

Canoes,  
Kayaks and  
Accessories.

OLD TOWN CANOE CO.

Customers don't just write us about how rugged Oltonar canoes are in the water. One man had a good occasion to tell us how tough his was on land.

A highway overpass, he wrote, inadvertently collided with his canoe. He explained that the mishap occurred because the roof of his motor home (stacked with the Oltonar canoe plus other expedition gear) was just a mite higher than the underbelly of the overpass.

But the overpass is still in service today, and so is the canoe. And although we're the first to say that nothing is indestructible, including Oltonar, our boats have taken

poundings that surely were never meant for canoes. They've fallen out of airplanes. They've been bent like hairpins around bridge abutments. We've even dropped them off the factory roof.

Their survival secret is more than brute strength. Oltonar is a Royalex® ABS plastic laminate, extremely high in resiliency, or memory. Memory lets

you pry an Oltonar canoe loose from snags where aluminum wouldn't budge. Memory actually lets you snap the hull back to canoe shape and paddle off again. In calmer waters, memory gives our Oltonar models the quiet performance, the pliant grace you thought possible only in a wood hull.

And although other canoe manufacturers also work with

Royalex, no one else follows the rugged Royalex layups we insist on for our whitewater and all-around canoes. Oltonar is expedition caliber Royalex, reinforced at every stress point by engineers regularly called on to outfit this hemisphere's most perilous whitewater explorations.

Old Town engineers design every component in an Oltonar

canoe with the stress of whitewater in mind. Our gunwales, for example, are a unique construction of extruded vinyl reinforced with an inner aluminum belt. And these aluminum-belted gunwales are superior in canoes for the same reason steel-belted tires are superior in automobiles. The



# Oltonar.

Whitewater and all-around canoes.

vinyl shell has give (resiliency) while the aluminum has take (tensile strength). We torture-test all brands of gunwales

regularly, pitting ours against other manufacturers'. And we haven't lost

the sledghammer competition yet.

Decks and seats come under the same rigid scrutiny. Our newest improvement is a roto-molding process using an armor-tough substance called cross-linked high-density polyethylene.

Every deck is contoured for easy carrying. The new seats have flotation – and they have mercy on your backside. They're comfort-contoured, resilient, encapsulated and insulated.

If you're accustomed to sitting on a cold slab of canoe aluminum, you'll appreciate them.

And even if we never advertised our Oltonar canoes, you would continue to see great



things said about them in print, the written accounts of explorers who make annual odysseys, under paddle, to the far ends of the continent.

Time and again, the boat they depend on is our 17-foot Oltonar Tripper: deep-hulled, fully rockered and bred for troubled waters.

Writing in CANOE magazine, author-explorers John Ruggie and James West Davidson (*The*

*Complete Wilderness Paddler*) say our Tripper's "high depth and big volume design make it the expedition boat... It's big enough to carry two people and a month's gear into white-water with less chance of swamping than any other boat we've tested."

A talk with your Old Town dealer will help you decide whether the Tripper is the right craft for you, or whether another Oltonar design is even more suitable.

## Oltonar Canoes.



**Voyageur:** Big canoe speed, passenger room, storage and tracking ability. Length 18', width 37½", bow height 22½", depth 13½", weight 79 lbs., capacity 915 lbs.



**Tripper:** High freeboard, high-performance rocker, modified keel. The choice of leading whitewater explorers. Length 17'2", width 37", bow height 25", depth 15", weight 77 lbs., capacity 1,105 lbs.



**Ranger:** Special edition forest green Tripper hull with classic touches. Mahogany gunwales, brass fittings, personalized nameplate. Same dimensions as Tripper. Weight 79 lbs.



**Camper:** All around family canoe. Lake cruiser. Length 16', width 36", bow height 21", depth 12", weight 69 lbs., capacity 826 lbs.



**Pathfinder:** First-rate solo expedition boat. Or for two youngsters. Length 14'10", width 36", bow height 21½", depth 13½", weight 64 lbs., capacity 820 lbs.

**Colors:** Exterior: dark green, red, yellow. Interior: seafoam green.

But, about the entire Oltonar line, one thing is certain. You

may explore remote Hudson Bay or you may paddle a few weeks of the year off the Hudson River. Either way, there's no better hull to put between the water and you.



*Introducing the Canadienne, a high-performance long-distance touring canoe. Designed by Ralph Frese. Classically detailed in fine woods and brass. Fiberglass or Kevlar layup.*

In the world of serious canoeing, good news travels fast.

So does our Canadienne, Old Town's most important 1980 introduction. Expect to hear more news about it than any canoe we've built since the Tripper.

Because no other production canoe in the world does so much, and does it all so well.

The Canadienne has a list of credentials as long as the Allagash. They

begin with the canoe master Rushton, whose brilliant work Ralph Frese drew upon to create the Canadienne's classic lines and timeless look.

Proving why he's the country's pre-eminent canoe historian, connoisseur and designer, Frese put as much skill and taste into the Canadienne as into the film "Centennial", the definitive cinema

piece on the role of canoeing in U.S. history.

His challenge from Old Town: How to build an all-around canoe when there's no such thing as all-around water.

This is how.

The big (17 ft., 920 lbs. capacity) Canadienne has all the moves of a high-performance cruising boat.

Entry is quick, sure and

quiet as a scalpel, and no wonder. The nose is so sharp (under a quarter inch), you might want to shave with it. And although the canoe is without keel, the bottom gathers into a neat V at both ends. Any weight that goes inside is transmitted to the ends, which plant themselves beneath the wind and chop and take you, sure-footed,

across the kind of lake that makes even an accomplished paddler hanker for a motorboat.

Yet the Canadienne is as much at home in rapids as a salmon in the Rogue River. It has a take-charge round-bottom hull for swerving and darting out of harm's way. And



# Fiberglass and Kevlar<sup>®</sup>

Performance touring and lake canoes.

Kevlar is a registered trademark of Dupont.



there's a slight (under two inches), but perfectly proportioned rocker to intensify this kayak-like nimbleness.

The appointments, in every way, complement the performance. Gunwales, decks and coaming are hand-rubbed mahogany. Inwales are Sitka spruce. Seats are cane-filled ash. Bow and stern caps and painter rings are brass. The contoured carrying yoke is ash, and it's standard with the canoe. In addition, Old Town will be happy to make a personalized nameplate for your Canadienne, at no extra cost.

And whether the layup you choose is Kevlar or fiberglass, you know that the hull is as

perfect inside as the smooth, glistening finish on the outside.

We don't do things second-rate at Old Town, and our fiberglass methods and procedures are a fine example why. Because some canoe companies will pop fiberglass canoes out of a mold like cookies. The result, as we see it, is about as seaworthy as a cookie jar. Yet,



according to the dictionary, fiberglass is supposed to be fiber-reinforced plastic. And common sense will tell you that nobody ever reinforced anything shooting shredded fiber

## Fiberglass and Kevlar® Canoes.



**Canadienne:** High-performance, long-distance touring canoe by Ralph Frese. Mahogany and brass details. Length 17'2", width 35 1/2", bow height 23", depth 14 1/2", fiberglass weight 75 lbs., Kevlar approximate weight 59 lbs., capacity 920 lbs. Forest green (fiberglass) or natural (Kevlar).



**Laker 16:** Top quality, economical family lake and fishing canoe. Easy paddling, stable hull with flotation. Length 16', width 36", bow height 21", depth 12", weight 72 lbs., capacity 651 lbs. Dark green.



**Laker 14:** Easy, safe, economical lake and fishing canoe, with flotation, for two kids or solo adult paddling. Length 14', width 36 1/4", bow height 20", depth 12", weight 67 lbs., capacity 478 lbs. Dark green.

out of a chopper gun into liquid resin. So we work entirely by hand, not by gun. Our people manually bond layer upon layer of the finest woven cloth, mat and roving into durable, safe, superbly-balanced hulls.

Even more than our unique nameplate, this level of workmanship identifies every Old Town product. From the high-performance Canadienne to our 16 ft. and 14 ft. Lakers for general flatwater recreation.

Fiberglass-hulled Lakers are designed for the wide and universal canoeing public. For vacationers who own a cottage on a lake, and keep a canoe

around for fun. For anglers who shun speedboats and prefer the fish-lulling simplicity of rod, reel and canoe. For tent campers with two days off and three kids begging to explore that islet out in the pond.

Laker meets their needs with flotation ends and a stable, flat-bottom hull. With low freeboard and keel for easy lake paddling. And with a price that puts first class canoeing in everyone's reach.

Kevlar. ABS Royalex. Rotomolded cross-linked high-density polyethylene. Extruded vinyl.

The list of materials used by contemporary canoe designers, including our own, reads like something out of a NASA lab.

But in one corner of our Old Town factory the space age metals and the machines that mold them are conspicuously absent. Instead, there are wood shavings wherever you walk, and the air smells like a country sawmill. The men wear overalls, talk with brass tacks in their

mouths, and tell you straight-out that Kevlar is what you use for rocket ships but wood is what you use for canoes. Past, present and future.

So our woodsmiths continue to work in the time-honored fashion, shaping canoes by hand on wooden canoe forms that date back a century.

Small wonder our four wood designs are prized by

investment-minded canoeists as works of art. Yet the fact is, our cedar-planked Old Town classics still outperform almost any other type of canoe afloat. And to the men in our wood shop, *that's* what makes them works of art.

To build a 20 ft. Guide model, for example, a man has to begin by cutting the canoe ribs out of white cedar, about

fifty of them. Then he steams each rib so it bends easily over the form. And after that, he planks long strips of straight-grained Western red cedar neatly over the ribs. He works carefully from the inside out, assembling the skeleton first, then adding the outer parts: mahogany gunwales, ash decks, ash thwarts, and cane-filled seats, framed in ash.

As a sure, steady tracker, the Guide lives up to its name; the long flat floor, shallow draft, and knife-like water entry are what the Maine fishing guide needs for his work. Another model,



# Wood.

Classic canoes.



Molitor, features wood treatments that are lavish even by Old Town standards. Long decks, outside stems, and oval mahogany gunwales create a frame so strong no



thwarts are needed. While the sickle curve of bow and stern suggests an Indian birch bark in a Remington or Homer painting.

Old Town catalogs, written as early as 1901, feature the

OTCA series of wood canoes. Seventy-nine years later, we proudly feature them in this catalog, virtually unchanged in design. And for the solo canoeist we offer the Trapper, a canoe so sleek it seems to swim.

More than any other company, Old Town has come to stand for the beauty of canoeing. Because more than any



other company, we stand for the beauty of the canoe.

## Wood Canoes.



**OTCA 17:** The classic Old Town, virtually unchanged in design since the turn of the century. Length 17', width 35", bow height 25½", depth 12", weight 80 lbs., capacity 659 lbs.



**Molitor:** Long decks, outside stems and oval mahogany gunwales create a frame so strong no thwarts are needed. Traditional Indian crescent in bow and stern. Length 17', width 35", bow height 22", depth 12", weight 84 lbs., capacity 624 lbs.



**Guide 16, 18, 20:** The design Maine guides find most useful for backcountry work. Low profile to duck winds. Long, flat floor for shallow draft. Big cargo space. *Guide 16:* Length 16', width 35", bow height 20½", depth 12", weight 76 lbs., capacity 624 lbs. *Guide 18:* Length 18', width 37", bow height 23", depth 12", weight 86 lbs., capacity 736 lbs. *Guide 20:* Length 20', width 39", bow height 23½", depth 13¼", weight 104 lbs., capacity 1,017 lbs.



**Trapper:** The swift, light boat that takes canoeing back to its simplest roots: one man portaging and paddling a craft as unsynthetic as the water itself. Length 15', width 35½", bow height 20", depth 11½", weight 68 lbs., capacity 580 lbs.

### Colors and options:

*Exterior color:* dark green. Custom exterior colors: blue, red, yellow, white, natural finish, Indian design, two-tone (allow four weeks extra).

*Exterior covering:* fiberglass cloth. Extras: half ribs, outside stems, rub rails, full-length stem band, painter rings, floor rack. (Keel is standard on all wood models. No-keel available on special orders.)

If you followed the World Kayak Championships at Jonquière, Quebec, you undoubtedly tried to follow a bullet-fast spike called the Lettmann Hydro 80. It rocketed to two gold, two silver and two bronze medals—and now it's won a place among our slalom kayaks, the quickest of the quick in paddlecraft.

We're also proud to add, as a custom order boat, the Prijon Dolphin, a downriver wildwater projectile that flew so fast at Desbiens there was hardly a medal left.

These developments prove, once again, that Old Town kayaks are America's best for two good reasons: Klaus Lettmann and Toni Prijon, Europe's

two superstar designers. Both are former World Champion racers. And their stature in this sport is so great that if kayaking were baseball, both would be unanimously installed in the Hall of Fame.

Not only do their designs dominate international kayak racing, but Lettmann and Prijon have had the wisdom to adapt these Olympic designs

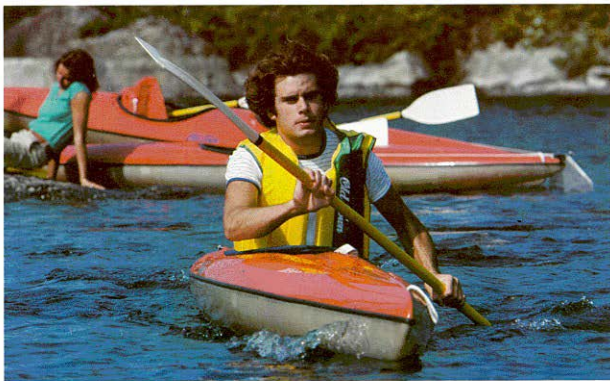
for general weekend pleasure boating. No two men have done more to popularize recreational kayaking.

Designers as brilliant as Lettmann and Prijon deserve the support of a first-rate manufacturer. Old Town. Our Lettmann and Prijon models are painstakingly hand-laminated—by veteran builders who have mastered the craft of hull stiff-

ness and flex. All standard Old Town kayaks have no less than four layers in the hull and three in the deck. This year, all whitewater slalom boats have foam walls (pillars) for added I-beam support between the hull and deck. And for kayakers who really punish their boats, we recommend our special expedition layup. It includes our new I-beam

support system, outside seams and extra fiber-glass layers for built-in protection.

Old Town kayaks cover the two broad divisions of the sport: touring and whitewater slalom, both recreational and competitive.



# Kayaks.

Touring and whitewater slalom.





Within the two, you'll find at least one model for your level of ability. Although most Old Town kayaks adapt to all-around use, a touring boat will outperform a whitewater slalom boat cruising on a straight track. Similarly, a whitewater slalom kayak will be more nimble at whitewater play.

Whichever you choose, Lettmann, Prijon and Old Town are on your side. So you're already out in front.

## Whitewater Slalom.



**Lettmann Mark IV:** Performance-oriented, medium volume boat. Probably the best all-around design for 80% of the people in the sport. Length 13'3", width 23 1/4", cockpit 27 1/2" x 15 1/4", approximate weight 28 lbs.



**Prijon Special:** How to handle Class V waters as ornery as the Three Sisters of the Kennebec Gorge. The Special is buoyant, body-responsive, torpedo-quick. Famous Prijon contour-fitting cockpit. Length 13'3", width 23 1/4", cockpit 26 1/4" x 14 1/2", approximate weight 27 lbs.

*Foam pillar support walls:* Your Old Town kayak is built for punishment, even when the keepers tumble like washing machines. New I-beam support system is standard on all whitewater slalom kayaks and an option on touring kayaks.



**Lettmann Mark V:** Flat-out racing machine that sneaks gates and beats clocks. Classic low volume design. Proven competitive performance. Length 13'3", width 23 1/4", cockpit 27 1/2" x 15 1/4", approximate weight 26 lbs.



**Lettmann Hydro 80:** Needle-sharp 1979 world championship boat at Jonquière, Quebec. For hotdoggers and keeper-killers who are ready for stiff competition. Length 13'3", width 24 1/4", cockpit 27 1/2" x 14", approximate weight 27 lbs.

## Touring.



**Prijon 420:** Stable, all-around pleasure kayak especially patient with first-timers. Versatile hull turns whitewater work into play and skims over lakes like a breeze. Length 13'10", width 24 1/4", cockpit 27" x 15 1/4", approximate weight 29 lbs.



**Prijon President:** Extra cockpit room is why Americans with Lincoln-esque physiques elect the President, the first comfortable kayak for them. Length 14'3", width 24 1/2", cockpit 35" x 15 3/4", approximate weight 31 lbs.



**Lettmann Optima Sport two-seater:** A two-man recreational kayak armed for whitewater battle. Length 16'6", width 29 1/2", cockpit 29 1/2" x 17", approximate weight 56 lbs.

*Note:* Rudder is a recommended accessory on the 420 and the President, and on the Optima Sport in flatwater.

## Custom Order Kayaks.



**Prijon Dolphin:** The downriver wildwater bullet that stole the show -- and the medals -- at the 1979 World Championships at Desbiens, Quebec. Length 14'9 1/4", width 23 1/4", cockpit 15" x 23", approximate weight 31 lbs.



**Bambino:** How to teach your kids kayaking in one easy boat. Made for slalom-minded youngsters under 100 pounds. Length 11', width 22", cockpit 23 1/4" x 12 1/4", approximate weight 22 lbs.



**Berrigan:** The famous three-hole covered whitewater canoe for fast rough-water cruising. Stable, mobile and strong. Large third cockpit for stowage of gear. Length 16', width 33 1/4", cockpit 21" x 17", approximate weight 65 lbs.

*Colors and options:* All 1980 kayaks are translucent red. Special reinforced expedition layout available on all models.

"Accessories" is the accepted word for the canoe equipment in this section. But "necessities" is the word we prefer. Because good, honest smooth-working equipment contributes as much to your overall enjoyment of canoeing as the canoe.

And besides showing you our paddles, flotation gear,

safety vests, helmets and other equipment, Old Town is proud to present the kit everybody has asked us to produce.

We call it "Canoe-in-a-Box," an intriguing project developed by our woodsmiths, the men who create our classic ribbed and planked Old Towns. The end product is a cedar strip canoe

that's swift in the water and a delight to the eye. And the kit is so complete and detailed,

using it is almost like using our wood shop.

### Canoe-in-a-Box.



Complete kit of materials and instructions for assembly of a 17 ft. cedar strip canoe. Western red cedar strips, Sitka spruce inwales, mahogany outwales. Decks, thwarts, seats, glass cloth are all included. Basic tools, frame and form (cut from our pattern) are all you need.

### Paddles.



*Clement 2408.* Made for us by famous Clement of Canada. Hardwood-tipped laminated spruce blade measures 24" x 8". Handle is hickory or ash reinforced. Lengths: 58", 60", 62".



*Sawyer SCT-9.* Noted canoeist Ralph Sawyer makes this whitewater paddle for Old Town. Wood has unmatched strength and flex. Fiberglass reinforced blade, T-grip handle. Lengths: 58", 60", 62".



*Sawyer SCT-8.* Exclusive design for Old Town. Oval grip, rugged, fiberglass-reinforced. Lengths: 58", 60", 62".



*Old Town classic beavertail paddle.* Single blade spruce. Lengths: 4'6", 5', 5'6".

### Kayak Paddles.

Pressure-molded white fiberglass blades on yellow fiberglass shafts. We supply paddles with one blade attached. Second blade is unattached so you can precisely set length and control. Glue included.



*Flat blade double paddle.* Maximum length, 215 centimeters.

*Flat blade double paddle.* For the Optima Sport. With drip rings. Length, 96".

*Spoon blade double paddle.* Maximum length, 215 centimeters.

*Spoon blade double paddle.* For the Optima Sport. With drip rings. Length, 96".

### Sail Rigs.



Specify canoe model and serial number.

*Mast seat and step.*

*Aluminum tilt rudder.*

*Leeboards with crossarm, complete.*

*Lateen sail.* Blue and white stripe or red and white stripe. Sizes: 55 sq. ft. and 75 sq. ft.

### Spray Protection.

*Canoe rain cover.* Covers entire canoe with built-in spray skirts over seats. Keeps canoe and cargo dry. Rugged, reinforced Facilon plastic fabric. Folds easily. Snap fasteners. Specify canoe model and length. Green cover, white skirts. Not recommended as a whitewater splash cover.



*Spray skirt.* Hypalon with rubber shock cord drawstrings. Specify kayak model when ordering. White.

*Neoprene spray skirt.* 1/4" urethane neoprene nylon-lined. Small (to 30" waist). Medium (30"-34" waist). Large (over 34" waist).



# Accessories and Kits.

Canoe equipment and cedar strip kit.

## Waterproof Cargo Bags.



Day bag. Top grade 20 mil vinyl with electrically sealed seams. Velcro closure. 18" x 24"

Kayak float pack  
60" x 28" (stern),  
40" x 24" (bow).



Heavy duty plastic bag. Waterproof and insect-proof storage plus flotation. Duplex bag in three sizes. Camp pack, 22" x 36". Expedition pack, 24" x 60". Kayak pack, 17" x 40".

## Water Repellent Carrying Bags.

Duluth-type canoe backpack.

Canoe stuff sack. Orange water repellent fabric with drawstring, shoulder strap and carrying handle.



Wind shirt. Bulkiest polyurethane-coated nylon. Elasticized neck, waist, wrists. Men's and women's. S, M, L, XL.

## Helmets.

Joffa helmet. Lightweight high impact plastic helmet will float. Ventilated, washable, replaceable snap-on chin strap. One size fits all.



## Clothing.



Life vest (PFD). Custom designed for Old Town, with our logo, by Omega. Highly visible yellow with a distinctive green stripe. Extra comfort and good looks. USCG approved. Sizes: S, M, L, XL.



Gore-Tex® paddling jacket. Made for Old Town exclusively by Holubar Mountain-eering. Velcro sleeves, collar and kangaroo pouch. Drawstring neck and waist. Color: rust. S, M, L, XL.

Old Town T-shirt or tank top. 50% polyester, 50% cotton. Assorted colors. S, M, L, XL.

## Rowing.



Fixed rowing seat. Comfort-contoured. Oarlocks outboard. Adjustable straps secure footbrace. Spoon blade fiberglass oars (7 ft.) are available. Rowing seat color: Desert White.

## Hull Flotation.



Center bag. For Optima Sport, Berrigan.



Flotation bags. Necessary protection for all covered craft. Vinyl bags with middle baffle, double valves. Specify kayak model when ordering.

## Cartop Carriers.



Quick 'n Easy carriers. 60" for single canoe, 72" for two canoes.

Utility carriers for gutterless car roofs. 60" for single canoe, 72" for two canoes.

Foam block canoe carrier. Block and rope for complete carrier kit.

On-edge kayak rack or contour kayak rack. Attaches to utility carrier. Complete with clamps.

## Canoe Extras.



Carrying yokes. Specify canoe model. (a) Cross-arm. (b) Adjustable pads. (c) Hand-carved.



Jiffy motor bracket. Specify canoe model.

Kevlar skid plates. For abrasion resistance on stems of Oltonar canoes.



Folding cane chair.



Folding slat chair.

*Old Town*



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