

Grab a camera and hop in the car to view fall foliage

Following are some driving color tours. Sources include area Chambers of Commerce and the Traverse City Convention and Visitors Bureau and West Michigan Tourist Association.

1. Grand Traverse - Southern:

From downtown Traverse City, drive west on Front Street, crossing Division. As the residential section ends, Front Street curves and becomes North Long Lake Road. Take a left onto East Long Lake Road.

Next, turn right on Secor

Road, which becomes South Long Lake around the bend. Branches arching overhead make the road feel like a tunnel. On the right, you'll glimpse Long Lake glinting through the branches.

At U.S. 31, continue straight onto M-137, passing Interlochen Center for the Arts on your right. Follow M-137 to Youker Road. Turn left for a more than mile-long climb. At the crest, pull over and gaze back at the Pere Marquette State Forest. Youker Road becomes Hamlin Road.

At M-37, turn south. The S-

curve descent to the Manistee River takes you through layers of hardwood interspersed with evergreen. At M-115, turn left toward Cadillac. Turn north on

No. 29 Road, at Meauwataka sign. It becomes No. 31 Road and later No. 29 Road. You're now traveling through another section of the Pere Marquette State Forest.

At the "T" with County Line Road, turn left, then right on Blackman. In Kingsley, follow Blackman through curve that becomes Brownson Avenue. Brownson

becomes Garfield. You'll dip into and emerge from Boardman River Valley. Go into Traverse City, straight through to the bay front.

Grand Traverse - Northern:

From downtown Traverse City, go east on Front Street. Turn left at the traffic light on Garfield, and follow M-37 up the Old Mission Peninsula, staying on the highway where it splits at the second light. A film-gobbling overlook of both East and West Bays is ahead on the left. Crowned with color, Power Island floats on West Bay.

Continue north on M-37. Turn right at Old Mission Road, continue straight and then turn right to visit Haserot Park, a public park and beach. Leaving the beach, stay straight on Swaney Road to return to M-37. Turn right to visit the Old Mission Lighthouse and surrounding hiking trails.

Leave the lighthouse on M-37. At Old Mission Road, turn right, then left on Peninsula Drive. Veer right, staying on Peninsula Drive, when Seven Hills Road goes straight. To take an extra turn around Bowers Harbor, go right onto Neah-Ta-Wanta Road, or follow Peninsula to the left to return to Traverse City.

Leelanau:

From downtown Traverse City, drive west on Grandview Parkway, alongside West Grand Traverse Bay. At the traffic light by Tom's Food Market, where M-22 continues north, turn left onto M-72 west. Turn right on 651 and then left on 616/651, heading for Cedar.

In Cedar, continue on 616 by going west at the blinking light to Maple City. Turn right at another blinking light, then turn left a block down at the Glen Lake sign.

Turn right on 675 in five miles. Continue on 675. In about three miles, watch for Miller Hill, an easy-to-miss dirt road. At the sandy top, gaze through the tiers of trees to Glen Lake below. Backtrack to 675 and turn right, then right again onto M-22. Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore is a few miles ahead.

If you're short on time, turn right on M-204. This takes you through the heart of the peninsula and the villages of Lake Leelanau and Suttons Bay. Then turn right on M-22 in Suttons Bay to return to Traverse City.

Otherwise, continue on M-22 to Leland. The northern portion of the somewhat hourglass-shaped Lake Leelanau lies off to the right. In town, turn left at River to browse the shops of historic Fishtown. Rising from the Lake Michigan horizon are the

