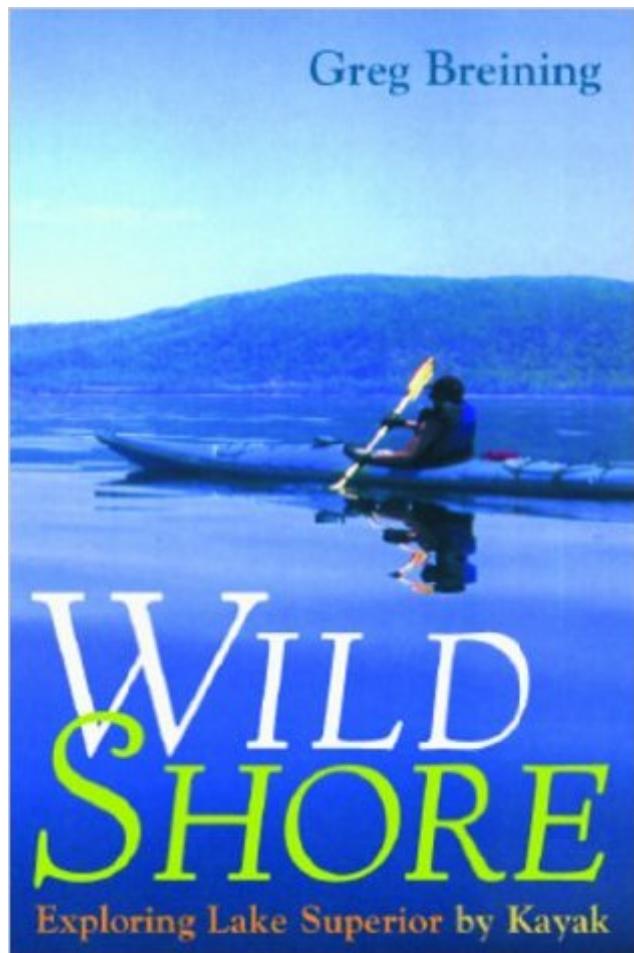


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# Wild Shore: Exploring Lake Superior By Kayak



## Synopsis

A true story of adventure and a two-year quest to navigate the greatest of the Great Lakes. An avid history buff, Breining follows the routes of the Ojibwa and the voyageurs. He explores the mix of cultures that created the Lake Superior region we know today. Illustrated throughout with the author's striking photos, "Wild Shore" will be a welcome book to those who love the beauty of Lake Superior, to adventures, and to armchair travelers everywhere.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 272 pages

Publisher: Univ Of Minnesota Press; 1 edition (September 1, 2000)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0816631417

ISBN-13: 978-0816631414

Product Dimensions: 5.9 x 0.9 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 starsÂ  See all reviewsÂ  (6 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #888,886 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #49 inÂ  Books > Sports & Outdoors > Outdoor Recreation > Kayaking > Whitewater Kayaking #110 inÂ  Books > Science & Math > Nature & Ecology > Lakes & Ponds #277 inÂ  Books > Sports & Outdoors > Outdoor Recreation > Canoeing

## Customer Reviews

I really enjoyed Greg Breining's new book "Wild Shore--Exploring Lake Superior by Kayak." He loves history and nature and it shows. He starts north of Sault Sainte Marie, Canada and goes west. He goes for little pieces at a time, usually with a friend or his teen-age daughter. He talks to the local people. He explores what's near the shore (such as the Pukaskwa pits) and what is unique about it. He tells you about the Canadian WWII German prisoner of war camp near Ney. He looks for the woodland caribou and discusses their relationship with the wolves. He visits the Rossport Inn and tells about the sinking of the Gunilda. He visits a ship captain and the Indian man who manages the Grand Portage State Park (in MN). He kayaks around Isle Royale with his daughter, describing its interesting history. He goes to the Apostle Islands (in WI). He meets a fellow in a folding kayak going around the lake like him, but in one trip. He visits a crumbling lighthouse and the very private Huron Mountain Club in the UP of Michigan. He fights the waves and has a good time exploring. He finds interesting places you'd never find in a car. He talks about the then and now. He camps at

night and enjoys his cigar and a good cup of tea. It's a very different book than Ann Linnea's book of kayaking around Lake Superior, *Deep Water Passage*. Much more interesting. He does not focus on himself. He takes many pictures. It is an excellent book. My only problem with it were the pictures and maps. The pictures (which are very good) were very dark. The maps were much too small. Have a good Lake Superior map tucked in your book when you read it. Now you can go around Lake Superior--without the work!

Many years ago, I lived in Northern WI, right on the Chequamegon Bay area of Lake Superior. I purchased this book to relive the memories, and it delivered! The first half of the book was set mainly on the Canadian side of Superior. While I had not been to that part, the stories and observations of the author were interesting and entertaining. He tells of the people he encounters, the "lay of the land" (or lake), natural history, cultural history, and so on. From the various Native American tribes, to the flora and fauna, and the small town life described, I could relate to it all. Once the author crossed into the U.S., and paddled down the shore into Duluth and across WI into the UP, I felt like I was along for the ride. For anyone who's lived or visited the area, you will easily recognize the places visited: Bayfield, the Apostle Islands, Eagle River, Houghton, Grand Marais, as so on. Like the trip through Canada, the author tells of the places from the perspective of the lake. He recounts visits to lighthouses, beaches, national parks, along with their history, plant and animal life, and the people in the area. It is obvious that the author is quite knowledgeable about the areas, and the many facets that make them up. As stated, I bought this book because I lived, camped, and on rare occasion kayaked on Lake Superior, and I was looking for something that would bring back the memories of this beautiful area. This book definitely did the trick! Highly recommended to anyone who lived on the Lake, or anyone who would like to Armchair Travel there!

I have the good fortune of knowing Greg and have paddled and fished a bit with him. Always a strong writer, "Wild Shore" surpasses anything of his to date with its blend of frank honesty (about the frequent terrors of the Big Lake and about loneliness), humor (in confronting edgy weather and wind and lakeside culture), and deep respect for nature and history. It's also a bit of a romance, though not ostentatiously so. Beyond all that it is a marvelous kayak trip on which he leads us.

Greg's kayak trip around Lake Superior is laced with tantalizing tidbits of historical interest, flora and fauna, geological anomalies, meteorological idiosyncrasies, and human impact. Greg Breining has a sincere reverence for the environment and nature. He exposes the human blight of

Minnesota's North Shore, Bayfield, and even Michigan's Copper Harbor, with go fast traffic and over building resembling a Minneapolis suburb. His message: See it before it is gone. A memorable and informative read.

When I purchased this book I was looking for a reference type book. I turned out to be an interesting story. It does not make me want to jump in my kayak and head out around Lake Superior. Then on the other hand I might like to paddle certain areas and this book helps to figure out what areas. If you kayak cold Great Lakes waters get this book.

Informative and entertaining for anyone that appreciates the beauty of Lake Superior. A lot of history of the shores and towns of the greatest lake in the world..

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