

Bonadeo Beaver Island Boat Charters - 2011

Outer Island Cruises

Always Exploring

Explore the Beaver Archipelago! Join Captain Jon Bonadeo on a cruise aboard his boat 'Liberty', a stable, 36', steel-hulled, 'Inland Seas' motor vessel docked in the heart of the harbor on Beaver Island.

Discover the unique history and natural beauty of northern Lake Michigan's islands! Visit the Beaver Archipelago's picturesque bays, coves, outer islands and lighthouses with a knowledgeable guide for a truly unique and memorable experience.

Experience the fun of Great Lakes boating! Cruise the islands with a licensed captain who has more than 25 years of boating experience among the Beavers.

Garden Island

During the hour-long passage to Garden Island, you will view eight other islands while Captain Bonadeo talks about island history and current events. Once inside the safe and protected Indian Harbor, we anchor near shore in about three feet of water and take an 18-foot skiff to shore. Stepping ashore, our guests often see waterfowl, bald eagles, and other wildlife. Captain Bonadeo talks about island history and what life was like on Garden Island long ago while leading you on a short, 20-minute walk through wildflower meadows and woodlands to view the spirit houses of the Native American Burial Grounds. There is usually time for you to swim and eat lunch along the way.

4 hours \$300 for 1 or 2 people / \$25 ea. add'l person

High Island

'Liberty' will transport you to a beautiful, secluded, natural harbor along the northeast shore of High Island for walking, swimming, beachcombing, snorkeling, and bird watching. On the right day, the clear, blue-green water can seem like the Caribbean.

4-5 hours \$350 for 1 or 2 people / \$25 ea. add'l person

Sunset Cruise

Gather family and friends for a relaxing cruise amidst the archipelago. This evening cruise departs our dock about an hour before sunset. You will cruise around Paradise Bay and then head out to the channel between Beaver and Garden Islands to watch the sun set over the stern of the boat. Bring along food, beverages, a camera and even a musical instrument for your extra-special evening.

1.5 hours \$150 for 1 or 2 people / \$20 ea. add'l person

Light House Tours:

Squaw Island Lighthouse

Built in the 1850's, the Victorian, red brick Squaw Island Lighthouse is one of the most picturesque in the Great Lakes. Squaw Island lays one-half hour past Garden Island by boat. We anchor near shore and take an 18' skiff ashore. Captain Bonadeo leads you on a guided tour of the grounds, lighthouse and attached keepers' quarters. You can sign the lighthouse log and climb the tower for stunning, panoramic views of the entire Beaver Archipelago, Lansing Shoals Light, the Upper Peninsula, Great Lakes freighters traveling the Straits of Mackinaw, and on a clear day, the Big Mac Bridge.

4-5 hours \$350 for 1 or 2 people / \$25 ea. add'l person

Two Lighthouses

After visiting Squaw Island Lighthouse as described above, you will continue out to the open waters around Lansing Shoals Light, the main light marking the channel to the Straits of Mackinaw.

5 hours \$425 for 1 or 2 people / \$25 ea. add'l person

Four Lighthouses: White Shoals, Skillagalee, Gray's Reef, and Waugoshance Point

Imagine what life was like over one hundred years ago as you experience a full day of boating and close-up, photographic views of some of Lake Michigan's most remote lighthouses.

Full Day \$200 per person / 6 person minimum

Little Sand Bay & Paradise Bay Cruise

Enjoy a cruise around Paradise Bay as Captain Bonadeo describes the harbor's working boats and activities before continuing to nearby Little Sand Bay, a Little Traverse Conservancy Natural Area. Arrival by water to this exceptional place gives you a unique opportunity for nature walking, photography and one of the best swimming beaches on the Island.

3-4 hours \$300 for 1 or 2 people / \$25 ea. add'l person

Combine Two Islands/Customize a Cruise

Please contact Captain Bonadeo to customize your day. 6-8 hours

West Side of High Island

Featuring a breathtaking dune and shoreline, the West Side of High Island is ideal for long beach walks, swimming, a picnic, and bird watching.

6 hours \$425 for 1 or 2 people / \$25 ea. add'l person

"Top of the World" - A guided climb up the Island's spectacular dune is available for an add'l \$50

Shipwreck -- *New in 2011!*

Navigate between small islands and shoals to view a century old wooden shipwreck in relatively shallow water. Snorkeling and fishing may be possible. If time and conditions allow, we may step ashore at a secretive cove for lunch.

4 hours \$350 for 1 or 2 people / \$25 ea add'l person

Drop-off and Pick-up for Campers

Northcutt Bay on Garden Island provides the most economical and convenient drop-off and pick-up point for campers. As a base camp, Northcutt also features excellent trail access, great swimming, and protected tent sites with level ground on State land.

\$300 for 1 or 2 people incl. backpacks / \$25 ea. add'l person incl. your backpack

Other sites and possible shared-rate option may be available. Please call for specific information and pricing.

There is plenty of room and we offer reasonable rates for additional freight.

Location & Other Info

Our dock is located two village lots northeast of the ferry dock and along the shoreline adjacent to the shop "Whimsy". For parking, please turn at the driveway for "Whimsy" and park down near the shoreline.

The Captain determines if weather conditions are favorable for the trip. If inclement weather is coming, the Captain will generally notify you within 24 hours to discuss an alternate itinerary or to reschedule for another date whenever possible. Deposits will be refunded or forwarded to a future date if the Captain cancels a trip within 12 hours of departure due to weather. Guest safety is the Captain's foremost concern.

For your comfort, we suggest you bring several layers of clothing, water shoes, food and beverages. Pants, socks, comfortable shoes and bug repellent are recommended for inland hiking.

If you would like to fish as a part of a cruise, a license and bait are needed. Please consider that we support local, sustainable fishing practices; therefore, the boat's current policy is catch-and-release. We have simple fishing rods available for you. Please bring your own rod and gear if you prefer.

Please contact us and book early for best availability.

Captain Jon Bonadeo

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