Minnesota
Northwoods Winter Adventure

Tour Leader: Tyler Ficker
January 20-25, 2025
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 20: Arrival in Duluth and transfer to hotel
January 21: Birding Sax-Zim Bog
January 22: Birding Superior National Forest
January 23: Birding Sax-Zim Bog
January 24: Wildcard Day (details TBD based on what we’ve seen and what we’re missing)
January 25: Departure from Duluth

**Detailed Itinerary:**

**January 20: 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 21: 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 22: 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

January 23: 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 24: 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 25: Departure from Duluth
Trip Details:

Cost:
Price per person (double occupancy), from Duluth, Minnesota: $2,499
Single Supplement: $450
Minimum Participants: 4
Maximum Participants: 5

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 20, 2024).

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

Responsibility/Disclaimer Statement:
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