

Juniper Lauren Ross

Kayak Isle Royale: A Call to Your Wild Soul



Isle Royale is the U.S.'s least visited, and most revisited National Park. While serious situations can occur in this remote wilderness, almost anyone who wants to, can plan and execute a safe and enjoyable Isle Royale kayaking experience. I'll be your guide, with tips on planning, navigation, and packing.

Isle Royale, easily accessible from Michigan, is the least visited, and most revisited U. S. National Park. It is a world where waves pulse against a hundred feet of vertical basalt. Where cliffs are studded with delicate carnivorous butterwort and sundew, nodding purple harebells. Where waves surge over underwater ridges and swirl through a secret arch. Along with its pleasures, however, Isle Royale's weather spins on a dime. Serious situations can occur anywhere: on the water, at the dock, on landing, on launching, or on a hiking trail. Its remoteness amplifies potential consequences of injury or illness.

Almost anyone who wants to, however, can plan and execute a safe and enjoyable Isle Royale kayaking experience. I'll be your guide, with tips on planning, navigation, and packing, along with Isle Royale's human and geologic history. You'll learn how to move out of your comfort zone and into an adventure that is right for you.

Juniper Lauren Ross is the author of *Kayak Isle Royale: A Call to Your Wild Soul*. She made her first kayak trip to Isle Royale in 1991 and has returned more than a dozen times with friends and family, ages two to seventy-two. She's made four solo Isle Royale trips and circumnavigated three times. She holds PaddleSports' Three-Star certificate in ocean kayaking. When she's not on Lake Superior, find her on her home waters in Austin, Texas, scouting shores for ripe wild cherries.

