



Pukaskwa  
National Park

# Backcountry paddling

**Coastal Paddling Route  
Trip Planner - V. 4.4**



Parks  
Canada

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Canada

Canada

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## Welcome! Bii san go biishan endaaing!

Pukaskwa National Park is a vast, wild, natural playground found on the edge of the world's largest freshwater lake. It is a place where powerful waves collide with rugged, towering coastlines; a place of endless sunsets over sandy driftwood beaches. A place where everyone can catch a glimpse of the rich traditions, values and contemporary life of the Anishinaabe.

This is a place, in Canada's most populous province, where Lake Superior's natural, untouched beauty can be seen, experienced and remembered by all who visit.

## Using this trip planner

Planning to paddle the wildest shore of all the Great Lakes? This guide will help you find all the information you need to plan, pack, and have a safe and memorable trip in Pukaskwa National Park's backcountry. Each campsite is profiled with photographs and site information. The campsites are ordered from North to South along the coastline.

Prior to planning your trip, assess your skills and physical fitness level. Do not overestimate your abilities for this challenging, yet rewarding paddling experience. We've designed this guide to help you plan your dream trip. It is NOT intended for navigation. For navigational purposes, it is strongly recommended that paddlers consult a topographical map and utilize the Chrismar Adventure Map of the park.

Chrismar's *The Adventure Map: Pukaskwa National Park* is a great planning resource and the best navigational aid to have while paddling the coast. Order your map by emailing [ont-pukaskwa@pc.gc.ca](mailto:ont-pukaskwa@pc.gc.ca), or purchase it at the park Kiosk, Visitor Centre or with your local outfitter.

Topographical maps at a 1:50,000 scale are also available on the Natural Resources Canada website ([www.nrcan.gc.ca](http://www.nrcan.gc.ca)). Search for maps: 42D/9 Marathon, 42D/8 Oiseau Bay and 42D/1 Otter Island.

Park staff are available to help you plan your trip Monday to Friday, 8:30 am - 4:30 pm, by calling 807-229-0801 or emailing [ont-pukaskwa@pc.gc.ca](mailto:ont-pukaskwa@pc.gc.ca).

# Experience level

The Coastal Paddling Route is for paddlers who are experienced in ocean or large open-water paddling. Experienced group leaders cannot compensate for inexperienced paddlers in their group. Paddling with a partner or in a small group is preferable. Maximum group size is 8 for private groups, 12 persons with a licensed outfitter.

## Are you prepared for....

- A multi-day backcountry paddling trip with long distances through rough waters?
- Primitive campsites? Paddling campsites in Pukaskwa National Park do not have tent pads, food lockers, privies or fire pits. Many sites are designated on sandy beach areas along the coast. If amenities are available at paddling campsite, visitors are encouraged to use them however this is not a normal occurrence.
- Being wind bound for multiple days? Thick fog that can last for days. Be prepared to navigate using a compass.
- Rugged, uneven ground and slippery conditions en route to campsites on muddy trails, wooden surfaces, boardwalks, stairs, cobble stones and rocky shorelines?
- Paddling across river mouths with large waves and strong currents?
- Paddling through dangerous reflection wave zones?
- High waves and spray? Paddlers are strongly advised to wear a spray skirt.
- Accidents and injuries? It may take more than 24 hours for help to arrive.
- Reserving a confident trip itinerary? Online service fees are \$11.00 per reservation, modification or cancellation and call centre fees are \$13.50 per reservation, modification or cancellation.
- An unforgettable wilderness experience?

## Guide to symbols

	Camping Area		Information		Drinking Water		Hospital
	Hiker Campsite		Telephone		Electrical Service		Postal Services
	Paddler Campsite		Parking		Wireless Internet		Fuel
	Outhouse		Picnic Area		Boat Shuttles and Tours		Bus and Taxi Transportation
	Food Locker		Toilets		Gift Shop		ATM
	Canoeing		Showers		Accommodations		Laundry Services
	Portage		Interpretive Centre		Lighthouse		Restaurants
	Hiking		Waterfall		Alcohol		Canoe Rentals
	Kayaking		Viewpoint		Groceries		Kayak Rentals

# Getting here

## By Car or Bicycle

Follow TransCanada Highway 17 to Highway 627. Take Highway 627 15 km to Pukaskwa National Park and the Hattie Cove Campground and Day Use Area.

## By Plane

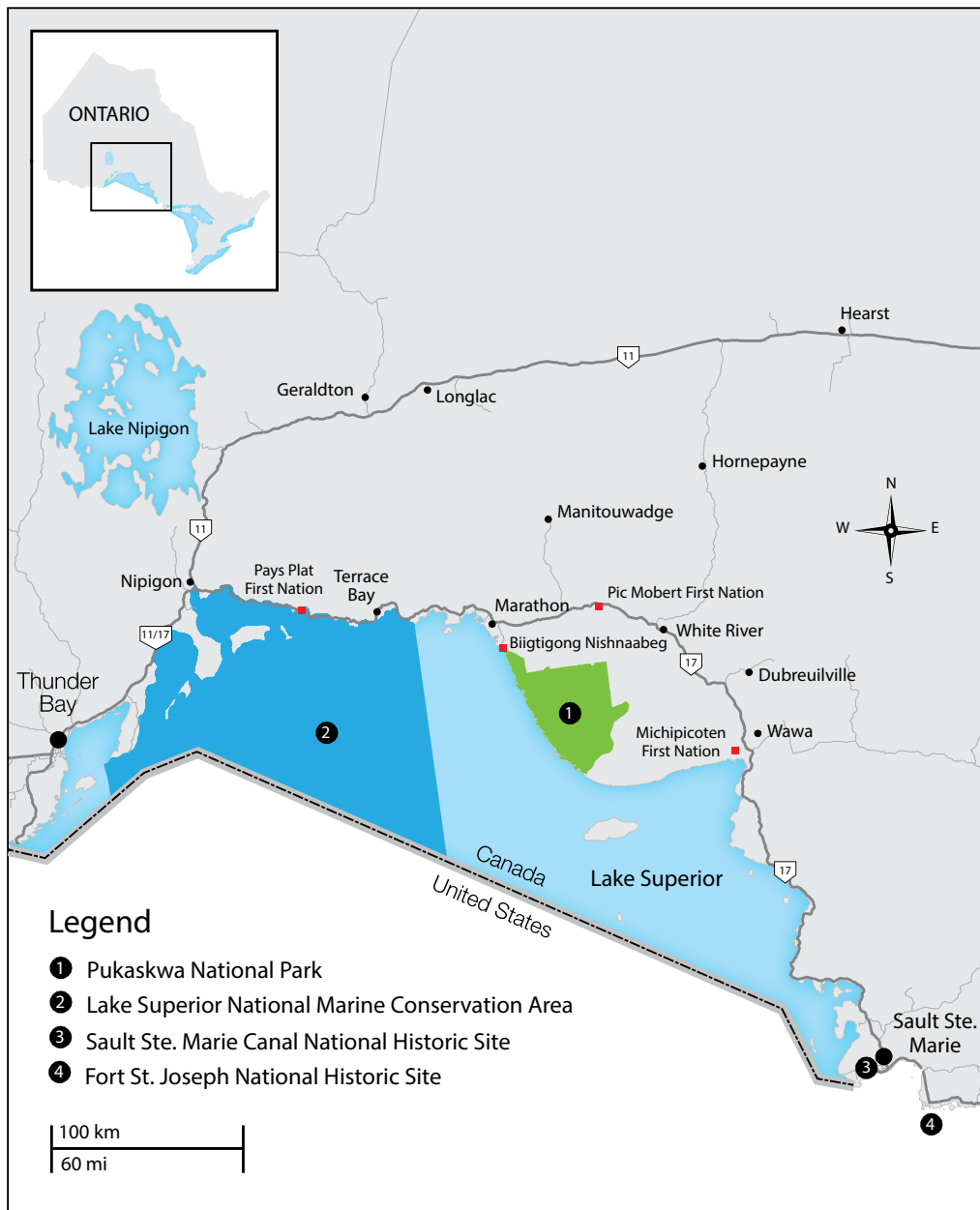
Several major airlines, including Air Canada, Porter, and WestJet, provide service to Thunder Bay, ON (YQT) and Sault Ste Marie, ON (YAM).

## By Bus

Kasper Transportation offers bus service from Thunder Bay, ON to Marathon, ON. Taxi service is available from Marathon to Pukaskwa National Park.

## By Canoe or Kayak

Paddling on Lake Superior is only recommended for experienced paddlers. Pukaskwa's Hattie Cove is well hidden and difficult to find. Be sure to landmark carefully when paddling this stretch.



# Nearby communities



## Biigtigong Nishnaabeg (Pic River)

Biigtigong Nishnaabeg is the nearest community. If there's an item on your list that you've forgotten, you need to fill up with gas, buy ice, or you're just looking for a few snacks, there are two stores in the community to serve you.



## Town of Marathon

Marathon is the closest full-service community. One large grocery store, three hardware stores, and several other businesses can provide food, fuel, and basic supplies you require for a backcountry trip.

# What to expect...



Plunging waterfalls & lingering sunsets.

© Alec Bloyd Peshkin



Fog.  
Did we say fog?



Crystal clear,  
but ice cold water.



Stormy Lake Superior & waves.



1/5 windbound days Jun - Jul.  
3/5 windbound days Aug - Sep.



The longest undeveloped shoreline on the Great Lakes.



Shoreline nooks and crannies.



Long stretches of rocky shorelines.

© Alec Bloyd Peshkin

# Hazards & minimizing risks



## Rugged and remote

Pukaskwa National Park is spectacular. It is also a remote, rugged place where rescues take time. Remember: you are responsible for your own safety. All paddlers must be experienced in backcountry, ocean-like paddling.



## Temperatures and monthly rainfall

Pukaskwa's cool, sunny summer days are perfect for exploring, or a quick swim. However, snow can fall in June and September.

Month	Low	High	Rainfall
May	3°C / 37°F	14°C / 57°F	74 mm / 3"
June	6°C / 43°F	17°C / 63°F	90 mm / 3.5"
July	9°C / 48°F	20°C / 68°F	81 mm / 3"
August	10°C / 50°F	20°C / 68°F	87 mm / 3.5"
September	6°C / 43°F	15°C / 59°F	102 mm / 4"
October	1°C / 34°F	9°C / 48°F	87 mm / 3.5"



## Lake Superior conditions

Lake Superior is cold and unpredictable. Although water near the shore may be warmer, the lake's average temperature is only 4°C / 39°F year-round. Hypothermia can start within 5-10 minutes if you are not wearing a wetsuit or dry suit.

Fog is common and can last for days. Be prepared to navigate using a compass.

If you're paddling in May, June or July, be prepared to be windbound for 1 out of every 5 days. If you're paddling in August or September, prepare to be windbound for 3 out of 5 days.



## Rivers and reflection waves

Exercise caution when crossing river mouths, particularly during high-water conditions. Crossing the White River can be particularly tricky and requires high level paddling skill. Be wary of large

waves and strong currents at this and other river mouths. Paddling around most exposed points (Campbell's Point and Sewell Point in particular) can be hazardous due to reflection waves. Be prepared to turn back if conditions are too hazardous.



## Bears and food lockers

Black bears live in Pukaskwa National Park, and are occasionally seen along the coast. Food lockers for storing food overnight are available at some but not all Coastal Paddling Route campsites. At campsites where food lockers are not available, suspend bear attractants between two trees (minimum of four metres off the ground and one metre from tree trunks) or come prepared with bear-proof/air-tight food containers. Take precautions and be prepared for an encounter with a black bear. Bring legal bear deterrents (like, bear spray). Be informed and ready for their safe use. Firearms are prohibited in Pukaskwa National Park. For more information, read *You Are In Black Bear Country* available at the Park Kiosk or consult with Parks Canada staff.

Food lockers are not rodent proof - always store food in sturdy, odour resistant containers/bags.



## Bugs

Bring your bug hat, bug jacket, bug spray, or nerves of steel.

Blackflies	Peak late May - June
Mosquitoes	Peak mid June - July
Horse and Deer Flies	Peak July - August
Deer Ticks	No known reports. If you do find a deer tick, please notify park staff.



## Doctors and veterinarians

We hope you won't require medical attention while on vacation, however if you do, there is a medical clinic, a pharmacy, and a hospital in Marathon. The closest permanent veterinary service is in Thunder Bay. Mobile services do travel to Marathon regularly. Check with park staff for a current schedule.



### Equipment

To enjoy your paddling experience, you must be comfortable. Use quality lightweight equipment and be prepared for cold, warm, dry and wet weather.

A suggested list of equipment can be found on page 34.



### Sunrise and sunset times

There's plenty of sunshine on the northern shore of Lake Superior. Plan your daily objectives accordingly.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Sunrise</u>	<u>Sunset</u>
May 21	6:00 am	9:25 pm
June 21	5:45 am	9:50 pm
July 21	6:05 am	9:40 pm
August 21	6:45 am	8:50 pm
September 21	7:30 am	7:45 pm
October 21	8:15 am	6:45 pm



### Pets

Please note that certain animals in the park such as woodland caribou and black bears can be highly sensitive to dogs. If you decide to bring your dog, it must be leashed at all times.



### Water quality

Drinking water is available from most rivers, creeks and certainly from Lake Superior. We advise all backcountry paddlers to fine filter, treat or boil their drinking water.



### Cell phone service

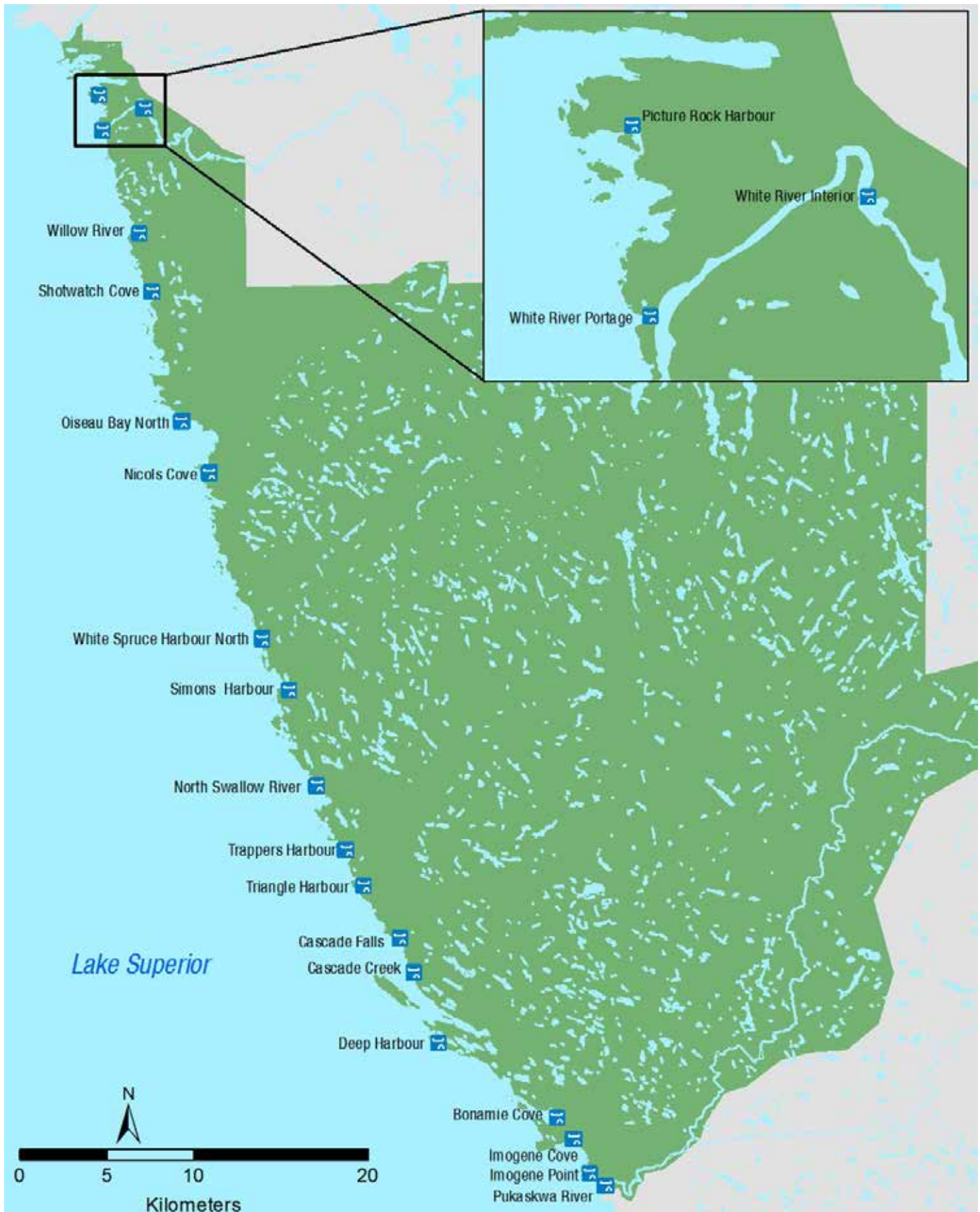
Cell phone service is unreliable in the park, especially in Pukaskwa's backcountry.



Coastal Paddling Route



# Coastal Paddling Route map



# What are my trip options?

Whatever you would like! We recommend paddlers paddle at their own pace and make their trip their own unique experience. If you are having a hard time deciding what campsites to visit, where to start or how long to go for - check out our favourite paddling routes below!

## Escape to Falls

*Need some adventure in your life? Take a short trip to the Chigaaminwinigum Falls!*

1 night / 2 days, 30 km

Day 1	Hattie Cove to White River Interior	15 km
Day 2	White River Interior to Hattie Cove	15 km
Optional: While at the White River Interior campsite, paddle across the river to the base of the falls on the river's south shore, then hike up the spur trail about 2 km to the White River Suspension Bridge.		

Day 4	White Spruce Harbour North to Nicols Cove	13 km
Day 5	Nicols Cove to Shot Watch Cove	19 km
Day 6	Shot Watch Cove to Picture Rock Harbour North	13 km
Day 7	Picture Rock Harbour North to Hattie Cove	10 km

## Willow River Long Weekend

*Enjoy the adventurous coast and its lake-side comforts along the way!*

3 nights / 4 days, 34 km

Day 1	Hattie Cove to Picture Rock Harbour North	10 km
Day 2	Picture Rock Harbour North to Willow River	7 km
Day 3	Willow River to White River Portage	6 km
Day 4	White River Portage to Hattie Cove	11 km

## A Paddle through Paradise

*The bucket list trip of a lifetime... Paddle the Great Lakes' wildest shore.*

9 nights / 10 days, 225 km

Day 1	Hattie Cove to Willow River	17 km
Day 2	Willow River to Nicols Cove	25 km
Day 3	Nicols Cove to Simons Harbour	18 km
Day 4	Simons Harbour to Cascade Falls	27 km
Day 5	Cascade Falls to Bonamie Cove	34.5 km
Day 6	Bonamie Cove to Imogene Cove	7 km
Day 7	Imogene Cove to Pipe River	24.5 km
Day 8	Pipe River to Floating Heart River	12 km
Day 9	Floating Heart River to Dog River	28 km
Day 10	Dog River to Michipicoten River	31 km

## The Teaser

*Before you commit to the entire Pukaskwa coastline try this halfway teaser!*

6 nights / 7 days, 110 km

Day 1	Hattie Cove to Willow River	17 km
Day 2	Willow River to Oiseau Bay North	18 km
Day 3	Oiseau Bay North to White Spruce Harbour North	20 km

# Crown land camping

From the Pukaskwa River south to Michipicoten, camping is available on provincial Crown land. Residents of Canada may camp free of charge on Crown land. Non-resident Crown Land Camping Permits are available from numerous hunting and fishing license issuers and from Service Ontario centres in northern Ontario. The cost of a Non-resident Crown Land Camping Permit is approximately \$10 per person per night.

Please call 1-800-667-1940 or visit the web address below for more information.

[www.mnr.gov.on.ca/en/Business/CrownLand/2ColumnSubPage/STEL02\\_170045.html](http://www.mnr.gov.on.ca/en/Business/CrownLand/2ColumnSubPage/STEL02_170045.html)



Coastal Paddling Route - Fish Harbour



Coastal Paddling Route - Picture Rock Harbour



Willow River Suspension Bridge

# Protecting, presenting & preserving

Parks Canada is responsible for ensuring the sustainability and integrity of the natural and cultural resources in its care. Everyone can help to protect the beauty and the heritage of Pukaskwa National Park and its backcountry. Working with others, we strive to provide Canadians and international visitors with the opportunity to experience and learn about Canada's heritage.

The entire national park falls within the traditional territory of local indigenous communities who have inhabited this region for countless generations. Parks Canada works collaboratively with them to ensure protection, preservation and presentation of these lands.

We also need your help. Respectful behaviour from all paddlers will lead to a safe and rewarding experience and contribute to a healthy functioning ecosystem. Please be respectful of all structures and cultural resources you may find along your excursion.



Hattie Cove - Anishinaabe Camp



Otter Island

## Pukaskwa Pits

Pukaskwa pits can be found in the cobble beaches along the coast. As local elder Proddy Goodchild says, "No one knows for sure what the Pukaskwa Pits were used for. We only know that some are very old, and some are not so old." Help us protect these ancient structures. Do not move rocks or alter the pits.

## Wildlife cameras & privacy

Wildlife cameras are used in Pukaskwa National Park for wildlife conservation purposes. Concerned about your privacy? So are we. That's why we delete images of visitors captured on our cameras. However, images that show illegal activities that may have serious impacts on wildlife, or put the safety of visitors at risk may be used for law enforcement purposes.

# Leave no trace



## Plan ahead and prepare

- Know the regulations and special concerns for the area you'll visit.
- Prepare for extreme weather, hazards, and emergencies.
- Schedule your trip to avoid times of high use.
- Visit in small groups.

## Travel and camp on durable surfaces

- Durable surfaces include established trails and campsites, rock, gravel, or dry grasses.
- Protect riparian areas by camping at least 70 metres from lakes and streams.
- Good campsites are found, not made. Altering a site is not necessary.

## In popular areas:

- Concentrate use on existing trails and campsites.
- Walk single file in the middle of the trail, even when wet or muddy.
- Keep campsites small. Focus activity in areas where vegetation is absent.

## In pristine areas:

- Disperse use to prevent the creation of campsites and trails.
- Avoid places where impacts are just beginning.

## Dispose of waste properly

- Pack it in, pack it out. Pack out all trash, leftover food, and litter.
- Use pit privies where available. When unavailable, deposit solid human waste in catholes dug 15 to 20 cm deep at least 70 metres from water, camp, and trails. Cover and disguise the cathole when finished.
- Pack out toilet paper and hygiene products.
- To wash yourself or your dishes, carry water 70 metres away from streams or lakes and use small amounts of biodegradable soap. Scatter strained dishwater.

## Leave what you find

- Preserve the past: examine, but do not touch, cultural or historic structures and artifacts.
- Leave rocks, plants and other natural objects as you find them.
- Do not build structures, furniture, or dig trenches.

## Minimize campfire impacts

- Campfires can cause lasting impacts to the backcountry. Use a lightweight stove for cooking and enjoy a candle lantern for light.
- Where fires are permitted, use established fire rings, fire pans, or mound fires.
- Keep fires small. Only use sticks from the ground that can be broken by hand.
- Burn all wood and coals to ash, put out campfires completely, then scatter cool ashes.

## Respect wildlife

- Observe wildlife from a distance. Do not follow or approach them.
- Never feed animals. Feeding wildlife damages their health, alters natural behaviours, and exposes them to predators and other dangers.
- Protect wildlife and your food by storing rations and trash securely.
- Control pets at all times, or leave them at home.
- Avoid wildlife during sensitive times: mating, nesting, raising young, or winter.

## Be considerate of others

- Respect other visitors and protect the quality of their experience.
- Be courteous. Yield to other users on the trail.
- Take breaks and camp away from trails and other visitors.
- Let nature's sounds prevail. Avoid loud voices and noises.

[www.leavenotrace.ca](http://www.leavenotrace.ca)



Hattie Cove



Hattie Cove



Southern Headland Trail

## Hattie Cove · Bii to bii gong

67 Campsites, 5 oTENTik tents

Bii to bii gong is the Anishinaabe name for Hattie Cove and means water between two rocks. This protected cove features a road accessible campground and is open from May 15 through October 15. During peak season, the campground includes flush toilets, hot showers, electrical campsites, free WIFI, interpretive programs, and more. Hattie Cove is the most popular access point for backcountry visitors.



### Parking

Parking for backcountry visitors is available in the Visitor Centre parking lot.

### Visitor Centre and Park Store

Want a little token to remember your backcountry adventure? Drop by the Visitor Centre to view our selection of Pukaskwa National Park mementos at the park store.



Picture Rock Harbour North - Site PRH2



Mdaabii Miikna



## Picture Rock Harbour North · Ga oname kwa

### 1 Campsite: PRH2

Enjoy being nestled in this harbour protected by an island to the front and cliff to the north. Stretch your legs and explore Mdaabii Miikna. Follow the trail north to an exciting rock feature and panoramic cliff-top views.



### What to expect en route:

- Pulpwood Harbour.
- Reflection waves at Campbell Point.
- Picture Rock Harbour.

### Insiders' tip:

- For generations, Picture Rock Harbour was a place to seek protection from Lake Superior's rough waters. It is still a good place to wait for the lake to calm down - especially if you are planning to paddle north past Campbell Point where reflection waves can create choppy waters.



White River Portage - Site WRP1



White River Mouth

## White River Portage · Waabishkaa Ziibi

### 1 Campsite: WRP1

Enjoy the smell of cedar as you set up your tent and feel the comfort of the forest as you are hugged by nature's canopy. Watch the sunset while relaxing (and drying out) on the large smooth boulders at the campsite entry point.



### What to expect en route:

- Picture Rock Harbour.
- Access the portage past the WRP1 campsite to reach the White River interior campsite.

### Insiders' tip:

- Did you bring your fishing rod? Cast into the White River for awesome fishing!





White River Suspension Bridge



White River Interior - Site WRI1



## White River Interior · Chigaamiwinigum

### 2 Campsites: WRI1, WRI2 (shared double)

Treat yourself to large sites and nature's sound track of Chigaamiwinigum Falls. Paddle to the south side of the river, at the bottom of the falls and hike (2km) to the suspension bridge which spans over a 30 m gorge with a 23 m drop at Chigaamiwinigum Falls.



### What to expect en route:

- Up stream/down stream paddling.
- Access the portage past the WRP1 campsite to reach the White River interior campsite.

### Insiders' tip:

- Quench your thirst by filling up at the White River's calm pool of water below the main falls. Be cautious along this rushing river.



## Willow River · Wedoopki ziibi

### 2 Campsites: WR4, WR5 (shared double)

This site features a playful beach and a relaxing sunset view - it's the best of both worlds for socializing and rejuvenating alike! Paddle up the Willow River to float under one of two suspension bridges along the coast.



### What to expect en route:

- Strong current and reflection waves at the White River.
- Rocky coastline.

### Insiders' tip:

- Feeling social? Take an evening stroll and visit with other hikers/paddlers at this site. Sharing backcountry stories around a fire is always a treat!



## Shot Watch Cove · Miziinack onigiigan

### 2 Campsites: SWC1, SWC2 (shared double)

What's with the name? Well, rumor has it a pocket watch was found at this location with a bullet hole through its middle... What a mystery! Enjoy the sites' sandy beach and island views.



### What to expect en route:

- Rocky shoreline.
- Small islands.

### Insiders' tip:

- Shot Watch Cove and Morrison Harbour (about 1 km south), are great places to take shelter from Lake Superior storms. Keep this location in mind in case of emergencies!



Oiseau Bay North - Site OBN1



Coastal Paddling Route

## Oiseau Bay North · Wiso wikwedon

### 2 Campsites: OBN1, OBN2 (shared double)

Large sandy beach, with towering cliffs to the east - a wonderful site for sunbathing and sunset enthusiasts alike.



#### What to expect en route:

- Shallow water at shoreline.
- Small islands.
- Morrison Harbour.
- Fish Harbour.
- Cave Harbour.

#### Insiders' tip:

- Plan a break at Fish Harbour and take advantage of the location's pit privy.
- Be sure to paddle by Cave Harbour to check out the cave (duh!). Admire this feature from afar; entering caves can disturb bat habitats and cause the spread of White Nose Syndrome.



# Nicols Cove

## 2 Campsites: NC1, NC2 (shared double)

The little cove that could... This well protect site is a welcome sight to paddlers who are experiencing one of Lake Superior's moody days. Set up camp, make yourself a hot beverage, take a soft seat on the site's sandy beach and give your muscles a well deserved rest.

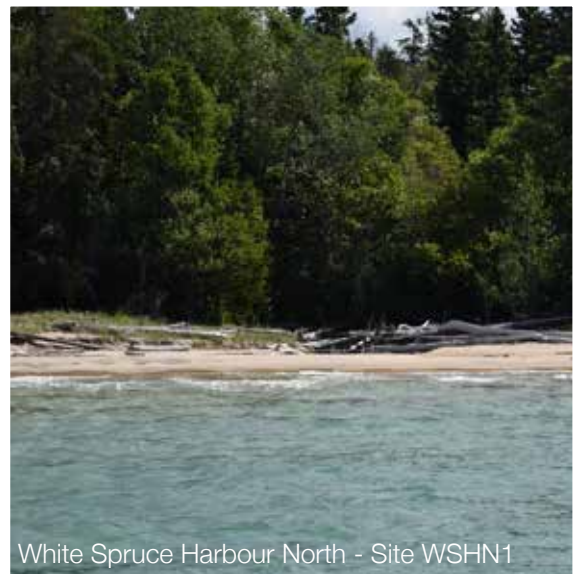


### What to expect en route:

- Oiseau Bay, the longest sandy beach on Pukaskwa's coast.
- Small islands.

### Insiders' tip:

- Lake Superior is notorious for its thick, enveloping fog. When the fog rolls in, stick to the coastline and wait until it clears out to do any open water crossings.



# White Spruce Harbour North · Migizi awatik goonsing

**2 Campsites: WSHN1, WSHN2 (shared double)**

A beautiful, sandy beach site that backs on to a charming forest treeline... You will feel the magic at this location!

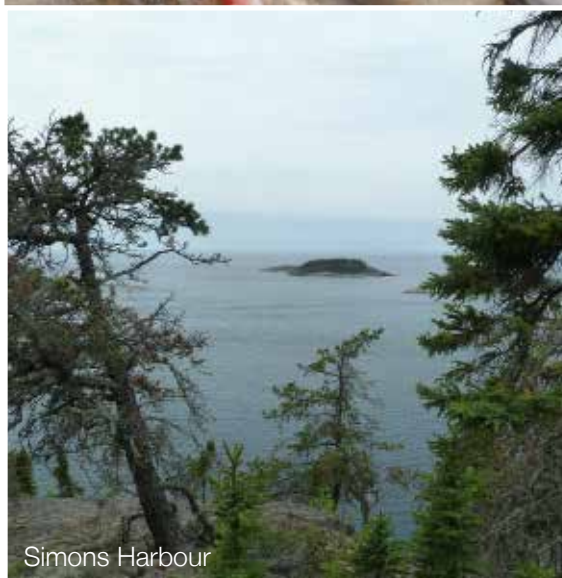


**What to expect en route:**

- Long paddle from closest site to the north.
- Rocky shoreline with nooks and crannies.

**Insiders' tip:**

- Get an early start to your day when paddling south from Nicols Cove. In bad weather, take advantage of the plentiful little coves along the way.



## Simons Harbour · Gichi migizi awatikgoon

### 1 Campsite: SH1

Stunning rocky, rolling hills surround this safe harbour location. Enjoy the harbour's sights and sounds as you unwind at the end of your paddling day.

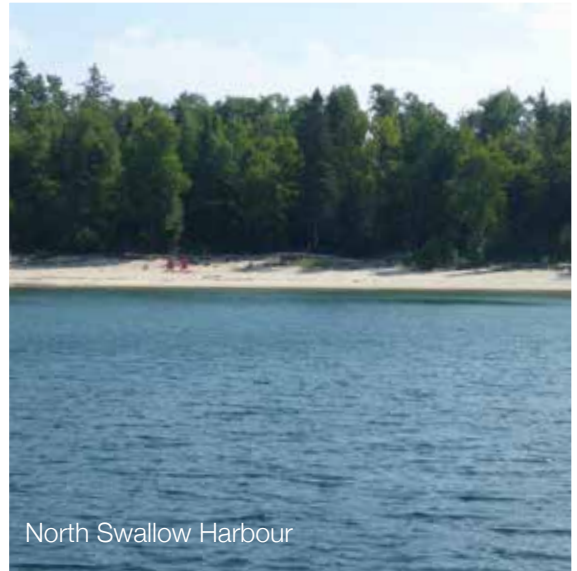


### What to expect en route:

- Islands.
- Safe harbour location.

### Insiders' tip:

- Before your big trip down the Pukaskwa coast, practice re-entering your canoe or kayak from the water. This is a valuable skill to have, especially when paddling Lake Superior's cold, deep waters.



North Swallow Harbour



North Swallow - Site NS2

## North Swallow River · Giiwednong zhaashawinibiis wi ziibi

### 2 Campsites: NS2, NS3 (shared double)

Wave ‘hello’ to the hikers who often begin their trip at this scenic location. This sheltered little cove is a great place to soak in some sun and to share an evening fire. Take a short stroll past the privy to get a great view of Newman’s Bay.



### What to expect en route:

- English Fish Harbour.
- Islands.
- Steep rocky shoreline.
- “The Ramparts” - reflection wave danger.

### Insiders’ tip:

- Plan your paddling trip for June or July. Once August/September rolls around the winds change and you will have about 3/5 wind-bound days on average. Don’t wager against Mother Nature!





Trappers Harbour - Site TH1



Trappers Harbour



## Trappers Harbour · Nandawenjige nini wiikwed

### 1 Campsite: TH1, TH2 (shared double)

This site sits at the most eastern point of this inlet-like harbour. It features smooth rocks and flat tent pad areas - a cozy spot for sipping tea and reading a good book.

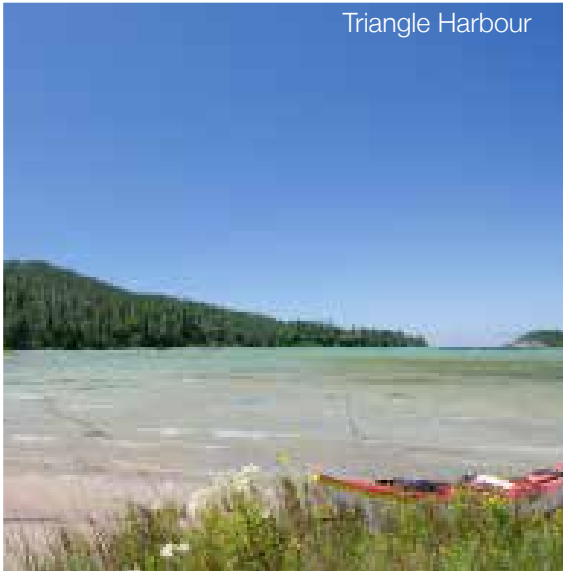


### What to expect en route:

- Newmans Bay.
- “The Cigars” islands.

### Insiders’ tip:

- In high wave conditions, the narrow entrance to Trappers Harbour can be difficult to enter and exit.



# Triangle Harbour

## 1 Campsite: TRI1

A private, very sheltered harbour site that you can call yours for a night or two!



### What to expect en route:

- Crawford Island.
- Swallow River.

### Insiders' tip:

- The small harbour opening is marked by a white navigational beacon - big boats beware, this harbour's waters are very shallow!
- This site can be affected by water levels - if they are high, the beach area may be under water.



Cascade Falls - Site CF1



Cascade Falls



## Cascade Falls · Ga waa sajo waana

### 2 Campsites: CF1, CF2 (shared double)

The famous Cascade Falls! This iconic Pukaskwa feature struts its stuff year-round but for the biggest show visit it in late spring/early summer when runoff is at its peak!



### What to expect en route:

- Possible open water areas.
- Cascade Falls.

### Insiders' tip:

- This site is a beauty! But its beach is known for driftwood and pebbles... For a good night's sleep make sure to bring a quality sleeping pad!
- Otter Island has some of the best Woodland Caribou habitat on the north shore of Lake Superior and is an area of special preservation in Pukaskwa National Park. We encourage paddlers to explore the island but please do so from the water rather than on land.



Old keeper's residence on Otter Island



Cascade Creek - Site CC1/CC2

# Cascade Creek

## 2 Campsites: CC1, CC2 (shared double)

This gorgeous, large site features a large sandy beach and awesome sunset views. It is a great site for larger groups and is a great base camp for those who wish to paddle around Otter Island.



### What to expect en route:

- Otter Island.
- Old Daves Harbour.
- Otter Island Lighthouse .
- Lighthouse Keeper's and assistant's house.

### Insiders' tip:

- Otter Island has some of the best Woodland Caribou habitat on the north shore of Lake Superior and is an area of special preservation in Pukaskwa National Park. We encourage paddlers to explore the island but please do so from the water rather than on land.



Deep Harbour - DH1



Deep Harbour



# Deep Harbour

## 1 Campsite: DH1

A shallow, protected area that is surrounded by green forest and rocky cliffs - this site is recommended as a safe harbour destination only. Depending of the wind direction, leaving this harbour can be challenging.

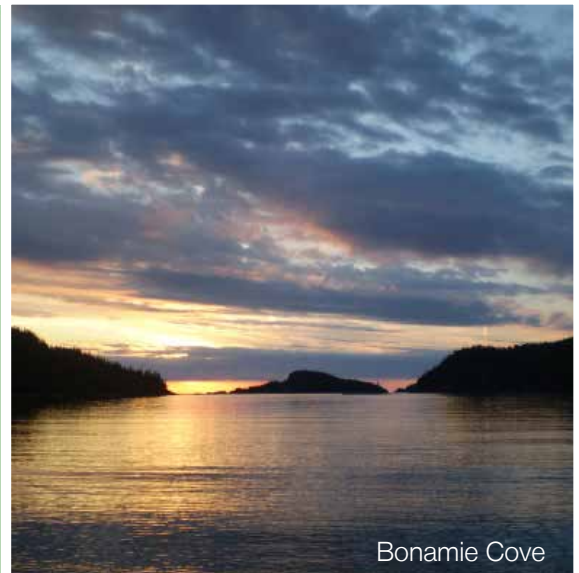


### What to expect en route:

- Otter Cove.
- Otter Head.
- Weidmans Island.

### Insiders' tip:

- Keep an eye to the sky as you paddle this area. Peregrine falcons nest on nearby steep cliffs, and are frequently sighted here. Participate in the park's annual monitoring program while on your trip! Call or e-mail the park for more information.



# Bonamie Cove

## 3 Campsites: BC1, BC2, BC3 (shared double)

Bonamie indeed! This cove is a ‘good friend’ to many paddlers! Enjoy this protected site by digging your feet into the warm sandy beach and gazing at the awe-inspiring views.



### What to expect en route:

- Possible open water areas.
- Rocky Shoreline.
- Richardson Island.
- Tug Harbour.

### Insiders’ tip:

- Pointe La Canadienne is just south of Bonamie Cove - be careful in this area, it is known for reflection waves. Remember, safety first, itinerary second - if it’s not safe to leave your campsite, stay another night!



## Imogene Cove

### 2 Campsites: IC1, IC2 (shared double)

Until the 1930s, Imogene Cove was home to the Pukaskwa Depot, a logging community of over 300 people! Want to know more? Pick up a copy of “Pukasaw Dairies” by Ruth Fletcher at the park store. Campsites at this location can be found at the cove’s sandy, northern side. Camping is not permitted at the former town site.

### What to expect en route:

- Pointe La Canadienne - Reflection wave danger.
- Davis Island.

### Insiders’ tip:

- Be more bear aware at Imogene Cove. The old depot town site is now a large open area, perfect for bears who love digging for grubs and eating grass!





# Imogene Point

## 1 Campsite: IP1

Private sandy beach with breathtaking southwest views - a great place to take a break!



### What to expect en route:

- Imogene Point.
- Possible open water areas.

### Insiders' tip:

- The cool breeze from Lake Superior can be deceiving, always wear sunscreen and a hat even on cloudy, foggy days... From experience, trust us!





## Pukaskwa River · Bii-skikaag saateg ziibi

### 2 Campsites: PR1, PR2 (shared double)

The last and most southern campsite location in the park - enjoy the Pukaskwa River's amazing cliff side views and explore its vast sandbar.



### What to expect en route:

- Pukaskwa River.

### Insiders' tip:

- The Pukaskwa River can have a strong current, especially in late spring/early summer - watch out for waves and plan out your landing site!

# What to bring? Here's what we suggest!

## Safety gear

- Brain filled with experience paddling big, cold waters
- PFD/Life jacket
- Personal location beacon (SPOT, etc.)
- Matches/fire starting kit
- Bear deterrent
- Weather radio
- First aid kit
- Extra food (1-2 days)
- Spare paddle
- Self-rescue aids
- 15m buoyant throw rope
- Bailer
- Spray skirt
- Whistle/signalling device

## Navigation

- Chrismar Map/nautical maps
- Watch
- Compass
- Binoculars
- Global Positioning System (GPS)

## Repair kit

- Duct tape
- Spare batteries
- Silicon sealant
- General repair kits (tent, stove, etc.)

## Camp gear

- Tarp or tent footprint
- Tent
- Water filter/purification system
- Stove and fuel
- 15m rope/pulley system for hanging food
- Cooking pot
- Stuff sacks
- Dry sacks
- Toilet paper
- Trowel
- Food
- Dry sacks
- Knife

## Personal gear

- Backpack
- Sleep pad
- Water bottle
- Bowl and utensils
- Mug
- Towel
- Daypack
- Sunscreen/sunglasses
- Sleeping bag
- Head lamp and/or flashlight
- Paddling gloves
- Paddling top
- Kneeling pads

## Personal clothing

- Warm hat/sun hat
- Rain gear with hood
- Pants/shorts
- Jacket
- Sweater
- Shirt/t-shirt
- Long underwear
- Gloves
- Camp shoes
- Swimsuit
- Bug hat, jacket, and/or repellent
- Hiking boots
- Socks

## Extra things you won't regret

- Camera
- Notebook/pencil
- Salt and pepper
- Toothpaste/tooth brush (for your fellow hikers!)
- Chocolate bar
- Lots of hot drinks (trust us)



Coastal Paddling Route - Fog

# Ready to book? Here's how...

## 1. Schedule a boat shuttle (optional):

Call the park for boat shuttle details at 807-229-0801. Friendly Parks Canada staff will help you find a service provider.

## 2. Make a backcountry reservation:

Backcountry trails and campsites are open (weather permitting) from May 15 - October 14.

Reservations are available for 2019 beginning January 15, 2019. Reserve your backcountry camping permit:

- Online 24/7 at: [www.reservations.pc.gc.ca](http://www.reservations.pc.gc.ca)
- By calling: 1-877-RESERVE (1-877-737-3783)

Are you confident in your trip itinerary? Online service fees are \$11.00 per reservation, modification or cancellation and call centre fees are \$13.50 per reservation, modification or cancellation.

## 3. Check in for registration, permits and orientation

Upon your arrival, stop at the park Kiosk to receive your mandatory Backcountry Orientation and permits. The safety orientation must take place prior to starting the trip. When registering, please have the following information ready:

- Booking number
- Group member names
- Emergency contact information
- Equipment descriptions (tents, canoes, kayaks, etc.)
- Vehicle descriptions

## 4. Pay your fees

At the time of booking, a backcountry camping fee of \$9.80 per person per night will be applied. Please note that daily admission is not applied at the time of booking. The additional entry fees will be processed upon arrival. For current daily entry fees, visit the Fees section under Plan Your Visit on the park's website - [www.pc.gc.ca/pukaskwa](http://www.pc.gc.ca/pukaskwa).

## 5. Go! Let your adventure begin!

# Annual backcountry camping pass

Staying in the park's backcountry for 8 or more nights? That's great! Pukaskwa offers an annual backcountry camping pass that will save you money! The annual pass costs \$68.70 per person and is available for purchase at the park only. Want to take advantage of these savings? Call (807-229-0801) or email ([ont-pukaskwa@pc.gc.ca](mailto:ont-pukaskwa@pc.gc.ca)) us to purchase your annual backcountry camping pass prior to making your reservation.

# Licensed outfitters and boat charters

## Naturally Superior Adventures

<https://www.naturallysuperior.com/>

10 Government Dock Rd,

Wawa, ON P0S 1K0,

705-856-2939 or 1-800-203-9092

[info@naturallysuperior.com](mailto:info@naturallysuperior.com)

## North Shore Adventures

<https://www.facebook.com/>

NorthShoreAdventuresCanada/

PO Box 1722 Marathon, ON P0T 2E0

807-228-0709

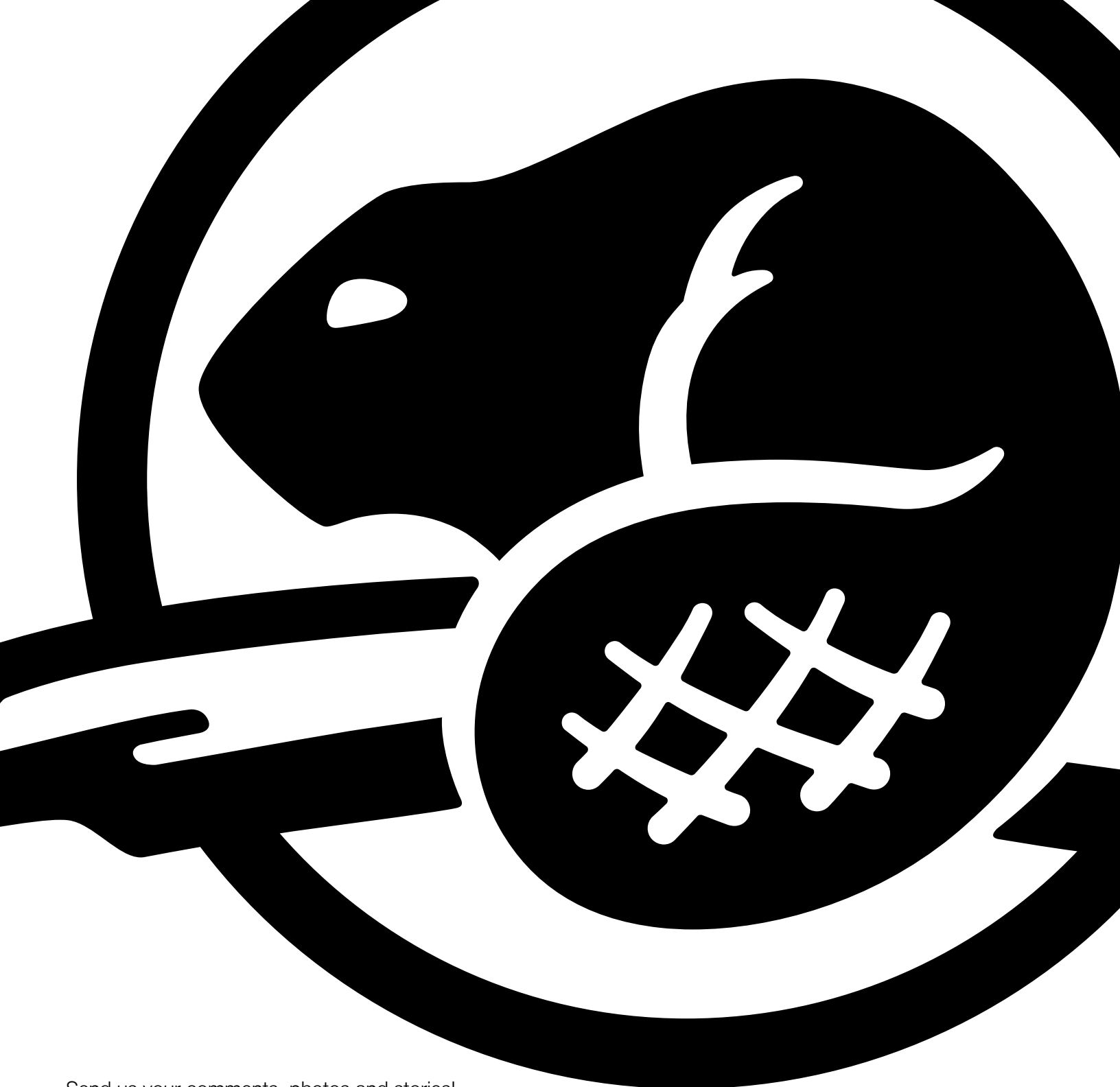
[contact@northshoreadventures.ca](mailto:contact@northshoreadventures.ca)



# Coastal Paddling Route Distance Chart

<b>Coastal Paddling Route (approximately)</b>	Hattie Cove 67 sites	Picture Rock Harbour North - 1 site	White River Portage 1 site	White River Interior 2 sites	Willow River 2 sites	Shot Watch Cove 2 sites	Oiseau Bay North 2 sites	Nicols Cove 2 sites	White Spruce Harbour North- 2 sites
Hattie Cove 67 sites		10 km	11 km	15 km	17 km	23 km	35 km	42 km	55 km
Picture Rock Harbour North 1 site	10 km		1 km	5 km	7 km	13 km	25 km	32 km	45 km
White River Portage 1 site	11 km	1 km		4 km	6 km	12 km	24 km	31 km	44 km
White River Interior 2 sites	15 km	5 km	4 km		10 km	16 km	28 km	35 km	48 km
Willow River 2 sites	17 km	7 km	6 km	10 km		6 km	18 km	25 km	38 km
Shot Watch Cove 2 sites	23 km	13 km	12 km	16 km	6 km		12 km	19 km	32 km
Oiseau Bay North 2 sites	35 km	25 km	24 km	28 km	18 km	12 km		7 km	20 km
Nicols Cove 2 sites	42 km	32 km	31 km	35 km	25 km	19 km	7 km		13 km
White Spruce Harbour North - 2 sites	55 km	45 km	44 km	48 km	38 km	32 km	20 km	13 km	
Simons Harbour 1 site	60 km	50 km	49 km	53 km	43 km	37 km	25 km	18 km	5 km
North Swallow 2 sites	70 km	60 km	59 km	63 km	53 km	47 km	35 km	28 km	15 km
Trappers Harbour 2 sites	77 km	67 km	66 km	70 km	60 km	54 km	42 km	35 km	22 km
Triangle Harbour 1 site	81 km	71 km	70 km	74 km	64 km	58 km	46 km	39 km	26 km
Cascade Falls 2 sites	87 km	77 km	76 km	80 km	70 km	64 km	52 km	45 km	32 km
Cascade Creek 2 sites	90 km	80 km	79 km	83 km	73 km	67 km	55 km	48 km	35 km
Deep Harbour 1 site	98 km	88 km	87 km	91 km	81km	75 km	63 km	56 km	43 km
Bonamie Cove 3 sites	121.5 km	111.5 km	110.5 km	114.5 km	104.5 km	98.5 km	86.5 km	79.5 km	66.5 km
Imogene Cove 2 sites	128.5 km	118.5 km	117.5 km	121.5 km	111.5 km	105.5 km	93.5 km	86.5 km	73.5 km
Imogene Point 1 site	131.5 km	121.5 km	120.5	124.5 km	114.5 km	108.5 km	96.5 km	89.5 km	76.5 km
Pukaskwa River 2 sites	132.5 km	122.5 km	121.5 km	125.5 km	115.5 km	109.5 km	97.5 km	90.5 km	77.5 km

Simons Harbour Harbour 1 site	North Swallow Swallow 2 sites	Trappers Harbour Harbour 2 sites	Triangle Harbour Harbour 1 site	Cascade Falls 2 sites	Cascade Creek 2 sites	Deep Harbour 1 site	Bonamie Cove 3 sites	Imogene Cove 2 sites	Imogene Point 1 site	Pukaskwa River 2 sites
60 km	70 km	77 km	81 km	87 km	90 km	98 km	121.5 km	128.5 km	131.5 km	132.5 km
50 km	60 km	67 km	71 km	77 km	80 km	88 km	111.5 km	118.5 km	121.5 km	122.5 km
49 km	59 km	66 km	70 km	76 km	79 km	87 km	110.5 km	117.5 km	120.5 km	121.5 km
53 km	63 km	70 km	74 km	80 km	83 km	91 km	114.5 km	121.5 km	124.5 km	125.5 km
43 km	53 km	60 km	64 km	70 km	73 km	81 km	104.5 km	111.5 km	114.5 km	115.5 km
37 km	47 km	54 km	58 km	64 km	67 km	75 km	98.5 km	105.5 km	108.5 km	109.5 km
25 km	35 km	42 km	46 km	52 km	55 km	63 km	86.5 km	93.5 km	96.5 km	97.5 km
18 km	28 km	35 km	39 km	45 km	48 km	56 km	79.5 km	86.5 km	89.5 km	90.5 km
5 km	15 km	22 km	26 km	32 km	35 km	43 km	66.5 km	73.5 km	76.5 km	77.5 km
	10 km	17 km	21 km	27 km	30 km	38 km	61.5 km	68.5 km	71.5 km	72.5 km
10 km		7 km	11 km	17 km	20 km	28 km	51.5 km	58.5 km	61.5 km	62.5 km
17 km	7 km		4 km	10 km	13 km	21 km	44.5 km	51.5 km	54.5 km	55.5 km
21 km	11 km	4 km		6 km	9 km	17 km	40.5 km	47.5 km	50.5 km	51.5 km
27 km	17 km	10 km	6 km		3 km	11 km	34.5 km	41.5 km	44.5 km	45.5 km
30 km	20 km	13 km	9 km	3 km		8 km	31.5 km	38.5 km	41.5 km	42.5 km
38 km	28 km	21 km	17 km	11 km	8 km		23.5 km	30.5 km	33.5 km	34.5 km
61.5 km	51.5 km	44.5 km	40.5 km	34.5 km	31.5 km	23.5 km		7 km	10 km	11 km
68.5 km	58.5 km	51.5 km	47.5 km	41.5 km	38.5 km	30.5 km	7 km		3 km	4 km
71.5 km	61.5 km	54.5 km	50.5 km	44.5 km	41.5 km	33.5 km	10 km	3 km		1 km
72.5 km	62.5 km	55.5 km	51.5 km	45.5 km	42.5 km	34.5 km	11 km	4 km	1 km	



Send us your comments, photos and stories!

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