

The Fishwrapper



TOFTE circa 1910

Pictured above is Tofte in about 1910. In the foreground is the original Tofte wood dock which was eventually replaced by the concrete structure which has slowly deteriorated over the years. Notice the railroad track and the small hand cart with kegs of Bluefin on it. To the right of the dock is the original Twin Fish House owned 1/2 by Hans Engelson and 1/2 by his brothers-in-law, John and Andrew Tofte - all three being Founders of the Town of Tofte. To the left of the dock is a two story

white building which was the Tofte Lodge, the first hospitality establishment on the property and built over 100 years ago. The building just to the right of the Tofte Lodge was a potato warehouse on the original North Coast Farm.

Many more photos and history of our area are available for viewing at the North Shore Commercial Fishing Museum. Be sure to pick up your Bluefin Pass at the Front Desk.

Lake Superior Water Trail

First, the folks at Bluefin Bay helped develop the North Shore Cross Country Skiing Trail with its stellar systems and loops above Tofte. Then, they were instrumental in developing the North Shore Hiking Trail from Duluth to the Canadian Border, with the unsurpassed links and loops around Oberg Mountain and Carlton Peak. Having taken care of the skiers and hikers, they went to work to provide something spectacular for the bicyclers - and the Gitchi Gami Trail was born (see article).

Now, seeing the need for a Water Trail, an independent non-profit citizens organization named the Lake Superior Water Trail Association, working with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, has created

the Water Trail along Minnesota's Lake Superior shoreline. As their web site says, "The Water Trail, which is best utilized via sea kayaks by people who have had proper sea kayaking instruction, consists of camp sites and rest areas spaced out along the shore. The trail is still being developed, so there are several large sections with no public landing sites." Maps can be obtained by phoning the MnDNR at 1-888-646-6367. The web site address is www.lswta.org. As far as we can determine, there is not another place in the USA that has a World Class Cross Country Ski Trail, a World Class Hiking Trail, a World Class Biking Trail and a World Class Water Trail all stretching along the same seashore.

Gitchi Gami Bike Trail

In the works for many years, the Gitchi Gami Bike Trail is beginning to take shape. Thanks to the efforts of many volunteers, the commitment of the Minnesota DNR and MnDOT, the first parts of the trail are now complete and more are under construction. The first part completed is that near Beaver Bay which was done in conjunction with the re-construction of Highway 61. As you drive up the shore, you will see that the section

around Split Rock Light House is soon to be complete. As you travel east of Tofte, you will see both highway and trail construction this Summer and Autumn. When done, the Gitchi Gami Trail will run from Two Harbors to Grand Marais. And Bluefin Bay has bikes available for Guests. For more information, the Trail web address is www.gitchigamitrail.com.

What Our Guests Say

"Great View. Great Wine. Great Hike. Great Lovin'. We Deserved This!"

—K & P, Edina MN

"We decided to celebrate our first year of marriage in the same way we honeymooned - surrounded by the peaceful beauty of Bluefin Bay. It's amazing how two nights here can recharge a romance, bring back memories of our honeymoon and inspire reverence all at once. Of all the places we've been, this is our favorite."

—Dan & Robbyn

"My wife, Jan, brought us here to celebrate my 40th birthday. The moon and the peaceful sound of the waves made us feel very relaxed and made this the best birthday I have ever had. This was the trip we really needed and Bluefin delivered everything we had hoped for!"

—Chip & Jan

"Our sister and brother-in-law gave us this trip for a wedding gift - But it took us 1 1/2 years to get here!! What a beautiful place this is - peaceful & serene. First Class Resort all the way. Definitely not our last trip to Bluefin."

—Steve & Kelly, Dallas TX

"Twice a year, my mom and dad take my four brothers and sisters and I on vacation to your resort. I have been going there ever since I was in the womb. It is still my favorite place in the world and always will be. I am looking forward to sharing it with my kids and grandkids. Thank you Bluefin Bay, for showing me that the whole world doesn't have to be what I see on the news."

—Brittany 16 yrs.



Activities Director, Nate Clay at the helm of his kayak

NATE GET'S 4 STAR RATING

Nathan Clay, Activities Director at Bluefin Bay, Has received his 4 STAR Rating from the British Canoe Union (BCU) based in Nottingham, England. When asked why he chose the BCU for his Certification, Nate explained that the BCU has overseen the safety of Paddle Sports throughout the world for more than 40 years, making it the oldest and most experienced such institution. The 4 Star Level certifies Nate to kayak in open bodies of water such as Lake Superior, up to five miles from shore. Nate, who started kayaking in 1994, is presently completing his Coach 2 certification.

Nate has received an overwhelming response from Guests to his Guided Kayak excursions on Lake Superior. Because of that response, he says "Book in advance of your stay at Bluefin. You don't need to bring anything since Bluefin has all the necessary equipment for our Guests. You don't need to know anything or have any experience. You just need to have a willingness to try. In fact, 90% of the Guests who have kayaked with us have never been kayaking before trying it at Bluefin."

Calendar of Events

JUNE 2002

- 1-20 Spring Fever Special and Senior's Weeks continue at Bluefin Bay.
- 3 Activities Program begins at Bluefin Bay
- 15 North House Unplugged
- 16 Father's Day
- 17 Children's Activities start at Bluefin Bay
- 21 Summer Solstice
- 21-23 Wooden Boat Show and Midsummer Festival
- 22 Grandma's Marathon (Duluth)
- 22 Boats to Tools Auction
- 27-30 Minnesota Shakespeare Festival (Playhouse Production)
- 29 Lutenist - Phil Rukavina (North Shore Music Assn)



JULY 2002

- 1-31 Summer Activities continue at Bluefin Bay
- 1-7 Minnesota Shakespeare Festival (Playhouse Production)
- 1 Canada Day
- 4 Independence Day (Tofte Parade, Tofte Trek, Fireworks over the Lake)
- 13 Myllarit (North Shore Music Assn)
- 13-14 Grand Marais Art Fair & Festival
- 19 West End Garden Club Flower Show
- 18-21, 25-28 Art (Playhouse Production)

August 2002

- 1-31 Summer Activities at Bluefin Bay continue
- 1-4 Fisherman's Picnic
- 9-11 Rendezvous Days
- 22-25, 29-31 The Odd Couple (Playhouse Production)
- 25 Senior's Weeks start at Bluefin Bay

SEPTEMBER 2002

- 1 The Odd Couple (Playhouse Production)
- 2 Labor Day
- 2-5 Senior's Weeks continue at Bluefin Bay
- 7&8 John Schroeder Days
- 7-9 Grand Portage Bayoo Boogie Festival
- 8 Grandparent's Day
- 21 Rory Block Acoustic Blues (North Shore Music Assn)
- 22 Fall Equinox

OCTOBER 2002

- 6 North Shore Health Care Golf Tournament
- 14 Columbus Day
- 17-20 MEA Weekend
- 20 Autumn Quiet Time begins at Bluefin Bay
- 27 Gales Special starts at Bluefin Bay

NOVEMBER 2002

- 1&2 Food & Wine Lover's Weekend
- 1-30 Gales Special continues at Bluefin Bay

F.Y.I.

BON APETIT

BON APETIT has requested recipes from Bluefin Executive Chef Tracy Jacobsen for inclusion in an upcoming issue.

OUTSIDE MAGAZINE

OUTSIDE MAGAZINE has named Bluefin Bay "...A perfect Family Retreat". The feature story included a great photo and lots of kudos about our Kids Activities Program. Quality time with the kids and romance for the parents are, together, a unique part of Bluefin Bay.

FOODSERVICE NEWS

Chef Tracy Jacobsen was featured on the Front Page of FOODSERVICE NEWS.

SCANDINAVIA BOUND

Bluefin Bay Products are on their way to Europe beginning in Scandinavia. ScanMark Import/Export of Minneapolis and Stockholm will be exporting Bluefin Bay food products to Sweden, Denmark, Norway and Finland.

FANCY FOODS SHOWS

Chef Tracy Jacobsen and Founder Rob Buntz displayed and sampled the Bluefin food products at the Fancy Foods Show in Chicago

FYI (continued)

in May. The response was tremendous and they have decided to try out the big one - the Fancy Foods Show in New York City this July. Wish them luck!!! They need it.

NORTH SHORE COMMERCIAL FISHING MUSEUM

Be sure to visit the Museum on your next visit to Bluefin Bay. Bluefin Guests can tour the Museum free of charge - just pick up tickets at the Front Desk. New this year is the original Bell and United States Flag from the Steam Ship America.

TOFTE CHARTERS

Fishing Charters on the Big Lake are back again this year with Captain Darren Peck at the helm. Darren does a great job, so make your reservations early. Just call 1-800-258-3346 now for information and reservations.

AVANTI SAILING CHARTERS

The beautiful and majestic 42 foot sailing vessel, Avanti, is again available for charters with Captain Todd Spencer at the helm. Just phone 1-800-258-3346 for information and reservations.

MASSAGE

Therapeutic massage is available from Carol Einwalter and her skilled staff at Bluefin Bay. Carol has studied traditional oriental therapy techniques at the University of Traditional Chinese Medicine in Nanjing, China and she is a National Board Certified Massage Therapist with a practice in a local medical clinic. And, better yet, she comes to Bluefin to provide our Guests with soothing and relaxing massage therapy. To reserve a time during your next visit to Bluefin, just phone 1-800-258-3346.

HELP US HELP OUR ENVIRONMENT

We now have about 5000 people who can receive the FISHWRAPPER via email. We would like to double this number by year end. In order to switch from paper to email FISHWRAPPER just go on line and sign

FYI (continued)

up, or let the Front Desk staff know, give them your email and home address and we take it from there.

FOOD & WINE LOVERS

The Bluefin Bay Food & Wine Lovers Weekend is scheduled for the first weekend of November. Call now for your reservations.

BLUEFIN SHOWCASED

Bluefin Bay was showcased in a feature article recently by Cameron Simpson for THE HERALD newspaper of Scotland, Great Britain. After noting that Bluefin was voted "Best Romantic Resort" by readers of Lake Superior Magazine she wrote "Most rooms have jacuzzis, open fireplaces, running champagne and stunning views if ever you get to open the curtains." We are not certain of the true meaning, but it sounds like she had a great time.



RENOVATIONS CONTINUE

Bluefin Bay condominium and townhome owners have invested more than \$600,000 during the past year to upgrade the interiors of their units. One such example is pictured above. And there are lots more on the books, scheduled for this Autumn. This has kept Quality Assurance Manager, Carol Perkins, very busy. But, as Carol put it, "It is well worth the time and effort when we see the results and hear the tremendous Guest comments."

Family Activities

Every day and each week from June 3 to August 31. Register for all activities at the Guest Services Center or by calling 218-663-7296. Schedule subject to change. Start dates vary for some activities.

MONDAY

Boundary Waters Canoe Trip 9:30 AM - 3:00 PM (Approx.) This is a self-guided day trip in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area. Can be done any day of the week.

Guided Mt Bike Ride 11:00 AM - 1:30 PM

This is a 9 mile ride through the Superior National Forest. Ages 8 and up.

Sea Kayak Tour 4:00 - 7:00 PM Introduction to kayaking on Lake Superior.

Campfire, S'mores & Kids Activities 6:00 - 7:30 PM Campfire and S'mores on us.

TUESDAY

Therapeutic Massage Available from North Shore Health Therapies right here at Bluefin Bay. Call Guest Services to set up an appointment.

Carlton Peak Guided Hike 10:00 AM - 12:30 PM This guided hike is 2.5 miles, beginning at the Britton Peak trailhead, crossing over Carlton Peak and exploring the upper and lower summits.

Kids Cooking Experience 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM Granola Making! Come make a snack for the afternoon Kid's hike.

Kids Hike 1:00 - 2:30 PM Varied short hikes in the Tofte area.

Sea Kayak Tour 4:00 - 7:30 PM Join us for a paddle along Lake Superior's North Shore.

WEDNESDAY

Therapeutic Massage Available right here at Bluefin Bay.

Grampa Woo III Lake Superior Excursion 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM 115' Lake Superior Yacht will take you along the scenic North Shore to Palisade Head.

Bluefin BBQ 6:00 - 8:00 PM Join us for an evening of burgers, brats, beans, pasta salad and chips, milk & pop. Then stick around for our campfire and S'mores

Campfire, S'mores & Kids Activities 6:00 - 8:00 PM Campfire and S'mores on us.

THURSDAY

Therapeutic Massage Available right here at Bluefin Bay.

Sea Kayak Tour 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM Join us for a paddle along Lake Superior's North Shore.

Kids Cooking Experience 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM Make your own lunch outside.

Kids Hike 1:00 - 2:30 PM Varied short hikes in the Tofte area.

Carlton Peak Guided Hike 2:00 - 4:30 PM

This guided hike is 2.5 miles, beginning at the Britton Peak trailhead, crossing over Carlton Peak and exploring the upper and lower summits.

Movie and Popcorn Night 6:00 - 8:30 PM

FRIDAY

Therapeutic Massage Available right here at Bluefin Bay.

Sea Kayak Tour 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM Join us for a paddle along Lake Superior's North Shore.

US Forest Service Program 10:00 - 11:00 AM "Explore the Shore Hike" Explore Lake Superior's rocky North Shore.

Oberg Mountain Guided Hike 2:30 - 4:00 PM This scenic loop has 9 panoramic overlooks along its 2.5 mile perimeter.

Campfire, S'mores & Kids Activities 6:00 - 7:30 PM Campfire and S'mores on us.

SATURDAY

Therapeutic Massage Available right here at Bluefin Bay.

US Forest Service Campfire Program 7:00 - 8:00 PM "Wolves" Learn about Minnesota's wolves while enjoying S'mores.