

Alpena: Sanctuary of the Great Lakes Adventure Checklist

Alpena is the place where history and cultural heritage collide with relaxed outdoor adventure. Spend a day kayaking over shipwrecks, and then meet friends downtown for a wine tasting. Hike or bike the trails at Norway Ridge and then freshen up for a live theater show. You're never more than a moment away from relaxed adventure in the Sanctuary of the Great Lakes. As the Sanctuary of the Great Lakes Alpena truly embodies the haven from the stresses of everyday life; the culturally rich place to relax, rejuvenate, and inspire the happy, healthy, and creative you.

Use this checklist to make the most of your Alpena experience and discover your explorer's spirit.

Hike

- Hunting Devonian Period fossils at Rockport State Recreation Area.
- Walking down the rocky break wall pier at Alpena's small boat harbor on a nice summer evening or a blustery fall day.
- Stargazing the billions of stars and celestial bodies in the night sky at Rockport State Recreation Area.
- Walking with the dinosaurs at Dinosaur Gardens in Ossineke.
- Camping at Alpena County Fairgrounds, Beaver Lake Campground, Campers Cove, Jack's Landing, Long Lake Campgrounds, Ossineke State Forest Campground, Thunder Bay River State Campground.
- Exploring the Stevens Twin Sinks & Bruski Sinkhole near Leer Road.
- Checking out the Sunrise Coast Birding Trail locations and observing migratory flight.
- Hike the Trails at Norway Ridge Pathway, Chippewa Hills Pathway, Rockport State Recreation Area, Negwegon State Park, Thompson's Harbor State Park, or the Island Park.



Paddle

- Kayaking above the shallow remains of the Thunder Bay shipwrecks, such as the Portland near Bell Bay.
- Stand up paddle board through the calm waters in the bay at Mich-e-ki-wis Park as the early morning sun peeks over the horizon.
- Canoeing in the peaceful Thunder Bay River.
- Stand Up Paddleboard on the calm flat water of Thunder Bay River or our many inland lakes, or try your hand at the mighty waves of Lake Huron.



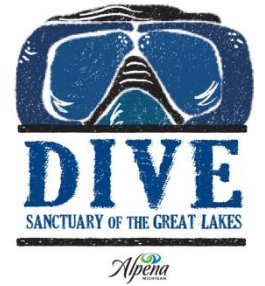
Pedal

- Roll along the 18.5 miles of paved City of Alpena Bi-path.
- Biking through the hilly terrain at Chippewa Hills Pathway, offering the greatest elevation change within 60 miles of Alpena.
- Ride your road bike around Hubbard Lake or up to the Presque Isle Lighthouses.



Dive

- Get out your snorkel and free dive the shipwrecks of Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary; such as the Shamrock, Bissel, and Bay City in shallow waters just off the shores of the City of Alpena.
- From wooden schooners with masts in-tact to steel freighters, the clear water of Lake Huron is home about 200 pristinely preserved shipwrecks in Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary. Local dive shops are ready to help you make your shipwreck dive an experience you won't soon forget.



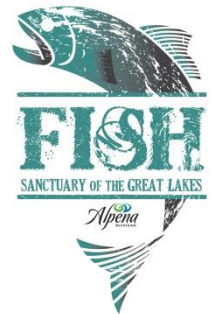
Boat

- Observing up to 6 shipwrecks on the Lady Michigan, a glass bottom boat ride throughout Thunder Bay's "Shipwreck Alley".
- Pick a lake, any lake! You are never more than 10 minutes away from a lake in Alpena County where you can launch your pontoon, speed boat, sail boat, cabin cruiser, or fishing boat.
- Sail around Thunder Bay with the yngling crew.



Fish

- Catching your fish dinner fresh from the lake or river is a way of life in Alpena.
- Fishing for salmon, walleye, and trout in the big lake with the help of one of Alpena's many charter boat captains.
- Fly fish for trout in Thunder Bay and adjoining rivers.
- Fish for walleye from the 9th Avenue Bridge.
- Join the pros and fish as they fish for Alpena's world class small mouth bass.
- Pull a sled of gear out onto the frozen waters and spend the winter ice fishing.



Snowshoe

- Snowshoeing through the snowy foliage of the Norway Ridge trails.
- Snowshoe the N.E.S.T. Trail.
- Snowshoe the trails at Besser Bell.
- Snowshoe Rockport State Recreation Area's rugged backcountry trails.



Ski

- Skiing through the fresh, white snowy trails at the groomed pathways of Norway Ridge and Chippewa Hills.
- After work, ski a quick loop at the Alpena City Golf Course.
- Try your luck with the fun cross-country skiing cousin, skate skiing.
- Blaze your own ski trail at Rockport State Recreation Area.
- Ski the N.E.S.T. Trail.

