



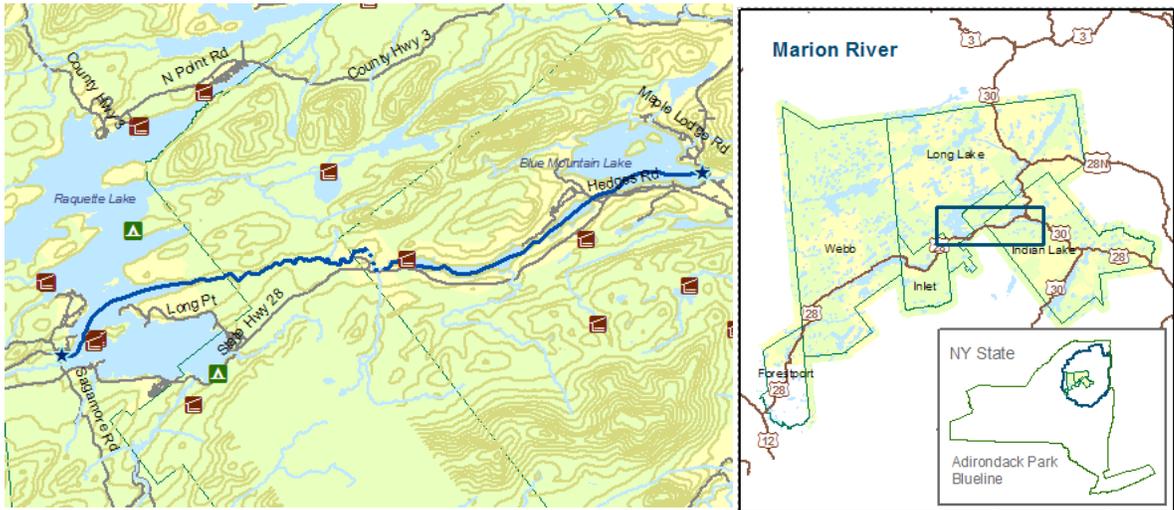
Scenic and Destination Paddling Waterways Central Adirondack Association Region

Marian River

Put in:
Raquette Lake
Take out:
Blue Mt. Lake

Paddling
time:
5-6 hours

Portages:
one



Although it is easy to paddle in either direction along the Marion River, most locals recommend paddling upstream from Raquette Lake to Blue Mountain Lake because of the prevailing winds from the west.

Put in at the private boat launch at Raquette Lake Supply or at Raquette Lake beach. Despite the development along the shores of Raquette Lake, there is little boat traffic to contend with. One could easily spend a full day exploring the lake's islands, coves and miles of shoreline. For those headed to Blue Mountain Lake, the mouth of the Marion River lies 3 miles from the village, north of the first big point of land on the lake's eastern shore.

While the lake's shores are lined with cedar, fir and hemlock trees, the land around the Marion River is something quite different. Along its narrow route are huge clusters of bright purple pickerelweed flowers, vast marshes of cattails and alder bushes, and wide floating mats of both yellow pond and fragrant water lilies. Also obvious are the blossoms of the beautiful red cardinal flower, stately great blue herons hunting the shallows, and raucous kingfishers patrolling the shores. All the while, views of Blue Mountain pop up whenever the river turns to the east and the sky is clear.

The navigable portion ends 3.5 miles later, necessitating a portage. The carry is quite short and very easy along a wide and smooth trail. At its eastern end awaits a small dock and the scenic Utowana Lake. Ringed with maple, birch, balsam fir and white pine trees, Utowana

also holds some marshy environments within its banks. Heading 2.5 miles further east leads to a narrow channel that empties into one-mile long Eagle Lake.

Once you've crossed Eagle Lake and headed past the Pioneer Bridge, you can finally experience the sheer beauty of Blue Mountain Lake. With dozens of granite islands, verdant shorelines, beautiful camps and scenic mountain vistas in every direction, even the weariest paddler will have trouble leaving this natural wonder. Take out at the private boat launch at Blue Mountain Outfitters or at the Blue Mt. beach paddler's launch area.¹



¹*Canoeing & Kayaking New York*, Kevin Stiegelmaier, Menasha Ridge Press, 2009

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Be a Safe and Respectful Paddler

New York State Law requires all boats and canoes must carry a US Coast Guard approved wearable personal flotation device (PFD) for each person. State law also requires that children must be wearing a PFD, and highly recommend that all occupants wear a PFD.

DEC Emergency Dispatch number for the Adirondack Park: 518-891-0235

General Emergencies: dial 911

Remember, cell phone coverage is not reliable in the Adirondack Park.

- Insect repellent is a must from May to August.
- Plan ahead and prepare.
- Let someone know where you will be going and when you expect to return.
- Pack gear, clothing and supplies in waterproof containers. Bring a map and compass.
- Carry water and high-energy foods.
- Pack in, pack out.
- Use outhouses where available, otherwise dig a 6-8 inch hole 150 feet from water, trail or road.
- Protect your food. Protect the wildlife.
- Leave rocks, plants, natural objects as you find them.
- Fallen trees (sweepers), debris, beaver dams, other obstructions can suck you down and hold you under water.
- Water is typically 25° colder in the Adirondacks than downstate.
- Drinking water should be treated by filtering, boiling or chemical method.
- Allow four times the time for a portage, that you would allow for walking that given distance.

Visit the American Canoe Association at <http://www.americancanoe.org> for information on safety resources, preparation and responsibility while paddling.

Enjoy the diverse beauty of our region.

Thanks for using www.ADKtrailmap.com, enjoy your canoe or kayak adventure!