



Your Trip

Canada's deepest river canyons in Nahanni National Park and UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Nahanni Canyon Kingdom Twelve Days From Virginia Falls

Raft / Canoe / Kayak Combo – Something for Everyone! We make it possible for any skill level and interest to enjoy the Nahanni, from beginners who want to try raft to experienced whitewater canoeist. See our prerequisites and contact us for more details.

Our Trips offer you more time in the canyons than any other itinerary offered!

Itinerary

Day 1 MAJESTIC MOUNTAIN & CANYON FLIGHT

This is the first date listed for your trip.

Your journey north from your home will be a refreshing departure. You will fly over the largest expanse of wilderness in the world with stunning views on cloudless days. Passing through quieter and friendlier airports, you will begin

to immerse yourself in the wilderness experience that is about to unfold.

Your trip leader will meet you to transfer you to the float plane base (if you arrive prior, please make your way to your accommodation).

There will be a chance for last minute questions concerning clothing, gear, packing and other details. You will also have time to transfer your gear into our

Trip Details

Virginia Falls to Nahanni Butte, journey through the traditional territory of the Naha Dene:

Approximately 240 kilometres (150 miles) with an elevation drop of 396 metres (1,300 feet)

Cost: \$7,295 + 5% GST + \$200 park fee

Duration: 11 river days

Trip Type: Raft / Canoe combination

Skill Level

Raft: Beginner

Canoe: Class II whitewater


Inflatable Canoe and Kayak on flatwater stretches: Intermediate ability

For more information, see the FAQ's at nahanni.com

Rendezvous Point:

Fort Simpson Airport, NWT

Try our inflatable kayak for \$150!

 One of National Geographic Adventure magazine's "Best adventure travel companies on earth"

 CANADIAN RIVER EXPEDITIONS

 Nahanni River Adventures

Nahanni Canyon Kingdom Twelve Days From Virginia Falls

Photo: Noel Henrikson



Sluice Box rapids above Virginia Falls (we don't run this!)

river bags. You can leave unrequired items at our base/warehouse.

After loading our supplies and gear into the aircraft we begin one of the major highlights of the adventure - the upriver flight. As you over the majestic Nahanni Range and Ram Plateau, a visually stunning panorama unfolds in front of our eyes. You want to be sure to have your camera on your lap! Past participants have stepped off the plane declaring that "if the trip finished now, I would have my money's worth!"

Following supper in camp at Virginia Falls, your guides will provide further briefing with the techniques for living comfortably along the river. A short hike and last look at the stunning scenery before bed will remind you that you are in one of the most scenic places on the planet!

Day 2 VIRGINIA FALLS (NÁJLĪCHO)

The culinary delights for which we are famous are once more whipped up by

our talented guides. This is a day for exploring and photographing the area around Virginia Falls, nearly twice the height of Niagara. The vast expanse of the falls captivates photographers and hikers with a tireless display of powerful drama. Keen and fit hikers may undertake an all-day expedition to the top of Sunblood Mountain for an excellent view of the surrounding area. Others can enjoy exploring the expansive area overlooking the brink of the falls.

Day 3 PAINTED CANYON

After another delicious breakfast. We will make the final portage around the falls. The trail is downhill and well defined. You need carry only what is comfortable for you. Everyone pitches in to carry what they can and we take as long as we need to complete the task. It is impossible to spend too much time at Virginia Falls! We will assemble the boats and, after a late shore lunch and briefing, we will embark in the late afternoon, on an exhilarating

Upcoming Trip Dates

Monday June 10 – Friday June 21, 2019

Monday June 24 – Friday July 5 2019

Monday July 8 – Friday July 19, 2019

Monday July 22 – Friday August 2 2019

Monday August 5 – Friday August 16 2019

Monday August 19 - Friday August 30, 2019

Raft or Canoe?

We bring an inflatable canoe on each trip to share among the group for the flat, moving water sections. If you would like a dedicated canoe for your own use or a hard shell canoe, there is a \$250 per person flight surcharge. If you have whitewater canoe training and would like to canoe the entire trip, the surcharge applies. Numbers will indicate how thoroughly we will be able to match preferences for raft or canoe. See "The Details & Equipment" package for an explanation of the craft, our "canyon rig" options and prerequisites to canoe the Nahanni. Please call with any questions 1-800-297-6927.

Added Value!

We are the only company to include these great enhancements to the quality of your trip: To maximize your enjoyment and time in the canyons and minimize exposure to bugs, we create more time to enjoy the highlights of the canyons by employing a local power boat to meet us in the Splits and speed us past the slow (and buggy) final portion to the village of Nahanni Butte, saving an entire day. In addition, we fly you from the village back to Fort Simpson, for an aerial view of the Liard valley, further enhancing your time and focus on the best highlights. Two examples of the distance we go to give you the best Nahanni experience possible!

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run through Painted Canyon, also known as Fourth Canyon. Camp is finally made for the evening below Wrigley Creek.

Day 4 THE GATE & PULPIT ROCK

We drift past the confluence of the Flat River and then enter Third Canyon, the walls of which loom 1,200 metre above our heads. This 20 kilometre canyon is created by the river slicing through the mixed strata of shales, sandstones and limestone's of the Funeral Range. We camp halfway through this canyon near The Gate, a 100 metre wide gorge where the walls tower 460 metre above us.

Day 5 BIG BEND

In the morning we do a short hike to the top of The Gate and are awarded a magnificent view of Third Canyon and Pulpit Rock. After lunch it's back in the rafts and on through Third Canyon to camp at Big Bend. At the end of the day, you will cozy up in your tents in the comforts that are the hallmark of our journeys.

Day 6 DEADMEN VALLEY (DAHAHTTH'I)

On through Second Canyon and into Deadmen Valley, where we will stop for a spectacular two hour walk up a dry creek bed for an overview of this immense region. After drifting by Headless Creek, we continue on to Sheaf Creek. Here R. M. Patterson and his partner Gordon Mathews wintered in 1928. We will camp for the night at Dead Man Valley.

Day 7 PRAIRIE CREEK (TŁO DEHÉ)

This may be selected by the trip guide as a layover day. If so you can spend a relaxing day around camp or exploring

the massive alluvial fan of Prairie Creek. For birders it is the nesting grounds for upland sandpipers, common nighthawks, whitewinged crossbills, chipping and savanna sparrows. Fishermen will find both bull trout and Arctic grayling inhabiting the pools and eddies of the creek.

Day 8 INTO THE CANYON KINGDOM

We start the day with a short hike up Dry Canyon, followed by the big waves of George's Riffle. These rapids are at the western entrance to First Canyon. We will camp near its end at Lafferty Creek.

Day 9 LAFFERTY CANYON

We spend the day hiking up Lafferty Creek canyon to view some of the hundreds of caves in the area.

Day 10 KRAUS' HOTSPRINGS (TUŁETSEE)

After the waves of Lafferty's Riffle, we take a quick dip in Kraus' Hotsprings before bidding farewell to the canyons and entering the braided channels of The Splits. Here a broad valley is revealed and the surrounding mountains, ridge piled upon ridge, form a dramatic contrast to the enclosure of the canyons. Lush boreal forest bordered by steep ridges form a "storybook" setting.

Day 11 GREAT DENE WALL & NAHANNI BUTTE (TTHENÁÁGÓ)

Stopping in the village we will have an opportunity to see this traditional community. Here we board a charter plane for our flight down the Liard Valley back to Fort Simpson. You will need to book accommodation for this final night in Fort Simpson. The group can meet for dinner at a restaurant in town for a final

Suggested Reading

Your guides will carry a small reference library that will include field reference books. Following are some books for winter reading:

Nahanni – River of Gold... River of Dreams by Neil Hartling

Nahanni – The River Guide by Peter Jowett & Neil Hartling

Nahanni by Dick Turner

Wings Over the North by Dick Turner

Dangerous River by R.M. Patterson

A Naturalist's Guide to the Arctic by E.C. Pielou



View from Sunblood Mountain

Photo: Terry Parker

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"Spa treatments" in Kraus Hotsprings.

Photo: Noel Henrickson

farewell meal and good-bye to your guides (accommodation and meal not included).

Day 12 HOMEWARD BOUND

This is the last date listed for your trip.

After a relaxing morning and time to look around the Village of Fort Simpson, you will board your homeward plane with a load of fond memories and a relaxed and renewed spirit!

Please note: The above is a tentative agenda and has been designed with much thought to capitalize on the most scenic and exciting parts of the river while making time on other sections. Your guides will adjust the schedule to make the best use of river and weather conditions. We adhere to the departure regulation system

of the Park which works to ensure that all river travelers have the same wilderness experience. Under certain conditions (weather, forest fire, plane availability and upriver conditions), it may be necessary to make our upriver flight soon after arrival. On the other hand, we have occasionally found ourselves waiting for safe flying conditions. In any event, we will have supper and find ourselves camped in Ft. Simpson or on the shores of the Nahanni. If we are required to overnight in Fort Simpson you are welcome to camp or take a hotel room (at your own cost).

Hotel costs and meals while in Fort Simpson are not included in the trip fee.

Breakfast, lunch, dinner and snacks are included from the pre-trip meeting until the final river meal. Any other meals off the river are your responsibility.

Contact Us

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