Keweenaw Adventure Company
2027 Isle Royale Tours!

Join the Keweenaw Adventure Company (KAC) in exploring Isle Royale National Park, a once-in-a-lifetime adventure to explore one of the least visited National Parks!

Whether it be by paddle or trail, you will experience the unparalleled solitude of Isle Royale National Park. Its rugged shoreline, unique sights, and secluded bays are yours to discover. Hike through beautiful boreal forests to rocky outcrops with majestic views while being on the lookout for moose, beaver, or loons while listening for the gray wolves howling.

We are the leading provider of tours at Isle Royale National Park. We are an approved commercial operator licensed by the National Park Service and have authorization to conduct both kayaking and backpacking tours on Isle Royale National Park. Our headquarters and outfitting services are conveniently located right in Copper Harbor, only a few blocks away from the Isle Royale Queen ferry dock, the most popular departure point for Isle Royale Adventurers!

We are celebrating our thirty-third year of helping visitors to have a safe and fun adventure while taking in the awe and majesty of the Keweenaw. Whether it be on a bike, in a kayak, or on the trail, we pride ourselves on providing adventure for everyone and finding ways to connect folks with nature through unique and memorable experiences.

We believe that the natural world gives us the best opportunity to experience awe and wonder of the world around us. As we like to say, “Less Screen Time, More Green Time!” Let us help you to unplug, recharge, and reconnect with the world around us.

Our tours are structured to give you the “best of” Isle Royale during your visit. Admittedly, there is a never-ending list of sights to see but our guides have the training and skill to work with tour participants and mother nature, to ensure that you have a fantastic time exploring ISRO and perhaps discovering some insights into yourself by going out of your comfort zone, but in a responsible and fun way.

Following are overview descriptions of our three tour offerings for 2027, our Classic Kayak Tour, our Adventure Kayak Tour, and our Backpacking Tour! Whether you are a single traveler or coming with others, please take a look at our tours and then let’s find some time afterwards to connect to learn more about what awaits you on Isle Royale!

Our Classic All-Inclusive Kayak Tour



This tour is our most popular Isle Royale offering! Over the years we have taken out hundreds of guests for their first time to ISRO, and perhaps even helped those guests to paddle a sea kayak in Lake Superior for the first time. This 4-Day/3-Night tour is good for both beginners and experts alike but one must be comfortable in and around the water and be able to swim. We predominately utilize a base camp at Daisy Farm or West Caribou for this tour so that we can maximize time for sightseeing and even short day hikes to Mt. Ojibway on the Greenstone Trail or to Scoville Point.

All our kayak tours include an orientation and water safety course the day prior to heading to the island. This will allow you to meet your guide and fellow travelers, allow the guide to learn more about what you want to see and do, and most importantly give you the chance to get in the water to learn kayak maneuvering skills in addition to rescue procedures.

Participants should be comfortable paddling along the coast up to 6-8 miles per day in 1-2 ft waves and winds up to 10 knots. Although paddling in an inland sea such as Superior may be a new experience, your guide will always be there with you to help you confidently master your paddling skills and assist you in the unlikely event that you tip over. Participants should be comfortable with primitive backcountry camping as well. (No running water, vault toilets, etc.) Group size is three to eight participants.

We take care of absolutely everything for you! All you have to do is drive or fly into town and we will take care of all your meals and lodging both in town and on the island, and shuttle you around as needed.

Itinerary:

Day 1- Check in at our shop at 2pm for Orientation where you will meet your guide and fellow paddlers, create a float plan, and then get in the water for your safety course. You will also receive the key to your hotel and enjoy a group dinner at a local restaurant.

Day -2- Meet at the ISRO Queen Dock first thing in the morning and after arriving on ISRO midday, kayak to our base camp and explore the surrounding area.

Days 3-4- Full days exploring ISRO. We will kick off the day with a hot, guide-prepared breakfast and then pack our lunch and head out in our kayak to enjoy the beauty of the coastline, taking in a variety of flora and fauna while having time to take breaks, visit sights, snap photos, and take in the majesty of the island. In the late afternoon we will return to our camp, (or head to our new camp) as some folks may want to relax on the shore, journal,

or even rockhound while those that want to paddle more may have the opportunity to head back out to explore more of the coastline. Thereafter, your guide will prepare a hot dinner for the group while everyone will have time in the evening to reflect on the day and share stories.

Day 5- After breaking camp, continue exploring ISRO in the morning and then depart on the ferry in the afternoon and arrive back in Copper Harbor in the evening. We will meet you at the dock to get you checked into your motel and treat you to a wonderful dinner where we will be able to reflect on your journey while enjoying fine dining right on the waterfront. Then perhaps after partaking in an indulgent, celebratory drink or dessert, we say our goodbyes to the new friends we have made!

Day 6 – Depart Copper Harbor at your leisure

Includes:

Expert Certified Guide

4-Days/3-Nights on ISRO

Orientation & Water Safety Course on the day prior to departing for ISRO

Single or tandem kayak, paddle, PFD, wetsuit, dry bags, & associated safety gear

Tents, kitchen mess kit, and water purification equipment

Group First Aid Kit and Emergency GPS Communicator

Complimentary Sleeping Bag/Pad Rental if needed

Two Nights Motel lodging in Copper Harbor (Days 1 & 5)

Two Restaurant dinners in Copper Harbor (Days 1 & 5)

Grab & go bakery breakfast (Day 2)

Guide-prepared meals on ISRO- Day 2 (L,D) Days 3-4 (B,L,D), Day 5 (B,L)

Ferry passage on the Isle Royale Queen IV to/from ISRO

NPS Entry Fee for ISRO

Camp Permits on ISRO (Days 2-4)

Shuttle to/from CMX Airport if needed

Vehicle Parking if needed

Adventure Kayak Tour



This tour is similar to our classic tour in the sense that we will see some of the same areas of the island but it is better suited for those that would appreciate seeing more by spending an additional full day on the island and having more opportunity to paddle and explore the barrier islands and areas further out from Rock Harbor such as Blake Point or Chippewa Harbor. We will break camp at least once, if not twice, as we explore the island.

All participants should have previous paddling experience and be comfortable in varying weather conditions. This is not a high-adventure tour as we will not be trying to kayak 25 miles in a day, or paddle strenuously, but expect to spend more time in your kayak as we cover 8-12 miles on average daily with the potential of 2-3 ft waves and 15 knots of wind. If conditions are favorable and the group is amenable, we may head further out to explore the north side of the island. Group size is limited to five participants.

This tour does not include meals/lodging in Copper Harbor before/after your trip as some folks may prefer to camp or leave immediately upon return. We will, of course, be happy to help you with your travel plans and recommend lodging, arrange airport transport, etc.

Itinerary:

Day 1- Check in at Shop at 3pm for Orientation where you will meet your guide and fellow paddlers, learn about packing, route planning, and then get in the water for your safety course. Accommodation and meals are on your own.

Day 2- Meet at the ISRO Queen Dock first thing and after arriving on ISRO midday, kayak to our first campsite and explore the surrounding area.

Days 3-5- Full days exploring ISRO. We will kick off the day with a hot, guide-prepared breakfast and then pack our lunch and head out in our kayak to enjoy the beauty of the coastline, taking in a variety of flora and fauna while having time to take breaks, visit sights, snap photos, and take in the majesty of the island. In the late afternoon we will return to our camp, (or head to our new camp) as some folks may want to relax on the shore, journal, or even rockhound while those that want to paddle more may have the opportunity to head back out to explore more of the coastline. Thereafter, your guide will prepare a hot dinner for the group while everyone will have time in the evening to reflect on the day.

Day 6- After breaking camp, continue exploring ISRO in the morning and then depart on the ferry in the afternoon to arrive back in Copper Harbor in the evening, where we will unpack our gear and say our goodbyes to the new friends we have made!

Includes:

Expert Certified Guide

5-Days/4-Nights on ISRO

Orientation & Water Safety Course on the day prior to departing for ISRO

Single or tandem kayak, paddle, PFD, wetsuit, dry bags, & associated safety gear

Tents, kitchen mess kit, and water purification equipment

Group First Aid Kit and Emergency GPS Communicator

Grab & go bakery breakfast (Day 2)

Guide-prepared meals on ISRO- Day 2 (L,D) Days 3-5 (B,L,D), Day 6 (B,L)

Ferry passage on the Isle Royale Queen IV to/from ISRO

NPS Entry Fee for ISRO

Camp Permits on ISRO (Days 2-5)

Vehicle Parking if needed

Backpacking Tour



This tour is a great introduction to backpacking on Isle Royale National Park. Let one of our expert guides lead you and your group on an unforgettable backpacking adventure alongside Lake Superior's rugged coastline. Our guides will take care of all the logistics involved in backpacking on this remote island, allowing you to focus solely on the beauty and adventure that can only be found on Isle Royale. You will be able to explore Tobin Harbor, Rock Harbor, Moskey Basin, as well as the Greenstone Trail and Lake Ritchie over the course of 4-Days/3-Nights.

Our itinerary aims to maximize scenic views while keeping mileage attainable. This allows for the trip to be enjoyable for all hikers, from beginners to experts. Additional (and optional) evening hikes allow more adventurous hikers to get some extra miles in. While this trip is appropriate for beginner hikers, participants must be comfortable hiking up to nine miles in a day while carrying a pack weighing up to 45lbs. Total distance covered will be approximately 32 miles. Participants should also be comfortable with primitive backcountry camping as well.

All participants will meet with their guide at our shop for an orientation the day prior to heading to the island. This allows you to meet your guide and fellow travelers, go over trip expectations and expected weather, and ensure all participants have the correct gear. Thereafter we will head to a local restaurant to have a kickoff meal to our forthcoming adventure!

Itinerary:

Day 1- Check in at Shop at 5pm for Orientation where you will meet your guide, learn about packing and route planning, then enjoy a group dinner in Copper Harbor.

Day 2- Meet at the ISRO Queen Dock at 7am and after arriving on ISRO midday, hike the Tobin Harbor trail to our first campsite, Threemile.

Day 3- Full Day exploring ISRO- Hike the Mt. Franklin Trail up to Mt. Franklin to take in the incredible views then continue on the Greenstone Ridge Trail to Mt. Ojibway and its iconic fire tower and afterwards hike the Mt. Ojibway trail to our next campsite at Daisy Farm.

Day 4- Full Day Exploring ISRO- We'll leave our heavy packs and tents at camp while we hike the Rock Harbor Trail to Moskey Basin for a lunch on the water. Then, if we want to adventure further, we will continue on the Lake Ritchie Trail to visit Lake Ritchie.

Day 5- Depart Daisy Farm campground in the morning to hike the Rock Harbor trail along the coast, arriving back to Rock Harbor midday. Then, after lunch, we will board the ferry for our return trip to Copper Harbor. Once back on the mainland, we will sort out our gear and say our goodbyes to the new friends we have made!

Includes:

Expert Certified Guide

4-Days/3-Nights on ISRO

Orientation on the day prior to departing for ISRO

Tents, kitchen mess kit, Ursack, and water purification equipment

Group First Aid Kit and Emergency GPS Communicator

Restaurant dinner in Copper Harbor (Day 1)

Grab & go bakery breakfast (Day 2)

Guide-prepared meals on ISRO- Day 2 (L,D) Days 3-4 (B,L,D), Day 5 (B,L)

Ferry passage on the Isle Royale Queen IV to/from ISRO

NPS Entry Fee for ISRO

Camp Permits on ISRO (Days 2-4)

Vehicle Parking if needed

SRO Tour Comparison	Classic Kayak Tour	Adventure Kayak Tour	Backpacking Tour
PRICE	$3,195	$2,795	$1,995
Days on Isle Royale	4	5	4
Orientation on Mainland	✓	✓	✓
Isle Royale Queen IV Ferry Transport To/From ISRO	✓	✓	✓
National Park Service Entry Fee	✓	✓	✓
NPS Campsite Permits	✓	✓	✓
All Meals on ISRO	✓	✓	✓
Grab and go Bakery Breakfast on Day 2	✓	✓	✓
Expert Certified Guide	✓	✓	✓
Small Group Size (4-8 people)	✓	✓	✓
Tents & Camp Equipment	✓	✓	✓
Dry Bags and/or Ursack for gear and food	✓	✓	✓
Sleeping Bag & Pad Rental	Included	$65	$65
Water Purification Equipment	✓	✓	✓
Group First Aid Kit	✓	✓	✓
Emergency GPS Communicator	✓	✓	✓
Water Safety Course	✓	✓	
Single or Tandem Kayak, Paddle, & Safety Gear	✓	✓	
Wetsuit & PFD	✓	✓	
Complimentary Valet Parking for Vehicles if needed	✓	✓	✓
Custom food menu for those with specialized dietary needs	✓	✓	✓
Dinner in Copper Harbor on Day 1	✓		✓
Dinner in Copper Harbor on evening of return	✓		
Two Nights Lodging in Copper Harbor (Double Occupancy)	✓		
CMX Airport Pick-Up or Drop-Off if needed	✓		
Shared Google Drive for Guide & Guest Photos	✓	✓	✓

Tour Date Availability:

As we plan out our tour schedule, it is always challenging to correctly predict demand, whether it be the date of the tour, group sizes, or interest in different types of tours. It is for this reason that we book these tours over the phone so that we can create groups that are looking for the same adventure. Occasionally this may result in tour days shifting, a change in tour offering, or needing to secure additional camping permits and ferry tickets.

As you can see below, we organize our schedule in tour slots to show potential tour dates by tour type. Once a particular tour type books in a tour slot, we will most likely no longer offer the other types of tours within that same tour slot. We may also add tours during tour slots that we currently have set aside for private tours. Of course, there are other considerations as we work to schedule and consolidate tours but in general, the sooner you book the more likely you will get your desired dates and tour type.

Lastly, all tours require at least three participants to be confirmed. We combine many couples and singles to create these full tours. Upon booking we will let you know the status of your tour and if it is confirmed. We recommend that you don't make nonrefundable travel plans until we confirm your tour.

KAC ISRO Tour Date Comparison

KAC ISRO Tour Dates	Classic Kayak Tour	Adventure Kayak Tour	Backpacking Tour
Tour Slot 1	June 14-18	June 14-19	June 14-18
Tour Slot 2	June 28-July 2	June 28-July 3	June 28-July 2
Tour Slot 3	July 5-9	July 5-10	July 5-9
Tour Slot 4	July 12-16	July 12-17	July 12-16
Tour Slot 5	July 26-30	July 26-31	July 26-30
Tour Slot 6	Aug 9-13	Aug 9-14	Aug 9-13
Tour Slot 7	Aug 16-20	Aug 16-21	Aug 16-20
Tour Slot 8			
Tour Slot 9	Aug 29-Sep 2		Aug 29-Sep 2
Tour Slot 10		Sept 8-13	

The Fine Print & Nitty-Gritty!

We strive to bring all our guests an unforgettable, once-in-a-lifetime experience to see the least visited National Park in the lower 48! Although we aim to explore as much as we can on Isle Royale, please note that we are at the mercy of mother nature and as safety is our top concern, our itineraries are subject to change for numerous reasons such as weather, ferry delays, participant ability, campsite closures, etc.

Any ferry delays, although rare, could result in your time on ISRO being shortened or lengthened so please plan your travel accordingly. If your time on ISRO is shortened, we will make every attempt to provide as near an experience on the mainland as you would have received on ISRO.

To secure your spot on one of our tours, please call us at 906-289-4303 so that we can discuss in greater detail what to expect on your tour and answer any questions you may have. If you choose, you can then place a $500 deposit to hold your spot. Deposits are refundable, less $100, up to 90 days prior to your tour; thereafter the remaining balance due is charged to your card on file and the tour is non-refundable.

Please understand that our refund and cancellation policy is our best effort to balance costs we incur in planning, paying staff and vendors, securing tickets, etc., while at the same time not trying to be punitive in nature. We do understand that life happens and we have had cases where unexpected injuries occurred immediately prior to a participant's trip. In these instances, we have moved heaven and earth to try to help the guest recover their money by finding someone on our waitlist to take their spot. Folks have also had success posting online in their community to find a replacement.

An option to consider is whether to purchase third-party trip protection insurance. Some folks routinely do this while others don't mind taking the risk. We don't recommend a particular company per se, but an internet search will give you many options with customer reviews so that you can make the best choice for your situation. Ultimately, we treat our guests as we would want to be treated and most of the time have been able to work out a solution that works for both parties if you have a last-minute change of plans.

Additionally, tour dates, length, and type will change based on customer demand and bookings. Upon placing your deposit, we will let you know when your tour is confirmed. In the event of subsequent tour cancellation, you will receive a complete refund of all monies paid but we are not responsible for any additional costs incurred by you above and beyond what you have paid to us. Confirmed tour cancellation, although possible, is very unlikely as the last time this occurred was during the pandemic.

Lastly, if you made it this far, we appreciate you greatly! We know that this may be a little overwhelming but just give us a call and we can run through everything with you. Life is what happens to you when you put your phone away… join us in the wild this year!