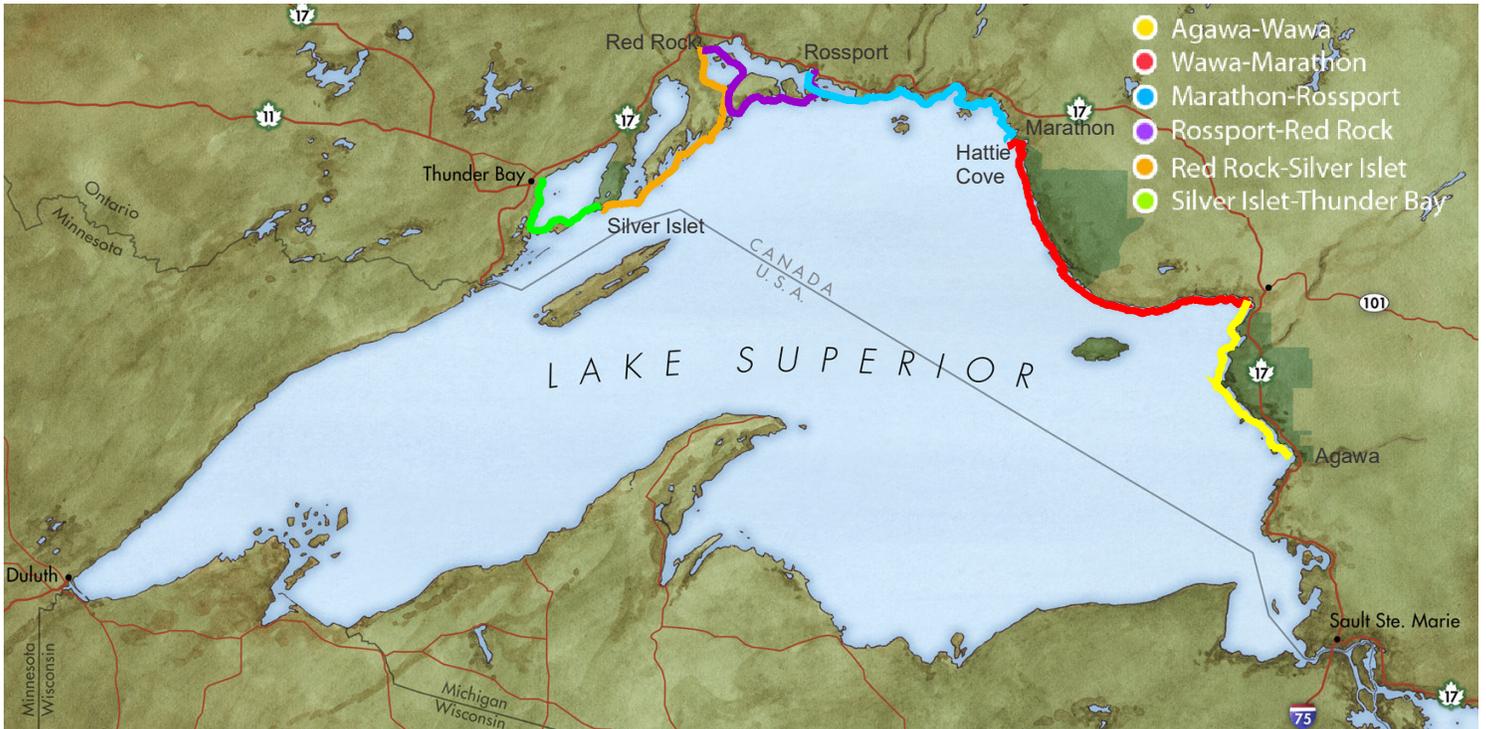




Celebrate Canada's 150th Lake Superior by 36 ft Voyageur Canoe Six Quintessential Sesquicentennial Paddling Adventures

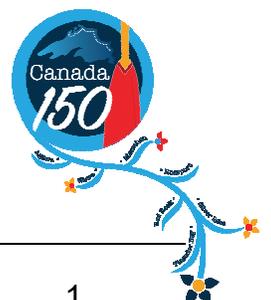


A nation emerged in the wake of the birchbark canoes, the engines of the fur trade, Canada's first industry. The canoe epitomizes our history.

To celebrate Canada's 150th birthday in 2017, Naturally Superior Adventures is recreating the fur trade experience with the Lake Superior Voyageur Canoe Brigades. The program consists of 6 guided, all-inclusive wilderness adventures by 36 ft replica voyageur canoe, each paddled by up to 12 trip participants. Starting July 2 in Lake Superior Provincial Park, each "brigade" will travel 5- to 10-day legs, finishing August 19 at Old Fort William.

Lucky paddlers will travel the same route the fur-trading voyageurs took two centuries ago. As part of Canada's sesquicentennial, this shoreline will be designated as the Lake Superior Water Trail, a part of the 24,000-kilometre-long Trans Canada Trail. The spectacular coast includes rugged cliffs, bold headlands and beautiful beaches.

Each of the 6 legs of the journey will focus on a quintessential Canadian theme: First Nations, voyageurs, Group of Seven art, folk music and lighthouses. Our intention is to host each section with an expert on each theme and feature a Canadian singer-songwriter (aka "paddling minstrel") to serenade participants around evening campfires.





Brigades will be led by experienced guides with an intimate knowledge of the coastline. They have advanced wilderness first aid training, superb navigation knowledge and time-tested backcountry cooking skills.

"When you paddle a voyageur canoe on Lake Superior you fall back in time. There are no distractions, no human intrusions. This coastline is still wild. It's a timeless place where the voyageur legend is alive and well." Conor Mihell, Author & Adventurer



#1: Spirit of Superior: Agawa to Wawa (Michipicoten) Sunday July 2 – Friday July 7.



Paddling a voyageur canoe, it's easy to see why First Nations people revered the coastline that is now Lake Superior Provincial Park. This 80-km journey from Sinclair Cove to Michipicoten radiates a special energy from its ancient rock paintings, enchanting rock monoliths and mysterious moss-covered boulder beaches.

Here, the French Canadian voyageurs were quick to adopt the Native tradition of making tobacco offerings at sacred places like the Agawa Rock pictographs and Nanabush Chair. We'll do the same, asking the spirits of Lake Superior for safe passage.

Lake Superior Provincial Park encapsulates the best of the North Shore: A diverse geology ranging from lunar landscapes of volcanic rhyolite to stalwart granite cliffs; sheltered coves; outstanding hiking; and wilderness camping. If you crave solitude but don't have the time to paddle the Pukaskwa coast, this is your next best bet.



#2: The Big Wild: Wawa to Marathon (Pukaskwa National Park) Sunday July 9 – Wednesday July 19.

Pukaskwa National Park is the wildest freshwater coastline in the world, 180 kilometres unchanged since the voyageurs plied these waters. Experience exquisite solitude and wonder as you discover secret campsites, trackless beaches and awe-inspiring cliffs. Pukaskwa was a favourite destination of Bill Mason, a legendary Canadian filmmaker, artist and environmentalist.

The theme of this trip is iconic Canadian wilderness and we're fortunate to travel with his daughter Becky (and husband Reid) who has carried on her father's legacy of wilderness canoeing and environmental appreciation (redcanoes.ca/becky).





#3: Lawren Harris Country: Marathon (Pukaskwa Park) to RosSPORT
Saturday July 22 – Friday July 28.



The rugged coastline, stark islands and hardscrabble villages of Lake Superior's north shore inspired some of Canada's most famous landscape paintings. Today, Pic Island in Neys Provincial Park still captivates the senses the way it did in the 1920s when Group of Seven painter Lawren Harris immortalized its smooth curves on canvas.

This 120-km stretch of wilderness coastline is one of the most infrequently travelled paddling routes on the Great Lakes. You'll revel in the stunning scenery and intense solitude—the perfect elements to inspire your own photographs and sketches. You'll rest at age-old campsites, marvel at views of the Coldwell Peninsula and encounter ghost towns that once bustled with fishermen and railroad workers.



#4: The Singing Wilderness: RosSPORT to Red Rock
Sunday July 30 – Friday Aug 4

Musical gifts were cherished in the community of voyageurs. The best singers were awarded extra pay and an esteemed place in the canoe; folk tunes and ballads were the soundtracks of voyageur brigades, setting the pace for flashing paddles. The tradition continues in Red Rock, a small north shore town that bustles each summer with some of Canada's finest musical acts.

The island-strewn waters of western Lake Superior are unique, marked by agate beaches and rugged volcanic geology and protected by the Lake Superior National Marine Conservation Area. We'll enjoy secluded campsites and a special night at a wilderness sauna. Be sure to bring your own musical instruments.



#5: Beacons on a Lonely Shore: Red Rock to Silver Islet
Sunday Aug 6 – Saturday Aug 12.



Two hundred years ago, French Canadian voyageurs paddled Superior's coastline on gut feeling alone, racing fogbanks and navigating the island-choked waters at the lake's northwest end by the seat of their pants. As commercial traffic grew, the need for lighthouses became apparent to safeguard mariners from disaster. Just as 2017 marks Canada's 150th anniversary, so too is it the sesquicentennial of the first Canadian lighthouse on Lake Superior. This 75-km voyageur canoe journey visits several lighthouses, providing glimpses of their colourful history and the essential services they provided. We'll stay over night at the Phorphery Island light station.

A crescent of remote islands comprises the coastline between Red Rock and Silver Islet. They are recognized for their unique geology and communities of flora and fauna by the Lake Superior National Marine Conservation Area designation. Sign up for this voyageur canoe adventure if you're looking to experience the wilder 30,000 islands, unmarred by cottage development.





Celebrate Canada's 150th by Voyageur Canoe on Lake Superior



#6: En Route to the Great Rendezvous: Silver Islet to Thunder Bay (OFW) Monday Aug 14 – Saturday Aug 19.

Towering cliffs, flat-top mountains and watery horizons mark the final leg of the Lake Superior voyageur route. Here, the canoe brigades plied open waters beneath the 300-metre flanks of the Sleeping Giant, a geological monolith and Ojibwa icon resting at the mouth of Thunder Bay. Tracing the rugged coastlines of Pie, Thompson and Victoria islands, it's easy to imagine the paddles flashing as big canoes raced to be the first to arrive at the infamous rendezvous at Fort William.



Fur trade historian and singer-songwriter Rodney Brown will be our special guest on this 75-km journey (rodneycbrown.ca). Not only will you enjoy wilderness camping, stunning scenery and great campfire entertainment, you'll also experience the timeless experience of paddling a voyageur canoe into the reconstructed fur trade post at Old Fort William, culminating our summer-long journey.

Are these trips for you?

You'll get the most enjoyment from the experience if you're in moderate to good physical shape and have some paddling and camping experience. For those who are active but inexperienced, our guides will be happy to help get you organized and into the swing of things. A typical day includes about 8 hrs of paddling with regular breaks for bio-breaks, lunch, snacks and site visits.

Trip voyageur canoes are 36 feet (12 metres) long, 5 feet (1.5 metres) wide and carry 12 to 14 paddlers plus a lot of stuff on multi-day trips. They're stable, easy to paddle and fully outfitted according to Canadian Coast guard regulations. They are perfect for novice paddlers and diverse groups.

Two more great reasons to join us: no portages on Lake Superior and the canoes are spacious enough that we bring plenty of hearty, fresh foods. Meals are planned, prepared and packed by our guides. With enough notice, we can accommodate most dietary preferences (vegetarian, vegan, gluten-free). Help with camp chores as you wish or relax and enjoy Lake Superior's beauty.



Details:

Trips include all meals, tents, canoe packs, all group camping, cooking, eating, sanitation, first aid, safety and communication gear, as well as transportation to and from the starting point and finish. Participants are only responsible for their personal clothing, sleeping bag and sleeping pad (these are available for rent).

#	Route	Dates	Base	From SSM	From TBay
1	Agawa to Wawa	July 2 – 7	\$1,546	\$1,636	n/a
2	Wawa to Marathon	July 9 – 19	\$2,246	\$2,386	
3	Marathon to RosSPORT	July 22 – 28	\$1,546	n/a	\$1,636
4	RosSPORT to Red Rock	July 30 – Aug 4			
5	Red Rock to Silver Islet	Aug 6 – 12			
6	Silver Islet to Thunder Bay	Aug 14 – 19			

Prices are in Canadian dollars. Tax is additional. @ Dec 16, \$1USD= approx \$1.3 CAD

Base price is return from trip start.

From SSM: Includes return from Sault Ste. Marie (YAM). From TBay: return from Thunder Bay (YTZ)

Porter and Air Canada provide regular air service to Sault Ste. Marie and Thunder Bay

For safety, airport drop off is typically the day after scheduled trip end





Sign up Now:

Register online at naturallysuperior.com/Canada150, call 1-800-203-9092 or email us at info@naturallysuperior.com. A 20% deposit holds your spot. We'll extend a 10% discount to participants who sign on for two or more trip sections. You'll need to complete and sign standard liability and diet/medical forms in advance of your trip. These forms and our cancellation policy are under the Resources tab of our website.

A detailed pre-trip information package is sent out well in advance of the trip start. It includes route information, travel details, packing lists and more. Your guide will contact you about two weeks in advance of the trip.



About Naturally Superior Adventures:

Since 1994, Naturally Superior Adventures has focused on active silent sports—especially paddling on Canada's Lake Superior coast. From our Lake Superior Paddling Centre near Wawa, we offer guided trips by sea kayak, canoe and voyageur canoe, instruction and rentals. We have lots of experience with paddling voyageur canoes on the Big Lake.

Our seven-acre property at the mouth of the Michipicoten River, near Wawa, Ontario includes our paddling centre and Rock Island Lodge (rockislandlodge.ca), a four-room waterfront B&B.

