



Our story,
through our lens.

Group Tours – Activities Available for Custom Itineraries

Land based learning activities are seasonally based and include: deer skinning/tanning, maple syrup harvesting, trapping and shoreline fishing. Other cultural activities include; Storytelling- Creation Story and Constellations, drum & craft making, live theatre by Debajehmujig Theater Group and Indigenous culinary. Our school group packages are fully customizable to meet your learning objectives.

Land Based Learning

Making Footprints: An interpretive hike through the ecologically diverse Bebamikawe Memorial Trail while learning about medicinal plant teachings, historical encounters and battles, and our relationships with settlers.

Shoreline Fishing & Cookout: your experienced guide will demonstrate and teach you how to prep your line for casting. Practice makes perfect, so cast away to lure in the big one. We come prepared with fish for a cleaning demonstration and fish fry. Enjoy your freshly caught fish with the group! Complete with fresh “chips” and tartar sauce.

Trapper Demonstration: Our certified guides are trained in trapping methods and safety. Meet local trappers who will lead the way taking you on a trap line, learn about animal tracking, how to bait/set traps, and tips and tricks of the trade. Participants will also get engage in a skinning and harvest demonstration, while also learning about the fur trade. Teachings include the importance of land stewardship, respect, and honoring your harvest.

Fish Smoking: takes place at our community smoker at the Community Teaching lodge. Learn about traditional harvesting practices and get hands-on experience smoking and packing your own filet to take home.

“Ziis-baak-daa-keng” Maple Syrup Harvesting: Meet with one of the family-run Maple Syrup operators. Learn about the harvesting process from the tapping of the trees to the bottling and everything in between. Hear how the tradition is passed from one generation to the next by visiting both traditional tried-and-true operations to newer contemporary methods.

“Dagwaagin” Harvest: Participants will have the opportunity to handle and process one of fall’s greatest harvest—waawaashkesh (white tail deer). Learn about Anishnaabek protocols and etiquette around harvesting animals for sustenance, hear a first-hand account of the harvest itself, and get hands-on experience processing the animal for consuming. Reap the rewards with a sampling of freshly cooked deer meat.

Cultural Teachings

Archery For Sustenance: Hear about the traditional uses of bows and arrows and how they were made, then learn how to use a modern recurve bow including target practice using 3D archery targets.

Stargazing and Anishnaabek astronomy/sky teachings with local teachers—night program: Our guides and local teachers will share their version of the ancient Creation Story, as told through the generations. This story provides insight that will give you a deep sense of your place in the universe. Conclude the night Indigenous astronomy teachings, and star gazing (weather permitting).

Authentic
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Various Teachings and Storytelling: Medicine Wheel & the Four Directions, Dreamcatcher, Sacred Medicines, Smudging, Anishnaabek Clan systems, Pouch making and teachings. Each of these teachings will be incorporated into activities throughout the duration of your visit.

“Welcome to Odawa Mnis” Interactive Community Social - includes story about the origin of the drum (Big drum and hand drum), MC, professional drum group, dance demonstrations (dancers in full regalia), and social dancing. Learn teachings about the different songs and dance styles, and their origins. This experience is available at various locations including the Manitoulin Hotel & Conference Centre.

“The Unceded Journey”: learn the true history of Odawa Mnis (Manitoulin Island) and Wiikwemkoong Unceded Territory—Canada’s only officially recognized Unceded Territory. Includes stops at historic sites including 1836 Treaty historic site, Holy Cross Mission Ruins (residential school site), Smith Bay trading site.

Dewegan Drum & Song: This intimate experience teaches you about Anishnaabek songs and drum teachings, including an exhilarating hand drum performance and an opportunity to participate!

Site Exploration

Bridal Veil Falls visit: visit one of Manitoulin’s most iconic tourist sites. Hear the rushing of the falls, feel the mist on your face, and take a quiet moment to just be present. If visiting in the fall, you might be lucky enough to catch the majestic salmon run. Leave feeling rejuvenated and grounded.

Cup and Saucer Trail: Guided Hike to the bluffs where you will be awed by the never-ending views out onto Lake Huron. Your guide will share intriguing stories about the local geography and their spiritual connections.

Lillian’s Crafts (Gift shop & Museum): shop till you drop in one of Manitoulin’s most extensive gift shop with authentic hand-made Indigenous arts and crafts. Find a special memento for yourself or loved one. Indigenous owned and operated.

Ojibwe Cultural Foundation Guided Tour: The OCF is dedicated to nurturing Anishnaabek culture in all its forms. Your guide will take you through the Healing Lodge, Museum, Residential School Exhibit, Arts hub, and Gift shop (optional: craft-making activities in their workshop room).

Partners

Debajehmujig Storytellers: The only professional theatre company on Manitoulin, with a variety of options to choose from—improv, a live performance, guided tour of their facility, and various art programs. Contact Wikwemikong Tourism to discuss.

Rainbow Ridge Golf Course: play a round of golf at the picturesque RRGCC which features nine water holes as well as large well-groomed greens and several sand traps on each hole. End the round with some top-notch cuisine at the clubhouse with its welcoming staff and beautiful deck layout.

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