

Killarney Outfitters

Killarney Provincial Park Lake and Portage Descriptions

KILLARNEY LAKE, Killarney Provincial Park

PORTAGE FROM KILLARNEY LAKE TO FREELAND LAKE

The 380m portage from Killarney to Freeland covers flat to moderate terrain. It begins at a wide shallow landing. This portage follows a small stream through a canopy of mountain maple, birch, and pine. Once at Freeland Lake watch footing as it can sometimes be muddy and wet.

PORTAGE FROM KILLARNEY LAKE TO THREENARROWS LAKE

This two-part portage route covers approximately 3285m in total. The first part is the longest portage in the park at 2950m. However, despite its length this portage is not otherwise difficult as it covers mostly flat ground, except for a steep incline / decline at the end. There are a few sections of the trail that have been eroded by streams so be careful with footing. At the end of this portion is a small unnamed pond. Paddle north to the entrance of the second leg, which should be in sight from the first landing. This second short 335m portage into Threenarrows can be a bit damp at times, so watch footing.

PORTAGE FROM KILLARNEY LAKE TO O.S.A LAKE

The 455m portage into O.S.A Lake from Killarney Lake is fairly flat and provides good footing. Expect a gradual incline and decline before reaching the shallow gravel beach on the O.S.A end. There is an alternative portage from Killarney Lake into O.S.A Lake, however this route can be difficult to reach due to shallow water levels at times, and the portage itself is more strenuous.

PORTAGE FROM KILLARNEY LAKE TO NORWAY LAKE

The 1390m portage into Norway Lake covers flat to moderate terrain; however the landing at Norway is narrow and somewhat wet. At times when water levels are high, this portage can be avoided by following the creek but this is not suggested due to shallow areas and many small lift overs.

PORTAGE FROM KILLARNEY LAKE TO KAKAKISE LAKE

This 1440m portage begins with a steep incline rising from Killarney Lake. Along the way, this portage meets with “The Crack” trail and both follow the same direction for a short distance. Take extra care when reaching the Kakakise landing as the descent can be rocky with poor footing.

KILLARNEY LAKE

Beautiful Killarney Lake is bordered on all sides by the La Cloche Range. White quartzite cliffs bring out the striking indigo-turquoise colour of Killarney’s waters. This beautiful hue is due to its low levels of suspended silt, organic matter, and microscopic organisms.

Along the north shore, archaeological surveys of Killarney Lake’s ancient beaches have turned up evidence of prehistoric humans. Quartzite flakes, broken stone tools, and fire-cracked rocks suggest a culture which highly valued the quartzite found there. If lucky enough to find such archaeological remains please leave them undisturbed.

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Just beside the portage from Killarney to Threenarrows Lake is an impressive flat water runoff of granite. On the hottest of days Killarney Lake is a great spot for a cool swim, as it takes longer to warm up in the summer than other smaller, shallower lakes.

Please note that Killarney Lake is a fish sanctuary which enjoys protection from the Canadian Government, meaning that fishing of all species is prohibited year-round.

When choosing a campsite on Killarney Lake, we recommend spending the night at site #18. This is a particularly beautiful site with excellent views of La Cloche Range and the small climb to get up to it from the water is worth the view.