



marquette county



Marquette County was founded and developed because of its rich deposits of iron ore. Miners from around the world found their way to Marquette to make a better life for their families by bringing ore up from the veins beneath. The city of Marquette sits on the southern shore of Lake Superior, the largest fresh-water lake in the world.



...about marquette

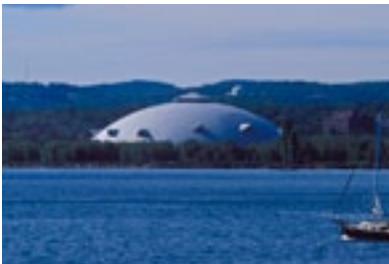
- Marquette County spans 1,872 square miles
- 83 Miles of shoreline
- Population of 67,077 in the county; 21,335 in the city of Marquette, making it the largest city in the U.P.
- Serviced by Sawyer International Airport



...marquette county boasts:

- Over 1,300 hotel rooms
- 22 motion picture screens
- Five 18 hole golf courses
- 3 Microbreweries and 1 Nanobrewery
- 6 lighthouses
- More than 77 waterfalls, many that are easily accessible
- Miles and miles of hiking and biking trails, including the Iron Ore Heritage trail, that will feature a 48 mile, multi-use, year round trail that connects communities and people to the region's historic sites and human stories
- Two alpine ski areas
- 155 km of cross country ski trails
- Over 500 miles of groomed snowmobile trails





...about marquette

CLIMATE

- On average, the warmest month is July; with an average high of 74 and low of 59
- On average, the coolest month is January; with an average high of 25 and low of 13
- Averages 35 inches of rain per year
- Averages 172 inches of snow

DISTANCES FROM MQT TO:

- Minneapolis – 404 miles
- Chicago – 381 miles
- Detroit – 455 miles
- Mackinac Island – 198 miles
- Sault Ste Marie – 164 miles
- Pictured Rocks – 43 miles



...IS HOME TO:

- Northern Michigan University
- One of only four Olympic training centers, and the only one located on a college campus (NMU)
- The largest wooden dome stadium in the world, The Superior Dome
- The National Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame and Museum
- Film locations from the 1959 movie, *Anatomy of a Murder*; the best-selling novel was written by Ishpeming defense attorney, turned author John Voelker (aka Robert Traver) based on the true story of a shooting that took place in a local bar in Big Bay.

ACCOLADES:

- Top 5 Places to Retire, CNN/Money Magazine, 2012
- 10 Winter Wonderlands for Retirement, US News and World Report, 2011
- Top 200 Towns for Sportsmen, Outdoor Life Magazine, 2011
- 10 Best Small Cities to Raise a Family, Forbes Magazine, 2010
- #1 Place to Bike and Live, Bike Magazine, 2009
- 100 Best Small Art Towns in America, 2004



...marquette harbors:

Marquette has two harbors. The one downtown is called the "Lower Harbor" and is in the historic center of the city. Presque Isle Harbor, located two miles to the north, is called the "Upper Harbor" and continues to ship iron ore.

The iconic iron ore dock that sits in Lower Harbor is an important reminder of the area's history, although for almost 40 years, the Lower Harbor was not viewed as an asset to the City or its citizens, it has only been in the past 25 years that a considerable effort to redevelop the harbor as a focal point of the City has been underway, recognizing the historical significance as well as future potential.

In the Lower Harbor you can see many of the remains of historic docks and pilings. You will also see Thill's Fish House, believed to be the last full-scale fishing operation on Lake Superior.



...marquette lighthouse:

Jutting out into Lake Superior helping to guide the freighters with navigation to ore docks, sits the Marquette Lighthouse. Originally built in 1853, and replaced in 1866. The lighthouse served a critical role for mariners and Marquette's maritime history. With the tower standing 70 feet above the lake, it remains one of the most popular artistic inspirations for photographers, painters and others and while no longer operational, the lighthouse is run by the Maritime Museum as a historic site, with guided tours available from May - October, weather permitting.



...historical highlights:

PETER WHITE PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Peter White Public Library is the largest public library in the Upper Peninsula, Peter White was the expedition leader, helping to discover Marquette and one of four residents who contributed money and property toward the construction of a permanent library in 1903. While the library was renovated in 2000, it remains an architectural masterpiece, true to the original Beaux-Arts Classical design, with an exterior built from Bedford Indiana limestone and an interior featuring marble, stained glass and weathered oak. The City of Marquette's Arts and Culture Center also calls the library home, supporting its role as the 'cultural heart' of the community.



MARQUETTE REGIONAL HISTORY CENTER

Founded in 1918, as the Marquette County Historical Society, the organization was one of the earliest established in the Upper Peninsula. The original museum facility on Front Street was purchased in 1937 and after much renovation, officially opened to visitors in 1949. The museum's mission has always focused on preserving local and regional historical objects and presenting them for interpretation, study and enjoyment. In 2011, the organization made a historic and monumental move to a new facility, and also underwent a name change to become the Marquette Regional History Center. The name change was meant to signify how much the museum's collection and focus had grown regionally as well as its function as a center, offering more than artifact presentation, but rather a comprehensive focus on archiving, preserving, interpreting and exploring the unique history of the Upper Peninsula.





...historical highlights (cont.):

FATHER MARQUETTE STATUE

Located high atop a hill in Lakeside Park, sits the bronze statue of Father Jacques Marquette, considering the city is named after him, it seems only right that he have one of the best views of the city and harbor. Father Marquette was a French missionary and explorer, often remembered for his 1673 expedition down the Mississippi River with fellow explorer Louis Joliet. The statue of Father Marquette is a replica of the marble statue that sits in the U.S. Senate Statuary Hall, and was originally dedicated on July 15, 1897, in 1913 the statue was relocated to its present location.



MARQUETTE UNDERWATER PRESERVE

The Marquette Underwater Preserve was established in 1990 to promote conservation of the area's submerged historical resources. It consists of two areas along Lake Superior's shoreline, both offering excellent scuba diving opportunities. The Marquette Unit features 24 miles of shoreline around Marquette, allowing divers to explore wrecks of wooden schooners, steamers and commercial fishing vessels as well as unique geological formations. The second unit, the Huron Islands, is 25 miles to the northwest and features some of the state's most impressive coastline.





...annual events:

JANUARY

Noquemanon Ski Marathon

www.noquemanon.com



FEBRUARY

UP 200 Sled Dog Race

www.up200.org



Outhouse Classic

www.trenaryouthouseclassic.com

APRIL

Waterfall Week



JUNE

Great Lakes Rodeo

www.greatlakesrodeo.com

Marquette Bike Jam

www.mqtbikejam.com

For a complete calendar of updated event listings, please visit www.travelmarquettetemichigan.com

JULY

Fourth of July Parade

www.mqtjuly4parade.com

Pioneer Days

www.negauneeirontown.com

Hiawatha Music Fest

www.hiawathamusic.org

Blueberry Festival

www.downtownmarquette.org



Ishpeming Italian Fest

www.ishpemingitalianfest.com

Art on the Rocks

www.artontherocks.org



Outback Art Show

www.outbackartfair.com

AUGUST

Art Faire & Renaissance Fest

www.ishpemingrenfest.com

UP Gem & Mineral Show

www.ishpemingrockandmineralclub.org

Marquette County Fair

www.marquettecountyfair.com

Buzz the Gut

www.buzzthegut.com

Ore to Shore Bike Race

www.oretoshore.com

Harbor Fest

www.marquettewestrotary.org



SEPTEMBER

Marquette Marathon

www.marquettemarathon.com

Marquette Blues Fest

www.marquetteareabluesociety.com

U.P. Fall Beer Festival

www.michiganbrewersguild.com

OCTOBER

NMU Family Weekend

www.nmu.edu

Halloween Spectacle

www.downtownmarquette.org

NOVEMBER

Marquette Ladies Night

www.downtownmarquette.org

DECEMBER

Winter Snow Fun Holiday Parade & Annual Tree Lighting

www.downtownmarquette.org

New Year's Eve Ball Drop

www.downtownmarquette.org

