

Rust's Master Guide Service

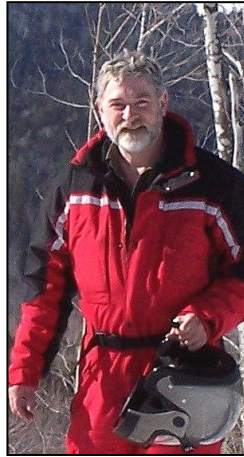
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2013 is over and it's time to get ready for more fun in 2014. That means more snowmobiling, more canoeing, more fishing and more hunting.

Snowmobiling

Northern snowmobile trails beckon and several touring routes are available. All reach very scenic spots, with sightings of moose and deer quite likely. Lodging options include a range from small cabins to five star luxury lodges.



Canoe Trips

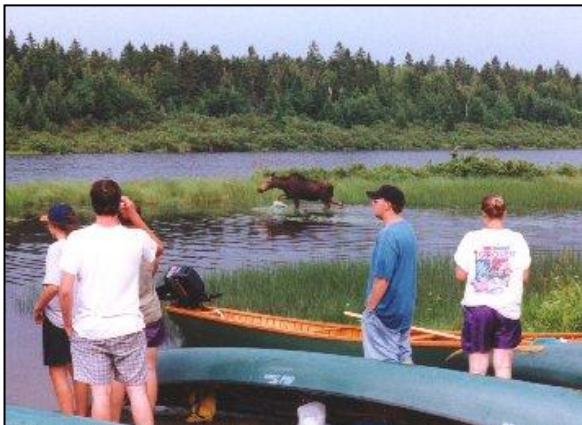
Canoeists will be anticipating ice-out for Baker, Chamberlain, Eagle and Churchill Lakes, which should be by April 30th.

Our schedule begins with rugged early May trips on the St. John River, then combines late May and June fishing, and ends with Allagash trips in August.

Annual May Canoe Trip

The diehards are at it again this year. Depending on anticipated ice-out and spring rains, early May is the time for a trip that will include Black Rapids and a side trip down the Big Black River from the Canadian border to the St. John.

Remember the May 1997 trip when ice out was late? The roads into Baker Lake were still frozen, and two nights of rain put the water well over 60,000 cfm. That was a wild ride - right on the edge of how much haystack a loaded canoe can handle. Recent years' plans for this trip have been cancelled due to very low water conditions. But low water means fishing, with consolation rewards of plentiful 12 to 16 inch brookies at Deboullie and Gardner Ponds.



Moose Watching in the Allagash Wilderness Waterway

Fishing

When we finally give up on hopes of a major snowstorm for more snowmobile tours in March, John really gets ready to go fishing. Waters usually clear and warm up for excellent native brook trout fishing in May. Smaller ponds will have hot action for smallmouths in June so get those jigs ready!

As a special treat, John has located a real nice pond for smallmouth bass, only minutes from Bangor and with very little development. Check your catalogs and get your bass gear lined up. This is a fun, fun place to go bass'n.

Anyone ready to troll the big lakes? You may choose to fish from a boat, or a classic 21 foot wood-canvas Chestnut Ogilvy salmon fisher for a more "traditional" experience.

Hunting

We have a full schedule for fall that includes a fantastic bear hunt in September, wood duck hunting in October, and then in November, it's on to Eustis for Deer hunting. Openings exist for 2014. Call for info.



Outdoor Skill Building

In July, join us for the annual Outdoor Skills Development trip in the north woods. You can learn, or just brush up on, some vital woods skills like map & compass, paddling and canoe poling.

Join us at a traditional Maine Sporting Camp for a fun time introducing your family to the shooting sports and other outdoor activities.

We have to eat too, so don't forget about baking fresh bread, brownies and cakes in the reflector oven. You can't beat relaxing after dinner, savoring a moist brownie, while you watch a moose feed along the shore in front of camp.

Speaking of moose, we'll again be combining a moose scouting trip with Greenville's annual Seaplane Fly-In on the weekend right after Labor Day. The bulls will be in their prime, so come join the fun.



Range Master and member of Maine's Big Buck Club, Cliff Libby (R) reminds us that deer hunting at 10F calls for lots of hot coffee!

Learn About Camping At:
www.familycampinggear.com

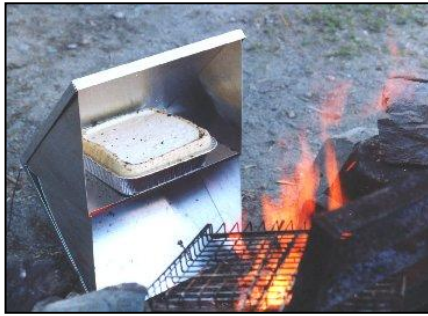


Proud Member of the
National Shooting Sports Foundation

Did You Know?

- Once upon a time, there was no Churchill Dam above Chase's Rapids, and everyone poled and paddled down the rapids with loaded wood canvas canoes!

- You can find ice at Allagash Lake well into July, if you know where to look.



Baking Bread in a Reflector Oven

- 50% of the applicants who take the Maine Guide exam will fail in the first five minutes because they are not proficient in using a map and compass!

- If you fall overboard into 50 degree water, and try to swim 50 yards to shore, you have only a 50-50 chance of surviving! Make sure you wear that life vest. They save lives.

- Wood Ducks and Hooded Mergansers will lay eggs in each other's nests, and amazingly, the surrogate parent will raise the other's chicks!

Special 2014 One-Day Trips

- Experience Bill Gaegan's "Nature I Loved" in person. Little changed in 90 years, paddle the stream and see nature from Bill's eyes. Bill became one of Maine's best outdoor writers and conservationists. See eagles, osprey, great blue heron, loons and more.
- Map & Compass Instruction. Learn to follow a straight line through the woods using a compass. One-on-one or small group instruction. One day class.
- GPS Instruction: Learn to use GPS to navigate in the wilds. Classroom and field practice. One day class

Help Preserve Maine's Sporting Camp Experience
www.sportingcampfoundation.org

About Your Guide

John Rust, a Registered Master Guide, is a lifelong outdoorsman educated in woods ways as a boy by his father, also an avid outdoorsman and Registered Guide.

John began trolling Sebago Lake for Togue at age seven. By nine, John was fishing and hunting the big north woods around King & Bartlett Camps in the Rangely area and Libby Camps on Millinockett Lake north of Baxter Park.

John's first Allagash trip was in 1968, a year not only of low water, but a year when even the old, old, Churchill Dam had been removed and channeled to prepare for the new dam, now itself replaced.

John has canoed throughout the north woods, covering trips like the Allagash, the West Branch & Lobster Lake Trip, Allagash Lake & Stream, Big Black, and the St. John from Baker Lake to St. Francis.

While John loves to fish and hunt, his greatest pleasure comes from exploring the many side streams, and just watching the scenery and wildlife. All trips offer plentiful time to take a closer look at what goes on in the north woods, and what creatures live there. Always keep your camera ready.



John, age 9, loading up at Shin Pond

Special 2014 Overnight Trips

- July and August: Family canoe camping expeditions in the Allagash headwaters. Learn to camp, fish, and explore the Eagle Lake Railroad and Tramway.
- July: Outdoor Skills Development. Learn map & compass, canoe poling, and baking in a reflector oven.
- August and July: Bring the family for an introduction to shooting clinic with our Range Master, Cliff Libby.
- September: Greenville Seaplane Fly-In and moose scouting. Practice calling a moose.

Maine Snowmobile Trail Reports
www.snowmobiletrailgroomers.com

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