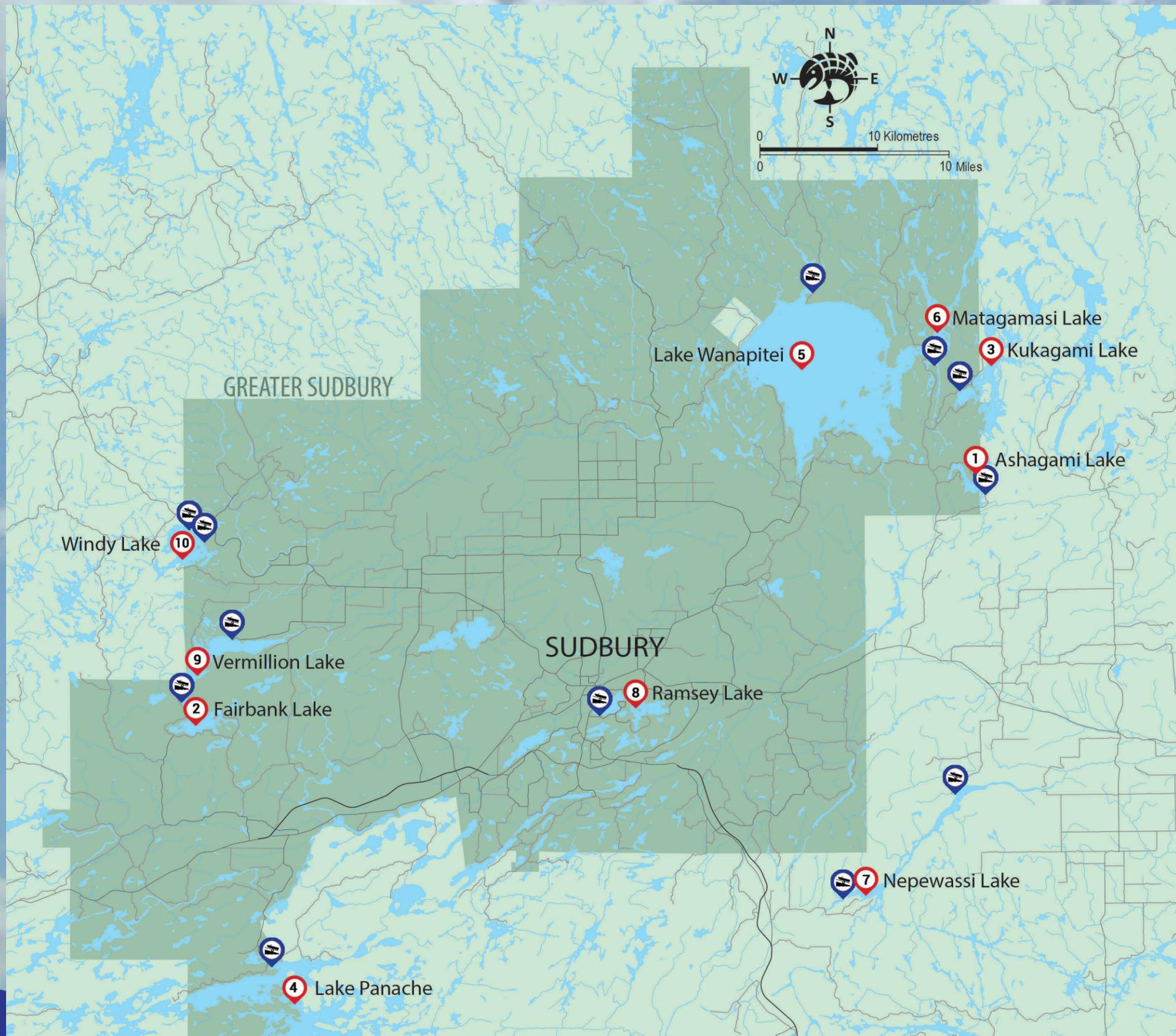


TOP 10

Fishing Destinations OF Greater Sudbury



The lakes on this list are just a small portion of what can be found with just an hours drive away from Sudbury. Brian Ramakko, owner of **Ramakko's Source for Adventure** says he feels "blessed to have so many bodies of water so close to the city." There are over 330 lakes in the area meaning there are countless adventures waiting to happen.

Alex Perras from **Rocky's Restaurant and Marina** adds that seclusion is easy to find, with a number of lakes being virtually untouched. Perras states that often while fishing "there is no one else fishing on the lake." This area of fishing really combines the best of both worlds, in that anglers can get that untouched, rugged fishing experience, without having to travel great lengths. Another perk of being close to the city, means that lake access is often well maintained and easy with plenty of parking.

The Greater Sudbury area boasts fantastic fishing year round, with the pike and bass fisheries remaining open during the winter months. Particularly on Lake Wanapitei, ice fishing is very popular.

For more information about fishing in the Greater Sudbury area, be sure to check out www.discover Sudbury.com. As well, the numerous other activities including canoeing, kayaking, swimming.

Be sure to always watch for weather changes when fishing. A number of lakes in the area are large and are susceptible to pick up wind quickly. Ensure that your boat is stocked with all needed safety equipment and leave open water as soon as you notice a weather change.

Fishing licenses are required for fishing, and it is recommended that anglers research the fishing regulations for each lake before fishing.

“ There are over 330 lakes in the area meaning there are countless adventures waiting to happen. ”

Greater Sudbury Fish Species

The Greater Sudbury area is packed full of fish species, meaning anglers of all experience types can find what they are looking for. Some popular species include:

LAKE TROUT

When targeting lake trout, the most popular techniques include trolling and downrigging. Ramakko says spoons or body baits work very well, with the Williams Wabler being his personal favourite type of spoon.

During the spring and fall months, lake trout can usually be found in the shallows of a lake. Shallow bays and basins often house a large number of these fish. Try trolling with spoons and herring heads. White has been known to work well for lake trout.

As the water heats up, the fish will move into deeper water, usually around 50-70 feet deep. Using a downrigger paired with a spoon, and trolling slowly is a good choice.

SMALLMOUTH BASS

"Not overly picky" in terms of what they will bite on says Perras, he recommends worm harnesses, frogs, or other topwater baits.

While the pattern is less important, using soft plastics is an angler's best chance for success. Perras says to look for calm waters and that overcast skies and light rain is the best combination for these fish. Look for highly weedy areas, or rocky bottoms in 10-30 feet of water during the fall and spring.

YELLOW PERCH

Important to always look for areas of structure, perch call usually be found in dense weeds and/or close to islands. At times they can be quite hard to locate, so patience and experience are assets. During the summer months, use a downrigger paired with minnows. Jigging is also popular in the spring and fall. Try using a small jig with a maggot.

WALLEYE

Ramakko recommends using live bait during the fall and spring. Particularly during the fall, minnows are very popular. As the water heats up, try using worms or leeches. A nocturnal feeder, walleye are most active during the night and at first light.

NORTHERN PIKE

Parras says that trolling with spoons is an extremely popular choice for pike, however he prefers to use Mepps. He recommends using #2 or #3 spinners, and says this setup has also worked well for a number of different species.

During the fall and spring, pike are more likely to be found in dense weeds, however have been caught throughout. Anglers are encouraged to drop a line, but be willing to move around. Fishing is best during the fall and spring months, however pike is also a popular ice fishing species.

LARGEMOUTH BASS

Not as frequent as its smallmouth counterpart, largemouth bass tend to be much less susceptible to changes in the environment. Therefore, a number of different baits and techniques can be used.

One of the biggest draws of largemouth bass is how exciting the reel in can be. Using a topwater lure, such as a soft plastic frog, anglers can watch as the fish attack the bait. This technique is best used during early spring and late fall, when the fish will be in shallower water. During the warmer months, in deeper water try using a skirted jig paired with soft plastics. Look for structure such as weed beds and rocky bottoms.



LAKE TROUT



SMALLMOUTH BASS



YELLOW PERCH



WALLEYE
Photo By: Virgil Beck



NORTHERN PIKE
Photo By: Timothy Knepp



LARGEMOUTH BASS

1 ASHAGAMI LAKE

A popular lake for smallmouth bass and walleye. There are a number of small, scattered islands throughout where bass can often be found. Look for drop off points when targeting walleye. There is an unmaintained launch located on the east side of the lake.

2 FAIRBANK LAKE

A popular spot for anglers going after smallmouth bass and lake trout. Submerged logs dot the lake's shoreline, allowing the fish to hide. This is a great place to look for smallmouth bass. Launch for a fee at **Fairbank Provincial Park**.

3 KUKAGAMI LAKE

Kukagami has a very rocky bottom, with a number of shoals throughout the lake. This makes for a great habitat for smallmouth bass, walleye, and lake trout. There is a boat launch located just down the road from **Sportsman's Lodge Wilderness Resort**.

4 LAKE PANACHE

"Like being on several lakes" says Ramakko, this lake is filled with different depths and structures, meaning each area of the lake is different. Pike can often be found in the back bays. Smallmouth and largemouth bass, as well as walleye in the shallows of the west end, and lake trout in the basins throughout. Launch for a fee at **Penage Bay Marina**.

5 LAKE WANAPITEI

One of the largest lakes in the area, it is a great place to fish for lake trout, walleye, pike, smallmouth bass, perch, and a number of other species. Its size makes Lake Wanapitei extremely diverse. Fishing docks, as well as a paid launch are located at Rocky's Restaurant and Marina. As well, there are two free launches at **Wanapitei Provincial Park**.

6 MATAGAMASI LAKE

Popular for its walleye and pike fisheries, pike, smallmouth bass, and lake trout can all be found here. The views surrounding the lake are beautiful and the water very clean and clear. There is a gravel launch located at the end of Matagamasi Lake Road. Parking is limited and the launch is not maintained, so take caution when launching.

7 NEPEWASSI LAKE

Very long and shallow, anglers can find pike, smallmouth bass, and muskie here. Start at one of the bays, and slowly make your way into deeper water. There are public launches located on the north and south ends of the lake.

8 RAMSEY LAKE

Located right within the City of Sudbury, pike, smallmouth bass, walleye, and perch are popular here. Fishing, particularly for walleye, is best at night, when other lake users have left the area. There are a number of access points, but one of the best maintained is on southwest side of the lake, near **Science North**, off Ramsey Lake Road.

9 VERMILLION LAKE

There are lots of fish here, including sunfish, catfish, walleye, smallmouth bass. Ramakko says pike and walleye are most popular however. This is a very shallow lake, so boaters beware and look out for sunken trees. Launch for a fee from the **Vermillion Lake Marina and Restaurant**.

10 WINDY LAKE

A relatively small lake, this is a great lake for pike and walleye. Anglers can also find the odd lake trout and perch. There is a public launch located at **Windy Lake Provincial Park**, as well a small car top launch at **Camp Wilabosca**.