



Easy to Reach HIKING SPOTS

(Les Cheneaux area, from west to east)

Search Bay-Hiawatha National Forest

Located ~ 5 miles West of Hessel on south side of m-134, Road #3436

Heading toward the lake, look for a small sign on the left side of the road noting "Ski Trail." Turn left and find parking spot at the beginning of the road and hike the ski trail, or, take gravel road to the lake ~ 2.5 miles round trip. There are more trails off of the road for exploring. Take a compass or GPS. Trails are not always clearly marked.

Trefry Trail - Hiawatha National Forest

Located ~ about 3 miles West of Hessel, on north side of M-134, Road #3433

An easy, gravel based two-track road heads about 1 mile north into maple woods and mixed conifer swamp. Various, trails sprout off into the woods from this main road, however, use a compass or GPS to navigate as these trail spurs are not clearly marked.

Birge Nature Preserve & Loon Lake (Little Traverse Conservancy)

Located ~ 2 miles West of Hessel on Point Brulee Rd. Turn left off of m-134.

A large wooden sign marks the trail head, about a mile down the road on the right hand side. This trail loops back to the main road. Another section of trail lies further south on the road, where a board walk on the right side leads hikers through a marshy area and into the forest. This is short walk leads to the Loon Lake observation platform. Great walk for kids.

Les Cheneaux Outdoor Classroom/Nordic Ski Trail - Cedarville

Located near downtown Cedarville. Take M-134 to Blind Line Rd.

Go North on Blind Line. Car wash and sign for Creekside Herbs are 2 landmarks for Blind Line Road. Continue until the pavement ends, then turn left on State Rd....continue to a metal gate on the right side of the road. If closed, park in driveway. School track is behind the gate, and the Outdoor Classroom sign and trail head is to the right. Trail includes some interpretive signage. Does not loop back, so return the way you came. Hike is about .25 mi. Les Cheneaux Nordic Ski Trail, which starts at the north west side of the track, offers a 3-mile trek uphill and along a ridge.

Gerstacker Preserve (The Nature Conservancy)

Located ~ about 12 miles East of Cedarville.

Drive east and look for landmark sign on the right, Cadogan Point. Once past....pull into the second roadside shoulder pull-off spot. The parking area is adjacent to a sandy beach and guard rail along right side of the road. Park here and cross road, where you will see Nature Conservancy signage, some 4 x 4s, and the main trail head. This is a great hike back to Little Trout Lake. Trail is about 3 miles round-trip.

Detour State Forest Campground & Cranberry Lake Flooding Area

This spot is nearest to DeTour Village. Follow M-134 and pass the M-48 intersection....continue until you see a sign for the Campground Road on south side of the road. Take road to hiking trail head or all the way to lake and hike along the shore, to beautiful St. Vital Point. Three, 2-track trail access points on the north side of road provide entrance into the Cranberry Lake Flooding area, which is laced with trails, 2-tracks, and views/access to the lake. DeTour SFC offers rustic camping in sites near L. Huron.

Special thanks to:



