

Windswept Dunes and Hidden Lakes

Suel Choix Light House, Kitch-iti-kipi Springs, Manistique Boardwalk

Season Itinerary: Spring, Summer, Fall

Day 1

9:00 a.m. – Wake up to home cooked breakfast at **Chamberlin's Ole Forest Inn**.

10:00 a.m. – Drive approximately 1 hour to Manistique and explore the **Suel Choix Light House**, the light house dates back to 1985, and is still a fully operated and used by shipping industries as a navigational aid.



12:00 p.m. – Drive 20 minutes to Kitch-iti-kipi Springs and experience a two-hundred feet wide and forty feet deep fresh water spring, no wonder it is called the “Big Springs.” At Michigan’s largest spring, you’ll witness an astounding 10,000 gallons of water gush from its fissures. By means of a self-operated and tethered observation raft, you’ll be guided to points of interest, all the time overlooking mysterious underwater features, such as ancient tree trunks and lime-encrusted branches. Dip your hands in the water—the true mystery is that the flow maintains a temperature of 45 degrees Fahrenheit, despite Upper Michigan’s notoriously cold and snowy winters.



1:00 p.m. – Drive a few short minutes to the Manistique Marina and enjoy lunch at **The Upper Crust Café**. Try some scrumptious sandwiches and a delectable homemade brownie for dessert.

2:00 p.m. – After lunch visit the **Manistique Boardwalk** for a beautiful view of Lake Michigan. Take a hike along the two-mile pathway where certain stretches of the boardwalk run along wetlands where wild irises are plentiful and ducks and redwing blackbirds nest. Walk all the way down the pier and you’ll reach the 35-foot cherry-red East Breakwater Light at the Manistique River mouth.

3:30 p.m. – Tantalize your taste buds and try some delicious native Michigan wines at the **Mackinaw Trail Winery**. Taste a wide variety of wines produced right in Michigan.

4:00 p.m. - Head approximately 1 hour back to Curtis for dinner at Chamberlin’s.

5:00 p.m. – Have Dinner at **Chamberlin's Ole Forest Inn** and relax by the ten-foot stone fireplace as you choose from either their delicious Dinner menu or one of their nightly specials..

7:00 p.m. - Take the family out to a bonfire right in the front yard of Chamberlin's. Catch fireflies while listening to the lively sounds of nature.

10:00 p.m. – Once the bonfire dies down lie on your back and watch the stars glisten under a clear northern sky. It is not uncommon to see a shooting star or two during a summer night in Michigan's Upper Peninsula.

Day 2

9:00 a.m. – Wake up and enjoy a country style breakfast at **Chamberlin's Ole Forest Inn.**

10:00 a.m. - Grab a picnic lunch and travel 50 minutes along Lake Michigan toward Brevort.

11:00 a.m. - **Stop for lunch at Hiawatha National Forest's Brevort Lake Picnic Area.** Just inland from Lake Michigan, this picnic area is situated on Brevort Lake. Watch for bald eagles and osprey soaring overhead while a variety of other birds float on the lake's surface.

12:00 p.m. - Hike or relax on the **Sand Dunes of the Hiawatha National Forest.** Continue southeast along US2. Access to the Dunes can be found from Route H57 at the site of the Historic Round Lake Civilian Conservation Camp. This popular destination has numerous well-marked hiking trails, which take you through dense beech/maple hardwood. Birds are plentiful and can be heard calling in the forest.



3:30 p.m. - Head back to Chamberlin's (1 hour).

5:00 p.m. After a delicious dinner grab a fishing pole and a can of worms and throw a line off the dock at Chamberlin's Ole Forest Inn or relax on the wraparound porch with a book for a peaceful evening.