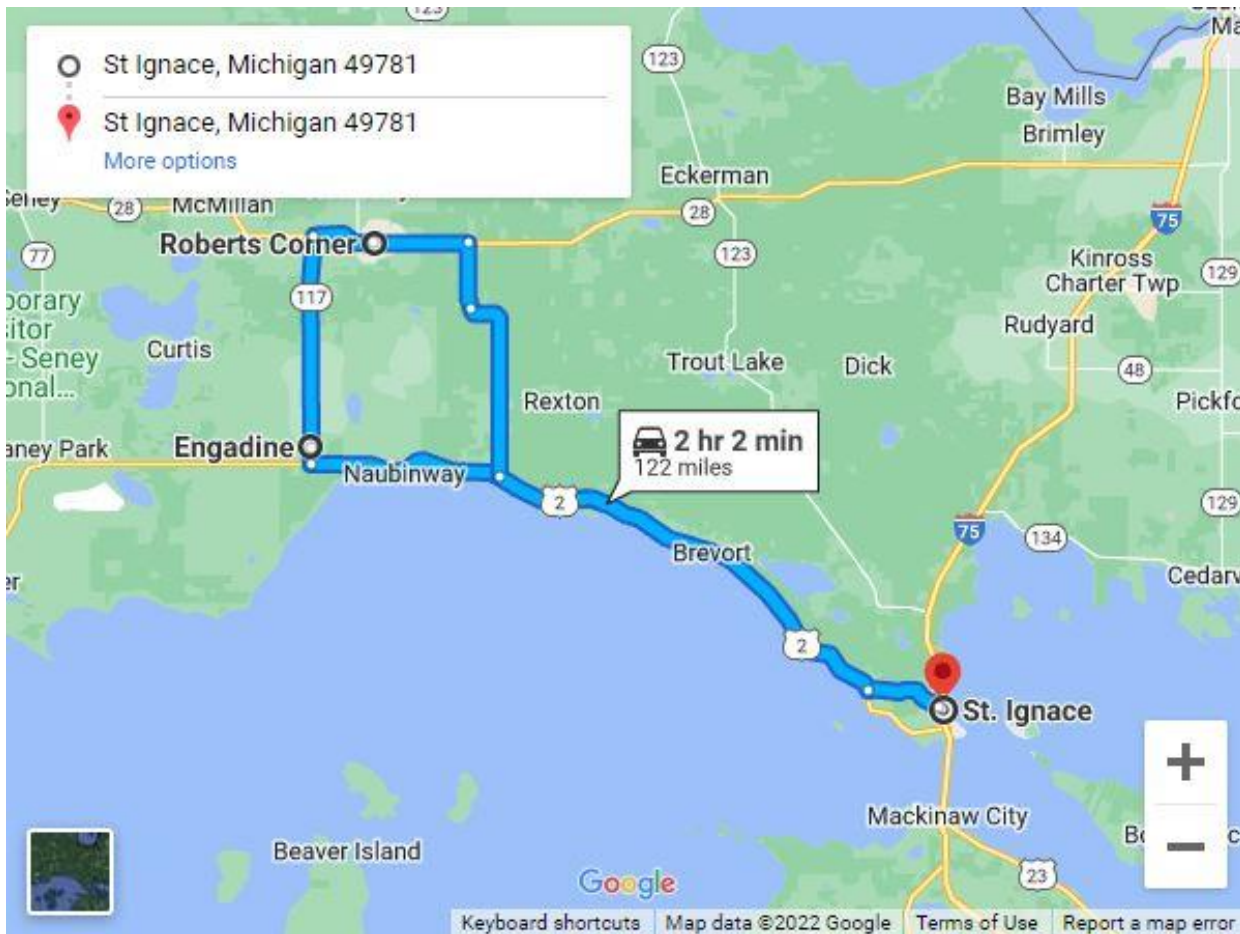


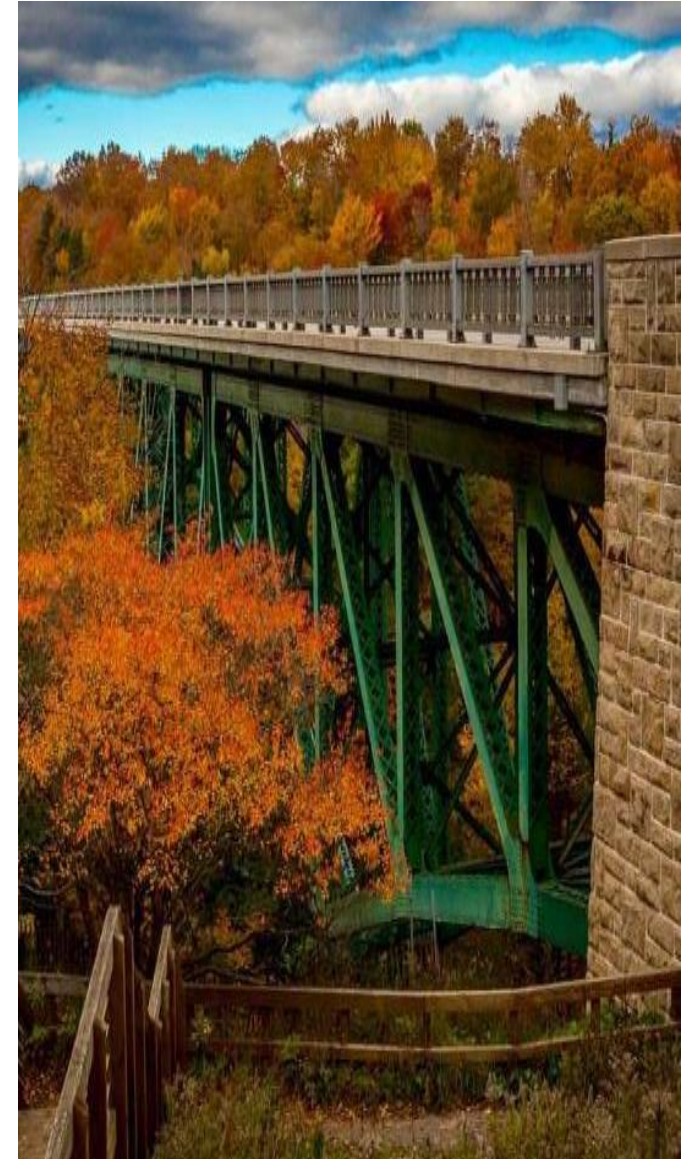
Violet Fall Color Tour



Information Provided by the
St. Ignace Chamber of Commerce

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Explore the Enchanting Violet Color Tour


Discover the breathtaking beauty of Michigan's fall foliage with our Violet Color Tour. This 122-mile journey takes you on a captivating route filled with stunning landscapes, vibrant colors, and exciting stops along the way.


Route Highlights


The Violet Color Tour begins in the charming town of St. Ignace and takes you on an unforgettable adventure:


 Start: St. Ignace

 US2 along Lake Michigan: Enjoy picturesque views of Lake Michigan and sandy dune beaches.

 117 North near Engadine: Head north and experience the deep mulberry and wine-dark fall foliage.

 M28 East near Newberry: Loop back eastwards through beautiful autumn scenery.

 M123 South: Complete the loop as you head south, passing through the Hiawatha National Forest.

 Sunset Views: If timed right, catch the different sets of the sun along US2, creating a magical end to your day.

This leisurely 2-hour drive allows plenty of time to capture the beauty with your camera, making it a photographer's dream.

What You Will See

As you start your journey on US2, you'll be treated to breathtaking vistas of Lake Michigan and its sandy dune beaches. On the other side, the landscape transforms into a canvas of deep mulberry and wine-dark fall foliage. Be sure to cross the magnificent Cut River Bridge, an engineering marvel that spans the Cut River Valley 147 feet below. The route takes you through forests, over rivers, and along the Hiawatha National Forest.

The Science Behind the Colors

Ever wondered where the violet and red hues of autumn leaves come from? It's all thanks to anthocyanin, the same chemical that gives color to cranberries, strawberries, and plums. The bright summer light prompts leaves to produce more anthocyanin, resulting in the vibrant autumn colors you'll witness. Common trees like dogwood, sugar maple, red oak, white oak, red osier, and red ash in northern Michigan are known for their rich burgundy hues.


Stops Along the Way/Places to See


Enhance your journey by visiting these fascinating attractions along the Violet Color Tour:

 Deer Ranch - St. Ignace

 Mystery Spot - St. Ignace

 Hiawatha National Forest


 Cut River Bridge State Roadside Park - Naubinway


 Cut River Inn Restaurant - Epoufette/Naubinway

 GarLyn Zoo Wildlife Park - Naubinway

 Top of the Lake Snowmobile Museum - Naubinway

 Oswald's Bear Ranch - Newberry

 The Gourd Barn - Moran

 King's Fish Market and Restaurant – Moran

Accommodations

Extend your adventure and consider spending the night at one of these recommended accommodations:

 **Willow Cover Cottages, Moran:** Enjoy beautiful views of Brevort Lake.

Accommodations along US2:

- Normandy Motel
- Straits State Park
- Cedar Hill Lodge
- Voyager Inn Saint Ignace
- Quality Inn (N561 Boulevard Drive, Saint Ignace, MI)
- Super 8 by Wyndham St. Ignace
- Sunset Motel

Uncover the magic of the Violet Color Tour and immerse yourself in Michigan's autumn splendor. Start your journey today!



Need assistance planning your route or have questions? The Chamber is here to help!