



Northern Forest Canoe Trail

Discover the Rangeley Lakes

Two Day Itinerary in Maine's Lakes and Mountains

Trip Summary

Maps and Guidebooks

- [Section 8: Rangeley Lakes Region](#)
- [NFCT Guidebook](#)
- [AMC River Guide](#)
- [Maine Gazetteer and Atlas](#)

Activities

- Paddle Rangeley Lake and the Kennebago River
- Hike Bald Mountain or Angel Falls
- Learn to fly fish
- Visit museums for a tour of the region's extraordinary sporting, logging, and scientific history
- Mountain bike at Rangeley Lakes Trail Center

Places to Stay

- [Oquossoc's Own B&B](#)
- [North Country Inn B&B](#)
- [Pleasant Street Inn B&B](#)
- [Town & Lake Motel](#)

Where to Eat

- [Moosely Bagels](#)
- [The Gingerbread House](#)
- [Parkside & Main](#)
- [The Red Onion](#)
- [Four Seasons Café](#)
- [Oquossoc Grocery](#)

Outfitters and Guides

- [Ecopelagicon](#)
- [Mookwa Guided Tours](#)
- [Rivers' Edge Sports](#)
- [Contact Chamber of Commerce for local guides](#)

NFCT Package Specials

(Coming Soon)

- [Paddle Through History](#)
- [Almost Roughing It](#)
- [Moose and the Movies](#)

Welcome to the beautiful, historic

Rangeley Lakes of Maine. Known for its fly fishing and sporting camp history, the region is also year-round hotspot for outdoor adventure and wildlife viewing.

Day 1: Rangeley Lake offers myriad coves, islands, and mountain vistas. Stop by the [Rangeley Lakes Heritage Trust](#) to learn about conserved and accessible places in the area, and to get suggestions for

fishing, paddling, birding, and more! Rent a boat and stock up on books, maps, and other supplies at [Ecopelagicon](#) in Rangeley. Pick up sandwiches, wraps or snacks at [Moosely Bagels](#). Launch at Lakeside Park landing in the center of town and paddle leisurely to the [Hunter Cove Wildlife Sanctuary](#). Stop for a picnic lunch, bird watching, and a hike through the nature trails. Keep an eye out for boreal chickadees and warblers at this point of interest on the [Maine Birding Trail](#). Alternatively, launch at [Rangeley Lake State Park](#) and paddle to the tranquil, island-dotted [South Bog Cove](#). Be on the lookout for eagles and blue herons.



If the conditions aren't quite right for a lake paddle, try a gentler paddle on one of the many rivers nearby like the Cupsuptic or the Kennebago. Keep an eye out for moose, especially in the early morning. Canoes, kayaks, and some shuttles are available from [River's Edge Sports](#) (Oquossoc). Kayaks, shuttles, and guided kayak tours are available from [Mookwa Guided Tours](#) (Rangeley).

In the afternoon, hike up nearby [Bald Mountain](#) and take in the panoramic view of lakes from the observation tower. Or drive south along Mooselookmeguntic Lake for a hike to 90-ft [Angel Falls](#), the longest single drop in Maine. On your way, take a moment to enjoy [Height of Land](#) for an incredible sweeping view of this section of the Northern Forest Canoe Trail.

Dine at the unique Fodor's-recommended [Gingerbread House](#), the Four Seasons Café, or one of the many great restaurants in Rangeley, like [Parkside & Main](#) (an American grill), or the [Red Onion](#) (fresh dough pizza). In the evening, catch a film or "Celtic Concert" at the local [Lakeside Theater](#), or if you're lucky, fireworks! Check the [town schedule](#) for dates (and also to learn about quintessential local strawberry, blueberry, and arts festivals).

Day 2: Experience firsthand why this region is famous for fly fishing, guided by one of the many local experts. Contact the [Rangeley Area Chamber of Commerce](#) to find a guide who can customize an outdoor experience for you. Beginners are welcome and gear (rods, ties, waders) can be provided. If fishing is not your thing, local guides are available to take you hiking on local mountain trails, waterfalls, or canoe trips.



Ever heard of a snubbing machine? Or a bateaux? Find out what they are and how they shaped the region's history at the [Rangeley Lakes Region Logging Museum](#). (If you are here in July 2010, join the Northern Forest Canoe Trail and the logging museum for an anniversary festival to celebrate logging and canoeing history!)



Visit the brand-new [Rangeley Outdoor Sporting Heritage Museum](#) (opening in mid-2010) and learn about the extraordinary men and women like Cornelia "Fly Rod" Crosby who made the region famous for fishing and tall tales in the early twentieth century.

Pick up sandwiches, pizza, and snacks (or wine and cheese) at Oquossoc Grocery, and enjoy lunch in rocking chairs on the wide old-fashioned porch. Or pop into the BMC Diner or Moosely Bagels in Rangeley.

Visit historic [Orgonon](#), the preserved home and lab of scientist Wilhelm Reich in the 1940's. Nature programs are often offered on Sunday afternoons in July and August. For even more history, visit the [Rangeley Public Library](#), itself on the register of national historic places. While in town, don't miss Rangeley's great shops offering gear, books, quilts, and photos.



If you're a mountain biker, check out the seven miles of [Rangeley Lakes Trail Center](#) at the base of Saddleback Mountain. Bikes are available for rent at Rivers' Edge Sports. Round off your day with an [afternoon or sunset cruise](#) aboard the "Oquossoc Lady", a 28' antique wooden launch boat from 1947.



A paddler could easily spend a week's vacation in the Rangeley Lakes region, exploring a variety of lakes and ponds, moose watching at dawn and dusk, and exploring hiking trails leading into scenic bogs and up to windswept summits.

- Portland Press Herald, June 2008

The Northern Forest Canoe Trail • P.O. Box 565, Waitsfield, VT 05673 • 802-496-2285 •
<http://www.northernforestcanoetrail.org/>

This publication is the result of tax-supported funding from USDA, Rural Development, and as such is not copyrightable. It may be reprinted with the customary crediting of the source.