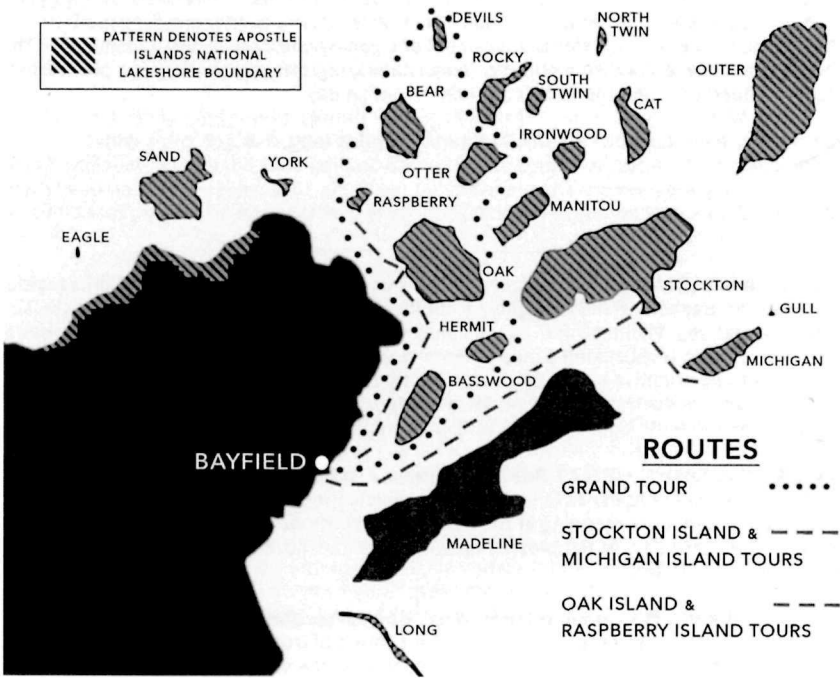


Apostle Islands

CRUISES

BAYFIELD, WISCONSIN

The best way to see the Apostle Islands!



The Apostle Islands National Lakeshore

Wiigobiish-minis (Basswood Island) - Size 1,917 Acres, about 3 1/2 miles long, 1 1/2 miles wide

Low cliffs of brown sandstone or banks of broken stone and red clay meet Lake Superior along Basswood's shoreline. An isolated sandstone block, called "Lone Rock" or "Honeymoon Rock", lies off the island's north tip. A dense growth of forest is broken only by several small clearings, the result of historic activities.

Eshkwegwindeg-minis (Hermit Island) - Size: 778 acres, 2 miles long, 3/4 mile wide

Scenic rocky cliffs rise up from the shore on the northwest third of the island where the effects of easterly and northeasterly storms carve shelves and abrupt formations in the sandstone. The site of Frederick Prentice's Excelsior Quarry during the late 1800s.

Bagidaabii-minis (Michigan Island) - Size: 1,581 acres, 3 1/2 miles long, 1 1/4 miles wide

The island rises 90' above the lake. It is located 16 miles from Bayfield and is one of the farthest west islands in the archipelago. It is a small island of only 1.1 miles in width and has 8.3 miles of shoreline. A unique and controversial lighthouse history lead to the island having not one, but two lighthouses.

Gayaashko-minis (Gull Island) Size: 3 acres

A small, flat, three-acre island located off the northern tip of Michigan Island. Gull Island serves as an important nesting site for colonies of herring and ring-billed gulls. A 50-foot-tall black cast iron tower serves as a lighthouse on the tiny island. Gull Island is closed to visitors to protect these bird populations. Additionally, the shallow reef near gull plays a crucial role as a spawning site for fish.

Wiisaakodewan-minis (Stockton island) - Size: 10,054 acres, 7 1/4 miles east to west, 2 miles wide

Features sand beaches at Quarry Bay, Presque Isle Bay, and Julian Bay. No island is blessed with more spectacular and diverse sandy areas than this island. The bridge of sand connecting Presque Isle Point to the rest of Stockton Island is an outstanding example of a geologic feature called a "tombolo". The tombolo is home to a variety of plant communities (bogs, dunes, lagoons, savannahs, and pine forests), the park's largest campground, and the "singing sands" of Julian Bay.

Mitigominikaani-minis (Oak Island) - Size: 5,078 acres, 4 miles long, 3-3 1/2 miles wide

Oak Island is the tallest of the Apostle Islands and is often a landmark for boaters approaching Bayfield and the Chequamegon Bay Area. Hikers often take advantage of the 11.5 miles of trails on Oak Island. A diverse habitat of sandstone ledges, sandy beaches, and rocky bluffs creates a variety of activities and ecosystems to explore on Oak Island.

Gichi-ishkwaayaan-minis (Outer Island) - Size: 7,999 acres, 6 1/4 miles long, 2-2 1/2 miles wide

Is located 24 miles from Bayfield. It is the farthest from the mainland and the most remote of the six Apostle Islands light stations. Visiting Outer Island can be a challenge. At the south point, sand dunes from 10-40 feet above water level extend a mile up both sides of the island. There is one campsite on the southern sand spit and primitive camping is also available. Hiking is available on the island. There is a 7.5 mile Sandspit Trail that connects the campsite near the sand spit on the south end of the island with the light station on the north end, and a 1.5 mile trail leading the historic Lullabye logging camp.

Manidoo-minis (Manitou Island) - Size: 1,363 acres, about 2 1/2 miles long, 1 mile wide

One of several fish camps in the Apostles is located here, which oriented in the late 1800s. When the large fishery collection boats were stopping at the islands, the boats went to Sand, Bear, Manitou, and Madeline Islands on the same day. At the present time, about a half-dozen sheds and cabins remain at the southwest corner of the island.

Gaa-maananoonsikaag-minis (Ironwood Island) - Size: 659 acres, about 1 mile across

It is forested with conifers and hardwoods but used to be a forest of ironwood trees before being logged as late as the 1950s. Logging and fishing shelters were located on the south point for use during the logging days of the 1950s and the fishing era before that.

Gaagaagiwanzhikaag-minis (Cat Island) - Size: 1,328 acres, about 3 miles north to south

The island is completely reforested after being logged. Wave-washed rocky ledges are found off the north end and a sand spit is found at the south end. A fish camp was located on the west side, heavily protected from wind and waves.

Anweshin-nigig-minis (Otter Island) - Size: 1,322 acres, about 2 miles long from SW to NW, 1 1/4 miles wide

The clearing around the dock area provides the easiest access to the island and probably served as a fish camp in earlier days. The island was last logged for hardwoods in the late 1950s.

Waabooyo-minis (South Twin Island) - Size: 360 acres, about 1 mile long, 3/4 mile wide

South Twin is the only island in the national Lakeshore that does not have rock outcropping as part of its shoreline. Along the west central shore of the island, a clearing with two buildings marks the site of the present Ranger residences and former fish camp buildings or private cabins. The island is relatively flat, covering 360 acres, and is situated 18 miles from Bayfield.

Miskwasinikaa-minis-igaanig (North Twin Island) - Size: 175 acres, a little more than a mile long, 1/4 mile wide

It remains an isolated spiritual mystery due to its inaccessibility. The unique vegetation found there is natural to more northern latitudes. Interestingly, the island has never been logged, likely because of its distance from the mainland and the stunted nature of its boreal forest exposed to the open lake.

Ziinsibaakwado-minis (Rocky Island) - Size: 1,099 acres, about 2 miles long, northeast to southwest

Much of the shoreline on the southern part of the island is lined with rocks, hence the name. Several buildings including private cabins and Park Service buildings are on the shoreline.

Maji-manidoo-minis (Devils Island) - Size: 318 acres, 1 1/4 miles long, 1/2 mile wide

Devils Island is the northernmost point of land in Wisconsin. Most notable about the island, other than its remoteness, are sea caves which undercut the shoreline. In some places, the sandstone cliffs on the northern half of the island look honeycombed, sometimes even lacy, on a grand scale.

Makwa-minis (Bear Island) - Size: 1,824 acres

Bear Island is the second tallest island, rising nearly 250 feet above the lake level. An old beach line can be found near the top of the island, evidence of a time when the lake level was more than 200 feet above its present level and a time when Bear and Oak Islands were the only islands above the water.

Miskominikaani-minis (Raspberry Island) - Size: 296 acres, 1 mile long, 1/2 mile wide

Raspberry Island is the site of the second light station built among the islands. The light, first operated during the 1864 navigation season, was later to include double dwelling for keepers and families.

Miskwaabimizhikaag-minis (York Island) - Size: 320 acres, 150 yards wide at its narrowest point

A survey done by the British Naval Lieutenant Henry W. Bayfield in 1824 shows two islands, called York and Rock. They were later joined by a sandbar, as they are today. Both ends of the island have enough sandstone and soil cover over their rocky surface to support a growth of deciduous as well as coniferous trees. The sandy isthmus between the two ends of the island is low and vegetation is limited to alder shrubs with intermittent larger birches and conifers.

Waabaabikaa-minis (Sand Island) - Size: 2,949 acres

In the early 1900s, Sand Island grew into a community with enough families living there year-round to support a school, a post office, and a cooperative store. At the north of the island sits a lighthouse, which was lit in 1881. One of the most notorious shipwrecks of the Apostle Islands is located northeast of Sand Island. The Sevona wrecked on September 2, 1905 and rests on a shoal in 20 feet of water.

Migiziwi-minis (Eagle Island) - Size: 20 acres

Eagle Island is a tiny island, due north from the mainland sea caves and southwest of Sand Island. Like Gull Island, Eagle is a bird rookery and sanctuary for double crested cormorants and herring gulls. This island is the only nesting area in the islands for great blue herons. Researchers from the Great Lakes Inventory and Monitoring Network study the bird populations on the island every year. Eagle Island is closed to the public.

Zaagawaamikong-neyaashi (Long Island) - Size: Approx. 200 acres

It was the last island added to the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore. While "island" remains part of its name, sometime in the late fall of 1976, sand deposited by the waves and wind of a geographically changing Lake Superior joined the island to Chequamegon Point, part of the Bad River Reservation. Long Island is made entirely of sand and rises only about 15 feet above the level of Lake Superior. Two automatic lighthouses now operate on Long Island.



Devils Island
Light



Outer Island
Lighthouse



Sand Island
Lighthouse



Raspberry Island
Lighthouse



Gull
Island
Light



Michigan
Island
Lights



Long Island
Lights



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STOCKTON	IRONWOOD	MANITOU	HERMIT
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