

Iosco Flying Club

September 1, 2026

Well reality is sinking in as it feels like summer flying season is ending and has gone by too quickly. I always start summer with the intention to fly as much as possible, although it doesn't seem to work out that way. I guess if I can't fly a lot then I'll try to make the flights I do take memorable ones. I had the opportunity to fly to Mackinac Island last month just for the day. I took my youngest daughter, Laken, her friend, and my niece. My niece had never been to Mackinac Island so she was very excited.

The day started out perfect with calm winds and blue skies. It was a Friday so there was already traffic in and out of the airport when we arrived at the island. After tying down we decided it would be quicker to walk to town than to wait for a taxi. There was no opposition, and the 25 minute walk went by quickly. Fortunately it's all downhill.

The first item on the girl's agenda was a horseback ride through the trails. We had an hour to kill so we wandered down the main street with my crew scoping out every T-shirt shop there was. We ventured back to the horse stable to saddle up for our ride that took us past the grand hotel, hidden cottages and some muddy trails through the woods. Laken and her friend both ride horses so they had us trotting along through the winding trails. Apparently I don't have the trot down just yet and I found myself laughing out loud thinking I was just like one of those wooden paddles with a rubber ball on a rubber band getting slapped up and down on the saddle. I'm pretty sure they were laughing at me too.

After the ride we went back into town for lunch. A word of advice, don't show up on the main street at lunchtime and expect to have lunch. We put our name in at The Pink Pony and wandered through more T-shirt shops while waiting for a table. After eating the girls finally made their T-shirt purchases. I thought we should get some ice cream, but I was overruled and they decided they needed Starbucks. Apparently the whole state comes to Starbucks on Mackinac Island for coffee after lunch so again, we waited.

We had an adventurous taxi ride back to the airport, loaded up and prepared for the trip back to Tawas. We departed to the west and had perfect viewing opportunity overflying the Mackinac Bridge. I asked when we got back what their favorite part of the day was. They all replied.....Getting to eat! I strongly disagree.....

GO. FLY!

Ethan Buchanan, IFC President

Ethan.Buchanan17@gmail.com

989-387-6939