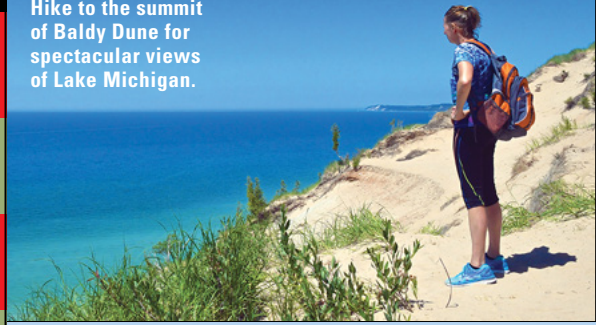




Hike to the summit of Baldy Dune for spectacular views of Lake Michigan.



### Arcadia Dunes Baldy Trails

The Arcadia Dunes C.S. Mott Nature Preserve includes over 3,600 acres of ancient dune area protected, owned and managed by The Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy.

The golden jewel of this nature preserve is Baldy Dune and the Baldy Trails that lead you to this wild dunescape and its spectacular views of Lake Michigan. As you look at the map, you will notice two different hiking loops to Baldy Dune. The inner loop is great if you're pressed for time, but we highly recommend the outer loop (follow the intersection numbers) which takes you through dense mature hardwood forest. The forest floor is covered with a mix of seasonal wildflowers, many of them rare and indigenous to this ancient dune ecosystem. For a special treat, visit this trail in early spring to hike among a glorious sea of trilliums.

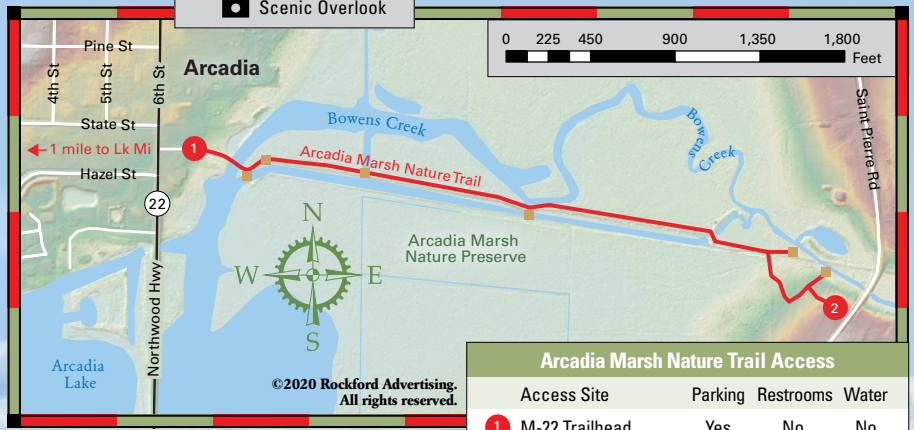
One of the highlights of the Baldy Trails is the half-mile Overlook Trail. This universally accessible trail travels over a series of boardwalk switchbacks through the forest to a viewing platform overlooking Lake Michigan.



### Arcadia Marsh Nature Trail

Completed in the summer of 2019, the 3/4-mile universally accessible Arcadia Marsh Nature Trail crosses Arcadia Marsh Nature Preserve on a long elevated boardwalk with several fishing and observation platforms. Enjoy up-close and personal views of the unique plants and wildlife that thrive in this Great Lakes Coastal Marsh, one of the last remaining coastal marshes along Lake Michigan's Lower Peninsula shoreline. As you stroll along the boardwalk, a series of interpretive signs keep you informed about the birds, animals, fish, plants and ongoing restoration efforts.

The elevated trail was built on an abandoned railroad grade that altered the original course of Bowns Creek and seriously damaged this fragile ecosystem. As part of the nature trail project, The Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy restored the natural flow of Bowns Creek, removed evasive plant species and revitalized the biodiversity of this important coastal marsh. Thanks to those efforts, Arcadia Marsh is now listed as one of the top 10 birding sites in Michigan.



**Trails Legend**

- Universally Accessible Trail (Red line with wheelchair icon)
- Hiking Only Trail (Orange line)
- Highways (Black line)
- Roads (Grey line)
- Trail Intersections (Numbered circle)
- Scenic Overlook (Camera icon)



Experience the unique plants, wildlife and ecosystem of Arcadia Marsh Nature Preserve.