

Keweenaw Adventure Company

Packing List for your Isle Royale Adventure



Your guides have written these Gear Lists based on their years of field experience. Items listed as **“Required”** are essential for your safety, comfort and enjoyment throughout the trip. They are also required for you to be able to participate in all possible activities. **“Recommended”** items are things that could enhance your trip experience. **“Optional”** items are luxury items that may enhance your trip experience as well, yet they are solely based on personal preference.

You must provide your own sleeping pad and bag. (If you don’t have this or prefer not to travel with yours we have a sleep system available for rent for \$50.) The sleeping pad should be one that can be rolled up to a maximum of about 8” x 14”. The REI AirRail Plus and Therm-a-Rest Trail Pro sleeping pad are some good examples of this style. For a sleeping bag, you will need a synthetic or down backpacking style, good to 20-35 degrees depending on when your tour is, no more than about 3 pounds and can compress down to ideally less than 10 liters. The Marmot Trestles Elite Eco 20, REI Zephyr 25, and Big Agnes Anthracite 20 sleeping bag are all good examples.

*Please note that there are numerous other great choices for your sleeping bag and pad so please don’t feel the need to buy one of these necessarily. If you have any questions about what will work, please reach out to us and we will assist.

Clothing Tips:

- The key to staying comfortable while on an active trip is layering. To get maximum comfort with minimum weight, you need versatile layers that mix and match to create the right amount of insulation, ventilation and weather protection.
- Try to bring only what is necessary, this will help you and the guide. It is fine to travel to Copper Harbor with more than you think you will need and then at the orientation the guide can help you to narrow down what will work best given the weather forecast. (We can secure any items you won’t be taking to Isle Royale, including your luggage if flying in.)
- A wetsuit is required to be worn while paddling and is provided. The provided wetsuits are Farmer John style – sleeveless with long or short legs depending on weather conditions.
- A swimsuit should be worn under the wetsuit or rash guard and swim shorts.
- Bring one synthetic shirt to wear as an insulating layer under your wetsuit in the event of cool weather. A rash guard top works very well.
- Water shoes- Neoprene type booties with a hard sole work best for these conditions.
- Dry shoes- One pair of very lightweight day hikers or trail runners for hikes and around camp.

Feel free to give us a call at 906-289-4303 should you have any questions regarding the Gear List. The staff at our shop will be happy to help you with gear questions.

Gear List

Item	Notes	Category
Wetsuit and PFD	You may bring your own if preferred.	Provided
Kayak and All Paddling Gear		Provided
Tent		Provided
Group First Aid Kit	Our guides carry a comprehensive first aid kit, but you are welcome to bring any personal first aid-items that you prefer.	Provided
Dry Bags	2 x 10L & 1 x 15L	Provided
Sleeping Pad	Compact backpacking style- see above for examples.	Required- available to rent
Sleeping Bag (35°+ Most Trips/20° in Colder Travel Periods)	Compact backpacking style- see above for examples.	Required- available to rent
Rain Jacket (Hooded, Lightweight, Waterproof, Breathable)		Required
Insulated Jacket and/or Vest		Required
Hiking Pants (Quick-Dry, Lightweight)		Required
Long Sleeve Shirts (Synthetic, Lightweight)		Required
Tee Shirts (Synthetic)		Required
Hiking Socks (Synthetic or Wool)		Required
Sun Hat		Required
Hiking Shoes	Lightweight hikers or trail running shoes work well.	Required
Water Bottles (2 quart total capacity)	Nalgene water bottles with wide mouth and a carabiner to attach to the kayak are great.	Required
Flashlight or Headlamp with Fresh Batteries	May not need too much for mid-summer tours as there is a lot of daylight so you could get by with phone light if desired.	Required
Sunglasses and Accessories	Don't forget Chums/Croakies, preferably ones that float!	Required
Sunblock and Lip Balm		Required
Swimwear	To wear under the provided wetsuit. We recommend that you bring two swimsuits - one to wear during the water safety course on Day 1 and one to wear the next day/rest of the trip.	Required
Water Shoes (Full Foot Protection)	Neoprene type booties or water shoes with a hard sole work best for these conditions. Sandals could be used if desired but sometimes lead to foot fatigue.	Required
Day Pack (<10L)	A small daypack or hip pack is recommended for the short hikes. Packs must be small and	Required

	collapsible due to the space constraints in the kayaks.	
Rain Pants (Lightweight, Waterproof, Breathable)		Recommended
Fleece/Wool Hat		Recommended
Fleece/Wool Gloves		Recommended
Hiking Shorts (Quick-Dry, Lightweight)		Recommended
Underwear		Recommended
Toiletries	Biodegradable products preferred.	Recommended
Insect Repellent	DEET is an effective insect repellent for use on skin and clothing. 25% to 35% DEET is the recommended concentration. Treating clothing (not skin) with permethrin is also an effective insect repellent.	Recommended
Hand Sanitizer		Recommended
Paddling Gloves	Neoprene or Gore-Tex for paddling in cool weather.	Recommended
Base Layer Tops and Bottoms (Midweight, Synthetic)		Recommended
Head Net	Mosquitos and black flies are present.	Recommended
Travel Pillow	Pillows are not provided. You may want to bring your own for comfort.	Optional
Flip-flops/slides/crocs that can get wet (stored loose in kayak bulkhead)	For around camp and for use at night to go from your tent to the restroom.	Optional
Liner Socks (Synthetic)		Optional
Personal Bathroom Kit: Ziplock Bags, Personal Wipes, Hand Cleaner	All campsites have vault toilets, and guides are equipped with toilet paper and a kit.	Optional
Camera and Accessories	Or backup battery for cell phone	Optional
Small Binoculars		Optional
Reading and Writing Materials		Optional
Ear Plugs		Optional
Bandana or Buff for Sun Protection		Optional
Face Mask		Optional