

# Ignace Outposts

## Guest Handbook 2019

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Evan & Thia Stewart

In keeping with our fine tradition of Canadian hospitality, we wish to welcome you. Ignace Outposts offers outstanding accommodations, personal service, and tremendous value for your dollar, and of course, quality wilderness fishing. This information packet has been prepared to enhance your vacation with us. If we can help you any further in your preparations, please feel free to contact us. Phone 1-807-934-2273; email [flyin@ignaceoutposts.com](mailto:flyin@ignaceoutposts.com)

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## 1. Before You Leave Home

On a fly-in vacation such as we offer it is important not to over pack. Due to government regulations, safety and just plain common sense, we do not overload our aircraft. The manufacturer's recommendations are followed. **We will weigh loads.** Regulations require we also weigh our passengers. We will try to do this as a group but on occasion you may be weighed separately. In light of this, we recommend you plan your packing carefully. **We allow 100 lbs per person on our fishing packages - no exceptions.** There is a fee for weight in excess of 100 lbs per person. If you really need extra stuff, be prepared to pay for the extra weight.

### 1.1. Items to Bring

If possible please pack your personal gear in one or two small duffel or gym bags. Please do not use suitcases. Your food and other supplies should be packed in sturdy boxes. Cardboard or plastic boxes are great and the boxes should have lids. Please, no coffin sized boxes or coolers. Remember your gear and supplies must be carried to the dock and to the cabin. They must also fit into the airplane without having to make a new door or hire extra staff to lift them. You may also require the same boxes to bring extra stuff out. With a little planning you will not need to bring more than necessary. ***If it takes more than one man to lift or carry it – it is too big!***

If you want to fly in a few items ahead of time, just let us know and we can pick up your beer, soda or other grocery items and have them at the camp waiting for you.

#### 1.1.1. Personal Items

- a couple of rods and reels - Rods should be broken down and packed in rod cases that are no longer than 6 ½ feet or more than 7 inches in diameter. Buy a lightweight rod tube from your favourite sporting goods store. Individual rods must be reel-less and hook-less.
- spare line
- tackle box (don't bring tackle for fish you won't be catching)
- mosquito repellent and/or mosquito net head cover
- sunglasses
- compass or GPS
- pillow
- sleeping bag
- towel and facecloth plus soap, etc.
- camera, spare battery and empty data card
- filet knife and whet stone
- personal flotation device approved in your home state (these are mandatory)
- rain gear
- clothing appropriate for season
- personal items (prescriptions, toiletries, shaving kit)
- angling license can be purchased online at [ontario.ca/outdoorscard](http://ontario.ca/outdoorscard)

### 1.1.2. Group Items

- coolers
- food (coordinate a master food plan/menu; sample list follows)
- beverages (please no bottled beer – cans only)
- a couple of good flashlights and at least one lantern (battery powered)
- snacks
- alarm clock
- first aid kit (sample list follows)
- small tool kit
- toilet paper
- dish towels and dish cloths
- deck of cards and crib board
- waterproof matches

### 1.1.3. First Aid Kit

Pack these items in a tackle box or something similar. Assign someone in the group to be responsible for the kit and that every one knows where it is. Tape a contents list on the inside of the lid. You may want to indicate what some items are used for. The best situation is to ensure someone in the group has a current first aid certificate.

**Please ensure everyone in the group has their own personal medication** including things like antacid, aspirin and prescription medicines that travel with them on their flight. Please be sure you have all your prescription medication before you go into the bush. Extra medicine is advisable in the event there is a delay in getting out of the bush. If someone in the group has a particular condition such as diabetes or a heart condition, another person in the group should be instructed in the proper method of administering medication, in the event the person becomes incapacitated.

Here are some ideas for a personal/group first aid kit.

- hydrogen peroxide to clean wounds
- bandages
- sterile gauze and sterile ointment
- Steri-strips to use in lieu of stitches
- an eye cup, sterile rinse and ointment for eye related injuries
- pain killers
- antacid, laxative and antidiarrheal
- antihistamine, in case someone reacts to food or an insect bite
- toothache gel
- tweezers and scissors and plyers (quality ones)
- first aid manual
- suntan lotion
- Solarcaine or similar for sunburn
- anti-itch cream

## 1.2. Sample Food List

### STAPLES

sm salt  
sm pepper  
flour  
sugar  
coffee (instant or reg)  
tea bags

### BREADS

loaves of bread - white  
loaves of bread - brown  
hamburger buns  
hot dog buns  
pancake mix  
soda crackers  
Shake'n Bake (fish)  
breakfast cereal

### BOTTLED GOODS

pancake syrup  
pickles  
mustard  
mayonnaise  
ketchup  
tartar sauce  
cooking oil

### BEVERAGES

soda  
juices  
beer  
liquor

### CANNED GOODS

jam  
evaporated milk  
soup  
peas  
corn  
pears  
peaches  
pork and beans  
tomato juice  
orange juice  
canned ham  
apple sauce

### PRODUCE

lettuce  
tomatoes  
apples  
oranges  
potatoes  
onions  
lemons

### SNACKS

cookies  
potato chips  
chocolate bars  
pretzels  
candy  
peanuts

### DRY GOODS

matches  
pic coils  
hand/bath soap  
dish soap  
SOS pads  
paper towel  
toilet paper  
paper plates  
tin foil

### MEATS

bacon  
ground beef  
wieners  
pork chops  
steaks  
cut up chicken  
sandwich meats  
hamburger patties

### DAIRY PRODUCTS

eggs  
milk  
butter  
cheese

#### \* Note \*

For your cooking convenience, our cabins have gas ranges with ovens, refrigerators, bbq and outside deep fryers. All pots and pans, cooking utensils and dishes are provided at the cabin

### 1.3. Items not to bring

- More than 100 lbs of stuff - beer, water and pop are the items which will quickly put you over your weight
- Bottled beer - cans only, please
- 120 volt electrical appliances (hair dryer, TV etc)
- Bait buckets and landing nets - we provide these
- Pellet guns, hand guns, shot guns - these won't stop a bear and may just make him angry

#### 1.3.1. Items restricted to Air Travel

Canada follows international rules regarding dangerous goods carried on aircraft. You can not show up to a Delta flight with a lead acid battery, similarly you cannot do it here either. The obligation is not for us to guess what you might have. Legally you must declare any restricted or prohibited items. There are many items restricted to travel by air.

- strike anywhere matches
- lead acid batteries
- aerosol cans
- bear spray
- white gas/naphtha gas lanterns. Please bring battery powered lanterns instead. If in doubt please contact us about these items.

Here are some web sites to help you in planning what is allowed on board the aircraft:

Canadian Air Transport Security Authority

[catsa-acsta.gc.ca/complete-item-list](https://catsa-acsta.gc.ca/complete-item-list)

AirCanada

[aircanada.com/en/travelinfo/airport/baggage/security.html](https://aircanada.com/en/travelinfo/airport/baggage/security.html)

These and other helpful online resources can be found on our website [ignaceoutposts.com](https://ignaceoutposts.com). Click the PLANNING then RESOURCES menu options.

## 2. Travel Plans

It is advisable that you contact us a week or so before your departure from home to advise us of your arrival date and time and to ensure there are no surprises ahead. I hate to say it, but we've had guests show up on wrong dates simply because of travel plan mix-ups. It certainly helps in our flight scheduling to know when you plan to arrive.

Access to Ignace Outposts' base is quite simple. We are located just off the Trans-Canada Hwy on Lakeshore Dr in the town of Ignace, Ontario. Aside of a shortcut or highway construction, your travel will be on paved road right to our driveway. ***If by chance you are delayed on route, please contact us by phone to let us know your new estimated time of arrival.***

## 2.1. Travel Tips:

- Note your travel time, planned route and points of interest along the way.
- Leave a copy of your itinerary at home with a list of party members and contact information as well as our phone number and names.
- Be sure to have a valid drivers' license, vehicle registration and insurance.
- Have some Canadian money (cash) for incidentals along the way.
- AAA is a good investment when traveling in a foreign country.
- Use of headlights while driving (even in the day) is recommended.
- Canadian speed limits are posted in kilometers per hour (km) not miles per hour.
- Canadian stamps must be used when mailing from Canada.

## 2.2. Customs

Canada Customs Fort Frances Bridge: 807-274-3655; Pigeon River (Thunder Bay): 807-964-2093. If you have customs questions please call, the appropriate Customs office.

***If you or a party member have had a criminal conviction in the past i.e. Impaired Driving charge, please contact the Canada Customs office you are planning to pass through for admissibility requirements and/or restrictions.***

- Passports are required for citizens of the United States to re-enter the United States so it is highly advisable that you acquire a passport well in advance of your trip.
- Each person of legal drinking age (19 in Ontario) is allowed to bring into the country one case of 24 beer or 40 oz bottle of hard liquor or 1 litre of wine without paying duty.
- Persons 18 years of age and under not accompanied by a parent should have a letter from parents or guardian(s) giving them permission to enter Canada.
- Each person over the age of 16 may bring one carton (200) cigarettes.
- Each person is allowed to bring a reasonable amount of groceries for their stay.
- Handguns and pepper spray are PROHIBITED over the border.
- Live swimming bait (minnows and leaches) is not allowed over the border. Worms must be in bus bedding, no dirt.
- Be sure to declare all items being brought into Canada
- Be polite and truthful to the customs officers (this will help expedite your border crossing).
- Note date, time, location, and custom officer badge number in the event a negative experience warrants reporting.

## 2.3. Medical Services

Canadian hospital and medical services are excellent but rates vary. Therefore we recommend you have traveler's health insurance. Some health plans do not cover services outside the US. Please check your policy for coverage in Canada.

If you are taking medicine prescribed by a doctor, please bring a copy of your prescription in the event it needs to be renewed. And please bring your medicine with you.

## 3. On Your Way

### 3.1. Important

- It is the law in Ontario to wear your seatbelts
- Radar detectors are illegal.
- Cell phones do not always work in our area. Providers are constantly upgrading adding towers but do not expect complete coverage along your route.

### 3.2. Getting to Us by Air

For private aircraft or small carrier charters, Ignace airport (CZUC) has a 3500' paved strip and is unattended with no services. As we are in uncontrolled airspace use mandatory frequency at 122.8 to alert other air traffic of your location and intent. Scheduled air service is available nearest us in Thunder Bay (YQT), International Falls (INL). Have members of your party pick you up on their way or rent a vehicle, or hire a taxi van for transport on to Ignace. As airlines continue to change routes, please contact us directly for options from your location.

### 3.3. Getting to Us by Road

#### 3.3.1. Through Pigeon River/Thunder Bay

From Duluth, MN, take Hwy 61 north from Duluth, about 3 ½ hours to the border. Continue on Hwy 61 toward Thunder Bay (or by pass Thunder Bay below) Just past the Thunder Bay airport (next lights) take Arthur St west, left at the lights. Arthur St will become Hwy 130 W. When you reach Hwy 11/17 turn left heading west thru Kakebeka Falls. At Shabaqua, continue straight on Hwy 17 toward Dryden and Kenora. You will pass through Raith, Upsala and English River. As you arrive in Ignace from the east, you'll come down a large hill and pass Tower Hill Truck stop and the North Woods Motor Inn. Continue on the highway through the community. Just as the speed limit increases on the west side of town, you'll see the sign for Lakeshore Dr and Ignace Outposts and Airways. Turn left on Lakeshore Dr. We are 1/4 mile down this road on the right.

#### 3.3.2. Bypassing Thunder Bay

If you wish to by pass Thunder Bay, about 24 miles north of the border watch for Hwy 130. Turn left (NW) and continue north to Barrie Dr. Turn left (W) to River Road. Turn right (N) to Highway 17 then left (W) toward Kakabeka Falls. (approx 35 mi)\*.

At Shabaqua, continue straight on Hwy 17 toward Dryden and Kenora. You will pass through Raith, Upsala and English River.

As you arrive in Ignace from the east, you'll come down a large hill and pass Tower Hill Truck stop and the North Woods Motor Inn. Continue on the highway through the community. Just as the speed limit increases on the west side of town, you'll see the sign for Lakeshore Dr and Ignace Outposts and Airways.

Turn left on Lakeshore Dr. We are less than 1 mile down this road on the right.

### **3.3.3. Through International Falls**

From Duluth/Superior take Hwy 53 north to International Falls, MN

Clear customs into Fort Frances

Follow Hwy 11 East about 12 miles to Hwy 502 North to Dryden (80 miles)

Through Dryden follow signs to Hwy 17 East

Head east to Ignace (about 65 miles)

Watch for Lakeshore Dr and the Ignace Outposts & Airways sign just as the speed limit drops for the community.

Turn right (South) on Lakeshore Dr. We are about a mile down the road on the right.

### **3.3.4. Fort Frances to Ignace short-cut (saves about 40 minutes but requires 40 miles of gravel road)**

Once through customs into Fort Frances, continue east on Hwy 11 past Hwy 502 and Mine Center (about 38 miles) to Manion Lake Rd (7 miles further).

Turn left on Manion Lake Road and continue on the main road for about 40 miles to Hwy 622. Don't take any side roads.

Turn left (N) on Hwy 622 for about 30 miles to Hwy 17.

Turn right (E) on Hwy 17 for 20 miles to Lakeshore Dr on the west side of Ignace.

### **3.4. Distances in Miles from Ignace**

Chicago – 800 miles

Milwaukee – 720 miles

Minneapolis/St Paul – 480 miles

Fort Frances – 180 miles

Thunder Bay – 150 miles

## **4. Your Arrival**

### **4.1. Arriving in Ignace**

If possible, we request you arrive in Ignace early in the morning on your date of departure. Many guests prefer to arrive the night before and get a good night's rest at a local hotel before they fly out (remember, you are on vacation). Our normal flight schedule begins at 7 am. To be able to depart at this time, we request you arrange to arrive at our base prior to this time. Normally we can give you a good idea of your proposed departure time about a week ahead of your fly out date. Generally, our scheduling is based on a first in first out basis; however, this policy is not cast in stone due to weather or other unforeseen circumstances. Fridays and Saturdays are very busy and sometimes delays are unavoidable.

When you arrive at our base, check in at the office. Please don't just start unloading your stuff near an aircraft. Our staff will direct you to our scales and we'll give you an approximate departure time. All party members must present themselves in the office to register with us. We will give you a briefing on your lake and help you arrange any last minute needs.

Your balance owing will be due upon arrival at our office. If you arrive early we can take care of the “paper work” at this time. We accept cash, money order, bank draft, traveler’s check, VISA and Master Card for payment of your trip. We accept personal cheques only for deposit. All of our rates are in CDN\$. Any incidentals charged while you are in camp can be paid upon your return to Ignace from camp.

We suggest you leave your vehicle keys with us to prevent their loss and to facilitate retrieval of forgotten items from your vehicle or the moving of your vehicle if need be.

We recommend you have all your supplies acquired before you arrive. If we can help you acquire items such as food, beverages (pop and beer or wine) let us know at least 30 days in advance and we’ll do our best to have these items waiting for you at our base or perhaps even ahead of you at the camp.

We carry a variety of quality T-shirts, hats and sweats for souvenir items to remember your trip with us.

#### **4.2. Hotels and Campgrounds**

**North Woods Motor Inn** (restaurant & bar onsite)

Hwy 17 E, Ignace  
807-934-2296

**Lone Pine Motel** (on the lake, very quiet)

Sorenson Dr, Ignace  
807-934-2239

**Ignace White Otter Inn** (near restaurants & Tavern)

Main St (Hwy 17), Ignace  
807-934-6322

**Westwood Motel** (near restaurants & Tavern)

Main St, Ignace  
807-934-2978

**Davy Lake Campground** (right in town about 1 ½ miles from us)

Davy Lake Rd, Ignace  
807-934-0914; toll-free 877-374-3113

**Sandbar Provincial Park** (6 miles north of Ignace on Hwy 599)

Hwy 599, Sandbar Lake  
807-934-2995

Website links to these and other local facilities can be found at [welcome2ignace.com](http://welcome2ignace.com)

### 4.3. Restaurants

**Burger Scoop**, 109 Main St, 807-934-2838

**The Mystic Grill**, 300 Front St, 807-934-6441

**North Woods Motor Inn**, Hwy 17 E, 807-934-2296

**Subway**, 104 Main Street, 807-934-4689

### 4.4. Bait Shops

**K&S Baits** (807-934-4665) is located at the PetroCanada gas station on Main St in the former Wayfare Restaurant.

**Vern's Minnows** (807-934-2254) is located at the former Shell Gas station Main St W.

The bait shops open early and would appreciate advance notice for large orders to be provided early in the morning. Please notify them no later than the night before for these early orders. Be sure to advise them you are flying with us and would like the bait packed accordingly. Remember the water in your bait jugs adds weight quickly.

### 4.5. Groceries & Liquor

**Shoprite Fine Foods**, 411 Main St, 807-934-2462

**K&S Petro Canada** 311 Main St, 807-934-2953

**LCBO** (Liquor Control Board Ontario) located in Ignace Town Plaza is the only location with liquor and beer for sale. Hours are limited: Mon-Sat 10 am to 6 pm; Sun 12 pm to 4 pm. If you arriving early or late, let us know and we can expedite your grocery or liquor order for you.

## 5. Your Flight

You will be flying over the great Northwestern portion of Ontario during your flight to the outpost camp. Your pilot is a seasoned professional who must meet stringent Transport Canada requirements. Before you board the aircraft, ***it will be your responsibility to help the pilot load your gear and to ensure all your stuff is out of the vehicles.*** Once aboard the aircraft your adventure begins. The pilot will brief you on emergency procedures aboard the aircraft. Please be sure you understand what he is saying. The pilot is there to help you enjoy your vacation so feel free to ask him questions but please do not disturb him while preparing for takeoff, during takeoff or landing. Usually, if you ask him and if conditions are conducive, the pilot will be able to show you the lake from the air as you arrive. Very often the pilot will point out a moose or bear from the air. Your flight will last from 15 minutes to 1 hour depending on your chosen lake and you will fly over virgin forest, cutovers, lakes and otherwise fantastic scenery.

It is only common sense to dress appropriately for your flight. You are flying over remote wilderness so dress as though you were to sit on a shoreline for a few hours. Long pants, sturdy shoes, shirts and jackets are advisable even on warm days. It is rare but we do sometimes delay boarding until passengers are dressed appropriately.

***Because room is limited on the aircraft, we do not allow carry on bags.***

Camera bags, purses, computers, and bottles of liquor are all safer with the cargo in the back of the aircraft. If you wish to take pictures, carry only your camera or phone on board with you.

Every seat is a good one. Someone will be able to sit in the cockpit with the pilot. If you do sit “up front” be careful as you enter and exit that you don’t bump any switches or pull any handles or cords. The pilot will appreciate this. The front seat is not “reserved” for the biggest guy. Usually, it is best if an agile member of the group gets up front with the pilot.

## 6. At the Lake

When you are dropped off, the pilot will help you unload your gear. He will check your cabin, propane, gas supply, and boats and motors. We suggest at least one member of your party checks things with the pilot (or camp attendant) in order to become familiar with what is there. Please ask questions if in doubt.

Before the pilot leaves, be sure you know:

- where and how much gas you have
- how to operate the boats
- how to change a propane tank, if necessary
- how to work the radio
- how to light the fridge and lights
- where to put your fish offal

If you are at a camp with a caretaker, these things are not as much a concern to you as knowing where to find the attendant. He will help orient you and let you know camp details.

It is completely up to you as to whether you tip the pilot or other staff. Our feeling is that if they do a good job assisting you and helping you make your vacation enjoyable it is perfectly in order to “slide” something their way. It is also customary to leave any food you do not wish to take home with you to the pilots or other staff. Please pack this food to fly out with you (unless you leave it with the camp attendant).

Housekeeping cabins require that you clean the cabin, boats, shore lunch spots, etc. before your departure. ***Absolutely no garbage, leftover food, drinks or packaging is to be left behind.*** This also applies to Seseganaga and Metionga Lakes.

Guests are responsible for all physical damage to our facilities and equipment caused during their stay. We urge you to use caution on the lake to avoid striking rocks, reefs, etc.

## 6.1. Cabin Electrical Systems and electrical devices

On your arrival at the cabin you will almost certainly notice no high voltage power lines in the area. As a result, we have outfitted our cabins with solar **12 Volt electrical power systems**. Over the last few years we have been seeing more folks bringing sleep machines (CPap) with them on their fly in. Please be aware if you must bring these machines, that our power systems may not be able to keep up if there is more than one machine in the group and/or you have several cloudy days or if there are fellows in the group who like to have the cabin lit up like Broadway in New York City.

Your sleep machine must be able to function on 12 volts to work with our systems. Keep in mind our camps are remote so a portable unit is the best to bring. Please do not bring inverters to make the power 120 volt. These will almost guarantee that the system will not keep up. Some sleep machines will heat the air as they work so please turn that particular function off while at camp. The system will certainly not keep up while using the heater.

If you must bring a sleep machine or you have several sleep machines in the group, we have a **limited number** of portable generators available **to rent** on a first come basis. These are small gas powered generators and they are not meant to run extended periods, therefore we can not assure that you will have uninterrupted power every night. Please be aware a generator and cords may consume most of your weight limit. Also since the generators must be outside, be prepared for bugs and perhaps mice entering the cabin through the window or door where you run the extension cord(s). Maybe the same earplugs required to silence the generator will work to silence the snoring and the CPaps can stay home.

Solar 101: The solar system can be equated to a gas tank with a small line in and a large line out. If you use no gas the tank will always be full. If you use a bit of gas, the tank will be nearly always full and if you use a lot of gas, the tank will be nearly always empty and you may run out sometimes. If you use everything to the maximum, you'll likely be without very quickly.

## 6.2. Courtesy to others

Please:

- Take care of the equipment as though it were your own. If something breaks or is broken, please let our staff know as soon as possible.
- Be kind to the wildlife. Do not damage plants or molest animals.
- Run only one motor per boat; to do otherwise is not safe and may cause damage.
- Take paddles, matches and life preservers in the boat with you.
- Let someone know where you are going and when you'll be back (if you must, leave a note.)
- Bag all garbage (do not try to burn tin cans, tinfoil, glass etc.)
- Do not litter. Before you leave, clean up around the outside the cabin and place all your garbage in bags to be flown out.

- Clean your fish at the appropriate place and dispose of the remains on a far shore or island. Do not bury fish remains near the camp or dump them in the water near the camp. Bears attracted to the cabins by careless housekeeping practices are essentially on a death sentence since they will be back – more likely when you are at home and someone else is in the cabin.
- Do not urinate off the deck or steps of the cabin.
- Do not leave fish (cooked or otherwise) in the fridge for the next party. They came to catch their own.
- Do not write on the cabin walls. A logbook is provided in each cabin where your adventures may be recorded.
- Clean the cabin and boats. Kits are provided and we expect you to leave the cabin as you would like to find it. Most often, this is cleaner than you found it.
- Please be ready to fly out at the appointed time; packing up and cleaning up the night before eases the rush on both ends.

### 6.3. “Catch and Consume”

At Ignace Outposts we are leaders in conservation practices. We insist our guests kill only those fish they are going to eat and limit eating fish to the smaller tastier ones. ***It is our policy to live release ALL large fish.*** Walleye over 22”, northern over 27”, bass over 18” and trout over 28” must be released. We ask that you don’t take fish home but if you choose to do so, please take only the smaller ones and return all trophies to the lake. We encourage you to pinch down the barbs on your hooks and handle the fish you release as little as possible. To safely release trophy fish, it is best not to remove the fish from the water; pop out the hook with pliers or just cut your line. Try replacing the treble hooks on spinners, spoons and plugs with single hooks and it will make releasing your fish much easier. We wholeheartedly support shore lunch as a tradition on fly-in trips. We hope to maintain a World Class fishery on our lakes and trust that you will do your part in preserving trophy fish. Bring your camera to capture your trophy for posterity and let the fish live to fight another day. Graphite mounts are available from most taxidermists and can provide a wall mount without killing the fish. The taxidermist requires length and girth measurements as well as a picture of the fish to create a replica mount.

### 6.4. Rods and Reels

For walleye, bass, and whitefish use a light or ultra light 5' to 5' 5" graphite rod. A good reel with 4 lb to 8 lb test line is quite adequate. Be sure your line is new and the reel is full.

For northern and lake trout use a medium heavy or heavy 6' to 7' graphite rod. A good dependable reel appropriate to the size of rod is recommended. Fourteen to twenty pound test line is adequate and again, new line and a full reel are advisable.

#### 6.4.1. Electronics and Toys

All of our lakes offer many multiple reef structures, deep holes and drop offs. A portable depth finder is advisable for each boat and will enhance your experience at Ignace Outposts. These devices are handy but not necessary as our lakes are easy to

fish and sometimes the challenge of reading shorelines and searching for holes is fun without electronic help. **Please note that lead-acid batteries are restricted items when transported by air.** We suggest you use 12-volt dry cell batteries (with capped ends) for your portable finder. Other toys such as color finders, PH gauges and temperature gauges are not really necessary.

GPSs are fun toys and certainly will help you navigate around the lake, but don't rely solely on them to keep track of your location. Batteries in the GPS may die, but the batteries in your map will last all week. Know how to read it too.

## 6.5. Baits and Technique

### 6.5.1. Walleye

Spring (May to early June): Walleye are shallow and focused around rivers and currents early in the year. We suggest, jigs 1/8 oz to 1/4 oz tipped with a twister tail and a piece of a minnow or leech. Work the jig slowly and off the bottom. Colors for the lead head and twister tails vary from chartreuse, pink, motor oil, to orange and brown. Little Joe spinners with a leech or minnow also entice early walleye. Troll slowly backwards and slowly work the rod tip.

Summer (late June through Aug.): Walleye school tightly during summer months and can be enticed with similar bait as in the spring but usually in deeper water. Use slightly heavier jigs - 1/4 to 3/8 oz. Walleye tend to feed more actively on cloudy days and in reduced daylight. As the summer goes on walleye become lazier in their feeding, choosing not to chase food pulled away from them. Try working edges of weed beds and drop offs with crank baits and night crawlers. Lindy rigs and slow bottom jiggling often produce some of our largest walleye catches in mid summer.

Fall (Sept): Walleye are very lazy but still feed actively. As the water cools they search out deep holes and when the water turns over they tend to scatter for a couple of weeks. Use the same baits as above and plenty of patience. Although fishing is tougher, the rewards for fall walleye fishing can be fantastic. On Irene Lake due to the clear water, fishing is better on cloudy days and in the evening.

*\*Special note\** do not use swivels or leaders: tie your jig or lure directly to the line when fishing walleye.

### 6.5.2. Northern

Spring (May and early June): Early in the year pike feed near spawning walleye and suckers. The pike are usually shallow and quite aggressive. Spoons, spinners, crank baits and stick baits will entice lunker northern out of the shallows. Big northern will also cruise drop offs and deep channels this time of year.

Summer (late June through Aug): By late June the weed beds are coming along well and big northern tend to spend a lot of time ambushing other fish in and near the weeds. Drop offs are also good and some lunkers still search the deeps for their next meal. Deep trolling and deep diving crank baits work well in deep water. Often the largest northern of the summer are caught by accident while walleye fishing. Don't be surprised if your light tackle has to endure a battle with an ornery northern.

Fall (Sept): As the water cools northern return to shallow water and begin a pre-winter feeding frenzy. Large spinners and big spoons (red and white, blue and white, and silver) trolled or retrieved slowly will yield phenomenal results.

\*Special note\* durable 10" to 12" leaders are a must!

### 6.5.3. Lake Trout

Spring (May and early June): Before the water temperatures rise in late June, lake trout can be found in relatively shallow water. Seseganaga Lake and Irene Lake give up many fine trout in the early season. Flat-lining silver flutter spoons, live minnow preceded by silver spinners or flashers, and cleos produce many spring trout. Trout are very aggressive but are also quite skittish this time of year. Trolling shallow with 100' of line or more and changing the speed of the bait will work well.

Summer (late June through Aug): In late June trout will move into 50 to 100 foot depths. They are then enticed by ciscos, and large silver spoons presented at their levels. Down riggers or bottom bouncing with three ounce sinkers will get your bait down to the trout. Vertical jigging with airplane jigs or lead head of 1½ oz works well.

Fall (Sept): Trout spawn in the fall. They are very vulnerable in late September just before the season closes on October 1st. Trout leave the depths and congregate on rocky reefs with head size boulders. Casting from shore onto these reefs with silver and blue spoons will produce great fall trout. In the fall, the trout are hitting lures more out of anger than for feeding so they hit hard and they hit often. A variable speed retrieve is most enticing to them.

### 6.5.4. Smallmouth Bass

These are only present in Irene Lake.

Spring (May and early June): During the spring, smallies spawn and are vulnerable while guarding their nests. They are found in rocky shorelines and under fallen trees and ledges. Twister tails on jigs and plastic or real worm are sure-fire baits.

Summer (late June through Aug): Bass are school fish which gather around drop offs and areas of structure. Worms and crank baits such as rappalas (small) and jigs and twister tails work well.

Fall (late Aug. and Sept): As the water cools, bass become very aggressive and will attack the same smaller lures as in the summer.

## 7. Tips from Evan

Rule for fighting large fish even on light tackle – when the fish pulls, you don't; when the fish doesn't pull, you do.

Spoons have to be fished at the right speed in order to wobble properly. This is true for casting or trolling.

Trolling into the wind is often more productive than with it because the lure runs slower and is in the strike zone longer.

When jigging, more strikes occur when the jig is going down than up so it is best to pay attention to the jig at all times.

The best artificial bait is that which imitates natural bait movement.

Baking soda, vinegar and salt, or lemon juice will remove the fish smell from your hands.

A choppy lake surface and a light rain are excellent fishing conditions.

Hook setting calls for fast reflexes.

When setting the hook, react quickly and bring the rod back and up sharply in to the chest area.

Do not hold northern pike by the eyes and expect them to live. When live-releasing pike, hold them horizontally and release them quickly into the water.

## **8. Rebooking Policy**

Each group has the first right of refusal on “their” week for the following year. If the week is not re-booked before you leave our base to go home, “your” week will go to the first request. We require a deposit to hold any booking and deposits are non refundable. We will not transfer a deposit to the next year. There are times when the calendar shifts, or occasionally when large groups shift that we cannot offer first right of refusal to everyone. This occurrence is rare and we will do our best to ensure everyone is accommodated in the following year.

We do reserve the right to refuse any group or person from returning to our camps if that person or group causes damage to wildlife, the environment or our property. If persons or groups do not conform to Ontario’s laws regarding alcohol, fisheries or other, they may be refused the right to return to our camps. We take pride in our facilities and equipment and we hold the highest regard for our environment and natural resources. We trust our guests will have the same high standards and expectations. This philosophy insures we can provide the highest quality wilderness experiences available for many years to come.

## 9. Helpful Information

### 9.1. Metric Conversion

Canada uses the metric system. Visitors will find weather reports given in degrees Celsius, gasoline sold by the litre, and grocery items sold by the kilogram (kg = 1000 grams) or litre.

- **Weight:** Kilogram (kg) = 1000 grams (g)

1 lb = .45 kg	1 kg = 2.2 lbs
1 oz = 28 g	1 g = .035 oz

- **Volume:** A litre (l) = 1000 milliliters (ml) is almost the same size as a US quart

1 US gal = 3.75 l	1 litre = .267 US gal
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- **Distance:** Kilometer (km) = 1000 meters (m)

1 mile = 1.6 km	1 km = .62 miles
1 inch = 2.54 cm	1 cm = .39 inches
1 yard = .9 m	1 m = 39 inches

- **Speed** (approximations)

25 km/h = 15 mph
50 km/h = 30 mph
60 km/h = 37 mph
80 km/h = 56 mph
100 km/h = 62 mph

- **Temperature:**

Celsius degrees $\times \frac{9}{5} + 32 =$ Fahrenheit degrees
Fahrenheit degrees $- 32 \times \frac{5}{9} =$ Celsius degrees
0°C = 32°F
21°C = 72°F

## 9.2. Currency

***Our rates are all in CDN \$.***

**\*\*PLEASE NOTE EXCHANGE RATES CHANGE DAILY** Banks do not sell at the same rate at which they buy. We will give you as fair an exchange rate as possible. This means that even though exchange rates may be published at a certain rate, there is a conversion difference that must be made since we must sell US dollars to the bank.

## 9.3. Canadian Holidays

Even though we work on Canadian holidays, not all other services in Canada are open for regular hours during holidays. Canada has different holidays than the USA. The following are holidays in Canada and you will find liquor stores, banks, government offices and many other businesses closed during these days:

Victoria Day	Mon, May 20, 2019
Canada Day	Mon, Jul 1, 2019
Civic Holiday	Mon, Aug 5, 2019
Labour Day	Mon, Sep 2, 2019
Thanksgiving Day	Mon, Oct 14, 2019

## 9.4. Photo tips

- Close-ups of people and fish make better photos than more distant pictures. Be careful not cut off the fish's tail or your buddy's head out of the shot.
- Candid shots are usually better than posed photo and often are more fondly remembered.
- When photographing friends or family, focus on their faces not the fish.
- Using the flash will reduce shadows from faces especially on a sunny day.
- If possible hold the fish horizontally. It is better for the fish and he looks bigger.
- Have your camera ready and if you do remove a fish from the water, please return it as quickly as possible within 60 seconds.

## 9.5. Golf

Ignace has a nice little golf course three miles from town. There is no need to book a tee time and very seldom is there a wait to golf. Green fees are reasonable and the course is challenging.

## 9.6. Wildlife Avoidance Tips

Moose, deer and bear often attempt to share the roadways with vehicles in our area. Even though most accidents with animals occur between 5 - 8 am and 6 pm to midnight, hitting a large animal on the road will ruin your trip anytime of day. Here are some tips to help you avoid an accident with a large animal.

- Use high beams when possible.
- Be sure your windshield is clean and your lights are working.
- Scan the road continuously from shoulder to shoulder.

- Be aware that in most animal/vehicle accidents the animal was “just barely” on the paved portion of the road.
- At night, watch for flashes of the glowing eyes of animals.
- Wildlife crossing signs do actually indicate areas of increased risk.
- Always slow down when passing wildlife – they may suddenly turn or dart into your path.
- Remain alert after passing an animal; it may be with others or its young.
- Never attempt extreme maneuvers to avoid a collision.
- Don’t assume the animal will move out of your way.
- Watch your speed, KPH and MPH are different!
- Moose, bear and deer are large enough to activate your airbags when you hit them. Keep this in mind as you sip from a bottle or cup in the front seat.
- You don’t often hit the animals you see.
- If you do hit an animal be very cautious about getting out of your car to see if it is all right – especially if it is a bear.
- If you hit an animal and it is lying on the road, activate your flashers and try to warn other vehicles to prevent a potentially serious accident.

## 10. Rules & Regulations

### 10.1. Fishing Regulations

In Ontario, an Ontario Outdoors Card and fishing licence is required to angle if you are 18 years of age or older. Under 18 a licence is not required, however, the youth’s fish limit is zero. We can provide a regulation summary in our office.

### 10.2. Outdoors Cards

If you fished or hunted in Ontario since 2009, you would have purchased an Outdoors Card – even if you didn’t know it. The card is good for 3 years and is your profile number in the government licensing system. You will need this number to renew the card or purchase a license. If it is expired, do not throw the Outdoors Card away until you have received the new one.

Renew or purchase these at [Ontario.ca/outdoorscard](http://Ontario.ca/outdoorscard) or at a local bait shop.

### 10.3. Boat Operator Proof of Competency

All operators of motorized boats in Canada require a boat operator’s competency card. This must be carried with you in the boat. There are several online sites where you can receive this card. If you have one or get one from your home state, it is accepted in Canada. There is a provision that we can issue a checklist that will suffice for your time with us but we encourage you to get a card. They do not expire.

<http://www.boaterexam.com/usa/>; <http://www.boaterexam.com/canada/>

### 10.4. Passports

The US Government requires US citizens have a valid passport to re-enter the United States after your Canadian visit. The Canadian customs will check that you have one so

that you are eligible to return to the States. Unsure your passport is more than 6 month from expiring.

In Canada DUIs or DWIs are treated as felonies even though they may not be in your home State. If you've had any criminal convictions in the past it is best to check with Canadian authorities regarding admissibility before arriving at the border. Refunds are not forthcoming if you cannot be allowed into Canada because of a criminal record. Please be straightforward with your group members about any past convictions to avoid embarrassment at the border. If the whole group turns back because of one inadmissible member the whole group will forfeit their deposits. I suspect that would be a quite ride home.

<http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/information/applications/rehabil.asp>

### 10.5. Sales Taxes

As of Jan 1, 2018, the refundable portion of the Harmonized Sales Tax (HST) (13%) is cancelled. The full tax will now be added to your invoice and there is no longer a rebate.

### 10.6. Liquor Regulations

**Ontario Liquor laws are different from the United States.** Ontario does not allow consumption of liquor in any place other than a residence (outpost camp and land adjacent to the camp) or licensed premises or a private place. ***Beer or liquor at a shore lunch site is not legal.*** According to the law, open liquor is not allowed in a motorized vehicle (car or boat). ***It is illegal to operate a motorized vehicle (car or boat) while under the influence of alcohol.***

## 11. Closing Remarks

This is more than just a business to us. As is evident with our chosen lifestyle, we love the Canadian Wilderness and sharing the remote beauty that only Northwestern Ontario can provide. We have a pretty good idea of the quality and service you would like and expect from a fly-in outfitter and this planning manual is designed to help to make your adventure with us memorable and exciting. We know that a fishing trip can be had most anywhere there is water. The key to our service and passion in making your trip awesome is knowing that a fishing experience is something you remember. Our goal is to provide an experience. If you need any advice or trip planning suggestions we may have overlooked in this guide, please let us know. We are only a phone call or email away.

Thank you for joining us and we look forward to sharing our slice of the Great Northwest.