

CHARLES L. SOMMERS WILDERNESS CANOE BASE - ELY, MINNESOTA

HOW TO GET TO THE ELY BASE

Traveling to and from Northern Tier is an important part of the “High Adventure” experience. Most crews will find transportation the largest expense in the budget. Study the various modes of travel before making a final decision. Choose the one that has the greatest appeal and is affordable.

Many Northern Tier council contingents and crews have found public carriers to be the safest and most reliable forms of transportation. Consult the passenger department of any of the following carriers for scheduling information and costs. Your local travel agency can also render this service.

The Charles L. Sommers Wilderness Canoe Base is 130 miles from Duluth, 270 miles from Minneapolis, 100 miles from Hibbing, and 20.2 miles northeast of Ely.

Crews using public transportation will need to arrange charter transportation to the Base. There are many charter services in Northern Minnesota to choose from. The following are some suggestions. Also, check with your local travel agent.

Delta – Duluth, Minneapolis, Hibbing
Regular reservations – 1-(800)-221-1212
www.delta.com

Amtrak – to Minneapolis/St. Paul
1-(800)-872-7245
www.amtrak.com.

United - Duluth to Chicago
Regular reservation 1-(800)-864-8331
www.united.com

Then rent vehicles or charter a bus from Minneapolis to Ely. (The Ely Base is 270 miles from Minneapolis)

Private Vehicles – This method of transportation should be used only with full assurance that vehicles are safe and drivers are reliable. Make sure there is adequate insurance coverage. Adhere rigidly to the BSA Tour Plan requirements.

GROUND TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

Shubat’s Transportation
618 West 41st Street
Hibbing, MN 55746
(218) 262-1042
(218) 263-7182 FAX
(888) 874-8228

Highway Charter
8527 Tall Pine Road
Britt, MN 55710
(218) 741-2570
(900) 622-8000

LCS Coaches
1203 Ave. B
Cloquet, MN 55720
(218) 879-3391
(218) 879-2020 FAX
(888) 743-3527

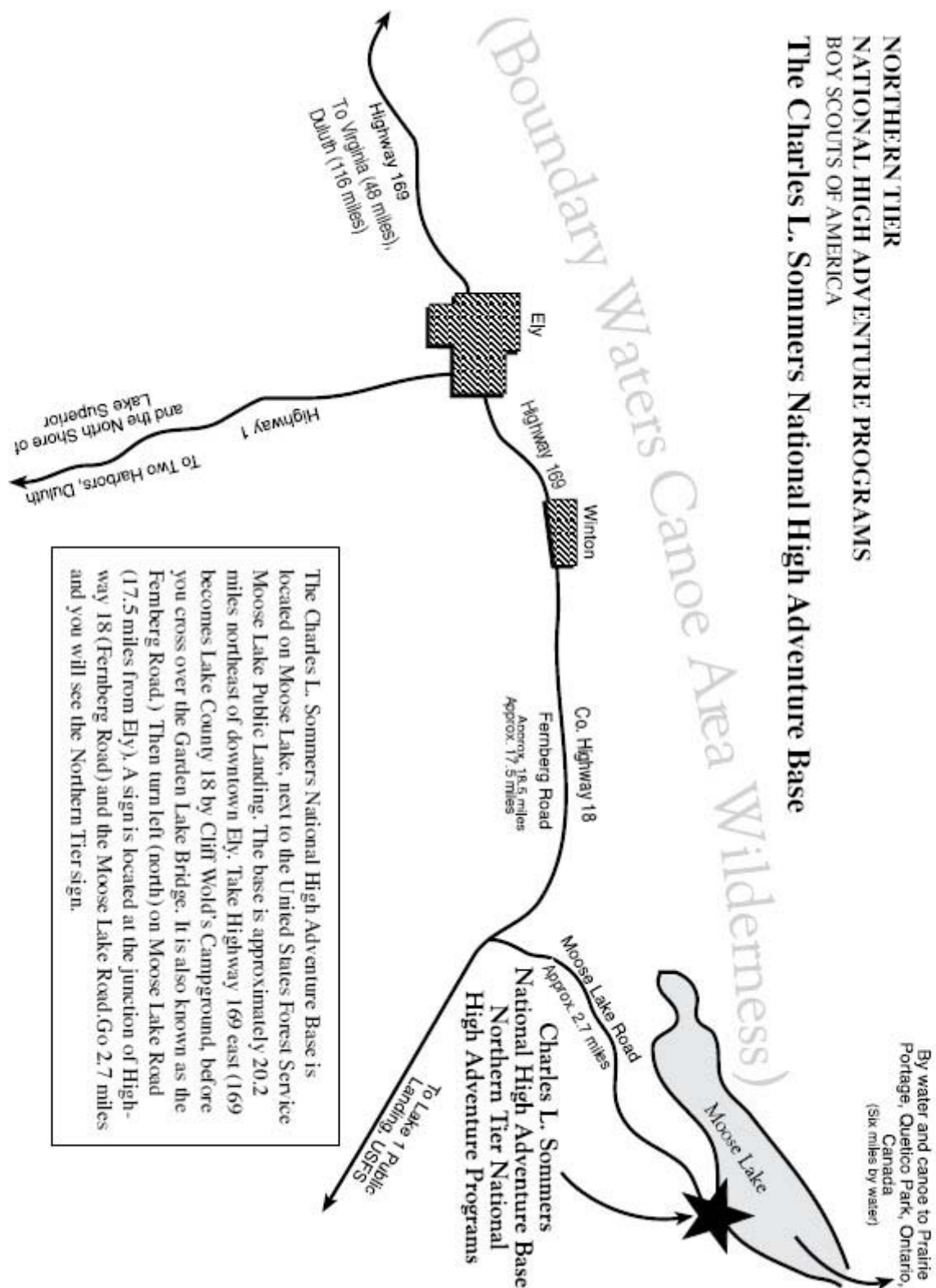
Ely Yellow Cab
2803 Voyageur Road
Ely, MN 55731
(218) 365-6006

Ely Cab & Van Service
1115 East Madison St.
Ely, MN 55731
(218) 349-1383
14 passenger van

Spirit of the Wilderness
2030 East Sheridan St.
Ely, MN 55731
(218) 365-3149
(800) 950-2709

Voyageur Bus Co. &
Minnesota Coaches Inc.
3941 East calvery Road
Duluth, MN 55803
(218) 724-1717
(218) 724-2432
www.voyageurbus.com

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DETAILED ELY TRANSPORTATION OPTIONS

When you are planning flights, please consider the option of spending a night en-route. While possible to arrange an early flight to Minneapolis, you will arrive at the base after an already long day to begin 6 hours of trip preparation.

When you are arranging flights please keep in mind the standard arrival time at Northern Tier is 1:00 to 3:00 PM Central Time. The following chart has average driving times and latest departure times to meet the Northern Tier check-in schedule.

CITY	DRIVING TIME TO THE ELY BASE	IDEAL DEPARTURE TIME
Minneapolis, MN	5 hours	8:00 AM
Duluth, MN	3 hours	10:00 AM
Giants Ridge-Biwabik, MN	1 hour & 45 minutes	11:00 AM

OFF BASE ACCOMMODATIONS AND ATTRACTIONS:

- *International Wolf Center-Ely, Minnesota
- *Giants Ridge Resort-Biwabik, MN
- *North American Bear Center-Ely, Minnesota
- *Town of Ely, Minnesota-see below for information
- *The North Shore-see below for information
- *Soudan Underground Mines-Tower, MN

LODGING OPPORTUNITY:

Crews traveling through Minneapolis may plan to overnight at Giants Ridge Ski Resort in Biwabik, MN. Giants Ridge offers lodging, food service, and recreation for Scouting groups at very reasonable rates. Call 1-800-688-7669 for information.

www.giantsridge.com

For further tourist information about Minnesota:

- Minnesota Tourism
1-(800)-657-3700.
- Ely Chamber of Commerce
1-(800)-777-7281
www.ely.com
- Iron Trail Convention & Visitors Bureau
1-(800)-777-8497
- U.S.F.S., Kawishiwi District
(218)-365-7600
- Soudan Underground Mine
(218) 753-2245

FISHING

Most participants do some fishing. The fishing regulations in Ontario are different than those in Minnesota. Most crews purchase licenses for just the adults. Youth may catch fish on the advisors' and/or Interpreters' limits. As an example, a crew with 2 adults who purchased Minnesota licenses could possess 12 walleye, 6 northern pike, 12 smallmouth bass and four lake trout. Six fish total is enough fish for supper for nine people.

Licenses can be purchased at the Ely Trading Post for Minnesota Licenses and at Prairie Portage for Ontario Licenses.

Minnesota:

(Fees shown are for the 2010 season and are subject to change)

License Type	Resident/Non	Cost
Full Season	Resident	\$18.00
Full Season	Non-Resident	\$40.50
7-Day	Non-Resident	\$29.50
3-Day	Non-Resident	\$25.00
1-Day	Non-Resident	\$9.50
Trout Stamp		\$10.00