



Minnesota

Northwoods Winter Adventure

Tour Leaders: Tyler Ficker and Eric Ripma

January 22-27, 2022

Come explore the northwoods of Minnesota! This trip is great for owls - we'll make a special effort to see Great Gray, Northern Hawk, and Snowy Owls. With some luck, we may also have a chance to see the mythical Boreal Owl! However, it's not just owls we'll focus on. We should see a great mix of northern finches such as Pine and Evening Grosbeaks, Common and Hoary Redpolls, and Red and White-winged Crossbills. We'll also enjoy the spectacular scenery of the snowy northwoods and the Lake Superior shoreline.

Itinerary Overview:

January 22: Arrival in Duluth and transfer to hotel

January 23: Birding Sax-Zim Bog

January 24: Birding Superior National Forest

January 25: Birding Sax-Zim Bog

January 26: Wildcard Day (details TBD based on what we've seen and what we're missing)

January 27: Departure from Duluth

Detailed Itinerary:

January 22: Arrival in Duluth and transfer to hotel

Upon arrival at the Duluth airport, you'll be transferred to our hotel in Duluth where we will be spending the next five nights. We will have a fantastic welcome dinner and plenty of time to rest up for our adventures that will begin early the following morning.

-Overnight: Canal Park Lodge or similar in Duluth

January 23: Birding Sax-Zim Bog

An early departure from Duluth will put us in Sax-Zim Bog around sunrise. Our day will start with a search for one of our biggest targets of the trip, Great Gray Owl. After our search, we'll spend time visiting different feeding stations in search of the typical winter residents. Our morning will also include time to look for Sax-Zim specialties such as Black-billed Magpie, Northern Hawk Owl and Northern Shrike. We'll order a carry-out lunch and make our way to the visitor's center. In the early afternoon, a visit to Warren Nelson Memorial Bog will be made in search of Black-backed Woodpeckers. After this stop, we can make the most of any remaining light and then head back to Duluth to warm up and go out for a wonderful dinner.

-Overnight: Canal Park Lodge or similar in Duluth



Evening Grosbeak

January 24: Birding Superior National Forest

We'll start the morning by exploring the Superior National Forest in hopes of seeing Spruce Grouse. Once we are finished in the forest, we'll continue on to Two Harbors. This area has the potential for more waterfowl and gulls (Iceland and Glaucous are possible). The area can also be a good rarity magnet for species like Townsend's Solitaire, Boreal Owl (if an irruption year) and Bohemian Waxwings. Once we are done in Two Harbors, we'll make our way back to Duluth and bird the lakefront there, if time allows.

-Overnight: Canal Park Lodge or similar in Duluth



Boreal Owl

January 25: Birding Sax-Zim Bog

Today will be similar to our first day in Sax-Zim Bog. The idea today will be to target any species that we may not have seen on day one and to get better views of our target species.

-Overnight: Canal Park Lodge or similar in Duluth

January 26: Wildcard Day

The guides and participants will decide what to do today. If we are still missing any of the main targets for this tour, we will likely go off in search of those. If not, we might go for better views of some species that we have already seen. We will also consider driving to the Gunflint Trail where we would have a good chance to see a moose! The day will end with a nice farewell dinner in Duluth.

-Overnight: Canal Park Lodge or similar in Duluth

January 27: Departure from Duluth



Boreal Chickadee



Pine Grosbeak

Trip Details:

Cost:

Price per person (double occupancy), from Duluth, Minnesota: \$1,999

Single Supplement: \$375

Minimum Participants: 6

Maximum Participants: 10

Price Includes:

Expert Guides

Ground Transportation in Minnesota

All Lodging

All Meals

Park Entrance Fees

Price Does Not Include:

Airfare to and from Duluth, MN

Airport Taxes

Visa and Passport Fees (if applicable)

Alcoholic Beverages

Personal Items

Tips

Travel Insurance

Deposit:

A deposit of \$500 per person is required to hold your spot on this tour. The remaining balance is due no later than 3 months prior to the scheduled start date of the tour (October 22, 2021).

If you have any questions about this tour or would like to sign up for it, please contact Rob at info@sabrewingnaturetours.com, by phone at 317-324-8505, or register through our website at sabrewingnaturetours.com.

Responsibility/Disclaimer Statement:

Sabrewing Nature Tours acts only as an agent for the various independent suppliers that provide hotel accommodations, transportation, sight-seeing, activities, or other services connected with this tour. Such services are subject to the terms and conditions of those suppliers. Sabrewing Nature Tours and their respective employees, agents, representatives, and assigns accept no liability whatsoever for any injury, damage, loss, accident, delay, or any other incident which may be caused by the negligence, defect, default of any company or person in performing these services. Responsibility is not accepted for losses, injury, damages, or expenses of any kind due to sickness, weather, strikes, hostilities, wars, terrorist acts, acts of nature, local laws, or other such causes. All services and accommodations are subject to the laws and regulations of the country in which they are provided. Sabrewing Nature Tours is not responsible for any baggage or personal effects of any individual participating in the tours/trips arranged by Sabrewing Nature Tours. Individual travelers are responsible for purchasing a travel insurance policy, if desired, that will cover some of the expenses associated with the loss of luggage or personal effects.



Registration Minnesota 2022

Participant 1:

Name (as it appears on your passport)

Address

City, State, Zip

Email

Phone

Passport Number (if applicable)

Passport Expiration (if applicable)

Passport Country of Origin (if applicable)

List current health and physical limitations:

List any allergies:

List any medications:

List any dietary restrictions or preferences:

In case of emergency please notify:

Name: _____

Relationship to you: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell: _____

Email: _____

Participant 2:

Name (as it appears on your passport)

Address

City, State, Zip

Email

Phone

Passport Number (if applicable)

Passport Expiration (if applicable)

Passport Country of Origin (if applicable)

List current health and physical limitations:

List any allergies:

List any medications:

List any dietary restrictions or preferences:

In case of emergency please notify:

Name: _____

Relationship to you: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell: _____

Email: _____

Sabrewing Nature Tours

Terms, Conditions, and Waiver

TERMS: To register for a tour or workshop please complete the above registration form and sign below to acknowledge the terms. Send this form along with you Tour/Workshop Registration Form and your deposit or full tour amount to Sabrewing Nature Tours (SNT) at the below address. Registrations will be processed on a first come first served basis. We will place your name on the waiting list if your tour is full.

The deposit for this trip is \$500 per participant. Deposits and all signed forms are required to secure registration of your spot on the tour. Deposits are refundable less a 20% processing fee ONLY if the spot can be filled with another participant at the full tour price. Deposits received after a tour has filled will be returned and your name will be placed on a waiting list. Payment in full is due at least 90 days prior to the start of the tour. Registrants who have not paid their remaining balance will forfeit their deposit and their place on the tour. Payment by personal check is strongly preferred. If you would like to pay with a credit card, additional fees will apply. We strongly suggest you consider trip insurance to cover you in the event of a medical or other emergency that would prohibit you from joining the tour.

The activity level required for each tour will be described on the tour page. If in doubt, please contact SNT to determine if a tour is right for you. Any physical or medical concerns including allergies and/or dietary restrictions should be communicated to SNT. All tours will be non-smoking during group activities including but not limited to meals, slide programs, vehicle travel, and when birding/photographing in close proximity to other participants. Tour groups will be kept small for the enjoyment of all participants. Target group sizes are listed in each tour description on our web site. SNT reserves the right to exceed the target group size by no more than one participant.

Tours will be held regardless of weather conditions. Severe weather may dictate informal discussion and/or a slide program while we wait for the weather to break. Tours will begin at the scheduled time. Tardiness may result in missing the boat, or van so to speak. There are no guarantees in nature. Tours are designed to coincide with excellent nature viewing opportunities. Decisions will be made daily to determine where the group should be to maximize opportunities. Deviation from the scheduled itinerary may be necessary.

It is imperative that all participants follow rules and suggestions set forth by the leaders and/or local guides. Failure to comply could pose a safety risk to you or other tour participants. For the safety of all clients we reserve the right to restrict access to tour functions at any time.

Airfare is NOT included in the price of the tour unless otherwise noted on the tour page. Registered participants will receive more specific details of what to bring as well as a more detailed outline of what can be expected on the tour upon payment in full and no later than 60 days prior to the start of the tour.

Photo tour participants wishing to get the most from their tour will have a working knowledge of their camera equipment prior to the tour. Suggestions on exposure modes, camera settings and a variety of techniques will be verbalized throughout the tour. Do bring your camera's manual. Every camera is unique in its operation thus it is impossible to know every feature of every camera model. Participants will be put in the best locations to take advantage of the light, wind, and habitat. We will work to improve compositions and make suggestions to vary your perspective that will improve your resulting images. Participants will also learn techniques to successfully capture action and behavior images.

Waiver: I am aware that certain risks and dangers are inherent to nature travel and photography and may occur during a Sabrewing Nature Tours event and that such risk and dangers cannot be eliminated without diminishing the quality of the workshop/tour for which I have registered. Risks include but are not limited to theft or other loss of equipment or personal belongings; illness, injury, accident or death; travel hazards by air, boat, automobile or other vehicle; exposure to elements and other forces of nature and acts of God; both native and non-native wildlife, insects and flora as well as political, civil or military disturbance, strike, quarantine, government restriction and terrorist threat. I understand on or off trail hiking can present risk of falls that may result in damage to camera equipment, or significant personal injury or death. I understand Sabrewing Nature Tours is not responsible for inclement weather and cannot and does not guarantee subject matter will be available for photography on any given date or location. I further understand I am solely responsible for additional expenses incurred by me due to medical emergency or other travel delays, including but not limited to the expense of extra nights lodging or flight itinerary changes. I voluntarily assume all risks and will hold Sabrewing Nature Tours, its partners and cooperating agents, the workshop leader(s), any and all co-leaders, assistants and other participants harmless from any and all liability, actions, causes of action, claims, debts, and demands which arise in connection with the tour. The terms hereof shall serve as a release and assumption of risk for my heirs, administrators, and executors, and for all members of my family, including any minors accompanying me. In the event a lawsuit is filed, the enrolling participant agrees to do so solely in Hamilton County in the State of Indiana.

I have read and agree with the above terms and conditions.

Participant 1: Signature

Date

Participant 2: Signature

Date

Please complete forms, sign the second form, and send them with your deposit or full tour amount.