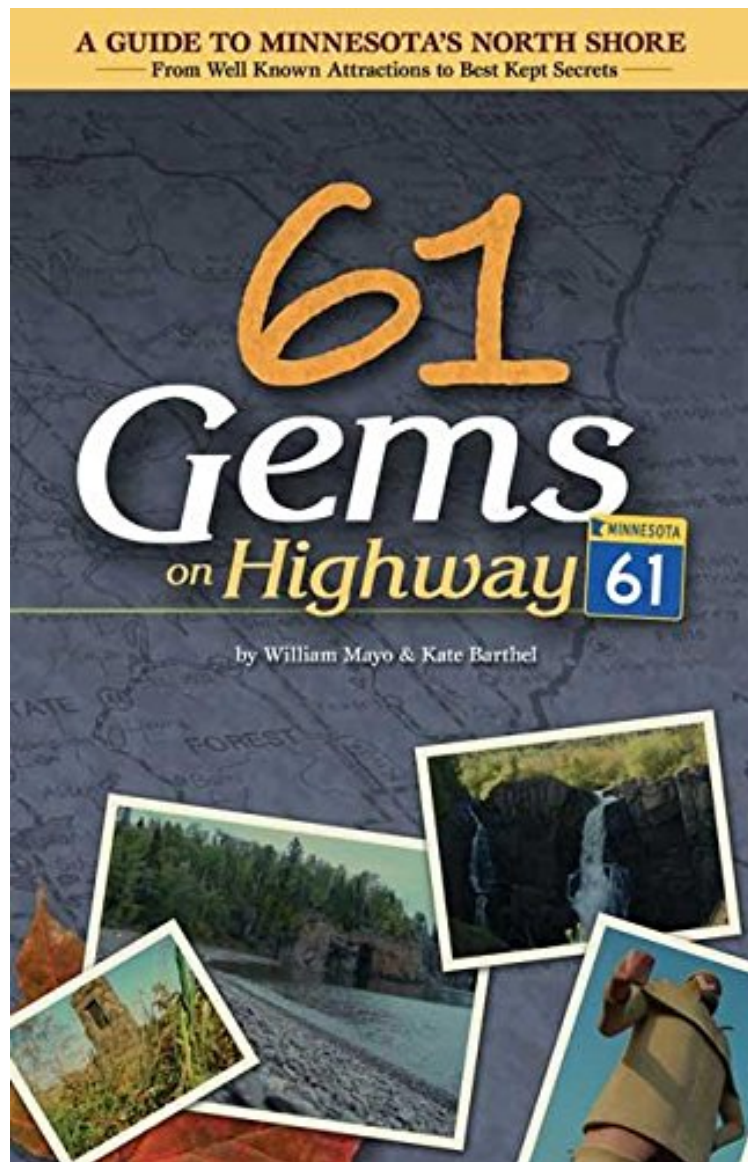


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61 Gems on Highway 61: A Guide to Minnesota's North Shore-from Well Known Attractions to Best Kept Secrets

William Mayo

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Highway 61, from Duluth to the Canadian border, is peppered with tourist hotspots that Minnesotans love. But even the most devout North Shore traveler doesn't know Lake Superior like Kathryn and William Mayo do. These explorers and residents of the region outline the best sites you may not know about. This entertaining guide will lead you to 61 hidden treasures and tourist favorites, so you'll experience the beautiful region in a whole new way.

About the AuthorWilliam Mayo is a former Duluth resident and has lived in Two Harbors, Minnesota, for the last 23 years. Long a part of the poetry scene of the North Shore and a former Artist-in-Residence for Isle Royale National Park, he has published work in National Geographic Traveler, Poets Who Haven't Moved to St. Paul, and Zenith City Arts. He also holds an AAS Degree in Human Services and is an enrolled member of the Leech Lake Pillager Band. His love of the North Shore came early, while driving along old Highway 61 with his parents as a boy. Whether in a canoe, diving, or walking the beach, he is always awe-inspired by the eternal mystery of the Lake.A Minnesota native and longtime visitor to the North Shore, Kathryn Mayo now resides within view of Lake Superior. Frequent trips Up North finally gave over to permanent residence, and Kate has drawn on her previous perspective as a visitor to the area in the compilation of these narratives. She spent most of her career in the role of counselor and is a licensed therapist and addictions counselor with an MA in counseling psychology.Excerpt. Reprinted by permission. All rights reserved.Stoney PointHow to get there:From Old Scenic Highway 61: Travel about 8.5 miles from the old pump house at Lakewood. Turn right off the Scenic Highway 61 onto a Stoney Point Drive. This gravel road travels about one mile before rejoining Highway 61. There are numerous wide spots where there is enough shoulder to safely park.From Highway 61 Expressway: Follow the expressway out of Duluth for about 10 miles. Turn right at Alseth Road and follow it for about one mile, all the way to Stoney Point Drive.Accessibility:This is a great car-viewing spot for all abilities. Anyone can pull up to multiple places on the side of the dirt road and get an eye-full without even stepping out of the car. The road offers a nice place to take a stroll to stretch your legs and is relatively even and flat. Getting down to the waters edge requires some rock-clambering ability.Cool things to know:Well known by locals as a great place to head to when the weather is roaring out of the northeast, this is an ideal spot for watching the Lake in her wild moods. When waves are crashing in a good blow, they can sometimes send spray flying up over the road, giving you a front row seat to the thrill of being safely on land while the Lake is at her most tempestuous.The lay of the land, angle of the shore, and power of Lake Superior make this a favorite spot of surfers who say it rivals some of the best surfing locales in the world. A good day for surfing can happen even in mid-winter, and if you are lucky, dozens of brave souls will be riding the waves here in full wetsuits.In good weather, you can explore the expanse of black basalt lava flow with clear striations and gouges left by the last glacial movement around 12,000 years ago. Part of the waterfront consists of large rock beach, set next to miniature dramas of canyons and pools.