

Fall in Traverse City

Despite her rich sunset hued beauty and the bountiful harvests that arrive under her watch annually, Fall is an underrated season. Summer will always be favored among the young, who mirror her exuberance and fleeting spirit. Elders will always favor winter, and her ability to unite loved ones as they make well wishes for the new year. And Spring's lush power to bring the first blossoms of those hopes and promises makes its arrival one that everyone looks forward to.

And that leaves Fall, who comes around to remind all of the responsibilities they must return to—school, work. In other words, real life. That is not to say that Fall is not without her charms. She offers cider in the brisk air, and rich pies in the chilly nights. She provides fun for the whole family with hay rides, haunted houses, and the general merriment of All Hollow's Eve.

But's perhaps Fall's greatest drawback is that not everyone can experience her equally. Some places simply do Fall better. And there are few places that can top Fall in Traverse City, Michigan.

There are many things to love about Autumn in Traverse City. Whether you are running up the seemingly vertical sand packed knolls at Empire Bluff Sleeping-Bear Dunes or racing through the bike paths of Old Mission Peninsula or decide to spend the day apple picking with your loved ones, there are more than enough activities to keep all occupied. And above all, contented.

But there is one special thing adults love about Fall in TC. As the children of Traverse City, Missouri are in the last stages of recovery from their Halloween sugar highs, the adults are gearing up for their favorite celebrations in the region—beer week.

Oh, yes. One of the best kept secrets of Traverse City is its bustling beer scene. Suffice it to say, there is no better time to visit and experience what Fall has to offer than November 8-15. While there, feel free to run; not just from pub to pub, but also during the Great Beard Run. The beer themed 5K. If running isn't for you or you just want a place to enjoy your runner's high in peace, you can head to the Flapjack and Flannel Festival. Which is just as wacky and wonderful as it sounds. Or if you are a true connoisseur of hops and drinker of lagers, test your beverage IQ at Traverse City IPA Challenge.

After a full week of grownup fun on the shores of Lake Michigan, you may find that you have truly forgotten about your responsibilities altogether. And instead you remember that Fall isn't so bad after all. You just have to remember where the best place is to find her. And Traverse City, Michigan is the best place to always keep in mind.