





## **Day 2 Duluth – Ely – Virginia (156 mi/250 km)**

Step into a classic railroad car (charter) for the **North Shore Scenic Railroad** train ride to Two Harbors (1.5 hrs). Board your coach for a drive along the stunning north shore of Lake Superior to **Split Rock Lighthouse**, a historic landmark and light tower, which guided ships on Lake Superior for over 70 years (1.0 hr). Travel through the **Finland State Forest** to Ely, a charming wilderness town, for lunch. Inhale really fresh air, relax with a latte or browse through quaint shops. Ely is a gateway to the **Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness**, named by *National Geographic* as one of the 50 “must visit destinations” in the world. About 40 minutes from Ely, on the Iron Range, is the **Soudan Underground Mine**. On the surface, an interpretive center houses displays of the mines. Adventurous visitors can don hardhats and ride a mine shaft elevator a half-mile underground for a guided tour (2.0 hrs).

*Overnight: Virginia, MN*

## **Day 3 Virginia – Chisholm – Grand Rapids (59 mi/95 km)**

On the drive to Chisholm, visit the **Greyhound Bus Origin Center** – birthplace of the Greyhound Bus Lines (1.0 hr). Explore the saga of the Iron Range at **Ironworld Discovery Center**. Immigrants from over 40 countries came to work on the Iron Range, which contained one of the world’s largest deposits of iron ore. Learn about the Iron Range through a series of dramatic exhibits (3.0 hrs). After an ethnic miner’s lunch, drive 30 minutes south to the **Hill Annex Mine** for a guided tour of a working open pit mine (1.5 hrs). Then it’s on to Grand Rapids, a charming town on the Mississippi River. Pretend you are a lumberjack in the 1900s at the **Forest History Center**, where costumed interpreters relive daily life in an authentic logging camp. Finish the day with a lumberjack-themed dinner, complete with fiddler!

*Overnight: Grand Rapids, MN*

*International Polkafest,  
Chisholm, last full  
weekend in June*

## **Day 4 Grand Rapids – Winnipeg (243 mi/389 km)**

After a morning drive along the great birding trail in northwestern Minnesota, explore the colorful history of Manitoba’s Metis and Francophone settlers in **St. Pierre-Jolys** at the **La Galerie Riviere-aux-Rats Art Gallery, Goulet House** and the **Museum** (2.0 hrs). Discover how a people’s spiritual experiences inspired their daily work as you tour the re-creation of an early Manitoba settlement at Steinbach’s Mennonite Heritage Village (2.0 hrs). In the capital city of Winnipeg, **The Manitoba Museum** depicts the story of immigration into Manitoba (2.0 hrs) while lively comedic theatre skits at **The Forks** (1.0 hr) portray how residents of this region moved from a hunter/gatherer to an agricultural society.

*Overnight: Winnipeg, MB*

*Festival du Voyageur,  
Winnipeg, mid-February*

*Oak Hammock Marsh  
Waterfowl Celebration,  
Winnipeg, May and  
October*

*Winnipeg Folk Festival,  
Winnipeg, early July*

*Folklorama – Canada’s  
Cultural Celebration,  
Winnipeg, first two weeks  
in August*



## **Day 5 Winnipeg – Selkirk – Gimli (48 mi/77 km)**

Experience the vibrant French culture at the **St. Boniface** theatrical walking tour (1.0 hr), the **St. Boniface Museum** (1.0 hr), and the **Riel House National Historic Site** (1.0 hr). Or visit the unique **Ukrainian Cultural and Educational Center**, the largest center of its kind outside of the Ukraine (1.0 hr). Enjoy saucy French cuisine or a hearty Ukrainian meal. Learn about Manitoba's maritime history of Lake Winnipeg, the 14th largest freshwater lake in the world, at Selkirk's **Marine Museum of Manitoba** (1.0 hr). Visit **Gimli**, known as "home of the Gods" and the capital of an independent colony of Icelanders who settled along the western shores of Lake Winnipeg in 1875. It is the largest Icelandic community outside of Iceland and home to **The New Iceland Heritage Museum** and the **Lake Winnipeg Visitor Centre** (2.0 hrs).

*Overnight: Gimli, MB*

*Islendingadagurinn  
(Icelandic Festival  
of Manitoba), Gimli,  
first August weekend*

## **Day 6 Gimli – Dauphin (170 mi/272 km)**

Travel through Lake Manitoba Narrows to the community of Dauphin, home of **Canada's National Ukrainian Festival**, showcasing the heritage of the Ukrainian settlers. Follow the trail to the rock formation of the **Thunderbird Nest**, ceremonial site of the Aboriginal's guardian spirit at Lake Manitoba Narrows (1.0 hr). Travel for about an hour to Dauphin, where you can visit the **Fort Dauphin Museum**, the **Historic Ukrainian Catholic Church of the Resurrection**, an outstanding example of early Kievan-style of Eastern Christian church architecture and the **Trembowla Cross of Freedom Historic Site and Museum**. This is the site of the first Ukrainian Catholic Divine Liturgy in Canada held in 1897. Clap to the music and join festive dancers while sampling the delicious foods of the Ukraine (3.0 hrs).

*Overnight: Dauphin, MB*

*Canada's National  
Ukrainian Festival,  
Dauphin, early August*

## **Day 7 Dauphin – Winnipeg (188 mi/301 km)**

**Riding Mountain National Park** is wild and wonderful – a fascinating blend of forests, lakes, cultures and people. **Wasagaming** or Clear Lake, the resort town site, offers a full range of recreational activities, sight-seeing, shopping and dining (2.0 hrs). Driving through this National Park provides plenty of opportunities for great photo stops. Return to Winnipeg on the Yellowhead/Trans-Canada Highway and stop at the **Minnedosa Heritage Village** and nearby bison compound and suspension bridge (1.5 hrs), Neepawa's **Beautiful Plains Museum** located in a former railway station (30 min), or the **Fort la Reine Museum and Pioneer Village** in Portage la Prairie. The fort was originally built in 1738 by explorer, La Verendrye, and was an important stopping place during the fur trade era (1.0 hr). European-style foods found throughout the area provide wonderful options for dinner on the final evening of your Cultural Casserole Tour.

*Overnight: Winnipeg, MB*

*World Lily Festival,  
Neepawa, mid-July*