



FIND YOUR PARK



Sleeping Bear Dunes



National Lakeshore



#FindYourPark

MAKING THE MOST OF YOUR VISIT 4
CAMPING 7
BEACHES 16

19 SPECIAL EVENTS
20 PETS IN THE PARK
20 JUNIOR RANGERS

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Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore Visitor Guide is produced and designed annually by Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore, Division of Interpretation & Visitor Services.

Special thanks to photographers Kerry Kelly and Mark Lindsay.

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The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.



Find Your Park in 2015



Welcome to Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore! This year we are preparing for the 100th anniversary of the National Park Service in 2016.

Whether this is your 1st or 101st visit to the National Lakeshore, you can always find something new,

experience the unexpected, enjoy multiple ways to recreate, and join in fun, free special events. This year we invite you to share your experience using **#FindYourPark**.

Do you **Find Your Park** in nature or history? From beautiful beaches, stunning vistas, and forests full of wildlife to glimpses back in time at Glen Haven, the South Manitou Island lighthouse, and Port Oneida, you can always find something new in the Lakeshore. Share what you discover so others can fully appreciate the park's diversity.

Do you **Find Your Park** in wilderness? The Lakeshore is proud to be one of the nation's newest additions to the National Wilderness Preservation System. For many, a sojourn into the 32,500 acres of the Sleeping Bear Dunes Wilderness is to experience the unexpected. Share what you value about this wilderness so that others can enjoy a new experience.

Do you **Find Your Park** in recreation? This year a new section of the Sleeping Bear Heritage Trail will open between the community of Glen Arbor and the Port Oneida Rural Historic District. This multi-use trail opens up multiple ways to recreate in the National Lakeshore. Share what you love about this trail so that others can find new places in the park to visit.

Do you **Find Your Park** by joining a ranger program or special activity? The National Lakeshore offers numerous ranger-led programs daily, sky and star parties each month, and our biggest special event of the year, the Port Oneida Fair, on August 7 and 8. Join in these fun, free special events. Then share what you learned so others can become part of the community of visitors that experience all their park has to offer.

How do you **Find Your Park**? Let others know! **FindYourPark.com** is there for you to share your national park story. Help us spread the word that Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore is more than a place; it can be a feeling, a state of mind, or a sense of belonging. Get ready for 2016 and a great Centennial celebration!

With warm regards,

Dusty Shultz, Superintendent



This year all paved National Park Service roads and parking areas in the Lakeshore, including the Scenic Drive, Platte River Campground, and Dune Climb, will receive a seal-coat preservative surface. (This work does not include state highways or county roads.) Some areas will have additional repairs made.

Please check www.nps.gov/slbe alerts for closures.
We appreciate your patience, cooperation, and understanding!

Philip Hart Visitor Center

Open year-round. Let park rangers help you plan your visit. Purchase a park pass here. Assistive listening devices are available. Exhibits provide information on geology, ecology, and human stories. *Dreams of the Sleeping Bear*, a free 15-minute multimedia program with closed captioning, highlights the Lakeshore's scenery, seasons, and history. Bookstore purchases (books, games, posters, postcards, shirts, hats, patches, and more) support the park.

Memorial Day to Labor Day: 8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Labor Day to Memorial Day: 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Closed Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Day



Located on M-72 at 9922 Front Street, Empire, Michigan

231-326-4700

National Park Entrance Passes

A park entrance pass is required whenever and wherever you venture into Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore and must be displayed on the driver's side of your vehicle windshield or dashboard. When you park outside the Lakeshore boundary and enter on foot or bicycle, carry your pass. Purchase a pass year round at the visitor center or Platte Point fee machine; or seasonally during regular hours of operation at campground offices, Pierce Stocking Scenic Drive, Dune Climb, or at Leland Harbor. Seven-day passes may also be purchased May through November at the self-pay fee canisters at the Platte River Picnic Area, Maritime Museum, and at road-end beaches: Peterson, Esch, North Bar Lake, County Road 669, and County Road 651.

For more information or to purchase passes visit nps.gov/slbe, store.usgs.gov/pass, or pay.gov.

\$10 Seven-day Pass for Sleeping Bear Dunes NL

Admits pass holder and all passengers in a noncommercial vehicle. *Nontransferable and valid for 1-7 days.*

Free admission for children 15 and under

\$20 Annual Pass for Sleeping Bear Dunes NL

Admits pass holder and all passengers in a noncommercial vehicle. *Valid for one year from month of purchase.*

\$10 Senior Pass for National Parks and Federal Recreational Lands

Lifetime pass for U.S. citizens or permanent residents age 62 or over. One-time fee provides access to Federal recreation sites. Provides a 50-percent discount on camping at Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore.

\$80 Annual Pass for National Parks and Federal Recreational Lands

Provides access to all Federal recreation sites for a year from month of purchase. Admits pass holder and all passengers in a non-commercial vehicle.

Free Annual Pass for U.S. Military

Available to U.S. military members and dependents in the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, and Coast Guard, and also Reserve and National Guard members. *Must be obtained in person at a Federal recreation site by showing a Common Access Card (CAC) or Military ID (Form 1173).*

\$5 Individual 7-day Pass for Sleeping Bear Dunes NL

Admits one individual (age 16 and up) on foot, bicycle, motorcycle, or noncommercial bus. *Nontransferable and valid for 7 days.*

Access Pass for National Parks and Federal Recreational Lands

Free lifetime pass for U.S. citizens or permanent residents with permanent disabilities. Documentation is required. Admits pass holder and all passengers in a noncommercial vehicle. Provides a 50-percent discount on camping at Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore.

Academic School Groups

For fee waiver information, all 231-326-4730, or visit the website: www.nps.gov/slbe.

Commercial Vehicle Fees

Vehicle	Capacity	Fee
Sedans	1-6	\$25*
Van	7-15	\$40
Minibus	16-25	\$40
Motorcoach	26+	\$100

*Sedans—\$25 commercial fee plus \$5 per person fee for each passenger

Fee Increase Scheduled for 2016

To better serve the public through improved facilities and visitor services, the National Lakeshore will increase entrance and camping fees effective January 1, 2016. The 7-Day Entrance Pass will increase from \$10 to \$15 and the Annual Pass will increase from \$20 to \$30. Camping fees will also increase \$4 to \$7 per site per night. The additional fee revenue will support park improvements that have a direct visitor benefit. For more information, please visit www.nps.gov/slbe.

Fee-free days

The National Park Service is offering entrance fee-free days (camping and other fees still in effect). Come to Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore (or any national park) on one of these days, and enjoy the sun, sand, and history for free.

April 18-19, 2015 *National Park Week's opening weekend*
August 25, 2015 *National Park Service's 99th birthday*
September 26, 2015 *National Public Lands Day*
November 11, 2015 *Veterans Day*
January 18, 2016 *Martin Luther King Jr. Day*
February 13-15, 2016 *Presidents Day weekend*

Listening Assistance Available



Do you have trouble hearing information at ranger programs because of competing sounds?

Try out the FM wireless listening system available for your use in the Lakeshore. The equipment amplifies the sound of a ranger's voice, which you hear through a headset, neck loop, or earbuds. Use the wireless system for a ranger-led hike or

evening program, available at the visitor center in Empire, the campground offices, or the General Store in Glen Haven. A listening system is also available for the multimedia program at the visitor center.



Visitors wishing to use the equipment are encouraged to call ahead and arrive early.

Local Information

Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore

231-326-4700
www.nps.gov/slbe

Benzie County Chamber of Commerce

231-882-5801
www.benzie.org

Benzie County Visitors Bureau

800-882-5801
<http://www.visitbenzie.com>

Empire Chamber of Commerce

www.empirechamber.com

Frankfort Chamber of Commerce

231-352-7251
www.frankfort-elberta.com

Glen Lake Chamber of Commerce

231-334-3238
www.visitglenarbor.com

Leelanau Peninsula Chamber of Commerce

231-994-2202
www.leelanauchamber.com

Sleeping Bear Dunes Visitors Bureau

888-334-8499
www.sleepingbeardunes.com

Traverse City Chamber of Commerce

231-947-5075
www.tcchamber.org

Traverse City Convention and Visitors Bureau

800-872-8377
www.traverscity.com

Making the Most of Your Visit

If you have less than 3 hours—try these

Pierce Stocking Scenic Drive

This driving loop overlooks some of the Lakeshore's most unique scenery. Open mid-May until Veteran's Day depending on the weather. Check to ensure the road hasn't been closed for repairs planned for this summer. Details page 14.

M-109, 3 miles north of Empire

Length: 7.5 miles, 90 minutes

Dune Climb

No visit would be complete without climbing this 110-foot high sand dune. Take water, sunscreen, and good footwear. Great for kids! See page 11 for trail info to Lake Michigan from the top of the Dune Climb. (It's a 3-mile-plus hike!) Stop in the air-conditioned Dune Center for nature guides, compasses, pins, T-shirts, hats, hiking sticks, and more. The Dune Center is open in June on Fri, Sat, Sun 12-5, and daily 12-5 July 1-Labor Day.

M-109, 6 miles north of Empire

Length: 30 minutes

Explore Glen Haven

This steamship stop on Sleeping Bear Bay dates back to the turn of the 20th century. Visit the Blacksmith Shop, General Store and D. H. Day Exhibit, and Cannery Boat Exhibit. The Maritime Museum tells the stories of the U. S. Life-Saving Service in a fully restored station.

Heroes of the Storm shipwreck rescue demonstration daily at 3:00 p.m. (seasonal). **Great for kids!** Details on page 12.

M-209, 7 miles north of Empire

Length: 0.5-3 hours

Loon Lake

Have a picnic on the shore of one of the park's tranquil inland lakes. A big lake with a sandy bottom, Loon Lake is good for fishing from the boat ramp or your boat.

M-22 just south of where M-22 crosses the Platte River

Length: 0.5-3 hours



More than 3 hours—add these

The Platte and Crystal Rivers

Canoe, kayak, or float these calm rivers. Rent equipment near either launch site if you don't have your own. **Great for kids!**

Platte River: M-22 to Lake Michigan Rd., 10 miles south of Empire

Crystal River: M-22 east of Glen Arbor

Length: 2-3 hours

Sleeping Bear Point Trail (#9)

A short hike along a portion of this trail offers a panoramic view of the shoreline, dunes, and islands. Follow the blue-tipped posts to the beach, and return along the same route. For a longer hike, complete the entire loop through a ghost forest, over dunes, and back through the woods. Take water, sunscreen, and good footwear. Details on page 11.

M-209, 8 miles north of Empire

Length: to beach, 1.4 miles, 60 minutes

Round trip: 2.8 miles, 2-3 hours

Port Oneida Historic Farm Tour

Feel a century slip away in the largest historic agricultural landscape in all of the national parks. Bicycle or drive the back roads to old farmsteads, fields, orchards, and cemeteries. A driving tour brochure and a cell phone tour are available. Stop in at the historic Olsen Farmhouse—office of Preserve Historic Sleeping Bear to see exhibits about this amazing cultural landscape.

M-22, 3 miles north of Glen Arbor

Length: 1-2 hours



Ranger Programs

Visit a beaver lodge. Hike to historic farmsteads. Explore glacial remains. Experienced rangers lead these free activities and more. For locations and topics, pick up a program schedule at the visitor center, campground offices, or entrance stations.

Length: 0.5-2 hours

Empire Bluff Trail (#3)

Traversing through a beech-maple forest, this up- and downhill-trail leads to an overlook of Lake Michigan and the dunes. Details on page 9.

M-22 to Wilco Rd., 1.6 miles south of Empire

Length: 1.5 miles, 1 hour

Alligator Hill Trail (#10)

Winding through a beech-maple forest, various loops on this trail lead to an overlook of Lake Michigan and the Manitou Islands.

Details on page 11.

6 miles north of Empire off Stocking Rd.

Length: 3-8 miles, 2-4 hours

Sleeping Bear Heritage Trail (#8)

Hike, bike, run, rollerblade, or ski some or all of this almost 16-mile hard-surfaced trail. From the Dune Climb, the trail winds north through Glen Haven and the back loop of D. H. Day Campground into Glen Arbor and on to the schoolhouse in Port Oneida. From the Dune Climb south, the trail winds south through forests to the village of Empire.

Details on pages 11 and 18.

Park your car at one of the trailheads: Bar Lake Rd, Pierce Stocking, Dune Climb, Glen Haven, Alligator Hill, Crystal River, Bay View, or Port Oneida.



Photo: Mark Lindsay

A full day—try South Manitou Island

Length: 14 miles, one way, 1.5 hours by bike

Tour the Lighthouse

Learn about the history of the South Manitou Island Lighthouse and U.S. Life-Saving Station. Climb the 100-foot tall tower for sweeping views of the Manitou Passage.

The lighthouse is 0.3 miles from dock

Length: 30 minutes

Giant Cedars and Shipwreck Hike

Hidden on the island's southwest corner, a stand of old-growth white cedar trees—called the Valley of the Giants—escaped the lumbermen.

Nearby, view the shipwrecked Liberian freighter, the Francisco Morazan, which ran aground in 1960.

Begins and ends in the village

Length: 7 miles round trip, 3-4 hours

Motorized Island Tours

Manitou Island Transit offers two open-air tours for island visitors.

You may explore the history of the old schoolhouse, cemetery, lake, and farms; or visit the giant cedars and view the shipwreck.

For costs and reservations, call 231-256 9061.

Begins in the village after ferry arrives

Length: 2 hours

Ferry information:

231-256-9061

www.manitoutransit.com

The ferry leaves on schedule—don't be late!



#FindYourPark



Chipmunks, Raccoons, and Bears, Oh My!

National Parks are wonderful places to see a great variety of wildlife. But we need your help to keep the wildlife truly wild and healthy by making sure you store your food properly. Although seldom seen here, bears are especially curious and can smell food and beverages in sealed containers. Please store all foods properly.

To animals, food includes all food, trash, beverages, and anything with a scent, including: toiletries, lotions, toothpaste, soaps, insect repellent, pet food, medicine, perfume, gum, candy, empty food or beverage containers, tobacco products, dirty dishes, scented tissues, etc.



Store your food carefully when camping

- Store all food, drinks, trash, and scented items in animal-proof food storage boxes or your vehicle trunk, with vehicle doors closed at all times.
- Never store food, drinks, trash, or scented items in your tent. The tent pictured below had salt left in it!
- Do not dispose of food or trash in fire rings.
- Do not leave food unattended, even for a few minutes.

Never leave your food unattended when hiking or picnicking

New Recycling Efforts!

This year, you will notice containers to separate recyclables from garbage at most of the trash receptacles on the mainland. Please help us by placing your clean and empty paper, plastic, metal, and glass waste in these containers and any garbage or contaminated materials in the neighboring trash can. With your help, we will exceed our 2015 goal of keeping 50% of our waste out of landfills!

Don't get ticked!

Protect yourself from tick bites

- Avoid ticks by walking in the center of trails and avoiding contact with vegetation.
- Use a repellent such as DEET (on skin or clothing) and wear close-toed shoes, long sleeves, long pants, and socks. Wear light-colored clothing with a tight weave to easily spot ticks.
- Check your clothes and any exposed skin frequently for ticks. Avoid sitting directly on the ground, fallen logs, or stone walls.

After being outdoors

Check your body for ticks after being outdoors, and remove any tick you find.

Check your clothing for ticks. Placing clothes into a dryer on high heat for at least an hour effectively kills ticks.

Shower soon after being outdoors.

Showering within two hours of coming indoors has been shown to reduce your risk of being bitten by a tick.

Check these parts of your body and your child's body for ticks:

Under the arms	In and around hair
In and around the ears	Between the legs
Inside belly button	Around the waist
Back of the knees	

If you are bitten by a tick

Remove an attached tick as soon as you notice it. Use fine-tipped tweezers or a tick removal tool, grasp the tick as close to the skin as possible, and then slowly, but firmly, pull it straight out. Immediately wash the bite area and your hands with soap and water, then apply an antiseptic to the bite wound.

Watch for signs of illness.



Poison ivy: Leaves of three, leave them be!

Firewood

We all love to sit around a warm, crackling campfire, but, unfortunately, firewood is known to harbor harmful insect and disease pests which can destroy forests. In order to protect our beautiful forests from succumbing to these non-native pests, campers in the National Lakeshore may only use firewood purchased from vendors approved by the National Lakeshore. These vendors are selling firewood that has either been safely treated for pests or is from a type of tree that is known to be pest free.

Unapproved firewood may not be used in the campgrounds. Help us protect the forest by leaving your firewood at home!

You may purchase approved firewood from firewood vending machines located in both campgrounds or from local firewood vendors in the surrounding communities.

Approved firewood is available from the following vendors as of May 1, 2015. Check www.nps.gov/slbe for an updated list:

Vending machines in the campgrounds
Anderson's Market, Glen Arbor
Deering's Market, Empire
Eagle Country Builders, Honor
Empire E-Z Mart, Empire
Honor Family Market, Honor
Honor Trading Post, Honor
Lake Ann Hardwoods, Lake Ann
Merrill's Water-Powered Sawmill, Benzonia
Northwoods Hardware, Glen Arbor
Phil Gunther, Beulah
R & R Contracting, Empire
Riverside Canoe Trips, Honor
Tag Limit Outdoors, Inc., Honor

Manufactured logs for campfires are also acceptable.

Camping

Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore offers camping for everyone. The Platte River Campground is equipped with modern facilities, tent pads, picnic tables, fire rings, and paved parking pads at each site.

D. H. Day Campground is a popular, rustic campground with wooded campsites. Located less than a 5 minute walk from a Lake Michigan beach, the campground sites have tent pads, picnic tables, fire rings, and parking areas.

The Platte River Campground will be closed for road restoration work from May 26 until the work is completed in June. Check www.nps.gov/slbe/alerts for closure information.

Backcountry camping is available on the mainland at White Pine and Valley View Campgrounds, on South Manitou Island at Bay, Weather Station, and Popple Campgrounds (0.5, 1.5, and 3.5 miles from the dock), and on North Manitou Island at the Village Campground and dispersed around the island. A backcountry camping permit is required in addition to a park entrance pass. Obtain a pass and permit at the visitor center, campground offices, or Leland dock.

2015 Camping Rates

	Reservations	Modern restrooms	Vault toilets	Backcountry sites	Tent sites	Group camping	RV sites	Potable water	Shower	Accessible	Swimming beach	Camping fees
	R	🏠	🚻	⛺	⛺	⛺	🚐	🚰	🚿	♿	🏊	\$ per night / per site
D. H. Day Campground		•		•	•			N	•		•	\$12 (6 people per site max)
D. H. Day Group Campground	•			•	•	•			•			\$30 (25 people per site max)
Platte River Campground	•	•	•		•	•	E	•	•	\$	•	\$16 \$21 w/ elec. \$12 walk-in site (6 people per site max) \$40 group site (25 people per site max)
White Pine				•	•							\$5 (4 people, two tents per site)
Valley View				•	•							\$5 (4 people, two tents per site)
South Manitou Island	G	•	R	•	•	•			W			\$5 (4 people, two tents per site) \$20 group site (20 people max)
North Manitou Island		•		•	•	•			W			\$5 (4 people, two tents per site) \$10 group site (10 people max)

E Sites with electricity are available
G Reservations only for group campsites
\$ Shower tokens required (\$1 for six tokens)

R Restrooms only available in the village.
W Potable water available in some campgrounds
N No electricity at sites; generator use permitted from 9 a.m. until 6 p.m. at sites 1-31

Reservations

To make reservations, visit <http://www.recreation.gov>, or the park website at www.nps.gov/slbe, or phone 1-877-444-6777. Reservations for Platte River campsites from July 1 - October 15 are accepted six months in advance. For group sites from May through September, reservations are accepted one year in advance. A \$3 per night reservation fee is added by the reservation contractor. Reserve early!

Please Note: Senior and Access Pass holders with ID pay half price for campsites at D. H. Day Campground and Platte River Campground. This includes campsites reserved through the National Recreational Reservation Service (NRRS). The discount does not apply for group campsites or electricity.



Leave No Trace

- Plan ahead and prepare**
Prepare for extreme weather and emergencies. Bring food and water. Don't forget your park pass!
- Camp and travel on durable surfaces**
Stay on established trails and campsites.
- Dispose of waste properly**
Pack it in, pack it out.
- Leave what you find**
Preserve the past and leave rocks, plants and other items as you find them for others to discover.
- Minimize campfire impacts**
Use established fire rings. Keep fires small. Burn wood to ash. Put all fires out completely.
- Respect wildlife**
Observe wildlife from a distance. Never feed animals. Store food properly.
- Be considerate of other visitors**
Respect other visitors and protect the quality of their experience. Let nature's sounds prevail.



www.LNT.org

Platte River District

 Unpaved road
 Authorized park land
 Wilderness
 Trails
 Park boundary extends .25 miles into Lake Michigan
 Ranger station
 Picnic area
 Campground
 Beach access
 Backcountry campground walk-in (permit required)



Platte River District Trail Guide

TRAIL	ROUND TRIP	DESCRIPTION
Old Indian Trail 1	2.5 mi 	Easy hike, easy to advanced ski - Two fairly flat loops begin in a mixed evergreen and hardwood forest and wind through low dunes to the Lake Michigan shore. <i>Trailhead: off M-22, north of Sutter Rd.</i>
Platte Plains Trail 2	3.5 - 14.7 mi 	Watch for junctions. <i>There are multiple trailheads (Otter Creek, Esch Rd., Trails End Rd., off M-22 (winter only), & Platte River Campground).</i> Bass Lake Loop (3.5 mi): Easy hike and ski - Winds around Bass and Deer Lakes. Some sections follow a two-track road. Otter Creek Loop (4.6 mi): Easy hike and ski - Follows Otter Creek and Otter Lake. Flat, with pine-oak-aspen forests and open meadows. Lasso Loop (6.3 mi): Moderate hike, easy to advanced ski - Winds through pine-oak-aspen forests. Scenic overlooks of Lake Michigan. Several road crossings.
Empire Bluff Trail 3	1.5 mi 	Moderate hike - Winds through a beech-maple forest to a spectacular overlook. Wildflowers and woodland plants are abundant. For your safety and to prevent erosion, please do not descend the bluff. <i>Trailhead: Wilco Rd. off M-22.</i>

Additional trail information:

- No pets on designated ski trails from December 1 through March 31.
- Trail maps are available online, at visitor contact stations, in the *Hiking Trails* booklet published by the Friends of Sleeping Bear Dunes, and in the new **Sleeping Bear Dunes: Official Guide** mobile app. Directional arrows and difficulty levels on maps are for use by cross-country skiers. Snowshoers should not walk on top of ski tracks.
- Please leave plants, rocks, and other natural objects undisturbed for other visitors to enjoy. Do not collect ghost-forest wood, any wood on the dunes, or wildflowers. Ask the rangers about what fruits, berries, and mushrooms you can pick.
- Always tell someone where you are going hiking and when you'll be back.



Leelanau District



Leelanau District Trail Guide

TRAIL	ROUND TRIP	DESCRIPTION
Windy Moraine Trail 4	1.5 mi 	Moderate hike, advanced ski - A quiet trail with a view of Glen Lake from atop a hill. <i>Trail leads through beech-maple forest and old farm fields. Trailhead: Welch Rd. east of M-109.</i>
Shauger Hill Trail 5	2.4 mi 	Moderate hike, advanced ski - Includes beech-maple forest and steep hills, and crosses the Pierce Stocking Scenic Drive twice. Watch for traffic at the crosswalks. In winter, the Scenic Drive is closed to vehicles for use as a cross-country ski and snowshoe trail. Watch for snowmobiles where the trail crosses Shauger Hill Rd. <i>Trailhead: parking lot near Pierce Stocking Scenic Drive entrance, M-109.</i>
Cottonwood Trail 6	1.5 mi 	Moderate - Hilly, all sand, and no shade. Leads onto the perched dunes through native grasses, shrubs, and wildflowers. Views from above the Dune Climb of D. H. Day farm and Glen Lake. Take water, sunscreen, hat, and shoes. <i>Trailhead: Stop #4 along the Pierce Stocking Scenic Drive, M-109.</i>
Dunes Hiking Trail 7	3.5 mi 	Strenuous - Hilly, all sand, and no shade. Travels over nine hills through the high dunes plateau to Lake Michigan. Numbered, blue-tipped posts mark the trail. It can be a hot, exhausting, three to four hour trip, punctuated only by a cool dip in Lake Michigan. Plan ahead. <i>Take water, sunscreen, hat, shoes, and a snack. Trailhead: the Dune Climb, M-109.</i>
Sleeping Bear Heritage Trail 8	16 mi 	Easy-moderate hike, ski, and bike - Hard-surfaced, multi-use trail. From the Dune Climb, the trail winds north through Glen Haven and the back loop of D. H. Day Campground into Glen Arbor and on to the schoolhouse in Port Oneida. From the Dune Climb south, the trail winds south through forests to the village of Empire. Great for strollers, wheelchairs, and bikes. Mostly forested. To be extended in coming years. <i>Trailheads: Bar Lake Road, Pierce Stocking, Dune Climb, Glen Haven, Alligator Hill, Crystal River, Bay View, Port Oneida.</i>
Sleeping Bear Point Trail 9	2.8 mi 	Strenuous - Hilly, all sand, and no shade. Leads onto the dunes, through a ghost forest, and overlooks Lake Michigan. Blue-tipped posts mark the trail. For a shorter option, a spur leads to Sleeping Bear Point from where you can follow the beach back to the Maritime Museum and trailhead. Plan ahead. Take water, sunscreen, hat, shoes, and a snack. <i>Trailhead: end of Sleeping Bear Dunes Rd. off of M-209, west of Maritime Museum.</i>
Alligator Hill Trail 10	3 - 8 mi 	All three loops lead through a beech-maple forest to a bench which overlooks Lake Michigan and the Manitou Islands. A 1.6 mile spur takes you along the ridge to the Glen Lake overlook. Only trail upon which horse use is allowed. <i>Trailhead: east of D. H. Day Campground, off Stocking Rd. near its intersection with Day Farm Rd.</i> Easy hike and ski loop: 3 mi, 4.6 mi with spur. Moderate hike, intermediate ski loop: 4.7 mi, 6.3 mi with spur Moderate hike, advanced ski loop: 4.6 mi, 6.2 mi with spur
Bay View Trail 11	2.4-7.5 mi 	Provides views of Lake Michigan and the Port Oneida Rural Historic District. Several loops of different lengths and difficulties. <i>Trailhead: off Thoreson Rd. near M-22.</i> Farm Loop (2.4 miles): Easy hike and ski - Wanders through farms and fields and by an historic schoolhouse to Lookout Point. Ridge Loop (4 miles): Moderate hike, advanced ski - The lower part of the trail leads through fields and forest. The higher part of the trail follows the ridge for views of Lake Michigan.
Pyramid Point Trail 12	1.2 - 2.7 mi 	Moderate - To the bluff and back is 1.2 miles. Climbing a steep hill, it provides an overlook of Lake Michigan and the Manitou Islands. For your safety and to prevent erosion, please do not descend the bluff. The entire loop trail is 2.7 miles and follows a portion of Basch Rd. <i>Trailhead: off Basch Rd.; follow Port Oneida Rd. north from M-22.</i>
Good Harbor Bay Trail 13	2.8 mi 	Easy hike and ski - A flat loop trail through woods and wetlands. <i>Trailhead: off Lake Michigan Rd.; take CR 669 north from M-22; follow Lake Michigan Rd. east.</i>

See page 9 for additional trail information.



Glen Haven Historic Village

Step into the colorful past in this company-owned steamboat stop that operated from 1865 until 1931. Sleeping Bearville, as it was originally called, was a natural harbor sought out by steamships sailing between Chicago and

Buffalo. Learn more about area history when you visit the restored General Store and Blacksmith Shop. Flush toilets and picnic area with grills are available. *M-209, 7 miles north of Empire*

Glen Haven General Store

Treat someone to old-fashioned candy at the historic General Store, restored to appear as it did in the 1920s. Built in 1867 as a company store, it provided goods for workers. Lumber baron David Henry Day came to Glen Haven in 1878 to work and never left. Learn about his legacy in the exhibit hall and see his office at the back of the store. Today, the General Store carries merchandise and items related to the history of Glen Haven, including kitchenware, food, toys, and books.

Memorial Day weekend through June, Open 12-5, Fri, Sat, & Sun only. July 1-Labor Day, Open 12-5 daily



Cannery Boat Museum

What was once a cherry and apple cannery now houses a collection of historic Great Lakes vessels, including boats, motors, and equipment. Volunteers provide short interpretive talks and answer your questions. Outside, pilings from Glen Haven's dock stretch into Sleeping Bear Bay. A sand-accessible wheelchair is available.

Open 11-5 daily, Memorial Day through Labor Day.



Port Oneida Rural Historic District

With buzzing bees, chirping grasshoppers, sun-warmed wood planks, and the cool, dark shade of 100-year-old barns, Port Oneida farmsteads showcase houses and fields passed down from generation to generation. Check out Preserve Historic Sleeping Bear's exhibit at the Charles Olsen Farm and learn about Port Oneida and life on the farm. Visit www.phsb.org for hours.



The Good Ship *Aloha*

Built in 1937 to handle gill nets, *Aloha* spent her days navigating deep Lake Michigan. Now conveniently "docked" next to the new viewing ramp north of the Cannery Boat Museum in Glen Haven, visitors can visit *Aloha* at water level and look inside.

Maritime Museum

Tour the crew quarters and boathouse at the Maritime Museum at Sleeping Bear Point. Exhibits highlight the U.S. Life-Saving Service and Great Lakes shipping history. Short interpretive talks are given throughout the day.

Heros of the Storm, daily, 3:00 p.m.

Join rangers as they demonstrate an U.S.L.S.S rescue and, on Thursdays, fire the Lyle Gun.

A sand-accessible wheelchair and public restrooms are available.

Open 11-5 daily, Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day.



Park Partners

Friends of Sleeping Bear Dunes

The Friends of Sleeping Bear Dunes was founded in 1994 as a volunteer, nonprofit organization helping to protect resources and heighten visitor experiences. This friends group obtains grants and donations from individuals, companies, and other organizations for a variety of interesting projects and park support. Look for their publications in park bookstores available by donation. For more information and/or to join, visit www.friendsofsleepingbear.org.

Preserve Historic Sleeping Bear

Since 1998 Preserve Historic Sleeping Bear (PHSB) has been a park partner dedicated to sponsoring volunteer preservation projects and raising money to save the historic buildings and landscapes of the Lakeshore. Come and visit PHSB in the Olsen House in the Port Oneida Rural Historic District. Open to the public when staff is available. For more information and/or to join, call 231-334-6103 or visit www.phsb.org.

Manitou Islands Memorial Society

The mission of the Manitou Islands Memorial Society (MIMS) is to preserve and interpret the history and cultural resources of North and South Manitou Islands. Members are involved in research, fundraising, hands-on maintenance and preservation projects, and interpretation initiatives. For more information visit www.manitouislandsmemorialsociety.org.



Ranger-led Activities

Imagine hiking through the dunes learning about the glaciers, pulling the rope of the breeches buoy demonstration to help rescue Raggedy Ann and Andy, or sitting under the trees at the campground in the evening listening to stories told by the ranger.

Guided activities will be offered daily throughout the summer. Pick up a program flyer at the visitor center or campground offices, or visit the website (www.nps.gov/slbe). Call 231-326-4700 for more information.

Please arrive a few minutes before the activity is scheduled to begin. Water, sunscreen, bug spray, and appropriate footwear recommended. Check out our Special Events section on page 19 for additional activities.

There will be no ranger-led programs in other parts of the park during the Port Oneida Fair. See you there!

Make a Difference



In 2014, nearly 1,800 Volunteers-In-Park (VIPs) donated more than 50,500 hours at Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore. VIPs staffed visitor centers and museums, acted as campground hosts, monitored piping plovers, maintained and renovated trails and historic buildings, removed invasive plants, and much more. You too can help care for your national parks. For more information, contact the volunteer coordinator at 231-326-4729 or email matthew_mohrman@nps.gov.

Pierce Stocking Scenic Drive

Dune Ecology

To survive in the dunes is no easy task. Flora and fauna deal with strong sunlight, poor soils, and constant winds. The wind action alone can dry out plants, expose root systems, or even completely bury vegetation, including trees.

Leaving the Sand Dunes

Before you enter the neighboring forest, notice a great example of wind action that has been threatening the stability of a basswood tree across the road. If you were that tree, how much longer do you think you could keep your balance and stay standing?

Beech-Maple Forest

From the open, sunny environment of the dunes to the cool, lush shade of the woods is a startling contrast. Sugar maples and American beech are the predominant trees but in addition to them, a variety of shrubs and flowers fill the forest. Coyotes, deer, bobcat, squirrels, and birds find more food and shelter here than in the dunes.

Changes Over Time

Scientists describe the landscape around here after the glacier melted more than 11,800 years ago as one of sand, rocks, and gravel stretching miles in every direction with hills and grooves carved by ice. Over the years, plants, animals, and minerals have transformed the once sterile ground into the productive, fertile woods of today.

Lake Michigan Overlook

Standing on this platform, about 450 feet above the lake, you are afforded one of the most magnificent views in all of Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore! If the visibility is good, you will see South Manitou Island 10 miles to the northwest. That is Empire Bluffs just four miles to the south and Platte Bay just beyond that. Wisconsin is 54 miles due west, but thanks to the curvature of the earth, you will not see any "cheeseheads" waving back at you!

The vast majority of visitors take in the view from atop the bluff and don't risk erosion, injury, and rescue fees by going down—not to mention the hour or two it takes to climb up!

Sleeping Bear Dune Overlook

The iconic landform that gave this national park its name and for which the legend is told lies about one mile away, along the edge of the bluff. It hardly looks like a sleeping bear anymore, for over time, those persistent winds have eroded the bump on the bluff. You may be able to distinguish some skeletons of dead trees within the blow-out in the dune. They are part of a ghost forest whose existence tells a story of alternating stability and suppression.

5

6

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1

12

Cottonwood Trail

Grab some water, a hat, and sunscreen before heading out on this 1.5 mile loop through the dunes. It may feel strenuous because you will be walking in a lot of sand, but take your time and explore a world of plants and animals that survive in a challenging world dominated by wind.

Dune Overlook

You are standing in the middle of about a four square-mile (2600 acres) area called the Sleeping Bear Dunes complex. While a relatively small area, there is incredible diversity around you. This high plateau gently dips to the lakeshore to the north and Sleeping Bear Bay. However, to the east, the dunes rise dramatically and almost straight up from the water.

Glen Lake

Two for the price of one! Divided by the M-22 causeway visible in the distance, Big Glen Lake reaches 130 feet deep in places, while Little Glen (closest to you) is only 12 feet deep. Different shades of blue indicate lake levels. The long ridge running along the north side of Little Glen is called Alligator Hill. Can you see the creature's snout down by the bridge?

Covered Bridge

Have you ever seen a covered bridge with the National Park Service arrowhead on it? The original one, built by Mr. Pierce Stocking for his scenic drive did not boast the symbol, of course. He just wanted to provide a picturesque detail for sightseers to stop and photograph. Please enjoy!

Pine Plantation

In many places in the park, rows of pines were planted where the original mixed hardwood forest had been harvested. Red pines were commonly planted for their uniformity, wood properties, and relative freedom from insects and disease. National Park Service biologists gradually thin the plantations to restore a more healthy forest that is diverse in species and ages of trees.

North Bar Lake

Just below this overlook is a rare type of geologic remnant. The calm, beautiful North Bar Lake is in transition. Once a bay of Lake Michigan, its name describes how it is slowly closing itself off as the sand bar along its west side continues to build up. Compare it to South Bar Lake in Empire which no longer has an open channel of water to the big lake.

The Manitou Islands



South Manitou Island

No place offers a more complete sense of the National Lakeshore than South Manitou Island. Catch a passenger ferry for a day trip or camping excursion. The island preserves beaches, giant cedars, shipwrecks, and historic farms far from the rush of the mainland. Join a motor tour of the island. Climb the lighthouse stairs for grand views across Lake Michigan. Take everything you need (food and camping equipment) as no services are available on the island. Supplies are available in Leland.

North Manitou Island

For a true wilderness experience, backpack on North Manitou Island. Visitors pass through the historic U.S. Life-Saving Service village before entering nearly 15,000 acres of undeveloped forests, fields, and beaches. Visits emphasize solitude and self-reliance. Plan well. No services are available. As you must stay overnight, take all your camping needs. Because of nesting piping plover, some beach areas may be closed May-August.



Getting to South and North Manitou Islands

Ferry service to the Manitou Islands changes with the seasons. Contact Manitou Island Transit for reservations and schedules. A national park entrance pass is required to visit the islands. A backcountry permit is also required for campers. Passes and permits are available at the Leland Harbor office before ferry boarding and at the visitor center in Empire. Leland is 27 miles (45 minutes) north of Empire on M-22.

Manitou Island Transit also offers two island tours, see page 5 for more information.

231-256-9061
www.manitoutransit.com

Beaches, Beaches and More Beaches

Let your bare feet guide you along the mainland's many sandy beaches. There are no concessions, so pack a picnic and your sunscreen.

Fires are permitted on mainland Lake Michigan beaches between the water's edge and the first dune, away from any vegetation. Firewood is available for purchase from park-approved vendors; see page 6 for more information.

A park entrance pass is required for any use of the National Lakeshore and is available at numerous locations throughout the park. The following beaches have vault toilets unless noted.

Platte Point Beach features the Platte River outlet where warmer water enters Lake Michigan. Accessible flush toilets are provided. Please note that a section of the shoreline is sometimes closed to protect nesting piping plovers. Regardless of the lot in which you park, a park entrance pass is required to use the National Lakeshore. A separate township fee is required to use the adjacent township park and picnic area.

🚫 No pets allowed

At the end of Lake Michigan Rd. Off M-22, 12 miles south of Empire

Peterson Beach has a boardwalk crossing the low dunes from the parking lot to the beach. It's a quiet stretch of sand with wide vistas of Empire Bluff to the north and Platte River Point to the south.

🐾 Leashed pets are allowed to the left of the boardwalk when facing the water.

🚫 No pets are allowed to the right of the boardwalk.

At the end of Peterson Rd. Off M-22, 11 miles south of Empire

Esch Beach, also called Otter Creek Beach, is another popular swimming area. The shore to the south is divided by the shallow outlet of Otter Creek.

🐾 Leashed pets are allowed to the right of Esch Rd. when facing the water.

🚫 No pets are allowed to the left of Esch Rd.

At the end of Esch Rd.

Off M-22, 5 miles south of Empire

North Bar Lake is a popular spot. This warmer lake connects to Lake Michigan and its beaches. Some areas have experienced severe dune erosion and are closed for restoration. Please obey closure signs.

🚫 No pets allowed.

At the end of LaRohr Rd. From Empire, take M-22 north, left on Voice Rd., right on Bar Lake Rd., left on LaRohr Rd.

Glen Haven Beach is on Sleeping Bear Bay. Views look west past the Maritime Museum to Sleeping Bear Point, north to the Manitou Islands, and east to Glen Arbor and Pyramid Point. Please note that a section of the shoreline is sometimes closed to protect nesting piping plovers. Adjacent picnic area with grills and nearby flush toilets are provided.

🐾 Leashed pets are allowed to the right of the Maritime Museum when facing the water to all the way past the Cannery and D. H. Day Campground.

🚫 No pets are allowed on the Maritime Museum grounds.

M-209, 7 miles north of Empire

Piping Plover Update

In 2014, there were 70 breeding pairs in the entire Great Lakes piping plover population; 24 of those were within the National Lakeshore.

The plover population remains highly vulnerable to losses. Adults, eggs, and chicks are at risk from dog and human encroachment into nesting areas. Please help us protect these special birds by keeping dogs on a leash and obeying all beach closure signs.

For more information, download a informational flier at www.nps.gov/slbe/playourvisit/upload/Piping_Plover.pdf



Have fun, be safe, care for our beaches...

Remember, all beaches are unguarded. Swim at your own risk.

Extinguish ALL beach fires with water. DO NOT bury fires—hidden embers could burn unsuspecting bare feet!

Don't bring glass to the beach. For your safety, glass containers are prohibited on beaches, waterways, and dune areas.

Dispose of diapers properly and help protect water quality, wildlife, and other visitors.



County Road 669 Beach is on Good Harbor Bay. To the west, view Pyramid Point; to the north, the Whaleback and North Manitou Island. The Fox Islands may be visible on a clear day. Shalda Creek empties into Lake Michigan to the west of the parking area. Lake Michigan Rd. parallels the bay for several miles. Follow it east to a pleasant shoreline picnic area and the Good Harbor Bay trailhead (#13). Please note that a section of the shoreline is sometimes closed to protect nesting piping plovers.

🐾 Leashed pets are allowed to the left of CR 669 when facing the water

🚫 No pets are allowed to the right of CR 669.

At the end of CR 669 (Bohemian Rd.) Off M-22, 18 miles north of Empire

County Road 651 Beach features wonderful sunset views on Good Harbor Bay. To the west, view Pyramid Point and to the north, the Whaleback and North Manitou Island. The Fox Islands may be visible on a clear day.

🐾 Leashed pets are allowed to the right of CR 651 when facing the water.

🚫 No pets are allowed to the right of CR 651.

At the end of CR 651 (Good Harbor Tr.) Off M-22, 12 miles north of Glen Arbor

... and take your butts with you!

Cigarette butts are litter—the most common litter found on our beaches. Not only are cigarette butts unsightly, they contain chemicals—cadmium, lead, arsenic and nicotine—which leach into the water. Cigarette filters can also find their way into the mouths of small children and wildlife.

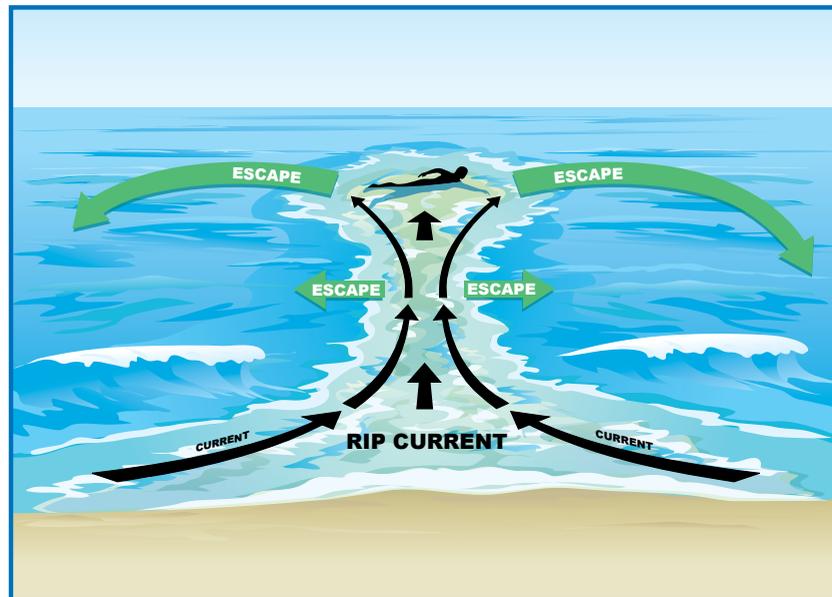
So when you leave the beach, be sure you haven't left your butts behind!

Keep your dog on a leash! Pets running on the beach cause the adult plovers to run from their nests and chicks, leaving the young vulnerable to predators.

Dangerous Currents

Lake Michigan is a wonderful place to enjoy the beach and wade or swim—if you are careful. Swimming in Lake Michigan is not the same as swimming in a pool or small lake. Wind, waves, the slope of the beach, and other factors can cause dangerous currents to be present.

Although they are not common, rip currents are dangerous and can occur at any beach with breaking waves. These powerful currents move away from shore and are capable of overcoming even the strongest swimmer. The most common mistake of those caught in a rip current is to panic and attempt to swim directly back toward the shore. Although rip currents can pull a swimmer away from the shore, they don't pull you under water.



What to do if caught in a rip current:

- Remain calm. Remember, it will not pull you under.
- Swim parallel to the shore until you break free, then swim diagonally toward the shore.
- If you cannot swim out of the current, float until it weakens, then swim diagonally toward the shore.
- Summon help by waving your hands.

If someone else is caught in a rip current—yell directions on how to escape, throw the victim something that floats, and call 911.

Remember, Lake Michigan conditions can change quickly. Know what to expect before you go in the water. Tune in to NOAA weather radio, and monitor websites (National Weather Service, Gaylord Office) for updated weather and Lake Michigan surf conditions during your visit.

For more information on rip currents, check the website at <http://www.ripcurrents.noaa.gov>.

Winter Activities

Explore the colors of winter. Blue-gray ice sheets sculpt the shoreline and leafless oak, beech, and maple trees reveal overlooks shrouded the rest of the year. Winter creates a quiet and rarely witnessed landscape.

Ski the trails. Easy, intermediate, and advanced trails exist. The Sleeping Bear Heritage Trail is groomed for skate or classic skiing. The other trails are not groomed, but are frequently tracked. Ask about a ski trail guide or see pages 9 and 11.

Snowshoe anywhere. When following marked trails, please avoid trampling established ski tracks by snowshoeing beside them, not on them.

Weekend snowshoe hikes. In January and February, rangers lead free introductory snow-

shoe hikes on Saturdays. Meet at the visitor center at 1:00 p.m. The park provides snowshoes free of charge. They are limited; call ahead for reservations 231-326-4700.

Ice fish the inland lakes. State of Michigan licenses and regulations apply. Anglers are reminded to dress warm, use the buddy system, always wear a life jacket, and use caution when traveling across any ice.

Please exercise caution! The Lakeshore offers fascinating winter activities, but freezing temperatures, as well as slippery and unstable surfaces, create hazards. Ice formations along the Lake Michigan shoreline may be tempting to explore but are dangerous.



Biking

Biking is allowed on public roads or the Sleeping Bear Heritage Trail but not on any other park trails.

Sleeping Bear Heritage Trail: easy to moderate. This hard-surfaced, multi-use trail runs almost 16 miles between Empire and Port Oneida, connecting to park attractions and the town of Glen Arbor along the way. Park your car and use your bike to get around! Lauded as one of the most beautiful bike trails in the nation, it offers both hilly and flat sections, many suitable for even the youngest children. Visit sbht.org for more details.

Port Oneida Rural Historic District: easy. These quiet country roads, a mix of gravel and pavement, wind between farms, barns, and wetlands. Ask for an area brochure at the visitor center.

Platte Plains Roads: moderate. Close to the Platte River Campground. Use these back roads to experience nature away from the highway.

Pierce Stocking Scenic Drive: strenuous. For experienced bicyclists only. This 7.5 mile loop, with heavy summer traffic and steep hills, provides overlooks of Lake Michigan and the dunes.

You can rent bicycles in Glen Arbor and Empire.

Half the Park is After Dark

If people sat outside and looked at the stars each night, I'll bet they'd live a lot differently."

-Bill Watterson, *Calvin and Hobbes*

National parks protect nature, history, and scenery. They also protect our night skies: the starry, starry nights and natural darkness often found in national parks allow jewels of the heavens to shine brightly. So dream for yourself! Get out and spend an evening under the stars and see the nighttime wonders of Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore. You might just become starstruck!

And, if you like, please join us for a Star Party. Monthly guided explorations of the night sky are hosted by the park and the Grand Traverse Astronomical Society (GTAS). GTAS members set up multiple telescopes for all to use and offer a chance to take in the stars, planets, sun, meteor showers, and milky way. Check the schedule of events on the next page for dates or www.nps.gov/slbe for more information.

Sky Watch	DATE	SUNRISE	SUNSET	FULL MOON
	May 1	6:35 am EDT	8:48 pm EDT	May 3
	May 15	6:17 am	9:05 pm	June 2
	June 1	6:02 am	9:22 pm	July 1
	June 15	5:58 am	9:31 pm	July 31
	July 1	6:02 am	9:34 pm	August 29
	July 15	6:12 am	9:28 pm	September 27
	August 1	6:29 am	9:12 pm	October 27
	August 15	6:46 am	8:52 pm	November 25
	September 1	7:06 am	8:23 pm	December 25
	September 15	7:22 am	7:57 pm	April 22, 2016
	October 1	7:41 am	7:27 pm	
	October 15	7:59 am	7:02 pm	
	November 1	7:21 am EST	5:34 pm EST	
	November 15	7:40 am	5:17 pm	
	December 1	8:01 am	5:05 pm	
	December 15	8:14 am	5:04 pm	
April 1, 2016	7:25 am EDT	8:11 pm EDT		
April 15, 2016	7:00 am	8:29 pm		

Special Events

May 23, June 20,
July 26, Aug. 8,
August 12, Sept. 12,
Sept. 27, Oct. 21, 2015
Times vary

Astronomy–Sky Parties

Enjoy the night sky through telescopes with park rangers and the Grand Traverse Astronomical Society. Night sky and solar viewing. Check at visitor center or www.nps.gov/slbe for time and location.

May 23, 2015
10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Glen Haven Days

Visit the restored Glen Haven Village and a U.S. Life-Saving Station where activities are designed to bring history, during the very early 1900s, to life by providing visitors with many first-hand experiences relating to Michigan's maritime heritage.

June 20, 2015
10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Junior Ranger Day

Discover the secrets of Sleeping Bear Dunes and Find Your Park with fun activities for all ages.

June 18-20, 2015
9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Michigan Barn Preservation Network Workshop

Want an opportunity to learn new skills and help restore historic buildings? Help restore a Port Oneida barn. No skills necessary. Enough work for everybody.

June 2015
Date TBA

Ribbon Cutting - Sleeping Bear Heritage Trail

Help celebrate the opening of the third segment of the multi-use trail. Bring your bike!

August 7-8, 2015
10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Port Oneida Fair

Port Oneida Rural Historic District. Arts, crafts, and rural life skills demonstrations along with live animals at a variety of farmsteads throughout the Port Oneida Rural Historic District.

August 25, 2015
TBA

NPS Founder's Day

Celebrate the National Park Service's 99th birthday with us.

September 26, 2015

National Public Lands Day

Enjoy the park on this annual fee-free day and/or participate in a Take Pride in America/Coastal Cleanup event. Volunteers earn a pass for free entrance (to any national park) to be used at a later date.

For more information on any special event, contact 231-326-4700 or visit the website: www.nps.gov/slbe

September 25, &
October 23, 2015
TBA

Artist-in-Residence

Listen and see as a visiting artist shares his or her work at a public program. Visit the art gallery in the visitor center to view work by previous artists-in-residence.

October 1-26, 2015
October 27 -
November 13, 2015

North Manitou Island Deer Hunt (Bow) North Manitou Island Deer Hunt (Firearm)

A special deer hunt is conducted on the island to control the deer herd and preserve the natural vegetation. Call 231-326-4700 for permit information.

November 11, 2015

Fee Free Day - Veterans Day

A fee-free day for all park visitors in honor of U.S. veterans and current members of the U.S. Armed Forces.

January & February
2016
1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Snowshoe Hikes with a Ranger - Saturdays at the Lakeshore

Meet at the visitor center at 1:00 p.m. on Saturdays for orientation and instructions. Snowshoes loaned free of charge. Reservations suggested. (Sunday hikes may also be available.)

April 16-24, 2016

National Park Week and Junior Ranger Day–Fee Free weekend

ake a walk on the wild side with a park ranger to learn about wilderness and why it matters



Pets in the Park

Pet Friendly Lake Michigan Beaches

Leashed pets are allowed on these beaches:

- From Platte River Campground / Railroad Grade trail north to Peterson Road.
- From Esch Road north to the Lakeshore boundary (south of Empire).
- From the Lakeshore boundary north of Empire to just south of the North Bar Lake stream outlet.
- From the Maritime Museum east (but not on the Maritime Museum grounds) to the Lakeshore boundary (west of Glen Arbor).
- From the Lakeshore boundary north of Glen Arbor around Pyramid Point to CR 669.
- From CR 651 north to the Lakeshore northern boundary.
- Glen Lake Picnic Area.



No Pet Zones

Dune Climb, Maritime Museum grounds, North Bar Lake, Platte Point Beach, group campsites, backcountry campsites, North and South Manitou Islands, and other areas where posted. Pets are not allowed on designated ski trails (Trails #1, 2, 4, 5, 8, 10, 11, 13) from December 1 to March 31.

Beaches may be temporarily closed to pets during piping plover nesting season.

Pet Rules

- Pets must be controlled on a six-foot leash.
- Pets may not be left unattended or tied to an object.
- Do not allow your pet to make unreasonable noise.
- Clean up after your pet and dispose of waste in trash receptacles.
- Keep your pet from interacting with wildlife or disturbing park visitors.

- NO pets allowed
- Pets allowed



Become a Junior Ranger!

Explore the secrets of the Lakeshore as you seek answers for your Junior Ranger book (free at park stores and campground offices). Children of all ages enjoy these fun and challenging activities. The book lists the steps you must complete to earn a Junior Ranger badge and/or patch. In order to earn your Junior Ranger status, return to the visitor center, a campground office, or any ranger-led activity to review your answers with a ranger and take the official oath.

Explore! Learn! Protect!

Ask about the 2016 Annual Park Pass Art Contest for kids!

Find us with your GPS . . .

Visitor Center

9922 Front Street, Empire, MI 49630

Pierce Stocking Scenic Drive

8500 Stocking Drive, Empire, MI 49630

Dune Climb

6748 Dune Hwy (M-109), Glen Arbor, MI 49636

Maritime Museum

8799 Sleeping Bear Road, Glen Arbor, MI 49636

Platte River Campground

5685 Lake Michigan Road, Honor, MI 49640

D. H. Day Campground

8010 West Harbor Hwy. (M-109), Glen Arbor, MI 49636



Like us and keep up on the happenings in the park:
[facebook.com/sbdnl](https://www.facebook.com/sbdnl)



Follow us on twitter:
[@SleepingBearNPS](https://twitter.com/SleepingBearNPS)



Get inspired:
[pinterest.com/sleepingbearnps](https://www.pinterest.com/sleepingbearnps)



Keep us in view:
[instagram.com/sleepingbearnps](https://www.instagram.com/sleepingbearnps)

Let your phone

Learn more about a hiking trail, use an interactive map, listen to the story of how the dunes were formed—check out these smartphone apps and interactive websites.

Interactive map of SBHT:
sbhtmap.org

Smartphone apps:

[Sleeping Bear Dunes: Official Guide Experience 321](#)

Cell phone tour:

[231-577-5555](tel:231-577-5555)

Also visit the app store for iPhone or Android and discover many more visit-enriching apps for Sleeping Bear Dunes and the National Park Service.

be your guide