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# Lake Superior Travel Guide

All the Best of the BIG LAKE

What to Do & See – All Year 'Round's Where to Eat & Stay Inside Tips for Ideal Trips

Convenient, Expanded Directories by Area

Restaurants, Lodgings, Marinas, Campgrounds, Golf Courses, Ski Hills & Much More



Lake Superior

All we've learned about the best regional travel since 1979

A Supplement to Lake Superior Magazine

## Festivals Big & Small on the Big Lake

Every year communities around the Big Lake deliver festivals to suit any taste – drag races to dragon boat races, blues music to folk music, regional fruits to oldworld heritage. Others celebrate the joys of kite flying, running in marathons and eating foods made with apples.

Some years, though, are extra special – like 2013. Two big festivals are coming to the Big Lake – FinnFest USA 2013 centered in Hancock, Michigan, and Tall Ships Duluth 2013, showcasing the majestic ships in the port city that help us revisit maritime travel from 200 years ago.

### Where Finn Is In

For the third time, Hancock will host FinnFest USA, which visits a different city each year. The 28th annual cultural gathering, this year titled "A Midsummer Eve's Dream," will be June 19-23.

Copper Country is packed with Finnish American history, and festival organizers plan to offer events in several Keweenaw Peninsula communities.

FinnFest USA features lectures, panels, demonstrations, music and children's activities, many focused on history. Many events occur in Hancock or Calumet.

"Other days we'll go out to other communities," says Jim Kurtti, director of the Finnish American Heritage Center in Hancock and chairman of FinnFest USA 2013.

Live from the Calumet Theatre, festival goers can attend a broadcast of the "Red Metal Radio Show," (similar to the famed "A Prairie Home Companion," but focused on Keweenaw history and culture.

Activities in Calumet also include a commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the 1913 copper miners' strike and of the Italian Hall disaster in which 73 people died during a stampede caused by a malicious, false cry of "Fire!" at a Christmas party. A memorial procession from the site of the former Italian Hall and a requiem Mass are planned.

During FinnFest, the traditional Finnish midsummer celebration of Juhannus includes a large bonfire in Toivola, southwest of Hancock, where it has been an annual tradition since 1890, when Finns arrived.

Finding lodging for 5,000 to 10,000 people is a challenge for the organizers.

It's expected that all rooms and campgrounds will be filled within a three-to four-county area, including the dorm rooms at Finlandia University in Hancock and at Michigan Technological University



BOB BERG / LAKE SUPERIOR MAGAZINE



FINNFEST US

in Houghton. Local residents may open their homes and host some of the visitors.

Our best advice: If you're planning to attend or even to visit during that time, you should try to pin down lodging as soon as possible. (Now would be good.)

### Tall Ships Return

In 2010, the Tall Ships Duluth festival attracted more than 225,000 people to the city's waterfront when nine tall ships of varying sizes and styles participated.

This summer, Visit Duluth will bring the tall ships back for an even bigger event.

"We'll have at least 10 tall ships – guaranteed," says Terry Mattson,



Top: U.S. Brig *Niagara* visited in 2010 and will return for Tall Ships Duluth 2013. Bottom left: The Finnish celebration of Juhannus and its large community bonfire will be part of FinnFest USA 2013 in Michigan's Keweenaw Peninsula. Bottom right: Runners take off in the CenturyTel WhistleStop Marathon & Half Marathon in Ashland, Wisconsin.

president and CEO of Visit Duluth. "Some of these ships have never sailed the Great Lakes before."

Tall Ships Duluth 2013 will be in town from July 24-30.

Fans of the festival can expect "a more spectacular Thursday Parade of Sail (when crowds watch the ships sail into the Duluth Harbor) and a lot more opportunities to actually sail aboard these romantic ships than ever before," says Terry. "We're not only planning more day-sail opportunities while the ships are in port, but most ships will also offer sail training into and out of Duluth."

Just as they did in 2010, the ships will visit Duluth as part of the Tall Ships

You can find a listing of weekly MORE updated regional events at www.LakeSuperior.com. To see KNOW locations of the major events

featured here, look for cities with a \* on the map, page 3.

Challenge Great Lakes 2013, during which they visit a number of Great Lakes ports. The other visit on Lake Superior will be at Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario.

This year the Tall Ships Challenge, from mid-June to late September, celebrates the 200th anniversary of some major military events on the Great Lakes during the War of 1812. It also aims to promote awareness of the Great Lakes' ecosystems and freshwater conservation.

Visitors to Tall Ships Duluth can take ship tours (with expanded hours for dockside tours this year), day sails and educational programming. Concessions, artisans, re-enactments, music and other entertainment will encompass Duluth's waterfront, Bayfront Festival Park and Harbor Drive, according to Karen Pionk, chairperson of Visit Duluth.

Find details about Tall Ships Duluth 2013 at www.visitduluth.com.

### Wooden boats in Superior

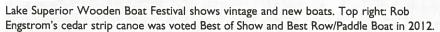
This markes the 15th year for the Lake Superior Wooden Boat Festival in Superior. It's the largest wooden and classic boat festival on Lake Superior and features vintage and new boats. The event occurs Saturday, July 20, 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at Barker's Island Marina on Barker's Island in Superior. There's no admission charge. More information is at www.stewartriver.com/LSWBF.html.

### Running in fall color

If you want a true flavor of Lake Superior, you must try a fish boil and the 16th annual WhistleStop Festival, October 11-12 in Ashland, Wisconsin, might just be the place to do it. The Lake Superior Fish Boil and Pasta Feed at the Bay Area Civic Center kicks off the fest on Friday. Saturday is the CenturyLink WhistleStop Marathon/Half Marathon and the Cruisin' the Corridor 5K & 10K race on the Tri-County Corridor from Iron River to Ashland, on abandoned rail bed amid the area's vibrant fall colors. Youngsters ages 2 to 4 can take part in the "Little Engine That Could Toddler Run" in the Bay Area Civic, where everyone is a winner. The Post Race Party is in the afternoon, with music and concessions. Topping off the weekend will be the WhistleStop Blues and Brews Festival with more than 50 varieties of microbrews







from across the Midwest.

For information, call the Ashland Area Chamber of Commerce, 800-284-9484, or visit www.whistlestopmarathon.com.

Don't forget the apples

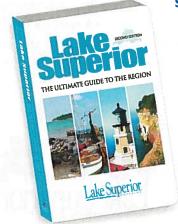
We'd be remiss if we did not mention the Bayfield Apple Festival, October 4-6 in Bayfield, Wisconsin, as one of the must-attend events done annually. Besides being a beautiful time of year by the lakeshore, this celebration of the harvest with booths, recipe contests and plenty of fun activities makes a great excuse for a fall visit. See www.bayfield.org for details.

Check out these other annual events

- · American Birkebeiner, February 23, Hayward, Wisconsin. www.birkie.com.
- Art on the Rocks, July 27-28, Marquette. www.artontherocks.org.
- Bayfront Blues Festival, August 9-11, Duluth. www.bayfrontblues.com.
- Bayfront Reggae & World Music Festival, July 20, Duluth. www.bayfrontreggae.com.
- Blueberry Art Festival, July 26-28, Ely, Minnesota. www.ely.org.
- Chequamegon Bay Birding & Nature Festival, May 16-18, Ashland, Wisconsin. Ashland County Tourism, 800-284-9484 or 715-682-2500.
- Ely Winter Festival, February 1-10, Ely, Minnesota. www.ely.org.

# A Great Guide to the Big Lake

### The Perfect Companion to the **Travel Guide You're Holding!**



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By the Editors of

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