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*Your Guide to Northern Minnesota  
and Northwestern Ontario*



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# WELCOME TO BORDERWATERS

BY LAUREL BEAGER

Look at the blue sky as white clouds pass overhead. Smell the pine as you hear the crunch of needles on warm rock below your feet. Feel the air on your skin. Your senses come alive with the flavors of BorderWaters.

Welcome to a region that truly offers something for everyone. Are you seeking to escape from the stress of the average for just a couple hours or a full day? Or are you looking for a longer stay that will refresh and revive you? It's all here, in BorderWaters.

Whether the temperatures are warm, cool or somewhere in between there's always something to do in this truly unique area known as the BorderWaters.

Endless possibilities dawn with each sunrise. Will the day bring the vigorous physical challenges that come with kayaking, hiking and casting for muskie? Or is a slower-paced day you crave, that involves watching a bobber from the dock and later



taking a dip in the cool, blue waters?

Rich, pink and red sunsets bring the end of a day filled with memories and the promise of more BorderWaters experiences.

And while the outdoors is what we're known for, we have more. Charming shops, unique entertainment and colorful eateries

offer another BorderWaters experience. Lodging and dining in BorderWaters range from the rustic to the elegant. Tent sites, houseboats, cabins, lodges and hotels will bring BorderWaters to your doorstep.

The BorderWaters experience is broadened by learning about this landscape rich in human history. Museums and visitor centers will help you understand the historic connection the people of this place have had with its lands.

BorderWaters is a place, a feeling, and an experience.

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PHOTO CREDITS: Kim Nugent, Sylvia Johnston, Val Lennox, Susie Johnson, Stacey Cann, Laurel Beager, Faye Whitbeck, Katie Kolt Hall.



# Orr

(includes Cusson)

Orr CVB, 4540 Lake Street, Orr, MN 55771  
1-877-254-4691, [www.orrnmn.com](http://www.orrnmn.com)

## FEBRUARY 2011

**19-20 President's Day Weekend** – Ice Fishing Contest on Pelican Lake. Sponsored by Orr Chamber. Register at Orr American Legion.

## THINGS TO DO

**Voyageur Country Visitor Center** – Located just south of town on Highway 53 for information on everything there is to see and do in Orr and all around Voyageur Country.

**Orr Bog Walk** – The Orr Bogwalk is one of the region's nicest interpretive trails. Located directly behind the Orr Visitor's Center, on Hwy 53.

**Vermilion Gorge** – This 1.3 mile trail can be easily hiked in 3 hours. The last portion of the trail parallels the rugged landscape of sheer granite cliffs and rock outcroppings of the Vermilion River along the gorge.

**Vermilion Falls** – A ten-minute hike on a well-maintained trail puts the visitor at Vermilion Falls.

**Vince Shute Wildlife Sanctuary** – The American Bear Association invites you to view black bears in their natural habitat in this unique wilderness sanctuary. Open Memorial Day Labor Day, 218-757-0172

Orr is located on the shores of beautiful Pelican Lake in the heart of what is known as Voyageur Country. Easily reached by State Hwy. 53, Orr offers a unique combination of modern conveniences within a wilderness environment.

The forests and bogs in the area are home to hundreds of bird species and animals as diverse as gray wolves, black bear, pine martin, otter, beaver, white-tailed deer, and much more. Our dark evening skies and lack of city lights permits hours of stargazing and constellation identification normally only observed in text books. Our spectacular northern lights are breathtaking as they dance the night away turning many would-be sleepers into night owls.

Centrally located to many points of interest, exploration and adventure, Orr is an easy day-trip traveling distance from: Voyageurs National Park; The Vince Shute Wildlife Sanctuary; Vermilion Gorge & Falls; The Historic Iron Range; Hockey Hall of Fame; International Falls; Fort Frances, Ontario; the scenic Echo Trail to Ely; Soudan Mine; and much more!

Year around activities will have you exploring our beautiful and unique boreal ecosystem whether it's fishing, hiking, birding, wildlife watching, skiing, snowmobiling, ice fishing or hunting.

Whether you are considering an extended stay or a short visit, on business or pleasure, let us show you Minnesota nice and all our area has to offer.

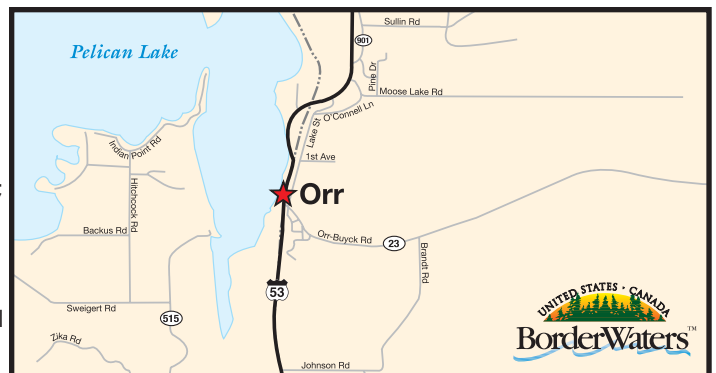
## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### JULY

- Fun Day at Orr Bay** – Meet at the bay for fun all day Contact: Voyageurs National Park & Orr Area Information Center, 1-800-357-9255.

### DECEMBER

- Orr Christmas Festival and Parade** – Pancake breakfast, parade, crafters, vendors, bog walk luminaries sing-a-long. Win some shopping cash.



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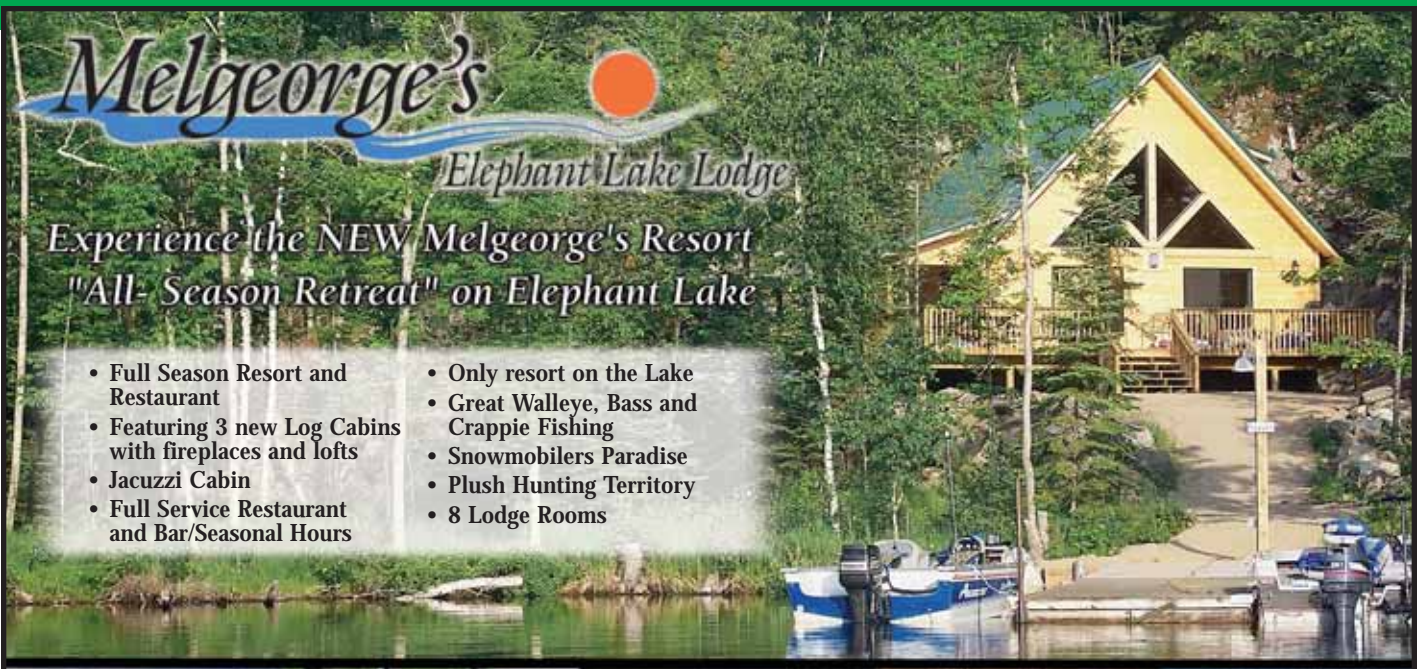
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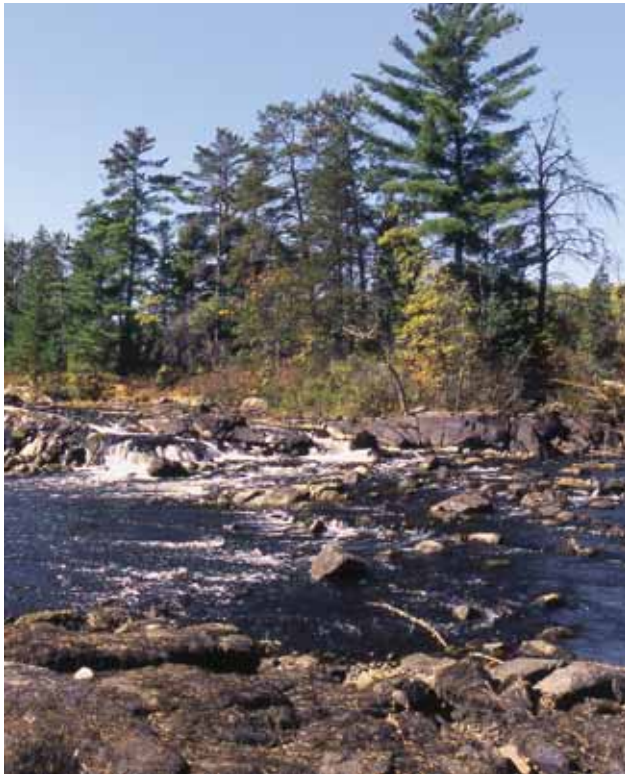


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Lake Vermilion, located between the Superior National Forest and Voyageurs National Park, is what you dream of in a northwoods vacation. You'll find gorgeous scenery, friendly resorts, outstanding recreation and the most relaxing atmosphere you could hope for. With over 40,000 acres of water, 365 islands, and hundreds of protected bays, you can spend an entire day on the water without seeing the same view twice.

View bears in their natural habitat, travel a half-mile underground, stand next to a dump truck two stories tall, and learn about the area's rich Native American, mining, logging and immigrant heritage through tours and historic sites. Enjoy sightseeing or exciting nightlife with dining, concerts and casino gaming.

Fishing on Lake Vermilion offers something for everyone. Explore reefs, sunken islands, drop-offs and other structures; cast into the weeds at the end of a secluded bay; or simply drop a line in the lake from your dock. You will find walleye, large and small mouth bass, northern pike, muskie and pan fish.

Participate in almost any type of water sport, hiking, birding, year-round trail riding, and much more. Plus, if golf is your passion, the Vermilion area has over 150 holes of golf within 30 minutes, including three championship courses.

Lake Vermilion accommodations range from rustic to luxurious resorts, campgrounds, hotels, B&Bs, and even houseboats. Any time of year you will find the excellent fishing, natural beauty and great hospitality that ARE Lake Vermilion.

# Cook

(includes Tower and Vermilion)

Lake Vermilion Resort Association  
 Box 159, Cook, MN 55723  
 1-800-648-5897 • [www.lakevermilion.us](http://www.lakevermilion.us)

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### JUNE

- 5 **Birding at Bear Head** – 7 - 9 AM Meet at the park office for a guided walk to listen and look for the variety of bird species within the park. Bring your own binoculars or a limited supply will be available to check out. 218-365-7229
- 11-13 **Cook Timber Days** – Cook's celebration of the area's rich logging history; parade, mud run, art, crafts, food booths, and much more.
- 19-20 **34th Annual Land of the Loon Festival** – Sat. 10 AM - 6 PM and Sun. 10 AM - 5 PM. Over 300 exhibitors and 25 ethnic food booths. Entertainment, parade. Olcott Park, Virginia.

### JULY

- 2 **Riverfest Crafts Fair** – 9 AM - 3 PM both days. Live Music, Crafts, Vendors, Kid's Activities. Tower Depot/Civic Center. FREE! Tower
- 3-4 **Tower-Soudan 4th of July Celebration** – Tower, One of the oldest, largest and best celebrations in the area. 10K run, parade, children's activities, booths, entertainment, fireworks!
- TBA **Cook Aviation Day** – Cook Airport. Free plane rides for kids, demo planes, float plane fly-over.
- 23-25 **3rd Annual Tower-Soudan Depot Days** – Arts and crafts vendors, entertainment, food vendors, and more! Historic Depot, Tower
- 23-25 **30th Annual Blueberry Arts Festival** – Ely, 225 art, craft & food booths, entertainment.

### AUGUST

- 7, 12 **Batty About Bats** – Soudan Underground Mine State Park, 7:30 PM Join us as we search for these "creatures of the night" and learn about their special abilities. The evening will include games, songs, activities, and a visit to an old mine shaft to see the bats as they begin their nightly search for food. Meet at the park's back entry. Call for info 218-753-2245
- 27-29 **70th Annual Embarrass Regional Fair** – Mud run, parade, craft & food booths, flea market, dance, children's activities, much more! 218-984-2155, [www.embarrass.org](http://www.embarrass.org)

### SEPTEMBER

- 10-12 **Annual Harvest Moon Festival** – Ely, Art & craft exhibitors, food booths and entertainment.

## DECEMBER

**3 Cook's Country Christmas** – Drawings will be held for prizes that are donated by local businesses. Warm fire, hot chocolate and the lighting of the tree.

## THINGS TO DO

**Bois Forte Heritage Center** – Culture and heritage of Bois Forte Band of Ojibwe.

**Fortune Bay Casino** – Blackjack, bingo, poker. Concerts and/or special events monthly.

**North American Bear Center**  
One mile west of Ely,  
www.bear.org, 218-365-7879.

**Soudan Underground Mine**  
Travel underground to visit the past at the site of Minnesota's first iron ore mine, or the future at the High Energy Physics Lab.

**Superior National Forest** – 3 million acres surrounding Lake Vermilion, 218-626-4300

**Vermilion Gorge & Vermilion Falls** – Vermilion River, Crane Lake



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Voyageurs National Park lies in the rocky Canadian Shield, some of the oldest exposed rock formations in the world. The pink and gray bedrock has been shaped and carved at least four times by glaciers leaving four large interconnected lakes. The landscape is rugged and varied; rolling hills interspersed with bogs, beaver ponds, swamps, islands, and a variety of lakes. In the years since the glaciers, a thin layer of soil has been created to support the boreal forest ecosystem, the North Woods of Voyageurs National Park.

This landscape has a rich human history. The park is named for the Voyageurs—the French-Canadian canoe-men who traveled these waters in their birchbark canoes from the Great Lakes to what is now the interior of the western United States and Canada. Modern voyageurs continue to ply these waters. The water, accompanying scenery, geology, and rich cultural and natural resources, gives Voyageurs its national significance, and merit its protection for the enjoyment of future generations.

Over a third water, Voyageurs is an active park that you must see from the water. Access to the Kabetogama Peninsula, islands and nearly all of the park's shoreline is by watercraft. The park's naturalist programs include kids' activities, canoe trips, boat tours, and the famous North Canoe Voyage. Join a costumed interpreter and learn about the voyageurs as you paddle a 26' reproduction North Canoe. Free public boat ramps and parking are available at the park's visitor centers and at the Woodenfrog State Forest Campground near

# Voyageurs National Park

Voyageurs National Park Headquarters:  
(218) 283-6600 • FAX: (218) 285-7407  
3131 Highway 53, Int'l Falls, MN 56649-8904  
[www.nps.gov/voya](http://www.nps.gov/voya)

Kabetogama. Watercraft rental and water taxi service are available from private outfitters and resorts at each of the park's four gateway communities—Ash River, Crane Lake, International Falls (Rainy Lake) and Kabetogama.

On the northern and eastern edge of Minnesota's border, 55 miles of the park meanders along the Ontario border of Canada. Voyageurs National Park is located five hours by car from Minneapolis-St. Paul, MN, three hours from Duluth, MN and four hours from Winnipeg, Manitoba. Roads approach the park from four points along U.S. Highway 53 between Duluth and International Falls. Air travelers can take advantage of the International Falls or Hibbing airports where rental cars and hotel shuttles are available. The park is open year-round with no entrance fee and few charges to use park facilities. The park charges \$10.00 per day to use park-provided boats on interior lakes, and \$35/night for group campsites. Free, self-registration permits are required for overnight camping.

## Rainy Lake Visitor Center, (218) 286-5258

January—Mid-May, 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m.  
(closed Mondays and Tuesdays)

Mid-May—Mid-Sept., 9 a.m.-5 p.m., daily

Oct. 1—December 31, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.  
(closed Mondays and Tuesdays)

## Kabetogama Lake Visitor Center, (218) 875-2111

Mid-May—Mid-Sept., 9 a.m.-5 p.m., daily

## Ash River Visitor Center, (218) 374-3221

May 25—Sept. 30, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., daily

Visitor center schedules are subject to change. Please call ahead or check the website [www.nps.gov/voya](http://www.nps.gov/voya)

## Crane Lake Ranger Station, (218) 993-2481

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### FEBRUARY-MARCH

**Winter Rendezvous Activities** – Explore the beauty and mystery of Voyageurs National Park by attending a naturalist-led activity every weekend starting in mid-February.



## APRIL

24, 2010 – National Park Week Program –

For schedule visit [www.nps.gov/voya](http://www.nps.gov/voya)

## JUNE 15-LATE SEPTEMBER

**Summer Naturalist Programs** – All visitor centers program schedule available on the park's website. Call for information or visit [www.nps.gov/voya](http://www.nps.gov/voya)

**Tour Boat Cruises** – Program schedule available on the park's website. Call for information or visit [www.nps.gov/voya](http://www.nps.gov/voya)

## THINGS TO DO

**Fishing and Boating** – Boating and fishing are the most common recreational uses of the park. Known as some of the best walleye and bass water in the nation, the lakes attracted sport anglers long before the park was established. A Minnesota fishing license is required and Minnesota boating regulations apply.

**Canoeing and Kayaking** – Even though waters are shared with powerboats, the lakes of Voyageurs National Park are large enough to provide for some solitude. Canoe and kayak trips are available through outfitters, from day-trips to journeys lasting over a week; the Kabetogama Peninsula can be circumnavigated in approximately one week.

**Boats on Interior Lakes** – Voyageurs provides, for \$10.00 per day, canoes and/or rowboats on the following interior lakes of the Kabetogama Peninsula: Locator, Quill, Ek, Cruiser, Brown, Peary, Little Shoepack and Shoepack. Boats are available by reservation only. Reservations to use these boats can be made one week in advance by phone or at the visitor centers. The trails leading to these interior lake boats are accessible only by water. Water taxi service to the trails can be arranged through privately-owned outfitters and resorts.

**Hiking, Skiing and Snowshoeing** – The park has a variety of hiking trails accessible by boat or car. There is a hiking trail near each visitor center as well as two long distance trail systems. The park grooms two ski trails and three snowshoe trails for your enjoyment.

**Camping** – There are water-accessible campsites distributed throughout the park designed for either tent camping or houseboats. Designated tent sites have a mooring aid, tent pad or level area, fire ring, privy, picnic table and bearproof food-storage locker. Houseboat sites include two mooring aids and a fire ring. There are no fees or reservations but self-registration permits are required for overnight camping. Sites are available on a first-come, first-served basis. New group campsites for up to 30 people are available by reservation.



**Snowmobiling** – Voyageurs National Park has 110 miles of groomed snowmobile trails over frozen lake surfaces. The 11-mile Chain of Lakes trail travels through the scenic interior of the park; this trail is not groomed.

**Lodging Facilities** – The historic Kettle Falls Hotel offers lodging within the park. Often called the "Jewel in the Wilderness", Kettle Falls is accessible by boat and floatplane. This historic 1912 hotel is a concession-operated complex that includes a dining room, bar, trading post, rooms and modern housekeeping villas. A mechanical portage allows access between Rainy and Namakan lakes (closed in winter).

**Boat Tour Schedule** – Schedule available on the park's website.



The Ash River is the most central entranceway to Voyageurs National Park, Lake Kabetogama, Namakan Lake and all they have to offer. Its central location makes the Ash River an ideal base for your resort or houseboat vacation getaway in the wilderness of northern Minnesota.

This big-water country is popular for a variety of outdoor activities all seasons of the year. In spring or summer, enjoy fishing, boating, canoeing, or hiking along many hiking trails. Our lakes boast some of the finest walleye and northern pike fishing, serving up crappie and small mouth bass as well. When the lakes freeze and snow carpets the woods, it's time for snowmobiling, ice fishing and cross-country skiing! Our area offers hundreds of miles of groomed lake and land snowmobile trails, well deserving its name of Minnesota's Little Yellowstone.

Call individual resorts for more information on their accommodations & services for your next up north holiday!



# Ash River

Ash River Tourism Association  
 Ash River Trail, Orr, MN 55771  
 1-800-950-2061 • [www.ashriver.com](http://www.ashriver.com)

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### JULY

4 **Ash River Trail Parade** – Celebrations at area resorts; music at Ash-Ka-Nam Resort

### MAY

29-30 **Memorial Weekend** – Live music at Ash-Ka-Nam Resort

### AUGUST

21 **Jon Currie Golf Scramble** – Ash-Ka-Nam Resort  
 20-23 **4th Annual Ash River Motorcycle Run** – Fun Run from Twin Cities to Ash River

### DECEMBER

31 **New Years Eve Celebrations** – Ash-Ka-Nam Resort, music

### FEBRUARY 2011

19-20 **President's Day Weekend on the River** – Live music at Ash-Ka-Nam Resort  
*Check area resorts for additional events.*

## THINGS TO DO

**Kettle Falls Historic Hotel & Dam** – Built around 1910, this National Register site was at one time a transient community of over 200 people including lumberjacks, fish buyers, prospectors, bootleggers and tourists. Today the tradition of hospitality continues.

### Ash River Falls

**Vince Shute Wildlife Sanctuary** – The American Bear Association invites you to view black bears in their natural habitat in this unique wilderness sanctuary. Open Memorial Day – Labor Day, 218-757-0172, [www.americanbear.org](http://www.americanbear.org)

**Voyageurs National Park Area Activities** – Ash River is the central entrance to Voyageurs National Park. Various activities are offered in and near the park, including the Kab/Ash hiking trail, Ellsworth Rock Gardens, inland hiking trails, cross-country ski and snowshoe trails, and snowmobile trails.

The Park Service also makes boats available to those who would like to explore the inland lakes. Naturalist-led programs for all ages occur at the park visitor's center. Various scenic boat tours are offered throughout Voyageurs National Park. Please call any of the park visitor centers for the latest tour and program schedules.

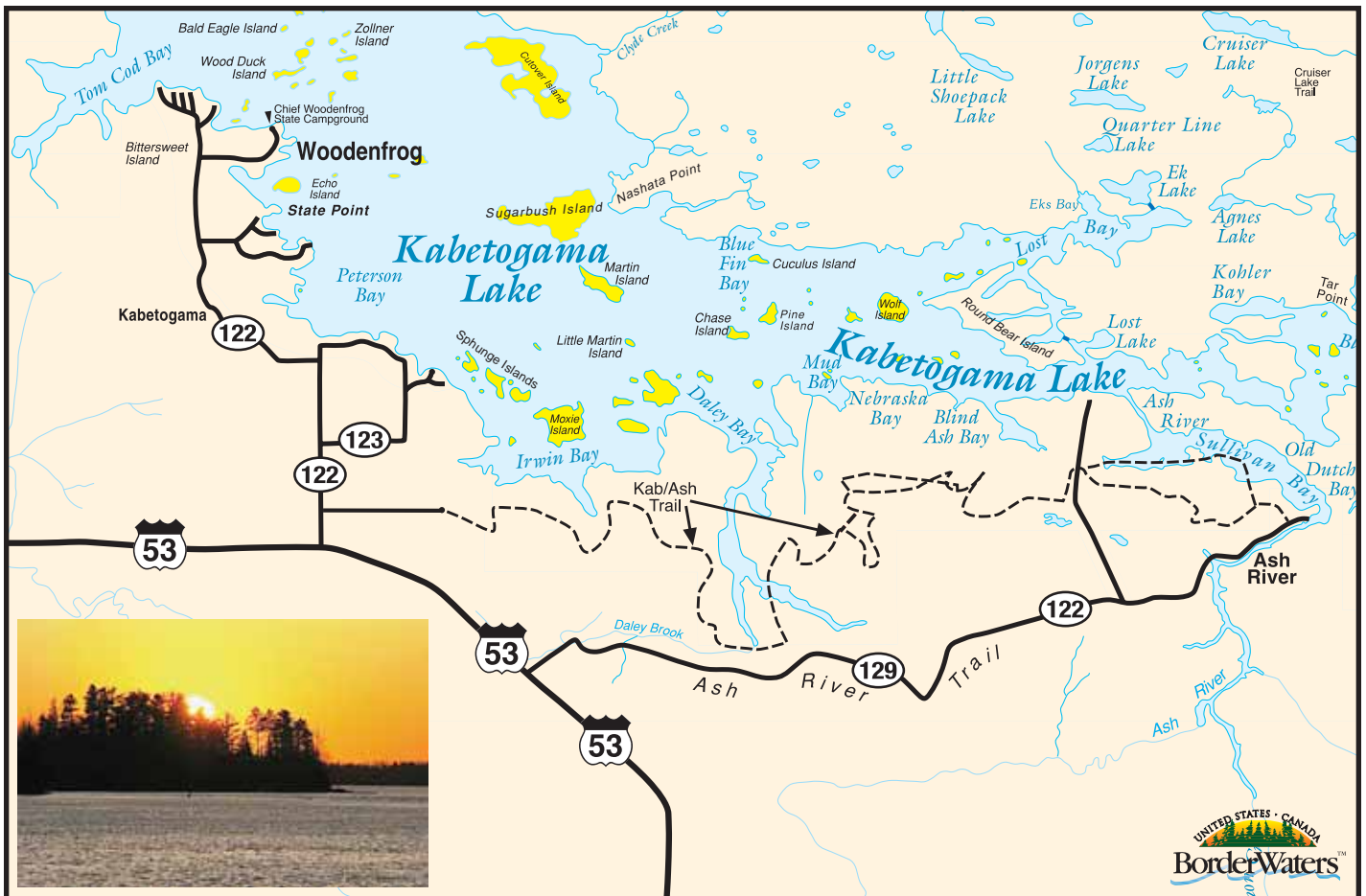


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Kabetogama, MN • 218-875-3063

**Jamie Wendt; Realtor®**  
**Sales Agent**  
Littlefork, MN • 218-278-6700





A wilderness paradise born of an ancient glacier flow, edged by the great Canadian Shield, Kabetogama Lake is surrounded by wilderness untamed by time. Here you'll find creation in its most natural state, teeming with plants and wildlife—aspens, white pine and spruce, black bear, deer, moose and wolf. The lake itself is dotted with over 200 remote, scenic islands that maintain their beauty through harsh winter storms, and produce rich foliage and wild berries in summer.

Situated along the U.S.-Canadian border in Minnesota, Kabetogama Lake has a 500-mile, rocky shoreline, 25,000 acres of clean, cool water, and is one of five major lakes forming Voyageurs National Park.

Whether you're an angler looking for walleyes, someone in need of relaxation, or an outdoor enthusiast, resorts along the Kabetogama shoreline can provide you with boats and motors or safe docking for your own boat. Large boats and motors have easy access to the interconnecting Voyageur Waterway of Kabetogama, Namakan, Sand Point and Crane lakes (65 miles west to east). Canoes, kayaks and complete outfitting services are available from local outfitters for you to camp out and visit the wild.

A short scenic boat ride across from the Kabetogama Community shoreline will take you to the historic Ellsworth Rock Gardens, a popular and must-see site that is actively being restored by volunteers and historians.

Kabetogama's reputation as a great fishing and recreation destination became best known as a resort community in the late 40s and early 50s. Today

# Kabetogama

Kabetogama Lake Tourism Bureau  
 9903 Gamma Road, Lake Kabetogama, MN 56669  
 800-524-9085 • 218-875-2621  
 e-mail: [kabetogamalake@citlink.net](mailto:kabetogamalake@citlink.net)  
[www.kabetogama.com](http://www.kabetogama.com)

Kabetogama still remains one of the few unique mom and pop resort destinations.

The Kabetogama Lake and community is crisscrossed with snowmobile trails and has several hiking, biking and cross-country ski trails to offer residents and guests for their year-round enjoyment.

When vacationing don't forget your tackle and fishing equipment. The lake offers great walleye, northern and small mouth bass fishing.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### MAY-AUGUST

Annual Fishing Contest

### JUNE

27 Blueberry Pancake Breakfasts

### JUNE – AUGUST

Bingo – Kabetogama Community Hall,  
 every Thursday night, June, July & August

### JULY

8 Church Bazaar

9-11 Land of the Lady Slipper Festival  
 Arts & Crafts Festival

### JULY & AUGUST

TBD Community Garage Sales

### AUGUST

8 Blueberry Pancake Breakfasts

### MARCH 2011

St. Urho's Day Celebration

## THINGS TO DO

**Voyageurs National Park – Kabetogama Lake and Ash River Visitor Centers** – Boat tours, naturalist programs, free canoe rides, hiking and ski trails, snowmobile trails, and Interpretive Centers at Rainy Lake, Kabetogama and Ash River. Schedule available on the park's website: [www.nps.gov/voya](http://www.nps.gov/voya)

**Camping Woodenfrog State Forest Campground** – (218) 753-2245 (Soudan Office), (651) 296-9223 (St. Paul Office)

**Ellsworth Rock Gardens** – On Lake Kabetogama in Voyageurs National Park, accessible only by boat. A great picnic spot!



• Cabins • Boats  
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• Hunting

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is Kabetogama Lake*

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**www.voyageurmarine.com • 218-875-2023**  
Hours: 9am - 6pm Mon. - Fri., 9am - 12pm Sat.

**Historic Kettle Falls & Dam**

Echo Bay Trail access from Northern Lights Road

Kab/Ash Bike-Hike trail Off 122

Lady Slipper Festival – Arts & Crafts; Fun & Games for all ages  
Bingo, Boat Tours; Entertainment Food Vendors,  
Chain Saw Carving

Herman Melheim Wood Carving At the Methodist Church  
(Sunday service only), Lake Kabetogama

Vince Shute Wildlife Sanctuary View wild black bears  
close up, Orr

Bogwalk at the VNP/Orr Area Information Center

Vermilion River Greens Golf Course 9 holes

Falls Country Club 18 holes

International Falls

Kitchen Creek Golf Club 18  
holes Fort Frances

Koochiching County Historical  
Museum & Bronko Nagurski  
Museum International Falls

Cold Springs Deer Farm  
20 miles north of Orr on  
Highway 53, milepost 131.  
View and feed deer.



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218-875-3063



## Sandy Point Lodge and Resort

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[sandypointlodge.com](http://sandypointlodge.com)

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Land of the Lady Slipper Festival  
July 9, 10, & 11

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## WHY VISIT BORDERWATERS?

Variety through all seasons!

Our BorderWaters area is unique. There are three types of ecosystems that overlap in this region and the geology offers variety in landscape.

Here, you'll find sprawling lakes carved from the Canadian Shield and featuring dramatic cliffs, rocky islands and extensive fishing structure. You will also find chains of smaller lakes where many different species of fish exploit the changes in aquatic habitat.

The history of our region is interpreted in many different ways. Many area museums offer information and artifacts on the Ojibwe or Chippewa natives, and there is a great interpretive center at the site of ancient burial mounds along the Rainy River near Emo, Ontario. Voyageurs National Park maintains displays at all their visitor centers and offer many interpretive programs throughout the year.

The Koochiching Museums also feature an annex devoted to football legend and International Falls native Bronko Nagurski.

Transportation has always been an important part of the BorderWaters region. The early fur trade brought Voyageurs to the region to bring trade goods west and return to the east with furs. Their huge canoes plying the interconnected waterways and establishing several historic portages. With all the water around, it is not surprising that our most popular recreations are dominated by boating. Houseboats are great ways to explore the large lakes throughout the region, most people bring along a fishing boat. Anglers indeed find variety on our lakes and rivers, fishing for Walleye, Northern Pike, Muskellunge, Smallmouth Bass, Black Crappie, Lake Sturgeon, Lake Trout and many other species. Pleasure boaters find beaches, points of interest and hiking trails to visit and there plenty of room for water skiing. Many a canoe or kayak has glided quietly along the shorelines of this historic waterway paradise.

I am most familiar with Rainy Lake, where you can explore the site of an abandoned gold mine and the site of the city that sprung up to serve miners and has since disappeared. Rainy also offers an opportunity to visit a remote and historic hotel that served the loggers that replaced the Voyageurs as the driving

economic force. You can also visit a historic fish camp representing another aspect of the past economy. A small Rainy Lake island was home to Ernest Oberholtzer, a well known early environmentalist. Throughout the lake, you will find great fishing structure and spectacular scenery. Voyageurs National Park publishes a map that shows houseboat, camping and day-use sites.

Rainy River offers some great recreation as well. In the spring, the extended walleye season attracts the first open-water anglers every year. The season remains open until mid April and river accesses are opened as soon as it is safely possible. This often means that you could fish through the ice on the Lake in the morning and launch a boat to fish the river in the afternoon.

The entire region is well known to winter anglers. Ice fishing is quite popular with good reason. Slot limits on many BorderWaters have kept large breeding fish in the population resulting in increasing fry production most every spring. The large age classes of fry add to the populations of keeper size fish as they grow making it possible

to catch some pretty good sized fish you will return to the lake and some perfect eating size fish. On Rainy Lake, you are allowed to keep one trophy size walleye. Regulations differ between the United States and Canada so be sure to check the rules.

Winter visitors are also treated to some great snowmobiling and cross country skiing. Snowshoers will find accessible trails where you can spot wildlife or just take in the scenery. Forestry roads throughout the county offer opportunities to check for wildlife or just take a scenic drive.

Boise Cascade operates one of the biggest and fastest papermaking machines in the world at International Falls. Naturally, a network of logging roads reaches into vast tracts of public lands. In the fall, many of these roads offer access to areas open to hunt whitetail deer, black bear, ruffed or spruce grouse and more. Maps are available showing the roads and in some cases, the public lands.

If you'd like to see some more photos and suggestions of things to see and do in the Rainy Lake area, visit <http://www.squidoo.com/things-to-do-RL>



WRITTEN BY PETE SCHULTZ  
RAINY LAKE ENTHUSIAST



Rainy Lake offers unparalleled scenic beauty and amazing outdoor recreational opportunities. Visitors will find many options when choosing their own Rainy Lake experience.

Travel by motorboat, sailboat, canoe or kayak. Stay in a resort, houseboat, B & B or camp. Fish, swim, hike, watch birds and wildlife, or just explore. The expansive stretches of water and networks of bays, channels and islands are enticing to adventurers.

You can travel the U.S. portion of Rainy Lake from Ranier on the west to Kettle Falls on the east, a nice 30-mile cruise. On the Canadian side, Rainy Lake stretches north from Fort Frances to spectacular Devil's Cascade.

Convenience stores, restaurants, resorts, air bases and houseboat companies are all accessible by car. For a breathtaking view take highway 11 east of Fort Frances to the Noden Causeway, a series of island-hopping bridges spanning the area north of Sand Bay opening up to the "North Arm."

By boat, explore a myriad of large and small bays filled with hundreds of islands creating a magical northern wilderness.

Anglers will enjoy this fishing paradise. Rainy Lake offers world-class fishing for small mouth bass, northern pike, crappie, muskie and walleye. Fishing guides are available, or you may go on your own, using detailed lake maps and some tips from the bait shops.

# Rainy Lake

International Falls, Ranier & Rainy Lake CVB  
301 Second Ave., International Falls, MN 56649  
1-800-325-5766  
e-mail: [cvb@rainylake.org](mailto:cvb@rainylake.org)  
[www.rainylake.org](http://www.rainylake.org)

There's more to experience than one season will allow. So come back for the great autumn colors, excellent ice fishing, fantastic snowmobiling and all that Rainy Lake has to offer!

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**Voyageurs National Park Rainy Lake Visitor Center**  
(218) 286-5258 or 888-381-2873

Jan. - Mid-May, 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Wed.-Sun.

Mid-May - Mid-Sept., 9 a.m.-5 p.m., daily

Oct. 1 - Dec. 31, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Wed.-Sun.

### MID-JUNE-LABOR DAY

**Naturalist-led Activities** - The Rainy Lake Visitor Center is 11 miles east of International Falls on Highway 11. The center tells the story of Minnesota's only national park in displays, exhibits and naturalist-led presentations. Boat Tours - Call 888-381-2873.

### AUGUST

**26-28 International Falls Bass Championship** - The 5th Annual tournament will be on both Rainy Lake and Rainy River. Cash prizes, top-of-the-line entertainment. Call 1-800-325-5766 or [www.ifallsbass.com](http://www.ifallsbass.com)

## THINGS TO DO

**Rainy Lake Bike Trail** - Northern Minnesota's most scenic bike trail begins in International Falls and ends near the Rainy Lake Visitor Center entrance to Voyageurs National Park. For bike rentals call: 1-877-RAINY-LK.

**Historic Gold Mines** - Visit Bushyhead or Little American islands by private boat. For National Park Service tours, call 888-381-2873.

**Historic Kettle Falls** - Deep in the heart of Voyageurs National Park lies an historic remnant of the past - the Kettle Falls Hotel. From the end of the nearest road, it's a boat ride of 20 miles or more to the historic hotel, an unforgettable journey through a maze of pine and aspen-covered islands.

Visitors can stay and eat at the hotel that has offered meals and refreshments to its guests for over 80 years - the hospitality still remains the same. To reach Kettle Falls, visitors can take tour boats offering various

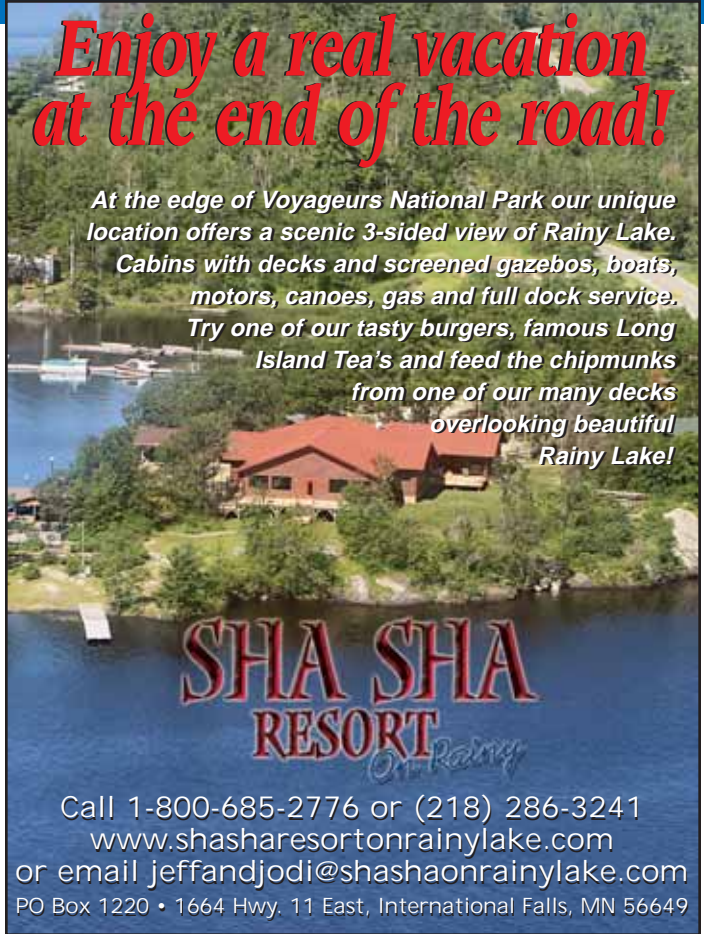


trips to the area during the summer months, or experienced boaters can reach the hotel in their own or a rented boat.

**Beaches** – International Falls City Beach is located on County Road 20, three miles east of International Falls. You will find picnic tables, grills, swings, basketball courts and a large sandy beach with a lifeguard on duty. A smaller beach without a lifeguard is also located in Ranier. In Fort Frances, Pithers Point Park on Highway 11 has a full picnic area, camping and large sandy (unsupervised) beach.

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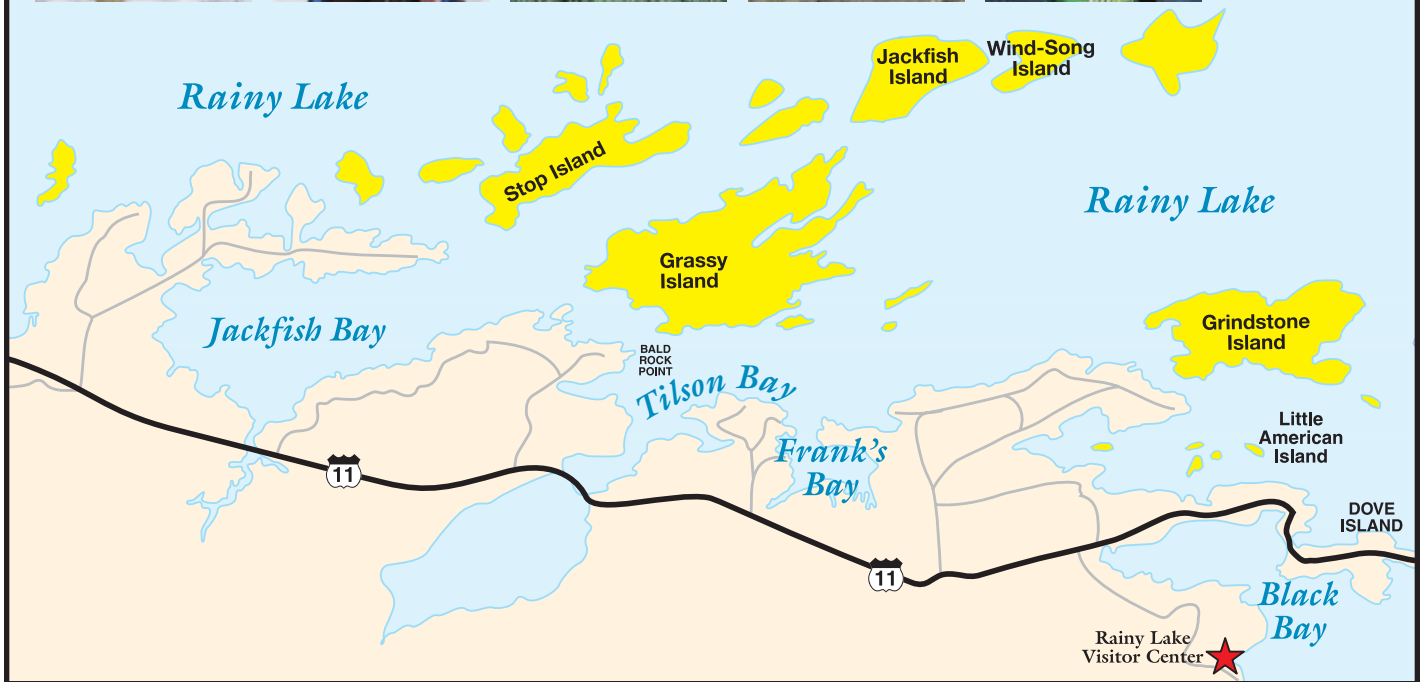
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# Ranier

Ranier City Hall, 218-286-3311 or  
 International Falls, Ranier & Rainy Lake  
 Convention & Visitors Bureau  
 301 2nd Avenue, International Falls, MN 56649  
 www.rainylake.org • cvb@rainylake.org  
 218-283-9400 or 1-800-325-5766

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### MAY – OCTOBER

**Rendezvous Yacht Club** – Whether you're a beginner or a pro, you'll enjoy sailing on Rainy Lake. Wednesday evenings enjoy our weekly Sand Bay Races. Tuesdays in June and July, join us for community sailing from the dock in Ranier.

### JULY

- Canada Day Celebration Concert and Fireworks** – Ranier Dock, Sand Bay on Rainy Lake, 218-286-5699 or 800-325-5766.

Ranier is an historic little city on the bay offering a unique blend of history, art, fishing and recreational activities.

Situated on the edge of Rainy Lake and Rainy River, this resort community is only eight nautical miles from Voyageurs National Park. It was here that Native people traded furs, fish, berries and handcrafted goods with the Voyageurs and later, local merchants.

During the Prohibition era, Ranier was home to bootleggers who smuggled whiskey between Canada and the United States across the oldest cantilevered bridge in the world. Spanning the rushing waters, the bridge, built in 1908, is still a vital link at this port of entry, the largest bulk rail port in the United States. Five import/export houses operate in Ranier.

Once raucous with saloons and bordellos, Ranier now enjoys good times in other ways. Over the years, Ranier has attracted innovative entrepreneurs, artists, writers and musicians, who cherish the quaint and lively city.

Ranier is brimming with manicured parks. It is also home to gift shops, an art gallery, a restaurant, a marine shop, pubs, an ice cream shop, tennis court, public beach, a hiking/biking trail and much more. A variety of rental properties are available to visitors.

Here are a couple more interesting facts you may not know: Ranier is the second largest tonnage-capacity port in the United States, and the birthplace of the world famous Mr. Twister fishing lure.

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**AUGUST**

- 14 Ranier Summer Festival
- 20 Rainy Lake Sinfonia Orchestra Concert – Ranier Community Building, 7 p.m.
- TBD Rainy Lake Orchestra String Workshop and Concert, Sinfonia practice at 4 p.m. Orchestra practice at 5:30 p.m. 218-286-3318 or 218-286-3281



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# International Falls

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 1-800-325-5766 • e-mail: cvb@rainylake.org  
 www.rainylake.org

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### JUNE

20 **Randy Holenko Memorial Golf Scramble**  
 Four-person scramble. Call 218-283-4491.

### JUNE – JULY

Wed. **Concerts in the Park** – 7:00 p.m. at Smokey Bear Park. More info under Things to do .

### JULY

3-4 **Independence Day Celebration** – Parade, games, food in Smokey Bear Park. Evening street dance and spectacular fireworks.

4 **Bronco 5k Run/Walk & Kid's 1/2 mile** –  
 Contact 218-283-9400

11-12 **55th Smokey Bear International Golf Tournament** Falls Country Club

29 **Crazy Daze** – Unbelievable bargains and zany costumed clerks! Call 800-325-5766 for info.

### AUGUST

27-29 **International Falls Bass Championship**  
 5th Tournament on both Rainy Lake and Rainy River. Big cash prizes, entertainment, arts & crafts festival, 800-325-5766, www.ifallsbass.com

29 **Budak Memorial Bike Ride – Backus**  
 Starts at St. Thomas School, 218-283-3430.

### SEPTEMBER

19 **Frostbite Falls Scramble Golf Tournament** –  
 Four-person scramble. Call 218-283-4491.

### NOVEMBER

27 **'Twas the Lights Before Christmas Parade**  
 Main Street

### JANUARY 2010

14-17 **Freeze Yer Gizzard Blizzard 10kK Run & 5K Fun Run**, Call 800-325-5766 or www.freezeyergizzardrun.com

## THINGS TO DO

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**Smokey Bear Park** – Enjoy the shaded picnic tables within the park.

International Falls is relatively young as cities go, yet very old. As a bustling modern community, it dates back over 100 years. Explorers, missionaries and Voyageurs were very familiar with the area as early as the late 1600s. It is located on the south bank of the Rainy River, near the west end of Rainy Lake. The river forms part of the border between Minnesota and Ontario.

The village that sprang up in the late 1800s was named Koochiching, an Ojibwe name for the falls, Rainy Lake and Rainy River area. Koochiching described the waterfall's mistlike rain at the point where the lake flowed into the river. The village was incorporated in 1901, and in 1903 its name was changed to International Falls.

Visitors to International Falls will enjoy majestic scenery, wildlife, water recreation sports and world-class fishing on Rainy Lake and Rainy River. Walleyes, northern pike, smallmouth bass and crappies are popular catches.

The championship eighteen-hole golf course along the historic Rainy River is hailed as one of the most scenic golf courses in Minnesota. Make it a two nation vacation and play another 18 holes of golf in the sister city, Fort Frances, Ontario.

The Falls serves as gateway to Minnesota's only national park – Voyageurs National Park. The Park Service offers an interpretive center, naturalist-guided activities, programs, hiking opportunities, picnic areas and boat cruises.

History buffs will enjoy area museums and the Waters of the Dancing Sky Scenic Byway stretching along Highway 11 East and West. A variety of lodging opportunities abound – resorts, inns, motels, houseboats. Visitors will also enjoy charming shops, pubs, and restaurants.

**Koochiching Museums** – Historical Museum & Bronko Nagurski Museum. The Museums feature 10,000 years of Borderland history, native history and culture, European settlement and the utilization of the natural resources through the fur trade to modern forestry. The Bronko Nagurski Museum is a lasting tribute to this football legend. Located in Smokey Bear Park 218-283-4316.

**The Falls?** – Once a 35-foot drop over a series of rapids, is now concealed under a reservoir of water formed by the dam built in 1905. Learn about this history and the origin of the original town name Koochiching at the Koochiching Museums.

**Golf Course** – Falls Country Club, next to scenic Rainy River, offers an 18-hole championship golf course. The course winds through the beautiful pines and aspen and is laced with a series of streams. PGA Golf Professional, Pro Shop, restaurant, bar, practice range and more. Tee times call 218-283-4491.

**Beaches** – City Beach is three miles east of International Falls on CR 20. Picnic tables, grills, swings, basketball courts, lifeguard on duty.

**Waters of the Dancing Sky Scenic Byway** – Hwy. 11 from Sha Sha Point on Rainy Lake to Karlstad, MN, is a scenic byway with over 47 points of interest.

**Sportsmen's Service Wildlife Museum** – Wildlife collection of 100 birds and 50 animals on Hwy. 53. 218-283-2411.



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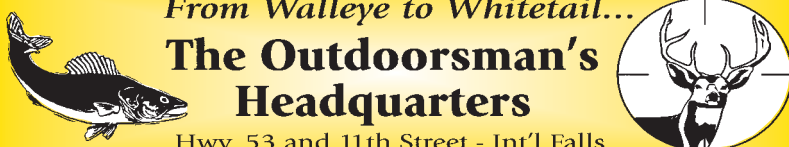
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# Littlefork

Littlefork Chamber of Commerce  
P.O. Box 131, Littlefork, MN 56653-0131  
1-877-274-4544, 218-278-6617

Surrounded by the banks of the Littlefork River lies the City of Littlefork. Here you will find a small town atmosphere and local hospitality which will make you feel at home.

Outdoor activities abound in the Littlefork area. The Little Fork and Big Fork rivers flow north to the Rainy River through many miles of wild land and provide some of the finest canoeing and fishing in Minnesota.

Hunting is excellent whether you're after big or small game. Vast areas of public lands provide outdoor enthusiasts unlimited opportunity to snowmobile, cross-country ski, horseback ride or just hike the beautiful old logging trails. Just minutes from Littlefork are Voyageurs National Park, Rainy Lake, Kabetogama Lake and the Ontario lake country.

Littlefork has plenty of room for housing, starting with some breathtaking riverfront possibilities. You might be surprised just how much land and home you can get for the price, whether you rent or build.

The economic base for our area is agriculture, tourism and the timber industry. There are ample opportunities for new businesses, business relocation or expansion throughout the community. Local assistance is available through county agencies and the City of Littlefork.

Littlefork offers a municipal airport with property leases available for individual hangar construction and we are twenty minutes from an international airport.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### JUNE

**TBD Garage Sale Day**

A communitywide garage sale event so come browse through almost everyone's garage for really good stuff and inexpensive treasures.

### JULY/AUGUST

**TBD Northern Minnesota District Fair**

Featuring live entertainment, a rodeo, logging competition and demolition derby. Also check out the carnival rides, midway, livestock shows, all the great food and so much more!



### OCTOBER

**31 Boo Boulevard**

A safe and fun experience for all our young hobgoblins and a chance for the community to share their fun.

### NOVEMBER

**TBD Community Craft Fair**

This fair is sponsored by Littlefork Community Education and is traditionally held the third Saturday of deer hunting season in the old high school gym. Come for the food, the crafts and the holiday spirit of this annual event.





The Lake of the Woods area has some of the most spectacular scenery in North America, which makes it one of the most desirable destinations year around. Baudette, the county seat, is known as, The Walleye Capital of the World, and the city's mascot, Willie Walleye, proudly watches over the Baudette Bay. This gigantic fish statue is perhaps the most widely photographed fish in history; make sure you get a snapshot of Willie Walleye with your family when you visit.

Zippel Bay State Park is located north of Williams and is a favored destination for blueberry and morel mushroom pickers. Minnesota's Official State fish, flower, mushroom and berry can all be found in abundance in Lake of the Woods County.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### JUNE

- 5 **19th Annual Willie Walleye Day**  
218-634-2967, Baudette
- TBA **Canoe/Kayak Club Fun Run**,  
218-634-9430, Baudette
- 19 **Wildflower Celebration**, 218-634-9416, Williams
- 23 **Take a Kid Fishing**
- 26 **5th Annual North Star Summer Classic**  
Wigwam Lodge, 800-448-9260, L.O.W.

### JULY

- 1 **Canada Day Festivities**, Rainy River
- 4 **Old Fashioned July 4th Celebration**, Baudette
- 4 **Annual Flea Market**, 218-442-7715
- 4 **Fourth of July Activities**,  
218-223-4341, 800-879-4986
- 5-16 **Hockey School**, 218-783-8801, Baudette
- 9-10 **Back Home Days**,  
218-783-4801, 218-783-6435, Williams

# Baudette

## Lake of the Woods, Minnesota

Lake of the Woods Tourism

930 W. Main Hwy. 11 West, Baudette, MN 56623

Fishing Hotline: 1-800-382-FISH (3474), 218-634-1174

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Waters of the Dancing  
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- 9-10 **Qualifiers MN Tournament Trail**,  
218-634-1631, Border View, L.O.W.
- 10 **10th Annual Pioneer Days**, 218-634-2511  
after 5 p.m., Birchdale
- 17 **Beach Bash**, Wigwam Resort, 800-448-9260
- 30 **Baudette Crazy Daze**, 218-634-2332, Baudette
- 31 **38th Annual Steam & Gas Show Threshing Bee**,  
218-442-7455 or 218-386-2894, Roosevelt

### AUGUST

- 28 **Annual Steam & Gas Show Threshing Bee/Flea Market**  
Bee 218-442-7455 or 218-386-2894, Roosevelt  
Flea Market 218-386-3801, Roosevelt
- 6-8 **Blueberry Festival**
- TBA **Master Gardener Tour**  
218-634-9814 or 218-634-9402, Baudette
- 12 **North American Sturgeon Championship**  
800-279-2850, Birchdale
- 12 **Flawk To The Hawk 10th Annual Car Show**  
218-442-2470, Roosevelt
- 14 **22th Annual Shyster Invitational - NWA Golf Course**  
Info at 218-223-4611 or 866-692-6453

- 21 **American Legion Tournament**, Baudette
- 27-28 **6th Annual Sportsmans Lodge Biker Rally**  
800-862-8602, Baudette

- 26-29 **Lake of the Woods County Fair**, Baudette

### SEPTEMBER

- 16-17 **Minnesota Tournament Trail Invitational**  
320-679-5609, L.O.W.
- TBA **Ducks Unlimited Banquet-Sportsman's Lodge**  
Baudette

- 24-26 **20th Annual Oktoberfest**, 218-634-1544, Baudette
- 25 **Oktoberfest Craft Fair**, 218-634-2505

### OCTOBER

- 1-2 **12th Annual Fall Walleye Classic**,  
218-634-9457 or 218-634-2168, L.O.W.
- 9 **57th Annual Williams Potato Day**, Williams
- 30 **Halloween Party**, Sportsman's Lodge, Baudette



**NOVEMBER**

- 20 **VFW Craft Fair**, 218-634-1873
- 27 **Frost Fest**, 218-634-2332, Baudette
- 31 **Many of our fine restaurants offer New Year's Eve Specials** Make your reservations early! All Areas

**DECEMBER**

- 1-25 **Frost Fest (continued)**, 218-634-2332, Baudette
- 1-25 **Frost Fest (continued)**, 218-634-2332, Baudette

**SPRING**

Warmer water temperatures trigger the walleye run up the Rainy River. The tributaries and shoreline of the Rainy are teeming with life during the spring when fish and birds return to their breeding grounds. Lake of the Woods is strategically located on the Mississippi migratory flyway, and thousands of shore birds and waterfowl stop to rest and nest on the secluded shoreline of the lake.

Minnesota's State Flower is the Showy Lady's-Slipper. This lovely orchid is a native perennial and blooms in abundance in mid-June in the Lake of the Woods area. Our area hosts a wildflower celebration the third Saturday of June.

**SUMMER** – Fishing is fabulous. The lake is a world-class fishery providing hundreds of thousands of pounds of walleye annually. Lake of the Woods also has sauger, small mouth and large mouth bass, muskie, jumbo perch, sturgeon and northern pike.

Kayaking and canoeing are becoming very popular sports in the area and route maps are available at the Lake of the Woods Area Tourism Bureau.

Enjoy a nature hike or bike trip down one of the winding logging trails in the Beltrami Island State Forest. Be sure and stop in at the tourist information center and pick up a Wilderness Drive Map before setting out.

**FALL** Autumn is an amazing time in the Lake of the Woods area. The trees blush in hues of red, yellow and orange.

**WINTER** – Winter brings on a pristine white landscape. Any true Minnesotan will tell you, winter is the time for outdoor fun!

Ice fishing has become incredibly popular on Lake of the Woods during the winter season, and why not? Heated fish houses, safe reliable transportation across the ice and world-class service set the stage for successful fishing year around! It's an extraordinary experience you won't want to miss.

Cross-country skiing and snow shoeing at Zippel Bay State

Park are two great ways to recreate. Or snowmobile the Northern Connection Trail which provides over 500 miles of groomed trails.

If you're wondering what to do with the wee ones, may we suggest a sledding party at Willie Walleye Park in Baudette? The park has one of the best toboggan hills anywhere.

**AREA ATTRACTIONS**

**Golf** – Oak Harbor Golf Course is an 18-hole course located along the shores of the Rainy River, 8.5 miles north of Baudette off of Highway 172. Open from dawn to dusk, seven days a week. (218) 634-9939.

**Hiking and Bike Trails** – Zippel Bay State Park is ten miles north east of Williams, Minnesota on the shoreline of Lake of the Woods. The park has 53 campsites, a shower house, two miles of sandy beach, covered picnic pavilions, and a safe harbor with dock slips. This beautiful park has nearly 3,000 acres of pristine wilderness and is a highly favored spot for wildlife watching.

**The Beltrami Island State Forest** offers visitors thousands of acres of wilderness to enjoy and is crisscrossed with graveled roads.

**Timber Mill Community Park** one-mile east of Baudette on the north side of State Highway 11. Opens July 4. 218-634-1850.

**Wildlife Watching** – The Waters of the Dancing Sky Scenic Byway follows the Minnesota/Canadian border for over 200 miles! For info visit [www.watersofthedancingsky.org](http://www.watersofthedancingsky.org).

**Swimming Areas** – Zippel Bay State Park offers swimmers a two-mile stretch of sandy beach, with safe shallow waters.

**County Museum** – Open May – September, the County Museum features exhibits on the geological and natural history of the area, the native cultures, and the great forest fire of 1910. Special exhibits highlight the area's economic development and the museum serves as the archival center for the county.

**Four Seasons of Fun!** – The area Drifters Club maintains over 500 miles of groomed snowmobile trails throughout northern Minnesota.

**Cross Country Skiing** – Zippel Bay State Park maintains 10K of groomed trails during the winter and the park often features a moonlight ski during February.

Beltrami Isl. St. Forest 218-386-1304; Zippel Bay State Park 218-783-6252; LOW School 218-634-2510; County Museum 218-634-1200; Oak Harbor Golf Course 218-634-9939; Drifters 24-hour Hotline for trail conditions 218-634-3042



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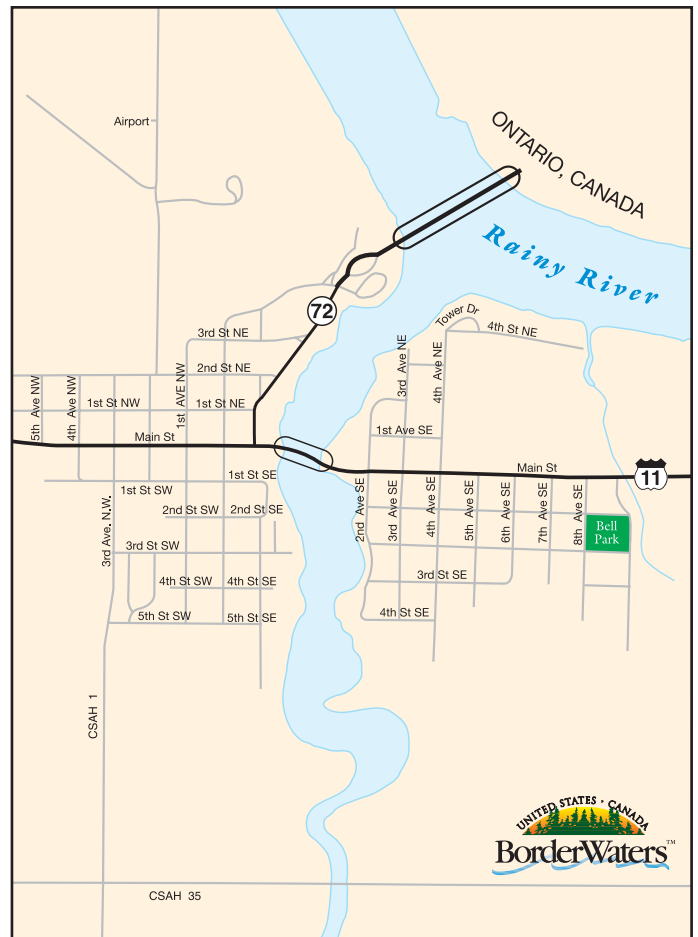
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The largest town in the Rainy River District with a population of 8,000, Fort Frances is a modern, full-service community, located on the shores of Rainy Lake and Rainy River along the Canadian-U.S. border, making it the gateway to Northwestern Ontario. The town is linked by bridge to International Falls, Minnesota.

Fort Frances is the oldest settled community west of Lake Superior, incorporated in April 1903. The community has grown and prospered in the past century.

A view of pioneer and aboriginal life, along with displays of local arts and crafts, is provided at the newly renovated Fort Frances Museum and Cultural Centre, in the heart of downtown.

Enjoy walking along a waterfront development area to the rapids where Rainy Lake flows into Rainy River. The next half-mile takes you through Pithers Point Park and onto the shores of one of North America's cleanest bodies of water, sparkling Rainy Lake. Stop at Pithers Point and check out the logging boat Hallett. This 60-foot, 57-ton boat was built in 1941 and was the largest, most powerful boat on Rainy Lake until it was taken out of operation in 1974. Want to spend time on the water? motor, sail or paddle. Rentals and rides are available from local merchants and clubs.

Before leaving Fort Frances, spend a few moments enjoying the breathtaking view from Noden Causeway, a series of island-hopping bridges just seven kilometers east of town on Highway 11.

# Fort Frances

Fort Frances Chamber of Commerce  
474 Scott Street, Fort Frances, ON P9A 1H2  
1-800-820-3678

Ontario Tourism Office, 400 Central Street  
Fort Frances, ON P9A 1X8 1-807-274-7566

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### JULY

- 1 **Canada Day Celebrations**, Pithers Point Park, 807-274-5773
- 19-25 **Canadian Bass Championship**  
Memorial Sports Plex 807-274-5573.  
Live release tournament on Rainy Lake.
- 22 **Quest for the Best**, 6 p.m.  
Memorial Sports Plex 807-274-5773

### SEPTEMBER

- TBD **Terry Fox Run**, Volunteer Bureau, 807-274-9555

### NOVEMBER

- 28 **Christmas Parade**, Downtown, 807-274-7502

### DECEMBER

- TBD **BIA Cookies & Cocoa with Santa**, Downtown, 807-274-7502

*For a complete up-to-date listing,  
please call the Fort Frances Chamber.*

## THINGS TO DO AND SEE

**Museum & Cultural Centre** – Located in one of the town's oldest buildings – a school house built in 1898, the Museum offers displays of Indian artifacts, relics of the fur trade, logging and industrial development.  
Summer: Daily 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

Winter: Monday-Saturday, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.

**Pithers Point Park and Big Chair**– On beautiful Rainy Lake. Enjoy a picnic, the beach, or just enjoying the outdoors. Swimming, baseball diamonds, large open fields, volleyball courts, and horseshoe pits make the park fun for the whole family. Pithers Point Park also serves as a campground for RV's and tents. The Big Chair has become a grand attraction for residents and tourists. Stop by for a great photo op.

**LaVerendrye Parkway** – The waterfront along Rainy River, named LaVerendrye Parkway, offers a great view and peaceful atmosphere while you walk, jog, in-line skate or bike down the two-mile cobblestone walkway. Take a break to enjoy the view at any of the many benches and picnic pavilions along the way. LaVerendrye Parkway is handicap accessible.



Enjoy an ice cream cone or cup of coffee at the Sorting Gap Marina, located along LaVerendrye Parkway. A boat launch and fuel are also available at the marina.

**Heron Landing Golf Course** – This beautifully-groomed course and unbeatable scenery, make a round of golf well worth the trip to the Heron Landing Golf Course, just 2 km east of Fort Frances on Couchiching First Nation Reserve. Visit the Pro Shop for rentals of clubs and carts, a variety of golf accessories and gifts for purchase. Enjoy a delicious meal or snack at The Sand Wedge Restaurant after your game. Call 807-274-5678.

**Kitchen Creek Golf Club** – Rated one of the best 18-hole golf courses in Northwestern Ontario, Kitchen Creek Golf Club is 8km west of Fort Frances on Hwy 11.

Kitchen Creek offers a complete, full-service course with picturesque fairways and immaculate greens. Shop in the Pro Shop, dine in the clubhouse or enjoy a refreshing beverage on the course. Call (807) 274-GOLF.

**Rainy Lake Mermaid** – In 1932, Gordon A. Schlichting, a Minneapolis architect, carved the Mermaid while a student spending the summers on Rainy Lake. In Silver Island Narrows, near Copenhagen Island, the Mermaid watches over the comings and goings of the lake.

Statuesque and secretive, the Mermaid sits upon a rock in the middle of beautiful Rainy Lake. Constructed out of steel rods, old boat propellers and cement, the Mermaid is truly a work of art.

#### MURALS

**Edward Wellington Backus Mural** – The first heritage mural of Fort Frances, created by artist Brian Romangnoli, depicts industrialist E.W. Backus. The mural is located on the west side of CIBC building located at 203 Scott Street.

**Fort Frances at the Turn of the Century Mural** – The Fort Frances at the Turn of the Century Mural was created by artist John Hood and is located on the west wall of the Masonic Building, located at the corner of Scott Street and Portage Avenue.

**Rendezvous Yacht Club** – Enjoy sailing on Rainy Lake from May to October. [www.rycweb.org](http://www.rycweb.org)

**Tour de Fort** – Presenting top quality professional entertainment with a Canadian emphasis. [www.tourdefort.com](http://www.tourdefort.com)

**Fort Frances Public Library** – Daily summer activities. Call 807-274-9879 or stop by at 601 Reid Ave.

## SHOPPING

**Downtown Fort Frances** – Variety of shops offering a wide array of unique souvenirs and gifts, restaurants and coffee shops. Stop by the BIA for your free downtown map 335 Scott Street.

**Clover Valley Farmer's Market** – Every Saturday from May Oct. 9 to 1. On McIrvine Rd. (near Canadian Tire). Handmade local crafts, baking items and fresh produce.

## PARKS/ PLAYGROUNDS

**Lion's Millennium Park** – On Second Street East, the Lion's Park has something for everyone. Fenced-in equipment, a beautiful millennium fountain, and a water fountain shaped like a lion to quench your thirst. Across from the Memorial Sports Centre. Washroom facilities available.

**Legion Park** – West end of town, this park offers swings, slides and monkey bars. Washroom facilities are available.

**St. Francis Sports Field Park** – With playground equipment for the young kids, open fields, baseball diamonds, and soccer fields. Fun for all ages.



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 e-mail: [info@rendezvoushotel.com](mailto:info@rendezvoushotel.com)

**Fort Frances**  
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# Crossing the Border

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## CROSSING THE INTERNATIONAL BORDER IS EASY!

You can walk across the bridge free of charge or drive across the bridge for a toll. Either way, you are required to be cleared through U.S. or Canadian Customs. A passport is required by both American and Canadian citizens to enter the U.S. To enter Canada, proof of citizenship is required. Youths under 18 traveling alone may need a letter of permission from a parent or a legal guardian.

## WHAT GOODS CAN YOU BRING IN WITH YOU

### U.S. residents entering Canada:

- private vehicles, pleasure boats, and recreational vehicles;
- up to 1.14 liters (40 oz.) of liquor or 1.5 liters of wine or wine coolers or 24 355 ml/12 oz. cans or bottles of beer or ale\* duty-free;
- up to 200 cigarettes, 50 cigars or cigarillos, 200 tobacco sticks, and 200 grams of manufactured tobacco\* duty-free.

\* You must meet the provincial age requirements (19 in Ontario) to import these goods.

## CANADIAN RESIDENTS ENTERING THE UNITED STATES:

- private vehicles, pleasure boats, and recreational vehicles;
- up to 24 355 ml/12 oz. cans/bottles of beer, or 4 liters liquor, wine/wine coolers, or 1 liter duty-free\*;
- 200 cigarettes duty-free

\* You must meet state age requirements (21 in Minnesota) to import these goods.

## WHAT GOODS ARE NOT ALLOWED INTO CANADA?

- live minnows, leeches;
- smelt, live or dead;
- handguns and automatic weapons;
- mace or any other spray to be used against people.

## HOW MUCH CAN YOU BRING BACK DUTY-FREE?

### U.S. residents leaving Canada: (all figures in U.S. dollars)

If you stay in Canada under 48 hours, \$200 worth of goods including:

- 50 cigarettes or 10 cigars (Cuban cigars prohibited);
- 150 milliliters (or 5 fl. oz.) liquor.

After a 48-hour stay in Canada, you may return with \$800 worth of goods including:

- 1 liter (33.8 oz.) liquor;
- 200 cigarettes + 100 cigars;
- family members may combine their \$800 exemptions.
- Canadian articles are duty-free.

### Canadian residents leaving the United States: (all figures in Canadian dollars)

If you stay in the U.S. under 24 hours there is no exemption.

After an absence of 24 hours or more, you can claim goods (except tobacco products and alcoholic beverages) worth up to \$50 in total.

If the goods you bring in are worth more than \$50 in total, you cannot claim this exemption. Instead, you have to pay duties on the full value.

After an absence of 48 hours or more, you can claim goods worth up to \$200 in total including:

- 200 cigarettes, 200 tobacco sticks, 50 cigars or cigarillos, and 200 grams of manufactured tobacco;
- 1.14 liters (40 oz.) of liquor or 1.5 liters of wine or 24 355 ml/12 oz. cans or bottles of beer or ale.

After an absence of 7 days or more, you can claim goods worth up to \$750 in total;

- the same amount of tobacco products and alcoholic beverages as above can be included in these goods.

PLEASE NOTE: Family members may NOT combine their exemptions.

## CAN YOU GET A REFUND ON TAXES

### The New Rebate System

As from 1 April 2007, the earlier method of getting tax rebates on goods and accommodation purchased in Canada by a visitor and taken out of Canada was repealed.

A substantially more limited form of partial rebate was introduced in its place. This new system allows for a one half refund (rather than full refund) of the GST/HST paid on the accommodation component of packaged tours to Canada.

A packaged tour has to comprise a mix of airfare and accommodation (and potentially other things) all sold for one price without a price breakdown of the components.

Refunds are claimed back through the tour operator you bought the

packaged tour from, and are to be claimed only after you have returned from Canada.

For more details as to the eligibility for any refund when you are buying travel packages to Canada, ask the company who is selling the package to you.

Sadly, this new arrangement is vastly less generous than the earlier arrangement.

## WHAT ABOUT DRIVING?

All United States driver's licenses are valid when driving in Canada and vice versa. Seat belts are mandatory in both Ontario and Minnesota. In Minnesota, if it is raining or snowing, your headlights must be on.

Here are some handy comparisons that will help you convert distances and speed limits:

A kilometer (km) is roughly six tenths (0.6) of a mile.

- 25 km = 15 miles
- 40 km = 25 miles
- 50 km = 30 miles
- 60 km = 36 miles
- 80 km = 50 miles
- 100 km = 60 miles

or

- 90-100 km/h = 55-62 mph
- 80-90 km/h = 50-55 mph
- 40-60 km/h = 25-37 mph

Fuel in Canada is sold in liters. Fuel in the U.S. is sold in gallons. It takes 3.78 liters to make a U.S. gallon.

## CAN YOU BRING FIREARMS ACROSS THE BORDER?

Canada: Canada welcomes hunters and sportsmen in season, but handguns, fully automatic weapons or firearms under 26" in length are not permitted. During the hunting season, if you are at least 18 years of age, you may bring a hunting rifle or shotgun into the province for hunting purposes and up to 200 rounds of ammunition.

To bring a firearm into Canada, a license is required. Either a five-year possession and acquisition license or a yearly temporary license fee that you can acquire at the border when you enter Canada. For more information call 1-800-731-4000.

## UNITED STATES

For latest changes, call ATF at 202-927-8320.

## CAN YOU BRING YOUR PET?

When bringing a pet across the border, you must have a valid rabies vaccination certificate issued for the pet during the previous 12 months.

## DO I NEED A PASSPORT TO TRAVEL BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA?

On June 1, 2009, U.S. citizens returning home from Canada, Mexico, the Caribbean or Bermuda, by land or sea, will be required to present one of the travel documents listed below. Many of these documents are already available, and obtaining one now will ensure that you are ready on June 1, 2009, when they will be required.

**U.S. Passport** – This is an internationally recognized travel document that verifies a person's identity and nationality. It is accepted for travel by air, land and sea.

**U.S. Passport Card** – This is a new, limited-use travel document that fits in your wallet and costs less than a U.S. Passport. It is only valid for travel by land and sea.

**Enhanced Driver's License (EDL)** – Several states and Canadian provinces/territories are issuing this driver's license or identification document that denotes identity and citizenship. It is specifically designed for cross-border travel into the U.S. by land or sea.

**Trusted Traveler Program Cards** – NEXUS, SENTRI or FAST enrollment cards can speed your entry into the U.S. and are issued only to pre-approved, low-risk travelers. The cards are valid for use at land or sea; the NEXUS card can be used in airports with a NEXUS kiosk.

**Note:** Beginning June 1, 2009, U.S. and Canadian citizen children under age 16 arriving by land or sea from contiguous territory may also present an original or copy of his or her birth certificate, a Consular Report of Birth Abroad, a Naturalization Certificate, or a Canadian Citizenship Card.

**Children traveling** with someone other than their legal guardian should have written permission.

Beginning June 1, 2009, U.S. and Canadian citizen children under age 19 arriving by land or sea from contiguous territory and traveling with a school group, religious group, social or cultural organization, or sports team, may also present an original or copy of his or her birth certificate, a Consular Report of Birth Abroad, a Naturalization Certificate, or a Canadian Citizenship Card.

## *Rainy River*

*A cultural, historical and recreational link between International Falls and Fort Frances.  
An anchor for shared industry and a commitment to quality.  
Rainy River...It doesn't divide us, it unites us.*



### **Paper Mill Tours: June~August**

Dates may vary based on availability of tour guide and space. Please call (218) 285-5011 for dates, times and reservations. Tours will begin at 8:30 a.m., 11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Monday – Friday (no holidays). Gather at the Security Office/Visitors Center on Second Street and Fourth Avenue. Please wear sturdy, fully enclosed footwear. Ages 10 and up welcome. Sorry, no cameras allowed.

Photo courtesy of Jeff Frey & Associates Photography

# **FALLS INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT**

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