying into Whitefish Bay near Paradise. Forests and wetlands make up about 90% of the Tahquamenon River watershed. The obvious amber color of the water is caused by tannins leached from the Northern Cedar, Spruce and Eastern Hemlock trees in the swamps drained by the river. The extremely soft water churned by the action of the falls causes the large amounts of foam, which has been the trademark of the Tahquamenon since the days of the French Voyager.

Little evidence of historic logging remains. The forests have changed since the logging era ended almost 100 years ago. The intervening time has allowed the forest to stabilize into a mixture conifers and hardwoods. Development is restricted or impossible in many of the wetland areas, which serves to further maintain the natural condition of the watershed. Stream protection is provided by the riparian forests, which stabilize stream banks, shade stream channels, and help control surface runoff.

Just as the water of the Tahquamenon River has shaped the land, may it also shape your recreational journey! Enjoy all that it has to offer!



KEY

-  Fishing
-  Beaches
-  Paddling
-  Boat Launch

POINTS OF INTEREST

1



Rivermouth Campground and Boat Launch

This is the boating access point to enter the Tahquamenon River, which leads into Whitefish Bay. Many people also utilize the shoreline and benches at the boat launch for fishing the channel. A Recreation Passport is required for entry, and available for purchase at the Rivermouth Campground Office.



2



Eckerman Trout Pond

This is a DNR facility that was historically used to raise trout during the 1950s. It is currently utilized as a scenic resting point along M-123, with benches overlooking the East Branch of the Tahquamenon River.



3



Hamilton Lake Nature Area

The unexpected beauty found at Hamilton Lake Natural Area makes a lasting impression. With a beautiful scenic overlook, untouched nature, and the secluded beauty waiting to be exposed, Hamilton Lake is not something to miss.



4



Two Hearted River

With the two hearts, or branches of rivers, the Two-Hearted River consists of, stretching more than a hundred miles long, this free flowing river is the ideal setting for a rustic camp getaway or just for a day away.



5



Muskallonge State Park

Enjoy the spacious, 217-acre, Muskallonge Lake area, explore the surrounding forests, lakes and streams. The modern facilities on site make Muskallonge Lake State Park an ideal place to bring the family for summer camping.



6



Tahquamenon Logging Museum

The Tahquamenon Logging Museum and Nature Study hosts a wide variety of things to do. With the original buildings and artifacts of past lumberjack times, you will be taken back to an important American and Upper Peninsula historical time.

7



Upper/ Lower Tahquamenon Falls State Park

The centerpiece of Tahquamenon Falls State Park's 50,000 acres is the Tahquamenon River with its waterfalls. The Upper Falls, one of the largest waterfalls east of the Mississippi has a drop of nearly 50 feet, more than 200 feet across and a water flow of more than 50,000 gallons per second.



8



Whitefish Point Lighthouse/Shipwreck Museum

The Great Lakes Shipwreck Museum will take you back in time at one of Lake Superior's most tumultuous channels. Visitors will feel the wind in their bones as they view relics from a dozen ships, including the famed Edmund Fitzgerald, fallen prey to the of the largest Great Lake.



9



Whitefish Point Bird Observatory

Whitefish Point provides a phenomenal concentration spot for migrant birds. Here, land and water features create a natural migration corridor. Tens of thousands of birds are funneled to the Point every Spring and Fall while migrating through the Great Lakes region.



10



Crisp Point Lighthouse

Crisp's Point Lighthouse is located on the deserted shore of Lake Superior, just 37 miles north of Newberry, Michigan. Crisp's Point Lighthouse is considered one of the most inaccessible and lonely mainland lighthouses in the Upper Peninsula, yet can be reached by taking a narrow country road through the Lake Superior State Forest.



11



North Country National Scenic Trail

Winding its way around the Tahquamenon River, the North Country National Scenic Trails offers hikers stellar views of the Tahquamenon Falls and skirts to the north along Lake Superior and the Two Hearted River – another of Michigan's National Wild and Scenic Rivers. Varied hills and sandy terrain are what hikers can expect on this unique section of a cross country landmark.



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Great Lakes Shoreviewer App is Available!

The Superior Watershed Partnership is pleased to provide FREE high resolution color photography for every inch of Great Lakes coastline in the Upper Peninsula including Lake Superior, Lake Michigan and Lake Huron.

