

# TETTEGOUCHE STATE PARK

## FACILITIES AND FEATURES

- 23 miles of hiking trails with numerous scenic overlooks, including a self-guided interpretive trail to Shovel Point
- 34 semi-modern campsites (flush toilets and showers)
- 13 cart-in campsites
- Five picnic areas—Baptism River, Nipisquit Lake, Bean Lake, Tettegouche Camp and Trailhead
- Class I Wayside Rest Area at Baptism River
- Trout and salmon fishing in both the Baptism River and Lake Superior
- Northern pike and walleye fishing in four inland lakes (access by foot trail only)
- Four waterfalls on the Baptism River, including Minnesota's highest waterfall
- 12 miles of designated ski trails

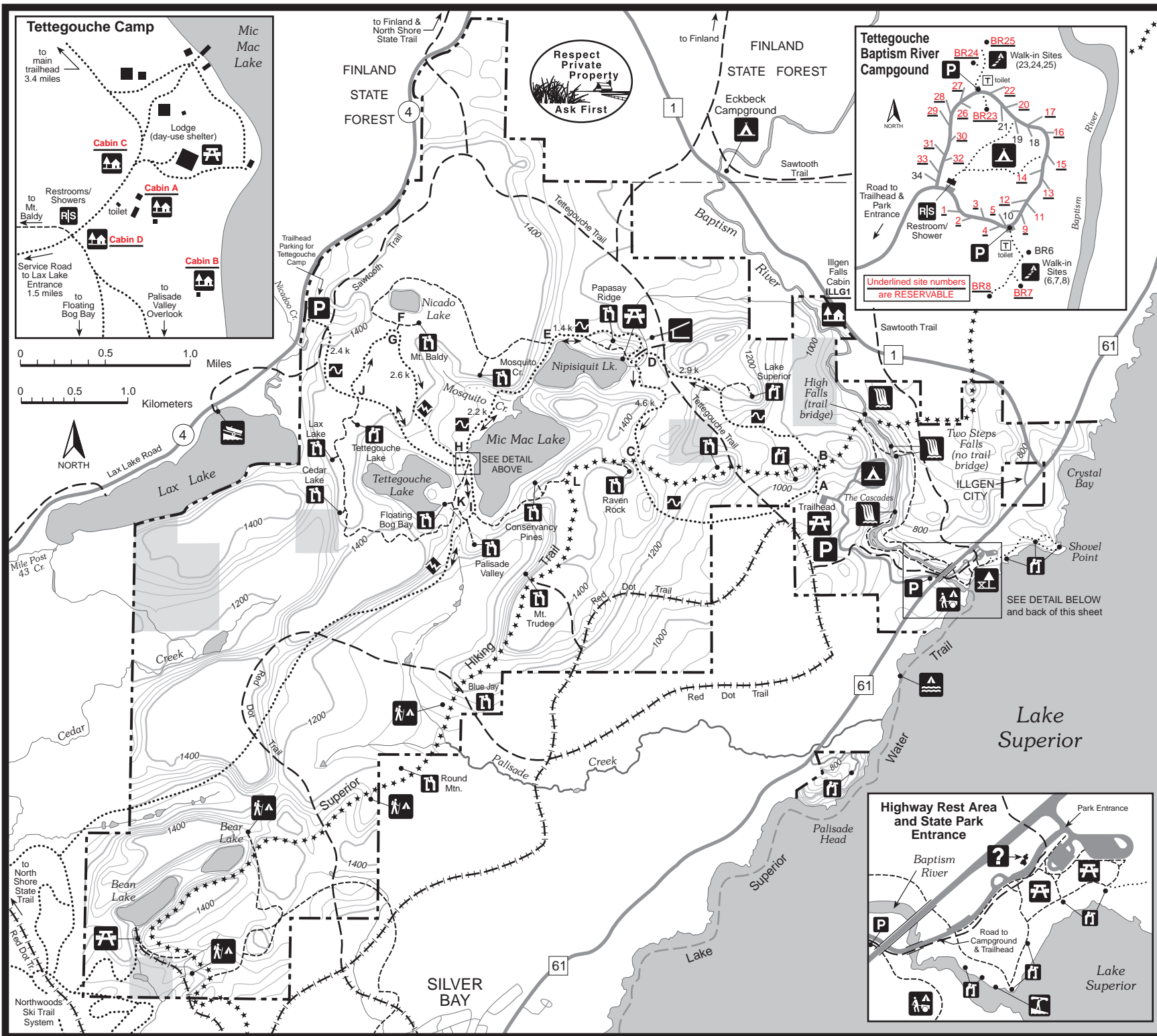
The park's main winter attractions are skiing, snowshoeing, hiking, camping and snowmobiling.

Snowmobiles may unload in the wayside rest parking lots. Trails from there allow the snowmobilers to go to Finland, Silver Bay and the North Shore State Trail.

### LOOKING FOR MORE INFORMATION ?

The DNR has mapped the state showing federal, state and county lands with their recreational facilities.  
Public Recreation Information Maps (PRIM) are available for purchase from the DNR gift shop, DNR regional offices, Minnesota state parks and major sporting and map stores.

Check it out - you'll be glad you did.



## TRAILS

- A Trail Junctions
- \*\*\*\* Superior Hiking Trail (Hiking/Snowshoe)
- Snowmobile
- +++ ATV/Snowmobile
- ..... Hiking/Cross-Country Ski
- easy
- more difficult
- most difficult
- Hiking/Snowshoe
- ..... Self-guided Interpretive (Hiking/Snowshoe)
- Lake Superior Water Trail (Kayak)

## FACILITIES

- ? Information/Office
- Highway Rest Area
- Picnic Area
- P Parking
- Overlook
- Waterfall
- Campground
- Backpack Campsites
- Boat Ramp
- Carry-in Access (kayak)
- Kayak Campsite
- Cart-in Campground
- Rental Cabin
- Private Property
- Public Use Prohibited (except on designated trails)

Because lands exist within the boundaries of this park that are not under the jurisdiction of the D.N.R., check with the park manager if you plan to use facilities such as trails and roads other than those shown.



# TETTEGOUCHE STATE PARK

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

Tettegouche State Park  
5702 Highway 61 East  
Silver Bay, MN 55614  
(218) 226-6365

Department of Natural Resources  
Information Center  
500 Lafayette Road  
St. Paul, MN 55155-4040

(651) 296-6157 (Metro Area)  
1-888-646-6367 (MN Toll Free)

TDD (Telecommunications  
Device for Deaf)  
(651) 296-5484 (Metro Area)  
1-800-657-3929 (MN Toll Free)

DNR Web Site:  
<http://www.dnr.state.mn.us>

**TETTEGOUCHE STATE PARK** is located in Lake County, 4 1/2 miles northeast of Silver Bay on Minnesota Highway 61, state highway map index: O-8.

Established in 1979 to preserve an outstanding example of the Northshore Highlands Biocultural Region, Tettegouche State Park contains a unique combination of natural features: rugged semi-mountainous terrain, Lake Superior shoreline, inland lakes, cascading rivers and waterfalls, and undisturbed northern hardwood forest. Important historical and cultural features are also preserved

in Tettegouche Camp, a complex of rustic log buildings dating back to the final days of the logging area.

**HISTORY:** In 1898 the Alger-Smith Lumber Company began cutting the virgin pine forests of northeastern Minnesota. A logging camp was set up on the shores of a lake the loggers called Mic Mac, after the major Indian tribe from their native New Brunswick, Canada. They took the Mic Mac's Algonquin names for New Brunswick landmarks and gave them to the lakes in Minnesota. In 1910, after removing most of the Norway and white pine, the Alger-Smith Company sold the logging camp and surrounding acreage to the "Tettegouche Club", a group of businessmen from Duluth who used the area as a fishing camp and retreat. One of its members, Clement K. Quinn, bought the others out in 1921 and continued to act as protector for the area until 1971 when Mr. Quinn sold Tettegouche to the deLaittres. The deLaittres continued Mr. Quinn's tradition of stewardship for the land, beginning negotiations several years later for the preservation of Tettegouche as a state park. During these negotiations, the Nature Conservancy, a private land conservation organization, played a vital role (along with other concerned individuals and groups) in the transfer of ownership. Finally, on June 29, 1979, legislation was enacted establishing Tettegouche as a Minnesota state park.

**VEGETATION:** Presettlement vegetation in the Tettegouche area consisted of a mixture of Norway and white pine, northern hardwood, aspen-birch, spruce-fir, and cedar wetland communities. Large-scale logging at the turn of the century and subsequent fires in the 1920s drastically changed the densities of most species. Aspen-birch second growth forest now dominates approximately one-half of the park, followed in importance by sugar maple-yellow birch and cedar wetland associations.

The best way to experience the complexity and diversity of Tettegouche's vegetative landscape is by hiking its trail system. Beginning at the Baptism River highway rest area, a foot trail climbs the gentle slope of Lake Superior's ancient shoreline through stands of paper birch and aspen and around numerous cedar and black ash wetlands. This area of the park was completely logged

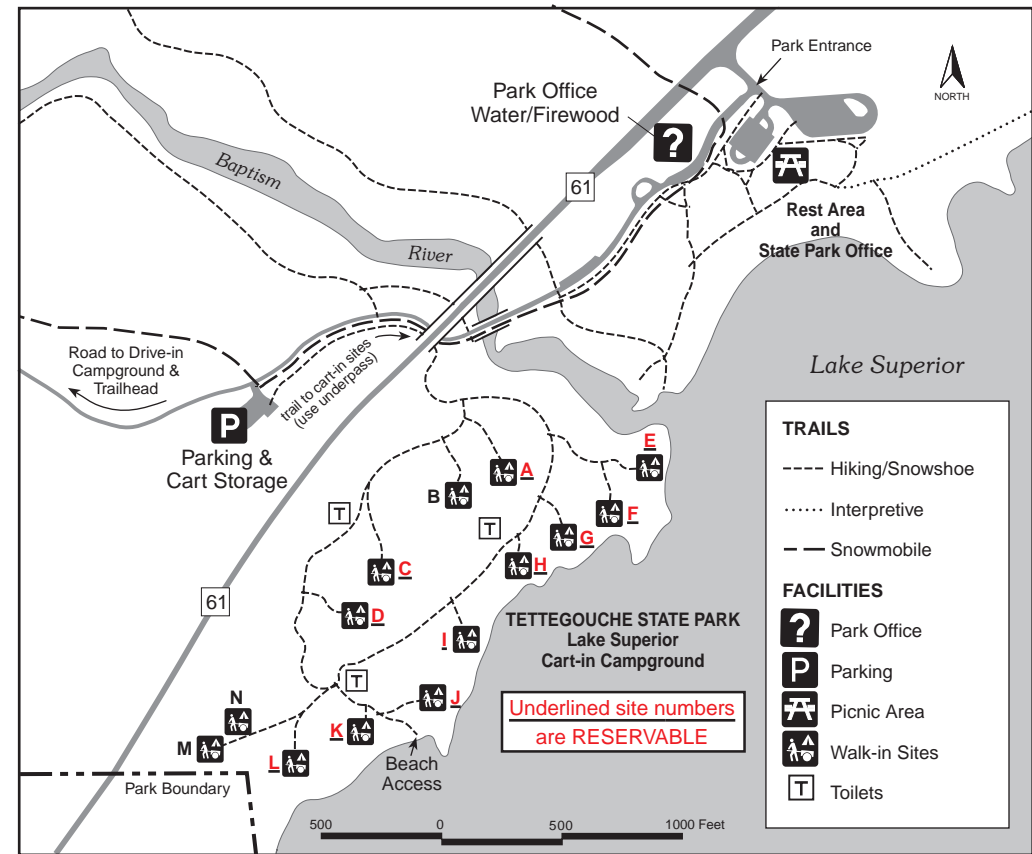
and burned—look for moss and lichen covered stumps and notice the brushy character of this early successional community. As the trail nears the inland lakes, an open forest of sugar maple, yellow birch, basswood, and white spruce abruptly replaces the aspen and birch. Large areas of the west-central part of Tettegouche are dominated by this mature forest. As the trail climbs the ridges above the lakes, scattered stands of remnant Norway and white pine are encountered and on the driest ridge tops narrow bands of red oak are common. Take time to explore these trails—adventurous hikes are rewarded with numerous scenic vistas of the Sawtooth Mountains, Lake Superior, and the park's inland lakes.

**WILDLIFE:** The wide variety of plant communities in Tettegouche supports more than 40 species of mammals. Most commonly seen are the white-tailed deer, snowshoe hare, red squirrel, and beaver. Less commonly observed are moose, black bear, red fox, and river otter. Occasionally, coyote, fisher, pine marten, northern flying squirrel, and even timber wolf are seen.

Northeastern Minnesota is recognized as one of the better areas in the nation for finding rare birds. Diversity of habitat, geography, and proximity to Lake Superior combine to produce a variety of birdlife at Tettegouche—in all, 140 species have been identified. Summer finds kinglets, spruce grouse, and many northern warblers nesting in bogs and coniferous forest. In fall, hawks migrating along the shore of Lake Superior number in the tens of thousands. Winter is an excellent time to see northern owls, woodpeckers, finches, and unusual water birds.

**GEOLOGY:** The North Shore of Lake Superior is a random alternation of rocky cliffs, pebble beaches, and bold headlands. The landscape owes its character to the differential erosion of bedrock by running water and glaciers. Glacial action over the last two million years was mainly erosive, resulting in thin soils, scoured lake basins, and numerous rock outcroppings. The North Shore drainage pattern is one of short, steep rivers with many waterfalls and deeply-eroded gorges.

Some present-day features, however, are the result of much older geologic processes.



About 1.1 billion years ago, North America began to spread apart along a rift that extended from what is now Lake Superior all the way to Kansas. Dense basaltic lava from beneath what is now Lake Superior caused the flows to tilt 10° to 20° to the southeast. Spectacular examples of these lava flows are Palisade Head one mile southwest of the park and Shovel Point just northeast of the Baptism River. Sloping inland up to 18 miles from Lake Superior, these weathered flows form the "Sawtooth Mountains" of northern Lake and Cook County.

## SO EVERYONE CAN ENJOY THE PARK . . .

- The park belongs to all Minnesotans. Treat it with respect.
- Inform yourself of park rules. Park rules are enforced.

## SPECIAL RULES:

- Only non-motorized boats and canoes may be used on the park's inland lakes. Water-

craft must be removed from the park at the end of each day.

- Build fires only in fire rings provided. Visitors are encouraged to use camping stoves or charcoal grills rather than build open fires.
- Hunting is prohibited except in designated areas.

*This information is available in alternative format upon request.*

"Equal opportunity to participate in and benefit from programs of the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources is available to all individuals regardless of race, color, creed or religion, national origin, sex, marital status, status with regard to public assistance, sexual orientation, age or disability. Discrimination inquires should be sent to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, 500 Lafayette Road, St. Paul, MN 55155-4031; or the Equal Opportunity Office, Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240."

© 1/2005 by State of Minnesota,  
Department of Natural Resources

