

Mackenzie River Adventures

(Denendeh Eco-Adventures Ltd)

Website Draft

Information/Promotional Package

A northern/aboriginal owned and operated company
2002

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Mackenzie River Adventures (MRA) is northern/aboriginal owned and operated. MRA provides voyageur canoe trips down the mighty Mackenzie River retracing the voyage of Sir Alexander Mackenzie when he first explored this majestic river in 1789. The local aboriginal people have been using this river for generations and generations.

MRA is unique in that all of our Mackenzie River adventures include a cultural immersion component not offered anywhere else in the world when it comes to river adventures! MRA incorporates the traditional lifestyles of the Dene peoples of the Mackenzie River valley region as part of its trip packages while at the same time promoting and preserving the ecological beauty of the Mackenzie River.

MRA clients will be offered a unique opportunity to experience a different Dene traditional activity with each and every stop over at one of the nine aboriginal communities situated all along the 1,800 km long Mackenzie River.

LET THE ADVENTURE BEGIN

MRA adventurers can either fly into Hay River, NWT and then be driven to Fort Providence 170 km away or drive directly to the community themselves. Here, MRA adventurers will spend their first night in the aboriginal community of 750 where they will participate in an orientation session provided by the guides, acquaint themselves with the other MRA adventurers and visit the community. Fort Providence is and has been the primary departure point for many, many Mackenzie River voyages.

The MRA river packages are specifically designed to allow you to experience the Mackenzie River and depending on when you want, allows you the option of ending your river trip at one of five take out points. Depending on which trip package you choose, MRA staff will ensure your departure arrangements are made to meet your individual needs. As an example, you would arrive in Hay River and depart in Norman Wells. For those choosing to drive into Fort Providence, MRA staff will also work closely with you to ensure that you get back to your vehicle in a timely and a convenient manner.

MACKENZIE RIVER

The Mackenzie River or as the aboriginals call it, the Deh Cho (Big River) flows north from Great Slave Lake to the Arctic Ocean. Along the way, several lakes, rivers and streams empty into the Mackenzie making it Canada's largest river and the second largest in North America. The Mackenzie stretches for 1,120 miles (1,800 km).

One of the Mackenzie's main features is its accessibility. Those without time to travel the entire route may take out at various communities along the way. With the exception of two rapids, Sans Sault and the Ramparts, the Mackenzie offers a flatwater trip for paddlers. The width of the Mackenzie (averages 1.5 to 2 miles) presents the only major hazard to MRA adventurers as strong winds can quickly turn the wide expanse into whitecaps. The current flows north at an average rate of 3.5 mph.

In general, the Mackenzie trip can be undertaken by both beginner and experienced paddlers. Some of the Mackenzie's other premier attractions include spectacular scenery, particularly in the mountains and camping and exploration along its tributaries. Since most of the river flows through unspoiled wilderness, MRA adventurers should have basic camping skills.

CLIMATE

Spring breakup is usually in mid-May at the south end of the river and in early June at the north, while freeze up is in November. The canoeing season thus runs from June to late September, a somewhat longer period than is possible on most northern rivers. The summer days are long, with many hours of sunlight. The further north MRA adventurers travel, the more daylight hours they will experience. Near Fort Good Hope, above the Arctic Circle, paddlers can expect 24 hours of sunlight during July and part of August. In the southern region of the Mackenzie, the average daily maximum temperature in July is about 21 degrees Celsius (69 degrees Fahrenheit). At night, the temperature drops to about 10 degrees Celsius (50 degrees Fahrenheit). Although rainfall is generally light, MRA adventurers should carry adequate raingear. Average temperatures in the northern region are cooler, by approximately 3 to 8 degrees Celsius. Rainfall is slightly lower near the Arctic Coast, averaging not more than 6 cm (2.5 inches).

WILDLIFE

The Mackenzie Valley contains a wide range of wildlife. Approximately 39 species of mammals and 175 species of birds may be found along the course of the Mackenzie. Some of the more common mammals are moose, black bear, beaver, muskrat, lynx and marten. Almost all of the species of birds found in the Mackenzie Valley are migratory. The most common waterfowl species that can be observed during the migration are snow, white-fronted and Canada Geese, whistling swans and many species of ducks. Other birds such as loons, gulls, sandhill cranes may be encountered. Raptors including bald and golden eagles, ospreys and falcons may also be observed.

Of the fifty different species of fish recorded in the Mackenzie River drainage system, most are found in the rivers and streams that empty into the Mackenzie. Canoeists have good chances at catching arctic grayling, dolly varden, pike, whitefish, innconu and trout.

FLORA

The Mackenzie River passes through two vegetation zones: the Boreal Forest along the southern half of the Mackenzie Valley, and the Taiga or Forest Tundra found mainly in the Mackenzie Delta Region. The Boreal Forest is dominated by black and white spruce in the areas that have not been burned by forest fires in the last few decades. On the more recently burned sites, the most common tree species are paper birch, aspen, and poplar. Willow and alder thickets are found along the riverbank. Towards the north, these trees become shorter and less dense. Typical ground cover in this zone is white lichens, Labrador Tea and cranberry.

The Forest Tundra zone flanks the Boreal Forest and extends along the Mackenzie River as far as Inuvik. Black spruce trees predominate in the shelter of the river valley. The combination of warm summers, and deposition of soil nutrients and silt in the Mackenzie Delta has fostered the growth of Canada's northernmost forest. On some of the islands in the Delta near Inuvik, white spruce grow to heights of up to 15 metres (50 feet tall). In contrast, spruce trees 100 metres away grow to only 6 metres (20 feet) in height. Sedges and other aquatic plants grow in and around the numerous lakes and small channels of the Delta.

HISTORY

For thousands of years, the Dene (the Indian word meaning "people") traveled the Mackenzie River valley, living off the land's resources. They hunted and fished the river and its many tributaries. Only after the arrival of the Euro-Canadian fur traders, missionaries, and government workers did the Dene begin to assemble in the communities of today.

There are four different Dene groups along the river, the Loucheux in the upper Mackenzie, the Hare and the Mountain in the central and the Slavey in the lower Mackenzie Valley. The Delta is home to the Inuvialuit. The first intrusion into this way of life occurred in 1789 with Alexander Mackenzie's trip down the river. In his search for a route to the Pacific Ocean, Mackenzie opened up a new area for the fur trading companies that were expanding north and west across Canada. Once he realized the Mackenzie did not lead to the Pacific, he named it the "River of Disappointment." The Northwest Company traders followed Mackenzie. In 1804 they established posts at Fort of the Forks (Fort Simpson) and Fort Good Hope. Fort Norman was established in 1810. After the Northwest Company merged with the Hudson's Bay Company in 1821, more posts were added along the Mackenzie. Supplies, traps and guns were traded with the Dene for beaver, muskrat, marten, lynx, fox, wolf and bear skins.

Following the fur traders, John Franklin and his crew traveled down the Mackenzie in the mid 1820's to survey the Arctic Coast. Tourists and explorers then used the river to reach the northern regions of Canada. In 1897, Klondikers traveled the Mackenzie on their way to the Yukon Gold fields by way of the Liard, Peel, and Rat Rivers. In 1919, Imperial Oil struck oil at Norman Wells. Two years later, Treaty 11 was signed between the Mackenzie Valley Dene and the Canadian Government. The Second World War marked the beginning of the construction of the Canol (Canadian Oil) pipeline from Norman Wells across the Mackenzie Mountains to Whitehorse. This project was abandoned within a year after it was started.

Increasing river traffic has resulted from the discovery of oil and gas in the Mackenzie Delta. In April 1985, the first oil began flowing south through the new pipeline from Norman Wells to the province of Alberta.

OUR CANOES

Mackenzie River Adventures use the voyageur canoes or what the aboriginals refer to as "War Canoes". Our canoes are 25 ft in length and 6 ft wide and can transport eight MRA adventurers plus two guides comfortably. A support boat will accompany each MRA canoe and will haul all of the camping gear and other needed supplies. The supply boat will travel ahead of the MRA canoe to scout for ideal scenic stopovers and ultimately to set up the overnight camp where a nice, hot meal will await the MRA adventurer!

SAFETY AND SECURITY

Mackenzie River Adventures places the highest possible regard for safety and security on each and every river trip, each canoe/supply boat tandem will be equipped with a GPS (Global Positioning System) device and a satellite communication link.

OUR GUIDES

Mackenzie River Adventure guides are world class. All of our guides are of aboriginal descent and are from the Mackenzie River valley region, born and raised! All MRA guides have the highest degree of water/river orientation and safety certification. In addition to this and unlike anywhere else, our guides possess the traditional knowledge and skills that have allowed them and their ancestors to exist in harmony with the land and the river for thousands and thousands of years!

CULTURAL IMMERSION

Stopovers at one of the nine communities will offer a unique opportunity to the MRA adventurers. Each MRA adventurer will experience a different traditional aboriginal activity of the Dene people. As an example, MRA adventurers will make bannock, dry meat, clean fish, tan moose/caribou hides, do some beadwork, try their hand at moose hair tufting, take part in the always powerful Hand Games of the Dene people, dance the night away with the traditional Drum Dance plus many other traditional activities. Last but not least MRA adventurers will be treated to some of the most delicious traditional foods of the Dene people!!!

AN ADVENTURE OF A LIFETIME

Traditional Dene lifestyles, activities and foods, a variety of wildlife, a wide range species of birds, some of the most spectacular Canadian wilderness and the adventure of paddling down one of longest rivers in the world in a voyageur canoe await the river adventurer!!!

TRIP QUESTIONNAIRE

We are in the process of reviewing our trip questionnaire so that we may be able to meet and exceed your expectations. Please keep posted.

INDEMNIFICATION

With eco-tourism being a relatively new industry in the Northwest Territories, we are in the process of reviewing our agreement of terms in order that we may be able to offer you a service that is both adventurous and safe to both you and Mackenzie River Adventures.

MEDICAL FORM

We are in the process of reviewing our medical form so that we may be able to offer a river adventure that maximizes your enjoyment and satisfaction without exceeding your medical parameters.

APPLICATION FORM

We are in the process of reviewing application form to ensure that we have included all pertinent information needed for our purposes to ensure that we are able to provide a service that meet or exceeds your expectations. Please keep posted. Seating is limited so book your trip as early as we operate on a first come, first serve basis.

TRIP PACKAGES

The following describes each of the five different (5) trip packages being offered starting in June of 2003.

FP1. Fort Providence to Fort Simpson Distance: 256 km
 Duration: 6-8 Days Cost: \$ 1,800 US \$ 1,953.95 EUR \$ 2,783.73 CDN
 Level of Difficulty: 2 Meals: Breakfast; Lunch; Dinner; Snacks
 Points of Interest: Mills Lake, Bird Island, Red Knife traditional
 gathering site, Trout River, Jean Marie River,
 Rabbitskin River, Liard River

Overnight Camps:

1 st Night	-	Fort Providence	4 th Night	-	Trout River
2 nd Night	-	Bird Island	5 th Night	-	Jean Marie River
3 rd Night	-	Redknife River	6 th Night	-	Fort Simpson

Trip Profile:

The Mackenzie is only about a half a mile wide in this first stretch and is surrounded by low and level countryside, covered with poplar and birch. About 19 km (12 miles) downstream, the river turns into Mills Lake, a long and wide body of water (can be as wide as 30 miles depending on water levels!). Because of its size, shallowness and lack of island cover, this lake can become rough in even moderate winds.

To lessen the distance traveled on the open lake, MRA canoes will cross to the Mackenzie's south shore soon after leaving Fort Providence and then cross to the North shore upon entering Mills Lake. It starts to narrow past Small Axe Creek, as it flows through low, wet swampland. By the time it changes to a more northerly course at Jean Marie River, the river is only a half a mile wide. It continues in this direction for about fifteen miles, then starts to turn west again at the mouth of the Rabbitskin River.

Jean Marie River is a very traditional community of 71 Slavey speaking residents. This community has become internationally recognized for the quality of moose hair tufting and porcupine quill art. 25 km (15 miles) down from Jean Marie River MRA canoes will stopover at Rabbitskin River, once home to a number of families for many years. Descendents of those families still use Rabbitskin as their traditional hunting grounds. MRA canoes will stop here for lunch and to visit the area. About 19 km (12 miles) above Fort Simpson, the Green Island Rapids are encountered. While there is little surface turbulence, the current is swift. Approaching the Fort Liard River, MRA canoes will keep to the right hand shore to avoid the fast water at the mouth of the Liard River.

Fort Simpson, a town of 1,257 (as of 1996 census) residents, is located on an island just downstream from the where Liard River joins up with the Mackenzie. The local aboriginal people call Fort Simpson "Liidlii Kue" (place where rivers come together) in their South Slavey language. Mackenzie River Adventures will be offering trip packages starting from Fort Simpson starting in summer 2004. It has regular air connections with Yellowknife. As well, it offers a variety of stores, services, accommodations and boasts a very modern visitor information centre.

Established by James Porter of the Northwest Company in 1804, Fort of the Forks (Fort Simpson) is the oldest continuously occupied trading post on the Mackenzie River. Because of the rich resources here, Fort Simpson became a major fur trading and transportation centre. The rich alluvial soil allowed for a degree of self-sufficiency; Roman Catholic missions grew their own vegetables and raised their own livestock.

Fort Simpson was to be visited by Pope John Paul II in 1984, but due to heavy fog was not able to land. He promised to return and did so in 1989. MRA adventures will visit the Papal Grounds where Pope John Paul II delivered his sermon to more than 5,000 parishioners.

MRA adventurers who end their trip here can add to their adventure by exploring one of many tours being offered out of Fort Simpson, such as the world famous Nahanni National Park (a world heritage site), MRA can provide you with contact information. For others, First Air and Air Tindi offer daily flights out to Fort Simpson to either Yellowknife or Whitehorse.

Dates and Bookings

MRA operates on a first come first serve basis. A 25% deposit is required to reserve your seat with the remaining balance due 30 days prior to departure. MRA offers 3 trips of FP1, so book early to reserve your seat!

Trip Package	Dates
FP1. Fort Providence to Fort Simpson	June 15 - June 20, 2003
FP1. Fort Providence to Fort Simpson	July 03 - July 08, 2003
FP1. Fort Providence to Fort Simpson	July 19 - July 24, 2003

FP2. Fort Providence to Norman Wells Distance: 740 km
 Duration: 13-15 Days Cost: \$ 3,900 US \$ 4,235.77 EUR \$ 6,032.80 CDN
 Level of Difficulty:2 Meals: Breakfast; Lunch; Dinner; Snacks
 Points of Interest: Mills Lake, Bird Island, Red Knife gathering site,
 Trout River, Jean Marie River, Rabbitskin River,
 Liard River, Fort Simpson, Camsell Bend, North
 Nahanni River, Burnt Island, Root River, Wrigley,
 Keel River, Tulita, Norman Wells

Overnight Camps:

1 st Night	-	Fort Providence	8 th Night	-	Willow Lake River
2 nd Night	-	Bird Island	9 th Night	-	Wrigley
3 rd Night	-	Redknife River	10 th Night	-	Blackwater River
4 th Night	-	Trout River	11 th Night	-	Keele River
5 th Night	-	Jean Marie River	12 th Night	-	Tulita (community)
6 th Night	-	Fort Simpson	13 th Night	-	Norman Wells
7 th Night	-	Camsell Bend			

Trip Profile:

Fort Simpson down to the mouth of the Nahanni, a distance of 118 km (74 miles), the river flows in a west-northwesterly direction. It is flanked in this stretch by rolling wooded plain, punctuated by areas of muskeg. Both the landscape and the course of the river change quite dramatically at Camsell Bend, five km (3 miles) below the mouth of the Nahanni. The Mackenzie encounters mountains for the first time, as a 917 metre (3000 feet) escarpment sharply deflects the river onto a northerly course. Below the Bend, the river slows and widens markedly, with banks 3-5 km (2-3 miles) apart. Several channels appear at this point, created by the numerous low lying islands (most notably McGern Island).

North of the mouth of the Willowlake River, the Mackenzie enters a very mountainous region. Rising out of the lowlands to the east of the river is the McConnell Range which parallels the river's right bank for nearly 320 km (200 miles). On the left bank, the river is flanked by the Camsell Range, a high wooded ridge, beyond which the land rises gradually to the Mackenzie Mountains. Just past the mouth of the River Between Two Mountains, the Mackenzie narrows and the current increases. Near Old Fort Island is the original site of Fort Wrigley. It was referred to as Little Rapids Post by the Hudson's Bay Company and was moved several times before it found its permanent home where it exists today.

Wrigley is a small community of log cabins situated high on a bluff on the right bank of the Mackenzie, with the Franklin Mountains providing a spectacular backdrop. It has accommodations, supplies and an air connection with Fort Simpson to the south. The main source of economy in this Slavey settlement is hunting, trapping and fishing. The 350 metre high cliff face the Roche qui Trempe à l'Eau is located just downstream of Wrigley. Thermal springs are found around this dome shaped rock.

From here down to the mouth of the Blackwater River, a distance of about 80 km (50 miles), the river flows in a north-northwest direction at a fairly swift rate. The Ochre River empties into the Mackenzie from the east in this stretch. This river is notable for the bright red colour which it turns during early summer. Three km (2 miles) below the Blackwater, it turns abruptly the west for 6.4 km (4 miles), then resumes its northerly course. The current becomes swifter, and the river winds through islands and sandbars as it descends towards Fort Norman.

Old Fort Norman was originally built near the confluence of the Redstone and the Mackenzie Rivers. Although cabins are found at this site, the original buildings no longer exist. Fort Norman or as the local aboriginals call it, "Tulita" (where two rivers meet) is located high on the right bank of the Mackenzie overlooking the entrance to the Great Bear Lake. Many services are available here including a Northern store, nursing station, and R.C.M.P.

The Hudsons Bay Company moved their post to this located in 1851, Father Grolier, O.M.I., then founded a mission here in 1859. Residents have begun restoration of the oldest standing church in the Mackenzie Valley, built from squared logs in the 1860's. The Dene of this area have a legend about the nearby Great Bear Rock, which towers 450 metres above the river. A giant hunter, after suffering a long cold winter killed three beaver, and then stretched their pelts on Bear Rock. According to the legend, these pelts are the red patches on the cliff face still seen today. Also at Tulita, the Bear River joins up with the Mackenzie River. The Bear flows out of the Great Bear Lake, 8th largest lake in the world and is home to some monster Lake Trout! Below Fort Norman (Tulita), the river flows in a north-westerly direction between clay sloping banks up to 12 metre (40 feet) in height. The 80 km (50 mile) stretch down to Norman Wells contains many islands, with the river expanding to over five km (3 miles) in width at some points.

Located at a plain at the foot of the Norman Range, Norman Wells also offers several vital services: gas supplies, a campground, accommodations and air service north to Inuvik or south to Yellowknife and Edmonton. During the Second World War, the American Army built the Canol Road and pipeline to transport oil from here to Alaska, via Whitehorse. Although this project was abandoned one year after it was begun, remains from its construction are still evident. Hikers use the Canol Road to gain access to the Mackenzie Mountains.

This is a relatively new community and is the site of the only oil refinery in the N.W.T. Tours of the oil field facilities may be arranged. Canoeists will see the six recently built artificial islands on the Mackenzie, used for production drilling. The oil taken from here is sent to Zama Lake, Alberta via the pipeline. Norman Wells is the hub of the Sahtu region and is home to many residents from the outlying communities. MRA adventurers can view the storied history of Norman Wells at the Historical Museum. (Note: the owner of Mackenzie River Adventures worked on the oil rigs on the "man-made" islands in the 80's and 90's and can speak firsthand of the fierce winds that howl down the Mackenzie valley during the winter months).

MRA adventurers who end their trip here can add to their adventure by exploring the Canol Trail. A 40-minute helicopter ride will take MRA adventurers into Dodo Canyon where one will experience some of the most breathtaking views of the Mackenzie Mountains! For those interested and for an additional cost, MRA can make arrangements for this spectacular trip. For others, Canadian North offers daily jet service flights out of Norman Wells north to Inuvik and south to Yellowknife and Edmonton.

Dates and Bookings

MRA operates on a first come first serve basis. A 25% deposit is required to reserve your seat with the remaining balance due 30 days prior to departure. MRA offers 2 trips of FP2, so book early to reserve your seat!

Trip Package

Dates

FP2. Fort Providence to Norman Wells
FP2. Fort Providence to Normans Wells

June 15 - June 27, 2003
July 03 - July 15, 2003

FP3. Fort Providence to Fort Good Hope Distance: 1011 km
 Duration: 15-16 Days Cost: \$ 4,500 US \$ 4,886.87 EUR \$ 6,957.69 CDN
 Level of Difficulty: 3 Meals: Breakfast; Lunch; Dinner; Snacks
 Points of Interest: Mills Lake, Bird Island, Red Knife gathering site,
 Trout River, Jean Marie River, Rabbitskin River,
 Liard River, Fort Simpson, Camsell Bend, North
 Nahanni River, Burnt Island, Wrigley, Keel River,
 Tulita, Norman Wells, Ramparts, Fort Good Hope

Overnight Camps:

1 st Night	-	Fort Providence	9 th Night	-	Wrigley
2 nd Nigh	-	Bird Island	10 th Night	-	Blackwater River
3 rd Night	-	Redknife River	11 th Night	-	Keele River
4 th Night	-	Trout River	12 th Night	-	Tulita
5 th Night	-	Jean Marie River	13 th Night	-	Norman Wells
6 th Night	-	Fort Simpson	14 th Night	-	Mountain River
7 th Night	-	Camsell Bend	15 th Night	-	Fort Good Hope
8 th Night	-	Willow Lake River			

Trip Profile:

For about 112 km (70 miles) below Norman Wells, the Mackenzie continues in a west-north westerly direction, flowing between steep sloping clay and gravel banks interspersed with limestone cliffs. Below Perry Island, it turns sharply west for about 19 km (12 miles), flowing between sheer limestone cliffs. Behind them, the Carcajou Range rises sharply from the right shore, paralleling the river for about six km (4 miles). Another shift in direction occurs 5 km (3 miles) below Axel Island (at the mouth of the Carcajou River) where the Mackenzie turns sharply to the north. The river constricts to about 1 km (3/4 of a mile) at this point, and the San Sault Rapids on the Mackenzie are encountered.

The Sans Sault Rapids are formed by a rocky ledge that extends into midstream from the east bank. Although a portage is not necessary, they are best skirted by keeping to the west/left side of the river. There is a sign posted here to warn all boaters of this rapid. Below the rapids, the Mackenzie flows in a northerly direction for a bout 56 km (33 miles). It remains at least 3 km (2 miles) wide throughout and contains many islands and sandbars. The river narrows as it enters the Ramparts, a twelve km (7 mile) long vertically walled limestone canyon.

The rapids here present the second major hazard to MRA adventurers. The safest route for MRA canoes is within the channel markers. Towards the end of this spectacular gorge, the river begins to widen and then split around Manitou Island.

Fort Good Hope is found on the right shore opposite the Island. Many of the 663 residents here continue to hunt and trap in the surrounding areas. Northwright Airways offers daily scheduled flights to Norman Wells and is available for charter service for those MRA adventurers wishing to view the Ramparts by air. One of the main attractions here are the murals of Father Emile Petitot who decorated Our Lady of Good Hope Church that was built in 1878. Aside from visiting the famous church, Fort Good Hope has a Northern Store and a Co-Operatives Store, nursing station and RCMP. MRA adventurers will also be treated to a spectacular north and south view of the Mackenzie River when one looks from the high banks of Fort Good Hope!

For those MRA adventurers wanting to explore the Mackenzie River but have limited time can conclude their MRA adventure here at Fort Good Hope. Ending at Fort Good Hope allows the MRA Adventure to experience the spectacular world famous Ramparts just up river from Fort Good Hope and the historical Our Lady of Good Hope church. Remember, the Ramparts represent the fastest and narrowest part of the entire river!

MRA adventurers who end their river trip here will fly to Norman Wells with Northwright Airways where they can connect with Canadian North which has daily jet service daily north to Inuvik and south to Yellowknife and Edmonton.

Dates and Bookings

MRA operates on a first come first serve basis. A 25% deposit is required to reserve your seat with the balance due 30 days prior to departure. MRA will be offering only offers 1 trip of FP3, so book early to reserve your seat!

Trip Package

Dates

FP3. Fort Providence to Fort Good Hope

July 03 - July 17, 2003

FP4. Fort Providence to Tsiigehtchic Distance: 1350 km
Duration: 20-23 Day Cost: \$ 6,000 US \$ 6,515.90 EUR \$ 9,276.35 CDN

Level of Difficulty:3 Meals: Breakfast; Lunch; Dinner, Snacks

Points of Interest: Mills Lake, Bird Island, Red Knife traditional site, Trout River, Jean Marie River, Rabbitskin River, Liard River, Fort Simpson, Camsell Bend, North Nahanni River, Burnt Island, Wrigley, Keel River, Tulita, Norman Wells, Ramparts, Fort Good Hope, Little Chicago, Thunder River, Travallant River, Prairie Creek, Lower Ramparts, Tsiigehtchic

Overnight Camps:

1 st Night	-	Fort Providence	11 th Night	-	Keele River
2 nd Night	-	Bird Island	12 th Night	-	Tulita
3 rd Night	-	Redknife River	13 th Night	-	Norman Wells
4 th Night	-	Trout River	14 th Night	-	Mountain River
5 th Night	-	Jean Marie River	15 th Night	-	Fort Good Hope
6 th Night	-	Fort Simpson	16 th Night	-	Little Chicago
7 th Night	-	Camsell Bend	17 th Night	-	Thunder River
8 th Night	-	Willow Lake River	18 th Night	-	Travallant River
9 th Night	-	Wrigley	19 th Night	-	Prairie Creek
10 th Night	-	Blackwater River	20 th Night	-	Tsiigehtchic

Trip Profile:

The community of Tsiigehtchic (formerly Arctic Red River) is situated on the left bank of the Mackenzie at the mouth of the Arctic Red River. Located on the Dempster Highway, Tsiigehtchic is linked with Inuvik, Fort McPherson and Dawson City, Yukon. Although Tsiigehtchic has been a traditional Dene fishing camp for generations and generations, it became a permanent community when a mission was established here in 1868.

MRA adventurers offers this river trip package for those adventurers that wish to experience both the Mackenzie River and the most northern highway system in the North America, the Dempster Highway! Tsiigehtchic is located on the Dempster Highway allowing travelers to drive one of the most scenic routes in all of Canada! Dawson City, Whitehorse, British Columbia and Alaska all start with the Dempster!

Dates and Bookings

MRA operates on a first come first serve basis. A 25% deposit is required to reserve your seat with the remaining balance due 30 days prior to departure. MRA will be offering only 1 trip of FP4, so book early to reserve your seat!

Trip Package

Dates

FP4. Fort Providence to Tsiigehtchic

June 15 - July 04, 2003

FP5. Fort Providence to Inuvik

Distance: 1495 km

Duration: 21-24 Days Cost: \$ 6,300 US \$ 6,842.58 EUR \$ 9,740.40 CDN

Level of Difficulty:3 Meals: Breakfast; Lunch; Dinner; Snack

Points of Interest: Mills Lake, Bird Island, Red Knife traditional site, Trout River, Jean Marie River, Rabbitskin River, Liard River, Fort Simpson, Camsell Bend, North Nahanni River, Burnt Island, Wrigley, Keel River, Tulita, Norman Wells, Ramparts, Fort Good Hope, Little Chicago, Thunder River, Travillant River, Prairie Creek, Lower Ramparts, Tsiigehtchic, the Mackenzie Delta

Overnight Camps:

1 st Night	-	Fort Providence	12 th Night	-	Tulita
2 nd Night	-	Bird Island	13 th Night	-	Norman Wells
3 rd Night	-	Redknife River	14 th Night	-	Mountain River
4 th Night	-	Trout River	15 th Night	-	Fort Good Hope
5 th Night	-	Jean Marie River	16 th Night	-	Little Chicago
6 th Night	-	Fort Simpson	17 th Night	-	Thunder River
7 th Night	-	Camsell Bend	18 th Night	-	Travillant River
8 th Night	-	Willow Lake River	19 th Night	-	Prairie Creek
9 th Night	-	Wrigley	20 th Night	-	Tsiigehtchic
10 th Night	-	Blackwater River	21 st Night	-	Inuvik
11 th Night	-	Keele River			

Trip Profile:

24 km (15 miles) downstream, paddlers encounter Point Separation where the Mackenzie splits up into the many streams and channels of the Delta. Inuvik is reached by taking the East Channel, the entrance to which can be found about 16 km (10 miles) north of Point Separation. The name Inuvik means "place of man". Both the Inuvialuit and Dene traditionally hunt and fish this region. In 1955, Inuvik became the government and commercial centre of the Western Arctic. It contains a variety of stores and accommodations, campgrounds. As well, scheduled air service is available from Edmonton, Yellowknife, Norman Wells and Whitehorse.

MRA adventurers who end their trip here will join a very elite group of Mackenzie River adventurers, including Sir Alexander Mackenzie himself! MRA acknowledges those who complete this particular river package with some very special gifts!

MRA adventurers can add to their adventure by taking 30-minute helicopter ride to view the beautiful Arctic Ocean! For those interested and for an additional cost, MRA can make arrangements for this spectacular trip. Upon concluding this package, MRA adventurers have two options for getting home, traveling the most northern highway system in North America or flying out to Yellowknife and Edmonton.

The Dempster Highway originates at Inuvik allowing travelers to drive one of the most scenic routes in all of Canada! Dawson City, Whitehorse, British Columbia and Alaska all start with the Dempster! First Air and Canadian North offer daily jet service south to Yellowknife and Edmonton.

Dates and Bookings

MRA operates on a first come first serve basis. A 25% deposit is required to reserve your seat with the remaining balance due 30 days prior to departure. MRA offers 2 trips of FP5, so book early to reserve your seat!

Trip Package

Dates

FP5. Fort Providence to Inuvik

June 15 - July 04, 2003

FP5. Fort Providence to Inuvik

July 03 - July 23, 2003

CUSTOM TRIPS

Mackenzie River Adventurers can design river trips to meet you and your group's specific needs. Mackenzie River Adventures requires a 6-month advance notice for custom adventure packages. MRA staff will work closely with you and your group in designing your once in a lifetime river Mackenzie River Adventure!!!

CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT

All MRA adventurers will receive a Certificate of Achievement that gives acknowledgement to the outstanding efforts of the MRA adventurer! Also, the MRA adventure will automatically be inducted into the MRA Hall of Fame which will be on permanent display on our website and at MRA Headquarters!

*****NOTE*****

Seating is limited, so hurry and register for your once in a lifetime MACKENZIE RIVER ADVENTURE today!!

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