

Isle Royale

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



Rock Harbor Area Guide

Isle Royale National Park



Stay Wild

Step into the serenity of the boreal forest. Witness Lake Superior’s moods that continually reshape the island’s rocky shore. Listen carefully for the wail of a loon luring you deeper into wilderness. What will you discover on Isle Royale’s east end?

- Explore the Rock Harbor Area by:**
- Hiking
 - Paddling (\$)
 - Guided Boat Tour (\$)
 - Water Taxi (\$)
 - Motorboat Rental (\$)

Before you begin exploring the park's wilderness, consider how you can help Isle Royale Stay Wild.

• **Know Before You Go:** Check weather forecast and pack rain gear. Bring water.

• **Play It Safe:** Have a conservative trip plan. Bring a map. Trails are slippery when wet.

• **Protect Your Park:** Take only pictures, leave only footprints. Dispose of waste in trash cans.

• **Share the Space:** If an animal’s behavior changes, you are too close. Do not feed animals.

Venture by Foot

Stoll Memorial Trail
Length: 1.8 miles loop
Difficulty: Moderate

This trail is ideal for hikers on a limited schedule. Discover different types of island scenery including rugged coastline, powerful Lake Superior, and boreal forest while hiking this trail. Signs along the way provide information on the island’s natural and cultural history.

Scoville Point
Length: 4.2 miles loop
Difficulty: Moderate

Hike through forest and shoreline communities to reach picturesque Scoville Point. The contrast between the seclusion and safety of the woods and the mighty impact of Lake Superior is striking, especially on a stormy day. Complete the figure-eight loop to witness the dynamic relationship between land and water. This trail shares a beginning with the Stoll Memorial Trail.

Suzy’s Cave
Length: 3.8 miles loop
Difficulty: Moderate

Discover an inland sea arch formed by wave action some 4000 years ago. Suzy’s Cave is marked with a trail marker about 1.8 miles west of Rock Harbor. Access the cave by the Rock Harbor Trail or the easier Tobin Harbor Trail, or hike both to make it a loop.

Mount Franklin
Length: 10 miles roundtrip
Difficulty: Strenuous

Access this overlook by hiking the Tobin Harbor Trail until you arrive at the marker for Mount Franklin Trail. Trek the steep ascent to the observation point, and admire the island’s interior and north shore, as well as the distant Canadian mainland. Pack rain gear and enough food and water for an entire day on the trail.

Explore By Water

Lookout Louise
Length: 2 miles roundtrip

Paddle: Reach the Lookout Louise Trail and its magnificent overlook via a 20-minute paddle. The trail takes you past Hidden Lake, a small pond with a mineral spring that often attracts moose, before ascending. Along the way, you’ll encounter Monument Rock, an inland sea stack created by wave activity thousands of years ago. Upon reaching the overlook, you'll be rewarded with a breathtaking panorama of the north shore of Isle Royale and the Canadian mainland.

Water Taxi/Water Bus: Get dropped off by *MV Sandy* at Hidden Lake Dock. Adventurous hikers with rain gear and enough water and food for a whole day may opt to hike the 9.4 miles back to Rock Harbor via the Greenstone Ridge, Mount Franklin, and Tobin Harbor Trails.

Raspberry Island
Length: 2 miles roundtrip

Tour Boat/Motorboat: Peer across Rock Harbor Channel and spot Raspberry Island, just a quick paddle or boat ride away. Explore boreal forest, a spongy bog, and rocky shores. Signs along the trail explain the ecology of this island’s rich and varied plant life and the geologic origins of its rugged shores.

Tobin Harbor
Length: Paddler’s Choice

Paddle: Float tranquil Tobin Harbor, speckled with historic cottages, or paddle directly across from the Tobin Harbor Dock to locate the Tobin/ Duncan Portage marker for a hike. Hike up the steep trail to reach the Greenstone Ridge and down the other side to Duncan Bay. Retrace your steps to return to your vessel.

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