

BUCKET LIST-WORTHY

# Adventures

FOR A FALL VACATION  
IN COOK COUNTY



Once you arrive in Cook County, take a look around. It doesn't matter where. Anywhere will do because you'll be able to *find inspiration in everything*. Maybe that's why so many artists find themselves up here during fall. So, whether you are a painter or a sculptor, a woodworker or a sketch artist, a poet, novelist, blogger, photographer or anywhere in-between, you'll be inspired this fall in Cook County.

## 5 Amazing Fall Adventures

Plan a trip to Cook County this fall. Here are 5 amazing adventures you've just got to experience on your fall vacation.

### 1 BOUNDARY WATERS

When the temperatures drop, and paddlers are less abundant, the BWCAW is heaven on earth. Mild and comfortable weather make September and early October a wonderful time to escape civilization and get in touch with nature. Fewer visitors also mean that your trip will be tranquil and quiet. You'll feel like you have the wilderness to yourself and you'll have your pick of all the best campsites. When you're planning a BWCAW trip, be sure to check in with a local outfitter for insider tips on the best views, fun side trips and secret fishing spots you won't want to miss. Thinking of taking the whole family? Check out our [Boundary Waters Basics](#) blog post for some tips and ideas for a fun family adventure.

### 2 FALL COLOR

Whether you're behind the wheel or on the trails, you can't miss our fall color. It's everywhere you look, and it never grows old. If you're coming to Cook County specifically to see fall color, you'll want to experience our [fabulous fall drives](#). No matter the community you choose to visit, you'll find that cruising our backroads is a fun and awe-inspiring way to spend an afternoon or two. We recommend these fall drives and encourage you to check out our website for more great route ideas.

- Duluth to Grand Portage along scenic Highway 61
- Grand Marais to Saganaga Lake via the Gunflint Trail
- Richey Lake Loop in Tofte/Schroeder/Finland

If you want to get out from behind the wheel and just take in the sights, take a ride on the [gondola](#) at Lutsen Mountains, or glide above the treetops on the [Towering Pines Canopy Tour](#) on the Gunflint Trail.

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*Celebrate one of the most beloved creatures of the Northland, the Minnesota moose, during the Moose Madness Family Festival in October.*

### ③ ARTS AND MUSIC

Up here, arts and music are at our core, and we've got festivals and events throughout fall to prove it. Our unique blend of outdoor adventures and arts opportunities make Cook County a one-of-a-kind destination. This fall, be sure to check out these festivals, showcases and events during your vacation:

- [Annual Radio Waves Music Festival](#)
- [Plein Air Grand Marais](#)
- [Unplugged/Folk Artisan Marketplace](#)
- [Fall Art Along the Lake: Fall Studio Tour](#)

### ④ MOOSE VIEWING

Fall is an excellent time to view wild creatures on the move. As the leaves begin falling off trees, the wild creatures of the boreal forest become [easier to spot](#). Celebrate one of the most beloved creatures of the Northland, the Minnesota moose, during the [Moose Madness Family Festival](#) in October.

### ⑤ LAKE SUPERIOR STORM FESTIVAL

November gales transform Lake Superior into an awe-inspiring force to be reckoned with, and it's truly something everyone should see at least once in their lifetime. Every November, Cook County locals and visitors alike gather for the [Lake Superior Storm Festival](#). It's a chance to celebrate our great lake while recognizing its power. The lake churns, sending icy waves crashing into the shoreline – but don't let that stop you from feeling its wrath. Join hundreds of thrill seekers in the annual Wave Dash, Cook County's unique take on a "Polar Plunge," where participants run into Lake Superior. Warm up afterward with hot food and beverages as you take in artist showcases, and more.

