

exclusively ours

a brush with nature

— By Cathy Bennett

Armed with life jackets and easels, we set out for a taste of Arts in the Wild on the legendary French River.

With Alex Strachan – the proprietor of The Lodge at Pine Cove – leading our caravan of small outboards, we head for Five Finger Rapids where well-known artist and instructor Greg Hindle is poised to provide us with a crash course in landscape painting.

On location, Hindle encourages each of us to find something meaningful in this pristine landscape for our subject matter, and reminds us that we should visualize and paint shapes before we worry about details. Then we go to it. And for the remainder of the day the concentration is so rapt that, aside from the occasional guidance from our instructor, the silence is only broken by the gentle chirping of birds and the roar of the rapids below us.

The LandEscapes art program at The Lodge at Pine Cove includes one-on-one instruction at a different location each day, accommodation in luxurious, fully equipped cottages, all meals and use of lodge facilities.

'PINING' TO GO?

To find out more about LandEscapes and The Lodge at Pine Cove, visit www.frenchriver.com

To book your package call (705) 898-2500.

Art vacation packages include the following:

- Full-day instruction at a different location each day
- Motor boat transportation to unique locations
- Luxurious cottage accommodation
- Three gourmet meals daily
- Full use of lodge facilities, including canoes, lifejackets, wrap-around deck and sandy beach

There are three regularly scheduled all-inclusive packages beginning July 24 – August 12, from Sunday

to Friday each week. Groups may also arrange their own custom 'LandEscapes' package by contacting the lodge directly. Day adventure, \$100 per person, includes full-day art instruction, gourmet lunch and boat transportation. Accommodation can be arranged at additional cost.

To learn more about artist/instructor Greg Hindle, visit www.logsendstudio.ca

For other art vacations visit www.artsinthewild.com

For more travel information call 1-800-ONTARIO or visit www.ontariotravel.net/summer

Prices and package details subject to change.

Cathy Bennett is a travel writer whose work regularly appears in major publications. She is often found cruising the beautiful back roads of Ontario with her artist husband, John, helping her find the treasures that are not always on the beaten path.