

minnesota

parks for kids



Buddy Bison's Fact Bites!

- The name “Minnesota” comes from the Dakota Indian name “Minisota,” which means sky-tinted water.
- The state butterfly is the monarch. Its impressive wingspan along with memorable orange and black colors makes the insect very unique.
- Pelican Pete is a concrete statue located in Pelican Rapids. It is a 5:1 scale of a real pelican and was inspired by the statues of Paul Bunyan and Babe the Blue Ox built in Bemidji, Minnesota.
- Minnesota has 90,000 miles of shoreline, more than California, Florida, and Hawaii combined.



1. Voyageurs National Park

Become a Junior Ranger! View the Voyageurs Forest Overlook then hike the Oberholtzer Trail. Rent a canoe or charter a tour boat. In the winter try out snowshoeing, cross-country skiing and even ice fishing!

2. Itasca State Park

Hike the Landmark Interpretive Trail and look for the Lady Slipper Flower then walk across the great Mississippi River! Ride your bike through the park, go fishing or swimming. Take a boat tour then spend the night camping.

3. Forestville and Mystery Cave State Park

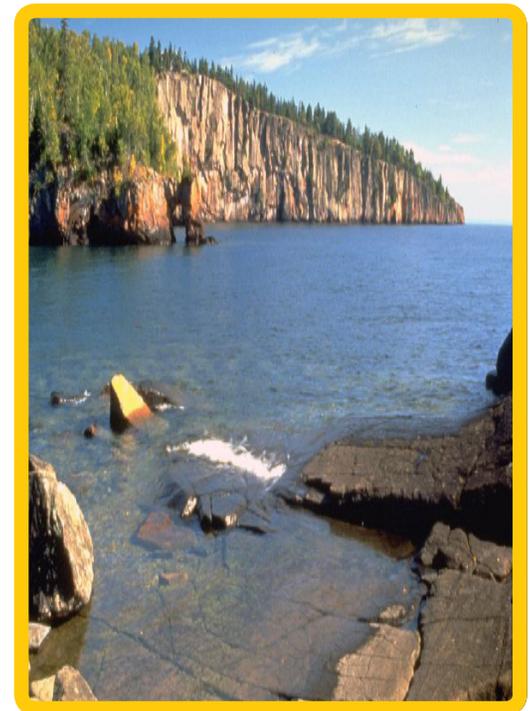
Visit historic Forestville and take a tour of the Mystery Cave. Look for wildflowers on a hike, bird watch or go trout fishing. Then, camp overnight.

4. Tettegouche State Park

Trek the Shovel Point Trail for a great view of Lake Superior then visit the 60 foot tall High Falls! Rock climb, go fishing and end the day camping.

5. Soudan Underground Mine State Park

Ride the “cage” a half mile down into the mine for a guided tour! Hike the Alaska Shaft trail or ride your bicycle. During the winter try out a snowmobile!



6. Split Rock Lighthouse State Park

Bike some of the Gitchi-Gami State Trail and look for spectacular views of Lake Superior. Go for a hike, birdwatch, and tour the lighthouse. Enjoy yummy s'mores by the campfire at night!

7. Fort Snelling National Historic Landmark

Become a member of the Fort Snelling Kids Club! Stop by the museum to learn about Minnesota's past.

8. Lake Bemidji State Park

Hike the Boardwalk Trail then go swimming or fishing! Birdwatch or zip through the park by bike. Be sure to spend the night!