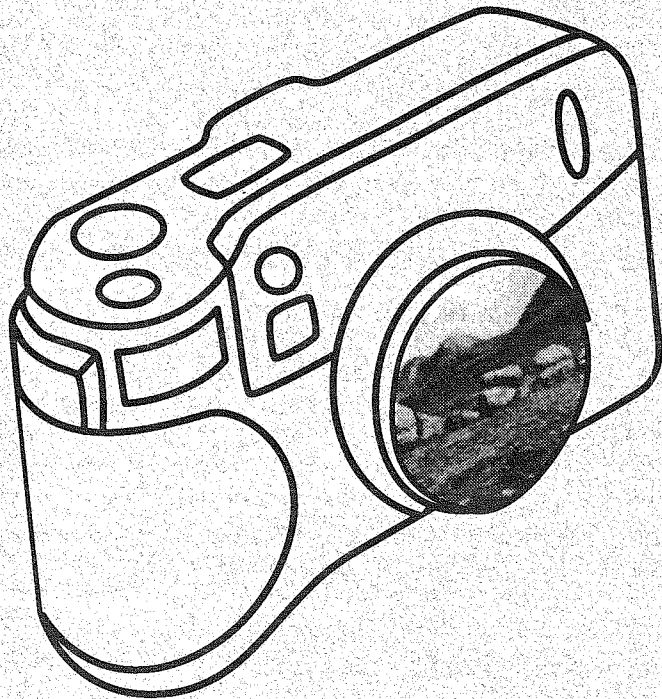


## Use Your Camera Often

That's why you're carrying it. Make snapshots; record shots, good, bad, nice, and funny. Don't forget to photograph the easily-overlooked: your favourite paddle, the trusted worn-out wading shoes, the pocket-knife you found in an abandoned campsite, your greasy old hat, the blisters on your hands.

Every successful photo brought home after a trip is worth a thousand smiles of fond memories and even the simplest of cameras, used the right way, can give you a real treasure of souvenirs. Albums with many prints can be shown easily to a few individuals at a time, but slides can be enjoyed by many on a larger scale. However, the sights, sounds, and colours of video will capture everyone.

The annual post-trip party is a great place to organise ordering of more prints, slides, and videos.

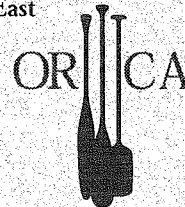


**T**HE Ontario Recreational Canoeing Association is part of the Canadian Recreational Canoeing Association and one of the four organizations affiliated with Canoe Ontario. It is sponsored in part by the Government of Ontario.

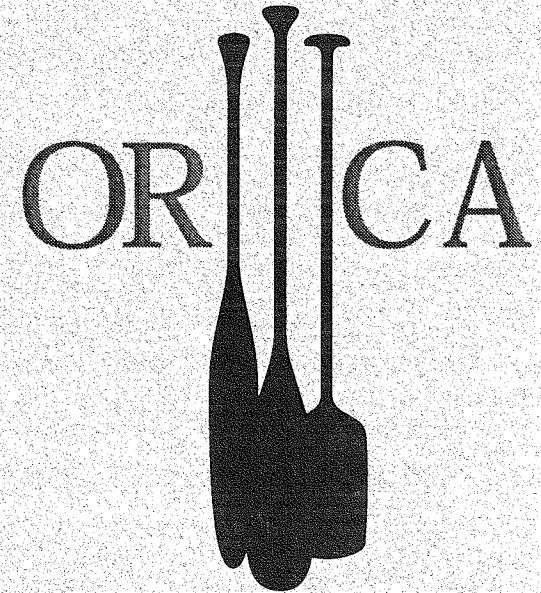
ORCA promotes the development of safe, competent and knowledgeable recreational canoeists and has developed standards and instruction programs in basic level canoeing, lakewater and moving water canoeing and canoe tripping. From beginning paddler to expert instructor ORCA's canoeing programs and accreditation standards are recognized nationally and used throughout Ontario.

TAKE AN ORCA CANOEING COURSE with one of the many organizations using the ORCA program.

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## Canoe Trip Photography



Ontario  
Recreational  
Canoeing  
Association

**T**HE ADAGE GOES: "Leave nothing but footprints; take nothing but pictures." The quality of your footprints is a matter between you and your cobbler; this pamphlet is provided to ensure that the pictures you take from your canoe trip are the best possible mementos of your wilderness experience. And since a simple brochure can only begin to cover this broad topic, our first suggestion is to *seek advice*.

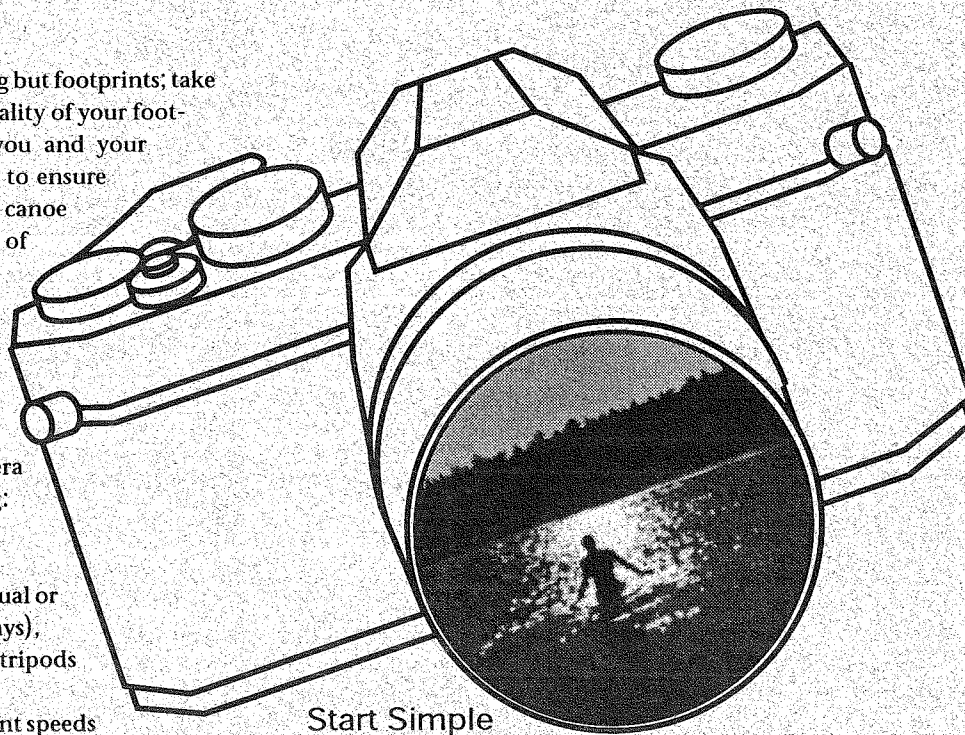
### Seek Advice

Consult two or three reliable camera shops or photo labs on the following:

- a simple but good book on photography
- the types of cameras (35 MM, manual or automatic, waterproof, throwaways), lenses, flash, shutter releases, and tripods available
- print film or slide film, the different speeds and brands and what each can do
- palm video recorders plus extra batteries, cassettes and waterproofing devices
- taking a photography course

### Know Your Camera Well

Before you take it out on that once-in-a-lifetime trip in the north, practise. Play with it at home; make fake photos without film to discover the purpose of all the little buttons, levers and gadgets. Then when you know what the mechanics are all about and the camera is no longer a stranger but a trusted companion, buy a few rolls of film and photograph, under different lighting and weather conditions, the many subjects available in your neighbourhood: people, animals, car, houses, trees, plants, or scenes. Have the film developed, then seriously study and discuss the results with your local experts.



### Start Simple

Do not start your photographic activities overloaded with equipment. Carry one camera, one exposure meter (some cameras have one built in), one lens, several rolls of one kind of medium-speed film (fifteen shots per day is a good start), one tripod. That's it.

### Later Additions

Depending on space and expertise, you might consider adding the following:

- tripods come in all sizes; choose one that is practical
- film can be chosen for richness of colour (ISO 100) or for fast action shots (ISO 400)
- combined wide-angle and telescopic lenses are useful
- a flash is useful in shady conditions and for dramatic night shots in camp
- an infrared remote shutter release or air ball release or cable release can allow you to include yourself in shots

### Palm Video Recorders

This is a great way to go if you can afford it. A special plastic housing is available to allow filming in all kinds of weather. Use the manual focus to conserve power. Carry one battery per five days and two or three 8 MM video cassettes for a two-week trip. Practise before going! Videotape in short bursts (15-30 seconds) to extend battery life. Limit the use of 'standby'; it uses batteries too.

### Equipment Protection

- it is yours; always make it your own responsibility
- use an ever-ready case that opens at the base to protect the camera body
- use the strap around the neck or wrist when taking hand-held shots; rocks are hard; cameras don't float well; sand and dirt cause problems
- use a short line on a thwart to attach the camera case or bag; carabiners are useful for attaching the line
- PVC-coated bags with welded seams and roll-down closures are good. They are rain, spray, and dunk-proof but *not* absolutely waterproof.

### Waterproofing

Ziplock bags simply do not work for this purpose. Thick vinyl waterproof bags from camera shops work but are cumbersome and inefficient. Rigid cases are great. They can be transported over portage trails by using the handle, stuffed in a large day pack or fitted with a harness. A medium-size rigid case (7 CM x 39 CM x 17.5 CM) with an 'o-ring' seal is recommended. It will handle:

- the body of one 35 mm camera, two lenses, two rolls of film, spare batteries
- one palm video recorder, two batteries, two extra cassettes, plus some spare room
- a camera manual

*Pelican* cases with removable square sections of foam allow you to create the openings you need to fit your particular pieces of equipment. This case is rugged; it has protected its contents over small falls and through churning sets of rapids.