

**Photography Workshop  
with *Down East Magazine*  
& Canoe the Wild**

June 23-27, 2025



We've rented 2 cabins on a remote Maine lake in the North Maine Woods about a 1.5 hour drive west of Ashland over mostly good gravel roads. This location is known for excellent moose sightings with over 20 moose spotted last June including several big bulls! While late June is prime for seeing moose and other wildlife, keep in mind it may be a little buggy. Accommodations include staying in a cabins with propane lanterns. There is not electricity or running water. The main cabin has 3 beds and the bunk house has 4. If you want more privacy, you are welcome to bring your own tent and sleeping pad as there is space on the lawn next to both cabins. Meals will be cooked and served out of the main camp. Just before first light, we'll have the coffee and tea water on along with doughnuts or muffins. We do ask that you go out in at least pairs or more for safety reasons. If we have a windy situation, we'll limit paddling to the stream and stay off the lake. The best times to be on the water is at first light and afternoon/evening in solo kayaks. The area is teeming with birds and offers great landscape photography opportunities as well. Physical requirements involve being able to get in and out of a kayak, paddle your kayak around the small lake 1 to 1.5 miles and back. The area has excellent brook trout fishing!

**Getting to and from:** We'll meet in Ashland at the Ashland One Stop, 8AM on the 23<sup>rd</sup>. After transferring over to our vehicles, we'll enter the North Maine Woods and travel over good dirt roads to camp. You'll have time to head out that afternoon for paddling and photography. On the last day we'll break camp after a morning photography session and head out late morning for Ashland than onto Millinocket arriving back early afternoon.

**What is Provided:**

**Logistics:** We provide all meals beginning with lunch on day one and ending with lunch on the last day. We will provide each person with their own solo kayak, Old Town's Loon 126 solo kayak with the active comfort system 2.0 seat, thigh pads and foot braces. The camp is well stocked with cooking & eating utensils. We'll have a well-stocked First Aid kit and for a little added peace of mind, a Garmin InReach two-way satellite communicator.

**Sample Meals served on the Trip:** Breakfasts will be served mid-morning after returning from the morning session. We'll provide coffee, tea, hot chocolate with baked goods prior to the morning paddle. Breakfast will include the best organic coffee, assortment of regular & herbal teas, & hot chocolate, oatmeal with fruit, buttermilk pancakes, served with real Maine blueberries & syrup, and the traditional Maine guide breakfast of local farm fresh eggs, meat, potatoes. Lunches are really a mid-day snack and may include make your own wraps with a variety of meats and cheeses, lettuce, pickles and tomatoes, fruit and cookies. Snack foods may include trail mix & bars. We'll provide an early supper late afternoon prior to the afternoon evening session with hot drinks and dessert provided upon returning. Suppers may include the best locally raised filet mignon, wild caught Alaska sockeye salmon, vegetables, fresh cooked biscuits, spaghetti with homemade sauce, and taco soup, fresh salads and freshly baked desserts including strawberry shortcake and Apple Crisp. We can accommodate vegetarian diets. Note for the gluten free folks, please contact us to discuss what you can bring to substitute as needed. Vegan diets require bringing substitutes that require no extra cooking as cooking space is limited.

**What is Not Included:** Transportation from the Bangor and Presque Isle airports (if needed) to Ashland, trip insurance including, medical, evacuation, and trip cancellation. To view multiple providers and policies, Visit: [Squaremouth.com](http://Squaremouth.com)

**You Provide:** Personal clothing and bedding (see packing list).

**Camera Equipment:** You'll want to bring your camera equipment in a soft pack that you can stow between your legs while paddling for quick access.

- Camera (s)
- Soft waterproof cases for your camera equipment to use while kayaking
- Assortment of lenses (suggest one long zoom and a landscape lens for kayak).
- Extra Memory Cards (and Card Reader if bringing a laptop).
- Camera Battery and Charger (We will have a small generator for charging batteries mid-day.)
- Sturdy Tripod
- Camera Manual
- Binoculars (optional)

**Extra Costs:** Gratuities, while not required, it is customary to tip your Maine guide and camp help. Suggested amount is 10-15% of the cost of the workshop for exceptional service. There are no hidden costs.

#### **Common Q & A**

- Can I drive my vehicle into camp? Yes, if you have a SUV style vehicle with a good spare and tools to change in the event of a flat tire. Dave has tools to assist with this and you can follow us in and out.
- Can I bring my own kayak? Yes, please let Dave know that you are bringing your own kayak.
- NO pets
- Maintained outhouses at the camp
- Toilet paper is supplied but most bring a secret stash of their own
- There are no shower facilities, we recommend bringing travel wipes (wet ones) for freshening up.
- Bringing boxed wine and cans of beer for the evenings in camp. Responsible drinking only please. It is against the law to drink while paddling.
- Camp chairs provided
- There is no cell phone coverage in the North Maine Woods.
- Emergency Contact Info. Dave has a Garmin InReach satellite communicator used for communicating by text and email in the event of an emergency. We'll establish a go to person back in the civilized world in the event someone back home needs to reach us with an emergency back home.

Please contact Dave with any questions you may have and we hope you can join us on this workshop.

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