

MAGPIE RIVER EXPEDITION ITINERARY

Day 1: Sept Iles/ float plane/ Magpie River

Early this afternoon we meet in the small port city of Sept Iles, Quebec. Boarding a bus, we drive one hour to a lake where we are met by the float plane that transports us to our starting point on Magpie Lake. The forty mile flight over the rugged, glaciated terrain is spectacular. The plane drops us on the shore of Magpie Lake just above where the Magpie River exits into the first rapid.

Day 2-6: Magpie River (rafting/ camping)

For six days we will explore a river canyon, which aside from the occasional explorer, few people have ever seen. We will run many challenging class 3 - 4+ rapids. Often the clear northern night sky is filled with the magical pulsing light of the aurora borealis. On the water we will pass beaches covered with track of moose, wolves and bear. A highlight of the expedition is Magpie Falls; where the entire river hurtles eighty-five feet off the Laurentian plateau in a thunderous crescendo of sound and spray. Our camp directly across from the falls is one of the most spectacular found on any river trip.

Fishing: The Magpie's remote falls, deep pools and pristine water make for excellent fishing and there will be ample time to fish at camp.

Day 7: Magpie River/ Sept Iles

This morning we run the biggest rapid on the river (class 5) that starts directly below a thirty foot falls. The rapid dumps into a small lake enclosed by smooth glaciated granite cliffs. From here we paddle to the takeout just above the Magpie-St. Lawrence River junction. With the vast wilderness to our right and the open St. Lawrence to our left, we drive back to Sept Iles. That evening there is a farewell dinner and the night is spent at the hotel.

Day 8: Sept Iles/ Departure

This morning (on our own) we transfer to the airport for the flight back to Montreal.