Welcome to Grand Portage

Thank you for choosing Grand Portage Lodge & Casino as your entertainment destination. We hope you enjoy your visit. We take pleasure and pride in serving you as our guest as we continually strive to ensure that your stay will be a happy and memorable experience.

The information in the guest service guide will acquaint you with our services, facilities and area attractions. Please do not hesitate to contact the Front Desk by dialing '0' if you need further information.

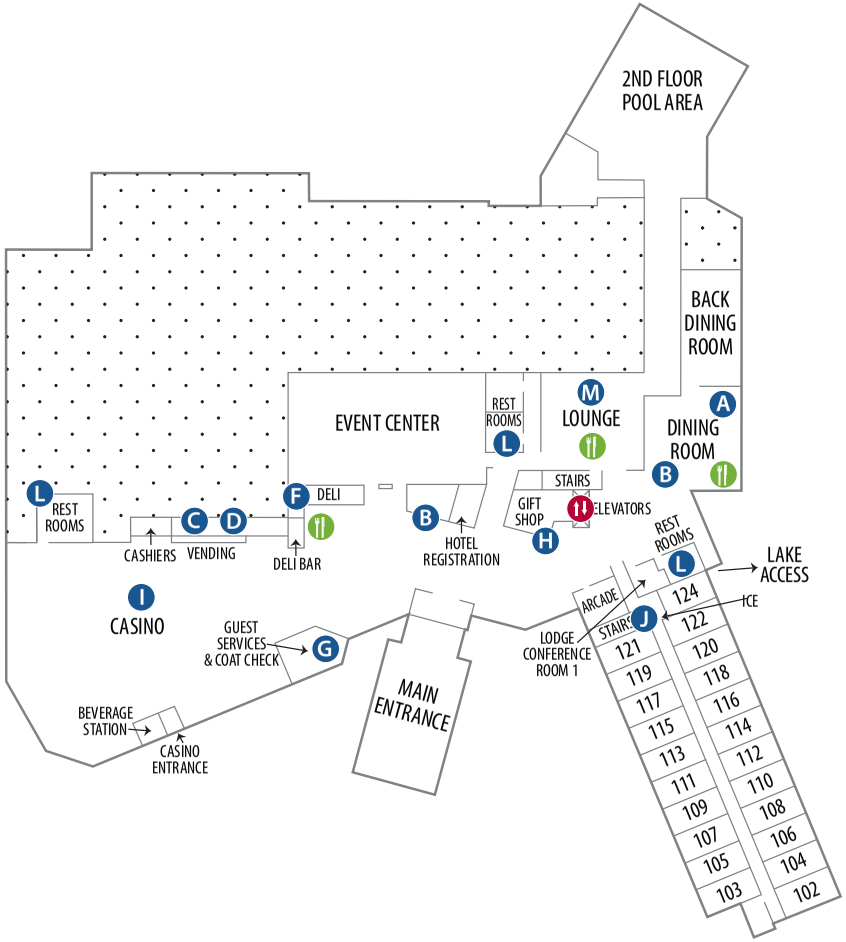
Everyone here at Grand Portage Lodge & Casino hopes you enjoy being our guest, and we look forward to welcoming you back.

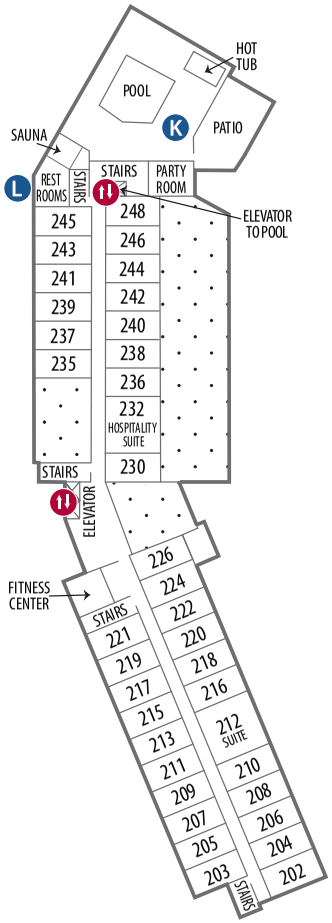
Sincerely,
The Staff and Management

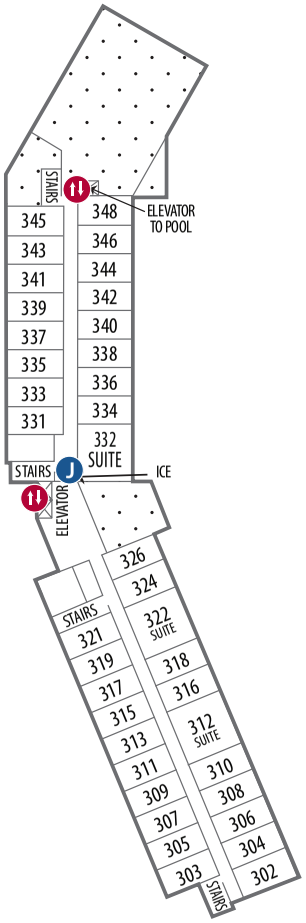
(218) 475-2401 • 1-800-543-1384
Fax: (218) 475-2309
www.grandportage.com

Owned and operated by the
Grand Portage Band of Lake Superior Chippewa.

Map of Grand Portage Lodge







Amenities by Lake Superior

Kids Play Area

Storytelling & Bonfire Area

Please Do Not Feed the Geese

Chairs for Relaxing

Picnic Tables

- **A Island View Dining Room**
  Breakfast 7am - 11am
  Lunch 11am - 3pm
  Dinner (Su-Th) 3pm - 8pm
  Dinner (F-Sa) 3pm - 9pm
- **B Order Food By Phone**
  Dial 2900 - 7am - 8pm
- **C Pop Machines**
- **D Vending Machines**
- **E Video Arcade**
- **F Deli Bar**
  Su-Th 11am - 1am
  F -Sa 11am - 2 am
- **G Guest Services**
- **H Lobby Gift Shop**
  8am - 8pm
- **I Casino**
- **J Ice Machine**
- **K Swimming Pool Sauna & Hot Tub**
  7am - 11pm
- **L Restrooms**
- **M Antler's Lounge**

- Food/Dining
- Elevators
- Telephone

GRAND PORTAGE LODGE & CASINO

Guest Services

GRAND PORTAGE LODGE & CASINO

PRESS 0 or DIAL 2401

Warm welcomes are guaranteed year round at the North Shore's only casino resort. As a guest at Grand Portage Lodge & Casino, you can unwind by the three-story fireplace, dine in the Island View Dining Room, enjoy a beverage in Antlers' Lounge or relax in the indoor heated pool, sauna and hot tub. Our excellent meeting and banquet facilities offer incomparable, comprehensive service.

The 15,000 square foot Casino is open 24 hours a day and features Black Jack tables and over 430 slot machines, including video slots like Keno, multi-line and multi-game machines. We offer Ticket In Ticket Out, a 100% coinless system for all of our slot machines. This is where non-stop gaming action takes place.

AIR CONDITIONING

One of the most refreshing attributes of our northern community is that while summer days can get hot, our summer nights nearly always cool off. However, for those few nights that might get a tad muggy, you will welcome your air-conditioned room.

ATM

For your instant cash there are two ATM machines available on the Casino floor and one ATM in the Trading Post.

CASINO

OPEN 24 HOURS

Casino Floor Manager . . . . . **Press 2951**
Players Club. . . . . **Press 2937**

There is a Deli located in the Lodge & Casino complex entrance for your convenience. You must be 18 years of age to enter the Casino.

CHECK-IN/CHECK-OUT

Check-in time begins at 4:00 p.m. Rooms assigned before this time will be on an availability basis. Check-out time is 11:00 a.m.

In each of our rooms, you will find a 'Service Please/Privacy Please' sign. In order to respect your privacy, rooms will NOT be serviced unless the 'Service Please' sign is showing. We ask that you remove the sign when you check out.

CREDIT INFORMATION

Charge privileges may be established at check-in by presenting one of your credit cards to the Front Desk. We accept American Express, Visa, Discover and MasterCard. Credit cards or advance payments are required to guarantee future stays.

CURFEW

In-house guests' children have a 9:00 p.m. curfew. No children 16 years or younger are to be left unattended at any time. Children in the Arcade and Pool area must have adult supervision.

For all guest rooms, there is a **QUIET TIME** from **11:00 p.m.–7:00 a.m.**

Guest Services

CURRENCY EXCHANGE PRESS 2928

Currency can be exchanged 24 hours per day in the Casino in limited amounts of $2,000 USD or less per day.

Trading Post money exchange:
Sunday–Thursday, 8:00 a.m.–8:00 p.m.
Friday & Saturday, 8:00 a.m.–9:00 p.m.
Limited to amounts of $999 or less per day.

U.S. Customs . . . . . 9+475-2244
Canadian Customs . . . . . 9+1-807-964-2093

FAX MACHINE & PHOTOCOPIES PRESS 0

These services are available 24 hours a day through the Front Desk for a minimal fee.

Grand Portage Lodge & Casino
Fax Number 218-475-2309

PLAYERS CLUB PRESS 2937

We're located on the Casino floor and here to help you with information about the Grand Portage Lodge & Casino facility, incentives and special promotions.

Sunday–Thursday, 7:00 a.m.–11:30 p.m.
Friday–Saturday, 7:00 a.m.–1:30 a.m.

GIFT SHOP 9+475-2367

For your convenience, the Gift Shop is located at the front entrance to the Lodge & Casino complex. Unique gifts, souvenirs, snacks and convenience items are available.

Hours of operation:
Sunday–Thursday, 8:00 a.m.–8:00 p.m.
Friday–Saturday, 8:00 a.m.–10:00 p.m.

Gift Shops are also located in the Grand Portage National Monument and the Grand Portage State Park.

Guest Services

HOUSEKEEPING
PRESS 2910
IF NO ANSWER, PRESS 0

ICE AND SOFT DRINK MACHINES

Ice machines are located on first, second and third floors. Soft drink machines are located on the first and third floors of the Lodge. Complementary coffee and soft drinks are available in the Casino.

INTERNET

Complementary Wireless Internet is available in all guest rooms, conference rooms and the dining room.

LOUNGE
PRESS 2941

Relax and enjoy your favorite beverage in the Antler's Lounge.

Hours of operation are:
Monday–Saturday, 11:30 a.m.–1:00 a.m.,
Sunday 11:30 a.m.–Midnight.

Order food from our bar menu seven days a week from 11:30 a.m.–8:00 p.m.

The Casino Bar is open Friday and Saturday, 6:00 p.m.–1:00 a.m.

Guests over 21 years of age, staying in the Lodge for overnight accommodations, are permitted to consume their own alcoholic beverages in their room. Guests attempting to supply and/or allowing youth under the age of 21 to consume alcohol for any reason will be held responsible for underage consumption.

It is a policy that guests of the Lodge cannot remove and carry their own alcoholic beverages into public areas of the complex. They must be maintained in their room.

LOST AND FOUND
PRESS 2952

MAIL SERVICE
PRESS 0

Guest mail can be dropped at the Front Desk. Stamps are available at the Front Desk and in the Gift Shop.

The Trading Post's U.S. Post Office hours:
Monday–Friday, 8:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.,
Saturday 8:30 a.m.–10:30 a.m.

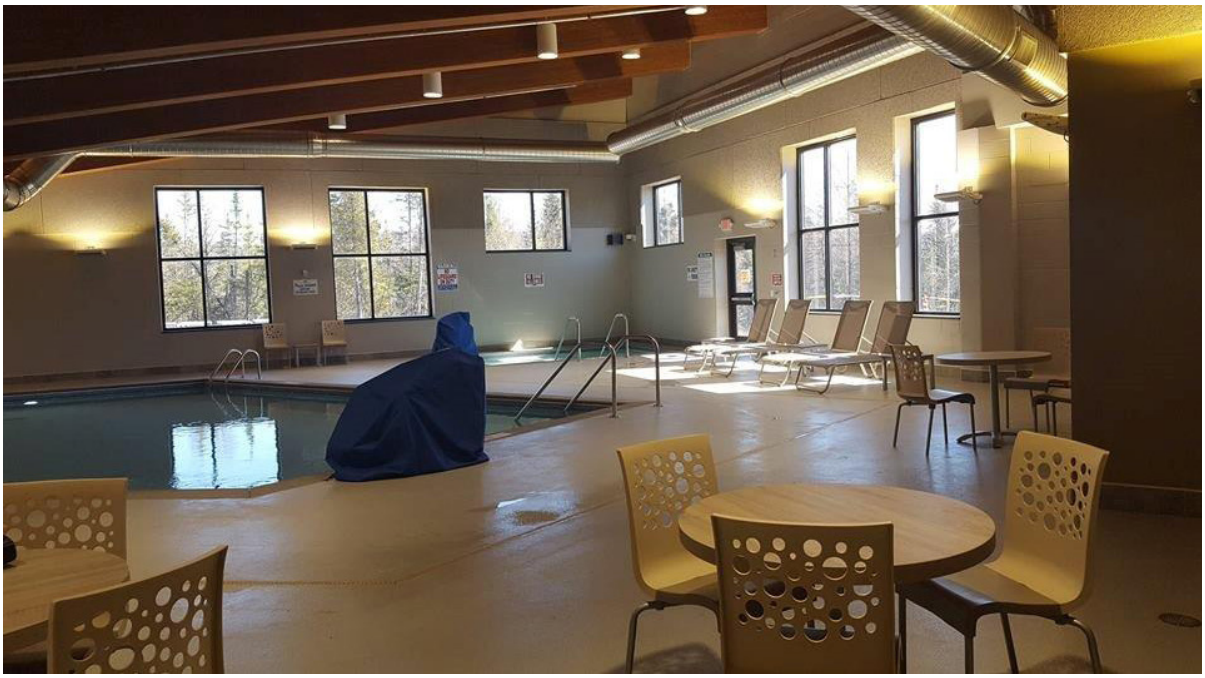
MASSAGE
9+475-2421 OR 1-866-475-2421

Sweetgrass Cove on Hwy 61 in Grand Portage offers services for mind, body and spirit.

NEWSPAPERS

Available for sale in the Gift Shop. A limited amount of complementary Thunder Bay newspapers are available at the Front Desk.

Guest Services



PERSONAL PROPERTY

Please do not leave money or valuables in your room. Under state law the hotel cannot be responsible for loss of articles.

PETS

No pets are allowed in the facilities other than service and guide dogs. Service and guide dogs may be brought onto the property with Grand Portage Lodge & Casino management authorization. If you are planning to travel to Canada with a pet you must have proper papers and immunization records.

POOL & SAUNA

The pool, sauna and hot tub are located on the Pool Level with elevator access on the second and third floors. The pool area is open daily from 7:00 a.m.–11:00 p.m.

ALL CHILDREN UNDER THE AGE OF 16 MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT. THERE ARE NO EXCEPTIONS TO THIS RULE. There is **no lifeguard on duty** at anytime. No glass is allowed in the pool area for safety reasons. Access the area with your guest room key card.

RESERVATIONS

PRESS 0

To confirm or make reservations for a future stay, call the Front Desk. Reservations may also be made by dialing 1-800-543-1384.

SUITES

Our four fully-serviced suites feature fireplaces and Jacuzzis to ensure extra comfort and enjoyment.

TELEPHONES

Local Calls (free) . . . . . Press 9 + #
Room to Room . . . . . Press 8 + Room Number
Calling Card Required to Make
Long Distance Calls . . . . . Press 9 + #

*Long distance phone calls within the United States and to Canada are 25 cents per minute.

TELEVISION CHANNELS

A listing of television channels is in your room.

TITO KIOSKS

Two Ticket In Ticket Out redemption kiosks are located on the Casino floor.

WAKE UP SERVICE

PRESS 0

Safety & Emergency

COAST GUARD SEARCH & RESCUE

Duluth . . . . . **9+1-218-720-5412**
Thunder Bay . . . . . **9+1-807-345-6311**
Grand Marais . . . . . **9+387-2574**

FIRE, MEDICAL OR SECURITY

The Grand Portage Lodge & Casino is fully equipped with fire prevention devices and sprinkler system. However, for your additional safety, please familiarize yourself with the fire alarm locations, exit routes and the fire safety guides. This information is posted on the back of each guest room door.

Emergency Security . . . . . **Press 2952**
Cook County Emergency Dispatch . **Press 9-911**

MEDICAL SERVICES

Casino Security . . . . . **Press 2952**
Cook County Emergency Dispatch . **Press 9-911**

North Shore Hospital. . . . . **9+387-3040**
(Co Rd 7 and 5th Ave. W., Grand Marais)
Grand Portage Clinic . . . . . **9+475-2235**
(Open Monday–Friday)
Sawtooth Mountain Clinic,
Grand Marais . . . . . **9+387-2330**

MINNESOTA POISON CONTROL

TTY/Voice . . . . . **9+1-800-222-1222**

ROAD CONDITION INFORMATION

Duluth . . . . . **9+1-218-723-4866**
Statewide (MN). . . . . **9+1-800-542-0220**

SHERIFF

. . . . . **9-911 or 9+387-3030**

SECURITY (24 HOURS) PRESS 2952

Chief of Security . . . . . **Press 2932**
(Monday–Friday, Normal Business Hours)

Experience Fun and Excitement

24-HOUR CASINO

OPEN 24 HOURS

Casino Floor Manager . . . . . Press 2951
Players Club. . . . . Press 2937

There is a Deli located in the Lodge & Casino complex entrance for your convenience.
You must be 18 years of age to enter the Casino.

Daily & Special Promotions

Over 430 Slot Machines including Video Slots, Poker Keno and Progressive Slots

Black Jack Tables

We offer Ticket In Ticket Out, a 100% coinless system for all of our slot machines

Island View Dining Room

Delicious Food and Friendly Service

Enjoy breakfast, lunch and dinner overlooking the largest freshwater lake in the world. Savor Northwoods specialties like fresh local fish, tender steaks, entrees and delicious desserts with family, friends or business associates. We are fully licensed with a wide selection of wines, spirits, and beer.

RESTAURANT

PRESS 2900

Surrounded by Minnesota's north woods and overlooking the largest freshwater lake in the world, discover the pleasures of dining in the Island View Dining Room's comfortable atmosphere.

The Island View Dining Room serves breakfast, lunch and dinner featuring fresh local fish, tender steaks, plus a variety of other entrees. All inclusive dinner specials are offered for holidays and special promotions. The restaurant is open seven days a week.

Breakfast	7:00 a.m.–11:00 a.m.
Lunch	11:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.
Dinner	Sunday–Thursday, 3:00 p.m.–8:00 p.m. Friday–Saturday, 3:00 p.m.–9:00 p.m.

Menu items are available from our kitchen from 7:00 a.m.–8:00 p.m., seven days a week, and until 9:00 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays. You can place "to go" orders by dialing 2900 on your room phone. Your order may be picked up at the Island View Dining Room Hostess Station.

PIZZAS & APPETIZERS

PRESS 2900

Pizzas and appetizers are available from our kitchen 11:00 a.m.–8:00 p.m., seven days a week. Your order may be picked up at the Island View Dining Room Hostess Station.

CASINO DELI

PRESS 2912

Extensive menu of hot sandwiches, soups, salads and sides. Made fresh while you wait. Hours: Sunday–Thursday, 11:00 a.m.–1:00 a.m. Friday–Saturday, 11:00 a.m.–2:00 a.m.

Area Information

AIRLINES

American Airlines . . . . . **9+1-800-433-7300**
Air Canada . . . . . **9+1-800-422-7533**
Bearskin Airlines . . . . . **9+1-800-465-2327**
Delta Airlines . . . . . **9+1-800-221-1212**
Northwest Airlines . . . . . **9+1-800-225-2525**
WestJet . . . . . **9+1-800-538-5696**

AIRPORTS

The nearest International Airport is in Thunder Bay, Canada, 45 miles north on Highway 61. There is also an International Airport in Duluth, Minnesota, 145 miles south of Grand Portage.

Cook County Airport . . . . . **9+387-3024**
Duluth International Airport
. . . . . **9+1-218-727-7968**
Thunder Bay International Airport
. . . . . **9+1-807-473-2600**

BANKS

Grand Marais State Bank . . . . . **9+387-2441**

LOBBY HOURS:
Monday–Friday 9:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.

DRIVE UP WINDOW:
Monday–Friday 8:00 a.m.–6:00 p.m.
Saturday 8:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.

Security State Bank . . . . . **9+387-1000**

LOBBY HOURS:
Monday–Friday 8:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.

DRIVE UP WINDOW:
Monday–Friday 8:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.
Saturday 9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.

North Shore Federal Credit Union

- **Grand Portage Branch** . . . . . **9+475-2403**
  Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday
  12:00 noon–5:00 p.m.
- **Grand Marais Branch** . . . . . **9+387-1312**

LOBBY HOURS:
Monday–Friday 8:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.

DRIVE UP WINDOW:
Monday–Friday 7:30 a.m.–5:30 p.m.

CHURCHES IN THE AREA

Holy Rosary Catholic . . . . . **9+387-1409**
Grand Portage, MN • Sunday at 12:00 p.m.

Mount Rose Community Church . **9+475-2311**
Grand Portage, MN (Baptist)
Sunday–Community Meal at 5:00 p.m., Service at 6:00 p.m.

Trinity Lutheran Church . . . . . **9+387-2227**
Hwy 61, Hovland, MN

CUSTOMS

The border is located six miles north of Grand Portage, Minnesota and is open 24 hours.

An Eastern Standard time zone boundary exists at this border crossing.

DRUG STORE

Located in Grand Marais.

North Shore Pharmacy . . . . . **9+387-1133**
Grand Marais Pharmacy . . . . . **9+387-2110**

GRAND PORTAGE TRADING POST

9+475-2282

Located directly off of Highway 61 near the Lodge & Casino, the Grand Portage Trading Post offers a smoke-free casino and carries health care products, snacks, tobacco products, beverages and other convenience items. Visitors can grab a bite to eat, pick up groceries and beer, use the post office and UPS parcel pick-up, and exchange currency at a competitive rate. The Trading Post has great rates on gas and diesel fuel, plus propane tank refills.

Area Information

GRAND PORTAGE COMMUNITY CENTER FITNESS CENTER 9+475-2653

Guests may use the Grand Portage Community Center Fitness Center for a minimal fee. Facilities include a swimming pool, sauna, hot tub, library, gymnasium and fitness room.

Open:
Monday–Friday 8:00 a.m.–9:00 p.m.
Saturday 1:00 p.m.–9:00 p.m.
Sunday 10:00 a.m.– 6:00 p.m.

Summer Hours:
Monday–Saturday 7:00 a.m.–4:30 p.m.
and 6:00– 8:00 p.m.
Sunday 10:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.

LAUNDRY

There is a laundromat located in the village of Grand Portage. See area map or call the Front Desk for more information.

LIQUOR

Beer can be purchased at the Grand Portage Trading Post. Ryden's Border Store, ½ mile from the U.S./Canadian border, sells beer and assorted malt liquors. AMMEX is a duty free liquor store located at the border. Liquor stores can be found at Chicago Bay Marketplace and Bottle Shop on Hwy 61 in Hovland, and the Grand Marais Liquor Store in Grand Marais.

It is a policy that guests of the Lodge cannot remove and carry their own alcoholic beverages into public areas of the complex. They must be maintained in their room.

MILEAGE CHART

Duluth	**145 Miles**
Minneapolis	**300 Miles**
Grand Marais	**35 Miles**
Thunder Bay, Ontario	**45 Miles**

TRAVEL INFORMATION CENTER

Grand Portage State Park at High Falls	**9+475-2360**

WEATHER

Grand Marais	**9+387-1971**
Silver Bay	**9+1-218-226-3537**
Two Harbors	**9+1-218-834-6591**
Thunder Bay	**9+1-807-345-9111**

Grand Portage Marina & RV Park

The 36-slip Marina on Grand Portage Bay is located adjacent to Grand Portage Lodge & Casino and is owned and operated by the Grand Portage Band of Lake Superior Chippewa. The Marina is centrally located on Lake Superior between Thunder Bay, Ontario and Grand Marais, Minnesota within a shallow, protected bay.

Open mid-May through mid-October, the Marina provides supplies for fishing and boating. Michigan fishing licenses (required if fishing out of Isle Royale), slip rentals, ramp launching, landing facilities, gas and limited tackle sales are available.

The RV Park is located at the Marina with 29 sites with full hook-ups and ten tent sites, and a comfort station with restrooms and showers. Guests may use the Grand Portage Lodge & Casino indoor pool area and fitness center.

For more information, call: 218-475-2476

Grand Portage Trading Post

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK

SUMMER: 6:00 a.m.–11:00 p.m.

WINTER: 7:00 a.m.–10:00 p.m.

Located directly off of Highway 61.
Convenient to Grand Portage Lodge & Casino.

- **Smoke-Free Casino**
- **Convenience & Variety Store**
- **Convenience Food**
- **Groceries and Beer**
- **Gas and Diesel Fuel**
- **Car Wash**
- **Propane Tank Refill**
- **North Shore Federal Credit Union**

For more information, call 9+475-2282

GRAND PORTAGE

Parcel Pick-Up

Parcel Pick-Up & Money Exchange

For more information, call 9+475-2887

HOURS

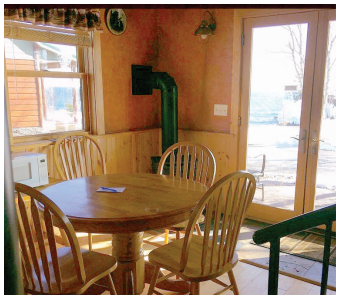
Monday–Thursday
8:00 a.m.–8:00 p.m.

Friday–Saturday
8:00 a.m.–9:00 p.m.

Hollow Rock Resort

HollowRock
resort

A Four Season Vacation Spot on the Shores of Beautiful Lake Superior



Unwind, enjoy peace and tranquility. Lake Superior awaits you.

Comfortable, private lakeside cottages with quality service and careful attention to detail. Our cozy, well-appointed cottages have fireplaces, fully equipped kitchen/dining facilities, grills and outdoor fire pits.

Explore the outdoors. Everything from fishing, boating, hiking, mountain biking, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, and more are within easy access. Plus, there are over 100 miles of well-groomed touring snowmobile trails nearby and fantastic downhill skiing in Lutsen, located a short drive away.

Whatever your pleasure, Hollow Rock Resort is the perfect spot.

Located three miles from Grand Portage Lodge & Casino, ten miles from the Canadian border and thirty-five miles northeast of Grand Marais at 7422 East Highway 61.

Phone: 1-800-543-1384 or 218-475-2401 • www.hollowrockresort.com

GRAND PORTAGE LODGE & CASINO

Area Attractions

GRAND PORTAGE NATIONAL MONUMENT

Grand Portage National Monument: 218-475-0123. Access free of charge.

Discover the fur trade era and the rich heritage of the Ojibwe people at the Grand Portage National Monument, a restored North West Company Depot.

In the 1800s, Kitchi Onigaming, "the Great Carrying Place" or Grand Portage, became the gateway for the eastern headquarters and western supply depots of the fur trade business. From there, the posts linked to interior North American exploration, trade and commerce, which eventually reached the Pacific Ocean.

At the Monument, the stockade wall, great hall and kitchen complex have been reconstructed over the original archaeological footprint from the 18th century. A canoe warehouse features vessels crafted from birch, cedar and spruce raw materials, which were essential for travel along the east-west fur trade routes. Volunteers and park staff in period attire explain and interpret what life was like at the turn of the 19th century.

The Grand Portage National Monument's Heritage

Center opened in 2007. The center features a semi-circular center façade topped by a square top structure mindful of the four cardinal directions important in Ojibway culture. It has exhibit space, a gift shop, visitor information, a classroom and archives and artifacts from the Grand Portage National Monument collection.

Designated a National Monument in 1958 and added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1966, the Monument's 710 acres lie entirely within the boundaries of Grand Portage Ojibwe Indian Reservation.

GRAND PORTAGE STATE PARK

Grand Portage State Park Visitor Center: 218-475-2360. Access free of charge.

Grand Portage State Park lies within the Grand Portage Indian Reservation. Open year round, Grand Portage State Park is for day use only. The park is home to mixed hardwood-conifer forests and the spectacular scenery sets the stage for recreational opportunities that include hiking, fishing and picnicking.

At High Falls, torrents of wild water plummet 120 feet down to the Pigeon River. Visitors of all abilities can walk a one-half mile trail and boardwalk to the High Falls overlook area. Hiking trails also extend along the banks of the Pigeon River, the tallest waterfall in Minnesota.

The visitor center, also open year-round, offers

naturalist and interpretive programs, exhibits and a gift shop.

Lake Superior is about one mile east of the park. The park is six miles north of Grand Portage on Highway 61. Turn left just before the Canadian Border.

Area Attractions

ISLE ROYALE NATIONAL PARK

Take a boat cruise to the wilderness of Isle Royale National Park, designated an International Bioshere Reserve in 1980. The park consists of one large island surrounded by 400 smaller islands. Isle Royale is open to anglers, boaters, hikers, backpackers and nature seekers with abundant recreational opportunities – hiking, camping, kayaking, canoeing and boating.

View parallel ridges, tilted and glaciated from ancient lava flows, historic lighthouses, shipwrecks, abandoned copper mining sites, and abundant wildlife. Take advantage of an Isle Royale fishing package.

GRAND PORTAGE ISLE ROYALE TRANSPORTATION LINE, INC

Boat service for the 18-mile voyage to Isle Royale runs from Grand Portage Hat Point Marina during the spring, summer and early fall with daily service during the summer at regularly scheduled times.

This ferry service offers the shortest distance and fastest trip to and from Isle Royale National Park. They offer day trips and scenic tours throughout the summer.

For schedules, rates and reservations, call:
218-475-0024 or visit www.isleroyaleboats.com.

LITTLE SPIRIT CEDAR TREE

The Witch Tree or Little Spirit Cedar Tree is a 500-year-old white cedar tree that stands on the edge of a cliff on Lake Superior in the boundaries of Grand Portage Indian Reservation. Sacred to the Chippewa people, offerings to the spirits to ensure safe travels have been left at the Witch Tree for centuries.

The Grand Portage Band have made it their responsibility to protect the hallowed white cedar. Access is by permission only.

Area Attractions

SCENIC HIKING TRAILS

GRAND PORTAGE HIKING TRAILS:
At Grand Portage State Park, the trail to High Falls continues on to Middle Falls. The High Falls trail is a half-mile paved, handicap accessible path that leads to three observation decks overlooking High Falls, the highest waterfall in Minnesota at 120 feet. High Falls is located on the Pigeon River, which forms the boundary between the United States and Canada. The trail continuing to Middle Falls is a rugged backcountry trail with challenging terrain, 4.5 miles round trip from the parking lot.

The Mt. Josephine trail begins in the village of Grand Portage. This rugged trail climbs 700 feet to the summit of Mt. Josephine with spectacular views of Grand Portage Bay to the southwest and Wauswaugoning Bay, the Susie Islands, and Isle Royale National Park to the east. It is 1.5 miles from the trailhead to the summit, 3 miles round trip.

GRAND PORTAGE NATIONAL MONUMENT HAS TWO TRAILS:
The **Mt. Rose trail** is a short but steep paved trail that ascends half a mile to the summit of Mt. Rose, overlooking the stockade at the National Monument and Grand Portage Bay. Interpretive signs provide local history.

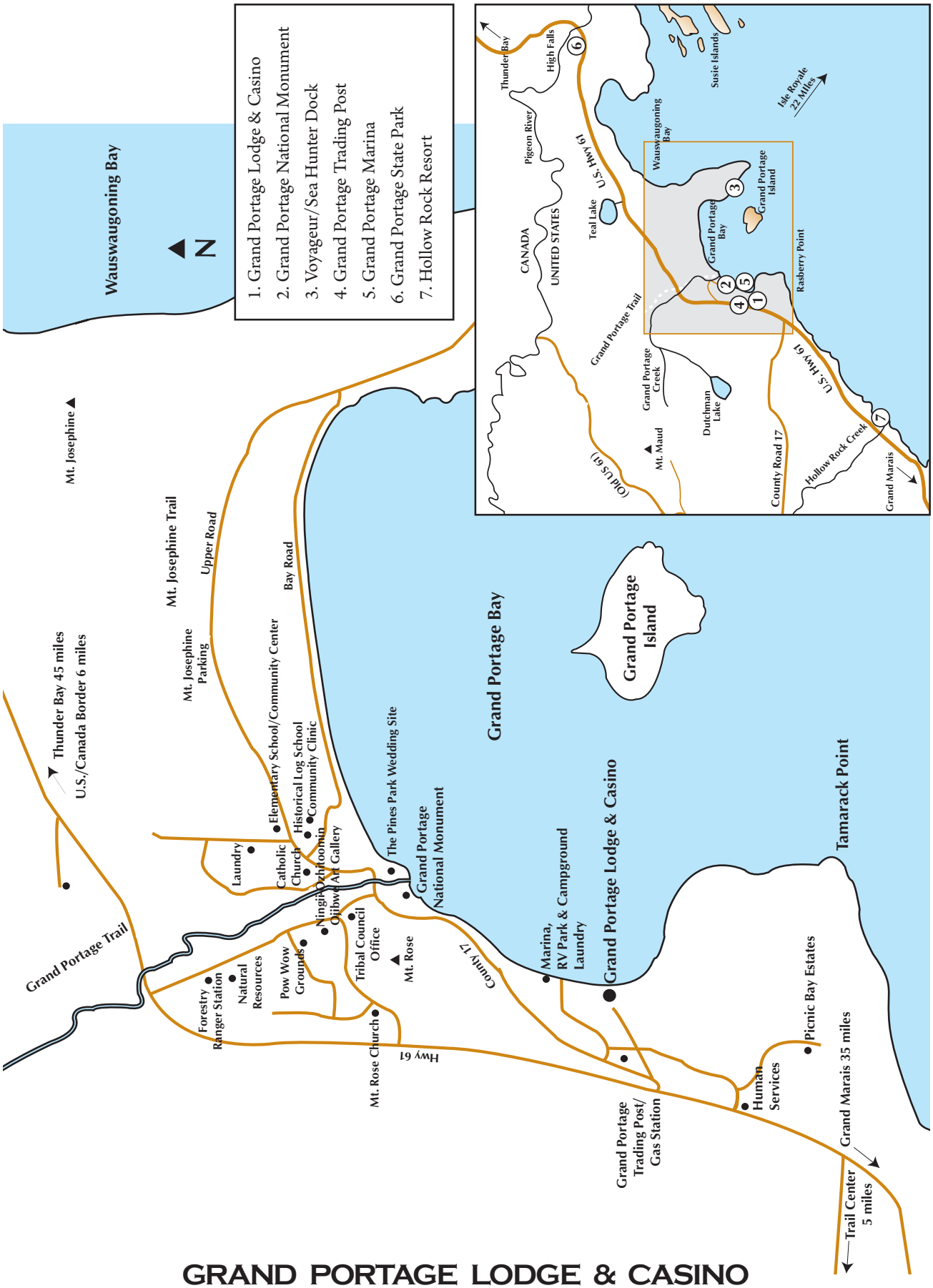
The **Grand Portage trail** begins at the National Monument and travels 8.5 miles to the Pigeon River. Native people used this trail and later the voyageurs to portage the miles of impassable rapids and waterfalls that culminate in the 120-foot drop of High Falls at Grand Portage State Park.

SNOWMOBILE TRAILS

Ride through our winter wonderland. Experience over 100 miles of well-groomed touring snowmobile trails in one of Minnesota's most picturesque areas. Our trails connect to the Minnesota State and Cook County snowmobile trails.

Later, warm up in our lodge, relax in the indoor heated pool and sauna, dine in our restaurant and enjoy non-stop gaming action. Discover the perfect winter destination. Visit the Front Desk to acquire a Snowmobile Trail Map.

Map of Area Attractions



GRAND PORTAGE LODGE & CASINO

History of Grand Portage Chippewa

The Grand Portage Chippewa are descendants of the northern division of the tribe who migrated several centuries ago from the area of the Atlantic Ocean.

Grand Portage is the site of one of the earliest Chippewa settlements in Minnesota and it became a great meeting place for many ethnic groups due to its fur trade.

Grand Portage's bay and level shoreline made for an ideal location for the establishment of a trading center. By 1731 French traders had built a cabin, blacksmith shop and warehouse there. After 1760 the British took over, and by 1783 the British Northwest Company had built a large complex of buildings at Grand Portage.

Around this time about 150 Chippewa families lived in Grand Portage and along the north shore of Lake Superior. They were skilled trappers and provided traders with fine finished pelts. They also taught the traders how to make and repair canoes. In addition, Chippewa families supplied traders with essential food supplies such as deer, moose, wild rice and maple sugar. Village leadership during this era was provided by hereditary chiefs who became skilled in dealing with a growing number of outsiders. Aysh-pay-ahng, born at Grand Portage in 1783, became principal chief in 1838. Other hereditary chiefs included Shaganahshing, Addikonce, Joseph Louis, and May-maush-ko-waush. May-maush-ko-waush was the last principal chief of Grand Portage.

In the aftermath of the War of 1812, when the Americans took over the territories formerly held by the British, a complicated series of events greatly affected the lives of the Grand Portage Chippewa. The Americans were less interested in trade and most interested in taking Indian lands. The first land cession made by the Grand Portage Band took place in the 1840's when Mingong, the large island just 18 miles from the village was turned over to the state of Michigan. The Treaty of 1854 also greatly affected the Grand Portage Band. In this treaty, the lands at the western tip of Lake Superior and the lands north to the Canadian border were ceded to the federal government. The treaty set aside two small reservations for the Chippewa, one of which was Grand Portage.

Permanent houses were built at Grand Portage village around 1856. Day schools were established for children and were well attended. Some families added farming to the more traditional rounds of hunting, fishing and plant gathering. As the century closed, village men found additional work in nearby Canadian mines, at the Grand Marais boat dock, and in lumber camps.

The Dawes Act of 1887 and the Nelson Act of 1889 brought disastrous consequences to the Grand Portage Band. They allowed speculators to grab up large portions of reservation land. This situation was not rectified until the passage of the Indian Reorganization Act of 1934. At that time, the Grand Portage Band voted to join the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe. By 1939, a new tribal government was in place at Grand Portage.

Under the leadership of tribal chairman, Alton Bramer, the tribe bought back some of the land that had been taken by the land speculators. During the years of the Great Depression, Grand Portage men worked in the Indian Division of the Civilian Conservation Corps. They worked on archaeology excavation projects around the old Northwest Company stockade at the lake and in logging camps at Nett Lake. The log schoolhouse and log community center became permanent structures of the village during the 1930's.

In the 1960's, Grand Portage continued to be a rather isolated community. As the decade progressed, the installation of a new telephone system and the construction of Highway 61 through the reservation made direct communication with other communities more possible. The Reservation Business Committee negotiated with the Radisson Hotel Corporation in the 1970's to build a Radisson at Grand Portage. This hotel is now a tribal enterprise called Grand Portage Lodge & Casino.