



LOWER CAMERON RIVER

Highlights:

The Lower Cameron River is a delight to paddle passing two scenic waterfalls and a few small rapids. Easily accessible from Yellowknife, the river is often narrow, providing a sense of isolation and solitude. Numerous beaver lodges can be seen along the route and waterfowl are in abundance on the slower parts of the river. With luck, loons and muskrats may also be seen.

Itinerary:

The canoe route begins at Reid Lake Territorial Park, a 61 km drive from Yellowknife along the Ingraham Trail. The trip terminates at Powder Point Day Use Area at the eastern end of Prelude Lake. Powder Point is a 15 km drive from Reid Lake Park and there are parking areas at both locations. A park permit is required for Reid Lake and may be purchased at the gatehouse.

Load the canoes at Reid Lake boat launch and head right, down the lake for 1 km. The first portage is located where Reid Lake empties into the Cameron River and cascades over a 1 m ledge. The 175 m portage is on the right side.

The route then continues down the scenic Cameron River. After 1.5 km, the river flows over a small ledge. There is a short portage on the right bank if necessary. Paddle another 1 km down the narrow river and the unmistakable sound of rapids can be heard.

The 250 m portage trail is on the right-hand shore. Beware - these rapids drop over a 2 m ledge, winding through the rocks. They also pass under the Cameron River Bridge on the Ingraham Trail. (cont)

LOWER CAMERON RIVER

Duration & degree of difficulty:

Distance:	15 km
Average Trip Time:	6-8 hours
Portages:	5
Longest Portage:	350 m

There are a few smaller rapids that can be negotiated by the skilled paddler.

There are two waterfalls and two large rapids that must be portaged.

If you are unsure of either your abilities or the conditions, play it safe and take the portages.

Nearest camping:

Reid Lake Territorial Park, at the start of the route, offers camping facilities. It is 15 km from Powder Point, the termination of the trip.

Prelude Lake Territorial Park is 16 km west of Powder Point, also on the Ingraham Trail.



Northern Frontier Visitors Centre
4807-49th Street
Yellowknife NT X1A 3T5
Ph: (867) 873-4262
www.northernfrontier.com



Northwest Territories Industry, Tourism and Investment

Find out more about Northwest Territories parks and canoe routes at:
www.itl.gov.nt.ca/tourismparks



THIS BROCHURE IS PRINTED ON RECYCLED MATERIAL



INGRAHAM TRAIL ♦ CANOE ROUTES

Lower Cameron River



A day trip
for experienced
paddlers



Itinerary (cont):

It is possible, and safer, to put the canoes back into the river and paddle under the bridge rather than walking across the highway. At this point you are passing through Cameron River Crossing Park, another place from which the trip can be started or ended.

The next portage is only a five minute paddle downstream and is on the left hand bank. This 200 m portage is a winding downhill walk around Cameron River Ramparts which is approximately 6 m in height. Exercise caution when approaching this portage.

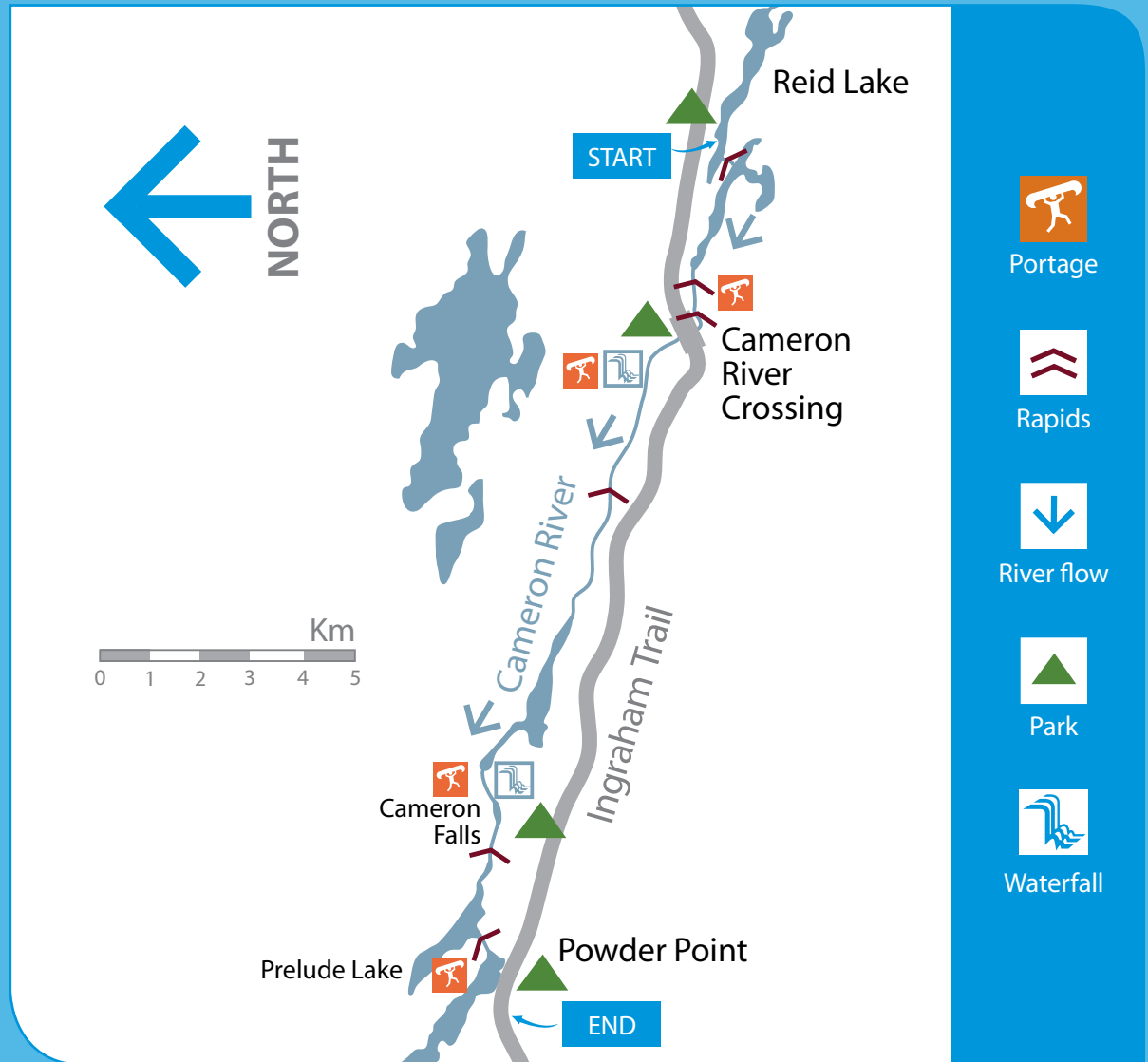
Approximately 1.5 km further on, you will encounter a novice stretch of whitewater, which can be scouted from the shore.

Experienced paddlers should have no problems negotiating this section. If necessary, the portage trail is 50 m long on the left bank.

The river then meanders gently for 4 km before widening out into a small lake just over 1 km in length. At the end of the lake, there is another 1.5 km stretch of river before the water empties over Cameron Falls. The portage is on the right bank. The Falls are 17 m high so canoeists must be especially careful not to miss the landing. The portage trail is 350 m around the falls with a steep downhill walk at the end. The rocks overlooking Cameron Falls are a superb place to stop for a break and enjoy the view.

The next 1.5 km of paddling along the river is fairly easy with one small riffle. When the river widens, stay along the left shore for 700 m until you encounter a set of rapids where the Cameron River empties into Prelude Lake. The final portage is a short walk along the right side.

Cross the 500 m south-east arm of Prelude Lake to reach Powder Point on the Ingraham Trail.



Lower Cameron River Canoe Route

This is a wilderness canoe trip and is not entirely predictable. Routes are not maintained on a regular basis. Changes in weather or water level, overgrown trails, and many other risks could affect the accuracy of the information in this brochure. You are ultimately responsible for your own safety.