Isle Royale
NOAA Chart 14976

A reduced-scale NOAA nautical chart for small boaters
When possible, use the full-size NOAA chart for navigation.

- Complete, reduced-scale nautical chart
- Print at home for free
- Convenient size
- Up-to-date with Notices to Mariners
- Compiled by NOAA’s Office of Coast Survey, the nation’s chartmaker
Nautical charts are a fundamental tool of marine navigation. They show water depths, obstructions, buoys, other aids to navigation, and much more. The information is shown in a way that promotes safe and efficient navigation. Chart carriage is mandatory on the commercial ships that carry America’s commerce. They are also used on every Navy and Coast Guard ship, fishing and passenger vessels, and are widely carried by recreational boaters.

**What are Nautical Charts?**

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**What is a BookletChart?**

This BookletChart is made to help recreational boaters locate themselves on the water. It has been reduced in scale for convenience, but otherwise contains all the information of the full-scale nautical chart. The bar scales have also been reduced, and are accurate when used to measure distances in this BookletChart. See the Note at the bottom of page 5 for the reduction in scale applied to this chart.


This BookletChart does NOT fulfill chart carriage requirements for regulated commercial vessels under Titles 33 and 44 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

**Notice to Mariners Correction Status**

This BookletChart has been updated for chart corrections published in the U.S. Coast Guard Local Notice to Mariners, the National Geospatial Intelligence Agency Weekly Notice to Mariners, and, where applicable, the Canadian Coast Guard Notice to Mariners. Additional chart corrections have been made by NOAA in advance of their publication in a Notice to Mariners. The last Notices to Mariners applied to this chart are listed in the Note at the bottom of page 7. Coast Pilot excerpts are not being corrected.


(Selected Excerpts from Coast Pilot)

**Isle Royale** is 44 miles long northeast and southwest and has a maximum width near its southwest end of 8.5 miles. The shores of the island have numerous indentations and many detached islets and reefs, almost all with a northeast and southwest trend. Good lees can be found in many bays and channels. Isle Royale and its surrounding islands form Isle Royale National Park. The park is retained as much as possible in its natural state. There are no roads, only trails for hikers.

Recreational docks operated by concessions for the National Park Service at Rock Harbor, and at Windigo Ranger Station at Washington Harbor, offer groceries, gasoline, and water for the convenience of visitors. Small docks, generally in good repair and in sheltered areas, are maintained at the many campsites around the island. Most of them have from 5 to 10 feet at their outer ends. Lights are operated on the docks at Windigo, Rock Harbor, and the Park Service Headquarters dock on Mott Island on the southwest side of Rock Harbor. Complete details regarding the island and its use are available from the Superintendent, Isle Royale National Park, 87 N. Ripley Street, Houghton, MI 49931.

**Caution.**—Designated aircraft landing areas are in Washington Harbor, Rock Harbor, and Tobin Harbor. (See 36 CFR 2.2 and 7.38, chapter 2, for limits and regulations.)

**Rock of Ages Light** (47°51'59"N., 89°18'53"W.), 130 feet above the water, is shown from a white conical tower on a small islet 3.8 miles west of Cumberland Point, the south-westernmost point of Isle Royale. A reef extends 0.4 miles southwest and 0.1 mile northeast from Rock of Ages. **Fisherman Reef**, 5.5 miles southwest of Rock of Ages Light, has a least depth of 23 feet. Five shoal spots with depths of 7 to 16 feet are from 0.7 to 1.4 miles northeast of the light. Several shoals with depths of 3 to 14 feet are within 1.2 miles 5 and southwest of the light. The southernmost spot, covered 12 feet, is marked on the west side by a buoy. An 11-foot spot is 0.3 mile southeast of the light.

**Grace Harbor** and **Washington Harbor**, at the southwest end of Isle Royale, have good holding ground and provide protection from all winds except southwest winds in Grace Harbor. Grace Harbor is enclosed on the south by Cumberland Point and on the north by a line of islands, of which **Washington Island** is the largest and **Grace Island** the easternmost. The islands separate Grace Harbor from the outer part of Washington Harbor. A rock, covered 2 feet and marked by a buoy, is on the outer edge of the shoals off Cumberland Point. Several shoals and small islands extend west from Washington Island. The outermost are a 2-foot spot 0.7 mile southwest and an 18-foot spot 1.1 miles west-southwest. A narrow 20-foot channel marked by buoys leads between the east end of Washington Island and **Booth Island** north to Washington Harbor. The north side of the outer part of Washington Island is encircled by **Johns Island** and **Thompson Island**. Shoal spots of 3 to 11 feet extend 0.5 mile southwest from Johns Island, the westernmost, and a detached 13-foot shoal is 0.2 mile southeast of the island. The entrance to Washington Harbor is 0.3 mile wide between Washington Island and the shoals southwest of Johns Island. A narrow deep channel leads between Thompson Island and Isle Royale into the harbor. A private daybeacon marks the northeastern side of Thompson Island, and a private buoy marks a sunken wreck on the east side of the channel. A small islet and a 3-foot shoal are 0.2 mile north of Grace Island.

The inner part of Washington Harbor extends 3.3 miles into the shoreline of Isle Royale. **Beaver Island** is near the east end of the harbor and may be passed by small craft on either side. A rock awash is off the north shore of the harbor, 0.25 mile west of the southwest end of Beaver Island. A wharf is at Windigo Ranger Station at the head of the harbor. Gasoline, diesel fuel, water, and sewage pump-out facilities are available. A small store is nearby.

**Gull Islands** are 3.5 miles northeast of Passage Island. A shoal covered 2 feet is 0.5 mile south of the islands, and a group of detached rocky spots, covered 7 to 12 feet, is 0.7 to 2.5 miles northwest of the islands.
Lateral System As Seen Entering From Seaward
on navigable waters except Western Rivers

Port Side
Odd Numbered AIDS
- Green Light Only
- Flashing (2)
- Occulting
- Quick Flashing
- ISO

Preferred Channel
No Numbers – May Be Lettered
- Preferred Channel to Starboard
  - Topmost Band Green
- Green Light Only
  - Composite Group Flashing (2+1)

Preferred Channel
No Numbers – May Be Lettered
- Preferred Channel to Port
  - Topmost Band Red
- Red Light Only
  - Composite Group Flashing (2+1)

Starboard Side
Even Numbered AIDS
- Red Light Only
- Flashing (2)
- Occulting
- Quick Flashing
- ISO

For more information on aids to navigation, including those on Western Rivers, please consult the latest USCG Light List for your area. These volumes are available online at http://www.navcen.uscg.gov
Note: Chart grid lines are aligned with true north.
VHF Marine Radio channels for use on the waterways:
Channel 6 – Inter-ship safety communications.
Channel 9 – Communications between boats and ship-to-coast.
Channel 13 – Navigation purposes at bridges, locks, and harbors.
**Channel 16** – Emergency, distress and safety calls to Coast Guard and others, and to initiate calls to other vessels. Contact the other vessel, agree to another channel, and then switch.
Channel 22A – Calls between the Coast Guard and the public. Severe weather warnings, hazards to navigation and safety warnings are broadcast here.
Channels 68, 69, 71, 72 and 78A – Recreational boat channels.

**Getting and Giving Help** — Signal other boaters using visual distress signals (flares, orange flag, lights, arm signals); whistles; horns; and on your VHF radio. You are required by law to help boaters in trouble. Respond to distress signals, but do not endanger yourself.

**Distress Call Procedures**
- Make sure radio is on.
- Select Channel 16.
- Press/Hold the transmit button.
- Clearly say: “MAYDAY, MAYDAY, MAYDAY.”
- Also give: Vessel Name and/or Description; Position and/or Location; Nature of Emergency; Number of People on Board.
- Release transmit button.
- Wait for 10 seconds — If no response Repeat MAYDAY call.

**EMERGENCY INFORMATION**

**NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards (NWR)** is a nationwide network of radio stations broadcasting continuous weather information directly from the nearest National Weather Service office. NWR broadcasts official Weather Service warnings, watches, forecasts and other hazard information 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

http://www.nws.noaa.gov/nwr/

**Quick References**
- Nautical chart related products and information — http://www.nauticalcharts.noaa.gov
- Interactive chart catalog — http://www.charts.noaa.gov/InteractiveCatalog/nrnc.shtml
- Chart and chart related inquiries and comments — http://ocsdata.ncdc.noaa.gov/idrs/inquiry.aspx?frompage=ContactUs
- Chart updates (LNMs and NM corrections) — http://www.nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/mcd/updates/LNM_NM.html
- Coast Pilot online — http://www.nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/nsd/cpdownload.htm
- Tides and Currents — http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov
- National Data Buoy Center — http://www.ndbc.noaa.gov/
- NowCoast web portal for coastal conditions — http://www.nowcoast.noaa.gov/
- National Hurrican Center — http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/
- Pacific Tsunami Warning Center — http://ptwc.weather.gov/
- Contact Us — http://www.nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/staff/contact.htm

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This Booklet chart has been designed for duplex printing (printed on front and back of one sheet). If a duplex option is not available on your printer, you may print each sheet and arrange them back-to-back to allow for the proper layout when viewing.