

# Minnesota



Total prohibition (-3, state enacts law expanding definition of "trigger activators")

Total freedom

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- \*Standard firearms & ammo: no restrictions on possession (handgun sales require permit) see p.2
- \*Semi-auto guns & high capacity mags: possession O.K.; assault weapon sales require permit
- \*Machine guns & suppressors: restrictive, only machine-guns which are curio & relics lawful; suppressor ownership lawful; bump stocks prohibited
- \*Firearm law uniformity: state preemption law, firearm laws uniform throughout state
- \*Right of Self-Defense: no NRA-model castle doctrine, *duty to retreat* in public areas
- \*Open carry: prohibited in all public areas unless one possesses a recognized permit
- \*Licensed concealed carry: licenses issued to residents and non-residents
- \*Constitutional or "no permit required" concealed carry: no
- \*Out-of-state permit recognition: conditional recognition of permits from other states (see p. 65)
- \*Weapons allowed for *licensed carry*: limited to handguns only
- \*Vehicle carry by non-permittees: all firearms must be securely cased and unloaded
- \*Vehicle gun possession at colleges: lawful for any gun owner (permittee or nonpermittee)
- \*Vehicle gun possession at K-12 schools: Minnesota permittee w/loaded handgun lawful; permittee may also exit vehicle to retrieve gun from trunk or rear storage area
- \*Duty to notify LEO of permit status: upon demand of police officer
- \*RV carry while "boondocking": *most* parking lot owners may *not* prohibit guns in vehicles – p.9
- \*State Parks: concealed handgun carry by recognized licensees permitted
- \*Restaurants serving alcohol: permittees may carry while eating in dining areas – see p.3
- \*Houses of Worship: churches may prohibit carry on all property w/o notice per court ruling – see p.3
- \*Hotels: statutory allowance for guest rejection or ejection for gun possession – see p. 7
- \*Airports: carry allowed in non-sterile terminal areas and parking lots – see p. 9
- \*Highway Rest Areas: carry allowed in buildings and on grounds – see p. 7



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Minnesota's numerous restrictions on the purchase and sale of handguns and "assault weapons" should not concern the casual traveler. But persons visiting America's north central region must be aware of certain legal nuances to ensure an uneventful trip.

**Recognized permittees:** Minnesota requires a license to carry a loaded handgun on one's person or in a vehicle. Permits are granted to residents and nonresidents who are at least 21 years old. Application is made to the sheriff of the resident's home county. Non-residents may apply to any sheriff in the state. Permits are valid for five years and allow concealed or open carry. Out-of-state permits from states with similar laws are recognized at the discretion of the Dept. of Public Safety. Aside from some universally restricted areas (p.6) such as K-12 schools, childcare facilities and courthouses (prohibited through judicial order), most public venues are open to carry by permittees. But private establishments that post signs and public institutions, such as universities, which enforce policies against carry, are off-limits. Such places can only prohibit carry within buildings and, with the exception of churches, may not ban carry in parking facilities. Churches may prohibit carry on all property without notice per court ruling. And while carry in state parks and most forest areas is O.K., loaded firearms are prohibited in wildlife refuges.

**Persons without recognized permits:** Handguns in a vehicle must be unloaded and fully contained in closed commercial gun cases. The weapons may be transported in either the passenger compartment or trunk but must always remain unloaded and cased.

While on foot, handguns may be transported between one's premises and place of business without a permit. Persons engaged in lawful hunting and target shooting may also carry handguns without permits while engaged in these pursuits. Aside from these few exceptions, loaded handgun carry is limited to permittees only.

**All Persons:** Rifles and shotguns in a vehicle must be unloaded and secured in commercial gun cases unless stowed in the trunk. Long guns in a vehicle's trunk must be unloaded but need not be cased. This restriction applies to permittees and non-permittees alike because Minnesota's licensing law only allows for *handgun* carry with a permit. Open carry of long guns while on foot is limited to lawful hunting or target shooting pursuits. Any other possession in public requires that the weapons be unloaded and cased.