

Grass River Lodge



Dr. James Rene
50" Pike
2008

Grass River Lodge

25th Anniversary



MAIN LODGE - REED LAKE

Reed Lake is a very unique body of water. It is approx. 14 miles long 10 miles wide and over some 500 islands. It has the famous Grassy River flowing through it which supplies clear fresh water year round. The west side of Reed Lake are the islands, bays, sand bars and weedy area. This area is approx. 40-60 feet deep, great spawning area for those large female northern pike and walleye. The center part of Reed is approx. 125-150 feet deep, lots and lots of rock in this part of the lake. This is where the lake trout hide in the hot summer days and spawn on the south and east part of Reed Lake. The east end of Reed is where the Grassy River flows out with shallow bays and weedy areas, excellent for the big northern and walleye fishing all summer long. Reed Lake is the best road accessible premier trophy fishing lakes in all of Canada. Come join us and I'm certain you will agree with me.

Ike



Year 2008 is gone and 2009 is right around the corner. This is edition #25 for Grass River Lodge and I'm still excited for the up coming season. 2008 was one of the more challenging years we have had. With the fuel prices up, the US dollar devaluating and the stock market took a dive, but through it all we've come out with flying colors. We all have a way of rebounding. When I started the catch and release 20 years ago, not in my wildest dreams did I imagine the change I would see in the fishing and just how long it would take to see the turn around in the quality of fishing. The first 5 years I didn't notice much improvement, but definitely in the next 5 years. Catching a 41" pike was quite common. Then gradually we were catching 44-45" pike, with the walleye approx. 20% more over 28". The past 6-7 years Reed Lake has become a phenomenal trophy lake. We are catching many pike weekly running 44-48" and 08 the largest one 50" long. What a hog. You ask does the catch & release work? I believe it has. 2008 in total we caught & released 389 trophy fish.

The catch & release has done wonders for the walleye also. For several years now we've been catching 250 - 300 walleye a summer running 28-34 inches. I hear time and time again, "we had a hard time catching shore lunch today". And I'm thinking ya, sure. What they did mean was the walleye were all over size for shore lunch. Now that's not that bad of a problem.

Trout fishing is a small part of our business. We fish for them only in spring and fall when they are spawning. This spring we caught many trout running 22-33 inches. Then in fall we had excellent trout fishing and ran up to 36 inches, and all are of course released, go & grow. When 2008 came to a close we felt we had a great year. Many of our guests are repeat for which we are very grateful and we thank you for supporting us. If you've never fished with us before, why not make "09" a special year and come take your try on one of those master angler fish. See if we are not the best bang for your buck.

Ike



11 Five Star Cabins





Liz and Ike Enns, Owners / Operators

2008 marks 25 years for us at Grass River Lodge. Over the years we have learned many things. Some by trial and error, some by common sense. But one thing that we know works in all aspects of life is to sell what you have, don't mislead people by trying to sell something you don't have. I believe in my heart that if you serve people the way you want to be served, you will be rewarded. Excellent food, 5* accommodations, great service and awesome fishing, that is what keeps our guests coming back year after year. For many families, the first generation has already passed on and the next generation is following in dads kind of vacation. If you have never been to Grass River Lodge why not give us a try. I know you will not be disappointed. For those who have been with us, we would like to say thank you. We appreciate everyone of you and hope we can be a part in your next fishing trip.

Liz



FANTASTIC FOOD!





GUIDES

Reed Lake is 10 miles by 14 miles. All our trips are guided for this reason. The waters can get extremely rough and the fish relocate daily. The guide is with you from 7:30 am till approx. 5:00 pm. The shore lunch they fix at noon are the high lite of your trip, absolutely out of this world. Most of our guides have been with us from 12-24 years. They are the best of the best. They communicate well with the guests, they speak fluent English {no grunting} Frequently guests will rearrange their schedule to get the guide of their preference. They work very hard to get that big one for you and they care that you have a good fishing trip. They always bring you back safe no matter what the weather . They truly are the best of the best.

TACKLE

Most frequent question asked is what do I need for tackle.

WALLEYE

A lot of the walleye are caught on a 3/8 oz jig with a minnow. We do sell the minnows at the lodge. The jigs come in black, yellow, pink, and chartreuse. Color sometimes is just a matter of personal preference. Some people prefer to fish them with shad raps or rapalas. Colors vary from green, yellow, and red, silver and black, or fire tiger. These are all good lures. If you like to troll you may want to use a Little Joe rig with a floating jig. I think anything of a fishy sent works best. When the walleye are hitting , toucan catch them on most any lure but when they don't seem to be feeding, a minnow or belly skin gullet or night crawler does work real good. There is hundreds of different tackle that work but these are some of the old time proven lures that have done well for a long time.

NORTHERN PIKE

Northern Pike feeding habits are different in spring then they are in fall. With no weed beds in spring lures such as dare devils, doctor spoons, rapalas, jointed or straight, 5 of diamonds, or large rattle traps. As the weed beds develop , you may want to use more spinner bait like mepps # 5 of any color, dressed or undressed is really a personal preference, the good old Johnson silver minnow, floating rapalas, vibrex # 5 or 6, 7 inch suick in black, orange, green frog, fire tiger etc. Last year we tried using a bulldog which worked very well but we realized it killed more trophy northern in one season then the mepps # 5 in years of fishing. I believe the killing of the fish is due to all the hooks on the bulldog . We have promoted conservation catch & release over 23 years and do not want to see the big fish killed. So we ask that you do not bring the bulldog lure to the lodge. It's catch & release not catch & kill.

LAKE TROUT

Both in spring and fall, common spoons of any color are used such as little cleo and red eyes. The blue and silver spoons seem to work very well in fall. We do not fish for the trout in summer as they are down from 80 – 120 '. The mortality rate is just to high. So lets have fun catching them in the shallows in spring and fall.

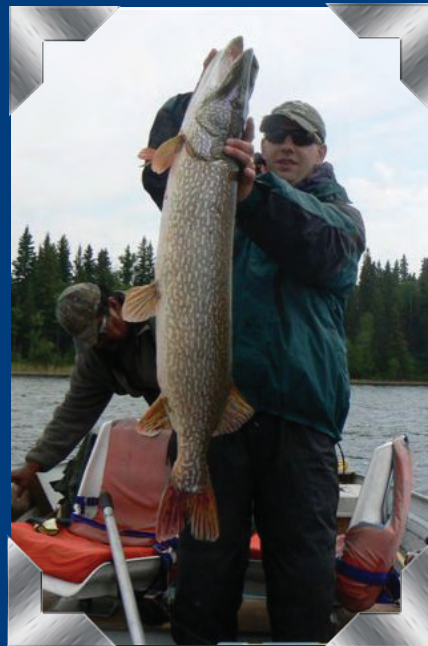


Grass River Lodge Master Angler Program

Northern = 373
Walleye = 183

**2008 Season Totals
556**





Fly In Outposts

FLYOUTS

We have 5 various lakes we use for 1 day fly outs. I will fly you and your guide to a specific lake after breakfast. These lakes are much smaller . Here we fish a lot of #s but also big fish. These lakes could never sustain a lodge or even a cabin, so we manage them very carefully. We allow shore lunch fish only, no take home fish. They are about a 12 minute flight from the main lodge. I fly in to pick you up at approx. 5:00 pm This experience lets you see the true north from the air, a different perspective on northern fishing. Most of the guests do at least 1 fly out. You will really like the experience and if you are not happy , the fly out is free.



DOLOMITE LAKE

Dolomite is a small lake approx. 4 miles long with a river leading into little Dolomite. It is approx. 25 – 50' deep with a river flowing in on the north end and out on the south end. There's only 1 cabin on this lake, occupancy for 6. It has propane refrigerator & stove , hot & cold running water and a shower building. Very often people will ask me "Ike which is your very best 5-7 day outpost lakes?" My question to them is "what kind of fishing, and any kids fishing?" This is a fabulous little northern pike & walleye lake for kids who want action at the end of that line constantly. The lake is not too big to where you can get lost on it, nor is it hard to fish. Per boat you can expect to catch 75-100 fish per day running 18-25". Of those fish one will probably run 35-45". You can catch walleye on this lake any time of day. We have had guests who have fished little Dolomite only. When I ask them "well did you fish the weed beds at the mouth of the river?" The answer was "there's no need to, Little Dolomite has all the fishing we want". Great little lake for the young at heart.



MOODY LAKE

This lake is 38 miles northwest of the main lodge. The lake runs from the southeast to the north . It has several islands and great drop off points for good walleye fishing. The river flows from Evans Lake into Moody and out on the north east into Batty Lake. The cabin is located on the east side with an awesome view of the evening sunset. It accommodates 8 people. It has hot & cold running water , propane stove & refrigerator and also has a separate shower building. We have caught pike from 35-45 inches every year. In # probably not as high as Dolomite but possibly more trophy in northern pike. We have guests that have fished this lake for 15-20 years . A perfect hide-a way for just your party. The water is a darker tea colored water which warms up early in spring which makes for great fishing in spring when they spawn. The sun warms up the west side of the lake which makes for good spring fishing. As the water warms up and the weeds develop, it's good northern pike fishing in the bays. It's just a heck of a nice private lake.

FILE , MORTON, VICKERS, CORLEY & LOONHEAD LAKES

At the south end of File Lake we have 5 cabins nestled away amongst tall timbers. Morton Lake lies to the south of File. There is 2 cabins on the main land where Morton & File meet. On an island just across from these cabins , is another 3 cabins. From the far south end of Morton to the N/W tip of File Lake is 19 miles. From the far east side of File to west side of Loonhead is approx. 15 miles. Many great hours of fishing on these lake sides. A week of fishing a year, and in 20 years you need not fish the same bay ever.

FILE

File Lake is a deep lake, 12 long 5 miles wide. This lake can get very rough on windy days It is the outpost lake that has all 3 species, walleye northern and lake trout. File is a clear emerald colored water. It has large walleye 24-28 " and large northern up to 51". Trout fishing is awesome early spring or late fall catching 80-120 trout per boat in the 18-24" range. The largest trout in 08 was 36". What a beautiful lake it is.

MORTON

This outpost is the most unique outpost around. From File you can access Morton, Vickers, Corley & Loonhead Lakes. Each has its' own uniqueness. Morton Lake is approx. 7 miles long and 2 miles wide. It has walleye fishing like no other lake in Canada. Lots of walleye are caught from 18-22 inches and if you fish for them a little deeper approx. 30' they run from 22-26 inches. An average day you can expect to catch from 75-100 fish per boat. Not only is it great wall-eye fishing, but good northern also. In the weed beds, sand bars, and bays you'll catch trophy 41-46.5" pike. Of 24 years of lake managing, Morton Lake has only gotten better and better.

CORLEY

About a ½ hour boat ride at the north end of File is a winding river amidst towering tall timbers. Here you will find a tea colored Corley Lake. It is a gem of a lake , about 2 miles long. At the mouth of the lake is great walleye fishing , from 18-26 inches, just an abundance of them. The far end of Corley is excellent trophy pike fishing 36-43 inches.

VICKERS

This lake is a boat in lake from File located on the N/E corner of File. In June or July you will have a tough time catching shore lunch size fish here. This time of year they run 27 - 29 inches. We think it is the spawning area for the walleye until it warms up and then they move into File Lake. Vickers is tea colored water. The northern in Vickers run from 41-45 inches. I have had people fish this lake for 23 consecutive years and still love this lake like the first day they fished it.

LOONHEAD

Heading north again down the winding File River, approx. 10 minute boat ride is Loonhead Lake, approx. 3 miles wide 4 miles long. This lake is the farthest lake to the N/W to boat into and it has some great walleye and northern fishing. Fish which seldom see a hook. A beautiful lake, nice sand bars bays, islands, and weed beds. A haven for walleye & northern.



Ike & Liz,

I wanted to tell you both how much we enjoyed our recent visit. Although dad and I had been there several times before, it was the first time for both my son Jacob (13) and my nephew Cole (8). We really appreciate the extra attention you gave the boys and I know it was an experience they will never forget. When it was time to go home, the lodge wasn't even out of sight before they started asking about next year. I can't think of a better father and son vacation.

Thanks again,
Steve Jones
Mounds, OK

Before we started coming to your Lodge we had fished at other lodges in Canada. For some reason we never seemed to come home pleased with our trip. This all changed 7 years ago when we made our first trip to Grass River Lodge. You folks made our trip outstandingly wonderful. We all caught many trophy fish, the guides were outstanding, the shore lunches were out of this world.. Your accommodations at the Lodge rounded out the trip, with warm cabins and outstanding food. Fred, Joe Leroy, Shawn, Jim, Jerry, Shane and I really want you to know that you folks could not do better. We all look forward to seeing you in June 2009.

Sincerely, Ken Johnston

Dear Ike and Liz,

Many thanks for yet another great outstanding trip this past summer. What a unique fishery the File Lake Complex presents with its five lakes and I wouldn't be surprised if it is the only one of its kind in all of Canada.

This was our fifth consecutive year to your outpost and we are now 13 year veterans of many other lodge offerings. I have noticed that the same comment is repeated every year by several members of our party. Why would you want to go any where else?

Did I mention that this was our best fishing yet? This year produced not only the greatest number of fish, but the largest as well, 15 Master Angler awards over the last two years alone. Thanks for memories and we will be back next year to make some more.

Bill Gleeson

Hi Liz,

I just wanted to drop you a note to express our appreciation and opinion of our trip to your lodge in July 2008.

We have visited several fishing lodges and camps through out the U.S., Canada and Mexico over the years. I just want to reiterate that our trip to Grassriver Lodge far exceeded our expectations. We really appreciated the professionalism of all Staff and Guides, and how smoothly everything operated during our stay.

The meals were FIVESTAR Quality! The fishing was unbelievable; landing four trophies in one trip was an experience of a life time for me. The fishing, scenery and the shore lunches will be memories forever. It was also a special treat to get to know you and Ike and listen to the fishing stories and experiences that you've encountered over the years. The flyout trip ending with John landing the biggest trophy (47") of the week on the last day with the last cast was like a dream. We look forward to our next trip to Grassriver Lodge. Please send us your schedules for 2009.

Thanks Again
Good Luck!
Gene Thompson, VP Construction
Foundation HealthCare Affiliates



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