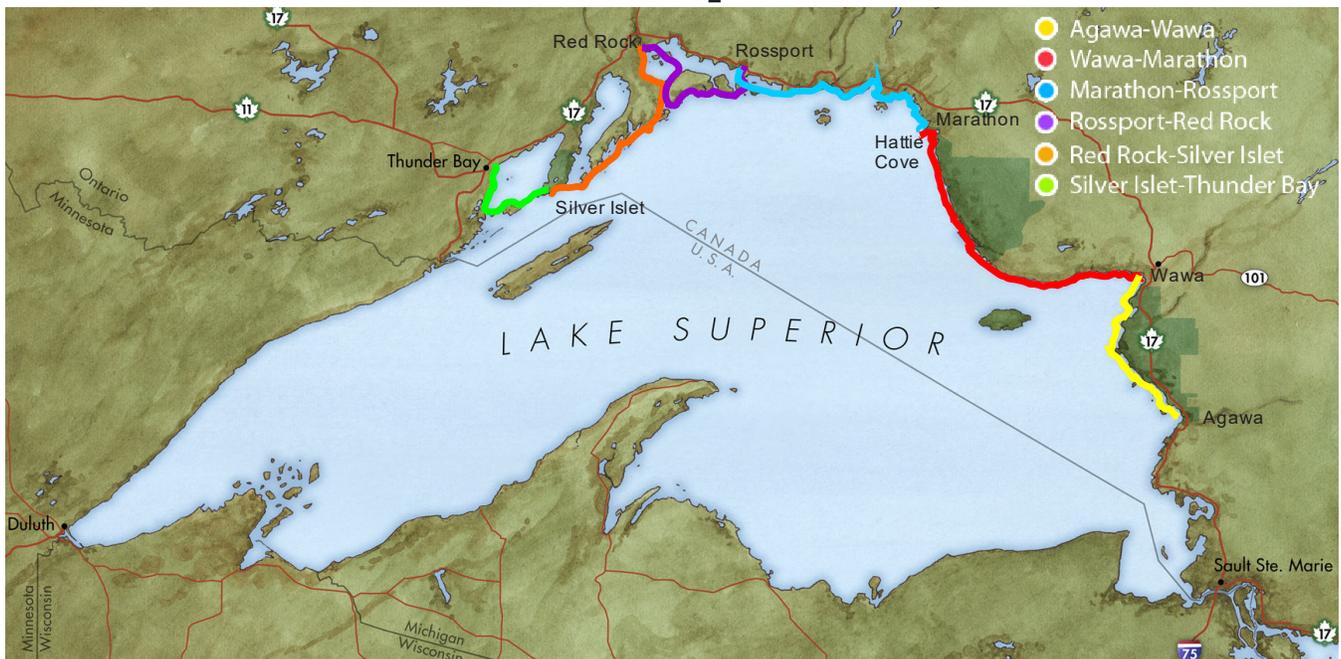


# Canada's Voyageur Canoe Culture Paddle Lake Superior - 2018



Wawa, Ontario— This is your chance to re-live the Canadian fur trade experience on Lake Superior in a replica Voyageur Canoe, the historic vessel that served as the key conveyance in Canada's first industry and played an integral role in European exploration of the New World.

Our 36-foot Voyageur Canoe is safe, stable, efficient and perfect for beginner and novice paddlers looking for an adventure in the Canadian wilderness. Powered by groups of 12 to 14 paddlers, it has plenty of space for expedition gear and fresh food supplies. This style of canoe was designed for the "big water" of Lake Superior. It is supremely seaworthy yet manoeuvrable and light enough to be pulled ashore on the smallest beaches.

*"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." An unknown paddler*

Annually, we focus on different segments of Lake Superior's Canadian coastline, each with a quintessential Canadian theme including First Nations, voyageurs, French-Canadian culture, Canadian art, music and explorers. In addition to your guides, each segment may also feature an expert host and/or "paddling minstrel" to serenade participants around evening campfires.

We trace the same shores that were paddled by the fur-trading voyageurs in Canada 200 years ago. Today they are officially designated as the Lake Superior Water Trail, a part of the 24,000-kilometre-long Trans Canada Trail.





## 2018 Brigades:



### **The Big Wild: Wawa to Marathon (Pukaskwa National Park)**

Sunday July 8 – Wednesday July 18.

\$2,450 return from Wawa (Naturally Superior Adventures)

\$2,590 return from Sault Ste. Marie

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Pukaskwa (pronounced puck-a-saw) National Park is the largest protected area on Lake Superior. This Canadian treasure is relatively unknown—a closely guarded secret by those who have experienced Pukaskwa's rugged and lonely shores. It features mesmerizing beaches comprised of kaleidoscopes of cobblestone, crystal-clear water and cliffs soaring up to 150 metres out of the water. Primitive campsites are set in secluded, lushly forested coves and wave-washed sand beaches that rival the Caribbean.



This 10-day, 210-km journey explores a freshwater coastline that is undeveloped and inaccessible by road. Little has changed since the voyageurs plied these waters two centuries ago. Expect solitude like you've never experienced before as we discover secret campsites and trackless beaches. Some of the journey's landmarks speak to the impressions this coast made on the voyageurs: The bold headland at Pointe La Canadienne, the still waters of Bonamie Cove and the endless beaches of Oiseau Bay. If you listen hard on a still morning you can still hear the voyageurs' *chansons* in the mist.



You will feel a latent energy on this coastline, which has served as summer fishing grounds for the Ojibwa First Nation since before European contact. This ancient landscape has rapidly erased the scattered remains of human intrusion: You will encounter historic logging villages and fishing camps that nature has reclaimed. Expect to see bald eagles and peregrine falcons, with the chance to see the elusive woodland caribou—a Canadian endangered species.



### **Lawren Harris Country: Pukaskwa Park (Marathon) to Rossport**

Saturday July 21 – Saturday July 28

\$1,950 return from Hattie Cove (Pukaskwa National Park)

\$2,090 return from Thunder Bay

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The rugged coastline, stark islands and hardscrabble villages of Lake Superior's North Shore inspired some of Canada's most famous landscape paintings. For example, the alluring curves of Pic Island in Neys Provincial Park still captivate the senses as they did in the 1920s when Group of Seven painter Lawren Harris immortalized this mysterious landform 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.





Your experience will be enhanced by the company of art historian and Group of Seven expert Michael Burtch and our “paddling minstrel” David Archibald, an acclaimed Canadian singer-songwriter.

While the spectacular campsites and views of the Coldwell Peninsula are this trip’s greatest highlights, we’ll also encounter ghost towns that once bustled with fishermen and railroad workers in the days of the Group of Seven (a revered group of Canadian landscape painters of the 1920s). Travelling by voyageur canoe, we’ll cruise along this rocky, islet-dotted coast, resting at age-old campsites that provided shelter for First Nations travellers and French Canadian fur traders.



### **The Singing Wilderness: RosSPORT to Red Rock**

Sunday Aug 5 – Friday Aug 10

\$1,750 return from RosSPORT

\$1,890 return from Thunder Bay

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. Singer-songwriter Ian Tamblyn will grace our 75-km journey from RosSPORT to Red Rock, sharing stories and songs inspired by his travels on Lake Superior.

Tamblyn is a Canadian folk music icon best known as a storyteller with insightful lyrics that capture the heart of the Canadian experience. He is also a playwright and a professional adventure guide, working with prestigious tour companies in the Arctic and Antarctic. And yet, as his beloved “Woodsmoke and Oranges” tune suggests, the native of Thunder Bay, Ontario is smitten with Lake Superior’s North Shore. We can’t think of a better host for a wilderness journey by Voyageur Canoe.



Sign up for this trip if you love great music and wilderness camping. 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. You’ll enjoy secluded campsites and a special night at a wilderness sauna. Be sure to bring your own musical instruments to jam with a beloved Canadian musician around the campfire.





## Celebrate Canada by Lake Superior Voyageur Canoe

**Details:** Trips include all meals and are fully outfitted including tents, canoe packs and all group camping, cooking, 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 clothing, sleeping bag and sleeping pad (these are available for rent).

Both Porter and Air Canada provide regular air service to Sault Ste. Marie and Thunder Bay where we have designated van transport available.



The joy of travelling on Lake Superior is the lack of portages. This combined with a high-volume canoe means that our trip menu is hearty and healthy, including plenty of fresh foods. Meals are planned, packed and prepared by guides; with sufficient notice most dietary preferences (vegetarian, vegan, gluten-free) can be managed.

**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. If you're active but inexperienced, our guides will happily get you organized and into the swing of things. A typical day includes about 8 hrs of paddling with regular bio-breaks, lunch, snacks and photo stops.



Our Voyageur Canoe is 36 feet (12 metres) long, 5 feet (1.5 metres) wide and comfortably carries 12 to 14 paddlers and gear on multi-day trips. It's very stable and easy to paddle. Strength comes from numbers, so Voyageur Canoes are perfect for beginner and novice paddlers and diverse groups. Our canoe is outfitted to Canadian Coast Guard regulations.

**Sign up Now:** Prices are in Canadian dollars (\$1USD= approx \$1.3 CAD) taxes additional. A 25% deposit holds your spot. Please call or email with any questions and register online at [www.naturallysuperior.com/lake-superior-voyageur-canoe-brigades/](http://www.naturallysuperior.com/lake-superior-voyageur-canoe-brigades/). We'll extend a 10% discount for people signing on for two sections. You'll receive a detailed pre-trip information package in advance of the trip and your guides will also contact you by phone.

**About Naturally Superior Adventures:** Since 1994, we have focused on active silent sports, especially paddling on Canada's Lake Superior coast. From our paddling centre near Wawa, we offer guided trips by sea kayak, canoe and Voyageur Canoe and instruction and rentals. We have lots of experience with paddling Voyageur Canoes on the Big Lake.

