



Pukaskwa
National Park

Visitor Guide

Welcome! Boozhoo!

What is now Pukaskwa National Park (pronounced puck-a-saw) lies on the traditional territory of Biigtigong Nishnaabeg and Netmizaaggamig Nishnaabeg. It also falls within the Robinson-Superior Treaty Area and has been travelled for thousands of years by Indigenous peoples of the North Shore of Lake Superior. We recognize and honour the historic and ongoing connections of Indigenous peoples to these lands and waters.



Parks
Canada

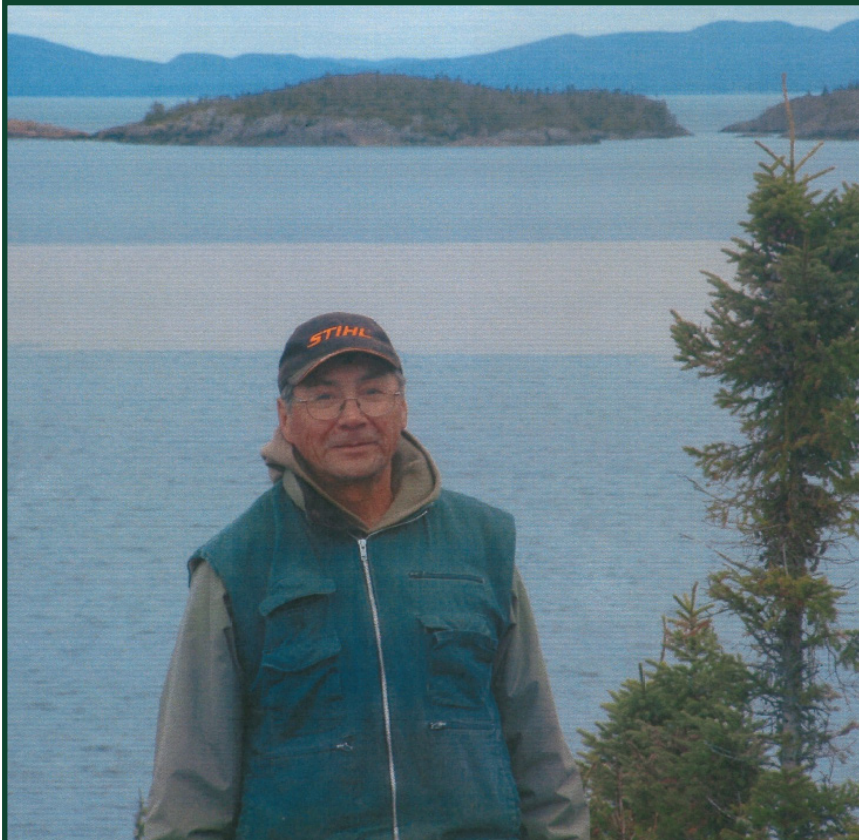
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A Word from an Elder

Meet Lindsay Moses, a Biigtigong Nishnaabeg Elder and past employee of Pukaskwa National Park. Over his years of employment with Parks Canada, Lindsay became known for his ability to enhance and preserve the land's natural beauty. When asked how he learned to take such great care of the land, Lindsay replied:

"I learned what I know from trapping. I was out in the bush lots growing up, that's how I learned how to take care of it. I worked at Pukaskwa Park for 15 years. It was a good place. I got to meet lots of people out on the trail. I met 13 Elders paddling on canoe; they were picking up garbage on the shore as we were doing the same on the trail. I enjoyed working there. I did lots of trail work so bring your garbage out and keep those trails clean!"



Fees

ADMISSION

	DAILY PASS	SEASONAL PASS	DISCOVERY PASS
YOUTH (0-17 years of age)	Free	Free	Free
ADULT (18-64 years of age)	\$6.50	\$33.00	\$75.25
SENIOR (65 years of age and over)	\$5.50	\$27.50	\$64.50
GROUP (up to 7 people in one vehicle)	\$13.50	\$65.50	\$151.25

CAMPING/NIGHT

	PEAK SEASON (June 15 - September 14)	SHOULDER SEASON (May 15 - June 14, September 15 - October 15)
ELECTRICAL SITE	\$33.00	\$22.00
NON-ELECTRICAL SITE	\$28.50	\$17.50
OTENTIK SITE	\$133.25	\$111.00
BACKCOUNTRY SITE (per person)	\$13.50	\$13.50



Electrical and non-electrical sites operate on a first-come, first-stay basis. They are non-reservable. oTENTik and backcountry sites are reservable, and can be reserved online, in-person or over the telephone at 1-877-RESERVE (1-877-737-3783).

For more information or to book online, please refer to parks.canada.ca/pn-np/on/pukaskwa/visit/reserver-reserve or scan the QR Code to the left.

Hours of operations

Pukaskwa National Park is open seasonally from May 15 to October 15. See below for other operational specifics.

	DATE(S)	TIME(S)
ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING	Year-round	Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
CAMPGROUND HOST (CAMPSITE 6)	May 15 to October 15	Daily, 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.
COMFORT STATIONS & LAUNDRY	May 15 to October 15	Daily
HATTIE COVE CAMPGROUND NORTH LOOP	June 15 to September 15	Check in and check out time is 11:00 a.m.
HATTIE COVE CAMPGROUND SOUTH LOOP	May 15 to October 14	Check in and check out time is 11:00 a.m.
KIOSK	May 15 to June 14 June 15 to September 15 September 16 to October 15	Daily, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Daily, 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Daily, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
OTENTIK SITES	May 15 to October 14	Check in time is 3:00 p.m. and check out time is 11:00 a.m.
INTERPRETIVE PROGRAMMING	July 1 to first weekend in September	Daily, see posted schedules
VISITOR CENTRE & CANOE RENTALS	June 15 to September 15	Daily, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Things to know while visiting the park

ACCESSIBLE CAMPSITES

When possible, please leave campsites 3 and 5 in the South Loop empty for those who require an accessible site.

‘BARE’ CAMPSITE PROGRAM

It is important to ensure that wildlife attractants are never left unattended. Store all food and food-related items in a hard-sided vehicle/trailer/motor home or in the campground food storage lockers (not in a tent or tent-trailer) when not in use.

CAMPGROUND HOSTS

Located at site 6, campground hosts are friendly, experienced campers who volunteer in the park to help make your trip more enjoyable. From 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. they sell firewood, answer questions and can call for emergency assistance. Interested in becoming a campground host? Talk to staff at the Park Kiosk or the Visitor Centre.

LAUNDRY

Located at the South Loop comfort station. Change for laundry is available at the Park Kiosk and the Visitor Centre.

DUMPING STATION

A trailer dumping station is located near the Administration Building for registered overnight visitors. The trailer dumping station does not accept chemically treated waste.

FIREWOOD

Can be purchased at the Park Kiosk or Campground Host site. To avoid the risk of introducing harmful invasive species to Pukaskwa, please only use firewood obtained within an 80 km radius of the park. If you purchase firewood on-site during your stay, please return re-useable firewood bags to the Park Kiosk.

GARBAGE & RECYCLING

Located at the comfort stations. Ensure all containers are washed thoroughly to reduce the potential of attracting wildlife. Paper, plastics, glass, and metal cans are accepted for recycling.

POTABLE WATER

Park water is tested regularly. For RVs, a water fill-up station is located at the comfort station in the South Loop. For water bottles, a fill station is available at each comfort station.

SUPPLIES & NEARBY COMMUNITIES

Biigtigong Nishnaabeg is the nearest community to the park. It has two convenience stores and a gas station that can serve you. The Town of Marathon is the closest full-service community to the park, with a large grocery store, a hardware store, a laundromat, and several other businesses to provide all the supplies you will need for your stay at Pukaskwa.

WILDLIFE CAMERAS & PRIVACY

Wildlife cameras are used in the park for wildlife conservation purposes. Concerned about your privacy? So are we. That's why we delete images of visitors captured on our cameras. However, images that show illegal activities that may have serious impacts on wildlife, or put the safety of visitors at risk, may be used for law enforcement purposes.

COMMENT CARDS

How was your visit at Pukaskwa National Park? We want to know! Help us serve you better by filling out a comment card. They can be found at the Park Kiosk, Visitor Centre or at one of the comfort stations.

Rules and regulations



Federal, provincial and municipal laws apply while on lands and waters administered by Parks Canada. Rules and regulations are in place to protect the ecological and commemorative integrity of Pukaskwa National Park, and to ensure the enjoyment of all visitors. It is your responsibility to be aware of these rules. Contravention of laws or Pukaskwa National Park rules may result in fines and/or your removal from the park.

These rules do not alter or diminish any Indigenous or Treaty Rights.

WHILE VISITING THE PARK, IT IS PROHIBITED TO:

- Collect or disturb berries, bark, plants, trees, driftwood, animals, rocks, shells, artifacts, archaeological objects, or cultural features.
- Fish without a valid Ontario fishing license. Anglers must follow all applicable Ontario fishing regulations for Zone 7 and 9, including no use of live baitfish in Zone 7. Barbless hooks, lead-free weights and artificial lures are encouraged everywhere.
- Possess or use firewood that has not been sourced from within an 80 km radius of the park.
- Possess or release exotic species into the park.
- Consume alcohol or cannabis outside of your campsite.
- Drive or park in non-designated areas.
- Use recreational vehicles (i.e. ATVs, jet skis, over-snow vehicles).
- Use motorized vessels in Hattie Cove beyond the Visitor Centre, or in Halfway Lake.
- Use speeds excessive enough to cause a wake while navigating Hattie Cove or the White River by boat.
- Store boats along Hattie Cove shoreline or other shorelines along the Lake Superior coast within the park.
- Moor overnight without a permit in Hattie Cove, unless for safe harbour purposes.
- Disrupt, obstruct, divert or pollute any watercourse in the park.
- Use a drone for filming/recreational purposes without a permit.
- Film and/or take photographs for commercial purposes without a permit.
- Host large-scale and small-scale events in the park without a permit.
- Possess or use firearms or fireworks.
- Allow a pet off-leash, leave a pet unattended on a campsite, or not clean up pet waste.
- Dump dirty dishwater anywhere in the campground except for the comfort station dish sinks.
- Create excessive noise at any time of the day and during quiet hours – 11:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m.
- Start a fire outside of metal fire boxes or firepits provided.
- Go off-trail or fail to use established hiking/walking trails and roadways.
- Bicycle on hiking trails or anywhere except roadways.
- Use park facilities, like potable water or dumping stations, when not registered to a campsite.
- Store food or gear long-term (greater than registered stay) in food lockers.
- Block access to any park facility, including garbage sheds and food storage lockers.
- Access any "Zone 1 - Preservation Areas" including those in proximity to Middle Beach, Otter Island, Oiseau Bay and all petroform sites.



EMERGENCIES

For emergencies, bear sightings, maintenance issues or campground disturbances, contact park staff, the campground host or call the Parks Canada dispatch service at: **1-877-852-3100 or 1-780-852-3100**

An AED (Automatic External Defibrillator) is at the South Loop Comfort Station, beside the bulletin boards, facing the road.

Rules and regulations



WHILE VISITING OVERNIGHT CAMPING AREAS, IT IS PROHIBITED TO:

- Camp in non-designated areas, such as parking areas or the canoe launch.
- Have more than 2 shelters (tents, RVs, etc.) and 6 people per campsite.
- Register for a campsite under the age of 18 and to leave any persons under the age of 18 unsupervised at said campsite.
- Stay at the same campsite longer than 13 nights, 14 days.
- Leave food, garbage or wildlife attractants out when you are away from your campsite for any length of time.
- Leave a fire unattended while away from a campsite for any length of time.
- Not register for overnight backcountry excursions.
- Leave food wrappers, beverage containers or other waste onsite following your departure. All campsites are "Pack In, Pack Out," whereby all garbage brought into the site must be brought out on your person.



Rules and regulations can also be found on the park website at parks.canada.ca/pn-np/on/pukaskwa/visit/reglement-rules-and-regulations or via the QR code to the left.

BARE Campsite program

A special effort is being made by both park staff and campers to ensure that wildlife attractants are never left unattended at any sites in this campground.

HOW TO KEEP A 'BARE' CAMPSITE:

- Store all food and food-related items in a hard-sided vehicle/trailer/motor home or in the campground food storage lockers (not in a tent or tent-trailer) when not in use.
- Keep your stove and BBQ clean when not in use. Store them securely if you can.
- This policy applies whenever you are sleeping or when your site is unattended for any length of time
- When away from your site, you may leave out your camping furniture (e.g. lawn chairs, lanterns, and tents).



Activities in the park

ANISHINAABE CAMP: OUR HOME

Handcrafted by local Knowledge Keepers, the Anishinaabe Camp is nestled in a protected cove, surrounded by clear water and lush forest. It serves as an incredible illustration of a life lived before us and holds space for those traditions to live on. It is a meeting place to remember and honour, built for both local communities and visitors alike. Bbaawijiwshinaang (join us) for special events, programs or to simply enjoy the space.

CANOE & KAYAK RENTALS

Canoes and sit-on-top kayaks are available for rental at the Visitor Centre for use in Hattie Cove. The canoe launch and racks are accessed through the South Loop, between campsites 11 and 12.

VISITOR CENTRE

Located beside Hattie Cove, the Visitor Centre offers you refuge from the elements, free WiFi, trail and tourism information and a place to peruse park paraphernalia and local artwork during your stay at Pukaskwa. Open daily between June 15 and September 15, our friendly park staff can help you learn about the unique features of Pukaskwa National Park.

INTERPRETIVE PROGRAMMING

Our knowledgeable interpretation team is here to help deepen your knowledge and appreciation of Pukaskwa's natural and cultural heritage. Program schedules can be found posted throughout the park.

XPLOREERS

For children ages 6-11, Xplorer booklets provide a great way to find adventure and learn about Pukaskwa National Park. Bring your completed booklet to the Visitor Centre to receive a cool collectible!

COASTIES

Do you want to become a citizen scientist? Parks Canada is pleased to support a University of Windsor research initiative that monitors our changing coastlines.

Pukaskwa National Park has 2 stations - one at Horseshoe Beach and another at Middle Beach. Take photos at these locations and submit them to coastiecanada.ca or scan the QR code to the right!



Species at risk conservation

Did you know that Pukaskwa National Park provides habitat for over 27 species at risk? Species at risk are plants, animals and fungi that are at risk of becoming extinct in Canada due to loss of habitat, climate change, or other factors that limit population stability or growth. National Parks and other protected areas provide important refuge for these species to survive and thrive.

As a world leader in conservation, Parks Canada uses a multi-species approach to develop a strategy for our park. We collaborate with partners and focus our efforts on making a tangible contribution to the recovery of species at risk, and building Canadians' awareness, appreciation, and support for species at risk conservation.

Our action plan outlines recovery measures to support protection and recovery of species at risk in Pukaskwa National Park.



Photo: Parks Canada Ecology Team assembling a bat microphone.

It can be accessed online at www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/species-risk-public-registry/report-progress-recovery-document/pukaskwa-2022.html or by scanning the QR code below.

You can explore examples of ongoing conservation efforts for species at risk during your visit to Pukaskwa National Park. An acoustic recording station for monitoring bat activity can be found on Bimose Kinoomagewnan, information on Pitcher's Thistle recovery can be found while hiking on Middle Beach or near Oiseau Bay, and various wildlife exhibits can be found within the Visitor Centre. Please do not hesitate to ask our Visitor Centre or Park Kiosk staff for more information on species at risk conservation, as we'd love to help you!



Photo: Pitcher's Thistle plant photographed near Oiseau Bay.

Lake sturgeon

Visitors of Pukaskwa National Park may recognize White River as a destination to traverse an epic suspension bridge, but it is also an important spawning area for fish – especially Lake sturgeon!

Lake sturgeon are torpedo-shaped, bottom feeding, freshwater fish. Some females can live more than 100 years, measure over 2 m and even weigh up to 180 kg! Sturgeon have existed in the Great Lakes for about 10,000 years but the species is thought to have existed for at least 65 million years. Unfortunately, due to historic overfishing and habitat loss, Lake sturgeon are now a threatened species.



In 2023, Parks Canada team members collected Lake sturgeon from the White River to implant them with acoustic transmitters. Their movements will be tracked so that we can better understand which areas of shoreline the fish frequent and at what times of the year. The team tagged 20 fish, with the largest one being 159 cm long and 26.75 kg!

Visitors are asked to report any sightings of Lake sturgeon to park staff. Conservation efforts like these will help to restore the Lake sturgeon population.

Help preserve the past!

The land that you are on is the Traditional Territory of Biigtigong Nishnaabeg and Netmizaaggamig Nishnaabeg. The Anishinaabe people are the original caretakers of this land and have called this area home since time immemorial. Collette Goodchild, late Elder of Biigtigong Nishnaabeg, once commented “We the Anishinaabe, are the people of the north shore of Chigaam. We have known this land and water, which is now called Pukaskwa National Park and Lake Superior, for generations.”

Parks Canada protects many types of cultural resources.

Archaeological objects (artifacts) are cultural resources and many have been found in the park including stone projectile points, ceramic fragments and Pukaskwa Pits. Archaeological objects are part of the record of human activity at Pukaskwa National Park and have significant cultural importance to Indigenous



peoples. Archaeological objects found within the park can date as far back as 9,000 years! Parks Canada needs your help to protect these irreplaceable resources. If you happen to find an archaeological object within the park, follow these steps:

- **Do not touch or disturb it!** Regardless of the object's size, moving it may harm it and the exact location it's found can help uncover some of its story.
- **Record the object's location.** Be as detailed as possible and use GPS coordinates if you can.
- **Take photos.** Photos are very useful to park staff. They help start the evaluation process and will help with re-locating the object.
- **Report what you found to park staff.** Send a detailed email to pukaskwaont@pc.gc.ca.

Before retrieving an object, park staff work collaboratively with representatives from Biigtigong Nishnaabeg to access the site and if and when appropriate, collect, and care for these sacred objects in a mutually agreed manner that acknowledges and respects their significance. Do you want to know more? Ask our friendly Visitor Centre or Park Kiosk staff!

Photo: A ceramic fragment found in Pukaskwa from the terminal woodland period (AD 700-1650).



Frontcountry trails

EASY TRAILS

BOARDWALK BEACH TRAIL

1.2km with 0.2km of boardwalk • 30 minute hike • Accessible trail; boardwalk and stable gravel surfaces

Enjoy a boardwalk stroll to Pukaskwa's famous Horseshoe Bay and discover the delicate beauty of the nearby sand dunes. Experience a sunset at Horseshoe Beach and embrace the sounds of the rolling waves.

HATTIE COVE FIRE WALK VIA THE COASTAL HIKING TRAIL

0.7km • 20 minute hike • Natural surface; few tree roots

Wander through the 2012 Hattie Cove Prescribed Fire area and learn about the role of fire in a boreal ecosystem! Roughly one hectare in size, see for yourself how quickly regeneration occurs in the boreal forest.

MODERATE TRAILS

BEACH TRAIL

2km • 1 hour hike • Natural surface with sandy sections; frequent driftwood obstacles

Meander along Pukaskwa's sandy, driftwood beaches that are nestled amongst Lake Superior's coves and harbours. Middle Beach is the perfect place to splash around or simply sit and play in the sand.

BIMOSE KINOOMAGEWNAN (*Bim-moh-say Kin-oh-mah-geh-wa-nun*)

3.7km • 2 hour hike • Natural surface with built stairs; some obstacles, loose rocks and tree roots

Learn the Seven Grandfather Teachings from Anishinaabe Elders and youth on Bimose Kinoomagewnan, the "Walk of Teachings". Read Elders' stories about love, honesty, respect, wisdom, truth, humility, and courage in local culture. See how the next generation understands these teachings through their accompanying artwork as you hike peacefully around Halfway Lake.

MANITO MIIKANA (*Man-ih-to Mee-kan-ah*)

2km • 1 hour hike • Natural surface with built stairs; some obstacles, loose rocks and tree roots

Want to slip away for a moment of peace and relaxation? Hike Manito Miikana, "the Spirit Trail." Peek through a rocky ravine as you climb up for panoramic views of Lake Superior and the Pic River Dunes. Rest and enjoy the beauty from two viewing decks along the trail.

SOUTHERN HEADLAND TRAIL

2.2km • 1 hour 15 minutes hike • Natural surface with built stairs; some obstacles, loose rock and tree roots

Experience the wild shore of an inland sea. This rugged trail juts into Lake Superior with views of Hattie Cove, Pulpwood Harbour, and Horseshoe Bay. Look for tiny arctic-alpine plants, lichens and other unique life forms shielded amongst the rock formations.

PARKS CANADA RED CHAIRS

In 2014, Parks Canada officially launched the red chair experience at select National Parks and National Historic Sites across the country. We're pleased to offer this experience at Pukaskwa National Park and we encourage visitors to find and take photos with the red chairs!

Two sets of red chairs can be found in Pukaskwa's frontcountry: one set on the Southern Headland Trail, and one set near the Anishinaabe Camp. Take a seat and bask in the serene natural beauty that Pukaskwa National Park has to offer!



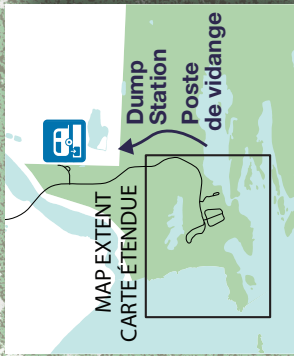
Photo: Parks Canada red chairs on the Southern Headland Trail.

Hattie Cove Anse Hattie Bii to bii gong

- Parking/Stationnement
- Toilet/Toilette
- Telephone/Téléphone
- Fee Station/Poste de péage des droits
- Picnic Area/Aire de pique-nique
- Campground/Terrain de camping
- Hiking Trail/Sentier de randonnée pédestre
- Interpretive programming/Programmation interprétative
- Anishinaabe Camp/Camp Anishinaabe
- Park Store/Boutique du parc
- WiFi
- Canoe Launch/Rampe de mise à l'eau des canots
- Accessible
- Information/Renseignements
- Firewood/Bois à brûlage
- Composting Toilet/Toilette à compostage
- Shower/Douche
- Lookout/Belvédère
- Dump Station/Poste de vidange



0 100 200
metres / mètres



Halfway Lake
Lac à-mi-chemin
Aabita onigaan zaagigan

**Bimose
Kinoomageewnan**

**Park Kiosk
Kiosque du parc**



**North Loop
Boucle Nord**

**Beach Trail
Sentier de la plage**

**Boardwalk Beach Trail
Sentier de la plage sur
promenade de bois**

Manito Miikana

**South Loop
Boucle Sud**

**Southern Headland Trail
Sentier de la Pointe Sud**

**Fire Walk via
Coastal Hiking Trail
Randonnée du feu
via la Piste côtière**

Hattie Cove / L'anse Hattie
Bii to bii gong

**Visitor Centre & Day Use
Centre d'accueil et aire diurne**



Pulpwood Harbour
Havre Pulpwood
Gaa bii tawopka

Lake Superior
Lac Supérieur
Chigaam

- Road/Route
- Trail/Sentier
- Building/Bâtiment

Backcountry trails

WHITE RIVER SUSPENSION BRIDGE

18km / 15m elevation gain/loss / 8 hour hike return from Visitor Centre / Natural surface; obstacles, loose rock and tree roots

Craving adventure? This full-day hike to the White River Suspension Bridge is not for the faint of heart. Part of the rugged and beautiful Coastal Hiking Trail, the White River Suspension Bridge crosses 23m above Chigamiwinigum Falls. We strongly recommend wearing appropriate footwear and taking food, water, sunscreen, and bug protection with you on this all-day, 18km hike.

MDAABII MIIKNA (Mid-ah-bee Mee-kan-ah)

24km / 100m elevation gain/loss / Natural surface; obstacles, loose rock and tree roots

Up for an overnight challenge? This 24 km return hike from the Visitor Centre is perfect for experienced hikers looking to spend time in the backcountry without committing to a lengthy trip down the Coastal Hiking Trail. While it is possible to complete the Mdaabii Miikna hike in one day, it is not recommended. Consider spending the night at one of the backcountry sites in Playter or Picture Rock Harbour instead!

All backcountry sites can be reserved using the Parks Canada Reservation System online, over-the-phone, or in-person. More information on the reservation system can be found online at parks.canada.ca/pn-np/on/pukaskwa/visit/reserver-reserve or by scanning the QR code to the right.



Please note that all individuals planning to stay overnight in Pukaskwa National Park's backcountry must undergo a **mandatory safety orientation** with our Visitor Experience staff prior to departing the frontcountry.

Coastal Hiking Trail & Paddling Route



Ready to truly disconnect? Pukaskwa National Park's Coastal Hiking Trail and Coastal Paddling Route offer an incredible escape into nature for those seeking adventure and solitude. With remote backcountry campsites, untouched wilderness, and breathtaking views, our remote and undeveloped backcountry is the perfect destination for backpackers and paddlers alike.

Interested in venturing into our backcountry? Refer to our backcountry trip planners online for more information! They can be found at parks.canada.ca/pn-np/on/pukaskwa/activ/experience/arriere-back or by scanning the QR code to the left.

SHOW OFF YOUR RUGGED ADVENTURE!



Did you complete the 18 km hike to the White River Suspension Bridge?

Drop by the Park Kiosk or Visitor Centre to pick up your reward sticker!

Did you complete the **entire** Coastal Hiking Trail or Coastal Paddling Route?

Drop by the Park Kiosk or Visitor Centre to pick up your reward patch!



Mdaabii Miikna & White River Suspension Bridge Mdaabii Miikna et Pont suspendu de la rivière White

