The Rendezvous

Your Guide to
Voyageurs National Park

Spring/Summer 2017

Contact Information:

Park Administration Building
360 Highway 11 East
International Falls, MN 56649
(218) 283-6600

Year-round Hours of Operation: 8 - 4

Rainy Lake Visitor Center
International Falls, MN
May 27 - September 30, 9 - 5
October 1 - December 31, 10 - 4
January 2 - mid-May, 10 - 4:30
(218) 286-5258

Kabetogama Lake Visitor Center
Kabetogama, MN
May 27 - September 30, 9 - 5
(218) 875-2111

Ash River Visitor Center
Ash River, MN
May 27 - September 30, 9 - 5
(218) 374-3221

Crane Lake Ranger Station
Crane Lake, MN
Open when available
(218) 993-2481

Kabetogama Lodge
12977 Chippewa Trail
Kabetogama, MN
(218) 240-1726

Recreation.gov
www.recreation.gov
(877)-444-6777

Voyageurs National Park Association
126 North 3rd Street
Suite 400
Mpls, MN 56640
(612) 333-5424
www.voyageurs.org

Jefferson National Park Association
1 Memorial Drive
Suite 1900
St. Louis, MO 63102
(314) 678-1500
www.jnpa.com

Heart of the Continent
214 Main Street West
Atikokan Ontario, P0T1C0
www.heartofthecontinent.org

Destination Voyageurs National Park
360 Highway 11 East
International Falls, MN 56649
www.destinationvoyageursnationalpark.com

Did You Know?

Local Accommodations & Commercial Services........8-10
Park Partnerships.....Back Page

Contents

Voyageurs Diversity ..........2
Traversing Voyageurs ........3
What’s in the Water ..........4
Park Map .........................5-6
Voyageurs National Park
Association
126 North 3rd Street
Suite 400
Mpls, MN 56640
(612) 333-5424
www.voyageurs.org

Jefferson National Park
Association
1 Memorial Drive
Suite 1900
St. Louis, MO 63102
(314) 678-1500
www.jnpa.com

Heart of the Continent
214 Main Street West
Atikokan Ontario, P0T1C0
www.heartofthecontinent.org

Destination Voyageurs National Park
360 Highway 11 East
International Falls, MN 56649
www.destinationvoyageursnationalpark.com

Photo: Jakob Widmark,
VNPA Photo Contest Entry
**Voyageurs - The Diversity of this National Park**

**A Vast Ecosystem**

Imagine walking through a forest mixed with golden colored tamarack or under a canopy of aspens and maples displaying an array of red, gold, and yellow leaves. This is Voyageurs.

Imagine following the smell of pine as you walk along rock covered ridges. This is Voyageurs.

Imagine seeing a fox scurrying by while hearing the call of a loon or the howl of a wolf. This is Voyageurs National Park.

The park lies in a transition zone between the boreal forests to the north and deciduous forests to the south.

Nearly 700 species of plants have been identified within the park. Boreal forest species are most abundant, occupying about seventy percent of the park.

Quaking aspen dominates the forest with other species including birch, pine, spruce, and balsam fir.

Within this abundant diversity of the northern forest, wildlife abounds.

Many animals characteristic of the North Woods are found here, including moose, white-tailed deer, gray wolves, foxes, coyotes, lynx, bobcats, beavers, black bears, eagles, ravens, and common loons.

Voyageurs also hosts more than 240 neotropical bird species who either live in or migrate through the park.

**Pick up a Plant and Animal Checklist at any park visitor center to record your discoveries.**

**Water Everywhere**

Voyageurs is a water-based park where to truly experience the park, visitors must leave their cars behind and travel by watercraft.

The park lies in the 14,900-square-mile Rainy Lake basin. About seventy percent of the basin lies within Ontario, Canada and thirty percent in Minnesota.

The general direction of water flow through the four main lakes in the park (Rainy, Kabetogama, Namakan, and Sand Point) is northwesterly.

Water leaving Rainy Lake flows to the Rainy River and then to Lake of the Woods, which in turn flows to the Winnipeg River. Ultimately, the system drains to Hudson Bay.

Lake levels in the park’s four main lakes are controlled by a dam crossing the international border at Fort Frances, Ontario Canada and International Falls, MN, as well as dams at Kettle Falls and Squirrel Falls on Namakan Lake.

**The Fur Trade**

The waterways of Voyageurs include an important segment of a 3,000-mile fur trade route of the late 18th and early 19th centuries.

The driving force behind the fur trade was a demand for hats—beaver hats desired by fashionable Europeans.

As the fur trade expanded, it relied on the voyageurs, or French-Canadian canoe men, to muscle trade goods and furs between Montreal and the Canadian northwest.

The voyageurs in turn, relied on native peoples for furs, guide services, clothing, food, and medicine.

The route of these voyageurs shaped the international boundary between the US and Canada, and the legacy of these voyageurs inspired the naming of this national park.

From supporting the life and culture of Native Americans, to supplying resources for the fur trade, commercial fishing, gold mining, and timber and tourism industries, the interconnected waterway system of this area has influenced the movement of people for thousands of years.

**Rocks, Ridges, and Gold**

Voyageurs National Park is one of the few places in North America where you can see and touch rocks half the age of the Earth.

The exposed rock you see all around you is the southern edge of the volcanic bedrock that forms the core of the continent and is from the birth of North America.

At one time, massive, explosive volcanoes deposited layer after layer of ash and lava. Subsequent uplifting, folding, tremendous pressure, and superheating created igneous and metamorphic rock.

Over time, erosion wore down the volcanic mountain range and the ice ages brought glaciers that moved rivers of ice and scoured away the younger rock layers.

This action exposed the roots of the ancient mountains - the granite, migmatic, and biotite schist you see today.

As the glaciers receded, torrents of melted water filled low-lying areas, creating the lakes and bogs of today’s landscape.

Today, the oldest rock in the park tells a recent human story. Fault zones in exposed 2.8-billion-year-old greenstone revealed gold embedded in quartz veins.

The discovery sparked a short-lived gold rush and boomtown in the 1890s. Many of the newcomers stayed for good, and their descendents live in the region today.

**A Story Written in the Rocks**

To learn more about the park’s geological features purchase a copy of A Story Written in the Rocks at any park visitor center.
Your Guide to Voyageurs National Park

Traversing Voyageurs

Traveling to the Park

Roads lead to six park entrances near or within the communities of Crane Lake, Orr, Ash River, Kabetogama, Ranier, and International Falls.

No matter where you choose to enter the park, each community has a range of services to assist with your trip (pages 9-10).

Remember - Voyageurs is a water-based park. To fully experience the park, you will need a watercraft or take a ranger-led boat tour.

Traveling Through the Park

Watercraft Rentals on the Kabetogama Peninsula

Experience the solitude of a remote backcountry lake on the Kabetogama Peninsula without having to portage a watercraft. Voyageurs provides canoes and/or rowboats on several backcountry lakes for a small fee. A few things to keep in mind when visiting the Peninsula:

- Reservations are required through www.recreation.gov for boat rentals and camping
- Keys for the boat rentals must be picked up at a visitor center prior to departure
- The Peninsula can only be accessed by water, so you will need to use your own boat or reserve a water taxi service to access the trails that lead to the park’s boats
- Watercrafts on the Peninsula are located on the following lakes: Locator, War Club, Loiten, Quill, Ek, Cruiser, Little Shoepack, Shoepack, and Brown
- To prevent the spread of the Spiny Water Flea, interim park regulations do not allow you to bring your own watercraft onto the Peninsula.

Navigation You Need To Know

The United States Coast Guard (USCG) numbered red and green buoy system is used to guide boaters and mark hazards.

To use this system you need to know the direction of lake flow. Remember, red buoys to your right while traveling up-lake: red, right, return.

Namakan, Sand Point, and Crane Lakes all flow north (or downlake) toward Kettle Falls.

Kabetogama Lake flows east (or downlake) to Namakan and Kettle Falls. Rainy Lake flows west (or downlake) to International Falls.

Places to Visit by Boat

Voyageurs offers 33 Day Use sites throughout the park where visitors can stop and picnic.

Visitors may stop and picnic also at any campsite between the hours of 12 pm and 2:00 pm if the site is not reserved by tent campers.

Explore Visitor Destinations throughout the park such as: Ellsworth Rock Gardens, Hoist Bay, Kettle Falls, I.W. Stevens, Casareto Cabin, Little American Island, and Anderson Bay.

Visitor Destinations often offer picnic facilities as well as interpretive waysides and are a great opportunity to explore the park more in-depth. All Visitor Destinations are only accessible by water. Pick up a Day Use and Visitor Destination Map at any park visitor center or go on-line at www.nps.gov/voya.

Paddlers

Visitors wanting to experience the park in a more remote and quiet sport such as canoeing or kayaking may do so in a multitude of ways.

Voyageurs provides canoes and/or rowboats on several backcountry lakes for a small fee. A few things to keep in mind when visiting the Peninsula:

- Reservations are required through www.recreation.gov for boat rentals and camping
- Keys for the boat rentals must be picked up at a visitor center prior to departure
- The Peninsula can only be accessed by water, so you will need to use your own boat or reserve a water taxi service to access the trails that lead to the park’s boats
- Watercrafts on the Peninsula are located on the following lakes: Locator, War Club, Loiten, Quill, Ek, Cruiser, Little Shoepack, Shoepack, and Brown
- To prevent the spread of the Spiny Water Flea, interim park regulations do not allow you to bring your own watercraft onto the Peninsula.

Traveling to the Park

Roads lead to six park entrances near or within the communities of Crane Lake, Orr, Ash River, Kabetogama, Ranier, and International Falls.

No matter where you choose to enter the park, each community has a range of services to assist with your trip (pages 9-10).
What’s in the Water?

Exotic Species in Voyageurs

Spiny Water Flea
This tiny (0.4-5.8”) species of zooplankton is native to Eurasia and was introduced into the Great Lakes from the ballast water of ships.

They threaten the park’s aquatic ecosystems and fishing by competing with native fish for food and by fouling fishing gear.

Spiny water fleas are spread when either live adult water fleas or viable resting eggs are transferred to a new body of water. Spiny water fleas can be transported on bait buckets, anchor ropes, fishing line, boats, waders, nets, or any gear that contacts infested waters.

Spiny water fleas were first found in Rainy and Namakan Lakes in 2006. The main lakes in the park have been declared infested waters. This designation requires that specific actions be taken to prevent the unintended spread of this species to unininfested waters.

Emerald Ash Borer
has decimated ash trees throughout the eastern United States and has spread westward to the Mpls./St. Paul metro area and Duluth MN.

These insects, and other forest pests, can be transported to the park in contaminated firewood.

Best Management Practices for Using Interior Lakes

*When leaving any lake, let the water (including fishing gear) to use on the interior lakes, or before using any gear on an interior lake, make sure that all gear has been thoroughly dried for at least 5 days or washed with hot water (>140 degrees F) for at least one minute.

*When leaving any lake, remove aquatic plants and animals, including gelatinous or cotton batting – like material from equipment, including fishing line.

Do not bring firewood into the park unless purchased from a MN DNR approved firewood vendor.

You may collect dead and downed wood near your campsite.

Eurasian Watermilfoil
is moving northward in Minnesota and may reach park waters soon.

This plant has been found to interfere with boating, fishing, swimming, and can also crowd out native water plants.

Rusty Crayfish
were discovered in the park in 2006, are more aggressive than native crayfish, and can disrupt aquatic plant and animal communities by eliminating aquatic plants in infested areas.

Never release any pet or aquarium species of crayfish into lakes. Remember that using live crayfish for bait is prohibited in all park waters.

What Can You Do?

Best Management Practices for Preventing the Spread of Aquatic Invasive Species and Fish Diseases

*Inspect your boat, trailer, and equipment and remove visible aquatic plants, animals, and mud before leaving the water access.

*Drain water from your boat, motor, bilge, live wells, and bait containers before leaving the water access.

*Dispose of unwanted bait and other aquatic plants and animals in the trash.

*Spray or rinse boats and equipment with water at least 140 degrees F for at least one minute, or dry boats and equipment for five days before moving them to another body of water.

*No float plane landings on interior lakes.

Best Management Practices for Using Interior Lakes

*Bring a separate set of gear that is likely to contact lake water (including fishing gear) to use on the interior lakes, or before using any gear on an interior lake, make sure that all gear has been thoroughly dried for at least 5 days or washed with hot water (>140 degrees F) for at least one minute.

*When leaving any lake, remove aquatic plants and animals, including gelatinous or cotton batting – like material from equipment, including fishing line.

Visitors are advised to always treat lake water before using it for drinking or cooking.

Consider bringing drinking water with you when camping. Otherwise, use a high-quality water filter to remove potential contaminants.

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) advises the public to approach lake areas with blue-green algae blooms with caution. During the right conditions these blooms can be toxic to pets and harmful to people. A blue-green algae bloom like pea soup should be avoided.

For detailed information visit the MPCA website: https://www.pca.state.mn.us/. (Make sure to search for harmful algae blooms MPCA in the search box).

Thinking of Drinking Lake Water?

Visitors are advised to always treat lake water before using it for drinking or cooking.

Consider bringing drinking water with you when camping. Otherwise, use a high-quality water filter to remove potential contaminants.

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) advises the public to approach lake areas with blue-green algae blooms with caution. During the right conditions these blooms can be toxic to pets and harmful to people. A blue-green algae bloom like pea soup should be avoided.

For detailed information visit the MPCA website: https://www.pca.state.mn.us/. (Make sure to search for harmful algae blooms MPCA in the search box).

Fish Species in the Park

Fish in Voyageurs are abundant. There are 54 species known to exist in park lakes. Walleye is the most frequently sought after by anglers. Yellow perch and northern pike are the most widely spread species.

Other fish include smallmouth bass, crappie, sauger, lake trout, muskellunge, and burbot.

Not all of these fish are native to the park. Some of these species may be native in the four main lakes of the park but not native to the interior lakes where they exist due to prior stocking.
## Visitor Destinations and Trails

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Trail Name</th>
<th>Summer Access</th>
<th>Winter Access</th>
<th>Difficulty</th>
<th>Distance &amp; Details</th>
<th>Hiking Time</th>
<th>Winter Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Little American Island Visitor Destination and Trail</td>
<td>Water</td>
<td>Foot/Snowmobile/Ski</td>
<td>Easy</td>
<td>0.25 mile, loop</td>
<td>20 minutes</td>
<td>Snowshoe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Oberholtzer Trail</td>
<td>Car</td>
<td>Car</td>
<td>Easy</td>
<td>1.7 miles, round trip</td>
<td>45 minutes</td>
<td>Snowshoe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Ethno-botanical Garden Trail</td>
<td>Car</td>
<td>Car</td>
<td>Easy</td>
<td>0.25 mile</td>
<td>20 minutes</td>
<td>Snowshoe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Black Bay Ski Trail System</td>
<td>Water</td>
<td>Foot/Snowmobile/Ski</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>1 to 5 miles, loop</td>
<td>30 minutes to 2 hours</td>
<td>Ski - groomed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Locator Lake Trail</td>
<td>Water</td>
<td>Foot/Snowmobile</td>
<td>Moderate to Strenuous</td>
<td>2 miles, one way</td>
<td>2 hours</td>
<td>Snowshoe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Echo Bay Trail</td>
<td>Car</td>
<td>Car</td>
<td>Easy to Moderate</td>
<td>2.5 miles, loop</td>
<td>2 hours</td>
<td>Ski - groomed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Kab-Ash Trail (West Section)</td>
<td>Car</td>
<td>Car</td>
<td>Moderate to Strenuous</td>
<td>2 miles, one way</td>
<td>2 hours</td>
<td>Snowshoe/Ski - un-groomed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Blind Ash Bay Trail</td>
<td>Car</td>
<td>Car</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>2.8 miles, loop</td>
<td>2.5 hours</td>
<td>Snowshoe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Kabatogama Lake Overlook Trail</td>
<td>Car</td>
<td>Car</td>
<td>Easy</td>
<td>0.2 mile, one way</td>
<td>20 minutes</td>
<td>Snowshoe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Beaver Pond Overlook Trail</td>
<td>Car</td>
<td>Car</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>0.2 mile, one way</td>
<td>30 minutes</td>
<td>Snowshoe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Voyageurs Forest Overlook Trail</td>
<td>Car</td>
<td>Car</td>
<td>Easy to Moderate</td>
<td>0.5 mile, loop</td>
<td>30 minutes</td>
<td>Snowshoe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Anderson Bay Overlook Trail</td>
<td>Water</td>
<td>Snowmobile/Ski</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>1.75 miles, loop</td>
<td>2 hours</td>
<td>Snowshoe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Beat Lake Trail System</td>
<td>Water</td>
<td>Snowmobile/Ski</td>
<td>Moderate to Strenuous</td>
<td>0.25 mile to Beat Lake and 2.5 miles, one-way to Brown Lake</td>
<td>3 to 4 hours</td>
<td>Snowshoe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Cruiser Lake Trail System</td>
<td>Water</td>
<td>Snowmobile/Ski</td>
<td>Moderate to Strenuous</td>
<td>9.5 miles, one way</td>
<td>6 to 8 hours</td>
<td>Snowshoe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Rainy Lake Recreation Trail</td>
<td>Car</td>
<td>Car</td>
<td>Easy</td>
<td>1.75 miles, one-way</td>
<td>1.5 hours, round trip</td>
<td>Snowshoe/Ski</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Tilson Connector Ski Trail</td>
<td>Car</td>
<td>Car</td>
<td>Easy</td>
<td>1 mile, one-way</td>
<td>20 minutes</td>
<td>Ski - groomed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Kab-Ash Trail (East Section)</td>
<td>Car</td>
<td>Car</td>
<td>Moderate to Strenuous</td>
<td>28 miles</td>
<td>28 miles</td>
<td>Snowshoe/Ski - un-groomed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Sullivan Bay Trail</td>
<td>Car</td>
<td>Car</td>
<td>Easy</td>
<td>1.5 miles, one-way</td>
<td>2 hours</td>
<td>Snowshoe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Black Bay Beaver Pond Trail</td>
<td>Water</td>
<td>Car/Ski/Snowmobile/Ski</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>1.2 miles, round trip</td>
<td>1 hour</td>
<td>Snowshoe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Ellsworth Rock Gardens Visitor Destination</td>
<td>Water</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>1/4 mile, one-way</td>
<td>1/2 hour</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Hiisi Bay Visitor Destination</td>
<td>Water</td>
<td>Snowmobile/Ski</td>
<td>Easy to moderate</td>
<td>1/4 mile, one-way</td>
<td>1/2 hour</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Casseroo Cabin Visitor Destination</td>
<td>Water</td>
<td>Snowmobile/Ski</td>
<td>Easy</td>
<td>0.5 mile, one-way</td>
<td>1/2 hour</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Kettle Falls Visitor Destination</td>
<td>Water</td>
<td>Snowmobile/Ski</td>
<td>Easy</td>
<td>1/2 mile, one-way</td>
<td>20 minutes</td>
<td>Hotel not open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>I.W. Stevens Visitor Destination</td>
<td>Water</td>
<td>Snowmobile/Ski</td>
<td>Easy</td>
<td>1/4 mile, one-way</td>
<td>20 minutes</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Distance Around the Park by Boat

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>From</th>
<th>To</th>
<th>Distance by Boat</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ash River Visitor Center</td>
<td>Kettle Falls</td>
<td>13 miles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brule Narrows</td>
<td>Kettle Falls</td>
<td>20 miles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crane Lake Ranger Station</td>
<td>Kabetogama Lake Visitor Center</td>
<td>39 miles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kabetogama Lake Visitor Center</td>
<td>Ash River Visitor Center</td>
<td>8 miles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kabetogama Lake Visitor Center</td>
<td>Kettle Falls</td>
<td>21 miles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kabetogama Lake Visitor Center</td>
<td>Gold Portage</td>
<td>7 miles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kabetogama Lake Visitor Center</td>
<td>Ellsworth Rock Gardens</td>
<td>5 miles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rainy Lake Visitor Center</td>
<td>Kettle Falls</td>
<td>34 miles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rainy Lake Visitor Center</td>
<td>Brule Narrows</td>
<td>14 miles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rainy Lake Visitor Center</td>
<td>Anderson Bay</td>
<td>26 miles</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Distance Around the Park by Car

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>From</th>
<th>To</th>
<th>Distance by Car</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ash River Visitor Center</td>
<td>Crane Lake Ranger Station</td>
<td>72 miles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kabetogama Lake Visitor Center</td>
<td>Ash River Visitor Center</td>
<td>17 miles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kabetogama Lake Visitor Center</td>
<td>Crane Lake Ranger Station</td>
<td>67 miles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rainy Lake Visitor Center</td>
<td>Kabetogama Lake Visitor Center</td>
<td>36 miles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rainy Lake Visitor Center</td>
<td>Ash River Visitor Center</td>
<td>48 miles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rainy Lake Visitor Center</td>
<td>Crane Lake Ranger Station</td>
<td>103 miles</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
General Park Regulations & Things to Know

Protect
Do not destroy or collect natural or cultural resources in the park. For example, do not collect, damage, or destroy any plants, animals, rocks, artifacts, historic objects, driftwood, flowers, or pine cones.

You may harvest up to one gallon of berries for personal consumption.

Pets
Are allowed on a leash in developed areas (around visitor centers, boat launch ramps, picnic areas, campsites), on the four main lakes, and along park entrance roads.

Pets are NOT allowed on park trails (except the Rainy Lake Recreation Trail) or in the backcountry. This rule is in place to protect park wildlife and your pet.

Wildlife
Do not harass or feed wildlife. Observe wildlife quietly from a distance. Do not disturb wildlife, especially breeding or nesting birds, or adult animals with young.

Quiet Hours
10:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m.

Campfires
Do not use a camp stove or build campfires in established metal fire rings or existing rock rings. Never leave a fire unattended. Drown and stir all campfires with water. If ashes are still warm to the touch, they may still start a fire. Collecting wood for campfires is allowed only if the wood is DEAD and DOWNED.

Do not cut down any tree in the park, living or dead, for firewood.

Chainsaws are prohibited except when being used to cut ice fishing holes.

Do not burn trash.

Day Use
Visitors may stop and enjoy Day Use sites throughout the park.

Visitors may not stay overnight at a Day Use site. These sites are marked with a picnic table icon on National Geographic Maps.

Amenities at these sites include a picnic table, fire ring, and privy.

Day Use is allowed at reservable tent sites between the hours of noon and 2:00 p.m. if the site is not occupied.

Day Use is not allowed at Houseboat sites.

Arms
Firearms are typically allowed in the park with some exceptions. It is the visitor’s responsibility to understand and comply with all applicable state, local, and Federal firearms laws.

See https://www.nps.gov/voya/learn/management/firearm-regulations.htm for complete information on firearms.

Black Bears
Visitors are often surprised to discover bears will swim from place to place. While black bears are found throughout the park, by nature, they do not seek out people.

Always remember to keep your distance when encountering a bear. Here’s how you can have a safe and enjoyable visit:

All food, garbage, scented items, and equipment used to cook, needs to be stored in a vehicle, metal bear-proof food locker, or hung 10-feet high and 4-feet out from a pole or tree.

Coolers will not protect food from black bears. Bears are strong, and placing a rock or other heavy item atop your cooler will not keep them out.

Improperly stored food has drawn bears to campsites and houseboats, resulting in property damage and an increased risk to human safety.

Closures
Respect public use closures. Check at visitor centers and boat launch ramp bulletin boards for areas that have been closed to protect visitors, wildlife, and other sensitive resources. Closed areas are posted with signs. When in doubt, ask a park ranger.

Hunting
Hunting is not allowed.

Customs
Know Canadian and U.S. Customs and fishing regulations before you cross the border.

Canadian customs: (807) 274-3655 and United States customs: (218) 283-0769.

Closures
Respect public use closures. Check at visitor centers and boat launch ramp bulletin boards for areas that have been closed to protect visitors, wildlife, and other sensitive resources. Closed areas are posted with signs. When in doubt, ask a park ranger.

Filleted Fish
When fishing in or traveling on Kabetogama, Namakan, Sand Point, and Rainy Lakes, you cannot possess filleted fish because these lakes are classified as experimental waters.

Minnesota fishing regulations state “when on or fishing experimental, special, border, or other waters with size restrictions different from the statewide regulations, all fish for which that regulation applies must have their heads, tails, fins, and skin intact.”

If you are camping in the park and want to bring fish home, the fish must stay measurable until you reach the boat landing.

There are two ways to do this:
1) gut and gill the fish to keep them measurable.
2) bring a live box to keep your fish alive until you plan to leave.

Live fish can be transported, and when you get off the water, they can be filleted at that time.

Overnight Stays
All tent and Houseboat camping requires an advanced reservation prior to arrival at the park.

Visitors may make a reservation by going on-line at www. Recreation.gov or by calling the National Call Center at (877) 444-6777.

Boating Guidelines
Minnesota state law requires all watercraft (including canoes and kayaks) to have one wearable United States Coast Guard (USCG) approved personal flotation device (PFD) on board and accessible for each person.

The State of Minnesota requires all children under 10 years of age to wear a life jacket when in a recreational boat.

When swimming around or behind boats, always make certain engines and generators are turned off to prevent toxic gas exposure.

When moving, passengers should be seated. Riding on the bow or gunwale is prohibited.

Boating Checklist
• A wearable life preserver readily accessible per person
• Type IV throwable cushion
• Navigation maps
• Navigation lights at night
• Whistle or horn
• Anchor and paddles or oars
• Spare propeller
• Flashlight and first aid kit

Emergencies
Call 911, cellular phones may not work in the park, phones are located near all visitor centers, and park rangers monitor marine band 16 for emergencies during business hours.
Did You Know...

Ranger Tips!

When traveling in and through Voyageurs National Park remember to take these precautions for a safe and enjoyable visit.

*Ticks are present in the park including ticks that harbor Lyme’s disease. Park staff recommend you wear long pants while hiking through tall grass and check your body each night.

*Mosquitoes are present in Voyageurs with the highest concentration during the spring and heavy rain seasons. Mosquitoes can transfer West Nile Virus. Wear repellent, long sleeves, and long pants to decrease contact.

*Black flies are present in the park, typically two weeks in June and then again in August. The best defense against black flies is to wear long sleeves and long pants.

You Too Can Volunteer at Voyageurs

Volunteers-In-Parks (VIPs)

You Make A Difference

In 2016, 108 volunteers donated over 13,708 hours of service to Voyageurs. Volunteers maintain trails, help with research, and assist park visitors.

Opportunities to volunteer range from one day projects for a few hours to multi-month assignments. Together, we improve the facilities, the water, and the wildlife for all to enjoy.

To learn more about volunteering, contact the park’s volunteer coordinator at (218) 283-6636, or visit the park’s website: www.nps.gov/voya/getinvolved/volunteer.htm

Opportunities

Ethno-botanical Garden

Assist with maintaining the Ethno-botanical Garden at the Rainy Lake Visitor Center. Learn the botany of the area and educate visitors on invasive species and native plants.

For local volunteers, hours are flexible in the summer, usually a few hours a week. Long term summer opportunities also exist, and RV hookups may be available.

Headquarters Assistant

Volunteer at the park headquarters in International Falls. Assist with different projects from data entry, to brochure creation. Hours are flexible, generally one day a week for a few hours.

Visitor Center Volunteer

If you enjoy meeting new people and providing information, this may be the position for you.

For local volunteers, hours are flexible, filling in at a visitor center when needed. Volunteers are needed year round for the Rainy Lake Visitor Center and during the summer for the Kabetogama and Ash River Visitor Centers. Long term summer opportunities also exist and park housing or RV hookups may be available.

Website Assistant Volunteer

Volunteer from home! Assist with updating web information, layout, and page development. Hours are flexible, generally one day a week for a few hours. You would work closely with park staff and receive web management training as needed. Prior web experience is preferred but not mandatory.

Loon Survey Volunteer

Help monitor the park’s loon population! Spend a day on the water observing loon habitat, nests, and young. Surveys usually occur in Late August.

Fall Rendezvous

Every September volunteers from across the state gather for a two-day work blitz sponsored by Voyageurs National Park Association (VNPA).

Projects range from trail clearing, to native plant restoration, to building maintenance. Learn more about this community event at www.voyageurs.org/volunteer-rendezvous/

Don’t Get Caught in the Weather!

The weather can change rapidly and severely in Voyageurs country. Park rangers remind you to come prepared.

During the summer, when thunderstorms are most active, make sure to seek protection when on the water. Boat to a location behind islands and wait thunderstorms out in safe harbors.

During the spring and fall avoid prolonged exposure to wind and cold as conditions for hypothermia are present this time of year.

Check conditions at visitor centers before heading onto the water or ice so you are not caught off guard.

The average high temperature in July is 79 F, the low is 54 F. The average low temperature in February is -1 F, the high is 22 F.

Hike to Health

Voyageurs National Park promotes a healthy lifestyle by encouraging people to get outside and be active with the Hike to Health: Trails Passport Program.

To get started, visit any of the three park visitor centers to pick up a Trails Passport and trail map.

Head out on any of the park’s 19 trails, locate the trail rubbering posted along each trail, and etch it into your passport.

Once you have completed 5, 10, and all trails, bring your passport filled with rubbings back to a visitor center to receive special recognition.

Hike to Health

The average low temperature in July is 54 F, the high is 82 F. The average high temperature in February is -1 F, the low is 22 F.
Rainy Lake, Ranier & International Falls

Kabetogama Lake

Crane Lake

Local Accommodations
Your Guide to Voyageurs National Park

Local Accommodations

**Ash River**
Ash River Information Center, Orr, MN 55771, (800) 777-4690, www.orrpelicanlake.com

**Orr**

Orr Pelican Lake Resort Association, PO Box 144, Orr, MN 55771, (800) 777-4690, www.orrpelicanlake.com

Commercial Services

**Rainy Lake**

**Kabetogama Lake & Ash River**

American Park Tours
(612) 950-1297
Kabetogama Lake X

Ariens Lodge & Resort
(218) 374-2141
Kabetogama Lake X X X X X X

Border Guide Service LLC
(218) 324-2430
Saxwepark.com Kabetogama Lake X X X X X X

Driftwood Lodge Resort
(218) 374-3841
driftwoodlodge.com Kabetogama Lake X X

Ebel’s Voyageur Houseboats
(218) 374-2571
abebo.com Ash River X

Fred’s Voyager Tours
(219) 222-2222
frentz.com X

Granger Guide Service
(218) 454-3841
km-guide.com X

Havvy’s Guide Service
(218) 286-5077
Rainy Lake X

In-Seine Fishing, L.L.C
(218) 286-5676
Rainy Lake X X

Kabetogama Angling Adventures
(218) 374-2057
www.kabetogamaangling.com Kabetogama Lake X

Kabetogama Canoe Outfitters
(218) 454-3841
kabetogamaoutfitters.com Kabetogama Lake X

Kabetogama Canoe & Outfitters
(218) 374-2057
www.kabetogamaangling.com Kabetogama Lake X

Kabetogama Lodge
(218) 374-2141
kabetogamalodge.com Kabetogama Lake X

Lake of the Woods Canoe Outfitters
(218) 454-3841
km-guide.com X

Lakeur Salmon Lake Outfitters
(218) 286-5077
Rainy Lake X

Lodge Bay Lodge & Resort
(218) 374-2057
www.lodgebaylodge.com Kabetogama Lake X

Loon Bay Lodge & Resort
(218) 374-2141
www.loonbaylodge.com Kabetogama Lake X X X X X

Loon Bay Lodge & Resort
(218) 374-2141
www.loonbaylodge.com Kabetogama Lake X

One Doggie’s Guide Service
(218) 875-2412
Rainy Lake X X

Pine Tree Cove
(218) 240-1092
pinetreecove.com Kabetogama Lake X X

Pine Tree Cove
(218) 240-1092
pinetreecoveresort.com Kabetogama Lake X X

Private Tour Lodge
(218) 374-2057
www.privatearcticlodge.com Kabetogama Lake X

Rainy Lake Outfitters Inc.
(218) 374-2057
www.rainylakeangling.com Kabetogama Lake X X X X

Rainy Lake Canoe Outfitters
(218) 374-2057
www.rainylakecanoe.com X

Rainy Lake Angling
(218) 374-2141
kabetogamalodge.com X X X X X X

Rainy Lake Angling & Sight-Seeing Tours
(218) 374-4660
www.rainylakeangling.com Rainy Lake, Rainy Lake, Rainy Lake

Rainy Lake Canoe & Outfitter
(218) 286-5397
kabetogamalodge.com Kabetogama Lake

Rainy Lake Lodge
(218) 875-2412
Rainy Lake X

Redhead Lodge & Resort
(218) 374-2057
www.redheadlodge.com Kabetogama Lake

Shoreline Lodge
(218) 374-2057
www.shorelinelodgeresort.com Kabetogama Lake

Silver Fox Lodge
(218) 374-2057
www.silverfoxlodge.com Kabetogama Lake X

Shoreline Lodge & Resort
(218) 374-2057
www.shorelinelodgeresort.com Kabetogama Lake

Tomahawk Resort
(218) 374-2057
www.tomahawkresort.com Kabetogama Lake X

Trent Carlson’s Guide Service
(218) 875-2811
trenciahrresort.com X

Travis Carlson’s Guide Service
(218) 875-2091
trenciahrresort.com X

Windy Lake Resort
(218) 374-2057
www.windyhubrückresort.com Kabetogama Lake X

Windjammer Lodge & Resort
(218) 374-2057
www.windjammerlodge.com Kabetogama Lake X

Wood’s Canoe Outfitters
(218) 454-3841
km-guide.com X

Wood’s Canoe Outfitters
(218) 454-3841
km-guide.com X

Windy Lake Resort
(218) 454-5077
fairlyreliable.com Rainy Lake X X X X X

X:
Commercial services that are authorized to provide services within Voyageurs National Park.
Your Guide to Voyageurs National Park

**Park Partners**

**Voyageurs National Park Association (VNPA)**

Voyageurs National Park Association helped to establish Voyageurs National Park over 40 years ago. Today, VNPA serves as the park’s Friends group – a charitable partner organization dedicated to building a community of people committed to the future of Voyageurs National Park.

VNPA’s mission is to connect people to Voyageurs National Park, enhance the visitor experience, and protect the park for present and future generations. It stays with us in everything we do, from rehabilitating the Cruiser Lake Trail and helping the park restore wetlands, to giving diverse youth the opportunity to visit Voyageurs for the first time through the National Park Teen Ambassador program. In 2016, we were honored with an NPS Director’s Partnership Champion Award.

We are passionate about this beautiful place and want to connect with others who are too. Tell us what drew you here, become a member, join us at the annual Volunteer Rendezvous (September 15-16, 2017), or follow us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram at @VoyageursNPA.

VNPA relies on support from individuals like you. If you love Voyageurs you can give back at Voyageurs.org/donate.

**Heart of the Continent Partnership (HOCP)**

HOCP is a coalition of land managers and diverse local stakeholders working together on cross-border projects. These projects promote the natural, cultural, and economic health of the lakes, forests and communities on the Minnesota - Ontario border. Our mission is to sustain and celebrate the health, beauty, diversity, and productivity of the natural and cultural resources of the border lakes.

**Jefferson National Parks Association (JNPA)**

JNPA is honored to be a non-profit partner and operates three stores at the park – Rainy Lake, Kabetogama Lake, and Ash River Visitor Centers. We offer unique educational products and park memorabilia for all ages. From replica 19th century accessories worn by voyageurs of the North Woods, to books, toys, and collectibles. Visitors are sure to find special items at our stores. Shop online: www.shop.jnpa.com.

JNPA is proud to help spread awareness about the park and its events. The proceeds from the sales of our products support a wide variety of educational programs, exhibits, and events at Voyageurs. JNPA has operated visitor center stores and provided educational programs for national parks, historic sites, and public lands across the country since 1961. Visit www.jnpa.com.

**Rendezvous Sponsors**

Arrowhead Lodge & Resort
Ash Trail Lodge
Coca Cola Bottling
Company of International Falls
International Dental Arts
Kettle Falls Resort & Inn
Pine Tree Cove Resort & Gateway General
WoodsPort Cottages
VFW Post 2948