



Where arts and music thrive.

An artistic oasis in Minnesota's nature.

From the Myles Reif Performing Arts Center to the MacRostie Art Center, to the Mississippi Melodie Showboat, Grand Rapids is a cultural hub for the fine arts. The area is home to a number of well-known artists and their influence can be seen throughout the community in our public art, attractions, festivals, and other events. Quality performances and exceptional exhibits encompass comedy, dance, music, drama and a wide variety of artistic mediums.

Charm, history & old-fashioned fun.

The history and heritage of our earliest settlers is portrayed and celebrated in many of our local attractions. Spend an afternoon at Hill Annex Mine State Park, where everyone can dig for fossils or take a guided tour of the former mine. Pay tribute to a great American performer at the Judy Garland Museum and Children's Discovery Museum. Take a trip along the Edge of the Wilderness National Scenic Byway and watch for beautiful overlooks and interpretive signs.



Scenic State Park, north of Grand Rapids, offers the scenic beauty of virgin white pines, pristine lakes, hiking and skiing trails and more. The Forest History Center takes visitors back in time with living history interpreters, lumberjack camp, nature trails and a 100-foot fire tower. In the heart of downtown, our Old Central School houses a heritage museum, historical society and unique shops.



See it, do it, make memories.

When it comes to childhood memories, family vacations are among the most treasured, and the attractions of Grand Rapids set the stage for wonderful family experiences.



Area attractions.



Judy Garland Museum

2727 S Hwy 169,
Grand Rapids
800-664-JUDY

1925 childhood home of America's Treasure, Judy

Garland — star of *Wizard of Oz*. One-acre Oz theme garden, staircase where “Baby Gumm” and sisters performed. Featuring Faith Wick doll collection. Museum Store has Judy mementos and gifts from Oz.

Children’s Discovery Museum



2727 S Hwy 169,
Grand Rapids
866-CDM-KIDS

Learn while you play. Discover dinosaurs and dino dig. Meet Treesa the talking tree. Play at the river

water table, tiny tot maze and kid-size shops and businesses in Rivertown. Demonstrate an earthquake at Geo-Zooooom!

Edge of the Wilderness National Scenic Byway



49554 Hwy 38,
Marcell
218-832-3161

Awarded the status of National Scenic Byway in 1996, the 47-mile winding drive from Grand

Rapids north to Effie on State Hwy 38 shows off spectacular scenery, recreation and interpretive sites. Enjoy breathtaking fall colors.

Forest History Center



2609 County Rd 76,
Grand Rapids
218-327-4482

Includes an authentic 1900s logging camp with costumed interpreters, a 1901 Mississippi River wannigan, 1934 U.S. Forest Service patrolman’s cabin,

Minnesota’s first forest fire fighting vehicle and 100 ft forest fire tower. Interpretive Center with dynamic, interactive forest related exhibits.



Hill Annex Mine State Park

880 Gary St, PO Box 376, Calumet 218-247-7215

The history of open pit mining on the Iron Range unfolds with tours by bus or boat as well as fossil hunting (shark’s teeth, ocean critters). Tours take visitors along scenic overlooks and on the open water of the Hill Annex Mine.



Itasca County Fairgrounds

1336 Fairgrounds Rd
218-327-4482

Enjoy scenic camping under the pines while you visit the many events held here. Start of the Taconite Snowmobile Trail, the Mesabi Bike Trail and home of the Grand Rapids Speedway. Onsite caretaker, next to Crystal Lake.

Itasca Historical Society



Located in Old Central School
218-326-6431

Central School remained in use until the 1970s. In the 1980s, a major renovation began. Today, Central School houses the Heritage Museum, maintained by the Itasca County Historical Society, as well as a number of unique shops with a distinct and friendly local flavor.



Blandin Paper Mill Tours

115 SW 1st Street
Grand Rapids
218-327-6682

See how paper is made from trees with a free guided tour of the paper mill from early June through late August. Tours are given Wed – Fri, 10a – 3p on the hour. No cameras, open-toed shoes or children under age 12.



MacRostie Art Center

Downtown
Grand Rapids
218-326-2697

MacRostie Art Center hosts monthly

exhibitions that feature the work of local and regional artists. Classes in both 2- and 3-dimensional disciplines are offered. In the art shop you’ll find handcrafted jewelry, pottery, paintings, blown glass, and much more.



Scenic State Park

56956 Scenic Hwy 7, Bigfork
218-743-3362

This wilderness-like park is popular for camping,

hiking, cross-country skiing, canoeing, fishing and bird watching. Two undeveloped lakes coupled with stands of virgin white and red pines provide opportunities to experience nature.

Grand Rapids. It’s in Minnesota’s Nature.

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