

Kesagami Trip Information

Personal items to bring with you:

- **warm clothing** (Don't underestimate Mother Nature!)
- **rain suit** (A good quality rain suit is a **must** to protect you from rain or waves when traveling.)
- **camera**
- **filet knife**

Don't Bring:

- **coolers** (We supply "six-pack" sized beverage coolers, cold packs & ice; larger coolers are also available.)
- **fish nets** (We supply fish cradles in every boat.)
- **excessive fishing tackle** (We carry the right stuff in our tackle store.)
- **huge hockey bags (4' long duffle bags)**

Lodge Flying Schedule:

- **The date your deposit was received establishes your flying priority in and out of the lodge.**
- The fly-in from our base camp in Cochrane, Ontario is scheduled for morning, weather permitting. We try to start flying by 7:00am and can take 9-10 people at a time using 3 planes, It sometimes takes until noon to get everybody in if we have large groups. Your party should plan to arrive in Cochrane the night before unless other arrangements are made with us in advance. (Motels are listed on the next page). **Please check in with our air base during office hours at (705) 272-5570 a couple of days prior to arrival to confirm you will be there.** You may only get the answering machine but at least we'll have final confirmation. At that time we will try to give you an estimated departure time for your flight to the lodge. Depending on the flying schedule, some of you may get some extra sleep in preparation for your battles with the monster Kesagami pike. **If you are flying back home from Timmins on commercial service, please book one of the mid-afternoon flights on your departure day from Kesagami.**

Baggage weight limit is 50 lbs per person. You can bring beverages in with you but we do have a well stocked bar with beer and soft drinks. Flying beverages in to the lodge is very costly (between \$33 and \$40 per case). We will charge you \$65.00 for a case of pop (soda) and \$100.00 for a case of beer (please note that the case price for soda (pop) and beer includes the flying charge). Overweight charges are \$1.75/lb. Due to government and insurance regulations and lodge policy we will not fly overweight. Do not ask us or your fellow fishing group members to fly in an unsafe situation!!

Trip payment of balance: This is usually done the night prior to departure from the lodge. You can run a tab or pay cash for beverage and clothing or tackle purchases.

Commercial Airline Flights – If you need to book commercial airfare to get to Kesagami's airbase any travel agent can easily book the airline ticket to the Timmins, Ontario airport. Then just call Oscar's Taxi or Personal Touch Transportation to hire them to pick you up when your flight arrives.

Fishing licenses need to be purchased ahead of time at:

<https://www2.on.wildlifelicense.com/start.php?lang=1>

They are no longer available for purchase at the airbase. They can be purchased in town at the PetroCanada gas station on the highway coming into town.

IMPORTANT: From May 10 on, it is difficult to contact us by telephone. A message can be left on a recorder at 705-272-5570 and we will try to get back to you. **PLEASE GET YOUR TRIP DETAILS RESOLVED BEFORE MAY 1.**

Beverages:

- We have a fully licensed lounge at Kesagami that is stocked with quality liquors and wines. The brands of beer that we stock are: *Molson Canadian, Moosehead and Coors Light*. The pop (soda) that we stock are *Coke, Diet Coke, Sprite, Ginger Ale, Tonic Water and Soda Water*.
- **Any special brands need to be brought in by your group or let us know and we can order it.**

Communications:

- The lodge is not equipped to accept incoming telephone calls. We have a satellite phone for guest use.
- If you find it necessary to make outgoing calls, they can be made and are charged at \$2.00 per minute, There is no cell service available at the lodge. WIFI is available for one hour each day between 5pm and 6pm. Password is \$25.00

Motor Insurance:

- Motor insurance is available to protect against damage to propellers and lower units. All guests are responsible for damage to outboard motors and repair charges can range from \$75.00 (for a damaged prop) to \$1,500 for a damaged lower unit. The cost of insurance is \$10.00 per day per boat used for your party. Many of our veterans sign up for motor insurance. Let us know when you check in, if you are opting to take the insurance.

Overnight Accommodations: (2017 Rates – plus tax)

Motels in Cochrane:

Westway (705) 272-4285 (Better accommodations) Queen - \$98.00, 2 doubles - \$115.00 (2017 rates**)

Thrifty Lodge (705) 272-4281 (Standard accommodations) 2 people - \$85.00 (2017 rates)

Station Inn (705) 272-3500 (Better accommodations) 1 - \$105.00, 2 - \$115.00 (\$10.00 per extra person)
(800) 265-2356 (Reservations) (2017 rates)

Best Western (705) 272-5200 (Superior accommodations) 1- \$130.50 ** \$10.00 per extra person (**free deluxe breakfast and wifi included with all bookings**), **Kids under 12 are free**

Transportation Services:

Chimo Taxi (vans for 5 or less passengers) \$160.00 (CDN funds) per van load - Timmins to Cochrane
(705) 272-3506 \$20.00 (CDN or US funds) per van load - motel to airbase
Drivers will stop at a local bank for currency exchange. \$170.00 (CDN funds) per van load - airbase to Timmins airport.

Personal Touch Transportation (vans that carry 4 - 5 passengers) \$150.00 (CDN funds) per van load -
(705) 272-6090 Timmins to Cochrane
\$20.00 (CDN or US funds) per van load - motel to airbase
\$160.00 (CDN funds) per van load - airbase to Timmins airport.

****When booking your accommodations or transportation please make sure you indicate that you are a Kesagami guest in order to receive these preferred rates.**

Directions to the airbase.

When you arrive in Cochrane just follow the signs to the Municipal Airport but instead of turning left into the entrance to the airport keep on the main road and drive about 2 miles further and you will come to Concession 6 and 7 and turn left down that road and it lead directly to the airbase. There is usually a sign pointing the way. <http://aircochrane.com/air-base.html>

FISHING TACKLE

Rods and Reels - medium/heavy to heavy action equipment is "necessary" for the trophy fish! Most anglers who visit us have never encountered fish as big as the ones at Kesagami. Even experienced anglers are often unprepared for these fish. Broken rods, snapped lines and leaders that are chewed in half were all common place last year at the lodge. Give yourself the best chance possible at landing these giants by bringing heavy duty equipment or rent equipment at the lodge. You want to land that fish of a lifetime!

Line - we recommend a premium brand of 20-30 lb test for the pike **and** the walleye. The water clarity of Kesagami Lake is tea-stained so the heavier line doesn't tend to spook the walleye and fully 1/3rd of the trophy pike are caught while walleye fishing. Veteran Kesagami anglers, guides and staff will often use this heavy gear for all fishing situations. Spider Wire does not perform as well as many of the Berkley monofilament lines such as Trilene Big Game and Trilene XT. If you like the new types of fishing lines, Berkley's "Fire Line" had good reports last year.

Leaders - strong wire leaders of 9" -18" are highly recommended. Anglers at Kesagami will often use 30lb test leaders while jigging for walleye so they don't lose the large trophy pike that are often caught while walleye fishing. Leaders from 45lb to 60lb test are recommended for pike.

Hooks - Single barbless hooks only! The HOT lures for Kesagami are all single hooked lures that simply require a pinch down of the barbs with strong pliers. Jigs for walleye need the same simple adjustment. Most of your tackle can be prepared ahead of time. For those of you who need single barbless hooks to convert other types of lures, we have them readily available **free of charge** at the lodge.

Recommended fishing lures:

Pike - Buzzbaits (black, white, chartreuse, chartreuse/white, yellow, green)
- Johnson Silver Minnow (3/4 oz and 1 1/8 oz, colors - silver, gold)
- Rapala spoons (fire tiger, silver, gold, blue/silver, hot orange)
- Spinnerbaits (white, chartreuse, chartreuse/white, yellow, green)
- Flashy spoons (orange, red & white, silver, chartreuse)

Walleye - jig heads (1/4 to 1/2 oz with 3/8 oz being the most popular, all colors work well)
- soft plastic twister tails (best colors are yellow, orange & chartreuse)
- Mister Twister Sassy Shads (3" natural minnow finish and red/white)
- Rapala spoons (fire tiger, fluorescent orange, gold and silver)

What doesn't work - deep diving crank baits (due to the shallowness of the water)
most Rapalas (you need weedless lures for most trophy pike fishing)
jerk baits & body baits like Believers, Swim Whiz (Kesagami trophies prefer small lures)

Big Tackle Boxes - Guests who bring giant tackle boxes usually regret it during their trip. Trust us that there are only a select number of lures that produce top results on Kesagami.

Sonar - anglers who feel more comfortable with a sonar should bring it along, however most of your fishing will be by sight around points and shallow, visible weed beds.

We stock all top-producing lures in our small tackle shop as well as a line of custom-manufactured lures for Kesagami with barbless hooks. In most cases it will cost less than a regular tackle retailer except Johnsons's Silver Minnows which are cheaper in the US. If you are in doubt as to what you need, let us help you when you come up to the lodge.

KESAGAMI FISHING POLICY

1. **Release all pike.**
2. **One or two walleye (up to 18") for shore lunch are permissible.**
3. **No fish transported home.**
4. **No live bait.**

Fish Handling

- 1) **Cradle all big fish and keep fish in water while unhooking.**
- 2) **No fish in boat except shore lunch walleye.**
- 3) **Photograph over water only.**
- 4) **BIG PIKE NEED WATER! Keeping them in the air and overplaying fish is deadly.**
- 5) **Revive completely.**

MANDATORY FISHING EQUIPMENT

- **SINGLE BARBLESS HOOKS** (We will provide, *free of charge*, split rings and single barbless hooks so that you may convert your tackle.)
- **LONG NOSE HOOK REMOVERS** (No jaw spreaders please)

It takes diligence and commitment to preserve a sportfishery. The mortality rate of trophy fish due to human catching and mishandling alone can jeopardize the trophy population.

Please do your part, ask questions to educate and learn the techniques necessary to save the fishery.



**Kesagami Wilderness Lodge was ranked by
Outdoor Canada Magazine as
the Number 1 pike lake in Canada.**

WHY?

Catch and release on all pike!

No vertical holding of fish!

**No bringing trophy pike out of the water
and into the boat!**

No use of jaw spreaders or jaw grippers!

Single barbless hooks!

**Please do your part in preserving this treasured fishery for
years to come.**

Kesagami Lake Fishing Map

