

➔ ANNUAL GUIDE: BEST OF SUMMER!

Mpls St Paul

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TOP DENTISTS:
DID YOURS MAKE THE LIST?

KDWB'S DAVE RYAN:
IF HE'S SO UNHIP, WHY IS
HIS SHOW SO HOT?

A SUPERIOR
HIKE: THE
NAME SAYS
IT ALL

*Ready,
Set,
Summer!*

- + Top Rooftop Bars
- + Open-Air Music
- + Best Local Craft Beers
- + Boats to Rent
- + Picnic Menus & Venues
- + Bike & Beach Havens
- + and Rhubarb Too!

KARE 11 meteorologist
Sven Sundgaard predicts
sunny days ahead.
And he's optimistic
about the weather too!

\$4.50



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Dive In!

// Everyone knows about Calhoun, Harriet, and Lake of the Isles. But when it comes to soaking up the local waters, Twin Citians have a host of less-congested, more original options. Whether you're looking to cast a line, walk the waterfront, or paddle a crystalline surface, we've sleuthed the best lakes, rivers, and swimming holes for every purpose under the sun.

↘ If the Minneapolis lakes were compared to guests at a dinner party, then little **Brownie Lake** would surely be the wallflower. The lake is no less lovely than its larger, louder neighbors. However, it takes patience and a little perseverance to uncover its virtues. Situated to the northwest of Cedar Lake—just a hop, skip, and jump beyond a

railway and the Kenilworth bike trail—Brownie is an excellent destination by canoe (through a canal from Cedar) or by foot (descend the wooden stairs from Theodore Wirth Parkway). Once there, a sojourner is treated to lily pads, dirt walking paths, and relatively lush tree cover. The idyllic scene is cut with just one dissonant element: the sound of cars

speeding along nearby I-394. *1500 Cedar Lake Pkwy. and Brownie Rd., Mpls., minneapolisparcs.org*

↘ Many of the smaller lakes in the metro area suffered this year from fish kill as a result of an abnormally cold, long winter. So if you want to catch fish—especially big fighting fish—your best bet is to stick to larger

lakes where the lunkers are still alive and hungry. **Como Lake** is a great place to dunk a worm, especially if you're after channel catfish. The lake was stocked with some 4,500 catfish yearlings last year—more than any other lake in the metro—and plenty of larger monsters are skimming Como's bottom as well. Other fish you're likely to land are largemouth bass, northern pike, the usual crappie and bluegill, and—allegedly—a few walleye. A newer, longer fishing dock was built on the lake's south side a few years ago. If you don't want to fish from shore, there are paddleboats to rent at the Como Lakeside Pavilion. The age-old walking paths offer another lovely lake experience.

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Boats by the Hour

Don't just stand along the shorelines, helplessly lusting over unattainable yachts and other watercrafts. Rent your own boat by the hour to get a splash of lake country fun.

Beanie's at Maui's Landing, St. Croix River

16777 N. 7th St., Lakeland, 651-436-8874, boatingatbeanies.com | Fishing boats, \$35-\$90 per day; pontoons, \$55-\$65 per hour; jet skis, \$60 per hour; houseboats, \$1,095-\$1,680 for a three-day weekend or \$2,040-\$3,090 for seven days.

Black Bear Crossings, Como Lake

Como Lakeside Pavilion, 1360 Lexington Pkwy. N., St. Paul, 651-488-4920 | Paddleboats and canoes, \$15 per hour.

Excel Boat Club, Lake Minnetonka

141 Minnetonka Blvd., Excelsior, 952-401-3880, excelboatclub.com | Full-service memberships with access to speed and pontoon boats, \$3,800-\$5,600 per summer; nonmembers can rent pontoons, \$250-\$500 per day.

Howard's Point Marina, Lake Minnetonka

5400 Howard's Point Rd., Shorewood, 952-474-4464, howardspoint.com | Pontoons, \$210-\$450 per day; fishing boats, \$80 max per day.

In Towne Marina, Lake Waconia

8 E. Lake St., Waconia, 952-442-2096, intownemarina.com | Pontoons, \$39-\$60 per hour; fishing boats, \$12-\$18 per hour.

Wheel Fun Rentals, Lake Calhoun

3000 Calhoun Pkwy. E., Mpls., 612-823-5765, wheelfunrentals.com | Kayaks, canoes, pedal boats, and paddle boards, \$11-\$21 per hour.

Wheel Fun Rentals, Lake Harriet

Lake Harriet Park, Mpls., 612-823-0077, wheelfunrentals.com | Kayaks, canoes, and pedal boats, \$11-\$21 per hour.

Wheel Fun Rentals, Lake Nokomis

52nd St. and Cedar Ave., Mpls., 612-729-2660, wheelfunrentals.com | Canoes, \$15 per hour.

Minnetonka Boat Club & Rental, Lake Minnetonka

4850 Edgewater Dr., Mound, 952-472-1220, minnetonkaboats.com | Pontoons, \$225-\$375 per day; jet skis, \$65 per hour; memberships, \$1,200-\$3,800 per summer.

Stillwater Boat Club & Rentals, St. Croix River

575 N. Main St., Stillwater, 651-439-9000, stillwaterboatclub.com | Full-service memberships with access to speed and pontoon boats, \$4,960-\$10,400 per summer; nonmembers can rent pontoons, \$255-\$370 per day.

Tally's Dockside, White Bear Lake

4440 Lake Ave. S., White Bear Lake, 651-429-2633, tallysdockside.com | Pontoons, \$42 per hour; fishing boats, \$10-\$28 per hour.

Prices may vary depending on time of year, length of rental, and model of boat.