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THE VOYAGEURS ESCAPE

What's more Canadian than canoeing through a thick forest? Following the example of the brave adventurers of the French colonial era, you'll discover a wild territory sprinkled with countless lakes and rivers.

 Region	Eastern Canada
 Activity	Family Nature - Adventure Short trips and extensions Summer
 Duration	3 days
 Code	AV-10
 Price	From €448
 Level	2/5
 Comfort	2/5

ITINERARY

📍 Day 1 Parc Algonquin

Parc Algonquin Meet the guide in Toronto at the Finch Subway station or directly in the park. Once on the premises, preparation of the material and departure of your canoe expedition through the Algonquin Park. On your way, take advantage of the many stops to plunge into the pure and fresh surrounding water. At the end of the day, the camp site will be set-up in a scenic environment. You'll then enjoy a good meal prepared over a nice campfire. After dinner, you'll hear the awakening of the nocturnal wildlife. You might even hear a wolf pack baying at the moon! Night in tent. (D)

Accommodation in tent

📍 Day 2 Parc Algonquin

Parc Algonquin Departure for new adventures. Open your eyes widely because the area offers great opportunity to observe bears, blue herons and even moose! In the afternoon, we'll arrive to our final destination where you'll have spare time to do some hiking, swimming, fishing or, if you prefer, to take a rest while enjoying the melodious sounds of the forest. Around the campfire, the legends related to the Canadian wildlife will assuredly plunge you into an other universe! Night in tent. (B, L, D)

Accommodation in tent

📍 Day 3 Parc Algonquin

Parc Algonquin There's nothing like a good Canadian breakfast to start a day the right way ! You'll then leave for new adventures in the forest while your naturalist guide will share his knowledge of the surrounding wildlife. He'll also teach you how to solo a canoe. Continuation of your individual trip. (B)

Possibility of R/T transfer from Toronto to Eco-Lodge

PERIOD & BUDGET

When to travel?

The best period for travelling is during the following months:

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
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Price

From C\$668

The budget is an indication of the price per person, subject to availability. Your local agent will send you a customized quote with the exact price. The price can vary according to availability, level of services, period of travel, number of participants, booking time frame and other items.

Included

- Services of a guide: Canoe, lifejacket and paddles
- Camping gear (tent, sleeping bag, etc.)
- Flashlight and raincoat
- 2 nights accommodation
- 5 meals (see abbreviations)
- Applicable taxes

Not included

- Air travel
- Shuttle to the meeting point (OPTIONAL)
- Personal expenses
- Drinks (excluding coffee and tea with meals included)
- Tips for guide
- Car rental

Terms and conditions

Booking conditions

By registering for one of our travel, the customer bindingly accepts the General Terms and Conditions of Sale. Each customer must complete a registration form. The booking is definitively recorded when the customer has settled the payment of a deposit of 35 % of the total travel price (subject to availability at the time of registration). In case of short term bookings – within 35 days prior to the travel departure – the full travel price is due immediately. Payments can be settled via bank transfer (SWIFT code/IBAN number) or online, directly from our website (soon available). You will receive an email with a booking confirmation as quickly as possible

Invoice procedure

Once your booking is registered, we send you an email with the invoice. Full payment is required at least 35 days before your arrival. If the customer does not settle the payment of the travel price within the period agreed upon, Altaï Canada reserves the right to cancel the booking free of charge.

Cancellation policy

If, for any reason, you need to cancel your trip, any payments already made will be refunded **subject to the following deductions:**

If cancellation occurs:

- **More than 31 days before departure:** 20% of the total booking amount (excluding insurance and fixed fees)
- **Between 30 and 21 days before departure:** 35% of the total booking amount (excluding insurance and fixed fees)
- **Between 20 and 14 days before departure:** 50% of the total booking amount (excluding insurance and fixed fees)
- **Between 13 and 7 days before departure:** 75% of the total booking amount (excluding insurance and fixed fees)
- **Less than 7 days before departure:** 100% of the total booking amount (excluding insurance and fixed fees)

Special Cases:

Regardless of the cancellation or contract modification date, the following fees **are added** to the standard cancellation terms above:

- **Airfare fees:** If your flight ticket has to be issued well in advance—often to secure the best fare—**100% of the non-refundable flight costs** will be charged in case of cancellation or change. In this case, the standard cancellation terms apply **only to the land portion** of the trip.
- **Land service fees:** Any non-refundable fees incurred early for firm bookings will be charged in case of cancellation.
- **Insurance:** Whether you purchased multi-risk or cancellation insurance, the **insurance premium is non-refundable** under any circumstances.

If you are forced to cancel your trip before departure, you must inform both **Altai Canada** and your insurance provider as soon as possible, using **written communication that provides proof of receipt**.

The **date the written notice is received** will be considered the official cancellation date and will determine the applicable cancellation fees.

If Altai Canada is required to cancel a group departure due to an insufficient number of participants, this decision will be made, and customers notified, **no later than 21 days before departure**.

Altai Canada may also cancel a trip due to **exceptional circumstances** considered force majeure (e.g., volcanic eruptions, social unrest, strikes, severe weather) that could compromise the safety of participants. In such cases, **all amounts paid will be fully refunded**, but **no additional compensation** can be claimed.

Changes to travel contract

If a change to travel contract is made at the customer's request, any fee that might arise from this change shall be paid by the customer. In any cases, every request for changes shall be notified in writing. In case of external events that could not be foreseen, Altai Canada might change some aspects of the travel contract. We will endeavour to advise you of any changes as quickly as possible.

Pricing

All group travel prices on our website have been calculated for the indicated number of participants for each trip. The price list is confirmed after the booking. If the number of participants is lower than expected, an additional payment charge might be applied. For each travel and program, we mention the price per person – valid for the minimum number of participants – and we provide you with detailed explanations about the services included or not. Any change in the exchange rates or in the price of travel services in particular regarding the cost of the fuel, might entail price revision.

Contract transfer

In case of transfer of the contract by the customer to an assignee, modification and cancellation conditions apply.

Insurance

We recommend that you get personal insurance before your departure to cover the activities undertaken by Altai Canada. If you have not purchased your insurance directly with us, we ask that you email us your insurance contract information (company, policy name, policy number, phone number) and bring this information with you on your trip.

PRACTICAL INFO

Food

« See the inclusions of this package »

Transportation

How to get to the Lodge:

Check-in is any time after 2:00pm. Check-out is 12:00pm. From the parking lot there is a 2.5 km walk (about 25 minutes) to the Lodge. Leave your luggage in the Change Hut and we will retrieve it for you once you arrive at the building. From the parking lot walk past the steel gate that marks the border of Algonquin Park. You will walk about 200 m and then arrive at an intersection (at Little Mink Lake). Take the trail to the right and follow it for 2.3 km (about 20 minutes). When you come to the small/medium sized hill you are nearly there! Just go up the hill and the Eco-Lodge is the second building. The trail is all flat, except for the hill, and easy to walk.

Budget & exchange

Visa and Mastercards credit cards are accepted almost everywhere. You can also exchange euros. 1 Euro = 1,57\$CAN (04/04/2018)

Tips

In the United States and in Canada, service is never included in the prices. In bars, restaurants and all the places where service is provided, it is expected that you tip the waiter/waitress between 15% and 20% of the total sum. Note that a lot of employees working as waiters are paid by tips only. Not giving anything or not giving enough would be poorly received. Even when paying by credit card, you'll indicate the sum you wish to give. On this type of trip, it is customary to tip the guide(s) 4\$ to 5\$ by persons and per day.

Supplied equipment

- backpack or duffle bag lined with a garbage bag (bring a pack with handles but not a suitcase!)
- 1 pairs pants (army pants, track pants...)
- 1 pair shorts
- 3 pairs socks
- 3 pairs underwear
- 3 T-shirts
- 1 long sleeve shirt
- 1 sweater or light jacket
- 1 rain coat/poncho/Gore-Tex...
- 1 pair hiking boots/good walking shoes (broken in for at least 10 hours!)
- 1 pair water sandals (Teva's), or shoes that can get wet (for getting in and out of the canoes)
- 1 swimsuit
- 1 towel
- sleeping bag (rated to about 5°C for spring or autumn trips)
- sunglasses
- toilet kit (toothbrush, Pears or any other unscented soap, toilet paper, etc)
- hat or bandana for head protection (for sun and bugs!), and a toque for spring/autumn trips
- shoulder bag (knapsack) for water, lunch, etc
- camera – put in a “Zip Lock” bag, or wrap in plastic bag for rain
- flashlight (new batteries!)
- mosquito repellent – Muskol is the best (make sure it is made with DEET)
- sunscreen and lip balm (chapstick)
- snack food (nuts, raisins, trail mix, etc)
- water, approximately 1-2 litres. Bring it full. We can refill with lake water and purifying chemicals along the way.personal
- 1st aid kit (including bandages, antiseptic ointment, and a blister kit)
- alcohol (optional)

- gloves & toque (hat) for trips in May, late September, or October

Material

Laundry Service :

In keeping with our environmental policies, and minimizing our footprint on the environment, we do not change your bedsheets every day. Sheets are changed and laundered once the guests check-out. This reduces each person's footprint in terms of the amount of water and detergent required. Similarly, guests bring their own towels since you can wash your own towel at home with your regular load of laundry, again reducing your environmental impact.

Passport

Consular formalities for Europeans and Swiss nationals:

Upon your registration, please transmit your passport information (name, first name, passport number, date of issues and expiration). Currently, to stay as a tourist for less than six months, a visa is not mandatory and a valid passport is sufficient with a validity exceeding by one day your stay in Canada.

Travelers must imperatively have an **electronic travel authorization (eTA) to enter Canada**. You will have to fill the form online and individually (**one application per person**) on <http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/visit/ave.asp> It is essential that you have a valid email address. The 7 CAD fees are payable by Visa, Mastercard or American Express credit cards. The eTA is granted in just a few minutes but we advise you to apply for it as soon as your trip is confirmed. The eTA is an electronic document linked to your passport and **stays valid for 5 years or until the expiration of the passport**, depending on the first of these eventualities to occur. You must then travel with the passport used to apply for it.

CAREFUL: for French women, the eTA must be filled with your maiden name. Hence, to facilitate the check-in at the airport, we ask travelers in Canada to indicate their maiden name for the booking of their tickets.

You travel with children:

Children and adults are submitted to the same obligations regarding passports and visa described above. Registration of minors on parents' passports is now impossible; children must hold an individual passport. It is compulsory to apply for an eTA for each child individually.

CAREFUL, from January 15th 2017 onwards, for all French minors traveling abroad alone, an authorization to leave the country is compulsory.

The child will have to submit the three following documents:

- The minor's valid passport
- A photocopy of the signatory's identity card, valid or expired for less than 5 years and the birth certificate
- The form, signed by one of the legal guardians, available online on <https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/F1359>

Concerning other nationalities, seek the Canadian consular authority of your country.

ARRIVAL IN CANADA VIA A TRANSIT THROUGH THE UNITED STATES :

CAREFUL, we can exceptionally use American airlines for travels bound for the American continent (North and South).

They stop over in the US: **you must possess an electronic or biometric passport which is still valid 6 months after your departure from the US** (under "passport", a rectangle under a circle meaning a secure symbol).

You must also **apply for an electronic travel authorization (ESTA)** on the official website <https://esta.cbp.dhs.gov>. Valid for a duration of two years or until the expiration of the passport, this authorization must be requested at the latest 72h before your departure: we advise you to apply to it as soon as your trip is confirmed. It has to be paid for (14 USD online by credit card). The name you put on the form must be the same as the one that figures on your plane tickets and must of course appears on your passport. If the name used on the ESTA form is different from the one on your tickets, the airline can deny your boarding. Minors must also fill out an ESTA authorization.

The Visa Waiver Program allows French nationals to enter the American territory without a visa, either via transit or for a stay of 90 days to the maximum. A visa is nevertheless necessary if you only have an emergency passport. Furthermore, travelers who

went to Iran, Iraq, Syria, Somalia, Yemen or Soudan since March 11th 2011 and people who are national of Iran, Iraq, Syria or Soudan cannot benefit from the Visa Waiver program anymore: more information on <http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/fr/conseils-aux-voyageurs/conseils-par-pays/etats-unis/>

ARRIVAL IN THE US OR TRANSIT THROUGH THE US :

Upon your arrival, the immigration service will take your photo and fingerprints. You'll have to wait behind the yellow line and not cross it unless you're told to, it can take some time. Customs controls will take place at the first access point to the territory (in case of a transit through a Canadian airport, it will be considered as a first access point to the US and the following process must be applied). Once you've been through the immigration service, you'll get your luggage back from the conveyor belt and go to the customs. In case of a continuation of your trip, you'll have to get your luggage back and bring them the baggage conveyor which serves.

Weather

Spring is a rainy season in the major part of Canada. During the day, temperatures generally get high but nights still cool. The median temperature is 12°C in March, April and the beginning of May. Summer officially starts on June 21st but for most Canadians, July and August are the real summer months. It is warm in most regions of Canada. In the South, they are above 20°C during the day and can sometimes pass 30°C. Autumn starts in September. Temperature gets chillier and leaves change color and fall. This season can be very rainy. In some regions, particularly in the North and in the mountains, it may start to snow towards the end of October. During the day, normal temperatures vary between 10 and 12°C in the major part of the country.

Unlike Europe, seasons are well defined in Canada. Temperatures can get higher than 30°C in summer and down to -30°C in winter. In fact, Canadian climate changes a lot from a region or a season to another. Canada extends from the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific Ocean and lies at the same latitude as Roma at his southern extreme, where it reaches the Arctic.

To know the current climate and weather conditions by provinces and territories, go to www.meteo.gc.ca or www.meteomedia.com

Spring : Spring comes as soon as February on the West Coast. In the rest of Canada, weather gets warmer at the beginning of April and lasts until June.

Summer : Summer in Canada brings cool to hot temperatures from the end of June to the end of September. The warmth of summer lasts from June to August, and July is often the hottest month.

Autumn : Autumn brings pleasant and cool temperatures, particularly in September and in October. It is the best time of the year to enjoy the spectacular beauty of Autumn leaves in the East of Canada, to take long walks while breathing fresh air.

Winter : A major part of Canada is covered with a white coat during winter, temperatures fall below the freezing point, and snowfalls start at the end of October. However, winters are very cool on the West Coast where the snow doesn't stay long.

Electricity

As everywhere in the US, voltage runs at 110 Volts/60 cycles. New electric devices can be adapted to the current. It's preferable to check whether or not your device is equipped with a current transformer. In general, it is a black box located between the electric plug and your device. If your device isn't compatible with the 110-volt current, you'll need to get a current transformer sold separately. As electrical plugs are flat, you'll also need an adaptor to plug your device in. You'll find it easily on the spot or before departure in a shop specialized in travels. A waterproof Zip Lock bag is a good way to keep your equipment in a dry place.

Sustainable tourism

Since the outset, Altai works for an eco-tourism and an organization of trips that respects equitable and sustainable principles.

The harmonization of practices assures:

- A fair economical repartition
- The improvement of local teams' working conditions and their awareness of the protection of the environment

- The information of travelers about respecting the local population and environment and the collection of their feelings at their return.

You can also act in favor of an eco-tourism by adopting simple green gestures during your trips:

- Avoid letting waste out, throw it in the trash can or bring it with you
- Use potable water sparingly (take a shower instead of a bath and report any leaks) and avoid wasting it (use biodegradable soap to wash yourself)
- Avoid damaging cultural sites: don't touch the statues, don't move the stones and objects
- Exchange instead of giving (too Important gifts can destabilize the local economic stability of the country depending on their living standards)
- When taking a walk, especially in some fragile ecosystems, observe the fauna from afar, do not go beyond beaten roads, limit stamping and do not bring any souvenirs: give up picking rare flowers picking fossils...
- In some hotels, you can have individual air conditioning. It is advised to systematically switching it off when you're out of the room to avoid energetical overconsumption and greenhouse gas emission.