



The Rendezvous

*Your Guide to
Voyageurs National Park*



Photo: Scott Spangler,
VNPA Photo Contest Entry

What's New in 2019

Park staff constantly strive to improve Voyageurs National Park's visitor experience. Whether you're new to Voyageurs, or a returning visitor, here are some of the ways to enjoy your visit in 2019:

New and improved Recreation.gov website:

- An interactive map feature for locating and choosing campsites in the park
- Media galleries, where visitors can view large photos of campsites, houseboat sites, and cruises.

Ellsworth Rock Gardens:

- Accessible trail
- New dock
- New interpretive media

Oveson's Fish Camp

- New dock, picnic area, walking path, and interpretive media

Programs

- New ranger-guided boat tour on Rainy Lake. Learn what it takes to make a living on Rainy Lake on this 2-hour long tour with a stop at Harry Oveson Fish Camp.
- Evening Kettle Falls Cruise



Getting the Most Out of Your Visit

A Vast, Water-based Park

Voyageurs is more than 218,000 acres and over 38% of the surface of the park is covered with water. While a watercraft is desired to experience the park, it is not the only way to experience this vast ecosystem rich in culture and natural history. Here are some tips to help you get the most out of your visit.

If you have an hour....

Visit any of the park's visitor centers. Watch the 12 minute-long park movie and explore the exhibits. Enjoy the view across Rainy or Kabetogama Lakes from outside the visitor center. Browse the Jefferson National Parks Association bookstore for that perfect keepsake of your visit to Voyageurs National Park before you depart.

If you have 2 hours....

Consider a hike on either the 1.2 mile round-trip Sullivan Bay Trail near the Ash River Visitor Center or the 1.7 mile round-trip Oberholtzer Trail near the Rainy Lake Visitor Center.

If you have 1/2 day....

This is your chance to experience Voyageurs National Park from the water. Watch for wildlife on a ranger-led boat tour. If you're feeling especially adventurous, consider seeing the park the way the voyageurs did, while paddling a 26-foot North Canoe. For tour times see the program schedule on page 3.

If you have a full day....

Consider the Kettle Falls Cruise boat tour out of the Kabetogama Lake Visitor Center. This 5.5 hour tour can be reserved in advance at Recreation.gov. It explores the waters of Kabetogama and Namakan Lakes and gives participants 2-hours at Kettle Falls to explore the area and enjoy lunch at the historic hotel. If you want to stretch your legs after your tour, go for a short hike. Sullivan Bay Trail near the Ash River Visitor Center makes a great option.

If you have 2 or more days....

The possibilities are nearly endless. Sign up for a ranger-led canoe tour and a ranger-led boat tour. Hike one of the park's longer trails like the Blind Ash Bay Trail. Consider hiring a fishing guide to help you land a lunger walleye or maybe rent a canoe or kayak from a gateway resort to paddle park waters on your own.



Photos: Ben Kucera (top), Sanford Paek (bottom).
VNPA Photo Contest Entries

2019 Ranger-Led Program Schedule

Call Ahead. Programs are subject-to-change.

Rainy Lake Visitor Center

Program	Date	Day	Time	Fee
Grand Tour	June 16 - Aug. 31	Su, Tu, W, F, Sa	2 - 4:30 pm	Adult: \$30 Child: \$15 Toddler: \$3
Life on the Lake Tour	June 19 - Aug. 31	Su, W, Sa	11 am - 1 pm	Adult: \$25 Child: \$15 Toddler: \$3
North Canoe Voyage	June 27 - Aug. 15 *no tour July 4	Th	10 - 11:30 am	Free
Explore Black Bay by Canoe	June 25 - Aug. 16	Tu, F	10 am - noon	Free
Ethno-Botanical Garden Walk	June 16 - Aug. 31	Daily	1 - 1:30 pm	Free

Kabetogama Lake Visitor Center

Program	Date	Day	Time	Fee
Kettle Falls Day Cruise	June 17 - Aug. 30	M, Tu, F	10 am - 3:30 pm	Adult: \$40 Child: \$20 Toddler: \$3
Kettle Falls Evening Cruise	June 20 - Aug. 29	Th	3:30 - 9 pm	Adult: \$40 Child: \$20 Toddler: \$3
Ellsworth Rock Gardens Cruise	June 20 - Aug. 29	Th	1 - 2:30 pm	Adult: \$25 Child: \$15 Toddler: \$3
North Canoe Voyage	June 26 - Aug. 21	W	9:30 - 11 am 1 - 2:30 pm	Free
Become a Voyageur	July 7 - Aug. 24	Su, Sa	1 - 2 pm	Free

Reservations for boat tours can be made through Recreation.gov, or by calling (877) 444-6777.

Boat tour ticket sales end 30-minutes prior to departure. Discounts with Senior, Military, or Access Passes must be made at the time of the reservation through recreation.gov and not at the visitor center.

Reservations for canoe tours can be made by calling the visitor center through which the tour is offered.

- Rainy Lake Visitor Center: (218) 286-5258
- Kabetogama Lake Visitor Center: (218) 875-2111

Exploring Voyageurs on Foot

Without getting out onto the water, perhaps the best way to explore Voyageurs National Park is from one of its mainland hiking trails. Here are some ranger recommendations for some of their favorite hikes in the park.



Sullivan Bay Trail

Looking for a short hike over mostly level terrain with a rewarding view at the end? Sullivan Bay might be just the one. Traversing a former road bed, this 1.2 mile round-trip hike features a wonderful overlook of Sullivan Bay. As an added bonus, the overlook makes a wonderful picnic site. There is a picnic table, along with a firepit/grill.



Hike to Health Program

This free program encourages participants of all ages a healthy lifestyle while exploring Minnesota's only national park. To get started, pick up a passport and trail map at any of the park's three visitor centers.

Each trail has a raised trail marker. Take your passport and a crayon or pencil with you when you hike to make a rubbing of each marker in your passport. After you've hiked 5, 10, or all of the trails in the park, bring your passport to one of the visitor centers to receive a special stamp and recognition.



Oberholtzer Trail

If you have some time before a boat tour out of the Rainy Lake Visitor Center, or you are just looking for an easy hike through a peaceful forest with some views across a wetlands, then the 1.7 mile round-trip Oberholtzer Trail is for you. The first quarter-mile is barrier free and a good option for those with limited mobility or children in strollers. Beyond the accessible portion of the trail are narrow bridges, stairs and a few sections of trail with uneven surfaces.



Blind Ash Bay Trail



If you are looking for a slightly longer hiking option by land, the three mile round-trip Blind Ash Bay Trail is recommended. Highlights of this trail include a beautiful red pine forest and multiple views across both Kabetogama Lake and the trail's namesake, Blind Ash Bay.