

ELY CANOE ROUTES

C.L. SOMMERS CANOE BASE

Following are some typical canoe routes both for the Quetico Provincial Park and for the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness. Many other routes are possible. Both areas are beautiful and similar in terrain. One of your first choices to make is to decide in which area your crew wishes to travel. Please check the information in the Expedition Planning Guide and the Resource CD to help you make your choice.

Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness Routes FROM ELY

Route Name: Bear Loop

Location: BWCAW

Entry Point: Moose Lake

Shuttle: None Required

Distance: 55 miles

Longest Portage: 105 Rods (.3 mile)

Number of Portages: 27

Maps Required: Fisher F10, F11

Main Features: Eddy Falls, Variety, July 4th blow down area, mostly short portages, Eagle's Nest on point between Newfound and Sucker Lake, Wisini Hilton campsite, pictographs on Jordan, Isle of Pines (Dorothy Molter's former homestead site)

Difficulty: Moderate

Itinerary:

Moose Lake, Newfound Lake, Splash Lake, Ensign Lake, Ashigan Lake, Gibson Lake, Cattyman Lake, Jordan Lake, Ima Lake, Hatchet Lake, Thomas Lake, Fraser Lake, Gerund Lake, Ahmakose Lake, Wisini Lake, Strup Lake, Kekekabic Lake, Pickle Lake, Spoon Lake, Bonnie Lake, Knife Lake, Carp Lake, Birch Lake, Sucker Lake, Newfound Lake, Moose Lake

Route Description:

This is a popular route with our crews and has many variations. It is very suitable for shorter treks. The route can be reversed, changed, extended, or shortened in many ways. You will be likely to see lots of groups on this route and you should plan to get a campsite early. It is a pretty area and well suited for short trips or crews new to canoe tripping. This loop is very representative of the BWCAW and offers a lot of variety.



Route Name: Bear Trap River Loop

Location: BWCAW

Entry Point: Moose Lake

Shuttle: None Required

Distance: 90 Miles

Longest Portage: 340 Rods (1.1 mile)

Number of Portages: 22

Maps Required: Fisher F9, F10, F16, F17

Main Features: Pictographs, Waterfalls, and Rivers

Difficulty: Moderate to Strenuous (moderate for a 10 day trek, strenuous for 8-9 day treks)

Itinerary: Moose Lake, Wind Lake, Basswood Lake (Wind Bay, Hoist Bay, Back Bay, Pipestone Bay, Jackfish Bay), Sandpit Lake, Mudro Lake, Fourtown Lake, Boot Lake, Fairy Lake, Gun Lake, Gull Lake, Thunder Lake, Beartrap Lake, Beartrap River, Sunday Lake, Beartrap River, Iron Lake, Crooked Lake, Basswood River, Basswood Lake (Merriam Bay, Bailey Bay, Inlet Bay), Sucker Lake, Newfound Lake, Moose Lake

