

Kayak the Manistee & Betsie Rivers

June 15-17, 2018



On this year's paddling adventure, we will complete stretches of the Manistee and Betsie Rivers. These rivers require little experience since they are mostly free of obstacles and have a moderate current speed. We usually spot eagles on these weekend outings. Our lodging will be at the Microtel Inn and Suites in Manistee.

Friday, June 15.....Please arrive at 7 a.m. for loading up kayaks and gear. Bring a sack lunch for this first day. After approximately three hours of driving we will launch onto the Manistee River below the Hodenpyle Dam near Mesick. Lunch will be eaten on the river. The river here is eighty to one hundred feet wide and over time has carved high clay bluffs. In places water seeps down the bluffs in dramatic fashion. There is no development along the edge of the river. Take out is at Red Bridge. Expect to be on the water for three to four hours. After the paddle we will journey over to Manistee and check into the Microtel Inn.

Saturday, June 16..... Today's activity will be paddling the Betsie River from the US 31 bridge to a takeout near Frankfort. This narrow river meanders through woodlands and marsh. This trip will take up to five hours (including breaks and lunch). Our overnight stay will once again be at the Microtel Inn.

Sunday, June 17.....On our last day we will complete another three to four hour stretch of the Manistee River from High Bridge to the Bear Creek takeout. This section is close to Manistee. We will paddle through extensive marshy areas that offer many backwaters to explore. There are few buildings on this section of river. We will try to arrive back at the nature center by 6 p.m.

Lodging: The Microtel Inn and Suites is the number one rated hotel in Manistee and offers a continental breakfast.

Food: We will provide lunch food for Saturday and Sunday. You are responsible for lunch on Friday, and dinners on Friday and Saturday. There are many good eating places in town. We will drive you to the restaurants.

Equipment: You are welcome to bring your own kayak, paddle and paddle vest. Otherwise we will provide these. You must let us know if you need to use our equipment. Use of our equipment is included in the cost.

Group Size: We plan on having 16 people on this trip.

Membership: A nature center membership is required to participate in our trips.

Trip Cost: \$350.00/person based on double occupancy. This cost includes two lunches, transportation, use of equipment, services of two naturalists, and two nights lodging in a hotel.

Trip Deposit: You must pay a non- refundable \$50.00 deposit to sign up for the trip.

Final payment: Your final payment is due by June 1, 2018.

Cancellation Policy: Every attempt will be made to refund any recoverable costs if you must cancel.

Responsibility: Sarett Nature Center reserves the right, at their sole discretion, to make changes in the itinerary should that become necessary, and is not responsible to any person for expenses, loss of time, money, or happenings resulting from a change of tour scheduling. Sarett Nature Center reserves the right to accept, decline, or retain any person as a member of the tour, and is not responsible for any losses or damages of personal property, injuries, expenses, or damages incurred or claimed by any tour member.