

**Follow along with us as we cruise onboard our  
56' Ocean Yacht.**

# *Somewhere on the Water*

Monday, August 11, 2025

Traverse City, MI to Sutton Bay, MI Anchorage

Welcome! Glad to have you here!

We arrived in Traverse City, MI, yesterday afternoon.

Traverse City, Michigan, is a premier Northern Michigan destination known as the "Cherry Capital of the World," producing most of the nation's tart cherries. Front Street offers unique local shops, breweries, and restaurants, while the nearby Village at Grand Traverse Commons offers dining and shopping in a redeveloped historic asylum. Google.

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We had our first Walmart + delivery here at the Duncan Clinch Marina. It went smoothly. We anticipate we will be using Walmart + a lot in the future.

After dinner, we decided to go out and explore the city. We left the marina without a plan and eventually found ourselves being drawn into a pub that had live music coming from their rooftop bar. The musician was good, the drinks were so-so, and since it was due to rain, we returned to Valkyrie by 9 pm. The sky cleared for us to enjoy a nice sunset.

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This morning, we thought it would be best to walk the city early before work. We walked Union St. to Front St. up to S. Park St. over to State St. back around to Front St., went west to Hall Street, and circled back to the bike path along the waterfront. We walked along Cinch Park and then turned around after reaching as far as Sunset Park.

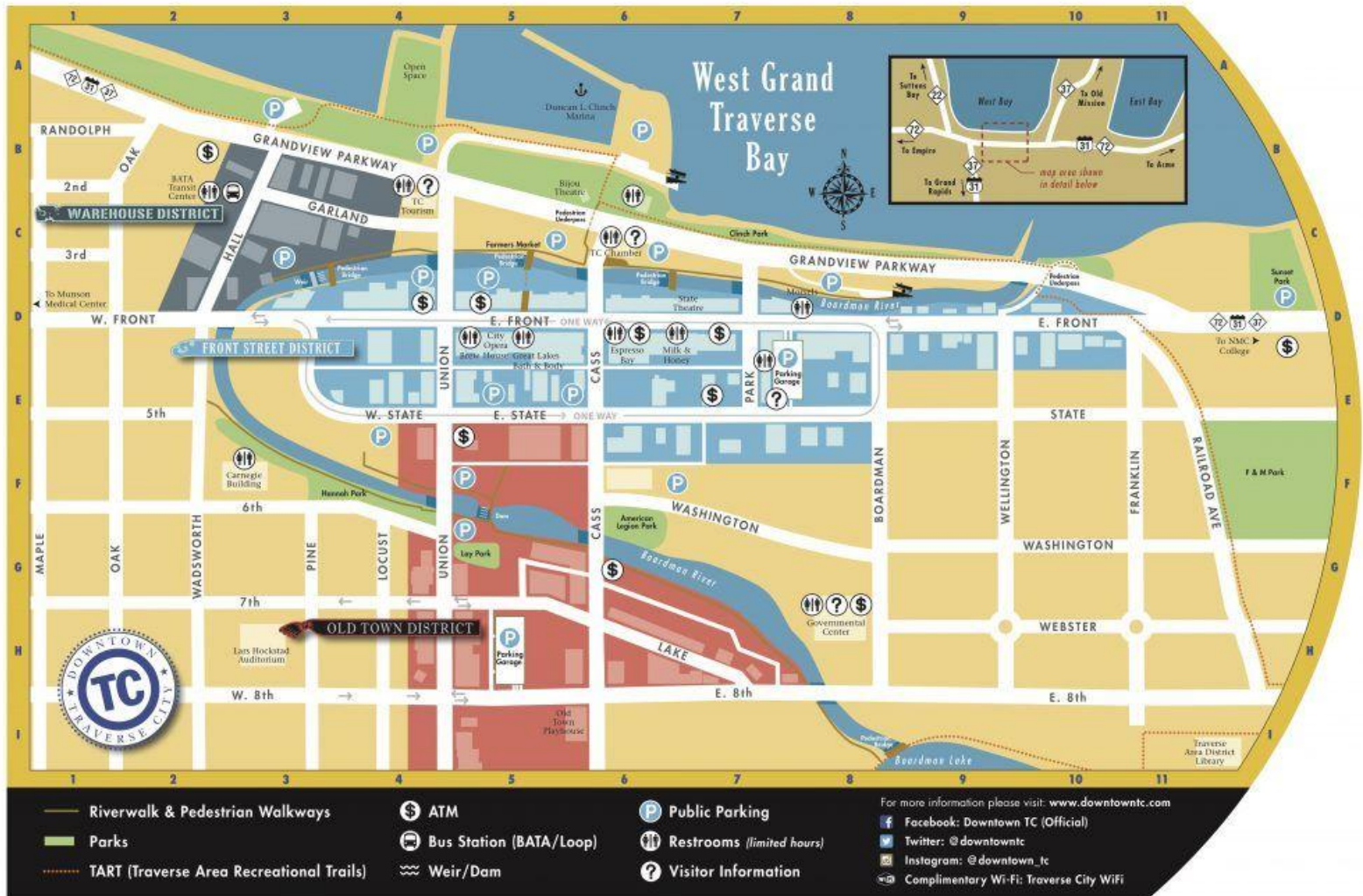
Clinch Park is along the 2+ mile stretch of public land on West Grand Traverse Bay. The park has a large beach, concessions, a splash pad, kayak rentals, and more. Google.

Traverse City has a thriving craft beer scene with approximately 16 breweries, microbreweries, and tap rooms. If you are a foodie, Traverse City will not disappoint with its wide variety of cuisine from all over the world. Several small cafes and bakeries were open this morning. The aromas coming from them were hard to resist.

We saw another Kilawins. We have spotted several Kilawins on our loop journey. Did you know it was founded in MI?

Kilwins began in 1947 when Don and Katy Kilwin opened a small bakery in Petoskey, Michigan, with a simple goal: to create high-quality baked goods and confections, paired with exceptional service.

<https://www.kilwins.com/about-us/>



Map source: <https://www.downtowntc.com/map/>

Once we returned to the boat, we had one lingering task: the portside shore cord. Yesterday, Mark, after realizing it was too short for use at this dock, tried to recoil it, but it was a no-go! Hot and frustrated, he put it off until this morning. After a bit of trial and error, he spotted the issue – the stopper was out of place. Once it was repositioned, the cord recoiled smoothly.

One last chore before our scheduled 11 am departure: wash the transom. The transom, depending on the wind and how hard we push the engines, gets very black with soot. If the wind is blowing just right, we get some of that soot in the interior. I use a dry Swiffer mop to wipe everything down.

The marina has an 11 am check-out time. We left precisely on time and returned to the Grand Traverse Bay and cruised to our planned anchorage for the night, Sutton's Bay. We encountered some rain on our cruise, and it remained cloudy and dreary the rest of the day.

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The Caribbean-like water of Lake Michigan has me in awe. I cannot stop talking about it, and I am in love with how pleasantly surprising Michigan is to both of us and the feeling it generates.

Lake Michigan, particularly in its northern, shallower, and sand-bottomed areas like [Torch Lake](#), looks like the Caribbean due to a unique combination of high water clarity, white limestone sediment, and shallow depths that scatter sunlight to produce turquoise hues. Invasive zebra and quagga mussels have increased this clarity, while the lake's mineral-rich water, specifically calcium carbonate, reflects bright blue and green light. Google.

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This afternoon, Mark put one of his many *Skipper* skills to use: he whipped a line.

Seizing the end of a line, often done with a [whipping knot](#), is a technique used to prevent the end of a rope from unraveling. This is achieved by tightly wrapping a smaller cord around the rope's end, securing it, and creating a neat finish.

A whipping knot, also known as whipping, is a binding knot used to prevent the end of a rope from fraying. It involves wrapping a cord tightly around the rope's end and

securing it, often with a series of half hitches or by tucking the ends. This technique is particularly useful for natural fiber ropes that cannot be fused with heat like synthetic ropes.

No, whipping and seizing are not the same. While both involve binding a rope with twine or thread, they serve different purposes. Whipping is used to prevent the end of a rope from fraying, while seizing is used to bind two ropes together or to bind a rope to an object. Google

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I worked all afternoon. We had a quiet evening, which included dinner on the fly bridge. Pork roast, coleslaw, and baked beans. We stayed outside much of the evening until it was time to run the generator to charge the batteries, typically a 2-hour process. We watched a little TV in the meantime.



Boardman River



Looking out into Grand Traverse Bay



Looking back towards the marina from the recreation trail



Front Street

## Daily Summary:

Departed from Traverse City @ 10:56 am

Arrived at Suttons Bay anchorage @ 1:25 pm

Days cruised: 55      Days on the loop: 76

Hours traveled: 2hrs 13 mins

Nautical Miles Traveled: 17.35 for the day (1,331.57 total miles)

Average Speed 7.8 knots

Weather: Rainy and cool

Anchorage/mooring/marina review: Easy access to downtown, parks, and bike path

#of locks we went through: (73 total locks)



<https://youtu.be/JMKKeVXyuNQ>

That is a wrap for this update!



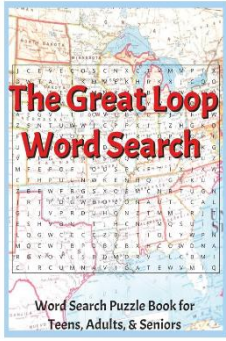
Time is unrenewable and tomorrow is never promised so do it before you can't!

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<https://a.co/d/igtPk7y>