



Hante Boundary Waters Goals and Course Summary

On your Hante you will have the wonderful opportunity to travel simply through the vast waterways of the Boundary Waters of Northern Minnesota. Your journey will begin by meeting the group in the airport in Duluth Minnesota. From here the group will travel to Ely, Minnesota where you will camp for a few days while working with your instructors and peers to set goals for your trip. The group will practice basic paddling and camping skills as well as focus on water navigation before setting off for a 15-day canoe-trek into the Boundary Waters Wilderness Area.

The days spent exploring the Boundary Waters will be long and full of travel. This vast region of lakes and waterways are separated by land that require the group to portage boats and gear in order to continue moving to the next stretch of water. You will perfect your paddling skills and may even find time to fish from your boat as you go. Evenings will be spent camping along the banks of the lakes where you will learn to hone your skills in Campcraft. Learn backcountry cooking at its best, how to filter and purify water, and discuss the importance of Leave No Trace in these pristine wilderness waterways. Canoe Trekking allows you to carry more than a standard backpacking trip, in addition to being able to move further into the wilderness and away from the tethers of society. Meals may resemble more home-cooked delicacies like Potatoes Au-Gratin and Eggs and Bacon in the morning. Camping luxuries like Dutch Ovens and refrigerated goods accompany you, are transported in your canoes to provide for your 2 weeks in the wilderness. The only limitations are the boats you paddle and your ability to portage gear from lake to lake.

In order to have a successful trip, everyone will need to be prepared to travel and bring lots of patience and energy. Like all Hantes, the goals and objectives of this Hante are many and they exist on different levels. Most obviously, this course will focus on developing your wilderness skills in canoeing, Campcraft, and most importantly your leadership skills. Beyond the technical and hard skills, your Hante will also focus on learning and exploring the ecology and geological history of these historic mountains. Your instructors want you to walk away from this Hante having gained a sense of how to travel in the vast wilderness area of the Boundary Waters, but most importantly, they want to help you foster your own personal connection to the natural world.

The Hante program and Eagle' Nest Camp is committed to the creation of a unique community. We ask for you to come with a willingness and a commitment to live and work as a part of the community we will create on our grand adventure. You'll also find that everyone will have different strengths and weaknesses, but your instructors will help to create a nurturing community in which you will feel the support you need to succeed. As a member of the community you will also be responsible to the group that you will be living, learning, working, playing, sharing, and laughing with for the three weeks of your trip. This takes commitment from everyone to be group oriented. What this means is that, at times you will have to put individual needs behind the needs of the group. This can be difficult, but this will help the trip to be much more meaningful for all of us. A community's strength springs from the dedication of its individuals.

Finally, spending three weeks in the wilderness is a major undertaking. Wilderness trekking and traveling is incredibly rewarding, but being 100% prepared is completely critical. We can't stress enough, the importance of being prepared. Please carefully read all of the material in this packet, as well as, the information we will be sending over the course of the following months. Remember, we are here to be a resource for you. If there are questions or concerns, please contact us. This IS going to be an adventure of a lifetime.