

a green hue should be evident in the forested riverbanks. Watch for areas of trillium plants as well in the wooded areas.

The river is usually not very busy and everyone is moving in the same direction so you can expect a smooth journey without heavy traffic.

Some highlights to consider:

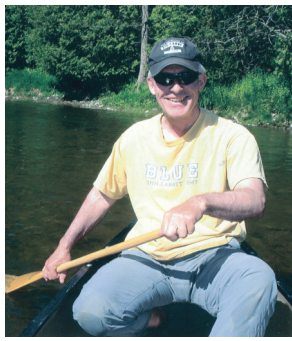
- If you start in Inglewood there is a significant drop in the river by the Caledon golf course- be prepared to get out and carry your canoe around this impediment.

- The portage around the old mill dam just south of Cheltenham (if you start this far up watch for the portage on the right hand side- it's about 1/4 km long).

- The drop by the trailer park just west of Mississauga Road. There is a drop here and one again at Glen Williams before the third bridge. Be sure to aim for the fullest 'V' (indicating fast, deep water that will safely carry your canoe or kayak forward).

- The second bridge at Terra Cotta (under Winston Churchill Blvd.). Stay to the left, the current will be strong.

- Series of rapids from the first bridge at Glen Williams. There is a long stretch of rapids here with plenty of small 'haystacks', then it curves sharply to the right at the bottom. Again, you will have to use your paddling prowess to find the best way. Stay with the deepest part of the current and always look well ahead to anticipate and you should be fine. The water can also move quickly just before the third bridge (of three) in the Glen. Let the current take you safely downstream. If you plan to exit the river here at the



The author—Michael Schultz.

park you will need to get over to the left bank. It's best to be prepared when disembarking as the river flow can swing your canoe around. Hold tight and don't be afraid to enjoy the refreshing splash in the water- it might be up to your knees.

- From the Glen down you will continue to enjoy beautiful stretches of nature that will make you feel you are somewhere further north. You'll enjoy travelling under the railway bridge on the east side of Georgetown. There are a few tricky areas here, particularly by the Mayfield Road bridge near the old mill. It is passable but you should get

out ahead of it and have a look. Further downstream you'll pass by the Upper Canada Outdoor Education property. Then, you'll have to exit well ahead of the falls drop before the bridge— once again at Winston Churchill Blvd. in Norval.

So, as the song says, 'Picture yourself on a boat on a river'. Get out and enjoy the Credit River. Take pictures and leave nothing but footprints.

Most importantly, take your time. Enjoy the trip. At the end you may feel like a kid at the midway wanting to 'shoot the Credit' again.

Restaurants en route

There are a few places in Terra Cotta and Glen Williams where you could stop in for lunch or an ice cream.

- The Terra Cotta Inn (fine dining— reservations recommended 905-873-2223, 175 King Street
- The Glen Oven Bakery & café, 520 Main Street, Glen Williams 905-873-0940
- The Copper Kettle, 517 Main Street Glen Williams

Best picnic spots along the way

Terra Cotta— in the park just east the Terra Cotta Inn

Glen Williams— in the park past the furthest bridge south of town across from Preston's store

Canoe purchases, and rentals

Here are a few sources to start with should you be considering purchase or rental of a canoe. It is probably best to visit websites provided for information. These are a few Canadian companies that produce or distribute quality crafts;

1. www.evergreencanoe.com— They sell through Mountain Equipment Co-op, I really like my Kevlar from them— a 16-foot "Prospector".

2. www.holycowcanoe.com— These folks are located at 12590 Regional Road 25 in Acton and have a good website. Phone 519-853-9729 or toll-free 1-877-873-6891.

3. <http://langfordcanoe.com>—A standard in Canadian canoe craftsmanship... now with a new outlet on Highway 7 just north of Georgetown and 22 Sideroad. They have canoes for rent.

4. www.swiftcanoe.com— like many other canoe companies in Ontario, their dealers are scattered around cottage country. I bought my 16-foot Mad River canoe from them used a few years back and it is perfect for the annual trips down the Credit.

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