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## Dozen Distinctive Destinations Marquette, Michigan

Year Listed: 2010

Located in one of the most scenic spots in the Midwest, Marquette is a must-see for travelers looking to get off the beaten path. Throughout the 19th and 20th centuries it attracted immigrants from over 40 nations to work in the shipping, mining and timber industries—evidence of which can be seen along the well-preserved streets of downtown Marquette. The city's collection of magnificent red sandstone buildings are now home to a dynamic array of retail shops, galleries and restaurants situated to provide breathtaking views of the waterfront.



The Upper Peninsula 200 Sled Dog Race is an annual February tradition in Marquette, Michigan.

*Credit: Jack Deo*

### History and Culture

This Upper Peninsula city boasts a total of 27 nationally- and state-designated historic sites. Marquette has been called a small city with a cosmopolitan feel, and has been named one of the 100 Best Art Towns in America, thanks in part to its symphony, summer theater and city-sponsored arts and cultural center. Events at Northern Michigan University, which is located in Marquette, also contribute to the city's vibrancy. Among the hidden gems in Marquette are a city park designed by Frederick Law Olmsted, and the world's largest wooden domed stadium.

### Active Living

Active vacationers will appreciate the many nearby recreational opportunities; in fact, from downtown, a visitor can be boating in the waters of Lake Superior or hiking in the woods at a state park in under 10 minutes. Several miles of bike paths are situated along the lakefront, providing a perfect way to enjoy the lake's scenic offerings. Marquette holds several events annually that attract thousands of participants and observers alike, from a sled-dog race to a 2,000-rider mountain bike race to one of the largest cross-country ski races in the nation.

### Don't Miss:

- ▶ **Donckers Candy:** Satisfying the sweet tooth with old-fashioned fudge since 1896 and a restored 1950s soda fountain
- ▶ **Getz Department Store:** A three-story landmark of downtown Marquette since the 1880s
- ▶ **Presque Isle Park:** Access to the beaches of Lake Michigan and hiking trails in this park designed by Frederick Law Olmsted
- ▶ **Landmark Inn, a Historic Hotel of America:** From Amelia Earheart to the Rolling Stones, visitors have stayed in this European-inspired hotel, formerly the Northland Hotel, since 1930

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To plan your visit and learn more about Marquette, visit the [Lake Superior Community Partnership](#).



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Submitted by DK at: February 3, 2010

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