



DESTINATION
**NORTHERN
ONTARIO**

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**EXPLORE
NORTHERN
ONTARIO**

AN  ITINERARY

ONTARIO
CANADA



RV travel in Northern Ontario

📍 Hwy 17 North (Sault Ste. Marie to Wawa)

RV Travel in Northern Ontario.

Most people are surprised that Northern Ontario starts in Parry Sound just three hours north of Toronto. Here, the landscape on the edge of Georgian Bay gives way from cottage country and pastoral rolling farmland to gradually merge with solid rock landscapes towards the Great Lakes. The Boreal Forest stretches from here across the vast Canadian Shield. The Fur Trade route along Lake Superior is one of Canada's most scenic drives.

This immense landscape speaks of our Canadian history. Starting with the Indigenous people and the fur trade that led to settlement with the exploration of canoe routes, railroads and eventually highways that connected resource towns to the outside world.

Northern Ontario has a unique character in its people and communities that has seen its share of the boom and bust of mines and mills.



Produced by Destination Northern Ontario in co-operation with

Destination Ontario | Ontario Parks | Camping in Ontario | RV Rental Association of Canada
Best Times RV | CanaDream | Cruise Canada | Fraserway RV



Photo credits: Destination Ontario, Ontario Parks, Parks Canada, Gord Rees, Tiina Keranen, Greg Mattson, Dan Grisdale Photography, Algoma Country, Tourism Sault Ste. Marie, Thunder Bay Tourism, Parry Sound Tourism, City of Kenora.

Planning RV travel

To plan or not to plan your every day on the road? That is the question answered by the freedom of RV travel. Allow a minimum of three weeks to cover the 5,000 kms across two-thirds of Canada. A month is recommended. It is approximately 2,000 kilometers of winding highway from Toronto to the Manitoba border. Add another 300 km for getting into campgrounds, shopping, sightseeing and of course, back tracking to investigate animals and attractions along the road. Then it is still another 2,500 kms from Winnipeg to Vancouver.

RV rentals. Make a circle tour through Northern Ontario, or extend your holiday to include the Trans Canada route to the Rocky Mountains and the west coast. Visit rvrac.com for rental stations in Toronto. There are also special one-way rental rates to relocate new motorhomes to Calgary and Vancouver during April and May. **Be sure to book early.**



Where to camp along the fur trade route.



Ontario Parks

There are more than 30 provincial parks along the fur trade route. Most of these parks open in late May and close in September. A park pass is required and must be displayed on the dash of a vehicle at all times. Electrical, fresh water and sani-dumps are available in all provincial parks that accommodate RV camping.

Campsite reservations at Ontario Provincial Parks:
1-888-668-7275 | www.ontarioparks.com



Parks Canada

The federal government is guardian of Pukaskwa National Park, Fort St. Joseph, Lake Superior National Marine Conservation Area, and National Historic Sites along the route.

Contact:
1-888-773-8888 | www.pc.gc.ca



Ontario Private Campgrounds

Participating campgrounds in Ontario's private campground association are listed by number in the *Camping in Ontario* Directory.

More information:
www.campininginontario.ca



Getting there.

From the south.

MS Chi-Cheemaun Ferry

Board the MS Chi-Cheemaun Ferry for a scenic crossing of Georgian Bay from Tobermory/ Bruce Peninsula to Manitoulin Island.

Over-size rates apply to vehicles greater than 20 feet

Shoulder Season

May 3 to June 13, 2019 and September 3 to October 14, 2019.

From the west

RV rental stations in Vancouver and Calgary are connected by Trans Canada Hwy 1 to Hwy 17 at the Manitoba / Ontario border, just east of Winnipeg, where the prairies change suddenly to the great Canadian Shield and Boreal Forest.

Ontario Travel Information Centres

Obtain detailed travel information on the entire province:

- Travel information sorted by travel area
- Free highway maps
- Camping permits
- Weather forecasts
- Spring blossom & fall colour reports








EXPERIENCE A NINE-DAY ADVENTURE

Follow the Fur Trade Route.




TORONTO TO KENORA —  approximately 1,900 km

FROM	TO	DISTANCE	DURATION
Toronto	Parry Sound	200 km	2 h 30 min
Parry Sound	Sudbury	170 km	2 h
Sudbury	Sault Ste. Marie	320 km	3 h 40 min
Sault Ste. Marie	Wawa	340 km	2 h 30 min
Wawa	Nipigon	360 km	4 h
Nipigon	Thunder Bay	120 km	1 h 20 min
Thunder Bay	Fort Frances	330 km	3 h 50 min
Fort Frances	Kenora	220 km	2 h 30 min

Main highlights along the Fur Trade Route.

-  Island Queen Cruise on Georgian Bay/30,000 Islands at Parry Sound.
-  Dynamic Earth in Sudbury with underground mine tour.
-  Canal tour of Sault Ste. Marie Canal National Historic Site.
-  Agawa Canyon Tour Train from downtown Sault Ste. Marie.
-  Tour of Fort William National Historic Park.

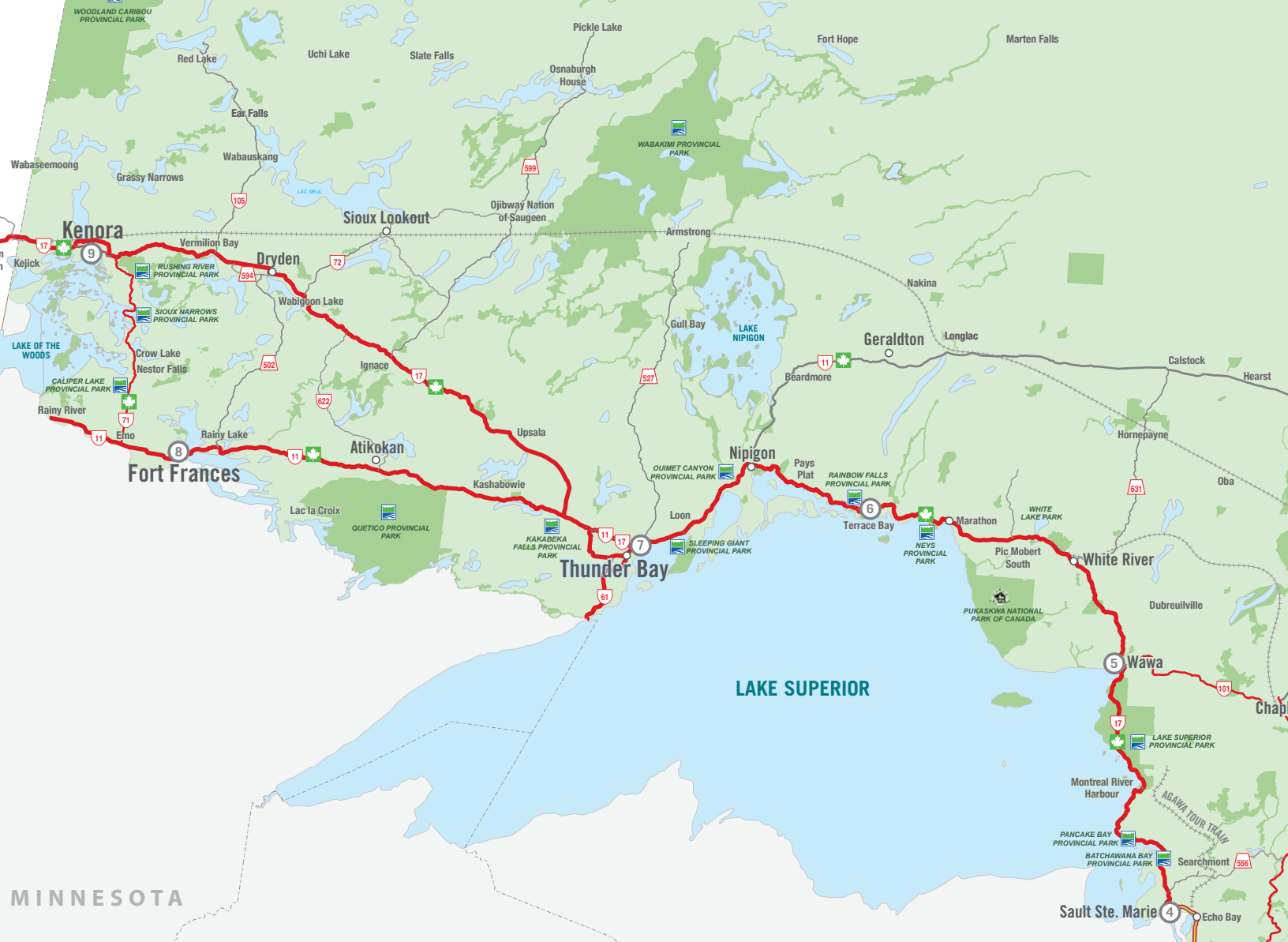
Other special attractions.

-  Group of Seven artists' plaques in numerous locations between Sault Ste. Marie and Terrace Bay.
-  The Terry Fox Memorial and historic markers showing Prisoner of War camps of World War II in Neys Provincial Park and Red Rock.
-  Heritage sites and museums include the French River Visitor Centre, Fort St. Joseph National Historic Site, Wawa, White River, Nipigon, Fort William National Historic Site in Thunder Bay, Atikokan, La Verendrye Parkway in Fort Frances, and Lake of the Woods Museum in Kenora.



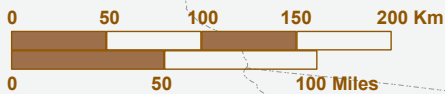
ITINERARY

- | | |
|--|--|
| DAY 1 Toronto to Parry Sound | DAY 6 Wawa to Nipigon |
| DAY 2 Parry Sound to Sudbury | DAY 7 Nipigon to Thunder Bay |
| DAY 3 Sudbury to Spragge | DAY 8 Thunder Bay to Fort Frances |
| DAY 4 Spragge to Sault Ste. Marie | DAY 9 Fort Frances to Kenora |
| DAY 5 Sault Ste. Marie to Wawa | <i>*a,b, and c are alternate routes</i> |



Remote sections on Hwy #17 / 11 between Sault Ste. Marie & Thunder Bay:

Watch for sudden weather changes with heavy snow and wind on isolated stretches of highways with few or no services during April and early May in Spring, and late September–October in Fall along the north shore of Lake Superior. Gale-force winds can quickly develop over the north shore of Lake Superior. Keep an eye on your fuel and propane before heading north around the crest of Lake Superior where gas stations may close in the evening, and on Sundays.



IOWA

THE

 FUR TRADE
 ROUTE



Day One.

LAKE SIMCOE | ORILLIA | PARRY SOUND

📷 1



📷 2



📷 3



📷 4

POINTS OF INTEREST

- 📷 1 Island Queen Cruise, Parry Sound
- 📷 2 Fall colours in Parry Sound
- 📷 3 Kayaking, Georgian Bay
- 📷 4 Motorhome Rental



- 🚩 Main Route – 250 km**
Hwy#12 from Toronto to Coldwater. Hwy #400 from Coldwater to Parry Sound.
- 🚩 Alternate route (a)** available from Toronto to Tobermory where the MS Chi-Cheemaun, a passenger and vehicle ferry brings visitors across Georgian Bay to Manitoulin Island.
- 🚩 Alternate route (b)** available from Toronto through North Bay to Sudbury (adds 275 kms).

1 DAY ONE

Travel from Toronto to Parry Sound.

- **Toronto.** Stock up on essentials at a big-box store or supermarket. We recommend purchase of a small barbeque and a small gas canister for outdoor dinners along the way.
- **Go north from Toronto RV rental stations.** There are numerous highways heading north from Metro Toronto. Take **Hwy#12** through farmland and horse ranches around Sandford and Brock Township with stone houses built in the 1890s.
- **Orilla.** A large Catholic church sits on a hill that dominates the approach to Orillia from the east side of Lake Simcoe and gives an insight to the early settlers whose headstones reveal the Irish ancestors.
- **Parry Sound** is cradled on Georgian Bay with a large harbor and a rail bridge trestle spanning right across town, and a Tower Hill with 360 degree view of Georgian Bay surrounded by mixed forests. The Bobby Orr Hall of Fame can be found here on the waterfront. This is a tribute to one of Canada's greatest hockey players.
- **Island Queen Cruises** operates two and three hour cruises from the pier in Parry Sound for a close-up look at Georgian Bay's wild and rugged outer islands.

🏠 WHERE TO CAMP

Where to camp near Parry Sound.

- 🚐 KOA – Parry Sound.** Three hours north of Toronto. Located in Seguin, just 20 minutes to downtown Parry Sound.
 - ✔ **Services:** Electrical. Sani-station. Flush toilets/showers. Swimming pool.
- 🌲 Horseshoe Lake Camp & Cottages.** Located in Seguin. Mixed forest overlooking Horseshoe Lake.
 - ✔ **Services:** Electrical. Showers/flush toilets. Laundry. Beach. Canoes.

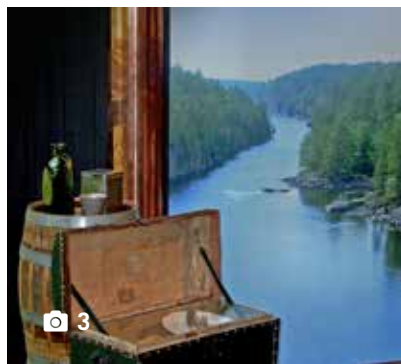
Day Two.

PARRY SOUND | FRENCH RIVER | KILLARNEY | SUDBURY

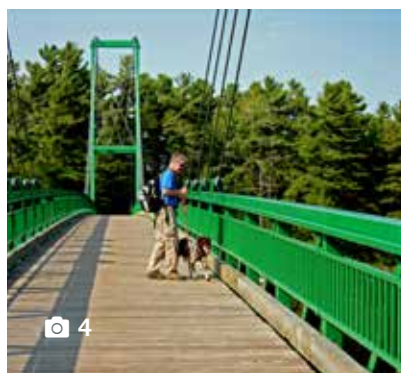
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POINTS OF INTEREST


- 📷 1 Killarney Provincial Park
- 📷 2 French River Provincial Park
- 📷 3 French River National Historic Site
- 📷 4 World's Longest Snowmobile Bridge



2 DAY TWO


Travel from Parry Sound to Sudbury.

The day begins with a noticeable change in landscape towards the Shield. The granite rock formations created by catastrophic events at the end of the ice age illustrate the direction and magnitude of the slow-moving glaciers more than a kilometer thick, almost 2 million years ago.

 **French River Provincial Park.** A visitor centre and museum at the National Historic Site on the French River pays tribute to the Lake Nipissing Canoe Route. Voyageurs followed the river west to secure furs from the Objibwe on a voyage of trade and exploration leading north and west of Lake Superior as early as 1659. The French River, although relatively small, was most significant in providing access to westward travel. The world’s longest snowmobile bridge spans 512-feet and sits 90 feet above the river. The visitor center is open Thursday to Monday in spring and fall, and daily in the summer.

✔ **Services:** Backcountry camping only – **No RV camping available at this site.** Flush toilets, Laundry, Canoe & Kayak rentals, Park Store (seasonal), Visitor Information Centre.


- **Britt.** An historic railroad hub connected to shipping coal and timber on the Great Lakes. The old pier is a reminder of a company town gone bust.

 **Killarney Provincial Park.** Hwy#637 (125 km) return to Hwy#69. Dominated by La Cloche Mountains with pink granite and white quartzite hills overlooking the coastline of Georgian Bay. Killarney Provincial Park is recognized as a nationally certified **Dark Sky Preserve** by the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada.

✔ **Services:** George Lake Campground is open for camping all year. Electrical. Showers/flush toilets. Laundry. Park Store (seasonal) and Canoe Rentals nearby.

WHERE TO CAMP

Where to camp near Sudbury.

 **Sportsman’s Park.** Located in Alban. 30 minutes south of Sudbury.

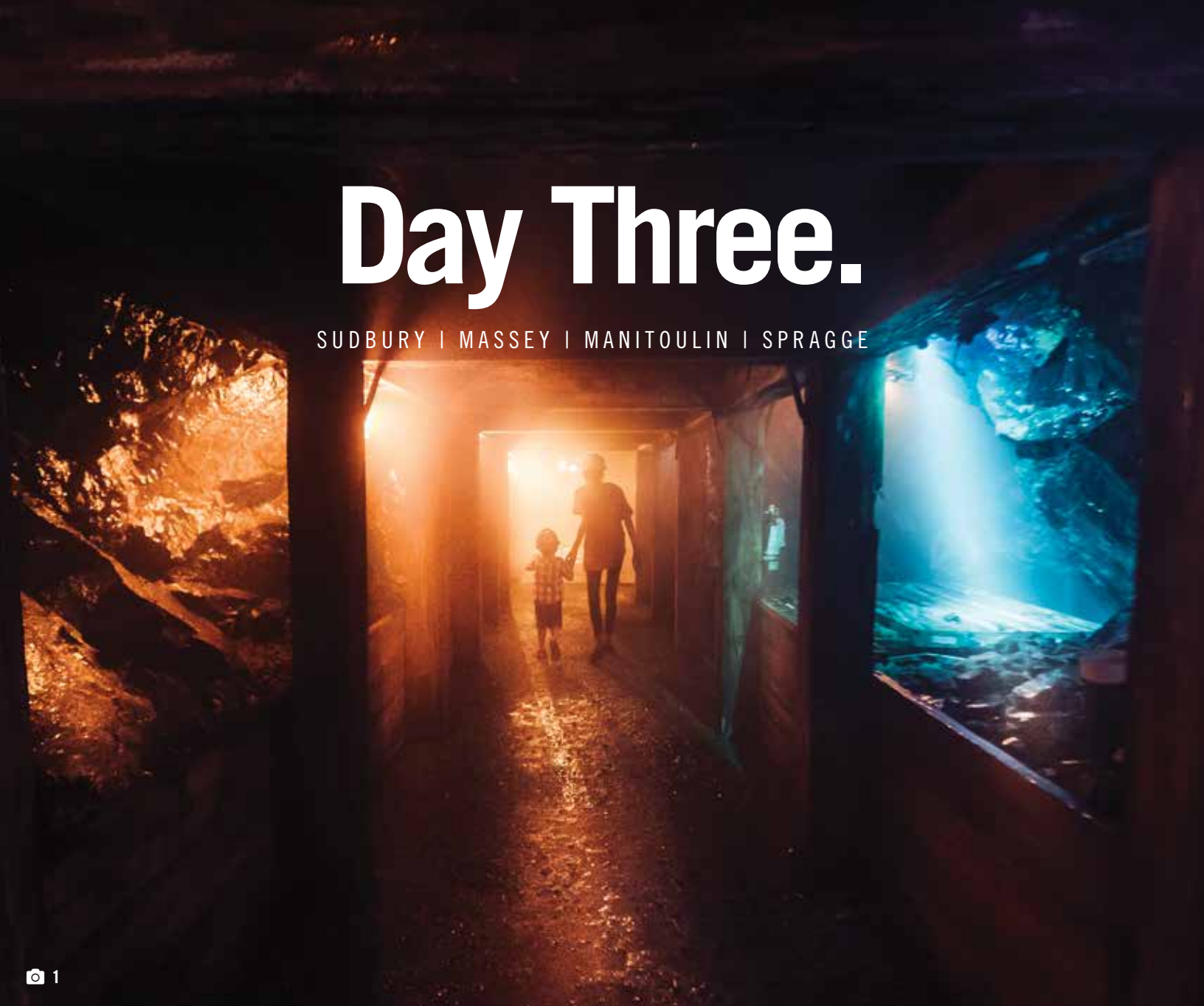
✔ **Services:** Electrical. Showers/flush toilets. Sani-dump.

 **Carol’s Campsite.** Sudbury.

✔ **Services:** Electrical. Sani-dump. Laundry. Wifi.

Day Three.

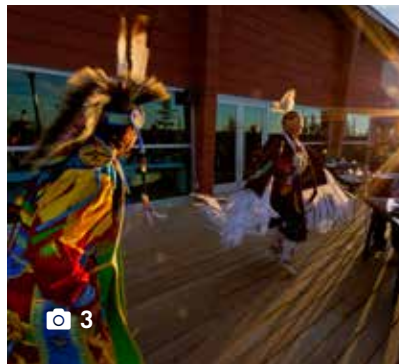
SUDBURY | MASSEY | MANITOULIN | SPRAGGE



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📷 3



📷 4

POINTS OF INTEREST

- 📷 1 Dynamic Earth, Sudbury
- 📷 2 Bridal Veil Falls, Manitoulin
- 📷 3 Indigenous Culture, Manitoulin
- 📷 4 Bird Watching, Spanish



3 DAY THREE



Travel from Sudbury to Spragge.

- **Sudbury.** Approaching Sudbury, you will soon see the 380-meter super stack on the horizon. The stack is now disabled as the community becomes more environmentally friendly. **The Dynamic Earth museum** needs a full day to visit, starting at the Big Nickel on the hill, with mining exhibits featuring every kind of geology, and a one-hour underground tour with exhibits showing the history of mining technology in the Canadian north.
- **Manitoulin Island and Georgian Bay Coastal Route.** Turn left at McKerrow on Hwy#6 to Whitefish Falls, across Great La Cloche Island to Sheglulandah where roads lead to villages and beach resorts.
- **Back on Hwy#17,** you encounter a cluster of provincial parks.

- **The Spanish Marina and Four Seasons Waterfront Complex** offers a bird watchers paradise from a viewpoint overlooking Lake Huron and the “Provincially Significant Wetlands” with waterfowl feeding on wild rice and other aquatic vegetation at the mouth of the Spanish River. Information plaques tell of the life in lumber camps and company towns in the 1800s.

WHERE TO CAMP

Where to camp near Spragge.

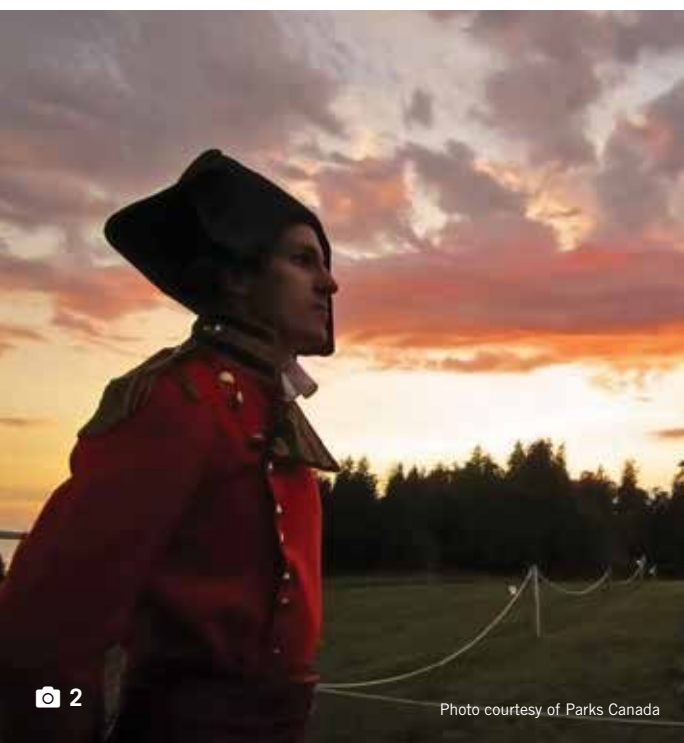
- 
Brennan Harbour RV Park. Located in Spanish on Lake Huron at mouth of the Spanish River.
 - ✓ **Services:** Sani-dump. Mid- May to mid-October.
- 
Serpent River Campground. Located in Spragge on Hwy#17 alongside the Serpent River (half way between Sudbury and Sault Ste. Marie).
 - ✓ **Services:** Electrical. Showers/toilets. Convenience store offering fresh home-made pizza.

Day Four.

SPRAGGE | LAKE HURON NORTH SHORE | SAULT STE. MARIE

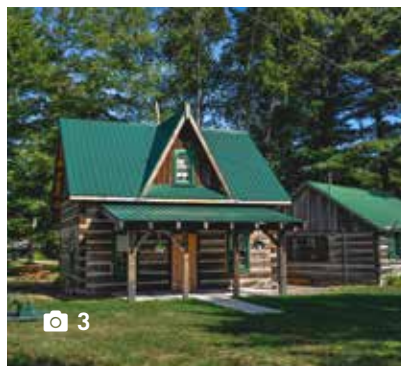


📷 1



📷 2

Photo courtesy of Parks Canada



📷 3



📷 4

POINTS OF INTEREST

- 📷 1 Bridge to St. Joseph Island
- 📷 2 Fort St. Joseph National Historic Site
- 📷 3 Iron Bridge Historical Museum
- 📷 4 Northern Ontario Logging Memorial



4 DAY FOUR

Travel from Spragge to Sault Ste. Marie.

This route takes us along the north shore of Lake Huron.

- **Blind River** hosts the Northern Ontario Logging Memorial to forest workers, and the Timber Village Museum showing life in the early lumber camps.
- **Iron Bridge.** The Tulloch/Carlyle house are two replicas of the first homesteads, located east of Iron Bridge. A Tourist Information Centre is located at this site.
- **Bruce Mines** saw discovery of copper in 1846, resulting in the first copper mine in North America. **Tom Thompson of the Group of Seven** painted "View over a Lake Shore with Houses" in 1912.
- **Echo Bay** where the Loon Dollar monument was erected to commemorate Canada's centennial in 1987. The Canadian one-dollar "loonie" gets its name from the loon whose lonesome call you hear echo across the northern lakes.

- **Fort St. Joseph National Historic Site.** Located on St. Joseph Island 56 kms east of Sault Ste. Marie. The British chose the location for the proximity to the navigation routes controlling the fur trade and access to the Great Lakes. The fort served as the base for the first British military maneuvers against the Americans in the War of 1812. Hilton Beach has a general store.

WHERE TO CAMP

Where to camp in Sault Ste. Marie

Objiway Park. Located south of Sault Ste. Marie just outside Echo Bay on Hwy#17B after the Echo Bay Bridge. Beach front on sandy shores of Laying Water Beach. Operated by Garden River First Nation.

✓ **Services:** Electrical. Shower/flush toilets. Sani-dump. Pavilion rental.

Sault Ste. Marie KOA Holiday. 10 minutes from downtown.

✓ **Services:** Electrical. Some cable TV hookups. Showers/toilets. Sani-dump. Laundry. High pressure RV wash. Gift and souvenir store.

 **OPTIONAL EXTRA DAY**

Explore

SAULT STE. MARIE



 1



 2



 3



 4

OPTIONAL EXTRA DAY

Stay an extra day in Sault Ste. Marie

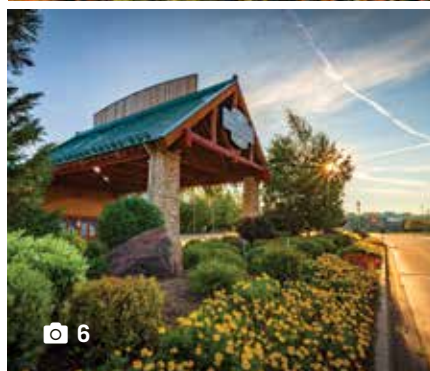
Sault Ste. Marie. A major centre along the St. Mary's River and the shorelines of both Lake Huron and Lake Superior. City highlights include the **Canadian Bushplane Heritage Centre** and the **Ermatinger Clergue National Historic Site** as reminders of northern settlement. Take a walk around town to visit numerous Heritage Properties and the 1923 Pilgrimage of History Plaques featuring buildings with historical and architectural significance.



Photo courtesy of Dan Grisdale Photography



📷 5



📷 6



📷 7



📷 8

- **Canadian Bushplane Heritage Centre.** The de Havilland DHC-2 Beaver is the classic Canadian single-engine bush plane with pontoon floats designed to land and takeoff at outposts on small lakes, or to drop firefighting crews closest to forest fires. On display is CF-OBS, the second oldest Beaver that was built in 1948 that was operated by the Ontario Provincial Air Service throughout the northwest. Discover the history of forest fire fighting in combating wildfires in the far north brought to life through a 20 minute movie before you visit the exhibits.

- **Sault Ste. Marie Canal National Historic Site.** The Sault Ste. Marie Canal, built in 1895, was the world's longest lock, the first to operate using electricity and the last link in an all-Canadian navigational chain from the Atlantic to Lake Superior. Today the Canal, used by recreational craft, is a great spot for boat-watching and picnics.
- **The Soo Locks Boat Tour** departs from Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan, U.S.A., and takes visitors on a two hour tour through the American Soo Locks, Canadian Locks, St. Mary's Rapids, three hydro-electric plants, and historic waterfronts on both sides of the Canada-US border.

- **Agawa Canyon Tour Train** departs from downtown Sault Ste. Marie. A one-day excursion into the heart of the Canadian wilderness where in 1912 the Group of Seven (G7) rented a box car to house their studio in the bush. The 180-km rail journey follows the shores of lakes and rivers, and ends at the bottom of the Agawa Canyon. A dining car serves hot and cold meals. This trip is magnificent in September and October for fall colour viewing, and always sells out early. Operates daily from early June to October.

POINTS OF INTEREST

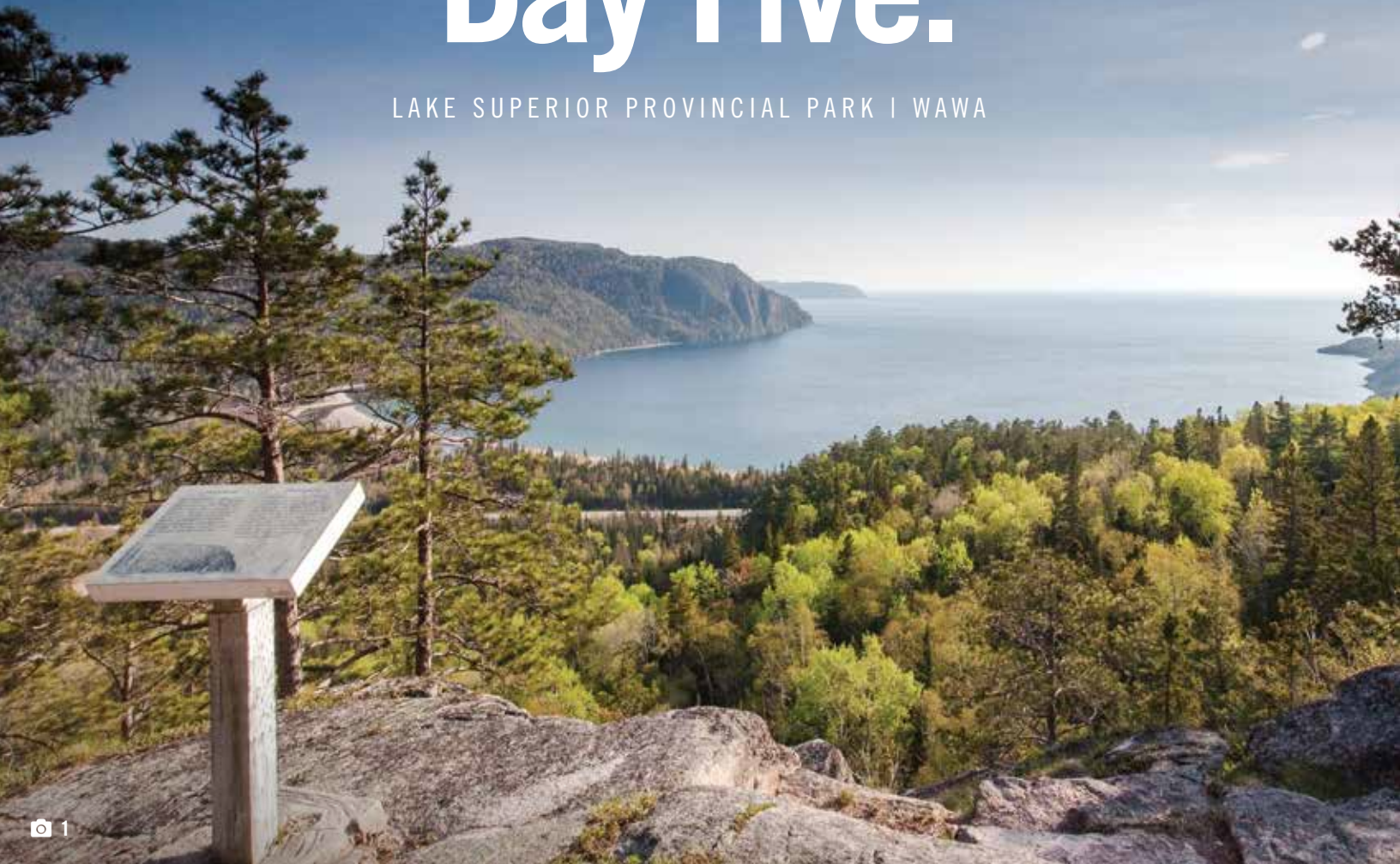
- 📷 1 Sault Ste. Marie Waterfront
- 📷 2 Soo Locks Boat Tour (U.S)
- 📷 3 Ermatinger Clergue National Historic Site

- 📷 4 Canadian Bushplane Heritage Centre
- 📷 5 Agawa Canyon Tour Train
- 📷 6 Sault Ste. Marie Casino

- 📷 7 Bridal Veil Falls, Agawa Canyon
- 📷 8 Sault Ste. Marie Canal National Historic Site

Day Five.

LAKE SUPERIOR PROVINCIAL PARK | WAWA



POINTS OF INTEREST

- 📷 1 Spring foliage at Old Woman Bay
- 📷 2 Fall colours in the Boreal Forest
- 📷 3 Hwy#17 near Agawa
- 📷 4 Agawa Rock



5 DAY FIVE

Travel from Sault Ste. Marie to Wawa.

The Fur Trade route is renowned as one of the great RV drives in the world.

- **Chippewa Falls** drops 13 meters in two stages. There is a rest stop just to the side of the highway bridge. A plaque marks the half-way point on the Trans Canada Hwy between St. John, Newfoundland, and Victoria, BC. Look for another G7 easel by Arthur Lismer entitled "The Little Falls".



Pancake Bay Provincial Park. 76 km northwest of Sault Ste. Marie. Voyageurs preferred this wide sandy 3-km long beach for stopovers on the canoe route around the top of Lake Superior. A plaque on the lookout trail tells of the sinking of the Edmund Fitzgerald that broke up in a violent winter storm made famous by Canadian folk singer Gordon Lightfoot.



Lake Superior Provincial Park is one of the larger parks on the eastern shore of Lake Superior. Displays illustrate the affect of "rebounding" on the Shield which is a term to describe how bed rock rises after removal of the massive weight of glaciers. Another G7 easel marks the area where J.E.H. MacDonald came to Algoma Country "to find gems of the Canadian landscape". Lake Superior Provincial Park is recognized as a nationally certified **Dark Sky Preserve** by the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada. A Visitor Centre highlighting the park's cultural history, natural features and recreational opportunities is located at Agawa Bay.

- **Agawa Rock.** 8 kms north of Agawa Bay within Lake Superior Provincial Park. Pictographs painted on sheer cliffs rising from Lake Superior. Red ochre figures are painted on a giant canvas of stone to record the stories of generations of Objibwe. Proper footwear is recommended for access along a cobblestone path on the shoreline. Paintings can only be viewed when the lake is calm. Trail is open mid-May to mid-September. Park permit required.
- **Michipicoten.** Magpie River Valley features a 75-foot waterfall at the outflow of a reservoir.
- **Wawa.** The Land of the Big Goose statue. A legendary town settled by pioneers located three hours north of Sault Ste. Marie. Follow the "Signs of History" around the town that explain the early beginnings. Look for a statue of early settlers. Information Centre at the south end of town.

WHERE TO CAMP

Where to camp near Wawa.



Wawa RV Resort & Campground. Wawa. 1 mile north of town. Open May 1-October 28.

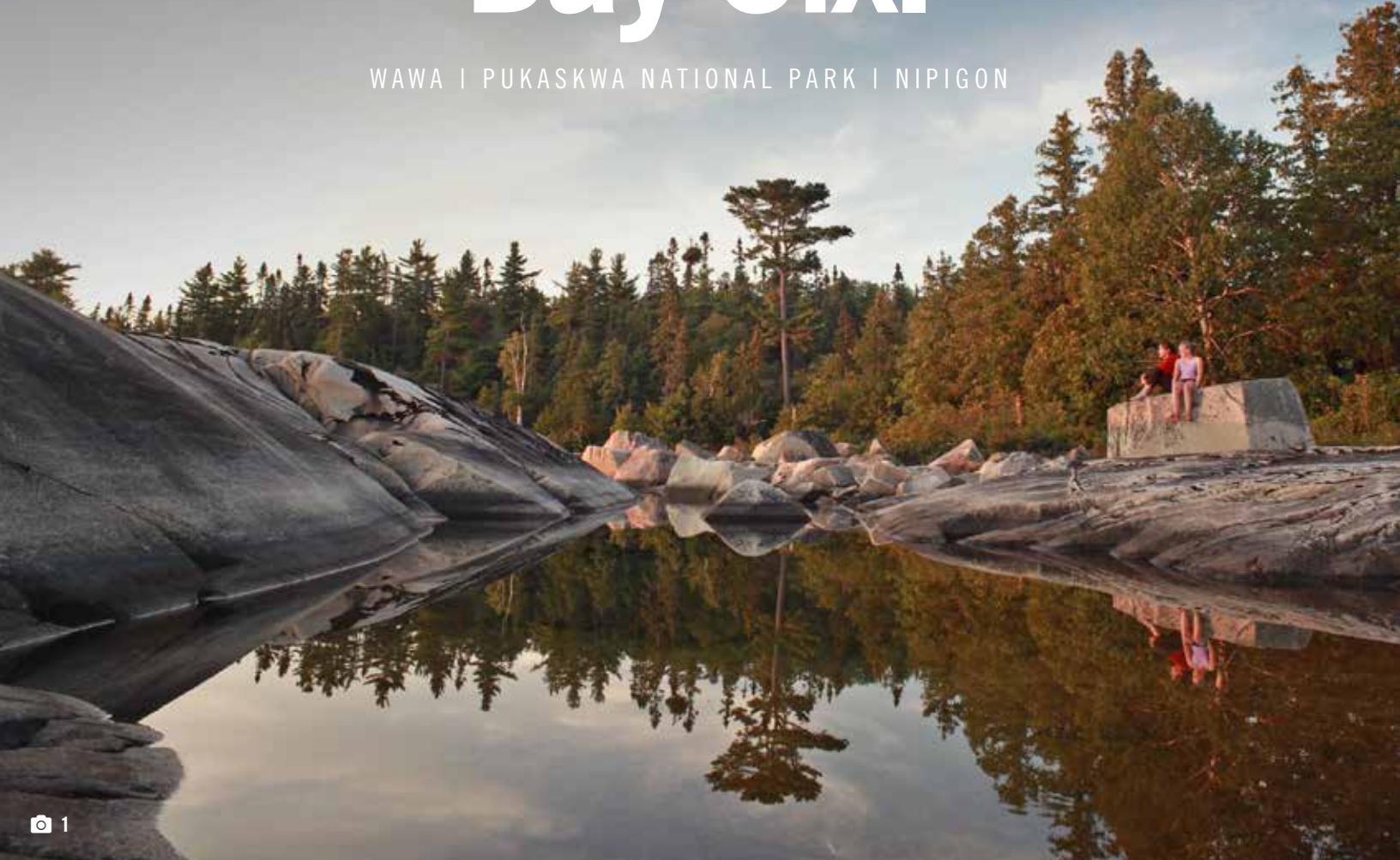
✓ **Services:** Electrical. Outdoor heated pool. Laundry. Wifi. Showers.



There are numerous provincial parks along this route that have campsites available. Seasonal openings between May and September.

Day Six.

WAWA | PUKASKWA NATIONAL PARK | NIPIGON



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📷 3



📷 4

POINTS OF INTEREST

- 📷 1 Lake Superior Shoreline
- 📷 2 Pukaskwa National Park
- 📷 3 RV parked beside Lake Superior
- 📷 4 Terrace Bay Beach



6 DAY SIX

Travel from Wawa to Nipigon.



Pukaskwa National Park. Heron Bay. Main entrance to camping and visitor centre is 25 km east of Marathon on Hwy#627 at Hattie Cove. Features a boardwalk over the sand dunes to the sandy beach on Horseshoe Bay. Canoe rentals (\$20/ half day) are recommended when the bay is calm.

✔ **Services:** Electrical sites 15 km in from Hwy#17. Showers/flush toilets. Visitor centre with displays. Hiking trails. Canoe rentals.

- **White River.** Started as a railroad divisional point where large blocks of ice were cut from lakes in winter to refrigerate box cars filled with perishables being shipped across the long northern route. Historical Society Museum and historic markers. Famous for Winnie-the-Pooh statue built to commemorate the black bear cub that became the mascot for Canadian troops serving overseas during WW II.
- **Marathon** was a staging area during construction of the CPR rail line through solid bedrock, mid-way between Sault Ste. Marie and Thunder Bay. Visit Pebble Beach with polished stones along the shore of Lake Superior.



Neys Provincial Park. Neys Camp 100 was one of first POW camps that housed German soldiers and enemy civilians during WW II.

Prisoners were transported by ship from England, arriving in January, 1941, and held until fall 1943 when the camp was relocated. Prisoners were permitted to leave the confines of barbed wire to work in lumber camps and cut cord wood.

- **Terrace Bay.** The last easel of G7 on the route from Sault Ste. Marie. Follow the Casque Isles Hiking Trail for two kms to Terrace Bay beach where you walk knee-deep through rye grass. Pre-arrange a boat tour to Slate Islands which shelters a large herd of Boreal Woodland Caribou. Enjoy views from a scenic lookout from the Patterson Lighthouse in town lookout located behind the Tourist Information Centre.
- **Aguasabon Falls and Gorge** is just a half-mile off Hwy#17. Boardwalk to the 100-foot waterfall and gorge.

WHERE TO CAMP

Where to camp near Nipigon.

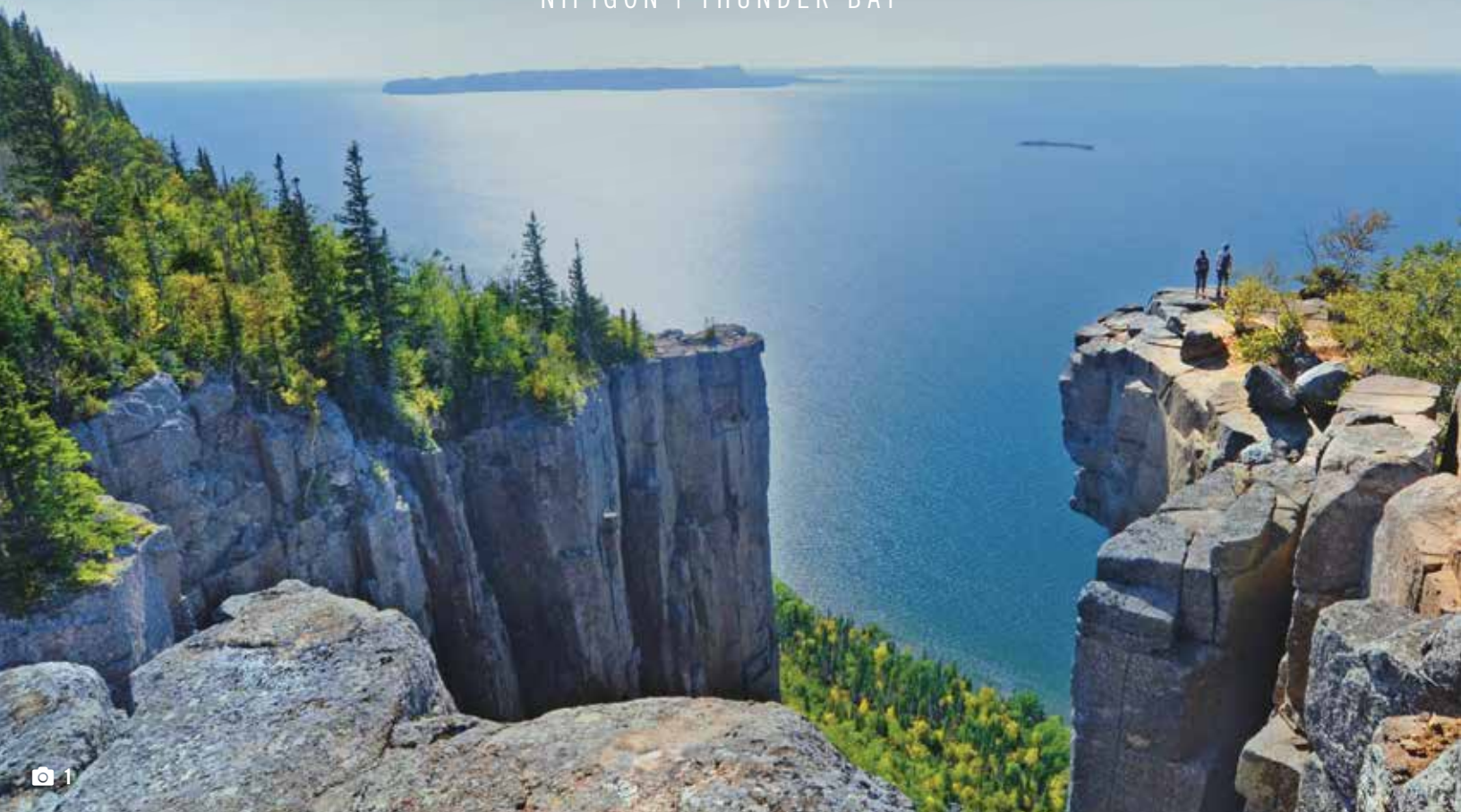


Stillwater Tent & RV Park. Nipigon.

✔ **Services:** Electrical. Shower. Wifi. Gift Shop. Laundry. Sani-dump.

Day Seven.

NIPIGON | THUNDER BAY



POINTS OF INTEREST

- 📷 1 Sleeping Giant Provincial Park
- 📷 2 City of Thunder Bay
- 📷 3 Fort William Historical Park
- 📷 4 Kakabeka Falls Provincial Park



7 DAY SEVEN

Travel from Nipigon to Thunder Bay.



Rainbow Falls Provincial Park has a beautiful sandy beach.



Ouimet Canyon Provincial Park has a unique geological feature with 100 metre cliffs and two viewing pods along a short trail.



Sleeping Giant Provincial Park offers views of the "Sleeping Giant" from the tip of Sibley Peninsula.

- **The Terry Fox Monument and Scenic Lookout** has a 9-foot statue erected in memory of Terry Fox, the courageous one-legged runner who embarked on a 5,300 kilometer run across Canada to raise money for cancer research. His unique hop-and-skip style inspired Canadians to support his Marathon of Hope that has grown world-wide.
- **The city of Thunder Bay** is named after a large bay at the head of Lake Superior. The bay's name refers to the Thunderbird that is part of Ojibwe folklore. The city has grown into a major transportation hub with an inland port served by two transcontinental railroads delivering grain from the Prairies. Visit the developed harbor front for a choice of fine restaurants.

- **Visit Fort William Historical Park**, the World's largest Fur Trade Post at its time. It is an exact replica of the North West Company's inland headquarters. Fur traders would bring their goods from the far west for trading, and the voyageurs would then haul bales of beaver pelts all the way to Montreal for shipment to Europe. Meet Scottish fur traders, French voyageurs and the Ojibwee who toil at the fort.



Kakabeka Falls Provincial Park. A 40-meter waterfall that required a portage on the historic canoe route connecting Lake Superior with Lake of the Woods.

WHERE TO CAMP

Where to camp near Thunder Bay.



Wolf River Park. Dorion. 75 km east of Thunder Bay.
 ✓ **Services:** Electrical. Showers/out house. Sani-dump. Open May 18-October 8.



KOA Campground. Thunder Bay. On Hwy#11/17 just east of Thunder Bay.
 ✓ **Services:** Electrical. Convenience store. Firewood. Winner of KOA Campground of the Year award.



Happy Land Park. Kakabeka Falls.
 ✓ **Services:** Electrical. Showers/sani-dump. Heated pool. Open all year.



Day Eight.

THUNDER BAY | ATIKOKAN | FORT FRANCES

📷 1



📷 2



📷 3



📷 4

POINTS OF INTEREST

- 📷 1 Canoeing Quetico Provincial Park
- 📷 2 Quetico Provincial Park
- 📷 3 Voyageur Canoe
- 📷 4 RV camped in boreal forest




- 🚩 Main Route** – 335 km
Depart west from Thunder Bay on Hwy#17. Turn left onto Hwy#11 which will take you to Fort Frances.
- 🚩 Alternate Route** – There is an alternative northern route on #17 to Ignace, Dryden and Kenora that is slightly shorter (c).

8 DAY EIGHT

Travel from Thunder Bay to Fort Frances.


- **Sunset Country.** A vast area in Northwest Ontario with 150,000 lakes bound by the Boreal forest.
- **Atikokan.** The Centennial Museum and Historic Park describes the Steep Rock mine discovery in 1938, its opening in 1944 to extract iron ore from a giant pit, and its ultimate demise in 1974. Four massive electric dredges were used to remove 270 million cubic yards of dirt from the lake to access the ore body. Iron pellets were shipped by ore carriers across the Great Lakes to steel mills in Hamilton and Pittsburgh.

 **Quetico Provincial Park – Dawson Trail.** Turn off on Hwy#11 (148 km west of Thunder Bay). A major wilderness park with RV camping limited to Dawson Trail Campground.

- ✔ Showers/flush toilets. Laundromat. Visitor centre. Hiking trails. Canoeing.

- **Fort Frances.** A border town across Rainy River bridge to International Falls, Minnesota. Follow the La Verendrye Parkway along the shores of Rainy River as it flows 129 kms west out of Rainy Lake to Lake of the Woods. Historic plaques describe the *Voyageurs Highway* and the rivalry between the Hudson Bay and Northwest Trading Company for furs along the canoe route. A description at


the base of a 100-foot forest fire lookout tells of the early-warning radar bases that dotted the north during the Cold War. A shuttered pulp mill is a reminder of the boom and bust times in the region. Continue along Hwy #11 past the junction with #71 to Kay-Nah-Chi-Wah-Nung Historical Centre that means the Place of Long Rapids with the largest group of Indigenous burial mounds in Canada that reflect more than 8,000 years of reoccurring habitation. Some mounds are more than 7 meters in height. The Visitor Centre has limited hours of operation.

 **Caliper Lake Provincial Park. Nestor Falls.** Campground situated on a bluff overlooking Caliper Lake from a stand of old growth red and white pine. Features a large beach with sectioned off swimming area.

- ✔ Electrical. Showers/flush toilets. Laundry. Hiking trails. Canoe Rentals. Seasonal opening.

🏠 WHERE TO CAMP

Where to camp near Fort Frances.

-  **Tomahawk Resort.** Sioux Narrows. Cabins with an RV park.
- ✔ **Services:** Electrical. Showers/toilets. Laundry.

Day Nine.

FORT FRANCES | LAKE OF THE WOODS | KENORA

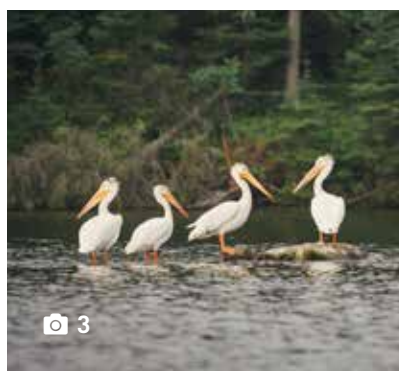


📷 1

Photo courtesy of Greg Mattson



📷 2



📷 3



📷 4

POINTS OF INTEREST

- 📷 1 Tall Pines Marina, Kenora
- 📷 2 MS Kenora
- 📷 3 White Pelicans
- 📷 4 Rushing River Provincial Park



🚩 Route - 225 km
 Continue west to Hwy#11. Then turn north onto Hwy#71 to Hwy #17. Follow Hwy#17 to downtown Kenora. Hwy #17A is a by-pass route on the Trans Canada Hwy.

🚩 Ontario / Manitoba border. Trans Canada Hwy #17 in Northern Ontario becomes #1 at the Manitoba border 42 km west of Kenora.

9 DAY NINE

Travel from Fort Frances to Kenora.

There are numerous sport fishing camps along the highway, and charter air service into bush camps.

- **Nestor Falls / Sioux Narrows.** Two quaint towns with numerous tourist fishing camps on the eastern shores of Lake of the Woods. The Nestor Falls attract flocks of pelicans that feed in the white water below the falls. Visit the Northern Ontario Sportfishing Centre for a thorough introduction to sport fishing in the area. Historic Site of a legendary battle between the invading Sioux and local Cree and Objway.



Sioux Narrows Provincial Park.

Located just off Hwy#71.

✔ **Services:** Electrical. Showers/flush toilets. Laundry.



Rushing River Provincial Park. Located 25 kms south of Kenora. White water that gives name to the river that drains Dogtooth Lake, surrounded by a forest of jack pine and balsam.

✔ **Services:** Electrical services, showers/toilets, Laundromat. Kayak rentals. Hiking trails.

- **Lake of the Woods.** A very large scenic lake with scattered islands famous for recreational boating and fishing. Look for private campgrounds along the lake shore.

- **Kenora.** Once known as "Rat Portage" after trapping muskrats, the canoe route by-passed the rapids at the outlet to the Winnipeg River. Visit the Lake of the Woods Museum nicely situated in downtown on the shores of the lake that explains the fur trade, native culture, mining and railroad history. It contains a replica of a birch bark canoe used by Indigenous people to gather wild rice, and examples of beaded buck-skin jackets and moccasins made from animals trapped in the region. Enjoy a relaxing cruise around the iconic Lake of the Woods on the *MS Kenora* to view multi-million dollar homes and cottages owned by celebrities from around the world. Depart from the wharf at the Matiowski Farmer's Market.

🚐 WHERE TO CAMP

Where to camp near Kenora.



The Willows RV Park & Campground. Kenora.

✔ **Services:** Electrical. Wifi. Showers/Washrooms. Waste Disposal. Hiking Trails.



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