

Canoe the Wild Allagash Trips

5-7 Days



Below is information about our 5-7-day Allagash canoe trips. If after reading over this information, you have any questions, be sure to let us know.

Five-Seven Day Trip Itinerary: All trips meet in the town of Ashland 8AM at the Ashland One Stop at 117 Main St, Ashland, ME 04732 (located in the center of town on your left as you are heading north on route 11). We'll have your car parked in a secure location close by while on the trip. After loading up into our vehicle/vehicles, we'll enter the North Maine Woods and travel over good dirt roads to our put in location. **Six and Seven day trips** typically put in at Indian Stream or Chamberlain/Telos Lake throughfare, includes visiting the 'ghost trains' on Eagle Lake, paddling lively but not over the top-class II Chase Stream Rapids, a mixture of lake & meandering river section, Round Pond and Musquacook Deadwater. **Five-day canoe trips** typically begin on Churchill Lake and end at Michaud Farms or Allagash Village. At trip's end, we'll load up and give you a ride arriving back in Ashland around 2:30 in the afternoon on the last day of your trip.

The Allagash Wilderness Waterway is Maine's best-known canoe trip and has attracted paddler's for more than a century. Henry David Thoreau ventured into this region more than 150 years ago by traveling into the Allagash via the Mud Pond Carry from the West Penobscot watershed. The legendary Allagash is Maine's only designated Wild and Scenic River. With its easy flowing river sections and its moderate whitewater on Chase Stream Rapids, the Allagash is well suited for ages 12 and up. It is one of the few eastern rivers that can be paddled for a week or longer without coming into contact with modern civilization. If you're hoping to encounter wildlife, the Allagash is where you want to be. It has consistently been our best Maine canoe trip for spotting wildlife, including moose and eagles. While some like to try their hand at fishing, this time of the summer the water has warmed up some and the fishing isn't so good.

What is Provided:

Logistics: We take care of all pre-trip planning, packing of group gear, menu, shopping for food and packing meals. With years of experience and many outings on Maine and Canadian rivers, we've become quite efficient with the whole process including best place to start and end your trip, where to camp, what rapids to scout, river distances and time needed to travel, points of interest, camp setup & takedown, providing quick shelter, proper fire wood selection and building the campfire, the knowledge & experience of your canoe route so you can have a safe and enjoyable time.

Gear We Provide: We will provide all necessary camping equipment including river bags to keep your clothing dry, compact sleeping pad, quality and spacious outfitter tents, type III life jacket, paddle, spare paddle, durable Old Town canoes, compact camp chairs to relax around the campsite, group tarp, cooking & eating utensils, well stocked First Aid kit and for a little added peace of mind, a Garmin InReach two-way satellite communicator.

Sample Meals served on the Trip: Breakfasts include the best organic coffee, assortment of regular & herbal teas, & hot chocolate, oatmeal with fruit, buttermilk pancakes, served with real Maine blueberries & syrup, and the traditional Maine guide breakfast of local farm fresh eggs, meat, potatoes. Lunches are on the fly and

may include make your own wraps with assorted breads, variety of meats and cheeses, Tuna, lettuce, pickles and tomatoes. Snack foods may include trail mix & bars. Suppers may include the best cuts of locally raised Ribeye steaks, wild caught Alaska sockeye salmon, vegetables, fresh cooked biscuits, spaghetti with homemade sauce, chicken, rice, vegetables & dumplings, fresh salads and freshly baked desserts including brownies, strawberry shortcake, gingerbread cake and Apple Crisp. We can accommodate vegetarian diets. Note for the gluten free folks, please contact us to discuss what you can bring to substitute as needed. Vegan diets require bringing substitutes that require no extra cooking as space over the fire and pots are limited.

What is Not Included: All meals prior and after the river portion of your trip, transportation from the Bangor and Presque Isle airports (if needed), gratuities, although not required, it is customary to tip your guide, suggested amount 10-15% for exceptional service, fishing license, trip insurance including, medical, evacuation, and trip cancellation. To view multiple providers and policies, Visit: Squaremouth.com

You Provide: Personal clothing and sleeping bag (see packing list).

Extra Costs: Optional fishing license for those who desire to fish. Nonresidents ages 16 and older 3-day fishing license is \$43.00 for a 7-day nonresident fishing license, ages 15 & under can fish for free. Licenses can be purchased on line. Go to my resource's web page for a link to the Maine.gov website. There are no hidden costs.

A few options for staying the night prior to you trip: When traveling north on interstate 95 and a one hour's drive to our meeting place in Ashland is Vacationland Estates in Island Falls offering condo style units that can be rented by the night (call several weeks in advance to check on availability 207-463-2884). The Hampden Inn in Presque Isle (east of Ashland) involves an overall longer drive but puts you within a 1/2 hour drive of our meeting place, or a motel in Medway just off interstate 95, 1.5 hour drive to our meeting place.

New to canoeing? Be sure to view our instructional videos made in collaboration with Old Town Canoe. This short 3-part series covers: Basic Canoe Strokes, Canoe Paddling Maneuvers, Running Rapids. You can view them on our website by clicking on the gallery tab then click on the video tab.

Common Q & A

- NO pets allowed
- Maintained outhouses at all Allagash campsites
- Toilet paper is supplied but most bring a secret stash of their own
- Bringing boxed wine is fine. Responsible drinking only please. It is against the law to drink while canoeing.
- NO marijuana or Cannabis (CBD) Products. If this is a must, then please use a different guide service.
- We'll often mix and match canoeing partners based on what works best.
- Solo paddlers welcome when bringing your own solo boat
- Camp chairs are provided
- Allagash campsites are well maintained and are on a first come first serve basis. Each site has a fire pit with grate, picnic table with a rain fly pole, and areas to pitch a tent.
- We provide outfitter style tents that are easy to set up and take down. Outfitter tents come with a heavy #10 zipper and heavy-duty floor.
- There is no cell phone coverage in the Allagash.
- Getting in touch with us in the event of an emergency back home: Mon- Fri. 8-5, contact the Radio Dispatch Center (207) 435-7963. Weekends and off hours Maine state Police Dispatch Center (207)-532-5400 or 1-800-924-2261 (in state only).

- A guide and map of the Allagash Wilderness Waterway can be secured by contacting the Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry. Visit www.maine.gov/allagash
- Paddling Chase stream Rapids is optional as a park ranger can transport you around to the base of the rapids and you can wait approximately two hours for your group to arrive.
- While we provide biodegradable soap, if you would like a small bottle to keep on your person for personal use, we recommend Doctor Bronner's soap. The 2 OZ size is best for camping. From our personal experience, don't choose peppermint scent, as we have found it to attract bugs, we like lavender scent. You can buy on line at www.shop.drbronner.com/products/lavender-pure-castile-liquid-soap
- A typical day involves rising up at 6AM (often earlier on the big lakes to avoid potential headwinds that may arise from time to time by late morning), having breakfast and break camp getting underway around 8:30AM. We typically average around 5+ hours of paddling per day. Our approach is not to make the trip a marathon rather to arrive into camp by 2-3 in the afternoon allowing time to set up camp with some down time built in for relaxing, swimming, exploring and perhaps a short paddle to view wildlife including moose!

Canoe the Wild reserves the right to cancel a trip due to safety, forces in nature that are beyond our control such as low & high-water levels. In these cases, your payments are fully refundable.

Please contact us with additional questions you may have and we look forward to having you on the trip!

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Link for buying fishing licenses on line: www.maine.gov/ifw/licenses_permits/fishing.htm