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RV travel in Northern Ontario

Hwy 17 North (Sault Ste. Marie to Wawa)

RV Travel in Northern Ontario.

Third Edition / Revised February 2020

Most people are surprised that Northern Ontario starts in French River just three and a half 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.

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.

DESTINATION NORTHERN ONTARIO

Produced by Destination Northern Ontario in co-operation with

Destination Ontario | Ontario Parks | Camping in Ontario | RV Rental Association of Canada
Best Time 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, Northeastern Ontario Tourism.

Planning RV travel

Campground reservations are strongly recommended during July and August, and on long weekends in May and September. 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. Allow a minimumm of three weeks to cover the 5,000 kms across two-thirds of Canada, although a month is recommended to meander across the Prairies to the Canadian Rockies and the west coast. It is approximately 2,000 Kilometres 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.

RV Rental Stations

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.**

RV Rental Stations in Ontario

Best Time RV 300 Maple Grove, Cambridge, ON
Canadream 33 West Drive, Brampton, ON
Cruise Canada 12275 Highway 50, Bolton ON
Fraserway RV 5362 County Road 27 N, Cookstown, ON

From the south.

RV rental stations in Toronto offer an ideal starting point to begin your trip along the Fur Trade Route.

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.

More information:
www.rvrac.com

Northern Ontario Parks & Campgrounds

Ontario Parks

There are numerous provincial parks throughout Northern Ontario. 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. Electricity, 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 throughout Ontario.

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

Ontario Private Campgrounds Operators Association

Participating campgrounds in Ontario's Private Campground Operating Association are listed in the *Camping in Ontario* Directory.

More information:
www.campinginontario.ca

Additional travel information.

Ontario Travel Information Centres

There are several Travel Information Centres along this route offering a variety of services in addition to travel information on the entire province:

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

NORTHERN ONTARIO RV ROUTES

Take the road less travelled.

Hwy#17 overlooking Agawa Bay

THE FUR TRADE ROUTE

9-DAY TOUR 1900 KM

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.

Route Itinerary – Page 8-31

PROSPECTOR ROUTE

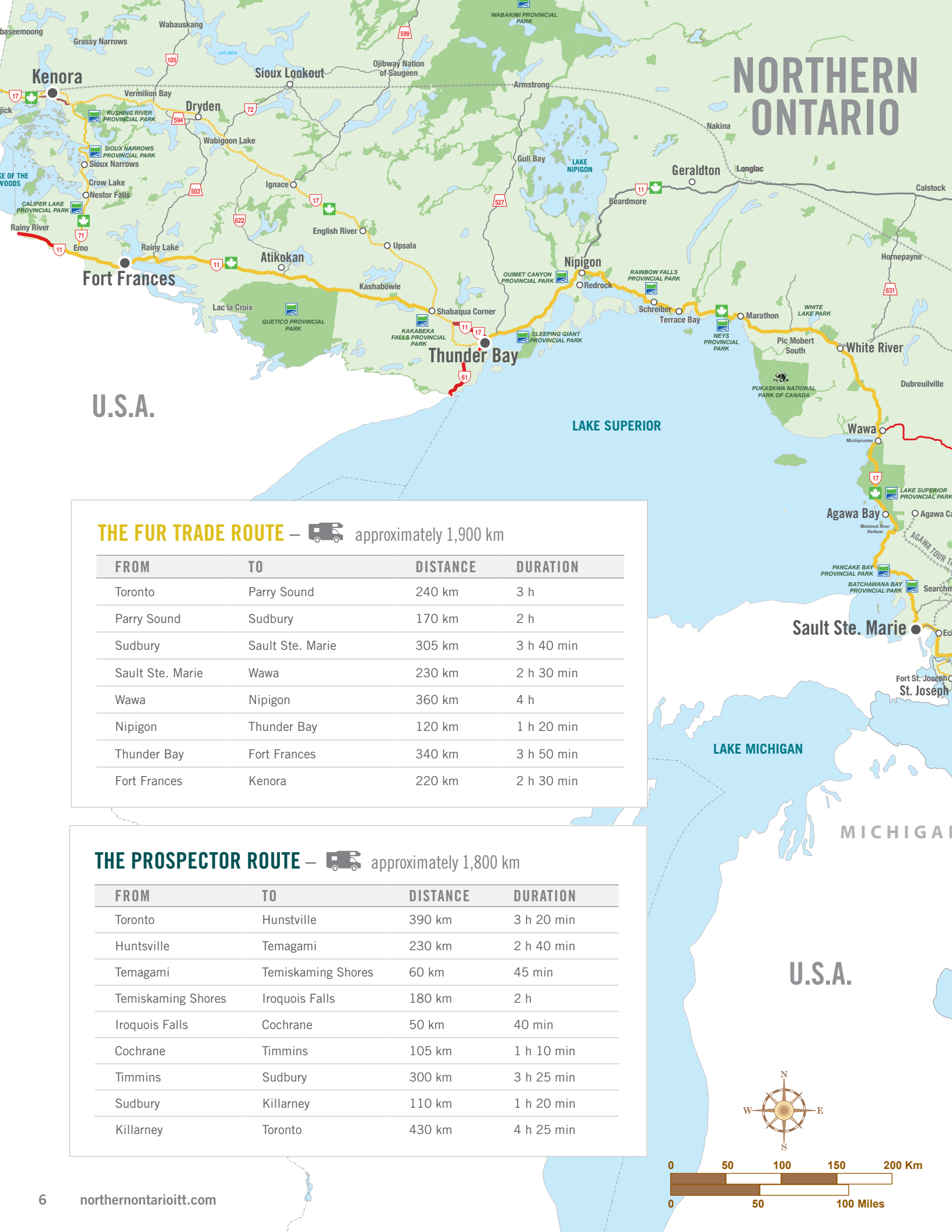
7-DAY CIRCLE TOUR 1800 KM

The **Prospector Route** encapsulates the significance of hardrock mining and the tourism attractions that are lined up in a relatively small, easily accessible circuit in Northeastern Ontario.

Buried deep in the vast Canadian Shield are the valuable minerals that have enriched development of mines and towns concentrated in Northeastern Ontario.

The circle tour covers a wilderness region of Boreal Forest, with vast stands of stately red and white pine forests, and where waterfalls and tumbling rapids connect lakes to resorts and campgrounds.

Route Itinerary – Page 32-47



THE FUR TRADE ROUTE – approximately 1,900 km

FROM	TO	DISTANCE	DURATION
Toronto	Parry Sound	240 km	3 h
Parry Sound	Sudbury	170 km	2 h
Sudbury	Sault Ste. Marie	305 km	3 h 40 min
Sault Ste. Marie	Wawa	230 km	2 h 30 min
Wawa	Nipigon	360 km	4 h
Nipigon	Thunder Bay	120 km	1 h 20 min
Thunder Bay	Fort Frances	340 km	3 h 50 min
Fort Frances	Kenora	220 km	2 h 30 min

THE PROSPECTOR ROUTE – approximately 1,800 km

FROM	TO	DISTANCE	DURATION
Toronto	Hunstville	390 km	3 h 20 min
Huntsville	Temagami	230 km	2 h 40 min
Temagami	Temiskaming Shores	60 km	45 min
Temiskaming Shores	Iroquois Falls	180 km	2 h
Iroquois Falls	Cochrane	50 km	40 min
Cochrane	Timmins	105 km	1 h 10 min
Timmins	Sudbury	300 km	3 h 25 min
Sudbury	Killarney	110 km	1 h 20 min
Killarney	Toronto	430 km	4 h 25 min

ONTARIO MAP

RV RENTAL STATIONS

Best Time RV 300 Maple Grove, Cambridge, ON
Canadream 33 West Drive, Brampton, ON
Cruise Canada 12275 Highway 50, Bolton ON
Fraserway RV 5362 County Road 27 N, Cookstown, ON

RV ROUTES

- The Prospector Route
- The Fur Trade Route
- Alternate Route - Manitoulin Island
- Alternate Route - Thunder Bay to Kenora

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EXPERIENCE A NINE-DAY ADVENTURE

Follow the Fur Trade Route.

Hwy#17 North, Old Woman Bay

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- **Island Queen Cruise** on Georgian Bay/30,000 Islands – Parry Sound.
- **Dynamic Earth** underground mine tour – Sudbury.
- Canal tour of **Sault Ste. Marie Canal National Historic Site.**
- **Agawa Canyon Tour Train** – departs from downtown Sault Ste. Marie.
- Tour of **Fort William Historical Park** – Thunder Bay.
- **Kay-Nah-Chi-Wah-Nung National Historic Site** – Fort Frances.
- **MS Kenora** cruise on Lake of the Woods – Kenora.

Other special attractions.

- **Group of Seven 19 artists' plaques.** Canada's Group of Seven artists were inspired by the landscapes of Algoma and the North Shore of Lake Superior. There are interpretive installations with easel and chair in 19 locations.
- 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 Travel Information Centre, Fort St. Joseph National Historic Site, Wawa, White River, Nipigon, Fort William Historical Park** in Thunder Bay, **Atikokan, La Verendrye Parkway** in Fort Frances, and **Lake of the Woods Museum** in Kenora.

Weather Warnings

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.

THE FUR TRADE ROUTE

ITINERARY

DAY 1 Toronto to Parry Sound
DAY 2 Parry Sound to Sudbury
DAY 3 Sudbury to Spragge
DAY 4 Spragge to Sault Ste. Marie
DAY 5 Sault Ste. Marie to Wawa
DAY 6 Wawa to Nipigon
DAY 7 Nipigon to Thunder Bay
DAY 8 Thunder Bay to Fort Frances
DAY 9 Fort Frances to Kenora

**a,b, and c are alternate routes*

Day One.

LAKE SIMCOE / ORILLIA / PARRY SOUND

1

POINTS OF INTEREST

- 1 Island Queen Cruise, Parry Sound
- 2 Fall colours in Parry Sound
- 3 Kayaking, Georgian Bay
- 4 RV rental

THE FUR TRADE ROUTE

1. **Parry Sound**
2. Sudbury
3. Spragge
4. Sault Ste. Marie
5. Wawa
6. Nipigon
7. Thunder Bay
8. Fort Frances
9. Kenora

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, 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 commemorate the area's 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.

ALTERNATE ROUTE

- **Manitoulin Island.** As an alternative route, visitors can take the MS Chi-Cheemaun, a passenger and vehicle Ferry, from Tobermory at the tip of Bruce Peninsula to South Baymouth on Manitoulin Island. *Over-size rates apply to vehicles greater than 20 feet.*

WHERE TO CAMP

Where to camp near Parry Sound / Manitoulin Island.

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 available.

Providence Bay Trailer Park. Manitoulin Island.
Services: Electrical and water hookups. Sani-dump.

Day Two.

PARRY SOUND / FRENCH RIVER / KILLARNEY / SUDBURY

1

2

3

4

POINTS OF INTEREST

- 1 Killarney Provincial Park
- 2 French River Provincial Park
- 3 French River Museum
- 4 Killarey Provincial Park

THE FUR TRADE ROUTE

1. Parry Sound
2. **Sudbury**
3. Spragge
4. Sault Ste. Marie
5. Wawa
6. Nipigon
7. Thunder Bay
8. Fort Frances
9. Kenora

Route – 180 km
Hwy#400 from Parry Sound until it merges into Hwy#69. Continue down Hwy#69 until you meet Hwy#637 where you can exit to visit Killarney Provincial Park (optional side route), or continue along Hwy#69 to Sudbury.

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 Kilometre thick, almost 2 million years ago.

- **Britt.** A 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.

French River Provincial Park. A Travel Information Centre and museum at the heritage 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 Travel Information 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. Park store (seasonal). Travel Information Centre. Hiking trails.

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. Hiking trails. Park Store (seasonal) and Canoe Rentals nearby.

- **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.

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.

There are numerous provincial parks along this route that have campsites available. Open seasonally.

Day Three.

SUDBURY / MASSEY / MANITOULIN ISLAND / SPRAGGE

1

2

3

4

POINTS OF INTEREST

- 1 Dynamic Earth, Sudbury
- 2 Little Current, Manitoulin Island
- 3 Serpent River, Spragge
- 4 Bird Watching, Spanish

THE FUR TRADE ROUTE

1. Parry Sound
2. Sudbury
3. **Spragge**
4. Sault Ste. Marie
5. Wawa
6. Nipigon
7. Thunder Bay
8. Fort Frances
9. Kenora

Route – 175 km
Head west on Hwy#17 to Spragge.

Side Route – Turn left onto Hwy#6 to explore the majestic Manitoulin Island.

3 DAY THREE

Travel from Sudbury to Spragge.

- The **Dynamic Earth** museum in Sudbury needs a full day to visit. Starting at the Big Nickel on the hill, mining exhibits feature every kind of geology. A one-hour underground tour with exhibits show the history of mining technology in the Canadian north.
- Optional side route to **Manitoulin Island** and **Georgian Bay Coastal Route.** Turn left at McKerrow on **Hwy#6** to Whitefish Falls, across Great La Cloche Island to Little Current where roads lead to villages and waterfront resorts. A full day is recommended to take in all the magical sights and experiences of Manitoulin Island **(see p. 16-17).**

Chutes Provincial Park in Massey. The park features a roaring waterfalls on the Spanish River. Display boards record the river runs using a log chute to bypass the falls during the logging heydays.

- **The Spanish Marina** and **Four Seasons Waterfront Complex** is a bird watchers paradise. A lookout over Lake Huron and the "Provincially Significant Wetlands" allows visitors to observe waterfowl feeding on wild rice and other aquatic vegetation. 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.

Chutes Provincial Park. Located in Massey.
Services: RV camping available. Electrical. Showers/flush toilets. Laundry. Hiking trails. Canoe rentals available. Open mid May to mid October.

Discover

MANITOULIN ISLAND

1

OPTIONAL EXTRA DAY

Spend an extra day exploring the largest freshwater island in the world.

Manitoulin Island has a laid-back lifestyle making it an ideal destination for a stress-free vacation. Discover the magical **Bridal Veil Falls** at Kagawong, visit the museum at **Mindemoya**, stop at **Hawberry Farms** in Spring Bay for some delicious gourmet products, lounge in the sand at **Providence Bay**, or take in breathtaking views at **10 Mile Point**. The list of things to do here is virtually endless.

The Great Spirit Circle Trail. Explore local history, culture and trails with Aboriginal guides. Embark on a Canadian Signature Experience on a canoe heritage tour.

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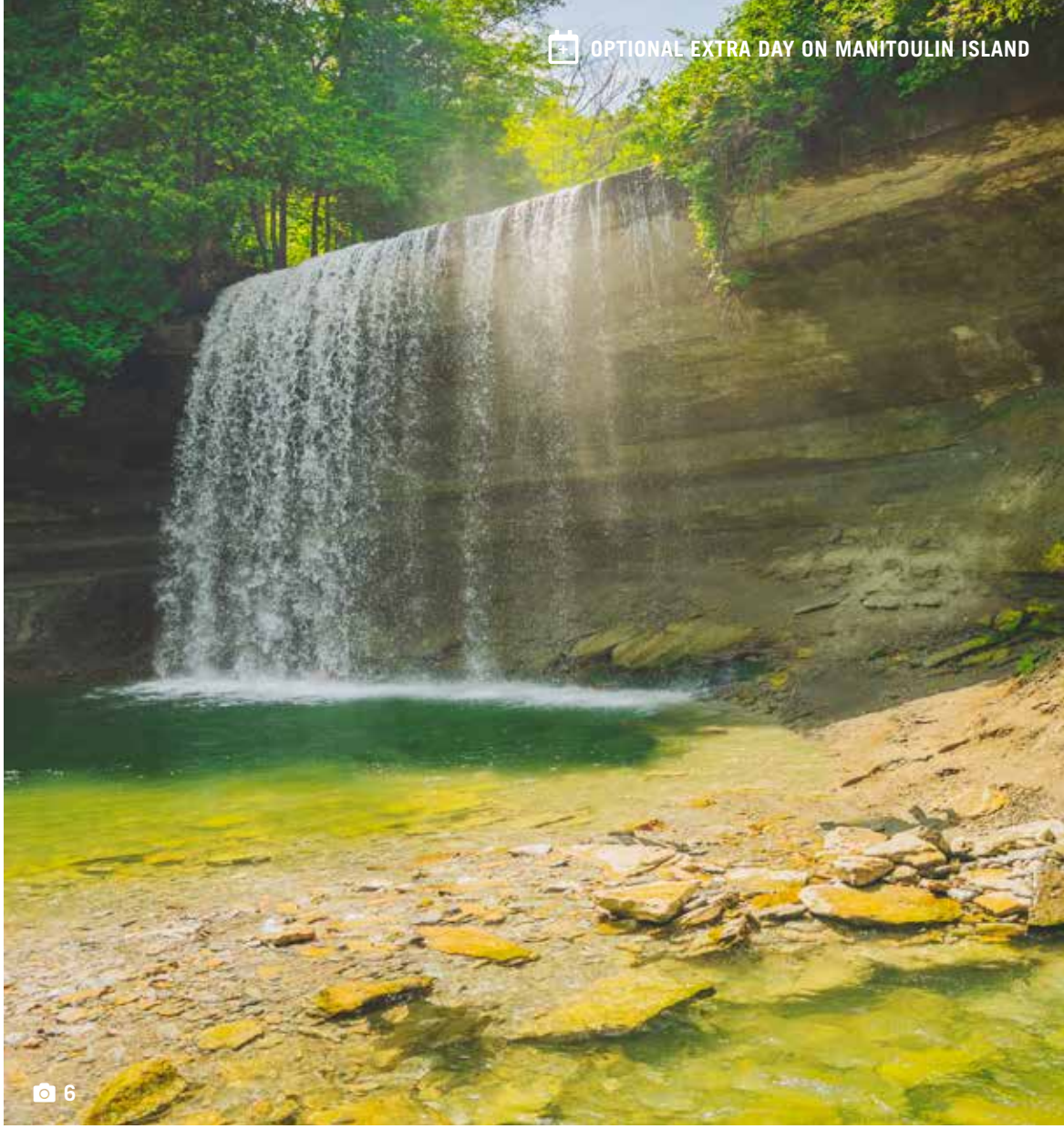
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OPTIONAL EXTRA DAY ON MANITOULIN ISLAND

Visit **Lillian's Indian Crafts & Museum** in M'Chigeeng First Nation on Manitoulin Island. This quaint shop, with adjoining museum features the most unique crafts including Pow-Wow accessories and all sizes of porcupine quill baskets. The Centennial Museum of Sheguiandah has an interpretive centre and displays artifacts from early settlements.

Discover **Bridal Veil Falls** in Kagawong. This magical 35 foot waterfall can be accessed easily from the main road. Take a walk behind the waterfall for a unqiue perspective. From the pool below, visitors can follow the Kagawong River towards its outlet at Mudge Bay on the North Channel of Lake Huron.

The **MS Chi-Cheemaun** – more than a ship; it is a symbol of Owen Sound's hospitality and love for nature. Its gleaming white sides hold not only passengers, vehicles and cargo, but the memories of thousands of amazing voyages across the crystal blue waters it calls home. Special cruises include Sunset Dining and Stargaze's Delight.
As an alternative route, visitors can take the MS Chi-Cheemaun from Tobermory at the tip of Bruce Peninsula to South Baymouth on Manitoulin Island. *Over-size rates apply to vehicles greater than 20 feet.*

For additional information visit the Travel Information Centre in **Little Current.**

POINTS OF INTEREST

1 Little Current Swing Bridge
2 MS Chi-Cheemaun
3 Gore Bay
4 Lillian's Crafts
5 10 Mile Point Trading Post
6 Bridal Veil Falls

Day Four.

LAKE HURON NORTH SHORE / SAULT STE. MARIE

1

2

3

4

POINTS OF INTEREST

- 1 Bridge to St. Joseph Island
- 2 Iron Bridge Historical Museum
- 3 Fort St. Joseph National Historic Site
- 4 Bruce Mines Historic Copper Mine

THE FUR TRADE ROUTE

1. Parry Sound
2. Sudbury
3. Spragge
4. **Sault Ste. Marie**
5. Wawa
6. Nipigon
7. Thunder Bay
8. Fort Frances
9. Kenora

Route – 170 km
Continue west on Hwy#17 to Sault Ste. Marie or stay overnight at a campground along the way.

Side Route – Exit at Hwy#548 to explore St. Joseph Island.

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 of forest workers, and the Timber Village Museum showing life in the early lumber camps.
- **Iron Bridge.** The Tulloch and Carlyle houses are replicas of the first homesteads, located east of Iron Bridge. A Travel Information Centre is located at this site.
- **Bruce Mines** saw the 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.
- **Fort St. Joseph National Historic Site.** Located on St. Joseph Island 56 kms east of Sault Ste. Marie. The British chose the location for it's proximity to the navigation routes controlling the fur trade and access to the Great Lakes. The fort served as a base for the first British military maneuvers against the Americans in the War of 1812.
- **Echo Bay.** See the Loon Dollar monument, which 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.

WHERE TO CAMP

Where to camp near 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. Located 10 minutes from downtown.
Services: Electrical. Some cable TV hookups. Showers/toilets. Sani-dump. Laundry. High pressure RV wash. Gift and souvenir store.

Explore

SAULT STE. MARIE

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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 shores of both Lake Huron and Lake Superior. City highlights include the **Canadian Bushplane Heritage Centre** and the **Ermatinger Clergue National Historic Site** — reminders of northern settlement. Take a walk around town to visit numerous Heritage Properties, watch for 1923 Pilgrimage of History Plaques featuring buildings with historical and architectural significance.

Photo courtesy of Dan Grisdale Photography

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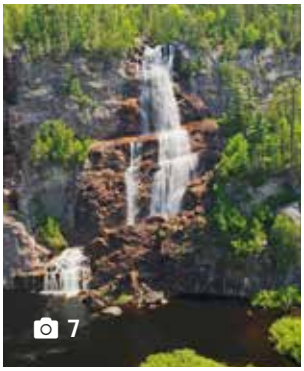
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- **Canadian Bushplane Heritage Centre.** Check out the de Havilland DHC-2 Beaver, the classic Canadian single-engine bush plane with pontoon floats designed to land and take off at outposts on small lakes, or to drop firefighting crews off at forest fires. On display is CF-OBS, the second oldest Beaver that was built in 1948. It was operated by the Ontario Provincial Air Service throughout the northwest. See the history of forest fire fighting brought to life through a 20 minute movie.

- **Sault Ste. Marie Canal National Historic Site.** Built in 1895, the canal was the world's longest lock and the first to operate using electricity. It is 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.

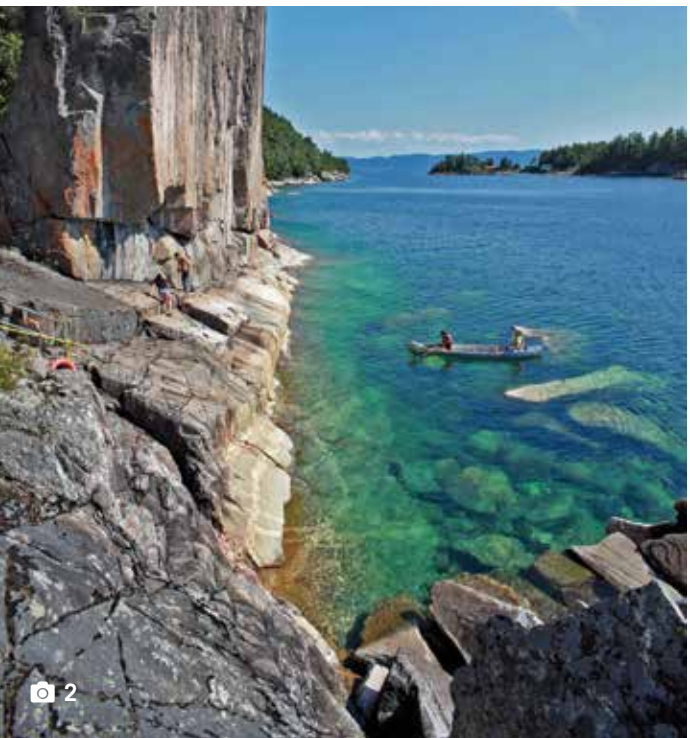
- **Agawa Canyon Tour Train.** The train departs from downtown Sault Ste. Marie on a one-day excursion into the heart of the Canadian wilderness. In 1912, the Group of Seven (G7) rented a box car along the rail line to house their studio in the bush. The 180-km rail journey follows the shores of lakes 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. The train operates daily from early June to October.

POINTS OF INTEREST

1 Sault Ste. Marie Waterfront
2 Soo Locks Boat Tour (U.S)
3 Sault Ste. Marie Casino
4 Canadian Bushplane Heritage Centre
5 Agawa Canyon Tour Train
6 Ermatinger Clergue National Historic Site
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** Agawa Rock
- **3** Hwy#17 overlooking Lake Superior
- **4** Fall colours in the Algoma

THE FUR TRADE ROUTE

1. Parry Sound
2. Sudbury
3. Spragge
4. Sault Ste. Marie
5. **Wawa**
6. Nipigon
7. Thunder Bay
8. Fort Frances
9. Kenora

Route – 300 km
Head north on Hwy#17 from Sault Ste. Marie to Wawa.

Park permits are required in Lake Superior Provincial Park. Permits can be purchased at the Travel Information Centre at Agawa Bay.

5 DAY FIVE

Travel from Sault Ste. Marie to Wawa.

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 Highway between St. John, Newfoundland, and Victoria, BC. Look for another G7 easel by Arthur Lismer entitled "The Little Falls".

Batchawana Bay Provincial Park. Stop by the Voyageurs' Cookhouse filled with artifacts and large paintings of the Fur Trade Route. Ask for a copy of the visitor attractions that are listed on the way to Thunder Bay.

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". A Travel Information Centre highlighting the park's cultural history, natural features and recreational opportunities is located at Agawa Bay. Lake Superior Provincial Park is recognized as a nationally certified **Dark Sky Preserve** by the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada.

Agawa Rock. 8 kms north of Agawa Bay within Lake Superior Provincial Park. See 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. ***Warning signs advise visitors to use extreme caution on the rugged path down to the water's edge.*** 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.** 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. Take a picture with the famous Land of the Big Goose monument located next to the Travel Information Centre.

WHERE TO CAMP

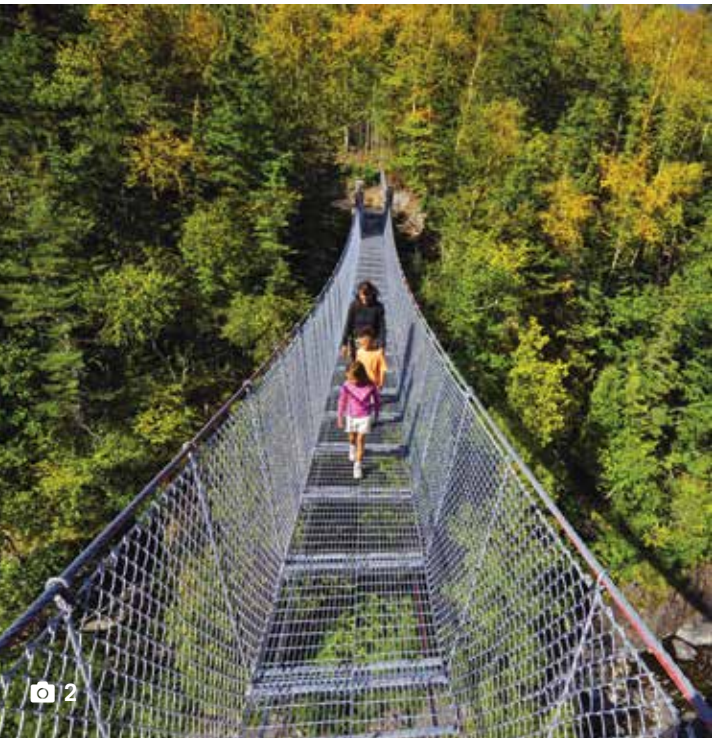
Wild Rose RV Park. Located next to Voyageurs' Cookhouse in Batchawana Bay. ✔ Fully serviced.

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. Open seasonally.

Day Six.

PUKASKWA NATIONAL PARK / NIPIGON



POINTS OF INTEREST

- 1 Lake Superior Shoreline
- 2 Pukaskwa National Park
- 3 Anishinaabe Camp, Pukaskwa Provincial Park
- 4 Terrace Bay Beach

THE FUR TRADE ROUTE

1. Parry Sound
2. Sudbury
3. Spragge
4. Sault Ste. Marie
5. Wawa
6. **Nipigon**
7. Thunder Bay
8. Fort Frances
9. Kenora

Route – 360 km
Continue north on Hwy#17 from Wawa to Nipigon.

6 DAY SIX

Travel from Wawa to Nipigon.

- **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. See the Historical Society Museum and historic markers. White River is famous for its Winnie-the-Pooh statue built to commemorate the black bear cub that became the mascot for Canadian troops serving overseas during WW II.

Pukaskwa National Park. Heron Bay. Main entrance to camping and Travel Information Centre is 25 km east of Marathon on Hwy#627 at Hattie Cove. The park features a boardwalk over the sand dunes to the sandy beach on Horseshoe Bay. Interpretive walking trails share important teachings of Anishinaabe culture. Canoe rentals ($20/ half day) are recommended when the bay is calm.
Services: Electrical sites 15 km in from Hwy#17. Showers/ flush toilets. Travel Information Centre with displays. Hiking trails. Canoe rentals.

- **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 prisoner of war 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.** Follow the Casque Isles hiking trail for two kms to Terrace Bay beach where visitors can 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 at the Patterson Lighthouse located behind the Travel Information Centre.

- **Aguasabon Falls and Gorge** is just a half-mile off Hwy#17. Follow the boardwalk to the 100-foot waterfall and gorge. The best time to see this waterfall is in the spring.

Rainbow Falls Provincial Park is just 20 minutes west of Terrace Bay. The park has a beautiful sandy beach.

- **Nipigon.** The last G7 easel site on the route from Sault Ste. Marie. Climb the 20m Bridgeview Lookout Tower with a 360 degree view of the Nipigon River that once produced the largest brook trout for fly fishing in the world. Visit the Heritage Museum and take a self-guided walking tour to learn about the history of the town.

WHERE TO CAMP

Where to camp near Nipigon.

Stillwater Tent & RV Park. Nipigon.
Services: Electrical. Shower. Wifi. Gift Shop. Laundry. Sani-dump.

Neys Provincial Park. Located 30 minutes outside Marathon.
Services: RV camping available. Electrical. Showers/flush toilets. Laundry. Park store. Hiking trails. Canoe rentals available. Open mid May to mid September.

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

THE FUR TRADE ROUTE

1. Parry Sound
2. Sudbury
3. Spragge
4. Sault Ste. Marie
5. Wawa
6. Nipigon
7. **Thunder Bay**
8. Fort Frances
9. Kenora

Route – 290 km
Continue north on Hwy#17 from Nipigon to Thunder Bay.

7 DAY SEVEN

Travel from Nipigon to Thunder Bay.

Ouimet Canyon Provincial Park. Panoramic views of a 150 metre wide gorge and sheer cliffs that drop 100 metres straight down to the canyon floor. A trail and boardwalk connects two lookout platforms with spectacular views of the canyon.

Sleeping Giant Provincial Park offers spectacular 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 kilometre 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 legendary Thunderbird, a mythical giant bird 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 Ojibwe 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

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.

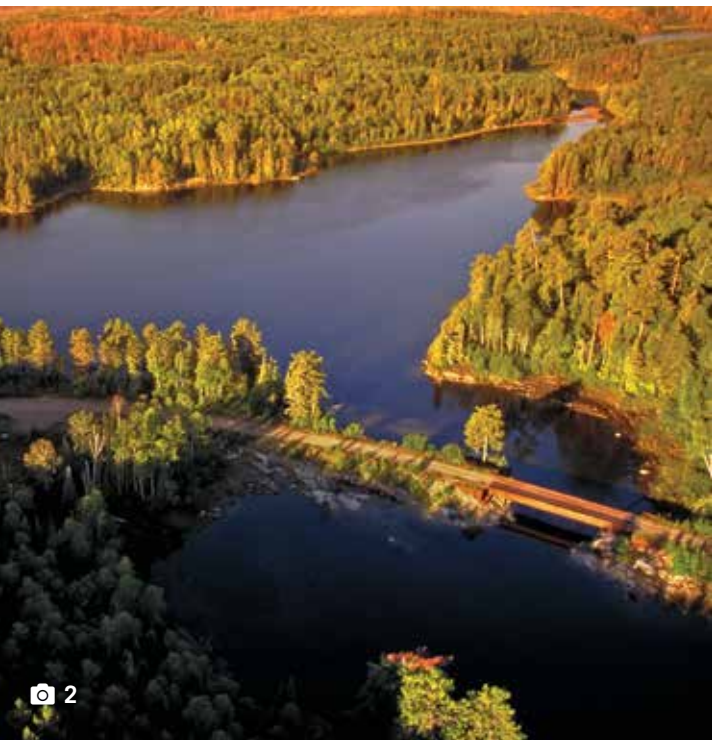
Sleeping Giant Provincial Park.
Services: Limited RV camping available at Marie Louise Lake Campground. Showers/flush toilets. Laundry. Hiking trails. Open mid May to mid October.

Fort William Historical Park.
Services: RV camping available. Electrical. Showers/flush toilets. Gift shop. Access to a grey and black water dump station. Picnic areas with tables and firepit rings.

Day Eight.

ATIKOKAN / FORT FRANCES / LAKE OF THE WOODS

1



POINTS OF INTEREST

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

THE FUR TRADE ROUTE

1. Parry Sound
2. Sudbury
3. Spragge
4. Sault Ste. Marie
5. Wawa
6. Nipigon
7. Thunder Bay
8. **Fort Frances**
9. Kenora

Main Route – 335 km Depart west from Thunder Bay on Hwy#17. Turn left onto Hwy#11 which will take you to Fort Frances.

Side Route – Turn left off Hwy#11 onto Hwy#11b to Atikokan.

Alternate Route (c) – There is an alternative northern route on #17 to Ignace, Dryden and Kenora that is slightly shorter.

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.

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. Laundry. Travel Information Centre. Hiking trails. Canoe rentals.

- **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.

- **Fort Frances.** A border town where the Rainy River bridge crosses the Canada/U.S. border 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 Travel Information Centre has limited hours of operation.

WHERE TO CAMP

Where to camp near Fort Frances.

Tomahawk Resort. Sioux Narrows. RV park with cabins available. **Services:** Electrical. Showers/toilets. Laundry.

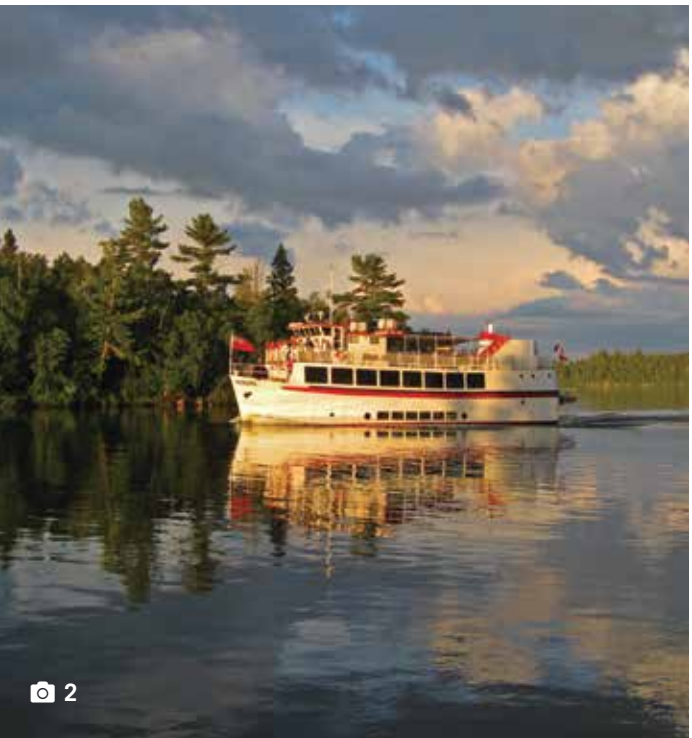
There are numerous provincial parks along this route that have campsites available. Open seasonally.

Day Nine.

LAKE OF THE WOODS / KENORA

1

Photo courtesy of Greg Mattson



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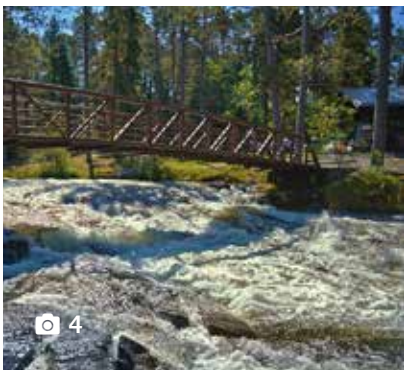

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POINTS OF INTEREST

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

THE FUR TRADE ROUTE

1. Parry Sound
2. Sudbury
3. Spragge
4. Sault Ste. Marie
5. Wawa
6. Nipigon
7. Thunder Bay
8. Fort Frances
9. **Kenora**

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.

- **Lake of the Woods.** Once known as the King's Highway, Hwy #71 is one of the most spectacular 200 km stretches of remote highway in Ontario. Meander northward through Caliper Lake Provincial Park, Nestor Falls, Sioux Narrows and Rushing River Provincial Park located along the east shore of beautiful Lake of the Woods. Look for private campgrounds along the lake shore.

Caliper Lake Provincial Park. Located one hour north of Fort Frances. A campground is situated on a bluff overlooking Caliper Lake from a stand of old growth red and white pine. The park features a large beach with sectioned off swimming area.

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

- **Sioux Narrows / Nestor Falls.** Two quaint towns with numerous tourist fishing camps on the eastern shores of Lake of the Woods. Rich in history, the town centre is the site of a legendary battle between the invading Sioux and the local Cree and Ojibwe. Nestor Falls attracts flocks of pelicans that feed at the base of the falls. Visit the Northern Ontario Sportfishing Centre and book wilderness tours with Indigenous adventure guides for a thorough introduction to sport fishing in the area.

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. Showers/toilets. Laundry. Kayak rentals. Hiking trails.

- **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 Lake of the Woods. The museum explains the fur trade, native culture, mining and railroad history. It contains a replica of a birch bark canoe used by Indiginous 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.

- The **Lake of the Woods Discovery Centre,** located in Kenora, features an interpretive forest with different woods used by First Nations people.

WHERE TO CAMP

The Willows RV Park & Campground. Kenora.
✓ **Services:** Electrical. Wifi. Showers/washrooms. Waste dispoal. Hiking trails.

There are numerous provincial parks along this route that have campsites available. Open seasonally.

PROSPECTOR
ROUTE

Discover Ontario's Gold Rush.

A HISTORIC 7-DAY CIRCLE TOUR

Iconic McIntrye Mine headframe, Timmins

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- (a) **French River Museum –** French River (first designated Candian Heritage River)
- (b) **Chief Commanda – cruise on Lake Nipissing –** North Bay
- (c) **Glory Hole National Historic Site –** Cobalt
- (d) **Harry Oakes Manor –** Kirkland Lake
- (e) **Polar Bear Habitat –** Cochrane
- (f) **Hollinger Gold Mine – open pit mine –** Timmins
- (g) **Dynamic Earth – underground mine tour –** Sudbury

ITINERARY

- **DAY 1** Toronto to Huntsville
- **DAY 2** Huntsville to Temagami
- **DAY 3** Temagami to Temiskaming Shores
- **DAY 4** Temiskaming Shores to Iroquois Falls
- **DAY 5** Iroquois Falls to Timmins
- **DAY 6** Timmins to Killarney
- **DAY 7** Killarney to Toronto

PROSPECTOR ROUTE

Weather Warnings

Remote sections along the Prospector Route.

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. Keep an eye on your fuel and propane before heading into remote areas where gas stations may close in the evening, and on Sundays.

Day One.

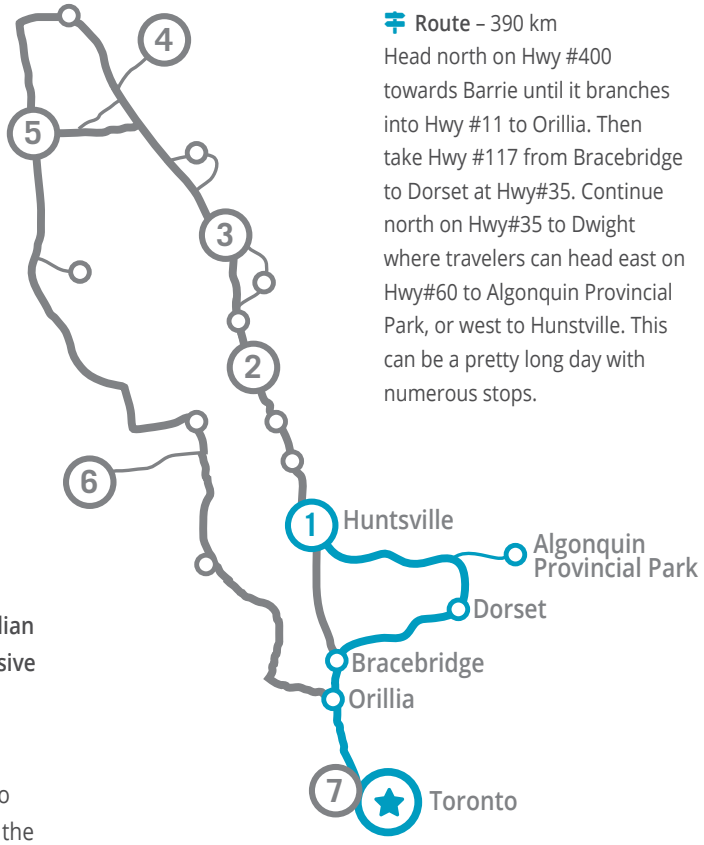
TORONTO / HUNTSVILLE / ALGONQUIN PROVINCIAL PARK

POINTS OF INTEREST

- 1 Autumn in the Muskoka region
- 2 Algonquin Provincial Park
- 3 Traveling through Muskoka
- 4 The Portage Flyer

PROSPECTOR
ROUTE

1. **Huntsville**
2. North Bay/ Temagami
3. Temiskaming Shores
4. Iroquois Falls
5. Timmins
6. Killarney
7. Toronto



Route – 390 km
Head north on Hwy #400 towards Barrie until it branches into Hwy #11 to Orillia. Then take Hwy #117 from Bracebridge to Dorset at Hwy#35. Continue north on Hwy#35 to Dwight where travelers can head east on Hwy#60 to Algonquin Provincial Park, or west to Hunstville. This can be a pretty long day with numerous stops.

1 DAY ONE

Travel from Toronto to Huntsville.

Head north on Hwy #400 towards Barrie until it branches into Hwy #11 to Orillia. The Great Canadian Shield comes into view as the mosaic of an expansive deciduous and coniferous forest unfolds.

- **Bracebridge** is located in the heart of the Muskoka Lakes region and known as "Halfway to the North Pole" where it lays equidistance from the equator and North Pole. The town overlooks the dam and waterfalls near the rail crossing. Antique and fashion shops line the main street.
- **Huntsville.** Muskoka Heritage Place overlooking Cann Lake records the living history of homesteads and First Nations encampments. The Portage Flyer, a restored steam train runs 2 km alongside the Muskoka River and is reputed to be the shortest operational railroad in the world.

Algonquin Provincial Park. East of Huntsville, Algonquin Provincial Park occupies 7,700 square Kilometres of stunning wilderness landscapes at the outer edge of the Canadian Shield. Protected since 1893 as Ontario's first Provincial Park, it remains an iconic destination for travelers from around the world.

WHERE TO CAMP

Where to camp near Hunstville.

Deer Lake RV Resort – Huntsville. 120 acre park on Deer Lake just west of Huntsville.
Services: Fully serviced. Showers/ flush toilets. Laundry facilities.

Algonquin Provincial Park has five campgrounds spread out along Hwy #60. Be sure to book early and specify an RV site when making a reservation. Watch for Fall Color Reports when the dazzling display of maple leaves burst around the lakes.
Services: Fully serviced. Showers / flush toilets. Laundry facilities. Hiking. Discovery program.

TRAVEL TIPS

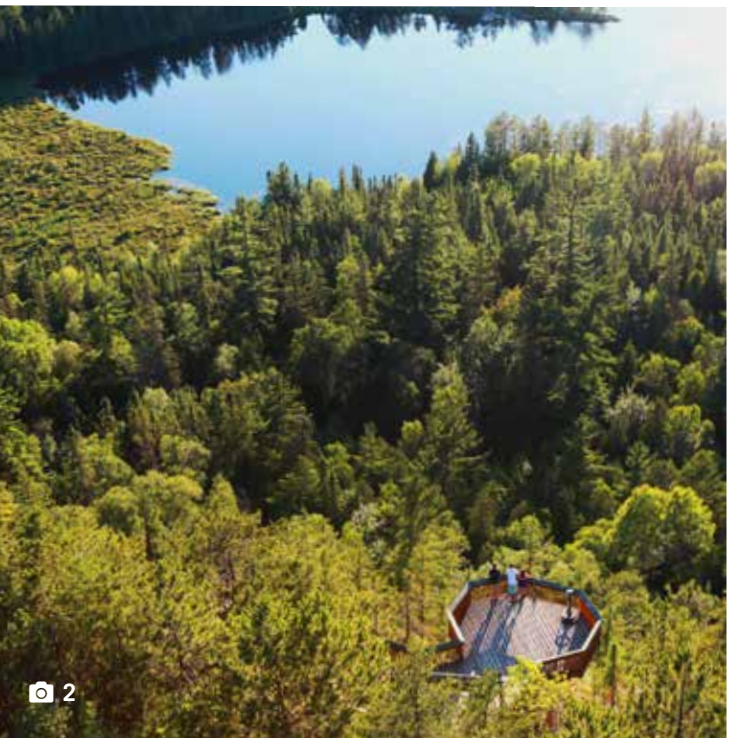
Start your RV experience with a stop at **Weber's charcoal burger diner** 15 km north of Orillia. Look for the iconic orange walking bridge crossing the divided highway. Outdoor seating available, or enjoy indoor dining in a classic railroad car.

Visit **Robinson's General Store** in Dorset. The store sells nearly everything. It is voted "Canada's Best Country Store" and offers a large selection of moccasins.

Day Two.

ALGONQUIN PROVINCIAL PARK / NORTH BAY / TEMAGAMI

1



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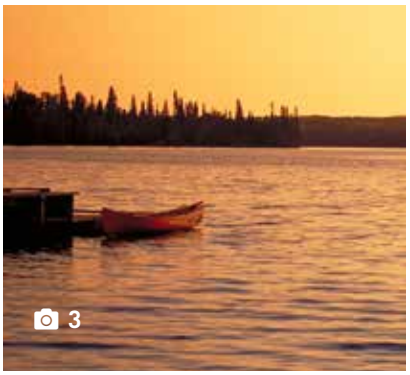

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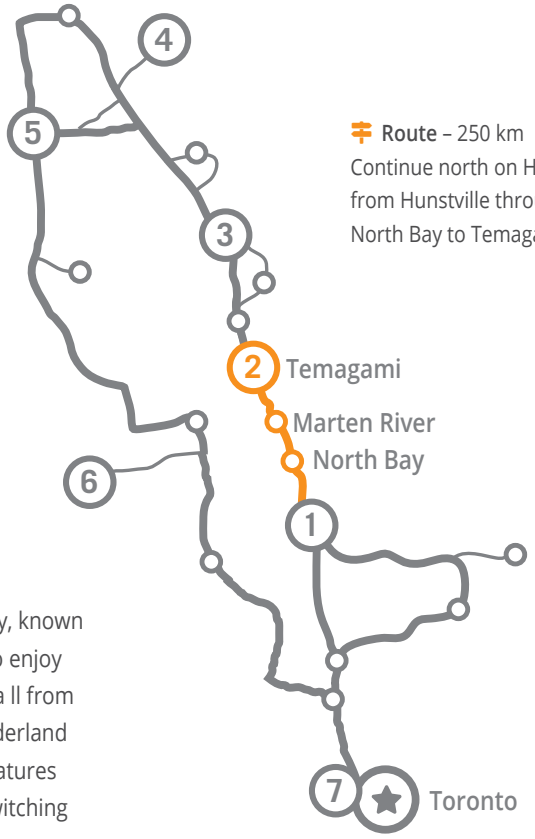
4

POINTS OF INTEREST

- 1 Chief Commanda II
- 2 Finlayson Point Lookout
- 3 Lake Temagami
- 4 Ancient Temagami Pines

PROSPECTOR ROUTE

1. Huntsville
2. **North Bay / Temagami**
3. Temiskaming Shores
4. Iroquois Falls
5. Timmins
6. Killarney
7. Toronto



Route – 250 km
Continue north on Hwy #11 from Hunstville through North Bay to Temagami.

DAY TWO

Travel from Hunstville to Temagami.

- **North Bay.** Visit the harbour front in North Bay, known as "The Gateway to the North". Take a break to enjoy a five hour cruise aboard the Chief Commanda II from Lake Nipissing to French River. A vintage Wonderland Carousel and a miniature train are heritage features near the municipal marina. Observe a large switching yard for the Ottawa Valley Railroad.
- **The Temagami region** is famous for some of the finest protected old growth white pine forests in eastern Canada.

Marten River Provincial Park. See remnant stands of massive pines including a 350 year old White Pine as you walk the Transition Trail. A replica 19th century logging camp brings a bygone era to life. Relax at one of the park's three beaches.

Finlayson Point Provincial Park is a peninsula in the island-dotted waters of Lake Temagami, part of thousands of kilometres of ancient pine shoreline. Swim at sandy beaches and dive in the deep clear water of Lake Temagami. Hike to Caribou Mountain lookout and fire tower, with views over the White Bear Forest, Lake Temagami and the town of Temagami.

WHERE TO CAMP

Where to camp near Temagami.

Marten River Provincial Park. Located in Marten River on Hwy#11 between North Bay and Temagami. RV camping available.
Services: Many campsites offer electrical hook-up. Showers/flush toilets. Swimming. Hiking. Nature/Travel Information Centre.

Finlayson Point Provincial Park. Located southwest of Temagami. RV camping available.
Services: Many campsites offer electrical hook-up. Showers/flush toilets. Laundry. Swimming. Hiking. Park store.

TRAVEL TIPS

Temagami was once home to internationally-renowned conservationist and author, **Grey Owl**. Take a picture of the plaque in Finlayson Point Provincial Park.

Temagami Shores Inn & Resort features a causal restaurant overlooking beautiful Lake Temagami. Outdoor seating available.

Day Three.

TEMAGAMI / COBALT / TEMISKAMING SHORES

1

2

3

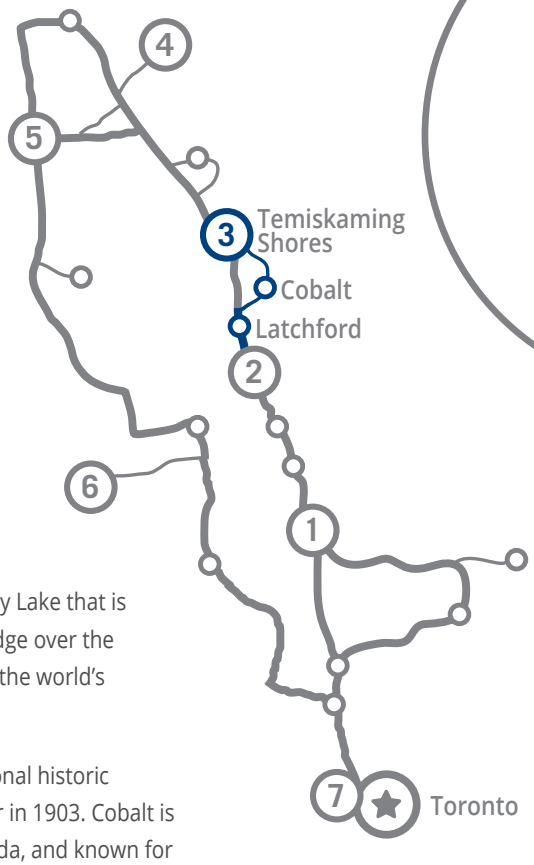
4

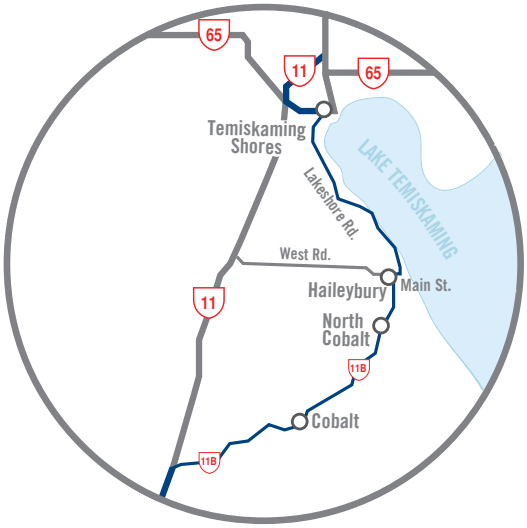
POINTS OF INTEREST

- 1 Lookout over Cobalt Mine
- 2 Sgt. Aubrey Cosens V.C. Memorial Bridge, Latchford
- 3 Colonial Adit Mine Tour, Cobalt
- 4 Devil's Rock Lookout

PROSPECTOR ROUTE

1. Huntsville
2. North Bay / Temagami
3. **Temiskaming Shores**
4. Iroquois Falls
5. Timmins
6. Killarney
7. Toronto





3 DAY THREE

Travel from Temagami to Temiskaming Shores.

- **Latchford** is a small lumbering town on Bay Lake that is marked by a dam close to the highway bridge over the Montreal River. It is reknowned for having the world's shortest covered bridge.
- **Cobalt.** The entire town of Cobalt is a national historic site paying tribute to the discovery of silver in 1903. Cobalt is the birthplace of hard rock mining in Canada, and known for the world's first mining camp. The region's rich veins triggered a mining boom which attracted international attention to Canada's emergence as the silver capital of the world. Open cuts carved from the rock by hand reflect the earliest surface mining operations. Mine shafts were sunk, and headframes were built above the ore body. Massive rock piles are remnants of ore processing on site. Visit the Cobalt Mining Museum and follow the Heritage Silver Trail, a self-guided driving tour through back roads of the Cobalt mine. The tour features 20 sites with interpretive plaques. Take the Colonial Adit Mine Tour to see hand carved tunnels of the early mining days.
- **Temiskaming Shores**. The resort community of Temiskaming Shores on the Wabi River where it enters Lake Temiskaming is an amalgamation of the three former municipalities of New Liskeard, Haileybury and rural area of Dymond.

Route – 140 km
Continue north on Hwy#11 to Latchford. Turn east onto Hwy#11B just north of Latchford to Cobalt. Loop back to Hwy#11 by following Hwy#11B through North Cobalt, Haileybury, and back towards New Liskeard along the shores of Lake Temiskaming.

WHERE TO CAMP

Where to camp near Temiskaming Shores.

Bucke Park Campground. Located on the shores of Lake Temiskaming. Hike the trail to Devils Rock for spectacular views of Lake Temiskaming.
Services: Fully serviced. Showers.

Kap-Kig-Iwan Provincial Park. Located 30 minutes north of Temiskaming Shores, just 2 km south of Englehart off Hwy #11. Spectacular lookout over the Englehart River that roars through whitewater rapids.
Services: Electrical and non-electrical sites. Flush toilets. Hiking trails along a ridge to the falls.

TRAVEL TIPS

L'Autochtone Taverne Americaine is an innovative hybrid eatery and cultural hub blending foods and preparations from English, French, and First Nations culture with a focus on local and sustainable ingredients.

Hilliardton Marsh Provincial Wildlife Area, located 27 km north of Temiskaming Shores, is a restored wetland for migrating birds on the James Bay flyway in the Little Clay Belt region.

Day Four.

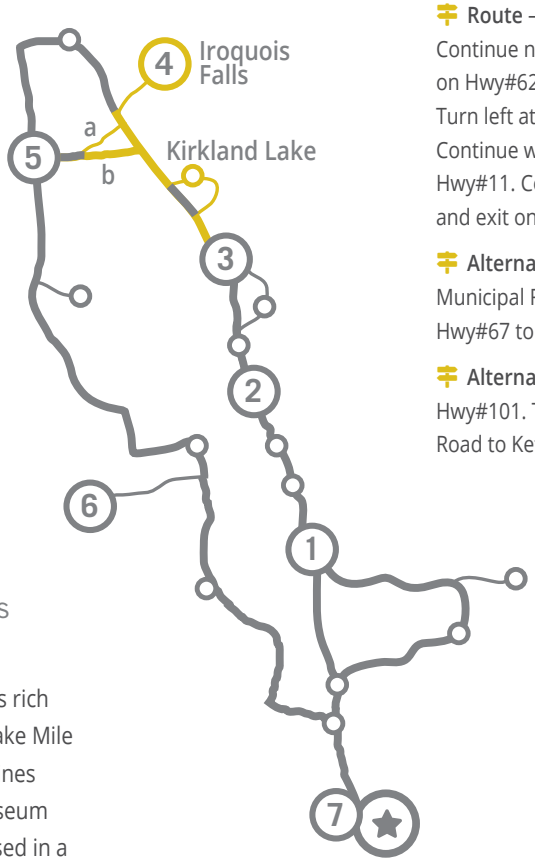
TEMISKAMING SHORES / KIRKLAND LAKE / IROQUOIS FALLS

POINTS OF INTEREST

- 1 Kettle Lakes Provincial Park
- 2 Headframe in Kirkland Lake
- 3 Sir Harry Oakes Chateau
- 4 Black Bear

PROSPECTOR ROUTE

1. Huntsville
2. North Bay / Temagami
3. Temiskaming Shores
4. **Iroquois Falls**
5. Timmins
6. Killarney
7. Toronto



Route – 170 km
Continue north on Hwy#11. Take a right on Hwy#624, just before Englehart. Turn left at Hwy#66 to Kirkland Lake. Continue west on Hwy#66 back to Hwy#11. Continue north on Hwy#11, and exit on Hwy#67 to Iroquois Falls.

Alternate Route (a) – Head west on Municipal Road between Hwy#101 and Hwy#67 to Kettle Lakes Provincial Park.

Alternate Route (b) – Head west on Hwy#101. Turn north onto Municipal Road to Kettle Lakes Provincial Park.

4 DAY FOUR

Travel from Temiskaming Shores to Iroquois Falls.

- **Kirkland Lake** is another city that owes its rich existence to gold mining. The "Kirkland Lake Mile of Gold" was named after seven major mines located virtually in the town. Visit the Museum of Northern History in Kirkland Lake housed in a chateau-style mansion built by Sir Harry Oakes that celebrates the town's cultural heritage. Visit the historic Toburn Gold Mine which was the first mine in the area and produced 42 million ounces of gold. Wander the main street as it weaves past historic buildings. The city celebrates its 100-year centenary in 2020.
- **Iroquois Falls** was built as a company town on the Abitibi River, but has turned to tourism after closure of the newsprint mill. It is known as "The Garden Town of the North" where the community takes great pride in flowers and vegetable gardens. Visit Anson Park to view the Shay 70 Locomotive that used to operate through town, or take a tour of the Pioneer Museum to find out how Iroquois Falls came to be.

WHERE TO CAMP

Where to camp near Iroquois Falls.

Cameron's Beach Campground. Located on beautiful Nellie Lake, just 10 minutes north-west of Iroquois Falls. Camp sites are situated close to a picturesque sandy beach.
Services: Full service. Electrical. Pull-thru sites. Sani-dump. Laundry. Showers/flush toilets. Hiking trails along a ridge to the falls. Canoe rentals.

Kettle Lakes Provincial Park. Located between Timmins just off Hwy #101 west of Matheson. The park features 22 deep spring- fed kettle lakes created by glaciers.
Services: Electrical. Laundry. Showers / flush toilets. Park store. Canoe rentals. Hiking and biking trails through jack pine forest. Interpretive programs.

TRAVEL TIPS

Thornloe Cheese, just 10 minutes north of Temiskaming Shores offers grass fed butter, ice cream, fresh cheese curds, and many more incredible products!

Dine at **Bridgehouse Café** in Kenogami at the junction of Hwy#66 and Hwy#11. The Café offers a commanding river view from the patio.

Day Five.

IROQUOIS FALLS / COCHRANE / TIMMINS

POINTS OF INTEREST

- 1 WildExodus Glamping
- 2 Cochrane Polar Bear Habitat
- 3 Porcupine Miner's Memorial
- 4 McIntyre Mine Headframe

PROSPECTOR ROUTE

1. Huntsville
2. North Bay / Temagami
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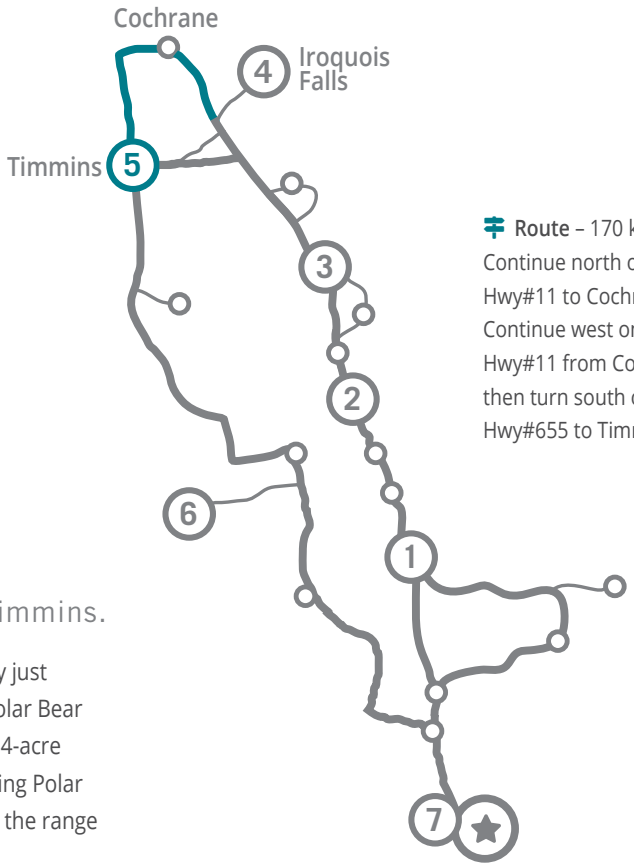


Route – 170 km
Continue north on Hwy#11 to Cochrane. Continue west on Hwy#11 from Cochrane, then turn south on Hwy#655 to Timmins.

5 DAY FIVE

Travel from Iroquois Falls to Timmins.

- **Cochrane.** A small northern community just one hour north of Iroquois Falls. The Polar Bear Habitat, a research facility featuring a 24-acre natural enclosure is dedicated to rescuing Polar Bears. The Interpretive Centre explains the range and habits of Polar Bears in the wild.
- **Timmins.** The story of Timmins begins in 1909 with the Porcupine Gold Rush, a gold rush like no other. By 2011, the Porcupine Camp had mined over 70 million ounces of gold, compared to the 12 million ounces produced during the well-known Klondike Gold Rush. From the discovery of gold and other precious metals such as nickel, copper, zinc, silver and diamonds, history seems to repeat itself and the city with a heart of gold continues to reap the benefits of this exploration fever. Mine artifacts, buildings and a collection of seven life sized statues depicting miners in various work related poses can be found throughout the city of Timmins.

WHERE TO CAMP

Where to camp near Timmins.

WildExodus - Wawaitin Holiday Park.
Located 30 minutes south west of Timmins on Kenogamissi Lake. Ontario's first Signature Experience for glamping, guided canoeing, and nature hikes to High Falls and native burial grounds. Imagine exquisite dining and room service in a custom-built propector tent offered in the two-night package.
Services: Electrical. Sani-dump. Hiking. Canoe rentals. Travel packages.

TRAVEL TIPS

Stop by the **Timmins Museum: National Exhibition Center** for a glimpse into the past and discover the history behind how Timmins has received worldwide recognition as a major player in global mining. Take a tour of the **Hollinger House** and get a feel for what life was like in the 30s.

Directly across from the Timmins Museum is a lookout of a **live operating open pit Gold Mine**. Visitors can time their visit accordingly to experience the rumble of live blasting (safely) twice per day.

Day Six.

TIMMINS / GOGAMA / SUDBURY / KILLARNEY

1

2

3

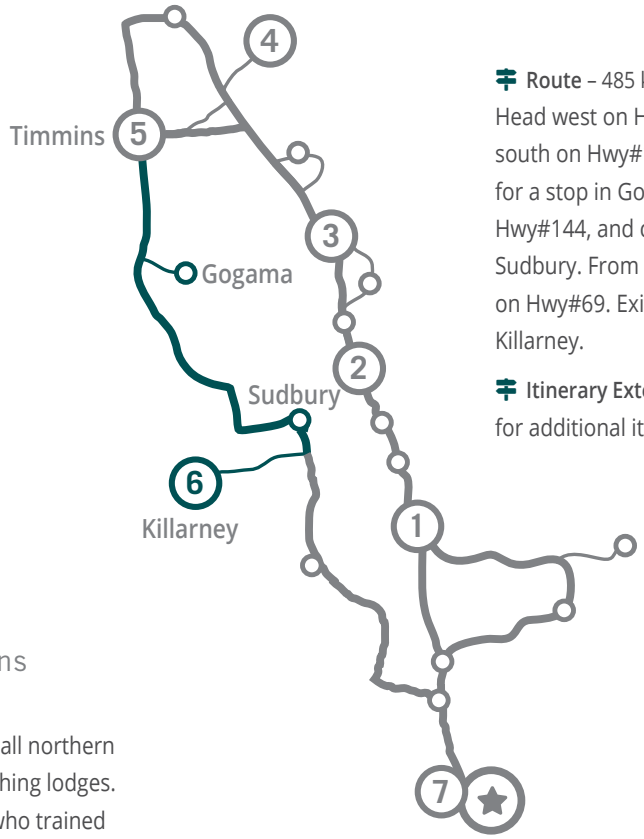
4

POINTS OF INTEREST

- 1 Killarney Provincial Park
- 2 Science North
- 3 Killarney Lighthouse
- 4 Dynamic Earth

PROSPECTOR ROUTE

1. Huntsville
2. North Bay / Temagami
3. Temiskaming Shores
4. Iroquois Falls
5. Timmins
6. **Killarney**
7. Toronto



Route – 485 km
Head west on Hwy#101. Turn south on Hwy#144. Take Hwy#661 for a stop in Gogama. Return to Hwy#144, and continue south to Sudbury. From Sudbury, head south on Hwy#69. Exit on Hwy#637 to Killarney.

Itinerary Extensions – see below for additional itinerary options.

6 DAY SIX

Travel back south from Timmins to Killarney Provincial Park.

- **Head south towards Gogama.** This small northern community is home to several great fishing lodges. Learn about legendary Joe LaFlamme who trained wolves to pull a dogsled in the wilds of Northern Ontario.
- **Head towards Sudbury** where the Super Stack looms on the horizon. Visit Dynamic Earth to experience the life of rock miners complete with the sounds of blasting and ore drills. Visit Science North, one of the largest science centres in all of Canada featuring a fun, interactive approach to science education and an IMAX® theatre.
- **Killarney.** Head south on Hwy #69 through pink granite rock cuts to the junction of Hwy #637 where the highway dips down to the waterfront in Killarney. Take a short hike to the Killarney East Lighthouse. It was here when the first settlers arrived in 1820 to establish a fur trading post where two lighthouses were the first to operate after Confederation. The Village of Killarney provides services including a Laundromat, marina and museum.

Killarney Provincial Park is classified as a wilderness park where rugged, white granite cliffs overlook Georgian Bay. Killarney Provincial Park is recognized as a nationally certified **Dark Sky Preserve** by the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada.

WHERE TO CAMP

Where to camp near Killarney.

Killarney Provincial Park – George Lake Campground is open for camping all year.
Services: Electrical. Showers/flush toilets. Laundry. Hiking trails. Park Store (seasonal) and Canoe Rentals nearby.

Roche Rouge Campground – downtown Killarney. Watch sunsets over beautiful Lacloche Mountains. Lake views. Swimming. Access provincial park trails.
Services: Pull-thru sites. No hookups. Pit toilets.

ITINERARY EXTENSIONS

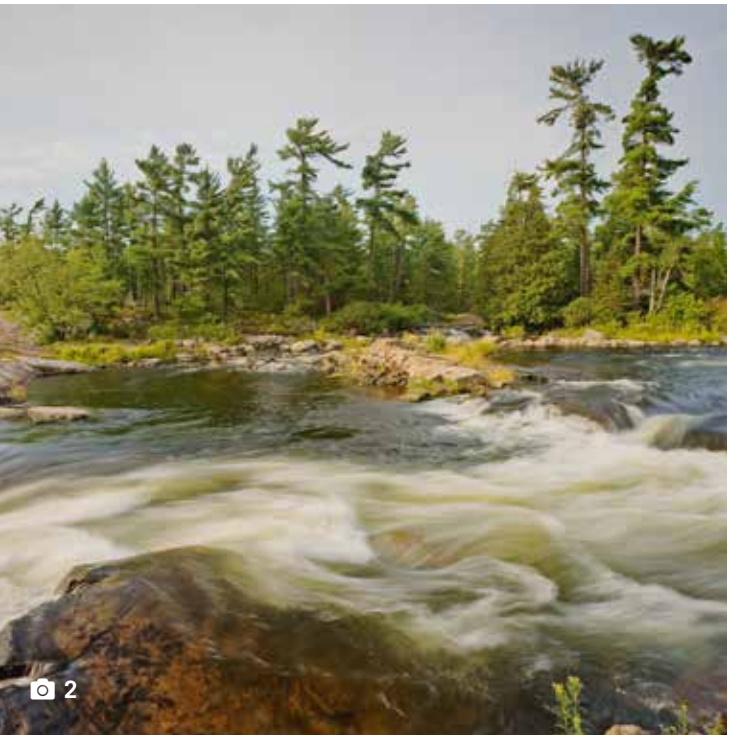
The Fur Trade Route. Head further west on Hwy #17 from Sudbury to connect with the Fur Trade Route to Sault Ste Marie and on toward the North Shore of Lake Superior (***see page #9***).

Manitoulin Island. Circle back to Toronto with a stop on Manitoulin Island and make the crossing on the Main Channel between Lake Huron and Georgian Bay via the MS Chi-Cheemaun Ferry from South Baymouth to Tobermory on Bruce Peninsula (***see page #16***).

Day Seven.

KILLARNEY / FRENCH RIVER / TORONTO

1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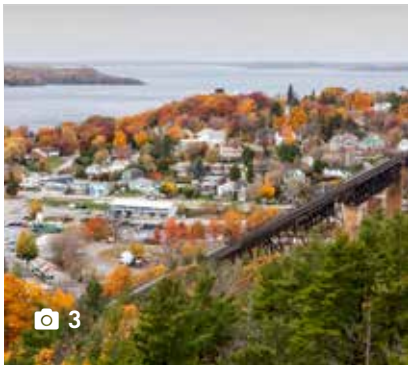
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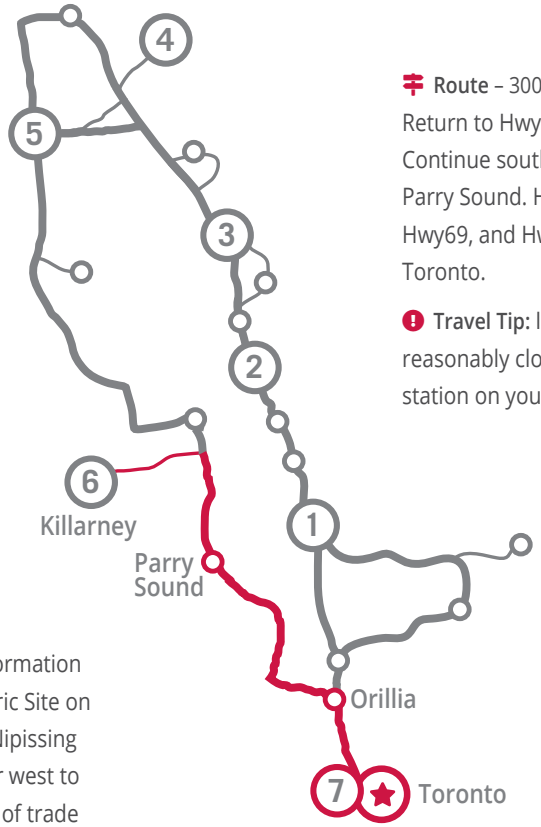
POINTS OF INTEREST

- 1 Georgian Bay Coast
- 2 French River Provincial Park
- 3 Lookout over Parry Sound
- 4 Swimming in Georgian Bay

PROSPECTOR ROUTE

1. Huntsville
2. North Bay / Temagami
3. Temiskaming Shores
4. Iroquois Falls
5. Timmins
6. Killarney
7. **Toronto**



Route – 300 km
Return to Hwy#69 via Hwy#637. Continue south on Hwy#69 to Parry Sound. Head south down Hwy69, and Hwy#400 towards Toronto.

Travel Tip: It is best to camp reasonably close to an RV rental station on your last night.

7 DAY SEVEN

Killarney to Toronto.

French River Provincial Park. A Travel Information 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 Travel Information 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. Park Store (seasonal), Travel Information Centre. Hiking trails.

- **Parry Sound.** Make a short stop at the harbour front community of Parry Sound and nearby lookout tower on Georgian Bay. Visit the Interpretive Centre featuring the canoe route that served as a commercial waterway for 250 years.

WHERE TO CAMP

Returning to Toronto. It is best to stay reasonably close to the rental station in the Toronto area on your last night. Clean-up, empty holding tanks, and refuel before drop-off. Be ready to vacate the vehicle upon arrival at the station.

DESTINATION
NORTHERN
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