

Roadmap to Fishing Lake Michigan



Discover when to go and what to target while fishing Lake Michigan ports!

Is it your first time fishing Lake Michigan? Or perhaps you're a seasoned pro who's ready for more of a challenge? Either way, you can use this map to help you discover the next Lake Michigan port you might want to visit, what time of year you'll want to go, and what species you could target!

This roadmap just scratches the surface of all the fishing opportunities that are available on Lake Michigan. Enjoy your trip!

Please note this is not an exhaustive list.

Port	January – March	April – May	June – August	September – October
Arcadia/Onkama	Brown trout, lake trout		Chinook, lake trout	Chinook
Bays de Noc (Little and Big)	Lake whitefish, walleye, yellow perch	Smallmouth bass, walleye, yellow perch	Carp, smallmouth bass, walleye	Smallmouth bass, walleye, yellow perch
Beaver Island		Lake trout	Carp, lake trout, northern pike, smallmouth bass (June: catch-and-release)	
Cedar River/Menominee	Drum, northern pike, walleye	Brown trout, drum, northern pike, walleye	Drum, northern pike, smallmouth bass, walleye	
Charlevoix		Carp, cisco, lake trout, suckers, walleye	Chinook, cisco, coho, smallmouth bass, steelhead	Chinook, coho, lake trout, smallmouth bass, yellow perch
Fairport		Chinook, coho, steelhead		
Frankfort	Brown trout, lake trout, steelhead		Chinook, coho, lake trout	Chinook, coho, steelhead
Grand Traverse Bay	Brown trout, cisco, lake trout, yellow perch	Brown trout, cisco, lake trout, smallmouth bass, steelhead	Carp, Chinook, cisco, coho, lake trout, smallmouth bass, steelhead	Chinook, cisco, coho, lake trout, steelhead, yellow perch
Harbor Springs/Petoskey		Brown trout, carp, drum, lake trout, rock bass, smallmouth bass, steelhead, suckers	Catfish, Chinook, coho, lake trout, northern pike, smallmouth bass, steelhead	Brown trout, Chinook, coho, lake trout, steelhead
Holland/Port Sheldon	Brown trout, coho, lake trout, steelhead (March-April)		Chinook, drum, lake trout	Chinook, drum, lake trout, steelhead
Leland/Glen Arbor/Manitou Island	Brown trout, lake trout		Brown trout, lake trout, salmon, steelhead	

Ludington	Brown trout, burbot, lake trout	brown trout, Chinook, coho, lake trout, steelhead, yellow perch	Brown trout, Chinook, coho, lake trout, steelhead	Chinook, coho, steelhead
Manistee	Brown trout, burbot (February-March), lake trout	Brown trout, Chinook, coho, lake trout, steelhead, yellow perch	Brown trout, Chinook, coho, lake trout, steelhead	Chinook, coho, Menominee (November), steelhead
Manistique		Steelhead, walleye	Chinook, lake trout, steelhead, walleye	Chinook
Muskegon/Grand Haven	Brown trout, coho, lake trout, steelhead	Brown trout, Chinook, coho, steelhead, yellow perch	Chinook, coho, lake trout, steelhead	
New Buffalo	Brown trout, coho, lake trout, steelhead	Brown trout, Chinook, coho, lake trout, steelhead		
Pentwater	Brown trout, lake trout	Brown trout, Chinook, coho, lake trout, steelhead, walleye	Chinook, coho, drum, lake trout, smallmouth bass, steelhead, walleye, white perch	Chinook, coho, lake trout, steelhead
Platte Bay		Brown trout, lake trout, steelhead	Lake trout, smallmouth bass	Chinook, coho, steelhead
Saugatuck/South Haven	Brown trout, coho, lake trout, steelhead	Brown trout, Chinook, coho, drum, lake trout	Chinook, drum, lake trout, yellow perch	Chinook, coho, drum, lake trout, steelhead, yellow perch
St. Joseph	Brown trout, coho, lake trout, steelhead	Brown trout, Chinook, coho, drum, lake trout, steelhead	Chinook, coho, drum, steelhead, yellow perch	
Whitehall	Brown trout, lake trout	Brown trout, Chinook, coho, lake trout, steelhead, walleye	Chinook, coho, drum, lake trout, smallmouth bass, steelhead, walleye, white perch	Brown trout, Chinook, coho, lake trout, steelhead

It doesn't matter what time of year it is, there is always an opportunity to "meet your fishing match" on Lake Michigan!

Explore Michigan's world-class fisheries!

Don't forget to purchase your Michigan fishing license before heading out. [Michigan.gov/fishing](https://www.michigan.gov/fishing)