

## The Canadian Canoe Route

It is no coincidence that the canoe was listed first when Canadians chose "The Seven Wonders of Canada" in a national contest. No canoe, no Canada. The canoe made a nomadic, hunting life possible for the aboriginals who created this vessel. It made European exploration possible. It begat the fur trade—North America's first economy—and was critical to settlement.



Now everyone has the opportunity to know the true "wonder" of the canoe. A fabulous, hands-on, participatory experience that takes modern "explorers" from Toronto to Ottawa or vice versa while truly experiencing the history, importance and delight of the First Nations invention that made Canada possible.

Travellers will tour through the majestic Ontario Highlands, world-renowned for its freshwater lakes and rivers. Via modern highways and the original highways—our glorious rivers—visitors will immerse themselves in all aspects of the unique Canadian Canoe.

You will learn the history and legacy of this First Nations gift to the world. You will learn how to paddle flatwater and, for those who wish, whitewater. You will see how the first birchbark canoes were handcrafted. You will experience (in complete safety) the turbulent waters encountered by the first explorers. You will travel a heritage river in a modern war canoe.



Once you dip your first paddle, you will never again be the same.  
—Roy MacGregor

Make sure to get your passport stamped along the way!

## FOR FLY DRIVE, MOTORHOME, BUS SEVEN-DAY SUGGESTED ITINERARY from Toronto

**Day 1 & 2:** Drive northeast to visit the NEW home of The Canadian Canoe Museum in Peterborough. Learn all about Canadian canoe culture and explore the world's largest collection of paddled watercraft! Get your passport stamped at The Canadian Canoe Museum Shop! Travel south for special overnight in a private cottage at Elmhirst's Resort.

**Day 3:** Early morning Voyageur Canoe paddle on Rice Lake, then continue north to Madawaska Kanu Centre (MKC), just east of Algonquin Provincial Park. Come for lunch, enjoy MKC's delicious cuisine, take-in 2 Hour guided raft excursion on the Madawaska River. Overnight in a rustic cabana or glamping deep in the hardwood forest to get ready for your river day. Alternatively overnight at Spectacle Lake Lodge in private cabin beside the water.

**Day 4:** Zero to Hero the Madawaska River, dine and overnight at MKC or Spectacle Lake Lodge. Get your CCR Passport stamped!

**Day 5:** Enroute east, with pre-arrangement visit The Algonquin Way Cultural Centre on Golden Lake, home of the worlds largest birch bark canoe. Continue east, arrive at OWL Rafting resort, dine and stay beachside on the Ottawa River in cabana, glamping or overnight at Best Western Pembroke Inn in Pembroke or The Whitewater Inn in Beachburg.

**Day 6:** Experience a signature whitewater adventure in a modern canoe—a day-long rafting excursion through the legendary Rocher Fendu rapids! Enjoy a freshly grilled meal aboard OWL's Pontoon boat, relax, take-in the breathtaking scenery of the Canadian Shield and reflect on 400 years of Voyageur culture. Special campfire and big sky overnight at OWL or BW Pembroke Inn or The Whitewater Inn.

**Day 7:** Waterfront breakfast, obtain your passport stamp, travel to the Nation's Capital, Ottawa. A must-stop, visit Indigenous Experiences on the edge of the Ottawa River by the Museum of History, and receive a unique passport stamp!

**Add-on:** Visit the Rideau Canal, a UNESCO World Heritage Site at the base of Parliament Hill, then follow this 202 kilometre route that connects Ottawa to Kingston. Cruise a portion of the Rideau with your own Le Boat rental from Smiths Falls or take a day enroute to learn how to 'Canoe Like a Canadian' with Yours Outdoors, overnight at Bonnie View Inn.

## The Canadian Canoe Museum

PETERBOROUGH & THE KAWARTHAS

### PACKAGE

### Canoe Museum Experience

Explore the world's largest collection of canoes, kayaks, and paddled watercraft – at this new on-water museum! The 60-minute guided museum experience includes learning hands-on canoe building techniques.

\*Rates forthcoming in 2023.\*

### HIGHLIGHT

The brand-new Collection Hall, which showcases the Museum's complete collection (over 600 vessels!) to visitors for the first-time.

### MUST DO

After your tour, grab a coffee or ice cream at the on-site Café and relax on the Lakeview Terrace or walk the Trans Canada Trail by the lake.



2077 Ashburnham Drive  
Peterborough, ON  
705-748-9153  
[www.canoemuseum.ca](http://www.canoemuseum.ca)  
OPENING SUMMER 2023,  
YEAR-ROUND



## Lakeside Cottage Resort Stay Elmhirst's Resort



### PACKAGE

Relax in your private lakeside cottage on Rice Lake, just a short drive from Peterborough. Enjoy horseback riding, canoeing, paddle boarding, kayaking, waterskiing, fishing, biking, hiking or dreaming on your own dock. Visit The Spa for a massage or take a floatplane flight. On the Local "Locavore" menu Elmhirst's Own indicates which foods the Resort produces on property and also features craft beer and fine wines in the Wild Blue Yonder Pub and Hearthside Rooms. We deliver if you prefer to barbeque at the cottage. Open year round.

### HIGHLIGHT

Sunrise paddle, sightseeing flight, Farm to Table Lunch.

### MUST DO

Experience the peace and wonder of a sunrise or sunset paddle in a voyageur canoe.



1045 Settler's Line, Keene  
705-295-4591  
[www.elmhirst.ca](http://www.elmhirst.ca)  
OPEN YEAR ROUND



## Madawaska Kanu Centre

HASTINGS COUNTY



Family owned resort, a mecca for learn to paddlers! Immerse in the scenic Madawaska River environment and discover whitewater canoe or kayak skills over a weekend or for five days—ideal for both first-timers or experienced paddlers. MKC offers all the comforts of a vacation resort; great food, camaraderie, and an authentic Canadian experience.

### PACKAGE

#### Week of Paddling—Kayak or Canoe

6 hours of paddling daily  
5 kilometres of dedicated river  
5 days to become a confident whitewater paddler  
Dip your paddle, read the river and pick your line into the whitewater. Your passionate and experienced guides have imparted the skills and confidence to navigate this route. Now it is just you and the river; the boat is an extension of your body as you manoeuvre rapids and eddies; your newfound abilities brought to life in this natural environment. Choose from camping to lodge or remote-forest cabana or glamping accommodation. Post-paddle, relax at the riverside resort—yoga, a log sauna, campfire gatherings and warm showers await—and savour local Feast ON-certified meals throughout your stay.

**HIGHLIGHT**  
Catch an eddy, surf a wave!

**MUST DO**  
Swim the rapids.

### PACKAGE

#### Zero-to-Hero—One Day Paddling Introduction

This full day will give you a great introduction to the sport. Starting on flatwater, we build your comfort in a canoe or kayak, before transitioning into the current and running the river.

**HIGHLIGHT**  
Looking back at the rapid just paddled!

**MUST DO**  
Taste a freshly roasted Madawaska Coffee.



247 River Road  
Barry's Bay, Ontario  
paddle@mkc.ca  
613-756-3620 | [www.mkc.ca](http://www.mkc.ca)  
JUNE TO AUGUST

## The Algonquin Way Cultural Centre

ON GOLDEN LAKE, OTTAWA VALLEY

Home of the world's largest Birch Bark Canoe crafted in 1957 by the Algonquins of Pikwakanagan First Nations.

### PACKAGE

#### The Canoe's Origins

Visit the Museum to capture the spirit of the canoe!

**HIGHLIGHT**  
Museum exhibit features the story of birch bark canoe construction by the community.

**MUST DO**  
Purchase an authentic souvenir prepared from moose and deer hides.



The Algonquin Way Cultural Centre

1674 Mishomis Inamo  
Pikwakanagan, Ontario  
Phone: 613-625-1958  
[www.thealgonquinway.ca](http://www.thealgonquinway.ca)  
MAY TO SEPTEMBER



## Canadian Canoe Route

### ATTRACTIONS



- Algonquin Way Cultural Centre
- Indigenous Experiences
- Madawaska Kanu Centre
- Owl Rafting
- The Canadian Canoe Museum
- UNESCO Rideau Canal
- Yours Outdoors



- 1 Balsam Provincial Park
- 2 Bon Echo Provincial Park
- 3 Bonnechere Provincial Park
- 4 Charleston Lake Provincial Park
- 5 Darlington Provincial Park
- 6 Emily Provincial Park
- 7 Ferris Provincial Park
- 8 Fitzroy Provincial Park
- 9 Lake St. Peter Provincial Park
- 10 Murphys Point Provincial Park
- 11 Petroglyphs Provincial Park
- 12 Presqu'île Provincial Park
- 13 Rideau River Provincial Park
- 14 Sandbanks Provincial Park
- 15 Sharbot Lake Provincial Park
- 16 Silent Lake Provincial Park
- 17 Silver Lake Provincial Park
- 18 Voyageur Provincial Park

### ACCOMMODATION & SERVICES

- Best Western Plus Parkside Inn & Spa, The White House
- Best Western Pembroke Inn & Conference Centre
- Bonnie View Inn
- Elmhurst's Resort
- Spectacle Lake Lodge
- The Whitewater Inn, Valley Cycle Tours



## Ontario's HIGHLANDS



**OWL Rafting on the Ottawa River**  
FORESTERS FALLS, OTTAWA VALLEY



Just ninety minutes upstream from the Nation's Capital is a wild section of river called the *Rocher Fendu*. Experience the downriver sensation in a guided raft on the Ottawa River and shoot the rapids like a Voyageur.

**PACKAGE**

**1-Day Rafting Trip**

Experience the great Canadian River trip – choose between low or medium intensity rafting, on this full-day natural roller coaster, where you'll paddle as a team with your experienced guide steering from the stern. Big, friendly waves, warm water and getting totally wet, laughing and making new friends in the middle of 'no-where'! Each rafting trip returns to the OWL resort aboard the signature Pontoon Boat enjoying a freshly grilled meal, while taking in the beauty of the Canadian Shield.

**HIGHLIGHT**

Spot a bald eagle.

**MUST DO**

Jump in and try body surfing.



**PACKAGE**

**2-Day Raft and Resort**

After a day on the river, you may be exhausted. Sleep in, listen to the birds from your waterfront cabin, enjoy an outdoor shower, and have a leisurely breakfast on the deck overlooking the Ottawa River, reflecting on the previous day's adventure!

**HIGHLIGHT**

Sitting by the campfire watching and gazing up at the endless night sky.

**MUST DO**

Paddle your own stand-up paddleboard from OWL's sandy beach!



40 OWL Lane  
Foresters Falls, Ontario  
raft@owlrafting.com  
613-646-2263  
[www.owlrafting.com](http://www.owlrafting.com)  
MID-MAY TO MID-SEPTEMBER



**Indigenous Experiences**

OTTAWA



Engage with Indigenous Experiences behind the Canadian Museum of History, near a site once used by Indigenous Peoples as a trading post, and as a place of friendship and celebration.

**PACKAGE**

**Feel the Heartbeat (1–2 hours)**

Participate in an information tour of the onsite Indigenous village and live interactive workshop to feel the heartbeat!

**HIGHLIGHT**

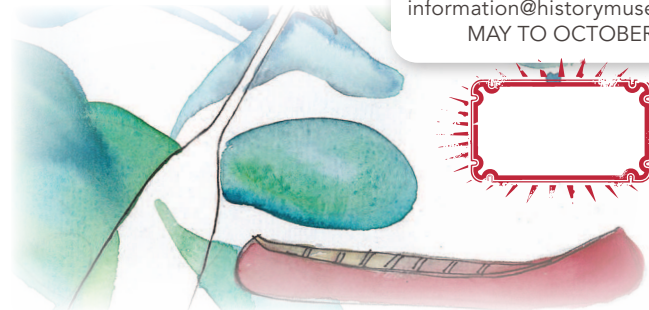
Create your own authentic and unique souvenir.

**MUST DO**

Capture your CCR team on camera with the Parliament building and the historic Ottawa River as your backdrop!



Indigenous Experiences  
Pre-Book Reservations via the  
Canadian Museum of History  
819-776-7014/1-800-555-5621  
information@historymuseum.ca  
MAY TO OCTOBER



**Rideau Canal Heritage Route**

OTTAWA-LANARK COUNTY-KINGSTON

In Ottawa, travellers will paddle the Rideau River and Canal, a UNESCO World Heritage Site and an engineering marvel still studied throughout the world. Built in the 1830s as a military precaution although it has never been used for defence purposes, instead it has become one of Canada's greatest tourist attractions: a river that runs in both directions from its source and connects the Canadian capital to Kingston, a city founded by Loyalists who fled the American Revolutionary War.

**PACKAGE**

**Cruise the Rideau with Le Boat!**

Discover the beauty of the Rideau Canal. One of the greatest engineering feats of the 19th century, the Rideau Canal is the oldest continuously-operated canal system in North America. Traveling this attractive waterway, you'll be able to unwind and take in the spectacular nature, picturesque towns and lively cities of this UNESCO World Heritage Site.

**Yours Outdoors**

HALIBURTON HIGHLANDS

**PACKAGE**

**Canoe Like A Canadian**

Learn the art of travel via canoe over a series of flatwater lakes, practice paddle strokes, portage a canoe and tripping skills.

**HIGHLIGHT**

Cruise effortlessly on a chain of clear lakes, rivers and canals in this breathtaking part of Canada.

**MUST DO**

Open a lock using the original 'crab.'

**le boat**

Who's on board?

1 Jasper Avenue, Smiths Falls,  
Ontario, K7A 4B5, Canada  
1-800-734-5491  
info@leboat.com  
MAY TO OCTOBER

**HIGHLIGHT**

Learn to stern a canoe!

**MUST DO**

Carry your canoe across a portage!



2713  
Kashagawigamog  
Lake Road  
Haliburton, Ontario  
905-808-5005

info@bonnieviewinn.com  
[www.bonnieviewinn.com](http://www.bonnieviewinn.com)

Ontario's HIGHLANDS comewander.ca  
ONTARIO CANADA  
destination canada  
BARRY'S BAY  
FORESTERS FALLS  
MADAWASKA Kanu Centre  
GOLDEN LAKE  
Canadian Canoe Museum  
PETERBOROUGH  
TORONTO  
[www.thecanadiancanoeroute.ca](http://www.thecanadiancanoeroute.ca)

**yours Outdoors**

authentic. awesome. adventure.  
705-754-3436  
info@yoursoutdoors.ca  
[www.yoursoutdoors.ca](http://www.yoursoutdoors.ca)