

Split Rock Lighthouse is in Split Rock State Park, north of Two Harbors. USA TODAY

To do

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bors and climb to the top of the tower. Take in the rumble of the Sunday races at Granite City Speedway. - RAN-DY KREBS, ENGAGEMENT EDITOR

Spend a night fishing from a riverbank. Make sure part of

Krebs

that time is after dark. Ride the zip line through tall trees near Brainerd and have the

courage to try the 50-foot free-fall drop at the end. Surly. Patio. 'Nuff said. Hike around Lake Ma-

ria State Park (try the Bjorkland Trail) for a chance to see nesting osprey and eagles, common loons and great blue herons.

Celebrate your inner Viking with a drive to Alexandria to sit at the feet of Big Ole and stroll through the Runestone Museum, home of the Kensington Runestone that is believed to be more than 650 years old.

Drive the backroads of the Avon Hills, preferably in the late afternoon to get that gilded light.

I'm an avid hiker, and I've always wanted to do a longer hiking trail, solo. I want to spend a week alone on the Su-



Macalus

perior Hiking Trail on the North Shore. Kind of scary, but really fun. -**AUSTEN MACALUS, RE-PORTER INTERN**

See a big ship pass under the Aerial Lift Bridge in Duluth and visit the Lake Superior Marine

Museum & Maritime Visitor Center. Eat at Pizzeria Lola in Minneapolis or Hello Pizza in Edina in honor of chef Ann Kim who won the 2019 James Beard Award for best midwestern chef. Her

pizza is really, really good. In the "Land of 10,000 Vines" try some Minnesota-made wine, including local spot Millner Heritage Winery &

Cidery near Kimball. Fisher's Club in Avon. Order the sunfish chips. Trust us.

Take a selfie and enjoy the view of the Mississippi River at the Stone Arch Bridge in Minneapolis.

Bike the Lake Wobegon Trail (a 65mile-long paved pathway built on a retired rail corridor) and be sure to stop and have lunch at Charlie's Cafe in Freeport.

Schwarz

Dip a paddle in the Boundary Waters, it's been a long time. – **DAVE** SCHWARZ, PHOTO-**JOURNALIST**

Tour a working hops farm at Mighty Axe Hops in Benton County.

Enjoy a Castle Cream Ale on the Castle Danger Brewery patio in Two Harbors overlooking Lake Superior.

Visit the Pine Grove Zoo in Little Falls and get a chance to see the naughty ot-

ters and snuggly porcupines.

Hop the southern border by eight miles to "cheat on" Minnesota with some Okoboji boating time topped off with a ride on the wooden roller coaster at Arnolds Park.

Explore Mississippi River County Park near Rice. The 230-acre park sits along 1.3 miles of the Mississippi River where you can fish from shore.

Tour some of the historic churches northwest of St. Cloud along Interstate Highway 94 in cities like Sauk Centre,

Collegeville and Free-

LISA

Hear a loon family singing vespers across the lake. SCHWARZ, NEWS DI-RECTOR

Schwarz

Canoe along the St. Croix River at Taylors

Falls.

Enjoy a Dilly Bar where it was invented and take a look at the World's Largest Dilly Bar in Moorhead.

Make a stop at the Frank Lloyd Wright gas station in Cloquet.

Do a day trip to Stillwater. Not only does the city sit on the St. Croix River, but it also has hiking and a wide variety of local shops, restaurants and bars.

Get up close and personal with the some big birds at the National Eagle Center in Wabasha.

Grab an air mattress or inner tube and float the Sauk River.

The Charles Lindbergh Museum in Little Falls is definitely worth a look. Little Falls was the famous aviator's boyhood home.

And if you're in Little Falls and have been to the Lindbergh Museum, check out the Minnesota Fishing Museum.

Spend a day in the Twin Cities scouring for vintage clothing finds at one of

the Minneapolis Vintage Markets,

which pop up once a month with all the best vendors. And I can't forget to hit my favorite spot

for sweet stuff, Glam Doll Donuts! - ALYSSA ZAC-ZEK, GO-SEE-DO RE-**PORTER** Zaczek Ride the bumper boats

at Summerland Family Fun Park in Sauk Rapids. Listen to jams at Minneapolis's Bas-

ilica Block Party in late July. Honor the bard by visiting the Great

River Shakespeare Festival in Winona. Take a ride on the Pearl of the Lake

paddlewheeler in Lake City on the Mis-

sissippi River. Get a great coffee (and anything from the bakery case) and read at the Local

Blend in St. Joseph. Check out Lake Superior from the top of Palisade Head, just between Silver Bay and Tettegouche State Park.

Give disc golf a try. There are plenty of courses in St. Cloud, including Calvary Hill and Riverside Park.

Dip your toes in Lake Superior (or any lake, really) on the hottest August day you can find.



Cole Rau, Derek Mendel, Justin Hagstrom and Peyton Graf enjoy watching the world go by on a sunny April afternoon from their perches on hammocks and a couch in their front yard along Ninth Avenue South in St. Cloud. DAVE SCHWARZ/USA TODAY NETWORK



15807 Audubon Way

Baxter

218-822-4190

1001 2nd St. S.

Sartell

240-8866