

FALL COLOR ROAD TRIP: MINOCQUA TO LAKE SUPERIOR

Make a day of chasing fall color. Start in Minocqua and head north for glowing forests, hidden lakes, and a Lake Superior finale.

Start: Minocqua

Grab coffee and get an early start. Take a walk on the Bearskin State Trail, where fall colors surround the trail and reflect in nearby lakes.

Squirrel Hill Overlook

Head to Minocqua Winter Park and climb Squirrel Hill Road toward the historic fire tower for a bird's-eye view of the Northwoods dressed in red, orange, gold and evergreen.

Take the Scenic Route

Explore County Highway M or Rustic Roads 58 and 59, where forests, creeks and small lakes make pulling over part of the fun.

Watch for Tamaracks

Later in the season, tamaracks turn brilliant gold along wetlands and lake edges, creating one last burst of color against dark-green spruce, fir and pine.

Cross Into the U.P.

Continue toward Ironwood, Michigan, where the hills grow bigger and Lake Superior beckons. Hardwood forests, ridges and waterfalls make the Western U.P. spectacular in fall.

Little Girls Point

Follow the road north from Ironwood to Little Girls Point, where colorful hardwoods meet Lake Superior's rocky shoreline. Walk the beach, hunt for agates and take a million photos.

Grand Finale: Black River Harbor

Finish at Black River Harbor. Hike to a waterfall or two along the Black River, then head to the harbor and shoreline for a Lake Superior sunset.

Take the Long Way Home

Stop for dinner. Pull over for one more photo. Watch the late-day light make the trees glow.

