

ROUTE DESCRIPTION - River miles 26 to 60 (34 miles)

(0.0 at Minnesota Entrance – Duluth Lift Bridge).

MAP 2 - Knife River to Split Rock Lighthouse State Park

26.5 Knife River Marina. Access at launch area. Parking, toilets. [46° 56.705' N / 91° 46.950' W]

26.6 Knife River Beach. Carry-in access, rest area, parking, toilet. Sand and pebble beach. [46° 56.785' N / 91° 46.845' W]

30.2 Private resort. Rocky Beach. [46° 59.025' N / 91° 44.170' W]

34.8 Agate Bay. Accessible trailer access inside breakwater. Parking, toilets, historic lighthouse and museum at point. [47° 00.875' N / 91° 39.975' W]

35.8 Burlington Bay. City campground east of trailer access. Tourist information office nearby on Highway 61. [47° 01.455' N / 91° 39.665' W]

37.8 Private resort. [47° 02.060' N / 91° 38.525' W]

38.0 Flood Bay State Wayside. Carry-in access, toilets. No overnight parking. [47° 02.270' N / 91° 38.520' W]

39.1 Stewart River. Rest area, carry-in access, parking. [47° 02.845' N / 91° 37.810' W]

41.5 Silver Cliff. Site of the longest highway tunnel in the Midwest. [47° 03.895' N / 91° 35.680' W]

Caution! There are currently no established public landing areas or facilities for the next 7 miles. Be knowledgeable of current weather conditions and plan accordingly.

48.0 Private resort. [47° 07.135' N / 91° 30.265' W]

51.0 Gooseberry Falls State Park and Gooseberry River. Carry-in access, parking, campground, 2 watercraft campsites (available on a first-come, first-served basis), picnic area and trails. [47° 08.560' N / 91° 27.500' W]

53.0 Thompson Beach. Four watercraft campsites and rest area, toilet. No fires. First-come, first-served. [47° 09.480' N / 91° 26.230' W]

53.8 Twin Points. Rest area, trailer access, parking. No camping permitted. [47° 09.925' N / 91° 25.510' W]

55.0 Private resort. [47° 10.545' N / 91° 24.650' W]

55.5 Split Rock River at Split Rock Lighthouse State Park. Rest area, no facilities. [47° 10.920' N / 91° 24.440' W]

56.2 Crazy Bay at Split Rock Lighthouse State Park. Two watercraft campsites. *West site* is for kayakers only and is available on a first-come, first-served basis. Toilet. [47° 11.075' N / 91° 23.975' W].

East site (backpack/kayak site #3) is shared-use by kayakers and backpackers. Reservations recommended. Fire ring and toilet. [47° 11.145' N / 91° 23.935' W]

57.0 Split Rock Creek at Split Rock Lighthouse State Park. Backpack/kayak site #1. Shared-use by kayakers and backpackers. Reservations required. [47° 11.405' N / 91° 23.175' W]

57.7 Little Two Harbors at Split Rock Lighthouse State Park. Access to park and lighthouse, a Minnesota Historic Site. Trailer access, parking, campground, picnic area and trails. [47° 11.865' N / 91° 22.620' W]

59.0 Gold Rock Point. Wreck of the Madeira, driven ashore in 1905, lies scattered on the bottom in 10 to 100' of water with portions clearly visible in calm water. A popular recreational diving site, please be alert to divers in the water. Rest area on small beach nearby. No facilities. [47° 12.410' N / 91° 21.520' W]

60.0 Nadine Blacklock Lakeshore. Blacklock Nature Sanctuary. Campsite is near N.E. end of cobble beach E. of cabin (which is on point), in from Gull Rock. The shallows leading out to Gull Rock give some protection to this otherwise exposed beach. Landing is rocky, which can be difficult even in good conditions. Note: the cabin is used by artists and writers doing residencies at the Sanctuary. Please respect their solitude. [47° 13.070' N / 91° 21.025' W]

END OF MAP 2
Continued on Map 3, Split Rock Lighthouse State Park to Schroeder

LAKE SUPERIOR STATE WATER TRAIL



MAP 2 - KNIFE RIVER TO SPLIT ROCK LIGHTHOUSE STATE PARK



m MINNESOTA STATE PARKS AND TRAILS

ABOUT THE WATER TRAIL

This water trail segment begins at small resort communities near Two Harbors and continues northeast where high cliffs dominate the shoreline. There are areas with limited public access points, particularly between Stewart River and Castle Danger, so be sure to plan ahead.

Shipwrecks are tragic reminders of Lake Superior's power, something that no paddler should underestimate. Lake cliffs can be serious hazards to the unwary. Calm summer waters can change to life-threatening conditions in minutes and cliff areas can prevent you from seeking safety on shore.

A paddler must be prepared to deal with conditions and have the paddling skills needed to ensure their safety. Local marine weather forecasts should be monitored before and during any trip on the lake. You should understand how these forecasts affect overall lake conditions. Wave heights can be greatly increased by shoreline features and currents.



Lake conditions can change quickly.

TRIP PLANNING AND SAFETY

- Plan your trip with a map and tell someone your plans before you leave.
- Make sure your route fits your experience and fitness levels. The average kayaking speed is 2-3 m.p.h.
- Travel with a companion or group and know everyone's skill level.
- Seek instruction and practice kayak skills, including rescues, before paddling on Lake Superior. Be certain your boat has adequate bow and stern flotation and a pump for emptying a flooded boat.
- Anticipate changes in weather, wind and waves by monitoring a weather or marine VHF radio.
- Study shoreline features and review exit points before launching. Cliffs may create water turbulence that prevents you from going ashore.
- Always wear a U.S. Coast Guard approved personal flotation device. Each paddler is required to have one readily accessible.

- Know the dangers of hypothermia and dress for cold water (32 to 50 degrees Fahrenheit). Cold water is a killer – wearing a wet or dry suit is strongly recommended.
- Pack a map, water, spray skirt, float for paddle, whistle, emergency flares, and a waterproof container with a first aid kit, matches and extra clothes.
- Fog can make visibility zero. Bring a compass and know how to use it.
- A bright white light must be displayed on each kayak or canoe after sunset to prevent a collision.
- Purchase a license for your non-motorized watercraft if it's more than 10 feet in length. If you're not from Minnesota, check your state's laws.
- **This map is not adequate for sole use as a navigational aid. Utilize USGS topographic maps and NOAA charts of the North Shore.**



AREA OVERVIEW



CAMPING

- Respect private property along the shore! Stop only at designated areas.
- Camp only in designated campsites.
- Campgrounds require fees and reservations, while watercraft campsites are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Find details at mndnr.gov/lswt
- Leave a clean campsite and carry out all trash.
- Be sanitary! Use designated toilet facilities or bury human waste away from the water.



EXPLORE ON SHORE

GOOSEBERRY FALLS STATE PARK Water trail mile 51

Pull onto shore near the Gooseberry River to access park trails, picnic tables, restrooms, water and a paddle-in campsite (first-come, first-served).

SPLIT ROCK LIGHTHOUSE STATE PARK Water trail mile 57.7

Get a glimpse of this iconic lighthouse from the water before heading onto shore for hiking trails with closer views. Also enjoy park picnic tables, restrooms and water.

PROTECT THE LAKE

Your experience on the lake depends on a healthy environment. As you explore the beauty of this waterway, also do your best to protect it.

Protect Your Waters

Before launching...before leaving

- Clean off aquatic plants and animals.
- Drain all water away from the landing.
- Dispose of unwanted bait in the trash.

mndnr.gov/invasives/aquatic

Buffer Protection

The Minnesota buffer law establishes new vegetation buffers along rivers, streams and ditches to help filter out chemicals and sediment before they reach waterways.

mndnr.gov/buffers

CONTACTS

DNR TWO HARBORS AREA OFFICE

1568 Hwy 2
Two Harbors, MN 55616
218-834-1430

DNR INFORMATION CENTER

500 Lafayette Rd.
St. Paul, MN 55155-4040
888-646-6367
info.dnr@state.mn.us

GOOSEBERRY FALLS STATE PARK

3206 Highway 61 East
Two Harbors, MN 55616
218-595-7100

SPLIT ROCK LIGHTHOUSE STATE PARK

3755 Split Rock Lighthouse Rd.
Two Harbors, MN 55616
218-595-7625

MEDICAL

LAKEVIEW HOSPITAL

325 11th Avenue
Two Harbors, MN 55616
218-834-7300



IN AN EMERGENCY CALL 911

More Information

mndnr.gov/watertrails

- Interactive water trail map
- Recommended routes
- Lake safety
- Virtual tours

Search for outfitters at exploreminnesota.com

This document is available in alternative formats to individuals with disabilities by contacting info.dnr@state.mn.us, 651-296-6157, or MN Relay 711.