

# BATTLE RIVER PADDLE GUIDE: PEACEFUL VALLEY ROUTE

Battle River from Battle Lake to Range Road 10 (Westerose)

#PaddleTheBattle



@BattleRiverWatershed

## Why Go?

Any true Battle River Paddler must paddle the headwaters at least once! You will pass through rich riparian areas and wetlands, spruce and birch forests, wide valleys and farm fields. In all, this is a beautiful trip!

The total route was 19.5km and took us 6.5 hours, including a 1.5 hour break for lunch and a hike to the Peaceful Valley Day Lodge. The shuttle is about 20 minutes to drive. If you are looking for a shorter day, consider starting at Battle Lake and end at Hwy 771.

## Local Attractions

**Peaceful Valley Day Lodge:** This beautiful lodge overlooking the Battle River Valley provides a peaceful retreat for people who are terminally ill or disabled. The land and building is held in private trust after being donated by brother & sister, Bob & Kay Wark.

**The Village at Pigeon Lake:** Conveniently located to get a meal or ice-cream after your paddle, the Village is a fantastic place to visit. The Eco Cafe and Village Pizza and Sub are staff favorites, and the Chef N' Restaurant is also excellent! You may want to book yourself in for a night at the Inn- there is also a spa to treat your weary muscles.



## Plant and Animal Life

This stretch of the Battle is one of the few spots where you will be in the Boreal Forest, which skirts along the north-west edge of our watershed.

Yellow Pond Lily was a common sight along the first half of this paddle, although it is rare in other places of the river. This floating plant has large, heart-shaped leaves and ping-pong ball-sized yellow flowers.

You may also see wild mint, which grows along the river bank. Like all mint it has a square stem and tiny purple flowers. Break off a leaf to smell or taste (if you're sure it is mint!) or harvest a few stems (if the plant is abundant) to make tea.

[www.BattleRiverWatershed.ca](http://www.BattleRiverWatershed.ca)

## Know Before You Go

This trip was two parts: Battle Lake to Hwy 771 was ~8.5km. There were a few beaver dams and narrow turns but the sights were gorgeous. The hill up to the bridge at 771 is steep but manageable.



Bridge Crossing

Part 2 was slightly more difficult. The distance was about ~11km to Range Road 10 but the river bends increased and 3 bridges forced us out of our boats to cross. Just past Hwy 771 there was also one fence- the canoe got stuck but the kayakers could easily get over. The river is working at streamlining its flow and there are a few "short cuts" we could get through to skip a meander.

*Please use discretion when choosing a paddling route. You are expected to follow all traffic and boating laws, be aware of weather, respect private property, and assess hazards before going out. Prepare to be out longer than expected- bring extra food, water, and lights. The Battle River Watershed Alliance holds no responsibility for injuries or damage sustained on your paddle.*

**BATTLE RIVER**

WATERSHED ALLIANCE

Sponsored by the Battle River Community Foundation