

Join us on the Romaine River

Raft the Romaine

8 Days • Pristine Wilderness • Whitewater Rafting

Getting Started

Welcome to Boreal River

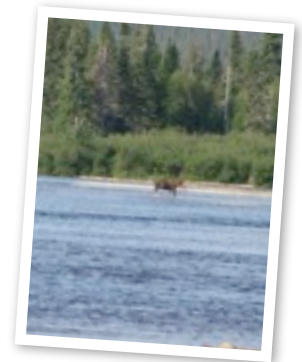
Boreal River guides greet you at the airport in Sept Iles and we depart for a beautiful drive along the coast to Havre Saint Pierre. Passing through small fishing villages we begin to get a feel for the culture of Quebec's North Shore region as we spot old but meticulously maintained churches and shops with friendly locals selling homemade jams and wild caught crabs. The area's natural attractions beam out at us as well: to our left, a roadless wilderness of rivers and forest and to the right, sweeping seascapes with distant islands and rocky bays.

In one of these bays, about fifteen minutes outside of the town of Havre Saint Pierre, we find our first night's accommodations. Those arriving in their own vehicles will meet at this spot. Here, a collection of cabins sit perched by the sea and look out at the islands of Mingan Archipelago National Park. A walking trail along the coast brings us to the out-flowing of the Romaine River. This evening we enjoy a welcome dinner and get to know the rest of the group and guides. We go over the plan as well as some packing tips for the next day's departure.

The following morning a short drive brings us to the airport where we weigh in and board the float planes. The thirty minute flight offers superb views. Forest clad hills and hundreds of lakes spread out in front of us as we leave the coast behind and head into the wilderness.

2009 Trip Dates

Aug 23 - Aug 30, 2009



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From the Coast to the Interior

Over the next six days we descend the Romaine river running numerous rapids. We use 14 foot self-bailing paddle rafts, each holding up to six paddlers plus an expert guide. We also have a safety kayak guide who leads the pack. The first section of our trip contains mild current and easy whitewater providing for a great warm up. Guides explain river safety and we practice paddling and maneuvering the rafts as we build confidence.

Soon, the river narrows and we enter a canyon with numerous fun rapids. Exhilarating slides and big wave trains empty into calm pools where we can pause to take in the spectacular canyon scenery. Eventually we arrive at "Bassin des Murrailles" (the "Basin of Murals") where the gorge spills into a small lake surrounded by cliffs and cascading streams.

Over the course of the trip we encounter several unrunnable rapids around which we 'portage' all of our equipment. Guides take care of the rafts and heavier items and everybody takes part with the drybags and smaller items within their own level of comfort. We plan for extra time at these spots to rest and explore the areas around the falls.

Trip Snapshot

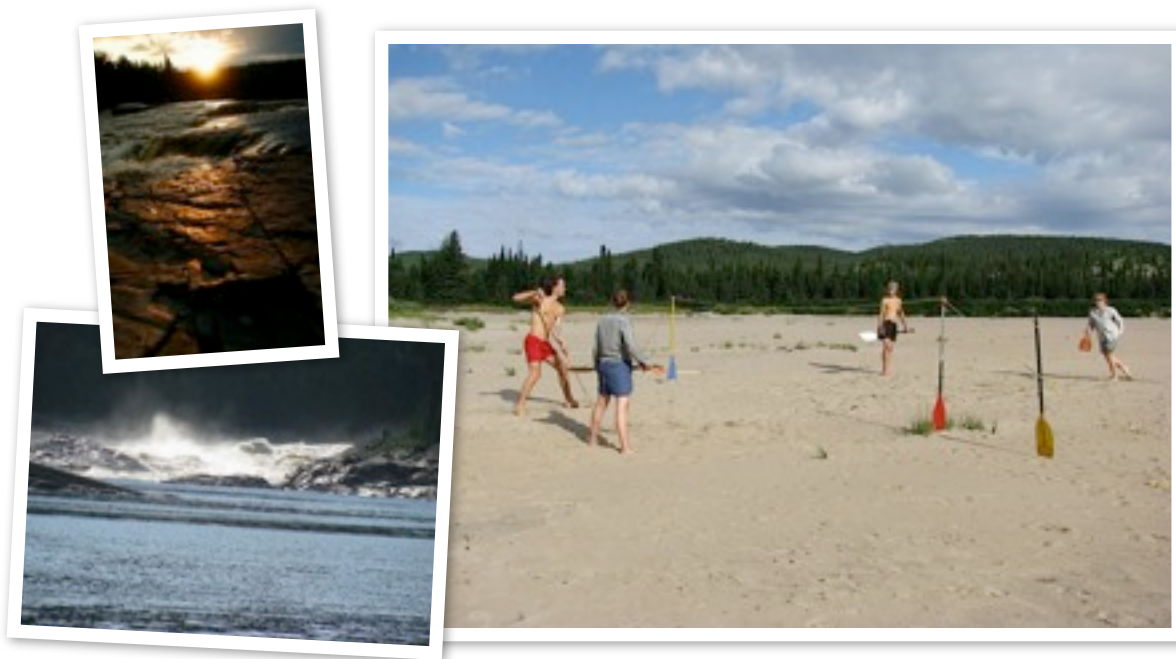
Day 1 ~ Rendezvous, welcome dinner, overnight lodging in seaside cabins.

Day 2 ~ Float plane fly-in to Romaine River. Raft to first camp.

Days 3 to 6 ~ Descend and explore the Romaine. Raft numerous rapids, hike side canyons, and camp at different spots by the river each night.

Day 7 ~ Mid-day float plane flight back to Havre-Saint-Pierre. Overnight lodging in seaside cabins. Farewell Dinner.

Day 8: ~ Breakfast and airport drop-off.



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Camping in Comfort

A room with a view...

Each camp has its own character and allows us different vantage points of the river valley. We set up tents on beaches and flat rock ledges and collect driftwood for a fire. Guides prepare 'happy hour' and you can change into dry clothes, relax with a book, take a swim, or go fishing.

Experienced anglers will rejoice in the quality of speckled (brook) trout fishing in the evenings and early mornings. We also bring along several fly fishing rods and guides will teach those interested how to flycast.

Meals are delicious, wholesome, and plentiful. We cook sauces on a stove, grill meats and vegetables over open fire, and bake desserts in a dutch oven. We use as many fresh, locally bought ingredients as possible: produce from a greenhouse near Sept-Iles, organic Quebec farmed cheeses and meats, and wild caught seafood from Matane and Havre-St-Pierre. Some imported items still make it in...we have a soft spot for wines from the world over.

Evenings are relaxed with a crackling fire and a pot of fresh picked Labrador Tea as we settle in for nights under the starry northern sky. August is the time for meteor showers and if we're lucky, dazzling displays of Northern Lights.

A Grand Finale

Our final camp is at the magnificent Grande Chute, a powerful 30 meter (90 foot waterfall). Awaking after our fifth night on the river we enjoy breakfast and a relaxing morning taking in our last moments in these spectacular surroundings. Today we will get picked up by the float planes and return to Havre Saint Pierre. The comfortable seaside accommodations provide the perfect atmosphere to ease back into 'civilization'.

Dinner is spent recounting stories and memories from our incredible week and discussing plans for future adventures. In the morning we say our goodbyes before heading onwards. Those flying out of Sept Iles this afternoon will depart after breakfast and we can stop along the drive for souvenirs and final photos of the North Shore.

Why Join Boreal River?

1. Small Groups

Maximum ten participants per trip. (Larger groups possible for private trips)

2. We take care of all the details

Specialized equipment provided making your packing list simple.

Trip price includes accommodations before and after expedition and airport pickup and drop-off.

3. The Most Professional

From your first contact with us to your complimentary trip DVD, our service will exceed your expectations.

Boreal River guides, safety standards, and equipment are the best in the industry.

Ready to join? Call toll free (866) 242-9383

www.BorealRiver.com

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The Details

Price

\$2,650 Canadian Dollars plus taxes, All-Inclusive

Who's this trip for?

This trip is for anyone ages 12 and up who is physically active. No previous whitewater or wilderness camping experience is necessary.

Swimming ability is recommended.

What's included in the trip price?

- All ground transportation and float plane flights from meeting points onwards.
- All accommodations for seven nights. (two nights shared hotel room, five nights individual tent).
- All delicious food from day one dinner through day eight breakfast.
- Some wine and spirits for evenings at camp.
- High quality camping equipment: large drybag, expedition tent, inflatable mattress, sleeping bag and sleeping bag liner, pillow with pillow case.
- River equipment including personal flotation device, helmet, and splash jacket.
- Basic fly fishing equipment and fly fishing permits.
- Professional guide staff always available.

What's not included?

- Airfare or ground transportation to and from trip meeting points.
- Personal items. See packing list.
- Alcoholic beverages for evenings at the hotel (nights one and seven).
- Travel and medical insurance.
- Optional guide gratuities.

How to Sign Up

Call our reservation specialist toll free at (866) 242-9383 to reserve your spot with your credit card. We require a 50% deposit, and a 50% balance payment when you arrive at the start of your trip in Sept-11es.

What you can expect from Boreal River

Our mission is to provide our guests with the most high quality, fun, and secure wilderness trips. We strive for excellence in service. Our overall success is dependent on the health, safety, and happiness of our guests, our staff, our communities, and the natural environment.

What kind of insurance do I need?

Participants on Boreal River trips need to have appropriate Medical Evacuation insurance as any emergency evacuation costs will be billed to the injured person. Medical insurance should cover emergency air evacuation from the river to a local hospital, medical treatment within Canada, and repatriation to a medical care facility in your home region.

We also strongly recommend obtaining Trip Cancellation insurance, which will reimburse you for the unused portion of your Boreal River trip if you must cancel prior to departure or leave your trip early due to illness, accident, or family emergency.

If you have insurance coverage from a credit card or an existing plan, please make sure that it will cover you for the above mentioned emergency situations and that you are covered while participating in whitewater activities and remote wilderness travel.

If you are looking for an insurance package for Medical Evacuation, Trip Cancellation, or both, we recommend calling Master Travel at 1-888-567-3534. They are based in Alberta and can provide Canadians or travelers from any country with appropriate insurance for our trips as well as coverage for any travel that you are planning before or after your visit with Boreal River. For more information about the coverage or if you would like a price quote, give them a call and they will be happy to answer any questions.

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Packing List

The Romaine typically has great weather in August with warm sunny days and cool starry nights. The river is fairly warm and full wetsuits or drysuits are not necessary. We will, however, be relatively far north and any combination of strange weather can occur. We carry a full set of 'river clothes' as well 'camp clothes'. It is best to dress in layers.

First a 'wicking layer' of thin material that sends moisture away from our body. Next, some thicker synthetic (fleece) or wool "insulating layers" and lastly an outer layer that provides a barrier from wind and water.

Cotton garments should be avoided as they dry very slowly and steal body heat when wet. Please follow the packing list closely and let us know if you have any questions.

Equipment that we will provide for you:

- A giant drybag in which to keep all of your personal items.
- A smaller drybag that will be accessible during the day in which you can keep your rainwear, sunscreen, etc.
- An expedition tent. Shared for couples, individuals will get his or her own.
- An inflatable mattress
- A cozy sleeping bag
- A sleeping bag liner
- A pillow and pillow case
- Whitewater helmet and flotation device
- Wind and waterproof 'splash' jacket

Your Packing List

River Clothing:

- 1 pair of shoes for the river. The ideal river shoe is lightweight and draining yet supportive enough for walking on portages and scouting rapids, with a grippy sole. These can be lightweight running shoes, water shoes with a supportive sole, or sturdy sandals with toe covering.

- 1 pair of thermal socks for the river. Wool, fleece, or synthetic.
- bathing suit / surf shorts
- lightweight synthetic t-shirt
- top and bottom medium weight long underwear.
- longsleeve neoprene 'surf' top or longsleeve medium-weight fleece top

For Camp:

- 1 pair of shoes
- 3 pairs of thermal socks
- undergarments
- lightweight t-shirt
- lightweight long-sleeve shirt
- lightweight 'quick dry' long pants
- top and bottom medium-weight synthetic or wool long underwear
- heavyweight fleece or wool sweater
- rain gear top and bottom
- toque (wool or fleece winter hat)
- sun hat
- small quick-dry towel
- small flashlight or headlamp with extra batteries
- sunscreen, lip protection, and insect repellent-
- water bottle, 1 litre with an attachment loop
- sunglasses with strap
- prescription glasses with strap if necessary
- toiletry kit with biodegradable soap and shampoo as well as personal medications
- optional: reading material, journal, binoculars, camera (waterproof or with very waterproof case)
- optional: fly fishing rod with tackle and hard carrying case. We provide permits and basic equipment but experienced anglers will enjoy using their own specialized gear

General:

- some clothes for the trip home
- travel documents (passport) and medical insurance cards or policies.