

150th Anniversary Tour of *The Maine Woods*

Commemorating the Travels of Henry David Thoreau and his Wabanaki Guides

Working Itinerary

Subject to change in response to weather conditions during the trip

SEGMENT ONE: Group Size – up to 16 (7 seats available as of 3-25)

RATING – Moderate. The paddle up Moosehead Lake will involve two long days of flat water paddling with potential for wind and waves on the lake. The portage between Moosehead and the West Branch of the Penobscot River is roughly 2 miles.

Friday, May 16

- Meet in Bangor
- Visit Indian Island – rendezvous with Penobscot Guide; tour Penobscot Nation Museum
- Travel to Greenville – local tour and trip preparation

Saturday, May 17

- Depart Greenville – paddling north up Moosehead Lake
- Camp on Moosehead Lake

Sunday, May 18

- Continue north up Moosehead Lake
- Camp near Northeast Carry

Monday, May 19 – ROAD ACCESS POINT (Northeast Carry Road)

- Portage across Northeast East Carry to the West Branch of the Penobscot River
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SEGMENT TWO: Group Size – up to 16 (7 seats available as of 3-25)

RATING – Easy to Moderate. This stretch of the West Branch is mostly flat and quick water. Crossing Chesuncook Lake, we may run into wind and waves.

Monday, May 19

- Relaunch canoes and paddle down the West Branch of the Penobscot
- Camp Big Ragmuff Stream or Big Island

Tuesday, May 20

- Canoe West Branch and to Chesuncook Lake
 - Visit “Chesuncook Village” where Ansell Smith is buried
 - Continue across Chesuncook Lake to Umbazooksus Stream
 - Camp at Umbazooksus Stream (**ROAD ACCESS POINT**)
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SEGMENT THREE: Group Size – up to 12 (5 seats available as of 3-25)

RATING – Very Difficult. This section involves the 2 mile Mud Pond carry, a 1 mile carry around the Telos Cut followed by Class II and III rapids on the 9 mile long stretch of Webster Stream. At the lower end of Webster Stream is a 1 mile carry around Grand Pitch.

Wednesday, May 21

- Canoe Umbazooksus Lake
- Portage – Mud Pond Carry
- Camp at Chamberlain Lake (Headwaters of Allagash Wilderness Waterway)

Thursday, May 22 – ROAD ACCESS POINT (Chamberlain Bridge)

- Canoe Lower Chamberlain Lake
- Canoe Round Pond to Telos Lake
- Camp Telos Lake

Friday, May 23

- Run Webster Brook
- Camp at end of lower gorges – Matagamon Lake

Saturday, May 24

- Canoe Matagamon Lake
- Visit site where Joe Polis shot & butchered the moose – Louse Island
- Camp at Birch Point (Penobscot Land – Possible Road Access with permission)

Sunday, May 25

- Canoe Matagamon Lake to Matagamon Bridge
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SEGMENT FOUR: Group Size – up to 12 (5 seats available as of 3-25)

RATING – Very Difficult. In the 10 mile stretch of river between Matagamon Lake and Bowlin Falls, the river drops over 400 feet. In the first 7 miles, there are 4 portages (0.5-0.75 miles long) and 6 sets of rapids rate Class II-III depending on water levels. Carry trails are rough, muddy, and slippery.

Sunday, May 25 – ROAD ACCESS POINT (Matagamon Bridge)

- Canoe East Branch of the Penobscot
- Camp at Oxbow

Monday, May 26

- Canoe East Branch of the Penobscot
- Five sets of Class 2 or 3 rapids and 4 portages between ¼ - ½ mile each
- Camp at Grand Pitch

Tuesday, May 27 (ROAD ACCESS POINT -- Bowlin Camps)

- Continue down East Branch to Bowlin Camps
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SEGMENT FIVE: Group Size up to 16 (8 seats available as of 3-25)

RATING – Moderate. This section is mostly quick water with no portages and two significant rapids.

Whetstone Falls is rated Class II or III and can easily be walked around. Grindstone is a long (1 mile) continuous rapid rated Class III or IV depending on water level. Highway 11 runs parallel to the rapid so we have the easy option of a vehicle portage if the water is high (and it most likely will be this spring). There are intermittent Class I and II rapids between Grindstone and Medway

Tuesday, May 27 – ROAD ACCESS POINT (Whetstone Falls)

- Relaunch from Bowlin Camps
- Canoe East Branch from Grand Pitch to Whetstone Falls – Class 2-3 rapids
- Camp at Whetstone Falls

Wednesday, May 28

- Canoe lower East Branch to Grindstone Falls (run or portage around Grindstone Falls)
- Camp below Grindstone

Thursday, May 29

- Paddle remainder of East Branch to Medway (ROAD ACCESS – Medway)

SEGMENT SIX: Group Size up to 16 (8 seats available as of 3-25)

RATING – Easy. This section is mostly flat and quick water with a couple portages around dams, and easy road access most of the way.

Thursday, May 29 ROAD ACCESS POINT (Medway)

- Re-launch from Medway
- Join the main stem of the Penobscot River
- Camp on Penobscot – near Mattawamkeag

Friday, May 30

- Continue on main stem of the Penobscot River
- Camp on the Penobscot – near Passadumkeag

Saturday, May 31

- Continue of main stem of the Penobscot River
- Launch Penobscot War Canoes and open to the public – Costigan
- Arrive Indian Island



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