

# Michigan Island Trip (Memorial Day weekend 2014)

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Participants: Sue G. & Lisa D.

Trip Leader: Lisa Dau

Location: Michigan Island, Apostle Islands National Seashore

Sue and Lisa set a course of paddling to Michigan Island, 16 miles from Bayfield. Sue wanted to get some training in for an upcoming Alaska trip, and Lisa was wanting to get into paddling shape for an upcoming Michipicoten Island circumnavigation trip. We launched from Red Cliff casino.

We left Bayfield on Saturday morning and returned on Monday, Memorial Day. The water across the whole weekend was usually flat and calm and no winds. We were treated to a surreal experience on Saturday and Monday of paddling in fog along with many craggy, yet picturesque, icebergs. It was quite chilly on Saturday and Monday.

Our base camp was on Michigan Island. The campsite is cloistered amongst pines, and set back from the beach. The beach is a gorgeous long beige/white strip that runs along a good stretch of the island. We spent our first night sipping wine, and throwing stones into the lake. The sunset is a bit muted from the campsite due to Madeline Island directly across the channel, but the reflective sunset colors were not a disappointment.

We decided to do a circumnavigation of Stockton Island on Sunday. We had in our minds it was a 15 mile trip, but by the end of the day we had done 25 miles. The day was warmish, bright sun, no winds and ice bergs were floating around. Lisa called it a night early, while the more in shape Sue stayed up to enjoy the evening.

The paddle out on Memorial Day was with fog that sneaked around, and ice bergs in which some were floating along, and others stuck to the rocky or sandy bottom. Some slow moving fishing boats went by in the distance, creating wakes that took forever to reach us. When we landed at Red Cliff, we ran into another kayaker Lisa knew and chatted about our respective beautiful and enchanting time in the Apostles that weekend.