

## MAINE'S ALLAGASH WILDERNESS WATERWAY

A magnificent stretch of wilderness in Aroostook County, Maine, is a 92 mile ribbon of lakes, rivers, ponds, and streams extending from the state's northern border to the town of Allagash. The remarkable area is widely renowned for its exquisite natural beauty and is also a popular destination for outdoor fans eager to cast a line in pursuit of salmon and trout.

This Maine paddle is one of America's best adventures. From its roots in the history of Maine's Wabanaki tribes to its role in the state's booming lumber industry, the Allagash is steeped in heritage and natural wonder. As you explore the waterway, you will come across many historical sites and artifacts that speak to the area's cultural significance, such as the Ghost Trains on Eagle Lake or The Thoreau Campsite, which prolific American author Henry David Thoreau once enjoyed.



AROOSTOOK  
THE CROWN OF MAINE



"I went to the woods because I wished to live deliberately, and see if I could not learn what it had to teach, and not, when I came to die, discover that I had not lived." - **Henry David Thoreau**

📍 **MAP IT:** There are seven points where one can directly access the Waterway by motor vehicle. Search 'Allagash Wilderness Waterway' on [www.MaineTrailFinder.com](http://www.MaineTrailFinder.com)



Explorers of the area partake in recreational activities such as **canoeing, fishing, and sightseeing** - there are both tranquil stretches and whitewater rapids throughout the waterway. The full experience of the Allagash Wilderness Waterway will take you seven days to complete; you will camp in backcountry campsites and be miles from cell service. The night sky above the river ranks as one of New England's darkest skies. During the day, the popular activity other than paddling is fishing; a thriving population of **native Maine brook trout, lake trout, and landlocked salmon** can be found, and many of them have great size to them. The waterway is the backdrop to any tall tails for the local **Registered Maine Guides**, and their legendary stories are still being made in the pristine

wilderness today.

On July 19, 1970, Maine's Allagash Wilderness Waterway became the first state-administered river to be designated by the United States as a component of the federal **Wild and Scenic River Program**. This means the river is forever in its natural state and undeveloped making it a wild and remote destination ripe for an Aroostook adventure.

The best time to explore the Allagash is May to September, when the waterway comes alive with incredible wildlife sightings. **Moose** encounters are frequent. The beast is most active half an hour after dusk and before dawn, but **bald eagles** and **black bears** are also possible sights.

**TOP RIGHT**  
Back Channel  
Campsite on  
Round Pond in  
T12R13  
**ABOVE RIGHT**  
Fly fishing at  
Rocky Brook  
Falls off Hewes  
Brook Road  
**OPPOSITE**  
Backcountry  
campsite is a

If you want a cabin experience on your Allagash visit, check out the sporting camps on **Eagle and Chamberlain Lake** and take day trips to launch sites on the river. The camps offer activities like guided canoe excursions and allow anglers, paddlers, and hunters alike to experience the Allagash like never before. Campsites are where most overnight paddlers will stay - camping areas are on a first-come, first-served basis and restricted to 12 or fewer people. Sites designated along the water are plentiful but offer no amenities and are carry-in and carry-out, providing an authentic backcountry camping experience.

Due to its challenging and remote character, the Allagash is best enjoyed by enlisting the help of a

registered Maine Guide. For the outdoor adventurer seeking an authentic Maine wilderness experience, there no better way to experience the hidden gems of the region than with a Maine Guide.

With their experience, you can encounter the magic of the Allagash Wilderness Waterway in a safe and comfortable way. Whether you are a seasoned paddler or a beginner, they offer trips that cater to your needs and skill level. A Registered Maine Guides' expertise and guidance will ensure that you have a memorable and rewarding experience.

Whether you are an experienced canoeist or a rookie angler, you will surely savor this wild, remote corner of Maine.

★ VISIT AROOSTOOK COUNTY  
PRO TIP

The region is known as the last true stronghold for Native brook trout populations.



[comenorth.org](http://comenorth.org)