

# ***“Outdoor Magic”***

## ***Wild Wanderings!***

Steep Rock Cliffs



*Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs) exist for the benefit of wildlife and for the enjoyment of people. The Interlake's abundance of WMA lands play an important role in biodiversity, conservation and provide a place where the public can engage in a wide variety of recreational activities, including hunting, trapping, berry-picking and wildlife viewing. With twenty-eight WMAs, totaling almost 600,000 acres, a wide range of habitats and wildlife species are present.*

*From the wetlands and grasslands of Oak Hammock Marsh WMA, to the aspen parklands of Narcisse WMA and the boreal forest of Mantagao Lake WMA, the sights and sounds of wildlife abounds. Marvel at the vista of thousands of Canada geese returning to their wetland roost at sunset, the sight of slithering masses of red-sided garter snakes newly emerged from their winter home and the sound of bugling bull elk on a cool September morning. The many roads, trails and waterways found in the Interlake WMAs lead to unique adventures and making lasting memories. For specific information on Interlake WMAs, go to: [gov.mb.ca/conservation/wildlife/habcons/wmas/interlake.html](http://gov.mb.ca/conservation/wildlife/habcons/wmas/interlake.html)*

### ***Following the Highways from south to north & west to east across the Interlake***

#### **Lake Francis (Dr. Frank Baldwin) WMA**

- North on Hwy 6, turn left on PR 411, to PR 430
- southeast end of Lake Manitoba.

A component of the world-famous Delta Heritage Marsh, this WMA is a major breeding & staging area for water birds. Included are wetlands, beach ridge, & tall-grass prairie habitats. Used by a great variety of water birds, including western grebes & pelicans, also amphibians, such as leopard frogs. The beach ridge is a breeding area & critical migration stop-over for a wide variety of warblers. The endangered piping plover occasionally nests on the sandy beach adjacent to the ridge. Hackberry, a rare species of the elm family, grows on the beach ridge, the only other known site in Manitoba is near the Lauder Sandhills. An interpretive facility has been developed along PR 411 featuring the tall-grass prairie found in the WMA. Sprague's pipits & other grassland birds can be observed in the area.

**Marshes, being nature's water filtering system, are abundant throughout the Interlake region, providing shelter for birds, animals, fish and all those amphibians that kids love to catch. With cattails and bulrushes to hide in and calm waters to swim upon, marshes provide amazing sites to watch the antics of a wide variety of a multitude of birds & animals.**

#### **Harperville WMA**

- right off Hwy 6 at St. Laurent onto PR 518, follow to the Shoal lakes OR west from Teulon on PR 415

Harperville WMA is nestled among North, East and West Shoal Lakes. Find a diversity of habitats and of species taking advantage of the range of niches it protects. Ridges covered with aspen and bur oak, Saskatoon and chokecherry, form the understorey. Between the ridges are grassy meadows and marshes of sedge, cattail and bulrush.

The marsh is both an important nesting ground and a staging area for waterfowl and shorebirds. The uplands of Harperville WMA protect habitat for white-tailed deer and ruffed grouse. Game found here are White-tailed Deer, Elk, Black Bear, Sharp-tailed Grouse, Ruffed Grouse, Woodcock, Coyote, Ducks, Geese, and the Sandhill Crane.

#### **Marshy Point Goose Refuge / Marshy Point WMA**

- Hwy 6 southwest of Lundar- must call ahead

East Meadows Ranch (privately owned) is an integral part of the Marshy Point Goose Refuge. Located southwest of Lundar the ranch is 12 sq. miles of Canada goose sanctuary. These marshes and fields provide a refuge for geese & home for many other wetlands species, such as wrens, common yellow-throats, grebes, and other waterfowl.

An important staging area for waterfowl, it played a major role in the early 1950's with the reintroduction of Giant Canada Geese to the Interlake. Starting with 12 birds they see upwards of 10,000 birds per year including 3,000-5,000 goslings. Limited tours available, call 204-739-0251. [GP-N50 40.361 W098 02.505



**Dog Lake Islands WMA** - North on Hwy 6 to Hwy 68, on the way to the Narrows of Lake Manitoba.

Internationally recognized as a nesting and staging area for colonial water birds such as white pelicans, double-crested cormorants, great blue herons, great egrets, and various gull species. Consisting of the waters of Dog Lake and all of the islands, the initial purpose of this WMA was to provide a safe area for nesting and migrating water-fowl. The islands on Dog Lake have been a bird sanctuary since 1957 and game bird hunting continues to be prohibited on any of them. The lake played a vital role in the recovery of giant Canada goose populations in the Interlake.

**Manitou Island** - North on Hwy 6 to Hwy 68, west to the Narrows of Lake Manitoba. Manitou Island is north of the bridge, accessible by water or ice only.

In the beginning the waves beat upon the limestone shingles of this island in a great lake, echoing with sounds of the spirits. Legends and stories, the oral history of this land, passed from clan to clan, throughout the generations. The Great Spirit, Manitou, was said to talk through the rocks. Discover the sound of the spirits; hear what they say to you as you explore this island. Listen with your heart as you capture the ancient feelings of this land, the Narrows of Lake Manitoba, the Land of the Spirits, of Manitou- this amazing lake and our province would share the name: **MANITOBA**. Read more at: [gov.mb.ca/chc/louis\\_riel/pdf/origin\\_mb\\_name.pdf](http://gov.mb.ca/chc/louis_riel/pdf/origin_mb_name.pdf) [GPS- N51 06.842 W098 46.651]

### **Mantagao Lake WMA**

- Hwy 6 to Ashern, 16 km east on PR 325

This large WMA tells the story of glaciers- eskers, beach ridges and end moraines. The vegetation is varied, from coniferous forest to lakeshore marsh. Mantagao Lake is the largest of the water bodies within the WMA. Moose, elk and white-tailed deer find their home here.

### **Steep Rock Limestone Cliffs**

- Hwy 6 to Moosehorn, west on PR 239.

*Signage to the cliffs at village entrance*

One of the most photographed sites in Manitoba, these rugged limestone cliffs are found on the shores of Lake Manitoba. Along the shoreline of the cliffs, if the water is low, you'll discover caves to explore, formed by the waves washing into the limestone, eroding away the rock over millions of years. These same powerful waves crashing along the shoreline have eventually worn some of these larger rocks into a beach of stones of all colours – shades of blue, green, red & black sparkle in the bright Interlake sunshine. A magnificent carpet of Manitoba crocus blankets the top of the cliffs annually, welcoming spring along with the Red-sided garter snakes sunning themselves. New interpretive signage and trails to walk (see "Hitting the Trails"). Grab a rock seat, watch the final golden rays of sun reflecting in clear blue waters. Hear the call of a loon, watch a family of ducks' splash playfully nearby, come explore this magical place. See: [grahamdale.ca](http://grahamdale.ca) [GPS- N51.26.530 W098 48.338]

## **WILDLIFE SMART**

Manitobans are proud to co-exist with an abundance of wildlife. Remember these Wildlife Smart tips to reduce your risk of conflicts with wildlife and to protect yourself, your property, and wildlife:

- Never feed or approach a wild animal.
- Teach children how to recognize wildlife and how to respond if they encounter a wild animal.
- If you have pets, keep them on leash and under control; don't leave them outside unattended.
- Secure attractants so that wild animals can't access human food, garbage, pet/ livestock food, or composted food scraps.



**For more Wildlife Smart  
tips and information, visit:**

**[Manitoba.ca/human-wildlife](http://Manitoba.ca/human-wildlife)  
or call 1-800-214-6497.**

**Manitoba** 



## Gypsumville WMA

- Hwy 6 to PR 513 – east at St. Martin Junction to Gypsumville, turn north and travel 3 kms.

You'll find this WMA a habitat for white-tailed deer, black bears, waterfowl, grouse and muskrats. Moose may be seen here from time to time. Trembling aspen, scattered stands of white spruce or jack pine on the ridges with a well defined boggy area with black spruce & tamarack.

## Basket Lake WMA

- Hwy 6 to PR328 [northwest of Fairford], 6.4 km west of Homebrook

Basket Lake is shallow and marshy with uplands surrounding it that are dominated by aspens and poplars with grassy and willow areas. The wetlands are home to numerous frog species with the uplands used by garter snakes. Elk, moose, white-tailed deer, grouse and waterfowl are found here. Great blue herons, ring-billed gulls and several grebe species nest here. Much of the area has seen repeated wild fires, regenerating some of the necessary habitats.

## Heading up Hwy 7 to 17 & new wonders

## Clematis WMA

- Located 8km northwest of Inwood, west of PTH 17.

Clematis WMA provides important winter habitat for white-tailed deer, coyotes and a variety of furbearers. Snowshoe hares, ruffed and sharp-tailed grouse are also common sights. Occasionally you'll see elk and black bears. The karst topography provides hibernacula or dens for garter snakes. Aspen is the dominant tree species, with chokecherry, Saskatoon and bog birch. It contains several wetlands dominated by sedges and bulrushes.

## Narcisse Snake Dens WMA

- Take Hwy 17 northwest at Teulon [Hwy 7], north at Inwood to 2km north of Narcisse

As spring breaks across the Interlake, the largest concentration of Red-sided garter snakes in the world begin to move from their subterranean limestone dens. The dens, near Narcisse, are visited by thousands of tourists annually, while these snakes are studied by scientists from around the world. The cold-blooded inhabitants of the Narcisse dens crawl forth each spring from the cold underground limestone dens to sun themselves on the rocks. In spring, visitors are awed by the massive mating balls comprised of thousands of male snakes that have formed a ball around a single female to attempt to mate. After mating, the males leave for the summer to forage miles away from the dens. On site is a picnic area and pathways to all five dens, with rest areas along the way. Prime time to view this post-hibernation



Snake Mating Coil at Narcisse Snake Dens

party is around Mother's Day weekend. See this video on the emerging of snakes: [youtube.com/rWnL-AGDlpQ](https://youtube.com/rWnL-AGDlpQ)

There are experienced guides on site part time during prime viewing times. See updates on viewing at: [gov.mb.ca/conservation/wildlife/spmon/narsnakes/snakes\\_status.html](https://gov.mb.ca/conservation/wildlife/spmon/narsnakes/snakes_status.html) [GPS-N50 44.106 W097 31.884]

**Sharpewood WMA** - Hwy 7 to Teulon, turn left on Hwy 17, to PR 512 at Chatfield. 16km west of Chatfield

The WMA's ridge-and-swale topography has a mixture of aspen forest, open meadows, and wetlands. Ideal habitat for elk, ruffed grouse and sharp-tailed grouse. Sandhill cranes and raptor species as well. It is important as a breeding & stop-over location for neo-tropical birds.

**Sleeve Lake WMA** - Hwy 7 to Teulon, Hwy 17 north to Poplarfield, northwest on Hwy 68.

Sleeve Lake was established to maintain habitat for white-tailed deer, elk and grouse. Its ridge-and-swale topography has uplands dominated by trembling aspen with a scattering of white spruce. Shrubs are in abundance, including Saskatoon, red osier dogwood and chokecherry. It is a breeding and stopover location for neo-tropical migrant birds like the orange-crowned warbler. Watch the roadsides for the eastern bluebird and black-billed cuckoo.

## Interlake Forest Interpretive Centre (IFC)

- Hwy 7 to Hwy 17, continue north of Fisher Branch, near Hodgson.

The Interlake Forest Centre (IFC) offers an opportunity to sample some unique natural history of Manitoba's Interlake. Features two self-guided walking trails with a log cabin shelter, an observation tower & a picnic area. Self-guided walking trails: See: "Hitting the Trails".

See: [thinktrees.org/Interlake\\_Forest\\_Centre.aspx](https://thinktrees.org/Interlake_Forest_Centre.aspx) [GPS-N 50 59.648 W097 40.385]

**Skylake WMA** - Hwy 68, east boundary is 3miles south & 2.5 miles west of Arborg.

Newly designated, this large fen-forest, wetland area is low-lying land with islands of tamarack-black spruce forest, trembling aspen, white spruce, wetlands with cattails, sedges and willows with pools fed by artisan springs. Supports sandhill crane, songbirds and white-tailed deer. Rarer species of orchids, such as Dragon's mouth, Northern Green-bog, White bog orchids plus more common Showy and Yellow lady slippers are found here as well.

## Go East to our International Wetland Haven

## Oak Hammock Marsh - WMA

- North off Hwy 67 between Hwys 7 & 8

This internationally recognized Wildlife Management Area, encompassing over 36 sq. miles of reclaimed marsh lands, provides habitats for thousands of geese and ducks each year. In fall, against the backdrop of a golden autumn sunset, the sky is blackened with thousands of birds flying into neighbouring fields to fill up and rest before their long trip south. Try your "hand" with our Canadian Signature "Bird in the Hand" Experience while helping with important research by banding a real, live bird. Being a major stop on the migration highway, thousands of birds visit us annually.







### **Crocus on Steep Rock Cliffs**

Photo: Y Nuestro Arahán

See other animals as well at Oak Hammock Marsh (OHM), such as the curious Richardson's ground squirrels that pop up from their holes as you meander along the pathways. Kids (and adults) love this!

Visit the **Harry J. Enns Wetland Discovery Centre** to learn more about the value and importance of wetlands through group tours for schools, seniors, and others. Stop by soon for some Fun times! Migration dinners, September to June monthly astronomy classes featuring viewing the stars from the rooftop, special events for the entire family make up the year-round activities. Learn to appreciate this habitat and its many inhabitants as you access the marsh by canoe, walking the trails or Go Geocaching! Over 50 caches at the marsh, leads you to all types of wonders to discover! See: [oakhammockmarsh.ca](http://oakhammockmarsh.ca)

[GPS-N50 10.320 W097 08.035]



### **Ducks Unlimited Canada**

- North off Hwy 67 between Hwys 7 & 8

Wetlands were once seen as wastelands. Through partnerships with private individuals, governments and effective fundraising efforts, conservation & understanding of common goals are the future. More people realize the importance of these habitats as beneficial to wildlife. They clean drinking water, protect lands from floods and offer great opportunities to explore nature. For over 80 years Ducks Unlimited has been educating and saving wetlands to provide for habitat for a myriad of marsh creatures.

Get involved- for info: [ducksunlimited.ca](http://ducksunlimited.ca).



### **Going north on Hwy 8 to PR 234 - seeking nature**

**Lee Lake WMA** - Northwest of Riverton off Hwy 8, turn west onto PR 325 - near Hodgson

Lee Lake is one of the most valuable WMAs on a bird watchers' life list- it is home to the uncommon yellow rail. The yellow rail is highly secretive, seldom seen and rarely heard. You may be lucky one night to hear the tic-tic, tic-tic-tic yourself.

**Washow Bay (David G. Tomasson) WMA** - 20km, north of Riverton on Hwy 8, then north on PR 234.

Inland from Washow Bay itself, the WMA includes habitat for moose, staging waterfowl and bald eagles. Great blue herons also use it for roosting and feeding.

### **Moose Creek WMA**

30km north of Riverton on Hwy 8, north on PR 234.

This WMA boasts moose, white-tailed deer, black bear, timber wolf, Sandhill cranes and Canada geese. It is along an important migration route for bald eagles and other raptors. Designated a Provincial Forest, covered by stands of trembling aspen, balsam poplar, white birch, balsam fir, white and black spruce, jack pine, and tamarack.

### **"Bird in the Hand", Oak Hammock Marsh**

Photo: M. Van Soelen

### **Going around Lake Winnipeg**

#### **Netley - Libau Creek Marsh**

- Access from Hwy 9 at Netley or Hwy 59 at Libau  
Netley- Libau Marsh, at the south end of Lake Winnipeg, extending from Netley (in St. Andrews) to Patricia Beach (in St. Clements) on the Libau side of the marsh, forms an important link between the Red River and Lake Winnipeg. Ongoing research in this marsh is vital to improve the quality of these inland coastal wetlands, one of the largest in Canada. Historically, it's natures' cleaning machine for nutrient overload of the water from the Red River before it enters Lake Winnipeg. Vital to the health of Canada's 6th Great Lake, (designated a Manitoba Heritage Marsh).

Netley- Libau Marsh provides habitat for waterfowl & is excellent for bird watching and is designated as an Important Bird Area (IBA) by Bird Studies Canada and the Canadian Nature Federation. It is in danger of falling to the nutrient overload and misuse over the years with research and efforts ongoing to bring it back to its glory.

As an outdoor enthusiast, this is a spot you will return to time and again. Hunters flock here in the fall as birds gather to feed and ready themselves for the flight south. Local outfitters provide hunting blinds and guiding in the area.

#### **Brokenhead Wetland Ecological Reserve**

- Along Hwy 59, east of Brokenhead Ojibway Nation Reserve.

Over 1240 hectares [3,064 acres], unique area containing rich, calcareous (limestone, chalky) fens (marshes & lowlands), springs within a white cedar forest. This calcareous fen is considered rare in North America. Area also contains a high diversity of plant species including 23 provincially rare & uncommon plants. Twenty-eight (28) of Manitoba's 36 native orchid species, including the rare ram's head lady's slipper is found here, along with eight (8) of Manitoba's ten species of carnivorous (insect-eating) plants. Long used by the local First Nation communities for collecting medicinal plants and for cultural activities, which continue today, this area is an eco-tourist delight.

An interpretive trail and boardwalk on Crown Land adjacent to the ecological reserve allows the public safe access to visit without causing further damage to the native plants and their habitat. See: [gov.mb.ca/conservation/pai/mb\\_network/brokenhead](http://gov.mb.ca/conservation/pai/mb_network/brokenhead)



# Nature & Wildlife Viewing

Kayaking at Hecla Cliffs  
Photo: M. Van Soelen



**With more than 96,000 acres of Manitoba Wildlife Management Areas, places where wildlife & nature are protected and flourish, you may “just come across” your special place in Manitoba's Interlake!**

Around every corner in the Interlake is a natural haven for species of all kinds - Eagles to white-tailed deer, elk to black bears, wolves to grouse, moose to goose. Slow down, take time to breathe, and check out the sites you see on your next drive along an Interlake highway! Take a walk along a country lane or on one of our numerous trails. You'll see the small animals in nature, and the many varieties of plants and insects that keep an ecosystem alive. We're on the flyway of a wide variety of migratory birds; here in the Interlake we are a birder's paradise. Open your eyes to the world around you, enjoy the gifts of nature. Here are some natural highlights of this magnificent area.

## **Hecla Provincial Park wildlife- Part of this story is from “Into the Island” by “Naturalist, Dr. Heather Hinam**

Just an hour up the road from Gimli, the farmland transforms into more rugged terrain. The land falls away and before you know it, you are surrounded by water; you have crossed over to Hecla Island. Named for the Icelandic volcano that looms in the myths of the people who settled there in the late 1800s, the island is the largest in Lake Winnipeg and the showpiece of Hecla/Grindstone Provincial Park. The park is also a nature lover's paradise, packing several habitats in about 1,000 square kilometers. Its combination of open water, sweeping marshes, jagged cliffs and dense forests offers a number of opportunities for any visitor. Being the home to over 200 species of birds, avid birders can watch pelicans and eagles patrolling along the lake shore, listen to songbirds flitting through the forest or search for water birds among the reeds. You'll find other critters that call the park home- moose, deer and beaver, along with garter snakes found in crevasses in the limestone bedrock.

Nighttime may bring the chilling howl of a wolf or call of an owl through the background chorus of frogs. Wildflowers and butterflies are found along the myriad well-established trail systems, offering ways to explore Hecla by bicycle or on foot.

Explore the life of the Icelandic settlers in the preserved historic village displays. Enjoy summer sunshine on one of three sandy beaches or explore the snowy woods on over 30kms of groomed cross-country ski trails. Whatever the season the island has so much to offer.



Accommodations on Hecla Island include variety and options for the adventuresome to those that desire pampering! On the island you will find **Gull Harbour Campground** for individual or group use camping. Perhaps you'll choose the stylish, full hotel service at **Lakeview Hecla Resort** with adult and family pools, indoor and outdoor pools along with a waterslide, mineral pool, aromatherapy sauna and an Arctic plunge pool.



Spa treatments by reservation along with booking a tee time on one of Manitoba's top golf courses could round out your stay at this Lakeview Resort.

Hotel-styled rooms and cabins are offered at **Gull Harbour Marina & Lighthouse Inn**, along with a marina to berth at or Seadoos, kayaks or canoes to rent.

## **Hecla Village**

Feel like one of the original settlers to Hecla Island as you stroll the paths and buildings of this historic settlement. The long pier is a perfect place to throw out a line for a fresh catch of the day. Rugged limestone cliffs, pelican and cormorant nesting colonies, vast marshes and forest and a thriving moose population share the island with remnants of the original Icelandic settlement.





**Deer**  
Photo: B. Hewson

**Otters on Icelandic River Bank**  
Photo: Sue Bauernhuber

**Chipmunk**  
Photo: S. Giebrecht

### Hecla / Grindstone Wildlife Opportunities

Hecla/Grindstone Provincial Park is a great place for a wildlife watcher to explore, with habitats ranging from sweeping marshes to deep, dark forests. Here are likely places to look for some of the more sought-after species.

**Moose** – Hecla is home to about 30 moose with many more on the Grindstone Peninsula. An evening drive down the Grindstone road may yield a lucky sighting. Watch the sunset from the Wildlife Viewing Tower, just inside the Hecla gate. The tower is a half a km. from the parking lot and affords a panoramic view of the surrounding marsh and scrub land, perfect moose habitat.

**Pelicans** – North America's largest birds can be seen along the lakeshore, but there are a few places where they congregate. You can find them roosting at the old ferry dock where the causeway meets the island, and in numbers at both Gull Harbour and the Village harbour.

**Songbirds** – Between forests and marshes and shorelines, Hecla/Grindstone is a haven for over 110 species of song birds. A large variety are found at the parking lot at Grassy Narrows Marsh and along the Lighthouse Trail at the north end of the island.

**Beaver** – Beaver lodges can be spotted all along the main highway south of the village. For an up-close look at beaver behaviour, watch from the gazebo on the West Quarry Trail as they go about their evening activities.

**Eagles** – Both Hecla and Grindstone are home to eagles. Spot their nests at the tops of trees near the causeway and along the roads. They are seen frequently along the shoreline, especially where the road winds north of Hecla Village. From bears and wolves to butterflies and bumblebees, this park keeps an avid animal watcher very busy.

Protect Manitoba's trees.  
**Don't move firewood.**

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BORERS ARE  
A THREAT!



Invasive species threaten Manitoba's trees. The emerald ash borer and other insects live in firewood. When firewood is moved between locations, so are the insects.

**One log can kill a million trees.**

Learn more at: [Manitoba.ca/stopthespread](http://Manitoba.ca/stopthespread)

**Manitoba** 

# Birding in the Interlake

Oak Hammock Marsh  
Wildlife Management Area  
Photo: Steve Langston

**Birding (or birdwatching) has become one of the fastest growing hobbies in North America. As the name suggests, it's the act of watching, monitoring, feeding, filming, or photographing birds — of which there are more than 450 different kinds in Canada. It is an affordable activity accessible to everyone. All that is needed is a good identification book (or app), a pair of binoculars and you're ready to hit the trails.**

**The Interlake region offers a rich diversity of habitats with our long shorelines, rivers and wetlands straddling the aspen-parkland, boreal and prairie biomes. We are also situated on the busiest migratory route in North America, used by billions of birds each year.**

**Here is a list of some of the noteworthy sites to find a great variety or very specific bird species.**

## West Interlake Area along Lake Manitoba

If you are traveling north along Lake Manitoba stopping for bird watching is so easy- check out the Marshy Point Goose Refuge *[in Wild Wanderings]* for viewing of the Canada geese population that nest and summer here. Up in Lundar at the Provincial Park walk the Lundar Beach Marsh Trail for a variety of songbirds.

Farther north along Lake Manitoba provides watching for colonial water birds such as white pelicans, double-crested cormorants, great blue herons, great egrets, and various gull species. Along Hwy 68 towards the Narrows and in the Dog Lake area is a wonderful place to see these birds, even as you drive along the highway. Seek the marshy areas that provide nesting locations for these birds.

## Oak Hammock Marsh Wildlife Management Area



Oak Hammock Marsh is one of North America's birding hotspots and a must see for any birding adventure. More than 100 species of birds breed in or near the marsh, and some 300 species have been recorded here. During migration the number of waterfowl using the marsh can exceed 100,000 daily. The marsh is part of a Wildlife Management Area that includes the restored marsh, aspen-oak bluff, artesian springs, remnants of tall grass prairie and 30 kilometres of trails. Several gravel islands called loafing bars have been created in the marsh near viewing blinds and trails to provide excellent viewing opportunities.

Hecla Viewing Tower  
Photo: Steve Langston







**Hummingbird**  
Photo: S. Giebrecht



**Heron and Pelican**  
Photo: S. Giebrecht

In spring, ducks, warblers and shorebirds are abundant. Summer is great for ducks and ducklings and marsh specialties like shorebirds, grebes, rails, herons, American Bitterns, American Coot, Red-winged and Yellow-headed Blackbirds, Marsh wren, Franklin's Gull and Black tern. Fall is extraordinary for large numbers of ducks, geese and shorebirds. The birding continues until freeze-up in November. In winter look for Common Redpoll, Snow Bunting and the majestic Snowy Owl.

### **Snake Dens at Narcisse Wildlife Management Area**



The snake dens are part of the Narcisse Wildlife Management Area that protects the hibernacula for the largest concentration of red-sided garter snakes in the world. The habitat here is aspen-oak parkland. While the snakes are most active from late April to the end of May, you might see American Crows dining on snake liver. Great Horned Owls also hunt the snakes; watch for both around the dens. The aspen forests and grasslands provide habitat for Sharp-tailed Grouse, Ruffed Grouse, and Red-tailed Hawk, Upland Sandpiper, Great Horned Owl, Long-eared Owl, Northern Flicker, Red-eyed Vireo, Warbling Vireo, Brown Thrasher, Gray Catbird, Orange-crowned Warbler, Black-and-white Warbler, Connecticut Warbler, Eastern Towhee, Western Meadowlark and American Goldfinch.

### **Lockport Provincial Park**

A small provincial park located on the east bank of the Red River at Lockport, next to the St. Andrews Lock and Dam. The park offers good viewing of American White Pelicans and Double-crested Cormorants fishing below the dam as well as a good variety of waterfowl, gulls and terns. During migration, we can see raptors such as Osprey, Bald Eagles and Red-tailed Hawk as well as several species of small songbirds such as Chimney Swift and swallows.

### **Sandy Bar**

This site is a long sand peninsula that stretches eastward into Lake Winnipeg towards Hecla Island near the community of Riverton. The sand and gravel islands beyond the peninsula are partially colonized by grasses, willows and aspen. The site has been designated as an Important Bird Area because of the significant populations of Ring-billed Gulls and Common Terns. You can also see nesting Herring Gulls.

This is also a good site to see Red-necked Grebe, American White Pelican, Bald Eagle, Herring Gull, Ring-billed Gull, Common Tern and Forster's Tern. In migration, look for Snow Goose, Canada Goose, Sanderling and Ruddy Turnstone. Watch for migrating warblers in the vegetation along the spit.

*Written by J. Bourgeois-Oak Hammock Marsh & H. Hinam  
-Second Nature Adventures in Discovery*

Photo Courtesy of  
Oak Hammock Marsh



**Bald Eagle**

Photo: Sherry Giesbrecht



# Hitting The Trails

Light House Trail  
Photo: Heather Hinam



*From easy walking trails to difficult hiking treks, link into nature and enjoy the fresh air and sunshine as you explore the Interlake's many trails. Ride a bike, take a stroll, with some trails multi-use and accessible to motorized vehicles such as Quads and ATV's. Please share our trails, respect all users, watch for posted signs and abide by the rules listed. Be aware that this is a space for many to share, and take your garbage out with you.*

## Where's your Favourite Trail...

1. Interlake Pioneer Trail
2. Lunder Beach Marsh Trail
3. Little Steep Rock Trail
4. Stony Mountain Trail
5. Interlake Pioneer Trail – North
6. Quarry Walking Trail
7. Oak Hammock Marsh
8. Crescent Creek Trail
9. Icelandic River Trail
10. Narcisse Snake Dens Trails
11. Megwaakwaang Nature Trail
12. Spruce Grove Nature Trail
13. Riverton Riverside Trail
14. Black's Point Self-Guiding Trail
15. The Lighthouse Trail
16. West Quarry Trail
17. Chorus Frog Trail
18. Black Wolf Trail
19. Red River North Trail portion of The Great Trail
20. Selkirk Park Community Trail
21. "Urban Prairie"- Gaynor Family Regional Library
22. Camp Morton Creek Trail
23. Rail Trail
24. Duff Roblin Parkway Trail

### Teulon Trailhead Sign

Photo Courtesy of Town of Teulon







**Second Nature Interpretive Panels at Gaynor Family Library**  
Photo: Heather Hinam

## Highway 6 leads to amazing nature & wildlife experiences!

### 1. Interlake Pioneer Trail

- Start at Grosse Isle on Highway 6. This 72 mile -116 km trail is a multi-use trail for walking, hiking, biking, horse back riding, with a portion for ATV'ing. Formerly the Prime Meridian Trail, this is the railbed of a former CN rail line that cuts through the heart of the Interlake. The trail begins at Grosse Isle on Highway 6, just 10 minutes north of Highway 101 [Perimeter]. The Prime Meridian Trail Association manages the south 10km (6 miles), where you will find a conservation, recreation and heritage trail as a spur of the *The Great Trail*. This is a haven for naturalists as it boasts a variety of species: over 240 of flowers, 170 of birds, 31 of mammals, 4 of amphibians, 3 species of reptiles, that starts in the lush tall grass of the Red River Valley, then marches north through farmland. **NO motorized vehicles on the 4 miles at south end and 2 miles by Argyle.**  
See: [pmta.mb.ca](http://pmta.mb.ca)

### 2. Lundar Beach Marsh Trail

- West off Hwy 6 at Lundar.  
Made for walking, hiking or biking, this trail is perfect. Part of your special time at the Lundar Provincial Park, a quiet campground along the shore of Lake Manitoba directly west of the town of Lundar on Highway 6. Trail starts at the campground parking lot and goes for 3 km through marsh and forest around the edge of the campground. Interpretive signs showcase the rich diversity of wildlife and the importance of six different ecosystems packed into about a square kilometer. Coupled with its location along a major migratory route, Lundar Beach Marsh is a year-round haven for birds and birdwatchers. Wander the trail, keep an eye and ear out for over 100 bird species that have found niches in each of the ecosystems. Trail is gravel, most is accessible. Adventure into another "hidden gem"; another of the Interlake's best places in the world to view these birds in significant numbers.

**3. Little Steep Rock Trail** - West off Hwy 6 on PR 239, [north of Moosehorn] to Village of Steep Rock. Little Steep Rock Trail is 4.4 km long, where you will discover signs of over 350 million years of natural history that has shaped this world around you. Enjoy fabulous views from atop the Steep Rock cliffs, remnants of a prehistoric sea bed. Gaze out over Lake Manitoba. Keep an eye out for current and fossil wildlife of the old Lafarge Quarry. Search some of the northernmost aspen/oak parkland forest for signs of its elusive residents. The new trail emerges just south of Little Steep Rock point, a short walk from the campground. Find new interpretive signage along the way that adds to your knowledge of the land you traverse. For parking area: [GPS- N51.26.530 W098 48.338]  
Trail accessible at Parking. Area to cliff lookout, not paved.

## Highway 7 leads to adventure...

### 4. Stony Mountain Trail - Hwy 7 north of Hwy 101

- In town and around the outskirts of town.  
If you are looking for some fresh air and a chance to get out of the City of Winnipeg, Stony Mountain is ideally located just north of the Perimeter. Stony Mountain has a long history in the rehabilitated limestone quarry that is rich in varied landscapes. Explore the approximately 5km interpretative trail with "trail head" maps and "wayfinding" signage that connects points of interest. Find a bench and bask in the glory of pure beauty! An ideal active life trail for hiking, biking and walking, mixed with various community events hosted on the interpretative trail. Map at: [stonymountainmb.ca](http://stonymountainmb.ca)

### 5. Interlake Pioneer Trail – North

- Access to trail from numerous Gravel roads west of Hwy 7.  
The northern portion of this multi-use recreation trail includes use by ATV's, NO other vehicles. Running through the **Rural Municipalities of Woodlands, Armstrong and Fisher** the Interlake Pioneer Trail takes you from farmland to boreal forest, past the Narcisse Snake Dens as well as through small communities such as Inwood, Chatfield, Narcisse, Broad Valley and Fisher Branch. Managed by the **South Interlake ATV Club** Spring through Fall offering a "safe place to ride", with Snoman operating the trail in Winter. A parking area with an unloading ramp and rest stop/picnic area can be found at the old **Woodroyd Train Station yard**. Oodles of geocaches along this trail.  
See: [siatvclub.com](http://siatvclub.com) [GPS- N50 16.516 W097 28.869]



# Hitting The Trails



Interlake Pioneer Trail – North

## 6. Quarry Walking Trail - In Town of Stonewall's Quarry Park - Near corner of Hwy 67 & 236

Learn about how limestone was quarried while walking the 3 trails in the old Quarry. First is the *Pond Trail*, an easy trail around the beautiful water feature. This trail, although graveled is relatively flat & would likely be WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE. The *Quarry Trail* & the *Thunder Hill Trail* are not, with some rugged terrain & climbing aspects to them. Total of 1km in length. Trails are self-guided. Brochures available from our front desk. After you have toured outside come into the Heritage Arts Centre to see more in the museum. See: [stonewallquarrypark.ca](http://stonewallquarrypark.ca)



## 7. Oak Hammock Marsh

- On Hwy 67 accessible from both Hwy 7 & Hwy 8.

This world-renowned wetland offers over 30kms of trails for recreational uses. Trails are open for use year-round for many activities, including hiking, cycling, horseback riding, skiing and snow-shoeing. Visitors should register at the Wetland Discovery Centre before using the longer dike trails as there are no shelter, water, food, or bathroom facilities along most of these trails. There are many shorter trails that are suitable for leisurely strolls. A downloadable trail map is available at: [oakhammockmarsh.ca/assets/2015/02/wma.pdf](http://oakhammockmarsh.ca/assets/2015/02/wma.pdf). Trails closest to Wetland Discovery Centre are WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE.



## 8. Crescent Creek Trail

- Located in Town of Teulon on Hwy 7.

A 2.5km walking trail in the Teulon-Rockwood Green Acres Park, located adjacent to the campground that offers prime bird watching opportunities. Discover the interpretive signs that adds an exciting layer to your walk through the woods. This trail is WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE. Hear the birds sing through a QR code on one sign or learn more about the types of woods you are in. This trail meanders through the woods and follows the small creek that flows through the park. [GPS-N50 22.654 W097 15.534]

## 9. Icelandic River Trail

- Located in the Town of Arborg east off Hwy 7.

Walk along the picturesque Icelandic River Trail as it winds along the Icelandic River in the Town of Arborg. A new seasonal walking bridge spans the river allowing foot traffic from the town to the Arborg & District Multicultural Heritage Village and campground. Great for a leisurely stroll or a fast paced walk along the river. Check out the new **Arborg Fishway** signage [near the gazebo] explaining the fish ladder on the other side of the weir. [GPS-N50 54.339 W097 12.930] WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE.

## Take a Trek up Highway 17 to discover nature galore...

**Turn left at the north end of Teulon to have a new nature experience unfold!**

## 10. Narcisse Snake Dens

- Highway 17 north of Inwood.

The area's 3kms of limestone trails are open year round. They wind through scrub aspen and grassland where hikers will see more than just snakes. Songbirds, grouse, whitetailed deer, and a wide variety of flowering plants abound. The site's picnic area provides a place for rest and replenishment. Trail is gravel, accessible to all dens with accessible bathrooms. See more under WMA section [GPS-N50 44.106 W097 31.884]



## 11. Megwaakwaang Nature Trail

- Hwy 17 north of Fisher Branch.

Megwaakwaang Nature Trail is a loop trail to the south of the parking area of the Interlake Interpretive Centre off Hwy 17 north of Fisher Branch. It features a variety of habitats including wetlands. Long-bracted Frog-orchid and Loesel's Twayblade orchids can be found along this trail. Go to: [thinktrees.org/Interlake\\_Forest\\_Centre.aspx](http://thinktrees.org/Interlake_Forest_Centre.aspx) or their FACEBOOK page at: [facebook.com/interlake.forestcentre](https://www.facebook.com/interlake.forestcentre) [GPS-N50 59.648 W097 40.385]

## 12. Spruce Grove Nature Trail

- Hwy 17 north of Fisher Branch.

This trail is located to the north of the parking area at the Interlake Interpretive Centre located on Hwy 17 north of Fisher Branch. This 1.2 km. trail loops through a typical black spruce stand. Calypso, Ram's-Head Lady's-slippers, Small Round-Leaved Orchids, all Coralroot species, Yellow Lady's Slipper, Lesser Rattlesnake-Orchid, Heart-Leaved Twayblade can all be found along this trail. "Cool, dark, and damp describe the conditions found in this forest!" It is also a good place to find boreal forest birds such as Black-Backed Woodpecker and Cape May Warbler. Go to: [thinktrees.org/Interlake\\_Forest\\_Centre.aspx](http://thinktrees.org/Interlake_Forest_Centre.aspx) [GPS-N50 59.648 W097 40.385]





Picking Berries at Steep Rock  
Photo: G. McDonald

Rest Stop on the Icelandic River  
Walking Trail in Arborg

## Highway 8 leads to all season opportunities... & Hecla/Grindstone Provincial Park

### 13. Riverton Riverside Trail

Meanders along the banks of the Icelandic River in Riverton. A new Icelandic walking bridge once again spans the Icelandic River, rebuilt following nature's crush with ice jams in 2011. Serves as a connector for both sides of the Village of Riverton. Resting beside this trail is the statue of Sigtryggur Jónasson- the "Father of New Iceland" looking out over the land he settled. [GPS-N 50 59.841 W096 59.640]

WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE

*Hiking the Hecla Island Trails is written by Dr. H. Hinam of Second Nature - Adventures in Discovery. Here are some of the highlights of over 75kms of trails winding through Hecla Island, introducing you to an almost finite variety of ecosystems. Take in Black's Point as well in Grindstone...*

## Grindstone Provincial Park

### 14. Black's Point Self-Guiding Trail

- **NEW Trail signage** Trailhead - Beach Parking Lot in Black's Point Subdivision, Grindstone Provincial Park, Length - 1.5km loop *This trail brings you deep into a very special ecosystem: Old Growth Boreal Mixed wood Forest.* The boreal forest is a system driven by disturbance. Fire and insect outbreaks wipe out a small percentage of this largest terrestrial biome every year, clearing the slate for new growth. Over decades, succession takes the previously burned forest through increasingly complex communities. Old growth forests are intricate and critical ecosystems that take over a century of succession to develop. Increasingly rare, they must be protected as important habitat, genetic reservoirs and carbon storehouses. Discover the wonders of Black's Point's old growth forest. Trail signage will help you identify some of the species in this multi-faceted community.

By Dr. H. Hinam-Second Nature-Adventures in Discovery. [GPS-N51 14.319 W96 44.793]



## Hecla Island Trails

**15. The Lighthouse Trail** – (approx. 1.5km return) – Pick up this trail behind the resort building. It's an easy walk that ambles through old-growth boreal mixed wood forest before leading you along the shores of Lake Winnipeg out onto a narrow spit of land. There, you are treated to a panoramic view of the water from the base of one of the last functioning lighthouses on Lake Winnipeg. Watch for wheeling eagles and flocks of pelicans and cormorants. [GPS-N51 11.179 W096 37.246]

**16. West Quarry Trail** – (approx. 3.5km return) – In the summer, this is an out-and-back trail that winds its way along the lakeshore through towering aspen and white spruce. Stop at the lagoon and watch from the protection of the screened in gazebo as red-winged blackbirds flit among the cattails and muskrat cut a trail through the still waters. At the end of the trail, discover the history of Hecla as you explore the remains of both a quarry and a fish station. [GPS-N51 10.887 W096 40.221]

**17. Chorus Frog Trail** – (Approx 1.5km return)  
For a taste of Grassy Narrows Marsh, the Chorus Frog trail offers the best variety. Start out walking through dense willows into a rare copse of ash and oak before finally reaching the expanse of the marsh. A short boardwalk takes you to a viewing blind from which you can spot pied-billed grebes and if you're lucky, the flash of an otter. For a longer walk back, take a left just off the boardwalk and follow the dyke along the marsh's edge and reconnect with the entrance road to take you back to the trail-head. [GPS-N51 02.731 W096 50.126]

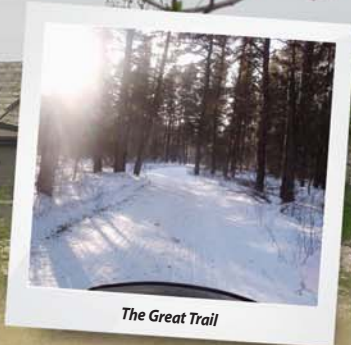
**18. Black Wolf Trail** – (Approx 15km one way)  
The longest trail in the park runs along the south eastern shore of the island. It's wide, relatively flat grade makes it great for cyclists. Start at the north end and skirt the edges of the lake along an old road before turning into towering aspen forests. The trees eventually give way into Grassy Narrows Marsh at the south end - keep an eye out for any signs of wolves. [GPS-N51 02.731 W096 50.126]



# Hitting the Trails



**Quarry Walking Trail**  
Photo: G. McDonald



**The Great Trail**

## Highway 9...takes you right through a city...to Beach area trails...

### 19. Red River North Trail portion of the *The Great Trail* [formerly *Trans Canada Trail*]

The Red River North Trail is 110 kilometres/ 68 miles from north of Winnipeg to Grand Beach via Bird's Hill, Lockport and Selkirk. This recreational trail, preserves access to Manitoba's varied natural landscapes, connecting communities and preserving culture & heritage while promoting a better quality of life and well-being. The trail is great for nature lovers, artists, photographers, historians, cyclists and explorers - it's ideal for walking, jogging, hiking & biking, horseback riding, snowmobiling and sightseeing. Whether you begin at Grand Beach or at Winnipeg you will view the great inland ocean - Lake Winnipeg. You will be near the Brokenhead Wetland Ecological Reserve (see page 17 for more info). You'll wander through the summer havens of Grand Beach, Grand Marais, Victoria Beach, moving into East Selkirk, Selkirk and along the heritage River Road. Stop at Lower Fort Garry NHS, view the Red River as you cross the St. Andrews Lock & Dam at Lockport on your way to Bird's Hill Park & south into Winnipeg. PARTS MAY BE ACCESSIBLE BY WHEELCHAIR

### 20. Selkirk Park Community Trail

This nature based trail, with four trails of different lengths, built to enable bird watching, complete with four rest/ picnic stops for everyone to enjoy. Named after the birds you'll see while you traverse these trails enjoy discovering nature on the Chickadee [1.95 km], Blue Jay [200 m], Red Wing (blackbird) [over 3.5 km] and Mallard [875 m] trails. Winding through the Marine Museum and into the Selkirk Park proper where swimming, camping, boat launch and special attractions are offered from spring thru fall. Some of these trails are usable all seasons for cross-country Skiing, snowshoeing and hiking/ biking in the other seasons. Selkirk Canoe & Kayak dock & Club house is along one of them by the Selkirk Slough. PARTS ARE WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE. With new interpretive signage, kiosks and Wayfinding posts use of the trails will be more enjoyable- come explore nature within Selkirk. This trail connects to the Red River North Trail, as part of the *The Great Trail* system.

### 21. "Urban Prairie" - Gaynor Family Regional Library

Three (3) acres of urban prairie were planted in 2014, a site of recreated tall grass prairie habitat, adding to the few thousand acres remaining in North America. Acts as a natural water run-off management system for this Green Globe building. Over fifty different grass and flowering plant

species native to the tall grass prairie community, along with interpretive signage depicting the ecosystem, will hopefully inspire ways to mitigate habitat loss. Plant identifications signs on *tall grass prairie as an endangered ecosystem and a critical component of the Manitoba Landscape are in place*. This Urban Prairie will enhance the experience for residents and visitors giving an opportunity to educate themselves while enjoying a touch of nature just steps away from the library doors. Gaynor Family Regional Library is an all-season **Tourism Visitors Centre** for Selkirk and area, with Wi-Fi access. See: [gfrl.org](http://gfrl.org) Watch for a special Manitoba 150 project to be completed, delayed from 2020!

### 22. Camp Morton Creek Trail - off PR 222 north of Gimli.

Camp Morton Provincial Park is about 5 km north of Gimli on Highway 222. The trails on the west side of Highway 222 are accessed off Lakeside Road. The access to the east side trails are about 1 km further north. Great for all season use including cross-country trails in winter. [GPS- N50 59.648 W096 59.262]

### 23. Rail Trail - north of Gimli along PR 222.

Found in the north portion of the RM Gimli and south portion of the RM of Bifrost-Riverton running along PR 222 this former rail bed is used by many summer residents and visitors as a link between the beach side communities. Ideal for those great spring/summer/fall activities of walking, hiking and biking be sure to watch for the birds and wildlife & take time to smell the fresh country air.

## Highway 59... offering amazing Provincial Park link ups

### 24. Duff Roblin Parkway Trail

Wildlife and vegetation along with agricultural land this trail supports multi-use, non-motorized, four season recreational opportunities along the floodway, including walking, hiking, and biking in the summer with cross-country skiing and snowshoeing in winter. Users will follow the floodway channel on this trail that acts as a service access road to the floodway. It is open to the public for multi purpose when not in use for the floodway. Providing linkages to the *The Great Trail* [formerly the *Trans-Canada Trail*] and Birds Hill Provincial Park, and in the future, the new Duff Roblin Provincial Park, located near the south end of the floodway. See: [floodwayauthority.mb.ca/po\\_recreation.html](http://floodwayauthority.mb.ca/po_recreation.html)



# Geocaching



***Geocaching is changing - smaller caches, power trails and multiple puzzle trails are very popular, and it still remains one of the best ways to showcase planet Earth. With a few million active geocaches hidden around the world, and over 15 million geocachers worldwide this phenomenon showcases pieces of the Interlake's hidden beauty.***

As an adventure seeking traveler or a heritage explorer you'll plan your trips to the Interlake to find those "off the beaten track" options we offer when you come to explore this area of vast and interesting terrain, back country roads and unique stories you can learn about.

What makes geocaching such a popular activity is its universal appeal. Anybody can go geocaching regardless of their age, gender and physical abilities. All that is needed is a hand-held GPS device (or most mobile phones), access to the Internet and a keen sense of adventure. View: [geocaching.com](http://geocaching.com) to give you an idea of the location with a map, and provides the exact coordinates of the geocache. After entering the coordinates your adventure begins. Great for team building, or families or friends exploring places you've never been. You'll learn of places, history and great stories in our communities!

Geocaches range in size; most geocaches contain a log for you to record your find. The larger ones often have small trinkets inside for trading, things that kids just love to do. The unwritten rule is if you take something from the cache, you should leave something of equal or greater value.

Expand your horizons this year - give geocaching a try. With millions of Geocaches around the world and many here in the Interlake it allows travel to places you have never been with the ability to safely find your way back - just make sure your GPS batteries are fully charged! Plan a "treasure hunting tour" of our Interlake caches to get out to areas you've never seen!

It's possible to find one of the very few remaining Interlake Tourism Association Geocoins- trackable items produced in 2008, 2010 & 2012. The Tracking numbers, allows you to log on to [geocaching.com](http://geocaching.com) and track a coin around the world. Perhaps you'll be lucky to find one of these.

**Learn more on geocaching basics at:**  
**[mbgeocaching.com](http://mbgeocaching.com)**

**It's free to join, so get out there and enjoy the experiences.**

# Hunting

***Numerous opportunities for hunters, seeking a multitude of types of hunting experiences can be found in the Interlake with its vast area and varied wildlife. If you are looking for game birds or waterfowl, or deer to bear, look no further.***

The region is on the fall migratory flight path for hundreds of thousands of geese, ducks and cranes, making it an ideal area for waterfowl hunting. Netley - Libau Marsh, Oak Hammock area and Hecla Island's Grassy Narrows Marsh on the east side and Grant's Lake, Marshy Point and Dog Lake on the west side, provide excellent opportunities for both over water and field shooting.

Grouse is a favourite with hunters in the Ashern, Fisher Branch and Broad Valley areas in the west to Central area of the region. Bear hunting is found in the north closer to the 53rd parallel, with deer in most other areas of the Interlake.

While many hunters have long term friendships with local landowners that allow them to hunt on their land, the Interlake offers opportunities for new hunters to accompany a local guide that provides them with all the Provincial licenses, equipment and accommodations.

Some of the accommodations (Page 29) are able to assist you with permission from local landowners for hunting. Keep in mind our Interlake campgrounds, great for fall camping, are excellent spots to set up for your stay when the crowds of the summer are gone.

## ***Goose Hunting***

*Photo Courtesy of R.M. Coldwell*

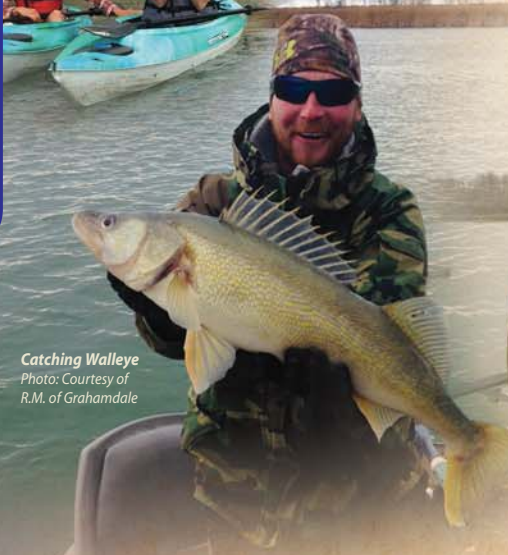




# Fishing

## Catching the "BIG ONE" in the Interlake...

*The Interlake, a prime fishing destination in Manitoba, no Fly in required, features great spots up & down the Red River, on Lake Manitoba & Lake Winnipeg, but don't forget some amazing catches you'll make on our smaller lakes. So no matter the season, no matter your equipment there is a PLACE for YOU to drop a line!*




**Catching Walleye**  
Photo: Courtesy of  
R.M. of Grahamdale

**Monstrous Catfish** are often taken from the Red River, in particular the section north of Lockport. Having a fight with one of these competitors gives you a life long memory. This area produces hundreds of trophy "kitties" in the 34" to over 40" range- you have a great chance of going for a Master Angler record here!

Greenback Walleye, Pickerel in Manitoba, is also a popular and regular catch. During fall walleye migration anglers can expect to catch both amazing quality and quantity fish in the Interlake waterways, with some being Master Angler sizes. Come tackle one for yourself.

Signature Interlake species are Channel Catfish, Greenback Walleye, Yellow Perch, Common Carp, Sauger, Goldeye, and Freshwater Drum. **West Shoal Lake** (west of Teulon) remains a hot jumbo perch winter fishery while East Shoal Lake is also a popular place. These interconnected lakes have seen some Manitoba Master Angler Award- winning catches during the winter. Travel Manitoba is a great starting place. For fishing and guiding info, See: [huntfishmanitoba.ca](http://huntfishmanitoba.ca) or 1-800-665-0040.




**Fishing in the Interlake**  
Photo: G. McDonald

### The Walleye Masters Cup

Have you ever watched or taken part in a Competitive walleye tournament? Did you know there is a Central Walleye Trail that runs through part of Manitoba's Interlake? This is Manitoba's largest one day competitive walleye tournament, it's the tenth (10th) stop on the Central Walleye Trail (CWT). Starts early - 8am - 4:00 pm, September 25th, 2021 on the Red River. Docking out of Selkirk Park, (486 Eveline St., Selkirk, MB). Entry: \$350/Team (2- Person) Contact: Bryan Maloney. Email: [copper032@shaw.ca](mailto:copper032@shaw.ca)

Great prizes, but think how fascinating and exciting it would be to see all those boats grouped in one area fishing... something for you to capture!  
See: [centralwalleyetrail.com](http://centralwalleyetrail.com)

Or come fishing in this tournament...  
3rd annual Selkirk Walleye Championship  
October 2-3, 2021. Two-person team live-release walleye tournament out of Selkirk Park. An exciting two-day competition that has some of the best Red River anglers battling it out for cash and prizes. For more info: [kickerfish.ca@gmail.com](mailto:kickerfish.ca@gmail.com)



**Fishing at the Narrows**  
Photo: S. Giesbrecht



## Ice Fishing on the Red River



## Icebound Excursions

"Wrapped in the warmth and security of a SnoBear, Icebound Excursions drives you away from the edge of Lake Winnipeg and into a new, snow covered world to experience a day of ice fishing."

Online Reservations: [snobearrental.ca](http://snobearrental.ca)  
or Call: 1-844-960-7830 Email: [info@icebound.ca](mailto:info@icebound.ca)

## KidFish Ice Derby

Having FUN, getting families out ice fishing in the Interlake is one of the best things to do during our winters. Here's an awesome way to introduce kids and families to the sport, get them back outside for some fresh air and support a great cause as well as CancerCare Manitoba Foundation and the Children's Hospital Foundation of Manitoba. This one-day event is the largest family ice fishing derby in Manitoba. With thousands of people participating annually while supporting CancerCare Manitoba Foundation and the KidFish has raised over \$175,000 since 2015 and has provided many other services and opportunities to sick children that makes it "all about the kids". In 2021 due to COVID they went virtual, finishing in March. Follow them on Facebook for info on 2022. Facebook: @MBKFAC. More info at: [walleyeanglers.mb.ca/KidFish.htm](http://walleyeanglers.mb.ca/KidFish.htm)

***Long known for its commercial fishing industry, in fact it's the 2nd largest in Canada, the Interlake is also a spectacular spot to catch one of our favourite fish: Pickerel or "Walleye" Relaxing on the shore with the tantalizing smells of freshly caught pickerel sizzling in a fry pan is a memory second to none, ah...the taste is delicious.***

## Winter Ice Fishing FUN

Thousands of avid anglers are finding their "secret and favourite" fishing spot each winter **as soon as the water freezes solid and deep enough**. Popping up across the Interlake from December through mid- March are new fishing villages. A wild assortment of pop-up ice fishing tents, home-made fishing huts, and trailers appear on the ice with access off beach roads. Access points with parking and some with portable Washrooms/ garbage/recycling at Patricia Beach, Beaconsia Beach, Balsam Harbour, Sunset Bay, and Grand Marais in the RM of St. Clements. See the map here: [rmofstclements.com](http://rmofstclements.com). In the RM of St. Andrews you'll find access points at Warner Rd. one block south of Chalet Beach Rd.

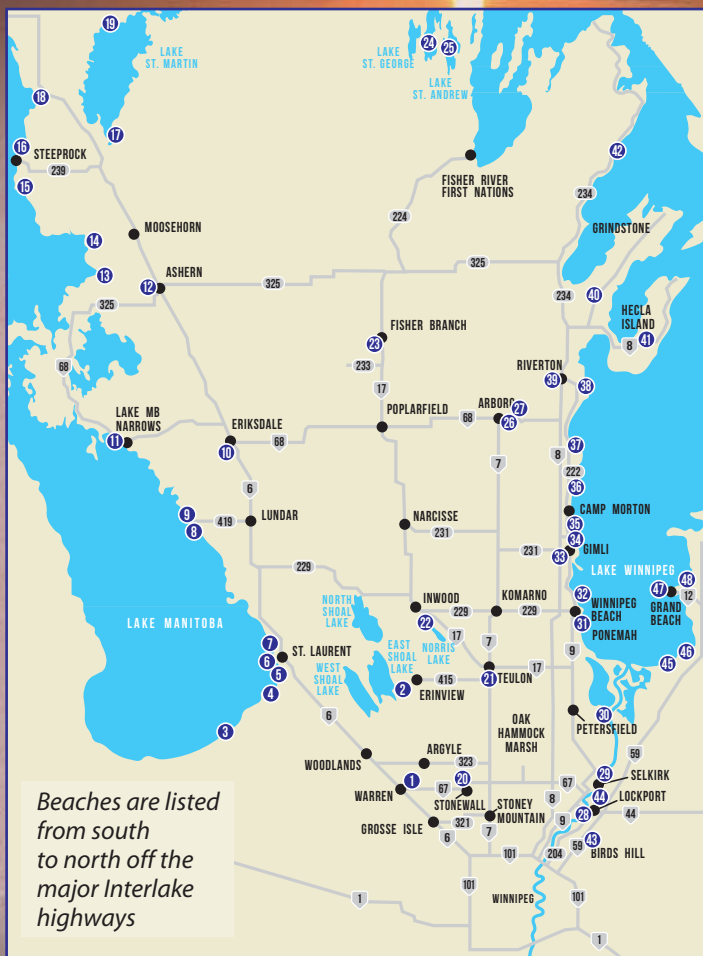
Access at Gimli is north of the marina, with one at Arnes at Silver Harbour Rd. Check Map on [icebound.ca](http://icebound.ca) or go out with a pro from Icebound Excursions!

## Accommodations and guiding services for Hunting and Fishing in the Interlake:

| Name   | Location   | Phone Number   | Website  | Things to do                                      |
|--|--|----------------|--|---|
| Benson's Big Rock Camp & Campground              | Take Hwy 6 to Hwy 513 - on Lake St. Martin   | 204-803-1942   | <a href="http://campbigrock.com">campbigrock.com</a>                     | Camping, fishing<br>Hunting in area               |
| Chesley's Family Resort                          | Hwy 9 to Petersfield- turn east on the north side of the bridge & follow signage           | 204-738-2250   | <a href="http://chesleys.com">chesleys.com</a>                           | Fishing & Hunting,<br>Camping, Cabins             |
| Country Harvest Inn                              | Broad Valley - off Hwy 17  | 204-372-6618   | <a href="http://countryharvestinn.com">countryharvestinn.com</a>         | Hunting-Birds & Deer                              |
| Einarsson's Guide Service                        | Dauphin River - Hwy 6 to Hwy 513   | 204-659-4573   | <a href="http://mts.net/~deinar/Index.htm">mts.net/~deinar/Index.htm</a> | Fishing, Hunting,<br>Guided Canoe Trips           |
| Erinview Campground                              | Take Hwy 415 at Teulon to East Shoal Lake  | 204-278-3385   | <a href="http://erinviewcampground.com">erinviewcampground.com</a>       | Nature viewing,<br>hunting, fishing               |
| Icebound Excursions                              |  | 204-960-7830   | <a href="mailto:info@icebound.ca">info@icebound.ca</a>                   | Guiding services for<br>Lake Winnipeg ice fishing |
| Poplar Forest Lodge & Campground                 | 81023 Two Mile Road,<br>Hwy 6  | 204-482-5148   | <a href="http://Pfl-mb.ca">Pfl-mb.ca</a>                                 | Fishing nearby, Guided<br>Experiences             |
| Narrows Sunset Lodge<br>(Camping, Cabins, Lodge) | On Hwy 68 at the Narrows of Lake Manitoba  | 204-768-2749   | <a href="http://narrowssunsetlodge.com">narrowssunsetlodge.com</a>       | Fishing & Hunting,<br>Guided Experiences          |
| Rubber Ducky Resort & Campground                 | Hwy 6 - north on PR322 to Hwy 67- west to Rd.1 W-follow signs from here to Rd.76.5N        | 204-322-5286   | <a href="http://rubberduckyresort.com">rubberduckyresort.com</a>         | Hunting in area-birds<br>Trout pond on site       |
| Sasa-ginni-gak Lodge                             | Fly in fishing lodge in northeast MB. -<br>Depart Northway Aviation at St. Andrews Airport | 1-888-536-5353 | <a href="http://saslodge.com">saslodge.com</a>                           | Fishing, wildlife &<br>nature viewing, Cabins     |



# Beaches, Lakes and Parks



Winnipeg Beach at Sunset

*An abundance of beautiful beaches, for taking a solitary stroll or rockin' all night- the choice is yours! Water sports that just don't end, so many summer events and activities you can't get bored! In fact, you may need a few extra days to rest from your vacation!*

*The Interlake has wide and varied choices for parks & campgrounds. Lake Winnipeg is usually the busiest, so make those camping reservations early. Campgrounds on Lake Manitoba, up the middle & on the west side of the Interlake often offer a slower, less crowded pace for visitors that enjoy "getting away from it all. From fully accessible RV sites to back country, non-serviced camping- take your pick!*

*Check out the Trails section and the Wildlife & Birding areas to add those into your camping experiences. We've got it all!*

*Check websites for updated info if spring flooding occurs.*



Spruce Sands Beach

1. Rubber Ducky Resort
2. Erinview Campground
3. Twin Lake Beaches
4. Sandpiper Beach
5. Pioneer Beach
6. Laurentia Beach
7. Johnson Beach
8. Lundar Beach Provincial Park
9. Long Beach-north of Lundar
10. McEwen Park- Eriksdale
11. Narrows Sunset Lodge/Campground
12. Sharptail Park- Ashern
13. Silver Bay Beach- Ashern area
14. Watchhorn Provincial Park
15. Elm Creek Campground
16. Steep Rock Beach Park
17. Hilbre Beach - Lake St. Martin
18. Riviera Resort & Campground
19. Benson's Big Rock Camp & Campground
20. Stonewall Quarry Park
21. Teulon Green Acres Park
22. Norris Lake Provincial Park
23. Fisher Branch Golf & Country Club & Campground
24. Lake St. George Provincial Park
25. Lake St. Andrews Provincial Park
26. Old Town Campground - Arborg
27. Arborg Aquatic Park
28. River Road Parkway
29. Selkirk Park
30. Chesley's Resort
31. Wpg Beach Provincial Campground
32. Sandy Hook RV Resort
33. Autumnwood Motel & RV Resort
34. Gimli Beach
35. Camp Morton Provincial Campground
36. Spruce Sands RV Resort
37. Hnausa Provincial Park
38. Sandy Bar Beach
39. Riverton Campground
40. Grindstone Provincial Park
41. Hecla Provincial Park
42. Beaver Creek Provincial Park
43. Bird's Hill Provincial Park
44. Lockport Provincial Park
45. Patricia Beach Provincial Park
46. Beaconia Beach
47. Grand Beach Provincial Park
48. Lester Beach



## The East Shore of Lake Manitoba - South to North Along Hwy 6:

| Name  | Location   | What You'll Find!   |
|---|--|---|
| 1. Rubber Ducky Resort & Campground (Warren)                          |  Located 20 minutes northwest of Winnipeg on Highway 6, watch for signs   | Serviced & unserviced campsites, picnic tables, fire pits, modern amenities, 2 in-ground swimming pools, duck pond, playground, trout fishing, restaurant, store, cabin & motel rooms                                 |
| 2. Erinview Campground  | Take Hwy 415 at Teulon to East Shoal Lake<br>Secluded spot on shore of East Shoal Lake   | Boat launch-canoe & kayaking, modern bathrooms & showers, fishing, bird watching  |
| 3. Twin Lakes Beach   |  Turn west off Hwy 6 onto Twin Beach Rd (at MTT gas station & restaurant)   | Sandy beach, swimming, windsurfing, spectacular sunsets   |
| 4. Sandpiper Beach [Meindl Beach]<br><i>Restored after 2011 flood</i> | Found on Lake Manitoba, west off Hwy 6 at St. Laurent  | Sandy beach, swimming, picnic tables, washrooms. Great windsurfing, spectacular sunsets   |
| 5. Pioneer Beach  | Turn west off Hwy 6 into St. Laurent   | Access to sandy beach and swimming  |
| 6. Laurentia Beach (St. Laurent)                                      | Located off Hwy 6, turn west at north end of St. Laurent onto Laurentia Rd.  | Sandy beach, open to public   |
| 7. Johnson Beach  | West off Hwy 6 between St. Laurent and Oak Point on Laurentia Rd N.  | Sandy beach access  |
| 8. Lunder Beach Provincial Park (Lunder)                              | On Lake Manitoba, about 100 km (63 miles) N of Wpg on Hwy 6, turn west 19 km (12 miles) on PR 419  | RV & Tenting camping available, Sandy beach, swimming, fishing, hiking, boat launch, picnic & playground. Wheel chair accessible. NEW at the beach: "Goose Neck Grill"<br><i>See: Tasty Temptations for more info</i> |
| 9. Long Point Beach (Lunder)  |  On Lake Manitoba. From Lunder (off Hwy 6) go 8 km (5 miles) north to Rd. 120 W. turn west and go 19.3 km (12 miles) to Long Point Road, turn south and travel .8 km (.5 miles) | A lesser-known beautiful beach good for getting away from it all  |
| 10. McEwen Park   |  Located on the west side of Hwy 6 at Eriksdale   | Close to Long Point beach-fishing, swimming, heritage, camping, picnic area, beside Rodeo & Sports Grounds  |
| 11. Narrows Sunset Lodge/ Campgrounds (The Narrows)                   | Found on Lake Manitoba, on Hwy 68 at the Narrows of Lake Manitoba 189 km (118 mi.) northwest of Winnipeg   | Sandy beach, playground, marina, fishing, wildlife viewing, convenience store, lounge, vendor   |
| 12. Sharptail Park (Ashern)   |  Found in Ashern, on Highway 6, about 2 hours north of Winnipeg   | Serviced & unserviced campsites, picnic tables, fire pits, showers, washrooms, dump station, close to museum. Just 15 minutes from Lake Manitoba & boat launch at Silver Bay  |
| 13. Silver Bay Beach (Near Ashern)                                    | West of Ashern   | Sandy beach   |
| 14. Watchhorn Provincial Park (Moosehorn)                             | Located near Moosehorn on Lake Manitoba, 175 km. (109 miles) north of Winnipeg on Hwy 6, west on PR 419 for 19 km (12 miles)   | Sandy beach, campground, convenience store, boat launch, picnic area, excellent fishing on Lake Manitoba  |
| 15. Elm Point Campground (Steep Rock)                                 | Found on Lake Manitoba NW of Winnipeg, Travel 210 km on Hwy 6 - 25 km W on PR239, South on Township Line, west on Elm Point Rd.  | Serviced and non-serviced sites   |
| 16. Steep Rock Beach Park (Steep Rock)                                |  Found on Lake Manitoba northwest of Winnipeg, travel 195 km (122 miles) on Highway 6, then west on PR 239  | Sandy beach, marina & boat launch, hiking trails, Tennis Court, Baseball Diamond, picnic area, playground. Minutes from the unique lime stone cliffs at Steep Rock town site  |
| 17. Hilbre Beach (Lake St. Martin)                                    |  Found on Lake St. Martin- just off Hwy 6 about 41 km (25.5 miles) north of Ashern  | A quiet beach open to the public  |
| 18. Riviera Resort & Campground (Fairford)                            | Location is 240km north of Winnipeg along Highway No. 6, right at Fairford Dam   | Serviced sites, showers, tap water, modern washrooms, dump station, hiking trails, boat launch  |
| 19. Benson's Big Rock Camp & Campground                               |  On Lake St. Martin- NW of Winnipeg on Hwy 6 to St. Martin Junction, turn east on Hwy 513 to camp   | Fully modern housekeeping cabins, RV, tenting sites, fire pits, electrical, modern central showers, boat & motor rentals. Beside the Largest Meteorite in Western Canada  |



# Camping & RV Lifestyles

**WARNING: Camping can become a passion. Summers in Manitoba are precious. How do you make them even better? You go camping of course.**

Norris Lake Provincial Park  
Photo: M. Van Soelen

## Tips for a great camping experience:




- Have a sense of humour
- Take off your watch
- Stay up late
- Scold less
- Laugh more
- Enjoy your time in NATURE!

**But be prepared; you may become addicted to the camping lifestyle**

Find the perfect campground for you, check out the family operated campgrounds at MACAP: [gorvingmanitoba.com](http://gorvingmanitoba.com), at Travel Manitoba's accommodations section: [travelmanitoba.com](http://travelmanitoba.com) or **Interlake Tourism at: [interlaketourism.com](http://interlaketourism.com).** Provincial parks are listed at: [gov.mb.ca/conservation/parks/camping/index.html](http://gov.mb.ca/conservation/parks/camping/index.html)

Thank you, Gerry Hammond  
(Spruce Sands RV Resort)  
for the lasting memories!

## Middle of the Interlake Lakes, Beaches & Parks - South to North on Hwy 7 & 17

| Name  | Location   | What You'll Find!   |
|---|--|---|
| <b>20.</b> Stonewall Quarry Park (Stonewall)                                  |  Located in Stonewall, 30 km (19 miles) north of Winnipeg on Hwy 7, then west on PR67                           | Sandy beach on man-made lake, ball diamonds limestone kilns as the focus of the park. Walking trails, campgrounds, picnic area, Quarry Park Heritage Arts Centre  |
| <b>21.</b> Teulon Green Acres Park  |  Located at the south end of Teulon - take Highway 7 north of Winnipeg  | Beautiful area in municipal park with serviced sites, playground, museum, ball diamonds, stage, soccer pitches, race track, interpretive signage on walking path  |
| <b>22.</b> Norris Lake Provincial Park (RM of Rockwood - northwest of Teulon) | Found north of Wpg on Norris Lake. Hwy 7 to Teulon (45 km - 28 miles) then west on Hwy PR17 for 15 km (9.5 miles)  | Campground, boat launch, fishing for Northern Pike, waterskiing, swimming. Only 15 basic sites, 3 group use sites.  |
| <b>23.</b> Fisher Branch Golf & Country Club & RV Campground (Fisher Branch)  | North on Hwy 7 to Teulon, left on PR17, continue north past Poplarfield - 2 miles south of Fisher Branch, watch for signs for Golf Course  | New fully serviced RV campground, on golf course with driving range, licensed clubhouse with dining room and lounge.  |
| <b>24.</b> Lake St. George Provincial Park                                    | Found on Lake St. George north of Fisher River - take Hwy 7 to Teulon, then PR17 to Hodgson, PR224 to Dallas, & then 37 km north to the Provincial Park  | Great fishing - pickerel, perch, northern pike, beautiful wilderness experience, wildlife viewing, 28 basic campsites with picnic tables, firepits, firewood and non-modern washrooms                       |
| <b>25.</b> Lake St. Andrews Provincial Park                                   | North on Hwy 7 to Teulon, left on PR17 to Hodgson, PR224 to Dallas, follow signs for St. George Provincial Park, 2 kms further   | Great fishing - northern pike & bass boating and day use  |
| <b>26.</b> Old Town Campground (East of Arborg)                               |  On the Icelandic River east of Arborg at the Arborg & District Multicultural Heritage Village - Hwy 68       | Picnic tables, fire pits, serviced sites, modern showers, dump station, connected to the Icelandic River walking trail that leads into Arborg. A short drive or energetic walk from the Arborg Aquatic Park |
| <b>27.</b> Arborg Aquatic Park (Arborg area)                                  |  Adjoining the Arborg Bifrost Recreational Complex at the north end of Arborg on Hwy 68 between Hwy 7 & Hwy 8 | Water park with slides, paddling pool area, picnic seating area, site to rent for birthday or family parties, swimming lessons  |



# More beaches...



**Gimli Beach**  
Photo: G. McDonald

## The West Shore Lake Winnipeg Area Lakes, Beaches & Parks

| Name   | Location   | What You'll Find!   |
|--|--|---|
| <b>28.</b> River Road Provincial Park                      | North of Winnipeg off Hwy 9, along the Red River Corridor  | Picnicing, shoreline fishing access, heritage sites   |
| <b>29.</b> Selkirk Park (Selkirk)                          |  On Red River in City of Selkirk – access from Hwy 9 north of Winnipeg about a 35-min. drive  | Located on banks of the Red River this campground, has a bird sanctuary, boat launch, swimming pool with sand beach, picnic area & walking trails. Marine Museum at entrance to park.           |
| <b>30.</b> Chesley's Resort (Petersfield)                  |  Found on Netley Creek east of Petersfield on Hwy 9 - watch for signs   | Campsites, RV sites, cabins, sandy beaches, restaurant, boat launch, marina at resort   |
| <b>31.</b> Winnipeg Beach Provincial Park (Winnipeg Beach) | Found on Lake Winnipeg located approx 60 km (37.5 miles) north of Winnipeg - via Hwy 8 or 9  | 120 accessible fully serviced sites. Famous sandy beach, boardwalk, Bandstand with weekend entertainers, windsurfing, fishing, sailing, marina, wildlife & people watching                      |
| <b>32.</b> Sandy Hook RV Resort                            |  Close to Winnipeg, west side of Hwy 9 - in Sandy Hook  | Close to Lake Wpg beach, in ground pool, playground, restaurant, close to golfing, festivals, marinas, entertainment  |
| <b>33.</b> Autumnwood Motel & RV Resort (Gimli)            |  Hwy 9 north to Gimli Park Rd, turn right   | RV Resort (Seasonal only), close to downtown Gimli & beach, restaurants, shops, entertainment   |
| <b>34.</b> Gimli Beach (Gimli)                             |  Found on Lake Winnipeg. Drive north on Hwy 8 or 9 from Winnipeg 100 kms (63 miles) & find the beach in the downtown section of Gimli | Sandy Beach, Marina, visitors centre, museum, Sea Wall Gallery (murals) & boardwalk. Perfect for swimming, sailing, boating and wind surfing Beach mats for ACCESSIBILITY                       |
| <b>35.</b> Camp Morton Provincial Park (Camp Morton-Gimli) | Found on Lake Winnipeg. Drive north on PR222 about 8 km. (5 miles) north of Gimli  | Family Vacation cabins, group camping. Yurt rentals, Wildlife watching, hiking, cross-country skiing, sunken gardens, historic buildings, forested area, picnicing                              |
| <b>36.</b> Spruce Sands RV Resort (Arnes)                  |  Found on Lake Winnipeg about 10 miles north of Gimli, off PR 222   | Sandy beach, public access, restaurant, Kayak rental,   |
| <b>37.</b> Hnaua Provincial Park (Hnaua-south of Riverton) | Found on Lake Winnipeg about 10 minutes south of Riverton, east off of Hwy 8 to PR 222 (north of Gimli)  | Sandy beach, convenience store, boat launch, picnic & playground right on the shoreline   |
| <b>38.</b> Sandy Bar Beach (East of Riverton)              |  Near Riverton 130 km (81 miles) north of Winnipeg on Hwy 8 then east on PR 329   | Sandy beach reaching into Lake Wpg., swimming, fishing boating, sailing and waterfowl viewing   |
| <b>39.</b> Riverton Campground                             |  North on Hwy 8, turn into Riverton, on Thorvaldson St.   | 15 Fully serviced campsites, 8 are pull through spots for larger RV's   |
| <b>40.</b> Grindstone Park Provincial (Hecla Island)       | North of Winnipeg on Hwy 8 - turn left up Grindstone Rd. towards the cottage communities.  | Sandy beaches, boat launching, walking trails (with new interpretive signs). Winter: cross country ski & snowmobile trails, snowshoeing trails, ice fishing                                     |
| <b>41.</b> Hecla Park Provincial (Hecla Island)            | About 165 kms (103 miles), past turn off to Grindstone; stay on Hwy 8 across the causeway to Hecla Island.   | Lush forests, rugged shorelines, scenic beaches & plentiful wildlife. Picnic area, playground, campground, 18-hole golf course, marina, heritage village, boat launch, biking, sailing, fishing |
| <b>42.</b> Beaver Creek Provincial Park (Beaver Creek)     | Found on Lake Winnipeg north of Riverton. Drive north on PR234- 40 km. (25 miles) north of the Hwy 8 turnoff   | Northern most Provincial campground on Lake Winnipeg  |





### The East Shore Lake Winnipeg Area Lakes, Beaches & Parks

| Name  | Location   | What You'll Find!  |
|---|--|--|
| <b>43.</b> Bird's Hill Provincial Park  | Northeast of Winnipeg - east off Hwy 59  | Camping, picnicing, swimming, hiking trails, nature, concerts, year-round activities, Equestrian events, Triathlons, orienteering, wildlife viewing  |
| <b>44.</b> Lockport Provincial Heritage Park  | North of Winnipeg on the lower east bank of the Red River at Lockport  | Contains one of Manitoba's most important archaeological sites. Access to fishing on shore of Red River, picnic area, washrooms.   |
| <b>45.</b> Patricia Beach Provincial Park   | North of Winnipeg off Hwy 59, found at the south end of Lake Winnipeg  | Pristine, secluded, stunningly beautiful- the beaches near-natural, unspoiled state. Sun & sand, windsurfing. For nature lovers seeking a tranquil refuge. Excellent family recreational beach. Picnic tables, fire pits, & drinking water taps. |
| <b>46.</b> Hillside Beach & Beaconsia Beach area  | Northeast of Winnipeg off Hwy 59, just south of Grand Beach Provincial Park - Only 15 mins away from Grand Beach Provincial Park | Long sandy beach, lagoon great for fishing, boating or water skiing. Close to all the beaches in cottage country. Nice, quiet area situated on the south east end of Lake Winnipeg, just below the estuary of the Winnipeg River.                |
| <b>47.</b> Grand Beach Provincial Park<br><i>(Ranks as one of top 3 beaches in North America)</i> | Northeast of Winnipeg off Hwy 59, on the east side of Lake Winnipeg  | White silica 3km. sandy beach, up to 8 metre-tall dunes, boardwalk, hiking trails, swimming, sunbathing, wind surfing, boating, fishing, concessions, change rooms, modern washrooms, camping, entertainment, shopping, cultural events          |
| <b>48.</b> Lester Beach   | Northeast of Winnipeg off Hwy 59, north of Grand Beach   | Beautiful white sandy shoreline, rolling hills, plenty of pine & birch trees. Ideal for children-shallow shores.   |







## Creating memories that will last a lifetime.

- Seasonal & Overnight Camping
- Cabin Rental
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PROTECT MANITOBA'S WATERS AND RESOURCES

# STOP AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES

**Going to the beach?**

**Stop the spread of aquatic  
invasive species.**

Always clean, drain, dry and  
if necessary, decontaminate  
water-related equipment  
such as inflatables.

Learn how at  
**[manitoba.ca/StopAIS](http://manitoba.ca/StopAIS)**  
or call toll free  
**1-87-STOP AIS-0**  
**(1-877-867-2470)**



**Manitoba** 



# Riding the Waves

***Boating is relaxing – and invigorating. Whether you're in a pontoon boat, fishing dinghy, canoe, kayak, sailboat or wakeboard, we've got your water cravings covered here in the Interlake!***

***Discover Our Inland Oceans!***

**Sailing Lake Winnipeg**

Photo: Steve Langston

***Gimli has a large marina, with a breakwater giving it a protected harbour for both commercial fishers and recreational boaters.***

## **Gimli Harbour Authority**



Found in downtown Gimli on the west shore of Lake Winnipeg, Gimli Harbour is the largest harbour on the lake and the largest between Ontario and the west coast of mainland British Columbia. Built first in 1900, the harbour has been enlarged and improved over the years determined by need with powered and non-powered slips available for one night to long term stays. Managed by the Harbour Authority staff to maintain the safe operations of the harbour and marina area. Services provided include: launch ramp, washrooms, water, gas and diesel sales, pump out and minnow sales. See: [gimliharbour.ca](http://gimliharbour.ca), call: 204-642-7517 for more info.

## **Gimli Yacht Club**



***Sailing the Inland Ocean...*** If you're a sailing enthusiast, the Gimli Yacht Club, located on the shores of Lake Winnipeg is home to a large flotilla of keelboats & a number of dinghies. This club offers sailing lessons for children and adults from White Sail to Bronze Sail levels. You could enjoy club racing every Wednesday evening for keel boaters and numerous regattas during the summer. Clubhouse features a large deck, wheelchair access, kitchen, dining room, showers, washrooms, a classroom and lockers. Designated docking for keelboats and dinghies, water and electrical hook-ups. Nearby marina offers docking, pump-outs, gas and diesel sales, plus a boat launch ramp and crane and winter storage. Visit: [gimliyachtclub.ca](http://gimliyachtclub.ca) or call 204-642-5961. [GPS-N50 37.706 W096 58.821]



**Jet Skiing**

Just 10 minutes south of Gimli, you'll find Boundary Creek Marina at Winnipeg Beach, or go north to the marinas/docks at Silver Harbour, Hnausa, Gull Harbour on Hecla Island, Grindstone Marina, Pine Dock and Islandview; these provide deep enough water to sail into. Be cautious, powerful storms and winds come up on Lake Winnipeg without much advance notice- it's called "Big Windy" for a reason. Always check the latest weather report before heading out & plan a check in time with someone to ensure someone is on the look out for you.





Your next *ADVENTURE* starts @GimliYachtclub

We provide accredited support for you to learn to sail and host many events throughout the year. All on Manitoba's largest lake.





You will find marinas for docking at the Narrows of Lake Manitoba [south side of Hwy 68] owned by Narrows Sunset Lodge, at Steep Rock townsite & at Fairford on Lake Manitoba. When you plan on boating on Lake Manitoba, watch for the weather as storms turn up unexpectedly on this lake as well. Ensure someone knows when you are expected back and the area you are boating to- remember Keep Safe!

On the north side of Hwy 68 at the Narrows of Lake Manitoba, you'll discover several community owned docks. These are open to all boaters to use, allowing cottagers & visitors to tie up, walk across the highway to shop at the grocery store or go for a meal. Please use the dock and area safely and respect the area. This community group has also built a fish cleaning station for public use. Please clean up after use, dispose of your garbage and wash it down with lake water.

The Shoal Lakes (now just one large lake) have kayak/ canoe docking at Erinview Campground. Expect to pay a fee for docking and / or overnight fees at some of the above privately owned sites.

Seadoing, water skiing, jet skiing, knee boarding, in fact any water sport finds a home in the Interlake. With the largest lakes in Manitoba within the region you will find swimming lessons in most areas that you can register for during your camping or hotel stay.

## Paddling your way around!

Kayaking and canoeing offers a peaceful way to enjoy our many waterways. Find a quiet pathway on our rivers or marshes throughout the Interlake; a great way to connect with nature. It is still possible to put your canoe in the water and paddle for hours without seeing another soul.

Small lakes in the middle and northern portion of the Interlake are great for quiet paddling experiences. Some, like Otter Lake provides a staging habitat for waterfowl & pelicans or Dog Lake, are important habitats for white pelicans, double-crested cormorants, great blue herons & great egrets. Check out the Wildlife Management Area's at: [gov.mb.ca/conservation/wildlife/habcons/wmas/interlake.html](http://gov.mb.ca/conservation/wildlife/habcons/wmas/interlake.html) It's the early morning songbirds and the inspiring nature of these waterways that gain you quiet and reflective times in the Interlake.

**REMEMBER when you are leaving our waterways wash, drain, dry all items when you remove them from the water to prevent the spread of ZEBRA MUSSELS.**  
**For more information see: [Manitoba.ca/stophthespread](http://Manitoba.ca/stophthespread)**

### Prairie Sea Kayak Adventures



Offering tours with unique emotional connection to nature, set in the heart of the Interlake. These tours build appreciation for the diversity of species so often missed. Providing guided kayaking tours in a safe setting, namely Willow Creek (3 miles south of Gimli, Mb.). A two-hour guided tour of the creek awaits, where you can glide above the water's surface, getting close to nature. Willow Creek, home to tall grass & a prairie marsh ecosystem. Choose from

*Kayaking along Willow Creek with Prairie Sea Kayak*



*Prairie Sea Kayak*





the **Willow Creek Tour, Yoga & Kayaking Tour** or **Celestial Event Tours**. imagine seeing the Full Moon, Meteorite showers or the Solar Eclipse from a kayak on Lake Winnipeg. These Destination Tours - Icelandic River History, Hecla Island Exploration, Netley Creek Nature Tours, Little Limestone Lake, Whiteshell tour or the Sunrise on the Lake tour giving you various options throughout the summer. Length of tour time varies. Book now: [prairieseakayak.ca](http://prairieseakayak.ca), or call: 204-642-2707 [N50-5809 W96.9985]

If you like NATURE this is the PLACE FOR YOU!  
**Steep Rock**, Manitoba is a Canadian Gem! On the shores of Lake Manitoba, Steep Rock showcases limestone cliffs and fresh water. The lake is home to several kinds of fish. Bring your rod!

Steep Rock is a natural bay and has a floating wharf to fish from and jump in! July swimming lessons [great to learn in a natural setting]. The Steep Rock area includes a campground, hiking trails and local vacation rentals.

#### **Steep Rock Kayak & Canoe Rentals**

Double and single kayaks, canoes, paddle boats, and paddle boards available for rent. They provide life jackets and are more than happy to give assistance if it's your first time out. Make sure you have sunscreen and water! Stop and relax for a snack at the Kiosk and relax in a hammock and enjoy the ambience! See: [thesteepprock.com](http://thesteepprock.com) or Email: [thesteepprock@gmail.com](mailto:thesteepprock@gmail.com)

## **You're going to love the Interlake wave action!**

Get ready for the thrill of a lifetime as you match your wits and strength against the forces of nature. The legendary winds of Lake Winnipeg have struck fear into many a lake-going mariner, but to speed-loving windsurfers in the Lake's southern basin, the breezes are a blessing. Tie down your board and head to any of the Lake's south beaches, from Gimli around to Victoria Beach, making sure to surf Grand Beach on your way 'round the south basin!

Try kite-boarding into Willow Island and Grand Beach on Lake Winnipeg & Steep Rock or Twin Beaches on Lake Manitoba, these are awesome in spring & fall when the winds are the strongest... dress warm with a dry suit and proper gear.

**The possibilities are endless.  
What are you waiting for?  
Jump right in and join the fun!**

**Yacht Club**  
Photo: G. McDonald





# Interlake Golf Courses

*The Interlake is a great place to play golf.  
There's over 16 courses to choose from, with  
varying degrees of difficulty for avid or beginner...*

*Find your favorite course or try them all!*

| Course Name / Location  | Holes | Phone                        | Website   | Features                               |
|---|-------|------------------------------|---|--|
| <b>Players Golf &amp; Country Club</b> (Semi-private)<br>- Turn right off Inkster Blvd, west of Rte 90,<br>onto North Service Rd  | 9     | 204-697-4976                 | theplayerscourse.ca/  | Restaurant, Catering,<br>Pro Shop      |
| <b>Bel Acres Golf &amp; Country Club</b> (Semi-private)<br>- North of Hwy 101 on Sturgeon Rd  | 18    | 204-632-8337                 | belacres.com  | Restaurant,<br>Wedding Venue           |
| <b>Whispering Winds Golf &amp; Country Club</b><br>- North of Hwy 101 about 21 km   | 18    | 204-322-5104                 | golf1@mymts.net   | Restaurant, Pro-Shop,<br>Outdoor area  |
| <b>Manipogo Golf &amp; Country Club</b> (Semi-private)<br>- Just an hour north of Winnipeg on Hwy 6   | 9     | 877-646-2101<br>204-646-2100 | manipogogolf.mb.ca/   |  |
| <b>Lundar Co-op Golf &amp; Country Club</b> (Public)<br>- Hwy 6 north to Lundar, turn left on PR 419 West   | 18    | 204-762-5877                 | lundar.ca/golf/default.asp                                    | Restaurant                             |
| <b>Teulon Golf &amp; Country Club</b> (Semi-private)<br>- Hwy 7 north of Winnipeg to Teulon   | 18    | 204-886-4653                 | teulongc.com  | Pro Shop,<br>Restaurant                |
| <b>Inwood Golf &amp; Country Club</b> (Public)<br>- Hwy 7 north to Teulon, turn left on Hwy 17 to Inwood  | 18    | 204-278-3536                 | inwoodgolf.net  | Restaurant, Lounge,<br>Outdoor area    |
| <b>Fisher Branch Golf &amp; Country Club</b> (Public)<br>- Hwy 17 north, 2 miles south of Fisher Branch   | 9     | 204-372-6855                 | canadagolfcard.com/clubs/430                                  | Campground,<br>Restaurant, Rentals     |
| <b>Larters at St. Andrews Golf &amp; Country Club</b><br>(Semi-private)<br>- north on Hwy 9 - 22 minutes from downtown Winnipeg   | 18    | 204-334-2107                 | larters.com   | Pro Shop, Restaurant,<br>Wedding Venue |
| <b>Selkirk Golf &amp; Country Club</b> (Public)<br>Restaurant, located in Selkirk   | 18    | 204-482-2050                 | selkirkgolfandcountryclub.com                                 | Pro Shop,<br>Restaurant                |
| <b>Netley Creek Golf Course, Petersfield</b> (Public) <br>RV Campground, between Hwy 8 & 9, west of Petersfield, 25 mins north of Winnipeg | 18    | 204-738-4653                 | netleycreekgolf.com   | Restaurant, Pro Shop,<br>Wedding Venue |
| <b>Sandy Hook Golf Course</b> (Semi-private)<br>- located on PR 519 between Hwy 8 & 9   | 18    | 204-389-5466                 | sandyhookgolf.webs.com  | Dining Room &<br>Proshop on Site       |
| <b>Links at the Lake, Gimli</b> (Semi-private)<br>- Hwy 9 on the north side of Gimli  | 18    | 204-642-8858                 | lakelandgolfmanagement.com/our-golf-courses/links-at-the-lake | Pro Shop, Clubhouse                    |
| <b>Lakeview Hecla Golf Course</b> <br>- Hwy 8 north to Hecla island Provincial Park,<br>next to Lakeview Hecla Resort.                   | 18    | 204-279-2072                 | lakelandgolfmanagement.com/our-golf-courses/hecla             |  |
| <b>The Meadows at East St. Paul Golf Course</b><br>- Hwy 101 east to Hwy 59,<br>north to McGregor Farm Rd N   | 18    | 204-667-4653                 | themedowsgc.com   | Pro Shop,<br>Lounge, Patio             |

\*Accommodations section has a wide range of choices

Lakeview Hecla  
Golf Course

*Each of our courses has its own special attributes such as the beautiful vistas along with top notch golfing at the Hecla Golf Course or some unique twists at numerous others. Tour the region on a mini vacation, play several courses per day, meet new challenges at every stop. Visit as many as you can and enjoy them all!*



# Halloween Hauntings

**HALLOWEEN HAUNT**  
at the  
**MARINE MUSEUM**

*SPOOKY... HAUNTED...  
SCARY... are you READY?*

## Marine Museum of Manitoba



Three spooky ships to explore- Halloween fun for families of all ages and scare factors! The haunted ghost ship *S.S. Keenora* tops the list as our scariest ship. It is not recommended for very young children [or some adults] - it is sure to send chills up your SPINE as it creaks and groans once on board. Watch for spooks around every nook & cranny! The *M.S. Lady Canadian* is ideal for young children to enjoy. It is decorated like the *S.S. Keenora*, but there are no spooks or goblins to scare the youngsters. Our third ship has games, fun activities for kids. Something new every year! Located at the entrance to Selkirk Park in Selkirk. Friday to Sunday nightly activities from 6-9 pm are scheduled for the last two weekends in October. Want to VOLUNTEER for this SPOOKY event? Call: 204-482-7761 or See: [marinemuseum.ca](http://marinemuseum.ca). [GPS-N50 08.062 W097 19.640]

*Halloween at  
Marina Museum  
of Manitoba  
Photo: M. Van Soelen*

## Murray's Maze

Scary times at Boonstra's Berry Farm near Stonewall, weekends in October. Get lost in the 10-acre Halloween Maze. The Tower of Terror has fog and a lightshow and scary music. Be warned - not a place for small children after dark. Daytime activities are more family oriented, include a kids maze, hayrides and a petting zoo. See: [boonstrafarms.com](http://boonstrafarms.com).

## Harry J Enns Wetland Discovery Centre at Oak Hammock Marsh



Ghosts and goblins may come out to play at Oak Hammock Marsh on the last Sunday of October. With the geese flying south for the winter there is plenty of room and lots of opportunities for the spooks to enjoy the Halloween adventures along with you. It's Pumpkin Decorating time! Create your own pumpkin or gourd and make fabulous designs without the sticky mess to clean up. It's from 1 to 3 p.m. Pre-registration is required. Workshop fee plus admission. Call: 204-467-3300 or see: [oakhammockmarsh.ca](http://oakhammockmarsh.ca) [GPS-N50 10.320 W097 08.035]

## Prairie Dog Central Railway



*Trains, Ghosts & Goblins!* At Inkster Junction? Scary times ahead. Dress up in your spookiest Halloween Costume & climb onboard the last weekends of October - it's a scary time with this nostalgic train. Join ghosts and goblins aboard the Prairie Dog Central Railway as it travels across the prairie landscape for Halloween Adventure. Games, food and fun for the whole family with two trips Halloween Brunch and three evening trips. Located at Inkster Junction on Prairie Dog Trail, just north of Inkster Blvd & Sturgeon Rd. See: [pdcrailway.com](http://pdcrailway.com) or call: 204-832-8259. [GPS-N 49 57.095 W097 08.035]

## Six Pines Ranch

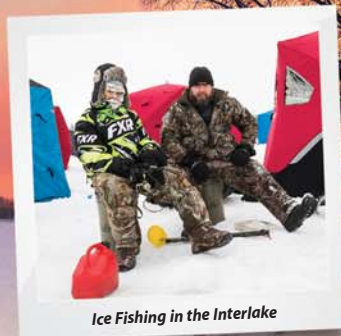
Six Pines annual October Haunt has grown into an interactive experience for families with a variety of spooktacular events for ghouls of all ages. FAMILY FUN by DAY. FEAR by NIGHT with "R" rated Night Time Haunts. If too sensitive you may have to sit out some places. These spooky Halloween festivities run every weekend during October. Shuttle service available, book for groups. Located on Sturgeon Road, 4.2 kms. north of Perimeter 101. See [sixpines.mb.ca](http://sixpines.mb.ca) or call 204-633-3326.



# Winter Wonderland

Winter at Winnipeg Beach

Photo: Paul Hammer



Ice Fishing in the Interlake

## It's Winter... It's Manitoba... embrace it!

Winter can be long and cold or it can be invigorating and fun, the choice is up to you.

Hockey, curling, ringette, figure skating fills our recreation centers with kids and adults playing and having fun. Fly high with kite boarding or try out that new snowboard...

whatever it is you love about winter get out into the Interlake to embrace this wonderful season!

Go ice fishing, skiing, snowshoeing, sliding, snowmobiling or enjoy a horse drawn sleigh ride in the fresh air of the Interlake. If you are into quiet, serene winter travel then cross-country skiing and snowshoeing are popular ways to get out, enjoy new scenery, embrace nature while getting some exercise. Groomed trails exist in various areas of the region. You'll find some good ones on Hecla Island, at Camp Morton Provincial Park, at Oak Hammock Marsh, and at the Fisher Branch Golf Course & Campground. **NEW:** Arborg has a 3km skating trail and a ski trail on the Icelandic River for winter fun Trek across untouched snow or follow a forest trail-whatever you do enjoy our fresh air and sunshine and listen to the sounds of nature around you. At Camp Morton Provincial Park, 5 kilometers north of Gimli on PR 222 you'll even find a warm up shack to keep you toasty warm after you ski the "monkey" trails that wind in and around this provincial campground and park. No snowmobiles allowed. Access from the old Rail Trail.

If one of your favorite spots in the winter is on the ice, fishing in the Interlake can be very thrilling!  
See page 28 & 29 for details on access to our largest lakes.

## Interlake Regional Snowmobile Association

The Interlake is known for its well groomed snowmobile trails connecting the region. Wonderful trails, awaiting your machine to glide across them and eat up the miles exploring new vistas. With ten (10) active clubs in the region the Association works with them and is their voice with the provincial organization. These clubs develop and maintain safe and environmentally responsible trails for the enjoyment of snowmobile enthusiasts throughout the Interlake region. Ensure you purchase your Snopass for worry free legal riding. These are available in seasonal & weekly to match our visitors' needs. Many of our accommodations have special rate & parking for snowmobilers. Check them out on the ITA website or back section of the guide.

See: [snoman.mb.ca](http://snoman.mb.ca) for a link to the Interlake trail conditions. Here's a link to the trail systems, warm up shelters, hotels and gas stations in the area.

See: [snoman.evtrails.com](http://snoman.evtrails.com) Check each club out below.

| Snowmobile Club Name  | Location   |
|---|--|
| Northern Lites Snowmobile Club Inc.   | St. Francois Xavier, Marquette, Woodlands, Warren, St. Laurent |
| Lundar Sports Riders  | Oak Point, Clarkleigh, Lundar, Eriksdale, Narcisse,            |
| Inwood Snomobile Club   | St. Laurent, Oak Point, Inwood, Fraserwood                     |
| Ashern Snomobile Club   | Camper, Mulvihill, Ashern, Lake Manitoba Narrows               |
| Log Cabin Riders  | Moosehorn  |
| Lakeside Sno-Drifters   | Grahamdale, Hilbre, Faulkner, Steep Rock                       |
| St. Martin Power Toboggan Club Inc.   | St. Martin, Gypsumville  |
| South Interlake SnoRiders Inc.  | Stony Mountain, Stonewall, Balmoral, Argyle                    |
| Northern Trail Blazers Inc.   | Chatfield, Poplarfield, Broad Valley, Fisher Branch, Hodgson   |
| Interlake Snow Trackers<br><a href="http://interlakesnowtrackers.ca">interlakesnowtrackers.ca</a> | Petersfield, Winnipeg Beach, Gimli, Arborg, Riverton, Hecla    |

[Facebook.com/ashernsnomobileclub](https://www.facebook.com/ashernsnomobileclub)

Snoman Trail Pass required to ride trails.  
Over 600 miles of trail maintained.  
Seven (7) warm up cabins along trails.





**Snowmobile Poker Derby**  
Photo: S. Crockatt

### **Gimli Ice Festival**

Looking for a different way to Beat Old Man Winter? Journey out to Gimli for one of the Interlake's best winter festivals. In it's 11th Annual celebration of winter you'll find "Fire & Ice" on-the-lake car racing and mini sled racing for youth to enjoy. Try the Frozen Fish Toss, story telling or ice fishing then have Bannock & Tea at the harbour. The Vikings are back with fighting demos and a village. Meet up with "Cooley" the Gimli Bear - mascot for the festival, play around and follow him to see what Cooley is doing! This event is held the first weekend of March at the harbour in Gimli. See more in the EVENTS for March 2022 or online at: [gimliicefestival.com](http://gimliicefestival.com)

### **Stony Mountain Ski Area**

Stony Mountain Ski Area provides the start for a lifetime of adventure where generations of skiers and snowboarders have grabbed hold of that first thrill as they venture down one hill after another. Starting to ski at age 2 or on snowboards at age 6 at this ski area just 7 miles north of Winnipeg's Perimeter Hwy on Hwy #7. Daily grooming and 100% snowmaking. Take lessons, grab a Family Fun Package, moms & dads & kids spend some time together! Call: 204-344-5977 or learn more at: [skistony.com](http://skistony.com)

**Icelandic River Skating Trail**  
Photo: Town of Arborg



### **55th Wonderful Winter Weekend at Winnipeg Beach**



Break out of the winter doldrums at the BEACH! Tons of winter fun at this 4 day event including a Fishing Derby, Lions baking contest, Chili Cook-off, Curling bonspiel, Family skating, Meat draws, Inflatables, Face painting & lots of family fun. Bonfire/ Marshmallows followed by an amazing display of Fireworks at 7:00 p.m. shot over Lake Winnipeg. U Asked For It Fundraising Social, Family Movies on Monday. Held the 3rd weekend of February, every year. See more info at: [winnipegbeach.ca](http://winnipegbeach.ca)

***Sssh... Listen... walk over newly fallen snow, listen to the crunch of the snow underfoot, view the untouched landscapes of natures artwork and discover the beauty of winter. Winter's Heart BEATS in Manitoba's Interlake!***