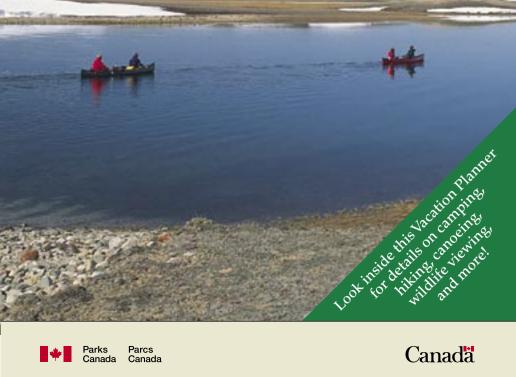


NATIONAL PARKS AND NATIONAL HISTORIC SITES of Canada in Northwest Territories & northern Yukon









Proudly Bringing You Canada At Its Best

Land and culture are woven into the tapestry of Canada's history and the Canadian spirit. The richness of our great country is celebrated in a network of protected places that allow us to understand the land, people and events that shaped Canada.

Some things just can't be replaced and, therefore, your support is vital in protecting the ecological and commemorative integrity of these natural areas and symbols of our past, so they will persist, intact and vibrant, into the future.

Discover for yourself the many wonders, adventures and learning experiences that await you in Canada's national parks, national historic sites, historic canals and national marine conservation areas. Help us keep them healthy and whole for their sake, for our sake.



Our Mission

Parks Canada's mission is to ensure that Canada's national parks, national historic sites and related heritage areas are protected and presented for this and future generations.

These nationally significant examples of Canada's natural and cultural heritage reflect Canadian values, identity, and pride.

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This logo is used to denote a UNESCO World Heritage Site. These sites are considered to be of outstanding universal value, and are to be protected for future generations by the world community.

Safeguarding Canada's Family of Heritage Treasures

Parks Canada is proud of its role in preserving and presenting a nation-wide system of natural and cultural treasures.

National parks protect the ecological integrity of landscapes and wildlife representative of Canada's vastness and diversity. National historic sites ensure commemoration of the people and events that shaped this country. Together, they symbolize the link between stewardship of the land and respect for our cultural heritage.

You too can do your part in helping to maintain Canada's family of special places.

Tread lightly on the land as you explore the wonders and beauty of Canada. Respect and celebrate the cultural traditions.

Your role is important in helping to ensure continued protection and enjoyment of Canada's natural and cultural heritage.

Welcome



So Much To See and Do

Discover the protected ecosystems of Canada's rugged north, and celebrate the establishment of some of the newest national parks in Canada.

You may wish to start your journey with a road trip through the vast forests and boreal plains of Wood Buffalo National Park in the southern Northwest Territories. With luck, you may see glimpses of the wild bison herds for which the park is famous.

Ragged mountain peaks, towering canyons, swirling rivers, and the famous Virginia Falls are highlights of a visit to Nahanni National Park Reserve. Dare to explore where few have gone before, in the far reaches of Canada's arctic. Experience the evocative beauty of the tundra, where caribou and muskox roam free.

Tuktut Nogait, Aulavik, Ivvavik, and Vuntut national parks are among the newest national parks in Canada. Located in remote corners of the arctic, they can only be reached by air. Once accessed, these far northern parks offer once-in-a-lifetime wilderness experiences.

Activities Informatio

Most activities in the northern parks revolve around the backcountry, with unique opportunities for hiking, canoeing, camping, and wildlife viewing. However, due to the remoteness of these parks, adequate wilderness skills are a must for those who plan to visit.

Wood Buffalo National Park is the only northern national park which can be accessed by road and has frontcountry facilities and activities available.

Wildlife

Nothing can match the excitement of spotting wildlife in their natural habitat. Please use caution and give wildlife the respect they deserve.

- Pick up a copy of the *You Are In Bear Country* brochure to learn about bear safety.
- Maintain a safe distance from all large animals. Be aware that large animals such as bison and muskox may be particularly aggressive in late summer and fall.

Weather & Road Conditions

June, July and August are the peak visitor season in the north. Visitors should be prepared to cope with extremes in temperatures as well as adverse conditions such as rain or snowstorms, high winds, and biting insects. Most highways in the Northwest Territories are all-weather gravel, and the distances are vast. Road travellers should carry extra gas and ensure that their vehicles are well-equipped.

Park & Site Regulations

A park use permit is required for overnight stays in the backcountry. Please do not disturb or collect any natural objects.

For You

Watch for these symbols to determine available services and facilities:

- ➔ Air Access Point
- Picnic Facilities
- Frontcountry Campsites
- **A** Backcountry Campsites
- Totally or partially accessible. Services for visitors with disabilities may vary. Please inquire.

Some supplies and services may be limited or unavailable in some northern communities. Please inquire prior to your trip.

Wood Buffalo National Park of Canada

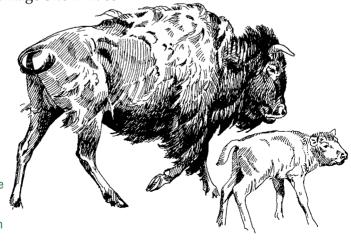
Wood Buffalo is Canada's largest national park, and one of the largest parks in the world. This remote wilderness park straddles the Alberta-Northwest Territories border, protecting a representative example of Canada's northern boreal plains ecosystem. The park's vast mosaic of boreal forest and muskeg is home to a variety of wildlife such as bear, wolf, and moose, as well as the free-roaming bison herds for which the park is famous.

Here you'll find some of the best examples of karst topography in North America, unique salt plains, and the remote Peace-Athabasca Delta, one of the largest inland freshwater deltas in the world. The park was designated a World Heritage Site in 1983.

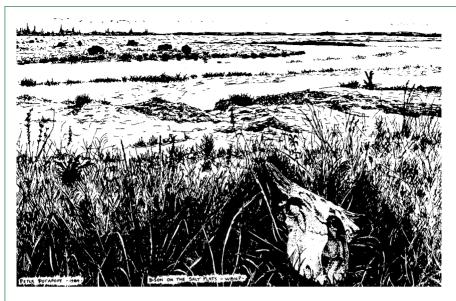
Getting There

The park may be reached from two communities - Fort Smith, Northwest Territories, and Fort Chipewyan, Alberta. Fort Smith has year-round road access via the MacKenzie Highway and NT Highway 5. All-weather road access to the park is via Fort Smith. Commercial flights from Edmonton and Yellowknife are also available.

Fort Chipewyan is an isolated community with air access only. Commercial flights to Fort Chipewyan are available from Edmonton and Fort McMurray. From Fort Chipewyan, park access is by water only, except for a brief period in the winter when there is a winter road.



Protecting one of the world's largest freeroaming bison herds.



Making the Most of Your Visit

- Careful planning is the key to an enjoyable visit. Contact the Visitor Reception Centre for important pre-trip planning information.
- When you arrive, stop in at the Visitor Reception Centre in Fort Smith or Fort Chipewyan. Enjoy the multi-image slide show and exhibits, and learn about the natural and cultural history of the park.
- Spend two or three days visiting the park's frontcountry areas and nearby communities. Plan on at least one week for a backcountry adventure.
- Late August and September are ideal times to visit the park, as the fall foliage is spectacular and there are fewer insects.

Bison on the salt flats

Activities

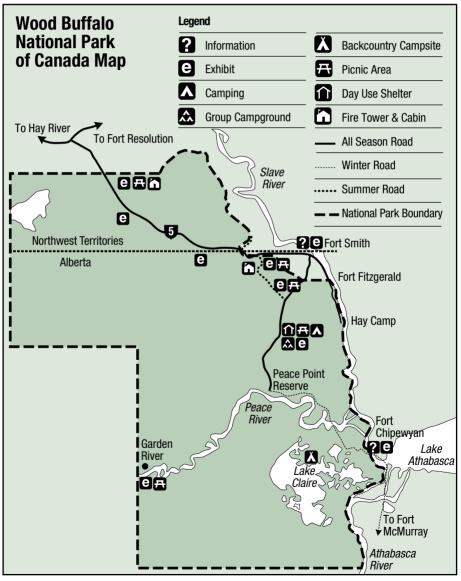
- The park offers a variety of visitor experiences from short strolls on secluded forested trails, to rugged backcountry canoe trips on wide, meandering rivers.
- Pine Lake, the main recreation area, offers swimming, boating, and canoeing.
- Day use areas within the park provide opportunities for picnicking, hiking, and enjoying nature.
- Bison and other animals are sometimes seen along park roads.
- Birdwatchers will delight in the Peace-Athabasca Delta, a crossroads for migratory waterfowl from all four North American flyways.

Camping

The park's only frontcountry campground is located at Pine Lake. Twenty-five sites are available on a first-come, first-serve basis. Two sites are wheelchair accessible. Backcountry campsites are located at Rainbow Lakes and Sweetgrass.

A park use permit is required for overnight camping in the backcountry.

For Your Convenience



Nahanni National Park Reserve of Canada



Nahanni National Park Reserve of Canada protects an outstanding example of the MacKenzie Mountains ecosystem. The park encompasses an area of 4766 square kilometres centered along the South Nahanni and Flat rivers. Acclaimed as Canada's premier wilderness river national park, it is both a Canadian Heritage River and an UNESCO World Heritage Site.

The majority of visitors come to experience Nahanni's powerful rivers and to see Virginia Falls, a towering waterfall of immense size and power. Other features include deep canyons, wide valleys, ragged mountain peaks and high alpine tundra. Spectacular rivers provide both tranquility and whitewater adventure.

Getting There

Nahanni can be reached by air charter from Fort Simpson, NT, Fort Liard, NT, Watson Lake, YT, or Muncho Lake, BC. Rabbitkettle Lake and Virginia Falls are the only two designated landing sites inside the park.

Day-use flights may be made to Virginia Falls. All aircraft require a park use permit.

Making the Most of Your Visit

• Please note that reservations are required for river trips in Nahanni. It is recommended that they be made well in advance due to popular demand. Contact the park office for reservation information.

- Registration is required for all overnight trips.
- Allow a minimum of ten days for a river trip.
- Day trips to Virginia Falls do not require reservations.
- Accommodations and groceries are available in Fort Simpson. For a complete listing of area attractions, contact the Village of Fort Simpson at 867-695-3182, or visit their website at www.fortsimpson.com



Dall sheep roam in Nahanni's scenic canyons.

Canoeing, Kayaking, & Rafting

The South Nahanni and Flat rivers provide world-famous opportunities for wilderness whitewater paddling. Because the difficulty levels range from class II to class V, only highly experienced whitewater enthusiasts should attempt these trips. Guided trips are available for less experienced river adventurers. Contact the park office for a list of licensed river outfitters.

Camping

Backcountry camping is part of a river trip experience. Primitive campsites are located at Rabbitkettle Lake, Virginia Falls, and Kraus Hot Springs. Please note that reservations are required for camping at Virginia Falls, with a maximum stay of two nights.

Hiking

Experience the thunder and majesty of Virginia Falls by hiking the boardwalk to the viewpoint. The walk is approximately 20 minutes one-way. A longer portage trail, of moderate difficulty, is available to the base of the falls. Allow two hours for a return trip.

Join park staff at Rabbitkettle Lake for a guided hike to the remarkable tufa mounds. The interpretive hikes are offered twice-daily from July 1 - Sept.1.



Explore the rugged Nahanni wilderness on foot. Contact the park office for a description of hiking routes within the South Nahanni region.

Wildlife Watching

Look for Dall sheep and mountain goats when passing through Nahanni's spectacular canyons. Keep an eye out for grizzly and black bears, trumpeter swans, and golden eagles.

Safety Considerations

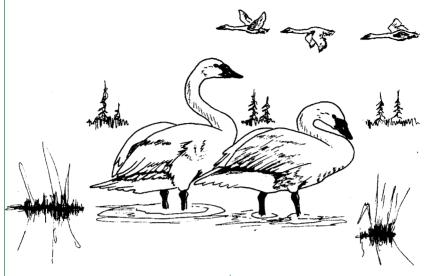
• Individuals or groups with little or no whitewater or remote wilderness river experience *should not* attempt to travel on the South Nahanni River or tributaries without a licensed river outfitter.

- Many natural hazards exist. These may include inclement weather, possibility of flash floods, varying water levels, cold water temperatures, and bear encounters.
- The more information you have and the more prepared you are for any eventuality, the more likely you will have a safe and enjoyable trip.

For Your Convenience



Aulavik National Park of Canada



Aulavik National Park of Canada was established in 1992 after extensive negotiations between the Inuvialuit of Sachs Harbour and the governments of Canada and the Northwest Territories.

Located on Banks Island in the high arctic, Aulavik protects 12,275 square kilometres of the Western Arctic Lowland ecosystem.

In the Inuvialuktun language, "Aulavik" means "place where people travel."

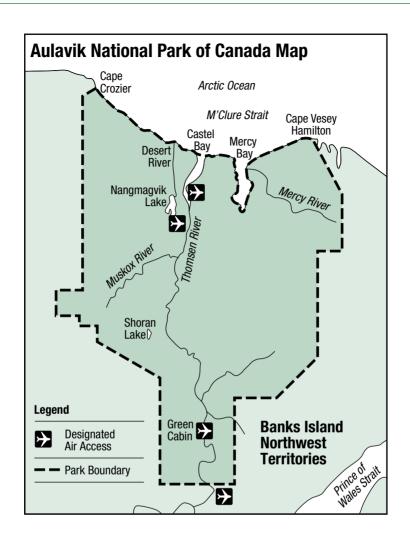
Its key feature is the Thomsen River, which is reputed to be the most northerly navigable river in North America. Other natural features include broad river valleys, rugged desert-like badlands, and numerous archaeological sites. Tundra swans and other migratory waterfowl make the high arctic their summer home.

Getting There

Access to Aulavik National Park is by air charter from Inuvik. Landing permits are required for aircraft landings in the park, and designated landing areas should be used.

Inuvik has daily air service from southern Canada and may also be reached via the Dempster Highway.

Sachs Harbour, population 120, is the only community on Banks Island. It is located 250 kilometres southwest of the park. There is a scheduled air service between Sachs Harbour and Inuvik twice weekly year-round.



Your Visit

- Aulavik is an ideal destination for visitors who desire an arctic wilderness experience.
- Visitors to Aulavik must register at the park office in Inuvik.
- There are no facilities or services of any kind in the park. Summer is the best time to visit.
- A park office and visitor reception centre is located in Sachs Harbour.
- Contact the Hamlet of Sachs Harbour at 867-690-4351 for information about local services.

Activities

Canoeing

Enjoy a leisurely canoe trip down the most northerly navigable river in North America. The Thomsen River meanders gently through the rolling arctic tundra, offering more than 150 kilometres of wilderness paddling. There are no rapids or whitewater on the Thomsen. The best time for paddling is between late June and late July. Paddling may be restricted by low water levels after that time.

Camping

The rolling tundra landscape along the Thomsen River is ideal for low-impact backcountry camping. Campers should bring campstoves and fuel as fires are not permitted. A park use permit is required.



Muskox are often seen along the Thomsen River

Discover the wonders of the tundra on foot. There are no developed trails, but overland excursions can be made. Contact the park office for route descriptions. Please note that a magnetic compass will not work this close to the North Pole.

Wildlife Watching

Muskox are often seen along the Thomsen River, as well as arctic wolves and foxes.

Safety Considerations

Visitors traveling in the park must carry appropriate gear and be self-reliant and able to handle any medical or wildlife-related emergencies on their own. It is unlikely that other people will be encountered during a trip in the park.

Search and rescue operations are very basic, and there can be lengthy delays due to weather and availability of aircraft. Take every precaution to keep yourself out of danger. The carrying of a licensed personal locator beacon, or a satellite phone that works north of 72° latitude, is recommended.

For Your Convenience

Pingo Canadian Landmark of Canada

The Pingo Canadian Landmark of Canada is located on the Tuktoyaktuk Peninsula, an area with the world's largest concentration of pingos.

A pingo is a large frost mound formed of soil-covered ice. Its conical shape is similar to that of a volcano.

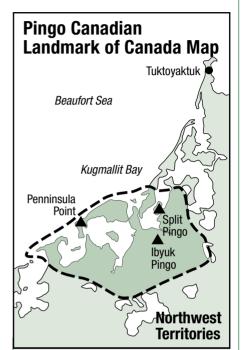
The Pingo Canadian Landmark covers an area of 16.4 square kilometres near Tuktoyaktuk. There are eight pingos within the landmark, including Ibyuk Pingo which is the largest pingo in Canada.

Getting There

Tuktoyaktuk is the nearest community to the landmark, located 6 kilometres away. There is daily air service to Tuktoyaktuk from Inuvik. Inuvik has daily air service from southern Canada and may also be reached via the Dempster Highway.

Making the Most of Your Visit

- Contact the Hamlet of Tuktoyaktuk at 867-977-2286 for information on local services and attractions.
- It is recommended that visits take place during the summer months.



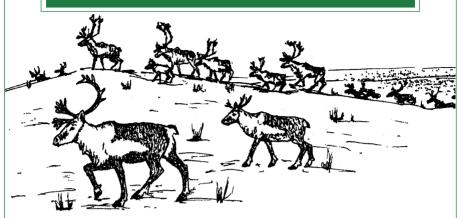
Activities

The pingos may be explored through flightseeing or hiking. Day tours are offered by local guides and outfitters. Contact the Hamlet of Tuktoyaktuk for information.

Safety Considerations

Visitors should be selfsufficient and properly equipped for their planned activities.

Tuktut Nogait National Park of Canada



Explore the rolling hills, scenic valleys, and impressive river canyons of one of the newest national parks in Canada. Tuktut Nogait National Park of Canada was established in 1998 to protect the core calving grounds of the Bluenose West caribou herd. Key features in the park include deep river canyons and majestic waterfalls.

Getting There

The nearest community is Paulatuk, located 45 kilometres to the west.

Access to the park is on foot or by boat shuttle from Paulatuk, or by air charter from Inuvik, which is located 425 kilometres to the west.

Commercial flights are available from Inuvik to Paulatuk three times a week year-round. Protecting the calving grounds of the Bluenose West caribou herd.

Inuvik has daily air service from southern Canada and may also be reached via the Dempster Highway.

Making the Most of Your Visit

- There are no visitor facilities, services, or campgrounds in the park. There is a park visitor reception centre in Paulatuk.
- Boat shuttle services are available to the park. Contact the Paulatuk Community Corporation (867-580-3601) or the Paulatuk Hunters and Trappers Corporation (867-580-3004) for information.
- Inuvik is the main service centre for the region. Contact the Hamlet of Paulatuk at 867-580-3531 for information on services in Paulatuk.

Activities

The Hornaday River can be paddled from its headwaters southwest of Bluenose Lake to a latitude of 68°55' north and longitude 122°45' west. The river is not navigable beyond that point due to a series of canyons and waterfalls. Water levels for paddling are at their best in July.

Camping

Low-impact backcountry camping is part of the Tuktut Nogait experience. Campers should bring a campstove and fuel as fires are not permitted. A park use permit is required.

Hiking

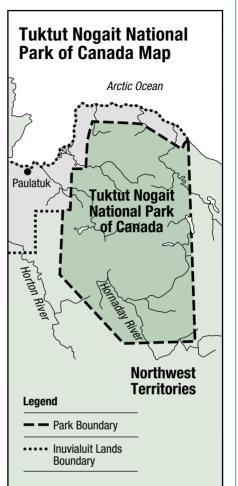
Tuktut Nogait is a hikers' paradise, especially in the northwestern portion. Contact the park office for route descriptions.

Wildlife Watching

Caribou and muskox roam the vast hills and valleys of the park. River cliffs and canyons provide good nesting habitat for birds of prey.

Safety Considerations

Visitors traveling in the park must carry appropriate gear and be self-reliant and able to handle any medical or wildlife-related emergencies on their own. It is unlikely that other people will be encountered during a trip in the park.



Search and rescue operations are very basic, and there can be lengthy delays due to weather and availability of aircraft. Take every precaution to keep yourself out of danger. The carrying of a licensed personal locator beacon and/or satellite phone is recommended. **Tuktut Nogait National Park of Canada**

IVVAVIK NATIONAL PARK OF CANADA



Ivvavik National Park of Canada was established in 1984 to protect the calving and feeding grounds of the Porcupine caribou herd.

The park encompasses a variety of arctic and sub-arctic ecosystems in the northern Yukon. Its terrain ranges from mountains, foothills, and river valleys, to the coastal plain and the Beaufort Sea.

Ivvavik is also a traditional homeland for the Inuvialuit of the region, who have relied on the caribou for sustenance for thousands of years. Today, the Inuvialuit play an important role in cooperative management of the park, ensuring ongoing maintenance of their harvesting traditions. Ivvavik protects a variety of arctic and subarctic ecosystems in the northern Yukon.

Getting There

Access to Ivvavik National Park is by air charter from Inuvik, NT, located 200 kilometres away. Designated landing sites must be used. Park use and landing permits are required.

Inuvik has daily air service from southern Canada and may also be reached via the Dempster Highway.

Making the Most of Your Visit

• It is recommended that your visit take place in the summer months.

- There are no visitor facilities, services, or campgrounds in the park.
- Contact the Government of the Northwest Territories Parks and Tourism branch at 867-777-7237 for information on attractions and services in Inuvik.

Activities

Rafting & Kayaking

Whitewater rafting on the Firth River is the most popular recreational activity in Ivvavik. Kayaking is also possible, although more difficult. There are 130 kilometres of navigable river, from Margaret Lake to the Beaufort Sea.

Because the difficulty levels range from class I to class IV, only highly experienced whitewater enthusiasts should attempt these trips. Guided trips are available for less experienced river adventurers. Contact the park office for a list of licensed river outfitters.

Please note that reservations are required for Firth River trips. Contact the park office for details.

Camping

Low-impact backcountry camping is part of the Ivvavik experience. Campers should bring a campstove and fuel as fires are not permitted. A park use permit is required.

Hiking

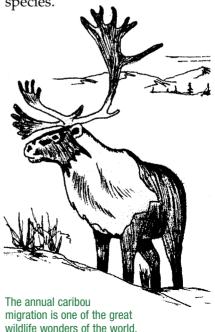
There are no developed trails in Ivvavik, but overland excursions can be made. Contact the park office for route descriptions.

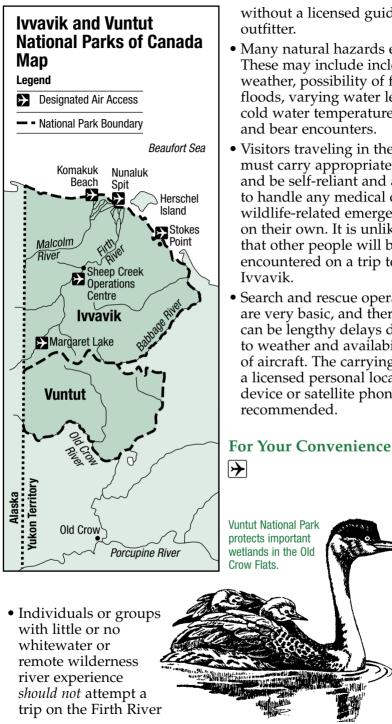
Wildlife Watching

Ivvavik is the summer home of the 120,000+ Porcupine caribou herd. The spring migration, which peaks at the end of May and early June, is truly one of the great wildlife wonders of the world.

Muskox range in the open tundra of the coastal plain, while grizzlies and wolves favor the mountain valleys.

The lakes and deltas of the coastal plain are a birdwatcher's delight with their rich diversity of both resident and migratory bird species.





without a licensed guide or

- Many natural hazards exist. These may include inclement weather, possibility of flash floods, varying water levels, cold water temperatures, and bear encounters.
- Visitors traveling in the park must carry appropriate gear and be self-reliant and able to handle any medical or wildlife-related emergencies on their own. It is unlikely that other people will be encountered on a trip to
- Search and rescue operations are very basic, and there can be lengthy delays due to weather and availability of aircraft. The carrying of a licensed personal locator device or satellite phone is

Vuntut National Park of Canada

Vuntut National Park of Canada was established in 1995. The park protects 4345 square kilometres of land including portions of the Old Crow Flats and surrounding foothills and mountains.

Half a million birds use the Old Crow Flats each year to breed, molt or stage. Vuntut National Park joins Ivvavik National Park and the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge in an international effort to protect the homeland of the Porcupine caribou herd.

The park area has been part of the traditional territory of the Vuntut Gwitchin for centuries. The Vuntut Gwitchin still depend on the area and its resources to provide a subsistence lifestyle.

Getting There

Vuntut National Park is

located north of the remote village of Old Crow, Yukon. It is a distance of 50 kilometres by air or 190 kilometres by river north of the community. There is scheduled air service between Old Crow and Whitehorse, Yukon.

Making the Most of Your Visit

- For more information, please contact the park office in Old Crow.
- There are no facilities or services of any kind in the park.
- Park use permits are required for visiting the park.
- It is recommended that visits take place during the summer months.

Activities

Backcountry opportunities range from canoeing and hiking to winter ski touring.

Safety Considerations

- Many natural hazards exist. These may include inclement weather, biting insects and wildlife encounters.
- Visitors must be self-sufficient and able to handle any medical or wildlife- related emergencies on their own.
- Search and rescue operations are basic, and there can be lengthy delays due to weather and availability of aircraft. The carrying of a licensed personal locator device or satellite phone is recommended.

How To Contact Us

Wood Buffalo National Park of Canada

P.O.Box 750 Fort Smith, NT Canada XOE OPO ph (867) 872-7960 fax (867) 872-3910 e-mail: wbnp_info@pch.gc.ca http://www.parkscanada.gc.ca/buffalo

Nahanni National Park Reserve of Canada

Box 348 Fort Simpson, NT Canada XOE ONO ph (867) 695-3151 fax (867) 695-2446 e-mail: nahanni_info@pch.gc.ca http://www.parkscanada.gc.ca/nahanni

Aulavik National Park of Canada

P.O.Box 29 Sachs Harbour, NT Canada XOE 0Z0 ph (867) 690-3904 (Sachs Harbour) or (867) 777-8800 (Inuvik) fax (867) 690-4808 e-mail: Inuvik_info@pch.gc.ca http://www.parkscanada.gc.ca/aulavik

Tuktut Nogait National Park of Canada

P.O. Box 91 Paulatuk, NT Canada XOE 1NO ph (867) 580-3233 fax (867) 580-3234 e-mail: Inuvik_info@pch.gc.ca http://www.parkscanada.gc.ca/tuktutnogait

Pingo Canadian Landmark of Canada Ivvavik National Park of Canada

Parks Canada Western Arctic Field Unit P.O. Box 1840 Inuvik, NT Canada XOE OTO ph (867) 777-8800 fax (867) 777-8820 e-mail: Inuvik_info@pch.gc.ca http://www.parkscanada.gc.ca/ivvavik

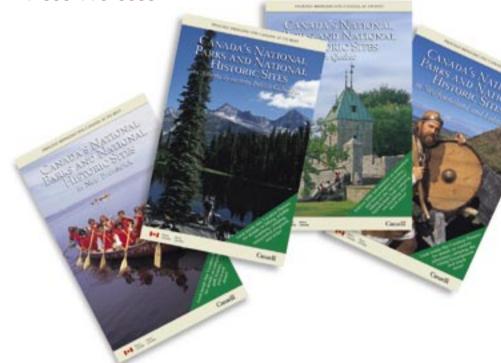
Vuntut National Park of Canada

P.O. Box 19 Old Crow, YT Canada YOB 1NO ph (867) 966-3622 fax (867) 966-3432 e-mail: robert_lewis@pch.gc.ca http://www.parkscanada.gc.ca/vuntut

Planning Your Visit to Canada's National Parks and National Historic Sites

To receive **FREE** trip-planning information on Canada's National Parks and National Historic Sites in other provinces and territories call today:

1-888-773-8888



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Front Cover: Aulavik National Park / Parks Canada / W. Lynch / 1993 Back Cover (top to bottom): Wood Buffalo National Park / Parks Canada / C. Wallis / 1984 Wood Buffalo National Park / Parks Canada / 1982 Wood Buffalo National Park / Parks Canada / C. Wershler / 1986 Ivvavik National Park / Parks Canada / W. Lynch / 1991 Background image: Ivvavik National Park / Parks Canada / W. Lynch / 1991

Illustrations: Dall Sheep (p.8); Tundra Swans (p.10); Caribou Herd (p.14); Grizzly Bear (p.16); Caribou (p.17) / Courtesy Gwich'in Renewable Resources Board / Artist Byron Thrasher

All information in this Vacation Planner is subject to change

Be sure to visit all of Canada's national parks and national historic sites in Northwest Territories and northern Yukon:

- Wood Buffalo National Park of Canada
- Nahanni National Park Reserve of Canada
- Aulavik National Park of Canada
- Tuktut Nogait National Park of Canada
- Pingo Canadian Landmark of Canada
- Ivvavik National Park of Canada
- Vuntut National Park of Canada



