

ITINERARY

Northwest Region



DAY

1

PARK RAPIDS

ITASCA STATE PARK

Itasca State Park is home to the headwaters of the Mississippi. In this 32,690-acre sanctuary, the mighty Mississippi River begins its 2,552-mile journey to the Gulf of Mexico. People come to walk across the rocks at the headwaters but also fall in love with the pines, as the park preserves thousands of acres of old-growth white and red pines. Beautiful visitor centers and historic lodging complement the natural wonders of the park. Besides all of the sites to visit at the park, another great option is taking in a nature program or event. Programs are available year-round.

COBORN'S LAKE ITASCA TOURS

After exploring Itasca State Park, board the Chester Charles II on beautiful Lake Itasca, the source of the mighty Mississippi River. The 1-hour-45-minute boat ride follows the route Ozawindib and Schoolcraft did in 1832 when they recorded the headwaters of the Mississippi River, wildlife interpretation of bald eagles, common loons, Indian and logging history.

JASPER'S THEATER

Jasper's Theater is a cozy log theater nestled in the pines one mile East of Park Rapids. You'll be entertained by four generations of the family, along with some of the best performers in the region. The shows are a mix of music, magic and comedy.

DAY

2

DETROIT LAKES

OUTDOOR ADVENTURE

As the name implies, this is lake country. There are more than 400 lakes within 25 miles of Detroit Lakes. Spend the day birding, fishing, biking or golfing in this outdoor paradise.

ARTS & CULTURE

Get your arts fix by checking out some of the 30 four-foot, hand-decorated sunfish sculptures in the area. These art pieces make for fantastic photo opportunities for your group.

SHOPPING

Detroit Lakes is a mecca for "Up North" shopping. Scout for vintage goods at one of the area's hidden gems like SuLaine's Antique Mall, which has 70 antique dealers showcasing their best goods in 14,000 square feet of space.

HOLMES THEATRE

Enjoy a show at the Holmes Theatre, a renovated 837-seat art-deco era performing arts theater.

DAY

3

MOORHEAD

HISTORICAL & CULTURAL SOCIETY OF CLAY COUNTY

This Scandinavian culture and heritage center is a must-see museum where you'll find the Hjemkomst Viking Ship, a full-scale ship modeled after the Gokstad burial ship. A local Moorhead guidance counselor named Robert Asp dreamed of building a replica Viking ship and sailing it to Norway. During your visit, you can watch an award-winning documentary, see photographs, and listen to recordings of Asp and his family's journey to sail the hand-built Hjemkomst ship 6,000 miles across the Atlantic.

THE HOPPERSTAD STAVE CHURCH

Built between 1996 and 2001, the Hopperstad Stave Church replica stands as a testament to Norwegian culture and heritage in the Midwest. It serves as an educational tool in the local community and is operated by Clay County's Historical and Cultural Society.

THE COMSTOCK HOUSE

Explore this stunning example of late Victorian architecture built in 1883 by taking a guided tour through this 11-room, two-story home as your knowledgeable guide describes life in the early days on the prairie.

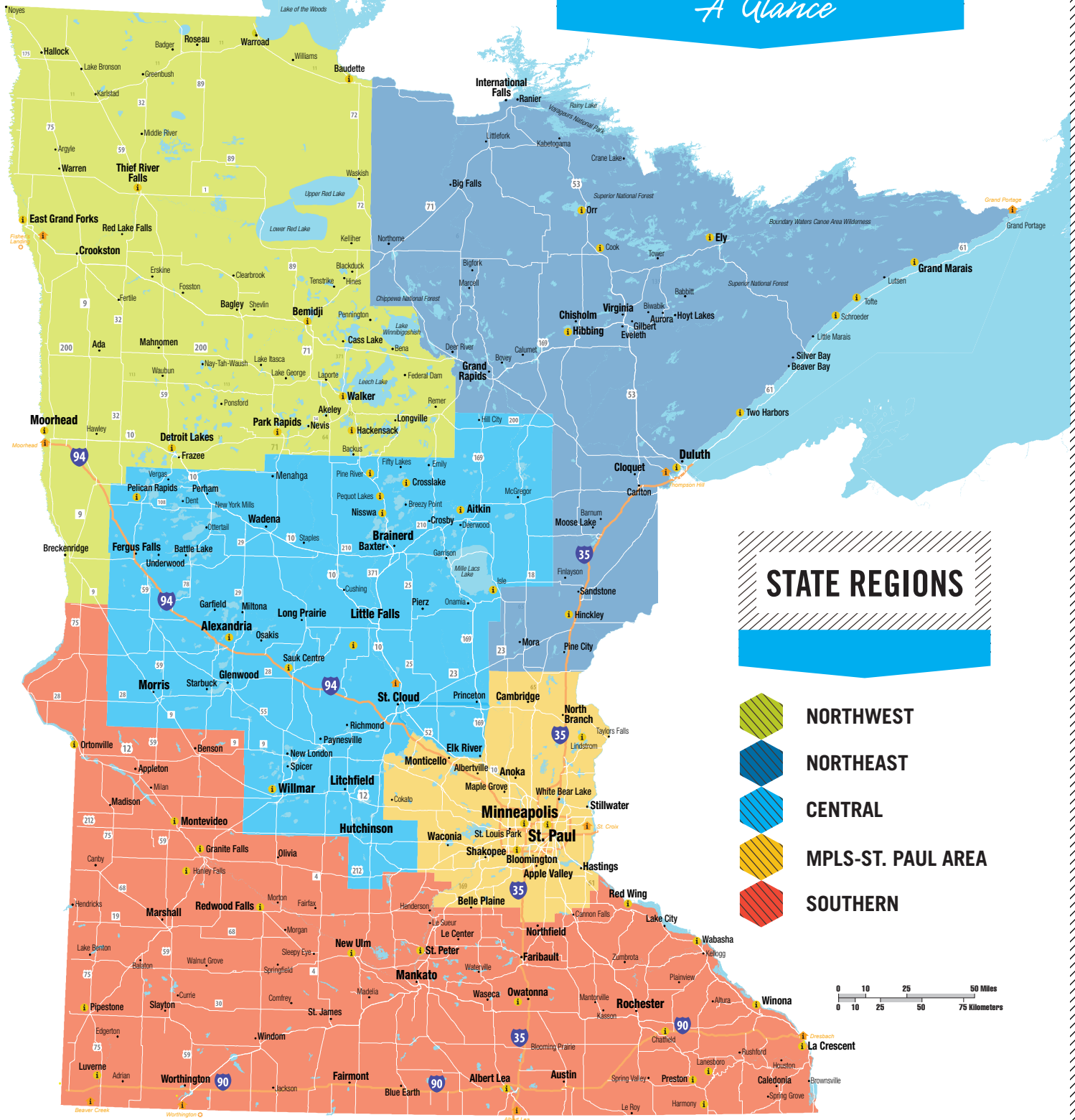
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A Glance



- Welcome Centers are located on major highways at key points in state
- Information Centers in these cities are affiliated with Explore Minnesota and provide statewide travel information. In the Twin Cities area, these information centers are in downtown Minneapolis, St. Paul, St. Louis Park and Mall of America.
- Two centers are open seasonally; the others operate year-round.