



Tahquamenon Falls

A 5-day trip ... a lifetime of stories:

Northwoods Dog Sled Adventure

Wednesday-Sunday, Feb. 21-25, 2018

In the heart of Michigan's Upper Peninsula – tucked between the great lakes of Superior and Michigan – unforgettable fun beckons:

- ❄️ Harness and mush your own dogsled team for a day-long adventure.
- ❄️ Snowshoe and cross-country ski through the pristine Northwoods.
- ❄️ Hike to magnificent icefalls.
- ❄️ Explore unforgettable Tahquamenon Falls State Park.
- ❄️ Gaze at millions of stars on a night hike through the Northwoods.





Winter turns Tahquamenon Falls into an icfall extravaganza and XC-skier's delight!

Wednesday, Feb. 21

- ❄ Board our luxury motor-coach at 7 am in Palatine. Then relax on the 7-hour trip with a movie, nap, good book, and getting to know know your fellow adventurers. Enjoy lunch at Culver's.
- ❄ Settle into your comfy room at the *Quality Inn* in Newberry, the moose capital of Michigan.
- ❄ Savor a delicious, healthy Northwoods dinner catered to our hotel.
- ❄ After dinner, Tasha, owner of *Nature's Kennel*, will talk about dogsledding (including their numerous Iditarods), describe *your* upcoming adventure, and answer questions.

Thursday, Feb. 22

Enjoy the inn's complimentary hot, hearty breakfast buffet.

Explore Tahquamenon Falls: We'll spend the day together at Tahquamenon Falls State Park, 50,000 acres of Upper Peninsula (UP) wilderness. The scenic Tahquamenon River was made famous in Longfellow's poem, *Hiawatha*; its beauty will make it legendary for you, too. We'll have multiple guides for our activities, so you can go at your own pace.

- ❄ **Hike ...** Take an hour-long hike to fantastic ice formations sculpted by Tahquamenon Falls, the 2nd largest waterfall east of the Mississippi.
- ❄ **XC-Ski ...** Cross-country ski for 2 hours through lovely snow-fringed, old-growth forests to the phenomenal falls.
- ❄ **Snowshoe ...** Enjoy a 2-hour snowshoe through the picturesque lower falls area.
- ❄ **Eat at the park pub ...** Savor dinner at the park's yummy restaurant and pub, decorated in Northwoods style – and owned by the granddaughter of the man who once owned this land.
- ❄ **Explore the woods at twilight ...** Snowshoe through the quiet woods at night on a trail illuminated by old-fashioned kerosene lanterns and starlight.

Bring your own (or rented!) XC skis with you to the UP; there are no rentals there. If you have snowshoes, bring those, too. The park loans snowshoes for free while you're in the park, but bringing your own enables you to use them outside of the park as well.



Snowshoe by daylight ... and hike by lantern light.

"Thank you for an incredible 5 days of adventure! I can't wait to go back and do it again next year!"

~Toni

"Thank you for another wonderful trip. I'm still smiling." ~Goldie

Friday, Feb. 23

Enjoy the inn's complimentary hot breakfast buffet.

Group 1: Dog Sled! Half of our group will dogsled Friday from 8:30 am-3 pm at *Nature's Kennel*, owned and operated by Ed & Tasha Stielstra. They have two sweet young kids ... and 140 happy canines, including Iditarod racing veterans. Ed is an 8-time Iditarod race finisher; Tasha also runs long-distance races.

As part of our day-long adventure, learn the basics of harnessing the dogs and driving the sled. Then, experience the thrill of driving your own team of 4-5 dogs on a 10-mile ride, while following experienced musher guides. You'll be on the trail about 1 hour.

While some ladies are mushing, others have a chance to hike through the pretty Northwoods and play with the friendly Alaskan huskies back at the kennel.

Enjoy a yummy lunch of hearty home-cooked soups, hot drinks, and dessert around a crackling fire. (A comfy warming house and washroom are also open to us all day.) After lunch, the two groups at Nature's Kennel will swap activities.

Other dogsled options: Opt to ride in a guide's sled rather than drive your own. OR you can opt to ride in a guide's sled AND drive your own sled ... do one before lunch and the other after lunch.



Savor the silent splendor of mushing!

Group 2: Explore a UP hidden treasure:

While half of our group dogsleds, others will explore the Eben Ice Caves in the 4,500-acre Rock River Canyon Wilderness. Bus through the UP's lovely winterscape, hike 1½ miles through the woods and along a scenic river, and discover spectacular 60-foot icefalls, spires, and vertical ice sheets. Wander through *and behind* this wonderland of formations cascading from rocky outcrops. Lunch provided on the bus.

Pamper your muscles. After our day's adventures, get a ½-hour massage at our inn. We'll schedule appointments for this optional treat with two registered massage therapists.



Explore a wonderland of ice sculptures at Eben Ice Caves.

Dine in! Kick back on this casual evening, get to know one another better, and share stories of the day while munching pizza and Caesar's salad with grilled chicken. Feel free to bring your own beverages.

"Your trips push me to do things I didn't think I could!! And there's always such a wonderful group of Wild Women who are open to adventure! Thank you!" ~Hiking Stick

Saturday, Feb. 24

Enjoy the inn's complimentary hot breakfast buffet.

Swap adventures. Friday's dogsledders will head to Eben Ice Caves on Saturday, and our group of dogsled alumni will head out for a 20-mile dogsled at Nature's Kennel.

A magical evening. We'll dine at *Chamberlin's Ole Forest Inn*, a gracious country inn on Big Manistique Lake. Built in the 1800s, this inn has the best food and ambience around, plus fun live music. Simply magical!

Sunday, Feb. 25

Enjoy the inn's complimentary breakfast buffet.

At 9 am, we'll fill the bus with adventurous women, laughter, great stories, and friendship and return to Palatine by about 4 pm. We'll stop at *Culver's* for lunch on the ride home.



Savor the food, ambience, fireside, and live music at Chamberlin's.

Reserve your spot today for this unforgettable adventure!



Enjoy winter at its best!

The trip cost of \$1,298 covers:

- * Lodging for 4 nights (double occupancy)
- * Luxury motor coach throughout our trip
- * 6½-hour dogsled adventure
- * A trip to unforgettable Eben Ice Caves
- * Fun-packed day at Tahquamenon Falls
- * Guided hiking, snowshoeing, and XC skiing
- * Guided twilight hike
- * Catered dinners Wednesday and Friday
- * Yummy lunches each day
- * Hot breakfast buffets each morning
- * 2 Trailbound guides throughout the trip
- * Snacks and water throughout the trip
- * Snowshoe loans at Tahquamenon (or bring your own)
- * Fact-filled packet with area info, trip tips, packing list, and more
- * Mesh backpack
- * Hundreds of online photo memories
- * Free parking for your car while we're away
- * Park permits and entrance fees
- * Gratuities for the bus driver, dogsled guides, XC ski & snowshoe guides, and hotel staff
- * Amazing memories and friendships
- * "I did it!" bragging rights

This trip fills quickly. Reserve your spot soon!

Register by mail (on the next page) or online at www.TrailboundTrips.com

1. *Your name:* _____
Address: _____
City/State: _____
Cell Phone: _____
E-mail: _____
Roommate: _____

(Request a roomie or we'll be happy to pair you with another friendly solo traveler.)



2. *Which option would you prefer?*

- ___ Standard trip: driving your own dogsled team 10 miles. Cost is \$1,298.
- ___ Ride in the guide's sled only. Deduct \$110 from the standard rate for this 10-mile ride for a cost of \$1,188.
- ___ Ride once with a guide for 10 miles and drive your own dogsled team once for 10 miles. Add \$110 to the standard rate for a cost of \$1,408.
- ___ Drive your own team 10 miles in the morning and 10 miles in the afternoon. Add \$220 to the standard rate for a cost of \$1,518.
- ___ Drive your own team on a 20-mile adventure. Add \$380 to the standard rate for a cost of \$1,678. Available to the first 15 dogsled alumni who have previously done a 10-mile drive with *Nature's Kennel*.
- ___ For a private room at the *Quality Inn*, add \$200 to the cost of the above option you select.

To provide mushers more personal attention, *Nature's Kennel* limits the number of riders & drivers each day, **so most options are available on a first-come basis**. In addition, *Nature's Kennel* schedules their guides, races, sleds, and dogs according to our sign-up. Respecting this schedule, we can't change your ride request or issue ride refunds within 45 days of our event. And, as in all physical activities, there's the possibility of fatigue or injury that day, for which we also cannot issue refunds. Thank you for understanding!

3. *Mail this form* and your \$300 non-refundable deposit to *Trailbound Trips*, 533 S. Summit St., Barrington, IL 60010. Questions? Feel free to contact Carol Ruhter at 847-381-9374 or TrailboundTrips@gmail.com

*Your Trailbound guides,
Carol "Scout" Ruhter and Debbie "LL Lucy" Hager*



"Twenty years from now, you will be more disappointed by the things you didn't do than by the ones you did do ... Explore. Dream. Discover." ~Mark Twain