The Grand Tour

ITINERARY

6 DAYS IN EEYOU ISTCHEE BAIE-JAMES!

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EEYOU ISTCHEE
BAIE-JAMES

Day 1: Oujé-Bougoumou and Chibougamau

Familiarize yourself with the Cree Nation's past and history thanks to a visit to the Aasnischaaukamikw Cree Cultural Institute. End your day in Chibougamau where you can take advantage of the trails around the city.

Aanischaaukamikw Cree Cultural Institute

A visit to the Aanischaaukamikw Cree Cultural Institute is an inescapable stop to learn about the Cree Nation's past and history. The museum received the 2018 Governor General's History Award for Excellence in Museums. After this activity, complete your visit by a guided tour of the community of Oujé-Bougoumou, who was rewarded by UNESCO for its construction and traditional architecture.

Obalski Park

Take a deep breath of fresh air! Rent a kayak or a canoe and enjoy the Lac Gilman, in the heart of the city. Many hiking and bicycle trails are accessible near the lake.

Day 2: On the Road

KM 131: Rivière Broadback

KM 234: Cree commemorative Monument

KM 238: Rivière Rupert rest area

Tourisme Eeyou Istchee Baie-James
1252, route 167 Sud | CP 134
Chibougamau (Québec) G8P 2K6
www.escapelikeneverbefore.com

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Day 3: Radisson

Robert-Bourassa Facilities

At the end of the route de la Baie-James, discover the Robert-Bourassa hydroelectric facilities! From the central—the largest in the world—located 140 metres underground to the dam as high as a building of 53 floors, these human constructions, like the nature surrounding them, dazzle by their gigantism. It is possible to visit the La Grande-1 (Chisasibi) and Grande-2 power stations for free.

Historical visit: La grande épopée de la Baie-James

Relive the great moments of the Baie-James project thanks to this tour paying tribute to the men and women who have contributed to this ambitious project, making it a reality.

Boutique Arts et trésors inouïs

You do not want to miss a visit to this boutique which offers some of the most beautiful examples of art objects, jewelry, as well as Native and Inuit artifacts. It is the ideal place to purchase souvenirs and feast your eyes on extraordinary art and treasures.

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Day 4: Chisasibi

In the modern community of Chisasibi, the boreal forest merges with the taiga and the waters of James bay mix with those of Hudson bay. Adventurers looking to spend a couple of nights in a traditional bush camp will be delighted to know that locals are available to guide you and share their incredible legends. Chisasibi is the last Cree community of Eeyou Istchee Baie-James accessible by road.

La Grande-1 Generating Station

As impressive as La Grande-2 in Radisson, Le Grande-1 Generating Station is definitely worth the detour.

Chisasibi Heritage and Cultural Centre

This museum is a place of cultural renewal and transmission where intergenerational bonds can be strengthened. For visitors, it is a great place to learn about Cree traditions and stories.

Day 5: Wemindji

Head south to Wemindji for an astonishing cruise on the James bay.

Maquatua Hotel

Maquatua Inn is located at the mouth of the rivière Maquatua in Wemindji. A total of 30 comfortable and modern rooms are available. The hotel also has a restaurant and a boutique filled with arts and crafts made by local artists. You can rent canoes and kayaks to explore rivière Maquatua at your own pace.

Wemindji Eco-tourist Cruise

Sail the majestic waters of James bay and Maquatua River with Cree guides! While telling you the story of their land, they let you explore the islands of James Bay, where you can observe the fauna and flora, take a walk on these rocky massifs and contemplate the vastness of Eeyou Istchee Baie-James. Complete this activity with a guided tour of the community.

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To book a cruise, contact Eeyou Istchee Baie-James Travels at 1 800 855-4747 or at reservations@voyageseibj.com.

Day 6: Matagami

Hit the legendary route de la Baie-James to Matagami. Spend a night or two to relax at the rhythm of Eeyou Istchee Baie-James.

Les Écogîtes du lac Matagami

Pamper yourself right in the heart of the boreal forest, in the comfort and luxury of wooden cottages or yurts. For the more adventurous, pitch your tent on the shores of the majestic lac Matagami. Take advantage of the proximity to nature to observe the fauna and flora, to go mushroom-picking with your host, to contemplate the amazing sunrise and sunset and, if you are lucky, the celestial dance of northern lights.

Mont Laurier

Ten kilometres north on the route de la Baie-James, hike one of the two trails to reach Mont Laurier's summit. You will have an impressive panoramic view over the region. Enjoy a nice breakfast or lunch before going back down.