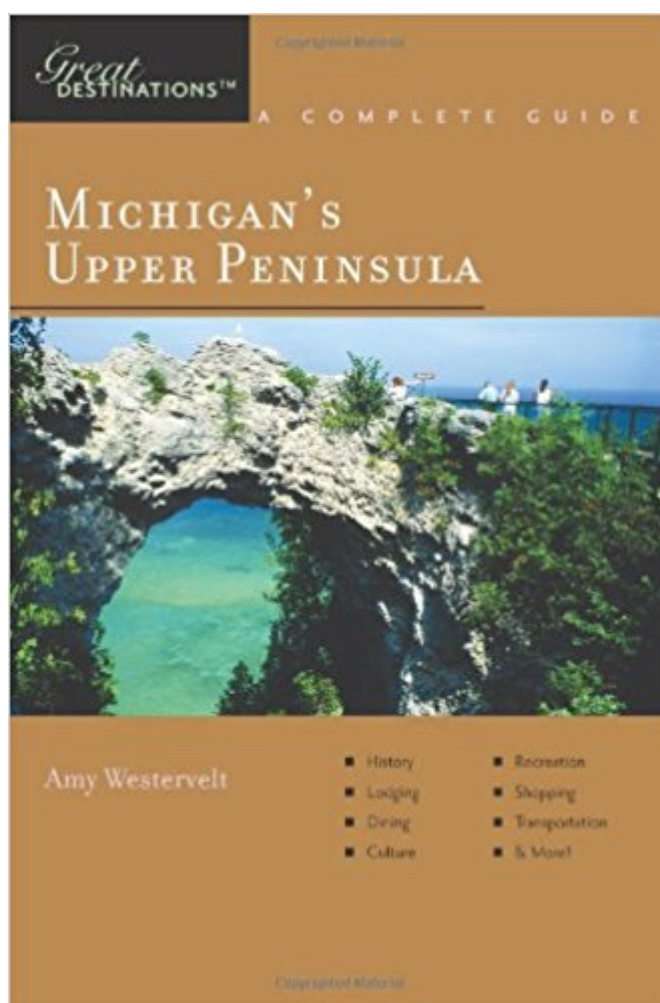


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Explorer's Guide Michigan's Upper Peninsula: A Great Destination (Explorer's Great Destinations)



Synopsis

"Consistently rated the best guides to the regions covered...Readable, tasteful, appealingly designed. Strong on dining, lodging, and history." — National Geographic Traveler

Michigan's Upper Peninsula takes visitors through and around the Great Lakes which dominate this great land — to sleepy lakeside villages, bustling beach towns, and the least visited (and possibly most beautiful) national park in the country. Distinctive for their accuracy, simplicity, and conversational tone, the diverse travel guides in our Great Destinations series meet the conflicting demands of the modern traveler. They're packed full of up-to-date information to help plan the perfect gateway. And they're compact and light enough to come along for the ride. A tool you'll turn to before, during, and after your trip, these guides include these helpful features:

- Chapters on lodging, dining, transportation, history, shopping, recreation and more!
- A section packed with practical information, such as lists of banks, hospitals, post offices, laundromats, numbers for police, fire, and rescue, and other relevant information
- Maps of regions and locales
- Black-and-white photographs and maps

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Amy Westervelt always spent summers vacationing in the Upper Peninsula, until she moved to Michigan permanently and could enjoy its other seasons as well. She is the author of Explorer's Guide Michigan's Upper Peninsula and Backroads & Byways of Minnesota, as well several other guides and many articles. Westervelt now lives in Ann Arbor, MI.

I think a three is pushing it. I found this guide book very difficult to follow. The only good thing that came from this book was a restaurant in Wetmore called Camel Riders. The restaurant was listed in the book, but gave no directions on how to get there. It was very hard to find, thank God I looked on a map and used another website. Some of the restaurants recommended were very bad and also had poor ratings on 2 other travel websites. I liked the color pictures inside the book but how the author actually got them because it seemed like she had never been to the UP. I found the Moon handbook easier to follow AND more valuable.

poorly organized. difficult to use. did not find it very helpfull on our vacation to the u.p.of michigan. did not keep it for our return trip.

Perfect for our family trip!

I saw the two-star review on here and had to write a review of my own. I would hate to have travelers miss out on a great book because of one poor review. First of all, the format. Having actually bought and used the book while traveling for two weeks across the UP, all I can say is that the format is nothing but helpful. (Unfortunately, shoppers can't see reviews of the series this book is a part of on this page. If they could, they would see how others have responded to the same format: 4 and 5 stars, unanimously, across dozens of books. The format rocks.) The author of this guide clearly knows her stuff, and we were consistently thankful when she led us to hidden waterfalls and hikes, shared interesting history, and introduced us to some of the best dining we've found in the UP (seriously, I can't eat Italian at home anymore). The material is organized by region (four of them) and then by category (dining, lodging, etc.). We'd get to a town, look up a place to eat and a place to stay, settle in and then look up stuff to do. It was like having our own personal tour guide. Even when relaxing for the evening or driving, the intro sections gave us a lot of great information and helped pave the way for the next place we were going. Perhaps none of this is evident looking through the "Look Inside" feature, or even when you get it from the library and flip through the pages at your kitchen table. All I can say is I am thankful having it in the car when we are up north.

It doesn't build confidence to open the Explorer's Guide to Michigan's Upper Peninsula only to be greeted by a two page photo of the South Manitou Island Lighthouse--which is nowhere near the Upper Peninsula! Later on a photo of Empire Beach in the Sleeping Bear Dunes area is labelled as

being in the U.P. too. Now that's sloppy editing! Like an earlier reviewer, I found the format confusing at first. The table of contents doesn't reveal the structure of the chapters and it took me a while to realize that the small heading "Pick Your Spot" heralded the lodging reviews, "Local Flavors" the dining reviews, and "Extend Your Stay" the recreational opportunities. Since each chapter covers a big area of the U.P., if you want to know the lodging, dining, and recreational opportunities in a specific town or area, you're going to have to flip through a lot of pages. The lodging reviews are very selective, the author focusing on only a few of the more upscale options in each place. And the sections on recreational opportunities are pretty cursory--perhaps adequate for your first visit to the U.P. but you'll find no deep insights here. Where to book really shines is in the restaurant reviews. Good restaurants are relatively few and far between in the Upper Peninsula. The author has found a surprising number of good options even in out-of-the-way places and this alone makes the book worth the price. I'll be bringing it along on my next trip.

I got this from the library, I'm glad I didn't buy it. The info is fine but the way it is organized is very confusing. It's broken down into 5 different areas, but then in each area's chapter, the ski areas are grouped together, the lodging is grouped together, or grouped in subsections with names like "Whitefish Point" that you wouldn't recognize if you weren't from around there. And some of the places that are included in the same chapter are hundreds of miles apart, it's not like they are things that you could do in the same day. It isn't organized in a way that would let a person who had never been to the UP find a place that had the kinds of things they wanted to see, without flipping back and forth between the ski section, the camp section, etc., or without using another book, the internet, etc., to figure out where all these places are. It's very annoying. This might be OK as a supplementary book but I wouldn't use it as the only book.

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