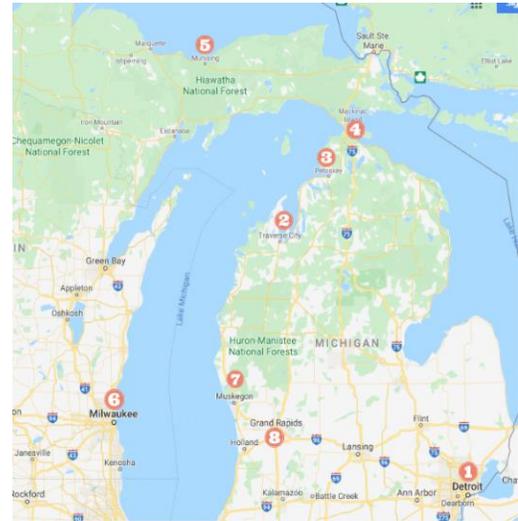


# The Ultimate Lake Michigan Road Trip

The last few months have been challenging to say the least. Many of us had travel plans that had to be cancelled due to the coronavirus and are ambivalent about going on a plane in the near future. Perhaps, it's time to explore our own back yard. Luckily, Michigan has a lot to offer. Follow us along as we explore some of the best places to visit around Lake Michigan.



The first stop on the trip is to the Traverse City area. While Traverse city has much to offer, make sure to check out the surrounding area. Sleeping Bear Dunes is an absolute must as well as taking M22 up through the Leelanau Peninsula. It is recommended to spend at least two nights here to make sure that you have an opportunity to explore as much as possible. For the ultimate resort experience, Grand Traverse Resort has you covered. If you are looking for something quaint, the Inn at Black Star Farms on Leelanau peninsula is a great choice or the Homestead near Sleeping Bear Dunes.



Stop by Petoskey on your way to Mackinac Island to enjoy the unique shops and great restaurants. The only way to get to Mackinac Island is by ferry from Mackinac City or St. Ignace. You can park nearby for a cost of \$10-15 per day or farther away for free and take a shuttle to the ferry port. Rent some bikes and ride around the small island. Make sure to try the fudge! Stay at the Grand Hotel or one of the cozy bed and breakfasts' if you want to spend the night on the island.

Bonus Adventure: The north-east part of upper peninsula has some great experiences included Tahquamenon Fall State Park. Those who enjoy hiking will really appreciate the hike between the lower falls and the upper falls. The Soo Locks located in Sault Ste. Marie is another unique experience in that area.

Next stop is Munising in the Upper peninsula. It is here where you can experience the must-see Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore. Unique experiences can be found here including kayak tours, hiking, camping, and more. Hotels can fill up fast so be sure to plan ahead. For a unique glamping experience, check out Paddlers Village.

The last leg of the trip is to explore Lake Michigan from the Wisconsin side. Make your way down to Milwaukee but take your time. Destinations such as the Escanaba State Park are worth stopping by. Milwaukee has great experiences including the Harley Davidson Museum and Mitchel Park Horticultural Museum. Once you've had your fill, take the car ferry across the lake to Muskegon and drive home.

Bonus Adventure: For those that want to extend their trip even further, spend some time in Grand Rapids. There's a lot to see and do including Frederick Meijer Sculpture Park and many fun museums for kids. Be sure to check out Eastown for an eclectic hipster vibe and great food sourced from local farms.