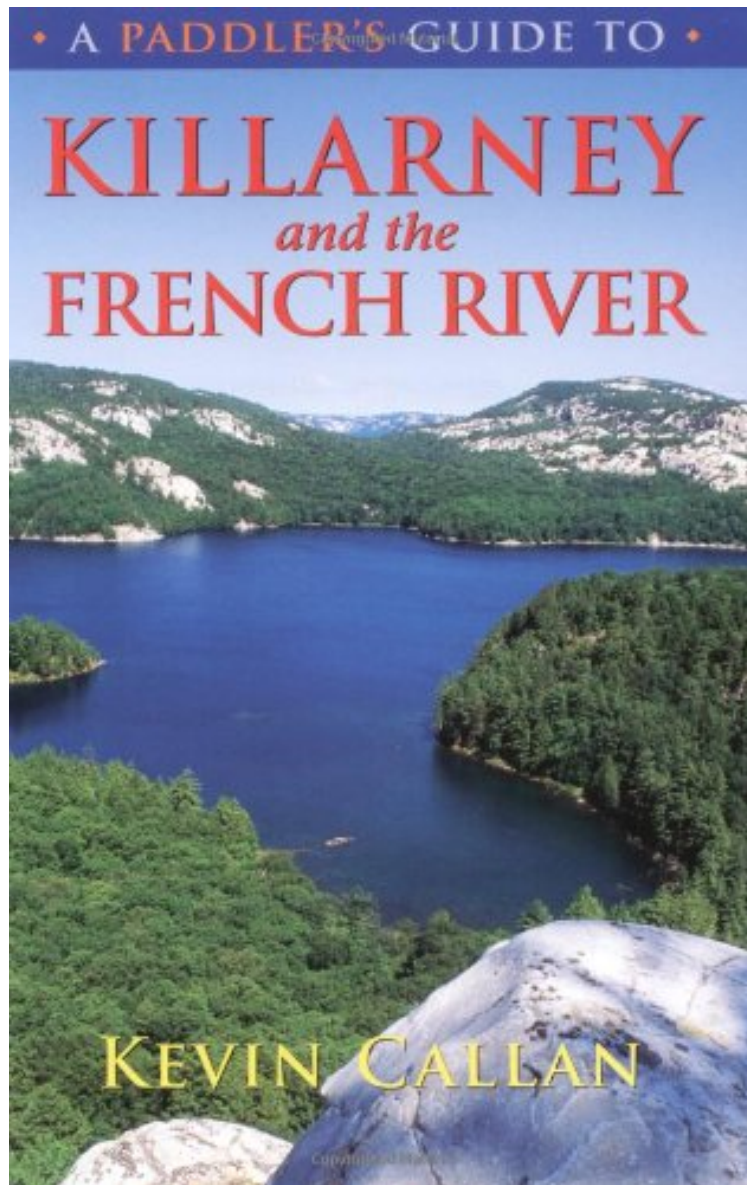


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A Paddler's Guide to Killarney and the French River

Kevin Callan

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through the beginning stages of choosing a route and planning your trip, but you had better bring a more detailed map - especially for the French river trips. The maps in the book along with the trip details probably are not enough.

The latest addition to Kevin Callan's guidebook series provides the 20 best canoeing, kayaking, and hiking trips in Ontario's picturesque Killarney/French River region, a favorite wilderness getaway spot in central Ontario. At least three of the routes in this book are documented here for the first time. Situated at the north end of Georgian Bay, Killarney Provincial Park is a paddler's paradise of rugged, windswept islands and turquoise lakes beneath breathtaking white quartzite mountains. The nearby French River is a historic waterway once used by explorers Samuel de Champlain, Alexander Mackenzie, and David Thompson. Paddlers of all experience will find weeklong trips on Killarney's tranquil interior lakes and along the Georgian Bay shoreline, and weekend jaunts down remote stretches of the French River. The book includes detailed maps, suggestions for side trips, and color photographs, making this the ideal reference for planning a dream trip by canoe or kayak. Callan's fascinating notes and his trademark tales of adventure and misadventure add to the reading pleasure.

Callan's love of the wilderness and sense of humor shine through the pages of this guide, and one feels confident that his first-hand experience provides trustworthy information to assist would-be explorers of this most beautiful region. (Diana Mumford Wave Length Magazine)A comprehensive guide to one of Ontario's most celebrated parks... detailed maps, new routes and photos. (Explore)Callan has written another beautifully photographed and detailed book about canoeing, kayaking and hiking in the Killarney and French River regions of Ontario... a must have that will guide you on the way. (The Cottager)Kevin helps you find the hidden corners... great maps, solid photos and a wonderfully witty and self-deprecating style. (Michael Peake Che-Mun (Journal of Canadian Wilderness Canoeing))About the Author Kevin Callan is the author of ten books, including the bestselling A Paddler's Guide series and, most recently, The Happy Camper. He is the recipient of two National Magazine Awards and is a featured speaker at many of North America's largest paddling events. He lives in Peterborough, Ontario. Excerpt. Reprinted by permission. All rights reserved. Killarney Canoe Routes Introduction When I think back to my past canoe trips across Killarney Provincial Park, not all were pleasant outings. Some involved hauling gear and canoe over incredibly steep, jagged portages, dredging through thick, bug-infested bogs, and even setting up on a campsite already occupied by a black bear. My arms have strained trying to paddle hard against a constant onslaught of wind and waves, and there were a few stormy nights when I truly feared my flimsy nylon tent would become the next Noah's Ark. So why do I still go? Quite simply, it's to be close to this magnificent wild landscape, to be invigorated by the park's turquoise lakes and white quartzite hills, and to go home with enough good memories of wilderness travel to get me through to another season. Simple? That's exactly why I like it. Canoeing through the park isn't easy at times, but it's a lot easier than dealing with the stress of the real world. In this book, you'll find a number of trips I've tried through the years. The trip descriptions are not definitive guides. A lot of the routes are possible from other access points, but these are the ones that were most memorable to me. A note before you go: please make sure to plan your canoe trip before setting out. The park can get busy at times, so reservations are usually needed far in advance. Also, remember you are only allowed nine people per site, no bottles or cans may be carried in, and campsite locations may change over the years so make sure your park map is up to date. Also, before heading out, check with park staff regarding water levels, fire bans, and nuisance bear reports. A little pre-trip planning can greatly reduce your chance of having a "misadventure" out there.