Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore

Camping 7
Beaches 16
Junior Rangers 20
Welcome to Sleeping Bear Dunes

It is my pleasure to offer you this guide in hopes that it helps you plan your best visit ever. Whether it is your first time or your tenth, there is always something new and exciting to experience or explore.

Last year, the Lakeshore hosted more visitors than ever before – 5,311,560, a 22% increase from 2011! Much of that, we believe, was a result of great weather and publicity spurred on by ABC’s “Good Morning America” naming Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore the “Most Beautiful Place in America.” National Geographic publications, and the attention given to the Traverse City area as a place for family fun, food, and fun. Unfortunately, National Park Service budgets are not based on popularity or total visitation. This year’s budget was cut along with every other federal agency due to mandatory reductions. These across-the-board budget cuts are affecting federal programs everywhere, as you may have already noticed in your own communities. Here, at the Lakeshore, you may feel the effects in some visitor services. We were left with the difficult decision to reduce our seasonal workforce during the shoulder seasons to ensure coverage throughout our busiest time of the year from Memorial Day to Labor Day. Although the Lakeshore is affected by these cuts, the park remains open, welcoming visitors while protecting its vast natural, cultural, and recreational resources. Please accept our apologies for any inconveniences you may experience.

The good news is that many projects funded by the fees we collect here at the Lakeshore have already been completed. Without your support through entrance and camping fees, we would not be able to continue preservation of the South Manitou Island lighthouse, put new roofs on historic buildings, combat invasive species, or remove hazardous trees, to name a few. Private funds continue to be used for architecture in the Lakeshore. In the future, the first section of the Sleeping Bear Heritage Trail was opened between the Dune Climb and Glen Arbor, and has welcomed a new activity year-round! Volunteers from the Friends of Sleeping Bear Dunes patrolled, cleaned, maintain, and even groom for cross-country skiing miles of our very first bike trail in the park. This fall, work should begin on the next section of trail from the Dune Climb south to Empire. Thanks to everyone who has contributed to this successful effort and for the amazing gift you have provided the community and our visitors! We look forward to the continuation of the 27 miles of trail through the Lakeshore.

In addition to the Friends of Sleeping Bear Dunes, other partner groups also help us achieve the NPS mission to preserve, protect, and provide enjoyment of this treasured place. Preserve Historic Sleeping Bear raises funds to repair historic buildings and landscapes every year. The Manitou Islands Memorial Society works tirelessly to tell the stories of the people who once lived on the islands and contribute to those unique features of this park. There are also the park volunteers who are campground hosts, interpreters, beach cleaners, piping plover monitors, and dune grass monitors who work side-by-side with Lakeshore staff to meet these management goals. Without partnerships and volunteers, as well as our hardworking employees, we would not be “The Most Beautiful Place in America.” Thousands of people each year contribute their time, energy, and talents to making Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore a place where everyone can enjoy the outdoors. Please enjoy your visit. Be safe. Come back soon! With warm regards,

Dusty Shultz, Superintendent

What’s Inside

Superintendent’s Welcome...........2  
Park Passes..............................3  
Make the Most of Your Visit........4  
Bear Safety................................6  
Firewood Alert...........................7  
Camping...................................7  
Platte River District Info..............8  
Leelanau District Info...............10  
Glen Haven...............................12  
Maritime Museum.....................13  
Make the Most of Your Visit........4  
Park Passes................................5  
Special Events..........................16  
Pets in the Park..........................20  

Special Events

What’s Inside

Superintendent’s Welcome...........2  
Park Passes..............................3  
Make the Most of Your Visit........4  
Bear Safety................................6  
Firewood Alert...........................7  
Camping...................................7  
Platte River District Info..............8  
Leelanau District Info...............10  
Glen Haven...............................12  
Maritime Museum.....................13  
Make the Most of Your Visit........4  
Park Passes................................5  
Special Events..........................16  
Pets in the Park..........................20  

Special Events

What’s Inside

Superintendent’s Welcome...........2  
Park Passes..............................3  
Make the Most of Your Visit........4  
Bear Safety................................6  
Firewood Alert...........................7  
Camping...................................7  
Platte River District Info..............8  
Leelanau District Info...............10  
Glen Haven...............................12  
Maritime Museum.....................13  
Make the Most of Your Visit........4  
Park Passes................................5  
Special Events..........................16  
Pets in the Park..........................20  

Special Events

National Park Entrance Passes

Parks entrance 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 regardless of street. 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 Memorial Day to Labor Day at the self-pay fee stations at the Maritime Museum and at road-end beaches: Peterson, Eric North, Lake County Road 660, and County Road 651.

$10 Seven-day Pass for Sleeping Bear Dunes NL
Admits pass holder and all passengers in a noncommercial vehicle. Immaculate 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. May be purchased online at www.nps.gov by entering “Sleeping Bear” in the search box. 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. Admits pass holder and all passengers in a noncommercial vehicle. May provide a 50-percent discount on recreational fees such as camping and tour. Can be obtained in person or through the mail for a $10 processing fee. For more information, visit http://store.usgs.gov/pass/index.html.

$80 Annual Pass for National Parks and Federal Recreational Lands
Provides access to all Federal recreation sites for a one-time fee. May provide a 50-percent discount on recreational fees such as camping and tour. Can be obtained in person or through the mail for a $10 processing fee. For more information, visit http://store.usgs.gov/pass/index.html.

$5 Individual Seven-day Pass for Sleeping Bear Dunes NL
Admits one individual (age 16 and up) on foot, bicycle, motorcycle, or noncommercial bus. Immaculate and valid for 1-7 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. Provides access to Federal recreation sites and admits pass holder and all passengers in a noncommercial vehicle. May provide a 50-percent discount on recreational fees such as camping and tour. Can be obtained in person or through the mail for a $10 processing fee. For more information, visit http://store.usgs.gov/pass/index.html.

Commercial Vehicle Fees

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

* Sedans-$25 commercial fee plus $5 per person for each vehicle

Free-fee days

The National Park Service is offering entrance fee-free days (camping and other fees still in effect).

Jan 21 (Martin Luther King Jr. Day)
April 22 - 26 (National Park Week)
August 26 (National Park Service Birthday)
September 28 (National Public Lands Day)
November 9 - 11 (Veterans 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, or 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. Visiting wishing to use the equipment are encouraged to call ahead and arrive early.

Local Information

Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore
231-326-5134 www.nps.gov/slbe

Benzie County Chamber of Commerce
231-882-5801 www.benzie.org

Empire Chamber of Commerce
231-352-7251 www.empirechamber.com

Frankfort Chamber of Commerce
231-334-3238 www.visitfrankfort.com

Glen Lake Chamber of Commerce
231-271-9895 www.glenlakechamber.com

Leelanau Chamber of Commerce
231-371-4895 www.leelanau.org

Sleeping Bear Dunes Visitors Bureau
888-334-5489 www.sleepingbeardunes.com

Traverse City Chamber of Commerce
231-947-5075 www.tcchamber.org

Traverse City Convention and Visitors Bureau
800-872-8477 www.traversecity.com

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

The 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, Dennis Yachik, Alise Van Zweden, Nicole Macdonald, and Mark Lindsay. The Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore Visitor Guide is published by Eastern National, a private, non-profit organization which operates the sales outlets that offer quality educational products and services for park visitors at the General Store, Dune Center, and visitor center. A portion of their proceeds is donated to the Lakeshore to support interpretive and recreational resources. Please accept our apologies for any inconveniences you may experience.
Making the Most of Your Time

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 Memorial Day through Labor Day. Details page 14.
M-209, 3 miles north of Empire
Length: 15 miles, 50 minutes

Dune Climb
No visit would be complete without climbing this 150-foot high sand dune. Take water, sunscreen, and good footwear. Great for kids! See page 8 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-209, 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. The Maritime Museum tells the stories of the U. S. Life Saving Service in a fully restored station. Rangers can provide a shipwreck rescue demonstration at Heroes of the Storm.

More than 3 hours—add these

The Platte and Crystal Rivers
Card, 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 overlook, 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: 0.5 miles, 30-60 minutes
 Entire trail: 3 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 Michigan. Ranger programs are offered. Details on page 12.
M-209, 7 miles north of Empire
Length: 0.5-2 hours

Inspiration Point
With a view of the Glen Lakes, Alligator Hill, and North Manitou Island, this overlook provides the perfect finale for any trip. M-22 to McFarlane Rd. (County Rd. 6/6), 8 miles east of Empire
Length: 5 minutes

Empire Bluff Trail (#3)
Transversing 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: 2.5 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.
M-22 to Wilco Rd., 1.6 miles south of Empire
Length: 2.5 miles, 1 hour

Hidden on the island’s southwest corner, a stand of old-growth white cedar—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

Giant Cedars and Shipwreck Hike
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 231-356-9061. Begins in the village after ferry arrives.
Length: 2 hours
Ferry information: 231-356-9061
www.manitoushuttle.com
The ferry leaves on schedule—don’t be late!

A full day—try South Manitou Island

Tour the Lighthouse
Learn about the history of the South Manitou Island Lighthouse and U.S. Life Saving Service 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

Ranger Programs
Visit a beaver lodge. Hike to historic farmsteads. Host for coyotes. Discover fins, furs, and feathers. Explore glacial remains. Experienced rangers lead these free activities and more (seasonal). For locations and topics, pick up a program schedule at the visitor center, campground offices, or entrance stations.
Length: 1-2 hours

Empire Bluff Trail (#3)
Winding 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: 2.5 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.
M-22 to Wilco Rd., 1.6 miles south of Empire
Length: 2.5 miles, 1 hour

Sleeping Bear Heritage Trail (#8)
Hike, bike, run, rollerblade, or ski this multi-use, four-mile paved trail. It winds from the Dune Climb through Glen Haven and the back loop of D. H. Day Campground into Glen Arbor. Details on pages 10 and 11.
Park your car at the Dune Climb: M-209, 6 miles north of Empire
Length: 4.25 miles, one way, 2 hours

Sleeping Bear Climb
No visit would be complete without climbing this 110-foot high sand dune. T ake water, sunscreen, and good footwear. Great for kids! See page 8 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-209, 6 miles north of Empire
Length: 30 minutes
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, and 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

Don’t get tickered!

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. Folding 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 the ears
- Inside of the legs
- Back of the knees
- Between the legs
- Inside belly button

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.

Firewood

Approved firewood is available from the following vendors as of May 8, 2013. Check www.nps.gov/govpubs for an updated list.

Vending machines in the campgrounds
- Anderson’s IGA, Glen Arbor
- Deering’s Market, Empire
- Eagle Country Builders, Honor
- Empire EZ Mart/Ernst Gas Station, Empire
- Honor Family Market, Honor
- Honor Trading Post, Honor
- Phil Gunther, Beulah
- Riverside Canoes, Honor
- Tag Limit Outdoors Inc., Honor

Manufactured logs for campfires are also acceptable.

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

Reservations

To make reservations, visit http://www.nps.gov/slbe or the park website at www.nps.gov/slbe or phone 1-877-444-6777. Reservations for Platte River campsites from Memorial Day weekend through September are accepted six months in advance. For group sites from May through September, reservations are accepted one year in advance. A $1 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 (NRSS). The discount does not apply for group campsites or electricity.

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 docks), 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.

Leave No Trace

1. Plan ahead and prepare
- Prepare for extreme weather and emergencies. Bring food and water. Don’t forget your park pass!

2. Camp and travel on durable surfaces
- Stay on established trails and campsites.

3. Dispose of waste properly
- Pack it in, pack it out.

4. Leave what you find
- Preserve the past and leave rocks, plants and other items as you find them for others to discover.

5. Minimize campfire impacts
- Use established fire rings. Keep fires small. Burn wood to ash. Put all fires out completely.

6. Respect wildlife
- Observe wildlife from a distance.
- Respect other visitors and protect the quality of their experience.
- Let nature’s sounds prevail.

If wildfire occurs

- Call 911 or your local emergency number.
- Do not call the National Park Service.

For more information

www.nps.gov/slbe 2013 Visitor Guide

www.LNT.org

9/2012
Platte River District

Platte River District Trail Guide

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TRAIL</th>
<th>ROUND TRIP</th>
<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Old Indian Trail</td>
<td>2.5 mi</td>
<td>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. Trailhead: off M-22, north of Sutter Rd.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bass Lake Loop (3.5 mi)</td>
<td>Easy hike and ski - Winds around Bass and Deer Lakes. Some sections follow a two-track road.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Otter Creek Loop (4.6 mi)</td>
<td>Easy hike and ski - Follows Otter Creek and Otter Lake. Flat, with pine-oak-aspen forests and open meadows.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lasso Loop (6.3 mi)</td>
<td>Moderate hike, easy to advanced ski - Winds through pine-oak-aspen forests. Scenic overlooks of Lake Michigan. Several road crossings.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Empire Bluff Trail</td>
<td>1.5 mi</td>
<td>Moderate hike - Winds through a beech-maple forest to an overlook. Wildflowers and woodland plants are abundant. For your safety and to prevent erosion, please do not descend the bluff. Trailhead: Wilco Rd. off M-22.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Additional trail information:
- No pets on designated ski trails from December 1 through March 31.
- Trail maps available online and at visitor contact stations. 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 Trail Guide

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TRAIL</th>
<th>ROUND TRIP</th>
<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Windy Moraine Trail</strong></td>
<td>2.8 mi</td>
<td>Easy hike and ski - A quiet trail with a view of Glen Lake from atop a hill. Trail leads through beech-maple forest and old farm fields. Trailhead: Off CR 209, west of M-109.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Shauger Hill Trail</strong></td>
<td>3.5 mi</td>
<td>Easy hike and 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. Trailhead: Dune Climb, Glen Haven.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cottonwood Trail</strong></td>
<td>1.5 mi</td>
<td>Easy hike and ski - A flat loop trail through woods and wetlands. Trailhead: off Lake Michigan Rd.; take CR 1024 east onto CR 1024.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dunes Hiking Trail</strong></td>
<td>2.4 mi</td>
<td>Easy hike and ski - A quiet trail with a view of Glen Lake from atop a hill. Trail leads through beech-maple forest and old farm fields. Trailhead: Off CR 209, west of M-109.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sleeping Bear Point Trail</strong></td>
<td>3.6 mi</td>
<td>Easy hike and ski - A hilly, all sand trail on 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. Take water, sunscreen, hat, and shoes. Trailhead: Dune Climb, Glen Haven.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Alligator Hill Trail</strong></td>
<td>3 - 8 mi</td>
<td>Easy hike and ski - A 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. Take water, sunscreen, hat, and shoes. Trailhead: Dune Climb, Glen Haven.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Bay View Trail</strong></td>
<td>2 - 3.5 mi</td>
<td>Easy hike and ski - A 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. Take water, sunscreen, hat, and shoes. Trailhead: Dune Climb, Glen Haven.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Pyramid Point Trail</strong></td>
<td>1.5 - 2.7 mi</td>
<td>Easy hike and ski - A 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. Take water, sunscreen, hat, and shoes. Trailhead: Dune Climb, Glen Haven.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Good Harbor Bay Trail</strong></td>
<td>2.8 mi</td>
<td>Easy hike and ski - A flat loop trail through woods and wetlands. Trailhead: Off Lake Michigan Rd.; take CR 669 north from M-22, follow Lake Michigan Rd. east.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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 1869 until 1931. Sleeping Bear, 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 lumber baron D. H. Day’s General Store, restored to appear as it did in the 1920s. Built in 1867 as a company store, it provided goods for workers. 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 historic 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 12-5 daily. Memorial Day through Labor Day.

Blacksmith Shop
Hear the ring of a hammer and anvil as the blacksmith stokes up a fire, heats iron until red hot, and forges a tool before your eyes. Volunteers provide demonstrations for all ages. Great for kids! Open 12-5 daily. Memorial Day through Labor Day.

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.

Glen Haven Wayside Exhibit Panels
We’ve added interpretive panels throughout Glen Haven to help tell the story of the village and those who lived and worked here. Tell us what you think. Do you have any questions about the information on the panels? Any comments you’d like to share. Email us at sleepingbearinfo@nps.gov and let us know!
Pierce Stocking Scenic Drive

Dune Ecology
To survive in the dunes is no easy task. Foes 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 gullies 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 “cheezeheads” 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 landmark 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.

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 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 (660 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 dug by the bridge?

Covered Bridge
Have you ever seen a covered bridge with the National Park Service arrowed 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!

North Bar Lake
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.

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 Coast Guard village before entering nearly 15,000 acres of undeveloped forests, fields, and beaches. Viats emphasize solitude and self-reliance. Plan well. No services are available. As you must stay overnight, take all your camping needs.

Getting to South and North Manitou Islands
Ferry service to the Manitou Island changes with the seasons. Contact Manitou Island Transit for reservations and schedule. 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. Island 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

The Manitou Islands
Dangerous Currents

Lake Michigan is a wonderful place to enjoy the beach and water—or swim if you are careful. Swimming in Lake Michigan is not the same as swimming in a pool or a 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 mistakes 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 them 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 conditions.

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

Beaches, 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.

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

Pipes 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.

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

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 the river 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.

For your safety, glass containers are prohibited on beaches, waterways, and dune areas.

Glen Haven Beach is on Sleeping Bear Point. 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. M-209, 7 miles north of Empire.

Piping Plover Update

In 2012, there were 58 breeding pairs in the entire Great Lakes piping plover population; 22 of those were within the National Lakeshore. Last year, the first documented plover nest was found on South Manitou Island. 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, visit http://www.nps.gov/slbe/planyourvisit/upload/Piping-Plover.pdf

and More Beaches

Potteron 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. At the end of Potterson Rd. Off M-22, 12 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. 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.

For your safety, glass containers are prohibited on beaches, waterways, and dune areas.

Glen Haven Beach is on Sleeping Bear Point. 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. M-209, 7 miles north of Empire.

Piping Plover Update

In 2012, there were 58 breeding pairs in the entire Great Lakes piping plover population; 22 of those were within the National Lakeshore. Last year, the first documented plover nest was found on South Manitou Island. 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, visit http://www.nps.gov/slbe/planyourvisit/upload/Piping-Plover.pdf

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 (R3). Leashed pets are allowed to the left of CR 669 when facing the water. The beach may be temporarily closed to pets during piping plover nesting season. At the end of CR 669 (Bohemian Rd.) Off M-22, 18 miles north of Empire.

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

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

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

Skii the trails: Easy, intermediate, and advanced trails exist. Not groomed, but frequently tracked. Ask about a ski trail guide or see pages 9 and 10.

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

Weekend snowshoe hikes. In January and February, rangers lead free introducory snowshoe 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 231-362-5135 x328.

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.

Biking

Bike on any established road that vehicles travel or the Sleeping Bear Heritage Trail, but not on any other park trails. Explore the following areas:

Sleeping Bear Heritage Trail: Easy. This paved, multi-use trail runs just over four miles from the Dune Climb to Glen Arbor. Mostly flat with a few gentle undulations, the trail winds along the base of the dunes, follows a historic railway into the historic village of Glen Haven, accesses the back loop of D.H. Day Campground, and travels through the forest on old roads and trails into Glen Arbor.

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.

Half the Park is After Dark

For my part I know nothing with any certainty, but the sight of the stars makes me dream.

- Vincent Van Gogh

National parks protect nature, history, and scenery. They also protect our night skyes: the starry, starry nights and natural darkness often found in national parks allow vaults of the heavens to shine brightly. So dream for yourself! Get out and spend an evening under 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.

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

Special Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>April 20-28, 2013</td>
<td>9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>National Park Week &amp; Junior Ranger Day: Fee free week Events to be announced.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 11, June 8, July 13, Aug. 10, Sept. 7, Oct. 21, 2013</td>
<td>9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Astronomy - Star Party Enjoy the night sky through telescopes with park rangers and the Grand Traverse Astronomical Society. Check at visitor center for time and location.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 1, 2013</td>
<td>9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>National Trails Day Celebrate National Trails Day on the Sleeping Bear Heritage Trail. Visit the refreshment station in Glen Haven to learn more about upcoming segments of the trail.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 18 - 22, 2013</td>
<td>9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 9-10, 2013</td>
<td>10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Port Oneida Fair Port Oneida Rural Historic District. Arts, crafts, and rural life skills demonstrations along with live animals at a variety of farms throughout the Port Oneida Rural Historic District.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 28, 2013</td>
<td>1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.</td>
<td>National Public Lands Day Enjoy the park on this annual fee-free day and participate in a Take Pride in America/Casino Cleanup event. Volunteers earn a pass for free entrance to any national park to be used later date.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sleeping Bear Heritage Trail:
- Visit the refreshment station in Glen Haven to learn more about upcoming segments of the trail.
- Port Oneida Fair: Port Oneida Rural Historic District. Arts, crafts, and rural life skills demonstrations along with live animals at a variety of farms throughout the Port Oneida Rural Historic District.
- National Public Lands Day: Enjoy the park on this annual fee-free day and participate in a Take Pride in America/Casino Cleanup event. Volunteers earn a pass for free entrance to any national park to be used later date.

For more information on any special event, contact 231-362-5135 x328 or visit the website: www.nps.gov/slbe
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 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.

No Pet Zones

Dune Climb, Maritime Museum grounds, Glen Lake Picnic Area, 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, 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.

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

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 or a campground office to review your answers with a ranger and take the official oath.

Explore! Learn! Protect!