

WABAKIMI PROVINCIAL PARK – ROAD ACCESS

No roads lead directly to Wabakimi Provincial Park. Depending on the insertion and extraction points chosen, access or egress by road will involve paddling 1-3 days across Crown land to reach the park. For the sake of security and safety, visitors should leave their vehicles with a licensed tourist outfitter and arrange road shuttles to/from their canoe trip insertion/extraction points.

Two paved secondary highways link the Trans-Canada Highway to the communities that serve the Wabakimi area. Highway 527 begins east of Thunder Bay and leads 240km (150 miles) north to Armstrong; Highway 599 begins in Ignace 250km (152 miles) west of Thunder Bay and leads 137km (85 miles) north to Savant Lake and 157km (98 miles) beyond to Pickle Lake along which St. Raphael, Albany River and Wabakimi Provincial Parks may be accessed.

Several all-weather, gravel forest access roads provide alternate links to area canoe routes. Two such roads lead from Armstrong: the Caribou Lake Road to Little Caribou Lake and Caribou Lake; the Caribou Forest Access Road leads east to popular extraction points on the Pikitigushi River and the Little Jackfish River. South of Armstrong, the Obonga Lake Road leads west from Highway 527 and provides access at several points to Kopka River Provincial Park.

Near Savant Lake, two forest access roads lead east from Highway 599: Road 702 lies north of the CNR northern line and provides access to several canoe routes; Road 701 lies south of the railway and provides access to several routes in that area.

Two all-weather, gravel roads provide access to canoe routes south of Wabakimi. From the Trans-Canada Highway 17 west of Upsala, the Graham Road provides access to Brightsand River, Kopka River and Obonga-Ottertooth Provincial Parks; from Highway 527, 115km north of Trans-Canada Highway 11-17, Highway 811 provides access to the Roaring River and the Gull River.

Ontario Ministry of Transportation (MTO) online [Road Map 13](#) and [Road Map 16](#) provide an overview of the roads in Northwestern Ontario that lead to the Wabakimi area from Canada-US border crossing points at Fort Frances and Pigeon River.

Not all forest access roads in the Wabakimi Area are open year-round to public traffic. Under authority of the [Public Lands Act](#), the Ontario [Ministry of Natural Resources & Forestry](#) (MNRF) may restrict or limit access to all or a portion of a forest access road for reasons of public safety or environmental protection. Such road access restrictions are usually posted with signs. Forest access roads may be closed to protect sensitive fisheries and wildlife management areas or to restrict unauthorized traffic during forestry activities including forest fire suppression. Others may be closed to protect remote resource-based tourism establishments or to maintain a functionally-roadless wilderness when forest harvesting, replanting and tending operations have been concluded in a particular area.

Visitors to the Wabakimi Area should contact the appropriate MNR&F District office to confirm whether a particular forest access road they wish to use is open to public traffic at any given time.