



The Popular Fish Boil/Historical Re-enactment at Rowleys Bay Resort

Boiled fish? Absolutely. Many people think that the delicious fresh whitefish netted from Lake Michigan tastes like lobster, once it is dipped in a bowl of Wisconsin's favorite export, butter.

Rowleys Bay Restaurant at the resort has taken the iconic local tradition of the fish boil to a new level, with an entertaining actor who plays the part of the namesake of the bay, Peter Rowley. Sitting lakeside around a hot fire with a boiling cauldron of water, "Peter" tells groups, tours and tourists the colorful story of the bay from the early days of the Potawatomi up to the present, inserting jokes, asides, and inviting audience participation. As each ingredient of the boil is brought out by the boilmaster, he stops his story to introduce the historical tradition of fish boils and the culinary details behind it. The fish comes right in at the dock daily at the nearby fishing village of Gills Rock.

The first ingredient to be added are the red potatoes, followed by tiny sweet onions, and just before the finale, the basket of fresh Lake Michigan whitefish. As the boilmaster stokes the fire, all are warned to move a good distance from the pot, as the photo-op boilover includes a raging fire. Kerosene is thrown on the fire, the pot boils over, while "Peter" rings the old school house bell. The boilover takes all the oils of the fish with it. The pot is lifted and carried into the restaurant where all will enjoy.

If someone doesn't care for fish, no problem, the generous all-you-can-eat fish boil buffet includes chicken, meatballs, various side dishes and a 14-ft. salad, bakery, and dessert bar so no one will leave hungry. Two more features of the classic Scandinavian fish boil are the Swedish Limpa bread and a cherry dessert, both baked onsite at Grandma's Swedish Bakery.

Groups can request a special fish boil, but the restaurant holds them Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday nights all summer. Popularity is so high there are often two a night.

Rowleys Bay Resort, dating from 1948, is the largest in northern Door County, and boasts a full service restaurant, cozy pub, Swedish bakery, indoor pool and all the amenities you expect. It sits on 700 feet of wild Lake Michigan waterfront, amidst a hundred acres of woods with hiking trails, kayaking, Segway tours, charter fishing, and zip-lining available onsite.



Rowleys Bay
RESORT

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