



ROUTE BILLY-DIAMOND
ITINERARY
5 DAYS IN
EYYOU ISTCHEE BAIE-JAMES!



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EYYOU ISTCHEE
BAIE-JAMES



DAY 1: ON THE ROAD TO RADISSON

Take the legendary route Billy-Diamond (formerly route de la Baie-James) and enjoy its landscapes stretching as far as the eye can see. Have a break at the rest areas, especially those crossing the rivers Broadback and Rupert, to admire the wildness of the land. Do not miss KM 381 facilities to fill up with gas.

[**KM 232: Rivière Broadback rest area**](#)

[**KM 257: Rivière Rupert rest area**](#)

[**KM 381: Rest area, restaurant, gas, general mechanical, bathrooms.**](#)



DAY 2: RADISSON

Reach Radisson and enjoy this day to explore the small community. Make sure to stop by the art boutique and have a chat with the owners.

[**Robert-Bourassa Facilities**](#)

At the end of the route Billy-Diamond (formerly route de la Baie-James), discover the Robert-Bourassa hydroelectric facilities! From the central—the largest in the world—located 140 metres underground to the dam as high as a building of 53 floors, these human constructions, like the nature surrounding them, dazzle by their gigantism. It is possible to visit the La Grande-1 (Chisasibi) and Grande-2 power stations for free.



[**Historical visit: La grande épopée de la Baie-James**](#)

Relive the great moments of the Baie-James project thanks to this tour paying tribute to the men and women who have contributed to this ambitious project, making it a reality.

Boutique Arts et trésors inouïs

You do not want to miss a visit to this boutique which offers some of the most beautiful examples of art objects, jewelry, as well as Native and Inuit artifacts. It is the ideal place to purchase souvenirs and feast your eyes on extraordinary art and treasures.



DAY 3: CHISASIBI

In the modern community of Chisasibi, the boreal forest merges with the taiga and the waters of the James bay mix with those of the Hudson bay. Adventurers looking to spend a couple of nights in a traditional bush camp will be delighted to know that locals are available to guide you and share their incredible legends. Chisasibi is the last Cree community of Eeyou Istchee Baie-James accessible by road.

La Grande-1 Generating Station

As impressive as La Grande-2 in Radisson, La Grande-1 Generating Station is definitely worth the detour.

Chisasibi Heritage and Cultural Centre

This museum is a place of cultural renewal and transmission where intergenerational bonds can be strengthened. For visitors, it is a lovely place to learn about Cree traditions and stories.



DAY 4: WASKAGANISH

Visit of the community

Take the guided visit of the community which was the very first trading post of Eeyou Istchee Baie-James. Walk in the path along the *rivière Rupert* and watch it reaching the James bay. Do not forget your camera to capture those magical moments. Ask the tourism agent to bring you to Smokey Hill Rapids, an enchanting place, winter and summer.





DAY 5: MATAGAMI

Head to Matagami to enjoy a relaxing few days by the lac Matagami.

Les Écogîtes du lac Matagami

Pamper yourself right in the heart of the boreal forest, in the comfort and luxury of wooden cottages or yurts. For the more adventurous, pitch your tent on the shores of the majestic lac Matagami. Take advantage of the proximity to nature to observe the fauna and flora, to go mushroom-picking with your host, to contemplate the amazing sunrise and sunset and, if you are lucky, the celestial dance of northern lights.



Mont Laurier

Ten kilometres north on the route Billy-Diamond (formerly route de la Baie-James), hike one of the two trails to reach Mont Laurier's summit. You will have an impressive panoramic view over the region. Enjoy a nice breakfast or lunch before going back down.



FOLLOW EYYOU ISTCHEE BAIE-JAMES FOR DAILY INSPIRATION!

