

Collector's Journal

A SERVICE OF COLLECTORS ALLIANCE

2018 Voyageurs National Park Quarter - Minnesota

Forty-Third in the America the Beautiful Quarters Collection

Voyageurs National Park in eastern Minnesota is featured on the third of five America the Beautiful Quarters in 2018. It followed the 2018 coins for Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore in Michigan and Apostle Islands National Lakeshore in Wisconsin, and it will be followed by Cumberland Island National Seashore in Georgia and Block Island National Wildlife Refuge in Rhode Island.

The America the Beautiful Quarters series honors National Parks and other significant national sites in each of the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the five overseas U.S. territories. Five coins are issued each year, and each coin's one-time-only design is limited to a minting period of about 10 weeks.

The mint mark under "In God We Trust" on each coin identifies the branch of the U.S. Mint that struck the coin for circulation: "P" is for the Philadelphia Mint, while "D" is for the Denver Mint.

Voyageurs National Park protects more than 218,000 acres of natural beauty in northern Minnesota, including 84,000 acres of lakes and other water. The park was named for "voyageurs," the French-Canadian fur traders whose travels – particularly in the 18th century – took them through what is now northern Minnesota to trade with the Ojibwe and other Native American tribes.

The major appeal of the park is its isolated location. The only way to explore the vast expanses of open water and the numerous islands that are dotted among the lakes is by canoe, kayak, or other type of small boat. In addition to the lakes and islands, the park is renowned for its extensive forests that are home to a wide range of wildlife such as bald eagles, black bears, moose, and wolves. More than 230,000 people visit the park each year.

Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness adjoins Voyageurs National Park and is essentially an extension of the park. It stretch-



es for about 150 miles along the Minnesota-Canada border and covers more than one million acres within the Superior National Forest. Quetico Provincial Park is a similar 1.2-million-acre area across the border in Ontario, Canada.

The reverse of the Voyageurs National Park Quarter features a common loon – the Minnesota state bird, which is abundant in the park – with a rock cliff and trees in the background. The selected design was one of five that were produced by U.S. Mint artists for consideration. All designs highlighted the natural beauty of the park.

One of the other four suggested designs showed a bonfire in the foreground with a lake and islands in the background and the Northern Lights in the sky. The second design depicted an eagle flying above Voyageurs National Park while holding a walleye – the Minnesota state fish – in its talons. Another design featured an aerial view of Voyageurs National Park to show the abundance of lakes and islands, while the final design was a view of islands within the park.

The Voyageurs National Park Quarter was released by the U.S. Mint in June 2018.

Collectors Alliance • 1942 Swarthmore Avenue • Lakewood, NJ 08701
Call TOLL FREE 1-800-997-9843
www.CollectorsAlliance.com