For reservations or further information, call Nature’s Kennel at 906-748-0513

Tour Inclusions:
- Drive or ride with sled dog team
- Three nights of lodging at Chamberlin’s Ole Forest Inn in Curtis, MI
- Welcome Dinner and Nature’s Kennel Presentation
- Breakfast each morning
- Dinner each night
- Lunch at Tahquamenon Falls Brewery
- Snowshoe hike at Tahquamenon Falls State Park
- Exploration of Tahquamenon Upper Falls
- Munising Falls and Eben Ice Caves exploration/hike
- Lunch at the Driftwood Deli in Munising

Transportation from Chamberlin’s Ole Forest Inn to all excursions during the tour

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Not Included: Travel insurance, items of a personal nature, alcoholic drinks, and meals not mentioned in the tour inclusions.

“Great winter adventure! Dog sledding with Nature’s Kennel was the best!”

“I was intrigued by such a unique opportunity, to try dog sledding, and see the Ice Caves. The MSU connection added a sense of comradery.”

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Nature’s Kennel, Michigan’s premier dog sledding destination is located in the Eastern Upper Peninsula of Michigan and is home to 150 magnificent Alaskan Huskies. The tour is led by Tasha Stielstra ’98, MSU College of Education. Both she and her husband Ed are Spartans and are well-accomplished mushers. This unique winter adventure offers you the opportunity to drive your own dog team or to take a ride with the sled dogs of Nature’s Kennel. Also included is a presentation about kennel and how the Stielstra’s went from MSU graduates to business owners. You’ll have the opportunity to enjoy a bit of Upper Peninsula winter splendor with a trip to Tahquamenon Falls State Park where you will be led on a private snowshoe hike. You will also learn about the Eben Ice Caves and Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore from MSU alum Steve Tchozeski ’77 of Great Lakes Geoscience.
Trip Itinerary:

Sunday, January 26th

6:00 pm Welcome reception at Chamberlin’s Ole Forest Inn
Appetizers and wine will be served around the lobby fireplace followed by dinner in the private dining area.

6:30 pm Dinner at Chamberlin’s Ole Forest Inn
Following dinner, you will get an introduction to Nature’s Kennel Sled Adventures and Racing Team with Tasha Stielstra. She will give a short presentation about Nature’s Kennel Sled Dogs and her and Ed’s participation in sled dog races around the world.

Monday, January 27th

7:30 am Breakfast at Chamberlin’s Ole Forest Inn

9:00 am Dog Sledding at Nature’s Kennel
Try your hand at mushing your own team or take a ride in the dog sled. The dog sledding trip is designed for beginners. You will meet the guides and learn the instructions necessary to mush your own five-dog team on the scenic ten mile trail. Or, if you prefer, you can ride in the sled with the guide. Please let Tasha know your preference for participating as a rider or driver when you make your reservation.

1:00 pm Lunch at Tahquamenon Falls Brewery, Tahquamenon Falls State Park
There will be a limited menu to choose from. Beer will also be available at an additional cost.

2:00 pm Snowshoe Hike with Tahquamenon Falls State Park
Enjoy a scenic snowshoe hike at Tahquamenon Falls State Park (snowshoes and instruction provided). MSU alum Theresa Neal will talk about the park’s history and winter in the Upper Peninsula. There will also be time to explore the Upper Falls of Tahquamenon Falls on your own or as part of a guided hike.

6:00 pm Dinner at Chamberlin’s Ole Forest Inn
Enjoy dinner and relax in front of the giant fireplace after a great day of winter activities. Following dinner, there will be a brief introduction to the unique geologic features of the Eastern Upper Peninsula in preparation for touring the Munising area on Friday.

Tuesday, January 28th

8:00 am Breakfast at Chamberlin’s Ole Forest Inn.

9:00 am departure to Munising**
Steve Tchozeski of Great Lakes Geoscience will accompany this portion of the tour while you explore the beautiful frozen waterfalls and sandstone outcappings of the Munising area. Weather permitting, spend the day exploring the local ice formations, Twin Falls, and Munising Falls. Lunch will be at the Driftwood Deli in Munising before heading out on a short afternoon hike. Hikes will be selected that are scenic, safe, and within the capabilities of the group.

**Note: Hiking this day includes a considerable amount of mildly strenuous walking on difficult and slippery terrain but does not require special climbing equipment or snowshoes, although ice cleats are recommended for walking on ice.

6:00 pm Dinner at Chamberlin’s Ole Forest Inn
Enjoy a fantastic dinner and then relax in front of the fireplace after another great day of winter activities.

Wednesday, January 29th

8 am-11 am Breakfast at Chamberlin’s Ole Forest Inn
Departure at your leisure.

Included meals: There will be a private welcome dinner and program at Chamberlin’s on Sunday night, dinner on Monday and Tuesday evenings and full breakfasts on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. Monday lunch will be at the Tahquamenon Falls Brewery and Tuesday lunch will be at Driftwood Deli in Munising. If you have special dietary needs, please let them know when making your reservation. All restaurants are spacious enough to provide adequate space for a group and adequate distancing for each couple/individual if necessary.

Getting there: Air transportation is available to Marquette, MI (Sawyer International Airport) or Sault Ste. Marie (Chippewa County Airport). Both airports have rental cars available.

Transportation during the tour: Transportation is available to and from all locations (Chamberlin’s, Nature’s Kennel, Tahquamenon Falls, and Munising). If you prefer to drive your own vehicle, maps will be provided and you can easily follow the caravan.

Cost: $1,600 per person. Gratuities included.

Payment: A 50% deposit is required at the time of reservation. The balance of the trip is due on January 26th when you come for your adventure. Payment may be made via all major credit cards or personal check.

Cancellation policy: In the unlikely event the trip is canceled due to weather conditions, a full refund will be issued. If participants request a cancellation, the deposit will be refunded if request is made more than three weeks before the start of the trip.

Reservations: To make your reservation, contact Tasha Stielstra, Nature’s Kennel 906-748-0513 or info@natureskennel.com. Please note this trip is limited to 10 participants. The trip must have a minimum of 6 participants to operate. If the minimum is not met by December 26th, deposits will be refunded.

Gear: Bring warm gear for the dog sledding trip as there is a constant breeze when the sled is moving. Insulated snow pants, a warm parka/jacket, winter boots, mittens and lightweight gloves (gloves are nice when hooking up the dogs) are all suggested. If riding in the sled, blankets will be provided. Warm winter boots are available for loan if needed at no charge. The same gear can be worn for snowshoeing and hiking to the caves and ice cliffs will be provided.

Contact information:

• Nature’s Kennel Sled Dog Adventures, 906-748-0513, www.natureskennel.com
• Chamberlin’s Ole Forest Inn, 906-586-6000, www.chamberlinsinn.com
• Tahquamenon Falls State Park, www.mi.gov/tfallseducation

Suggested Marquette hotels if flying into Sawyer International airport:

• Landmark Inn, 906-228-2580, http://thelandmarkinn.com
• Hampton Inn Waterfront, 906-228-6001, http://hamptoninn3.hilton.com

Nature’s Kennel Wellness Statement: As we continue to navigate through the new reality of COVID-19, we have adjusted our practices, policies and procedures to maintain a low risk environment for all of our guests, staff and family. While no one can totally eliminate the risk of the virus, will do our best to adapt to these challenging times and continue to provide an exceptional vacation experience. The majority of this trip takes place outside with a small group and during any inside programs or meals there is adequate spacing for individual tables.

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