

Indian River Canoe Trip Guide

A canoe trip on the Indian River is a great way to while away a few hours during your visit to the Warsaw Caves Conservation Area.

① You can arrange to rent one of our canoes by visiting our gatehouse where you pick up your paddles, marine safety kit, life jackets, and the key to unlock your canoe. Drinking water and pop to take along are also available here.

① Make your way to the canoe launch and you will find your canoe on the storage rack there. Unlock it and take it down from the rack to the water's edge. Before you begin your trip, check your gear:

✓ make sure your paddles and life jackets are in good condition

✓ check the contents of your marine safety kit which should contain a whistle and floating rope inside a container which can be used as a bailing bucket

✓ **WEAR YOUR LIFEJACKET!**

✓ your life jacket should fit securely while still allowing freedom of movement for paddling

✓ inspect the canoe to ensure it is also in good condition

✓ make sure you have drinking water

✓ dress appropriately – bring a jacket if it is cool and on warm sunny days make sure you have a hat and sun screen

✗ **the use of alcohol is not permitted**

If you find problems with any of your equipment, return to the gatehouse where we will remedy the situation.

② Once you hit the water you can follow the river as it flows first to the west (to the right of the canoe launch) before turning due south. To the left of the launch the watercourse quickly dead ends in a tumble of limestone where it has re-emerged from underground. The big bend in the river here is shallow and still.

③ After getting most of the way around the bend you will come across a series of islands in the river. Beyond the first island the banks of the river become quite marshy and offer good opportunities for viewing wildlife and birds.

④ Once past the third and largest of three islands you will enter the steep-walled gorge where you will paddle beneath towering cliffs that reach a maximum height of 36m (120 feet). The river also begins to deepen here to 1.5 to 2.5m (5 to 8 feet).

⑤ A large marsh area extends along the east bank of the river to either side of the hydro line cut. Note that past the hydro line the east bank is private property, while the park continues along the west bank for another 800m. Please be sure to respect private property.

⑥ Beyond this the river continues to deepen as it opens into what is known as Quarry Lake for the former quarry operation that took limestone from here for use in the construction of locks along the Trent Canal and in several local buildings.

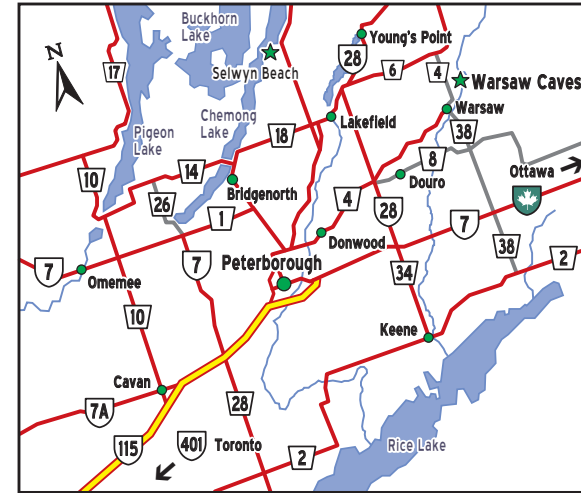
⑦ By the time you reach the old dam and adjacent quarry site the river will have reached a depth of 8.7m or more than 28 feet. There a picnic area and **washroom** here at the adjacent Back Dam Recreation Park.

⑧ ⑨ Past the old dam is another larger marshy area ideal for wildlife viewing and birding. Stay to the right where the river divides in order to make your way into the village of Warsaw. You can stop here briefly to catch your wind or grab a drink or a bite to eat before making your way back.

Fees 2015

Canoe rental, per hour . . . \$11.00 (2 hr. minimum)
Canoe rental, per day
(all equipment must be returned
by 7 pm or as otherwise posted) 42.00

Current to April 2014. Fees include applicable taxes and may be subject to change without notice. Warsaw Caves Conservation Area is owned and operated by the Otonabee Region Conservation Authority. Admission and other fees are used to support the operation of this facility.



Warsaw Caves Conservation Area is located just 30 minutes northeast of Peterborough.

From Peterborough

Follow Parkhill Rd. E. east from Peterborough. At Donwood, Parkhill Rd. becomes County Rd. 4 (Warsaw Rd.). Follow County Rd. 4 through Warsaw. Turn right on Caves Rd. 2 km north of Warsaw.

From Toronto

Take Hwy. 401 east to Hwy. 115 north (Exit 436). Hwy. 115 ends at Hwy. 7. Take Hwy. 7 east (Ottawa) to Hwy. 28. Take Hwy. 28 north to County Rd. 4. Follow County Rd. 4 through Warsaw. Turn right on Caves Rd. 2 km north of Warsaw.

From Ottawa

Take Hwy. 417 west to Hwy 7 (Exit 145). Take Hwy. 7 west (Toronto) through Norwood to County Rd. 38. Take County Rd. 38 north through Warsaw. From Warsaw follow County Rd. 4 to Caves Rd. Turn right on Caves Rd. 2 km north of Warsaw.

Warsaw Caves

Conservation Area and Campground



Indian River Canoe Trip Guide



289 Caves Road Warsaw, Ontario Canada
(705) 652-3161 / 1-877-816-7604

www.warsawcaves.com / caves@nexicom.net

Watch for
and follow
these signs.



Warsaw Caves

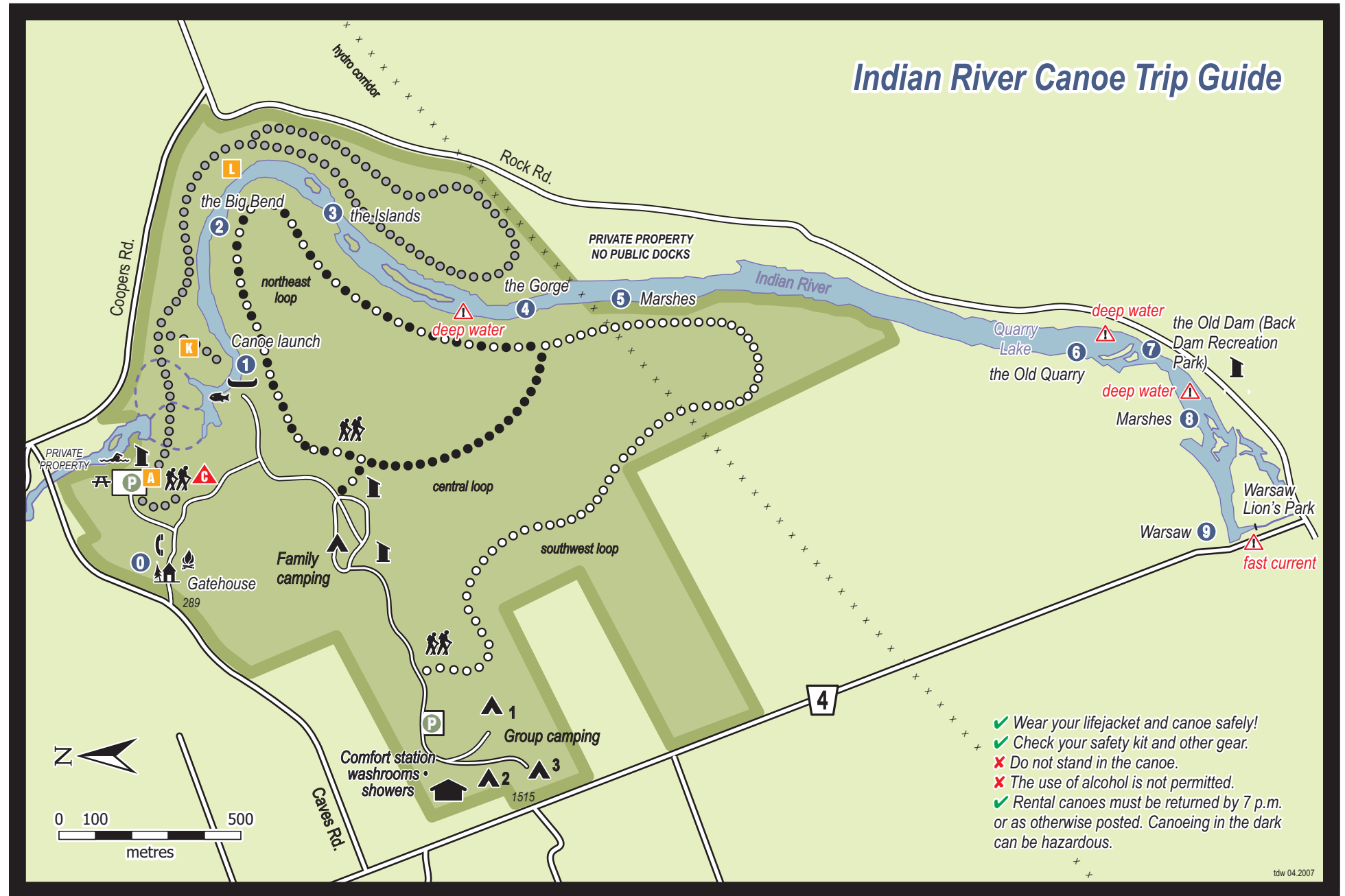
Conservation Area and Campground






-  gatehouse
-  parking
-  swimming area and beach
-  camping area
-  picnic area
-  washroom
-  comfort station
-  public phone
-  firewood
-  canoe launch
-  fishing
-  Limestone Plains trail (4km)
-  Limestone Plains trail (7km)
-  Caves & Scenic Lookout trail (4km)
-  kettles
-  caves
-  scenic lookout
-  underground watercourse



Otonabee Conservation
250 Milroy Rd., Peterborough, Ontario K9H 7M9
(705) 745-5791 / fax (705) 745-7488
www.otonabee.com / otonabee@otonabee.com

Warsaw Caves Conservation Area
289 Caves Rd., Warsaw, Ontario Canada
(705) 652-3161 / toll free 1-877-816-7604
www.warsawcaves.com / caves@nexicom.net



-  Wear your lifejacket and canoe safely!
-  Check your safety kit and other gear.
-  Do not stand in the canoe.
-  The use of alcohol is not permitted.
-  Rental canoes must be returned by 7 p.m. or as otherwise posted. Canoeing in the dark can be hazardous.

The Indian River affords a great opportunity to enjoy a canoe trip as it flows through the Warsaw Caves Conservation Area to the nearby village of Warsaw. You can bring your own canoe or stop into the gatehouse to arrange to rent one of ours .

This canoe trip guide has been prepared to provide you with some useful background information and to help you get the most out of your exploration of the river. Enjoy yourself and always remember to be safe on the water!

This section of the Indian River is placid and offers fairly easy canoeing. One of the most popular day excursions is a paddle down to the village of Warsaw, a trip of two hours out and two hours back.