

CANADIAN PRAIRIES



Discover  
**PARKS CANADA**



Prince Albert National Park



Parks Canada  
Parcs Canada

Canada





# PARKS CANADA IN THE CANADIAN PRAIRIES

## AT A GLANCE



**19**  
NATIONAL  
HISTORIC  
SITES



**4**  
NATIONAL  
PARKS

ONE OF THE  
WORLD'S LARGEST **POLAR  
BEAR DENNING SITES**



1<sup>ST</sup> RECORDED FIND  
OF **DINOSAUR  
REMAINS  
IN CANADA**



**60+** RED CHAIRS  
**#SHARETHECHAIR**

**BE INSPIRED!**  
COME... HIKE, BIKE,  
CAMP, SWIM, PADDLE,  
LEARN, PLAY...



Riel House National Historic Site



Fort Walsh National Historic Site



Grasslands National Park

## WELCOME!

Discover a land of adventures when you explore Canada's wide-open spaces across the prairies.

Come for a day trip, or take a look at our itineraries and book a vacation to remember.

Learn more about how we're working hard to fight climate change and discover how you can become a 'citizen scientist' and help protect biodiversity.

*Memories await.*

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 2** Battles, beaches and backcountry
- 4** Historic roots to hiking boots!
- 5** Conserving for the future
- 6** Stay overnight
- 8** Staff favourites
- 10** Canadian Prairies map

### Directory

- 11** Saskatchewan
- 12** Manitoba



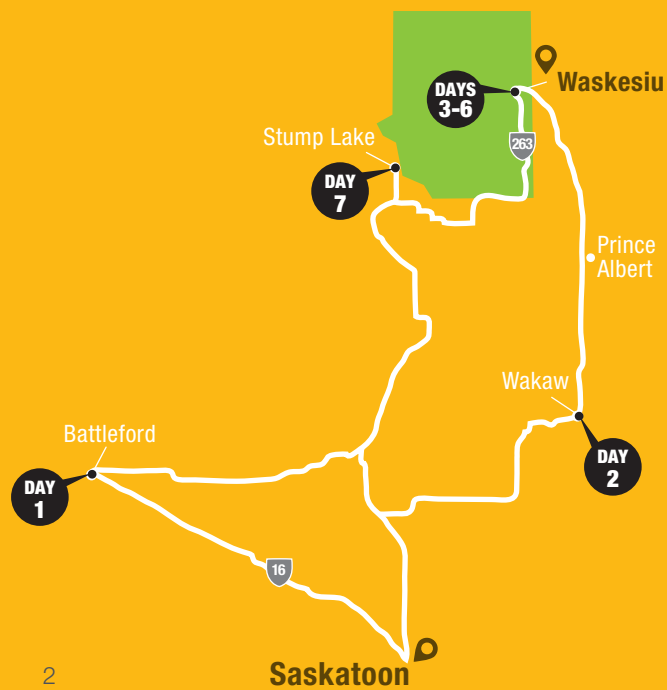
**7-DAY  
ITINERARY**

# BATTLES, BEACHES AND BACK- COUNTRY

 **FROM SASKATOON TO WASKESIU**

 **ROUNDRIP**  
830 km

 **LOCATIONS**  
Fort Battleford and Batoche National Historic Sites  
Prince Albert National Park



PLAN  
YOUR VISIT AT  
[PARKSCANADA.GC.CA/VISIT](http://PARKSCANADA.GC.CA/VISIT)  
AND DISCOVER  
OTHER ITINERARIES



**DAY 1  
FORT BATTLEFORD**

Battleford, 145 km from Saskatoon

From battlefields and historic tales, to sprawling wilderness and lakeside fun. Take the family on a journey to uncover north and central Saskatchewan!

Discover the stories of the North West Mounted Police, First Nations people, settlers and Métis people during the conflict of 1885.

**DAY 2  
BATOCHÉ**

Wakaw, 195 km from Battleford

Journey back in time to talk with a 19<sup>th</sup> century Métis settler about life on the banks of the South Saskatchewan River. Paddle through History! Rent a canoe and paddle the scenic South Saskatchewan River, imagining what it must have been like during the Northwest Resistance of 1885. Savour bannock, stew and more at the Visitor Centre concession.

**DAY 3  
PRINCE ALBERT**

Waskesiu, 160 km from Wakaw

Grab your bikes and leisurely cycle through the Waskesiu townsite and into the rolling hills and mixedwoods along the Red Deer Trail. Experience the modern exhibits and hands-on learning at the Nature Centre. Borrow a GPS unit to explore the natural and cultural heritage of the park.

 sleep in your tent,  
Beaver Glen campground

**DAY 4**

Explore the Boreal Forest and Aspen Parkland. Borrow an Aquatic or Forest kit from the Nature Centre and head to the Boundary Bog trail. Investigate the critters and plant life that call the black spruce bog home.

Take a drive down the scenic Highway 263 and have your camera ready to capture a bear, fox, or deer along the roadside! Climb the Height-of-Land tower as the sun sets over the mixed forest canopy.

 sleep in your tent,  
Beaver Glen campground

**DAY 5**

Cross Waskesiu Drive for a fun morning at the “Bears on the Beach” playground before your day of discovery begins!

As you follow the trail to the Southend campground, cross the bridge and lookout over the Kingsmere River, walk along the historic rail cart portage and follow the path through the spruce forest.

 sleep in your tent,  
Southend campground

**DAY 6**

Spend a day by the water! The white sands and the small peninsula make Paignton Beach one of the most beautiful beaches in Saskatchewan. Have a paddling adventure in a canoe, kayak or on a stand-up paddleboard.

 sleep in your tent,  
Beaver Glen campground

**DAY 7  
THE WEST SIDE**

Stump Lake, 120 km from Waskesiu

Have a picnic at the Valleyview Lookout and enjoy beautiful views of the Sturgeon River Valley.

Perk your ears and listen for the thundering hooves of the plains bison as you hike, bike, or horseback ride along the expanded Valleyview Trail Network.


Return to Saskatoon, 210 km



3-DAY  
ITINERARY

# HISTORIC ROOTS TO HIKING BOOTS!

 FROM WINNIPEG TO WASAGAMING

 **ROUNDRIP**  
580 km

 **LOCATIONS**  
The Forks and Riel House National Historic Sites  
Riding Mountain National Park



## DAY 1 THE FORKS AND RIEL HOUSE

Start your day in the heart of Winnipeg!

Discover The Forks on the *6,000 Years in 60 Minutes* guided tour. Through curious objects and colourful characters, the history of this meeting place comes to life. Enjoy a picnic lunch overlooking the Red and Assiniboine Rivers or stroll to the Forks Market food court to feast on cuisine from around the world.

In the afternoon, follow Winnipeg's fabled Red River south to soak in the atmosphere at Louis Riel's family home. Fire up Parks Canada's Explora app and step into the world of the Métis and the founder of Manitoba.

## DAY 2 RIDING MOUNTAIN Wasagaming, 280 km from Winnipeg

Lace up your hiking boots and head deep into the beating heart of endless forests, grasslands and lakes. Enjoy superb wildlife and bird watching along more than 400 km of trails. Switch it up and hit the trails on a fat bike!

 **MicrOcube,  
Wasagaming Campground**

## DAY 3 Work up a sweat! Hike the Gorge Creek Trail, located along the Manitoba Escarpment. Hit this trail by yourself or join a Parks Canada guided hike.

Cool off at the main beach, Clear Lake, nestled against the town of Wasagaming. Make sure you pick-up a refreshing treat like gelato or an ice cream sandwich. After, wander down the South Lake trail to find a set of Red Chairs.

Return to Winnipeg, 280 km



# CONSERVING FOR THE FUTURE

### THE CHALLENGE

How can we re-populate the plains with bison?

Prior to European settlement, the prairies were home to millions of free-roaming bison, but by the 1880s this magnificent beast had been hunted to near global extinction.

### A STEP IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION

Back in December 2005, Parks Canada introduced a herd of 71 Plains Bison from Elk Island National Park to Grasslands National Park.

### THE RESULT?

Just 12 years later there are some 300 bison thriving and playing an essential role in re-shaping the ecology of the prairies.



# GET INVOLVED NOW IT'S YOUR TURN

### FOSSIL FEVER EVENT

Got the fever? *Fossil Fever?* An exclusive opportunity to dig for a day with Royal Saskatchewan Museum Palaeontologists. Learn their techniques, help uncover and cast fossils, and discover the history of the 65.5 million-year-old dinosaur fossils found beneath the earth.

Grasslands National Park p. 11

### ARBOR DAY

The townsite of Waskesiu comes together to celebrate our trees and green spaces! The annual Arbor Day tree planting and community celebration event takes place every Labour Day weekend. Show your support by helping plant trees and creating habitat for the creatures that call Waskesiu home.

Prince Albert National Park p. 11





# STAYING THE NIGHT?

WE'VE GOT YOU COVERED

DON'T MISS OUT

[PARKSCANADA.GC.CA/ACCOMMODATIONS](https://parks.canada.gc.ca/accommodations)

RESERVE TODAY!



FROM \$20.<sup>60</sup> PER NIGHT



FROM \$90 PER NIGHT



FROM \$4.<sup>90</sup> PER PERSON PER NIGHT



FROM \$90 PER NIGHT



FROM \$90 PER NIGHT

## TENT AND RV CAMPING

Stay close to nature at one of our wonderful campsites – at your preferred comfort level.

Available in Riding Mountain, Grasslands and Prince Albert National Parks; and York Factory National Historic Site.

## BACKCOUNTRY CAMPING

The ultimate in overnight adventure: just you, your tent and the great outdoors, far from the beaten path.

Available in Riding Mountain, Grasslands and Prince Albert National Parks.



FROM \$21.<sup>50</sup> PER NIGHT PER TRAILER

## oTENTik

The perfect mix of tent and A-frame cabin comes together in our oTENTik with its raised floors and cosy beds; great for campers who want a little extra comfort in the wild.

Available in Riding Mountain, Grasslands and Prince Albert National Parks.

## YURT

Live life without corners in a circular yurt! This traditional dwelling of Central Asian nomads is just right for a night of camping with a dash of homelike comfort.

Available in Riding Mountain National Park.

## MICROCUBE

Get super-cosy in a MicrOcube, the designer way to score a window over the wilderness, while sleeping with a roof over your head and a floor beneath your feet.

Available in Riding Mountain National Park.

## HISTORIC STAY: EQUESTRIAN CAMPING

Immerse yourself in one of Canada's national treasures with a very special overnight stay in truly historic surroundings.

Available in Grasslands National Park.

## TIPI

Traditional nomadic home of the Plains peoples, sleep soundly under the canvas, your dreams following the path of your tipi poles which connect the earth to the sky.

Available in Grasslands National Park.



FROM \$70 PER NIGHT





# STAFF FAVOURITES

Get the inside scoop on the very best way to enjoy our parks and sites from Parks Canada pros!



1

© David Trimmer

## 1 FORT WALSH

“Where can you go where culture shines bright?

None other than Fort Walsh National Historic Site.

Indigenous peoples with stories to tell.

Demonstrations of beading, and drumming as well.

Sharing their history of days long ago;

Fostering understanding where it's not known.

The hills are alive, and the tipis, a sign,

Of the many who walked here, among these waters and pine.

Discover the First Nations camp; all the wonders to be found.

It's the place where I'm changed, by wisdom unbound.”

Rae – Heritage Interpreter



2

© Meredith Hebb

## 2 INITIAL ROCK

“My favourite place in Grasslands National Park's East Block is a rock formation known as 'Initial Rock'. It's a short hike from our Badlands view point and is evidence of the recent local history. A popular spot for sweethearts to snuggle up and watch the sunset, many left their mark by carving their initials into the sandstone.”

Meredith – Heritage Presenter



3

## 3 BANKS OF THE RIVER

“There's nothing nicer than looking down into the South Saskatchewan River valley with the clouds rolling by up above. While many visitors explore Batoche National Historic Site for its rich history and culture, I love going on a quiet walk along the banks of the river to visit the Caron home.”

Adam – Special Events Coordinator

## 5 WITH THESE HANDS

“A symbol of hard work and perseverance; the piece of a wooden plow handle displayed in W.R. Motherwell's home reminds me of the dedication and sweat that went into and continues to go into living off the land at Motherwell Homestead National Historic Site. It's a tribute to all those past and present that grow food for Canadians.”

Sheldon – Interpretation Coordinator

## 6 THE PATH OF TIME

“Hidden in plain sight is one of my favourite art installations, 'The Path of Time' created by Marcel Gosselin. The bronze shell is forged from nearly 1,600 kg of melted down railway car parts, and depicts the east to west movement of European influence and historical progression of events through 135 unique tools – it encapsulates the history of The Forks National Historic Site.”

Barb – Visitor Experience Product Development Officer



4

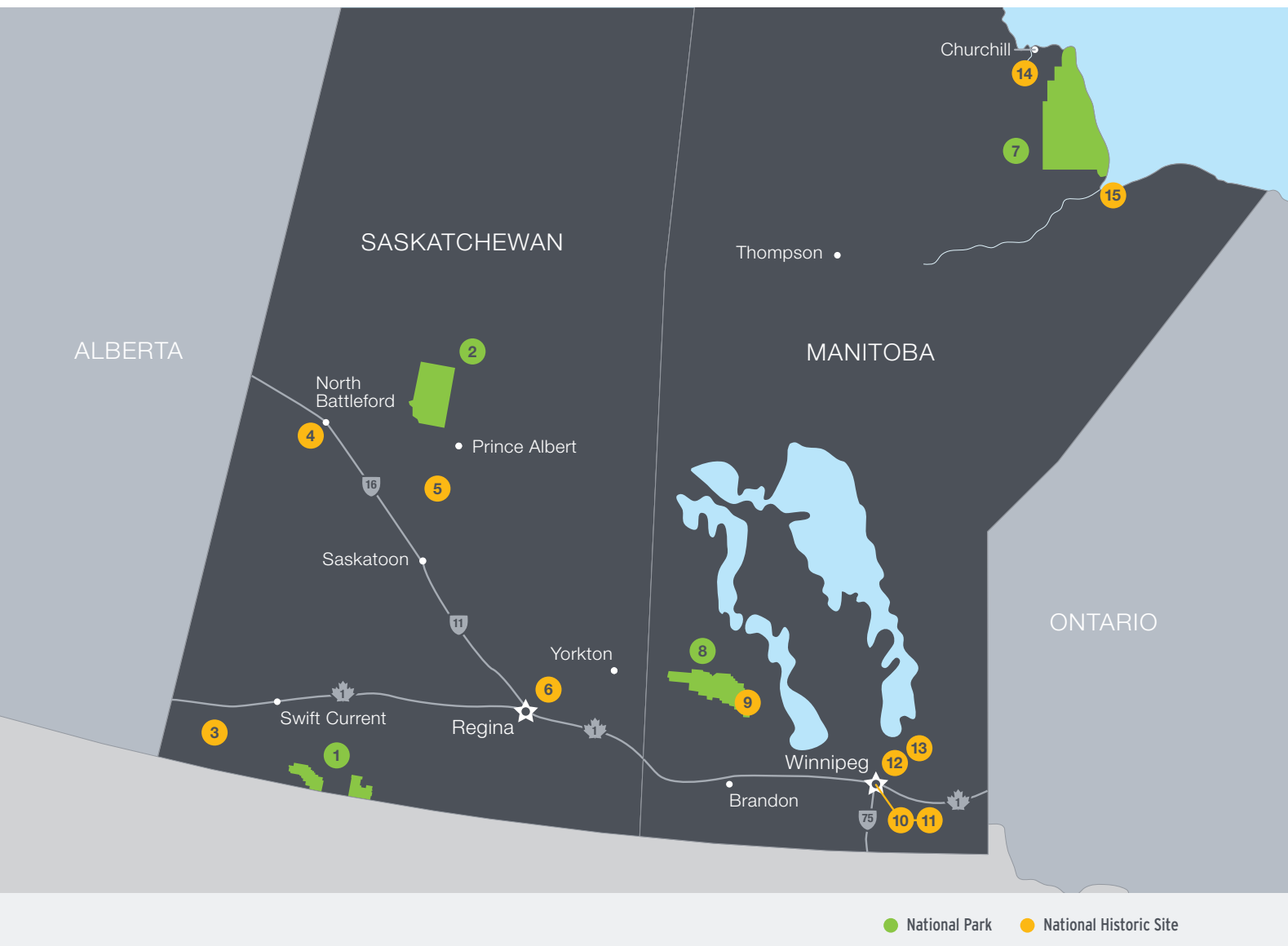
## 4 NIGHT SKY AT KINGSMERE LAKE

“I looked up and a million stars shattered the moonless night. The snow on Kingsmere Lake shone under their glitter. There is no such thing as real darkness – only a different way of seeing. Prince Albert National Park in the dark is waiting to share its precious gems.”

Colleen – Interpretation Coordinator



# DIRECTORY CANADIAN PRAIRIES



## SERVICES

- Access for the physically impaired
- Restaurant
- Gift shop
- Picnic area/Shelter
- Playground
- Wi-Fi (in certain areas only)

## ACCOMMODATION

- Camping
- Recreational vehicle
- oTENTik
- MicrOcube
- Historic stay
- Yurt
- Tipi
- Cabin

## ACTIVITIES

- Interpretation
- Cycling
- Mountain biking
- Backpacking/Hiking
- Birdwatching
- Marine mammals
- Beach
- Canoeing/Kayaking
- Motorboating
- Fishing
- Scuba diving
- Horseback riding
- Golfing
- Tennis
- Winter activities
- Hot Springs
- Dark Sky Preserve
- Xplorers activities
- My Photo Missions app
- Red chairs

## SASKATCHEWAN



### 1 Grasslands

A home of wild prairie landscapes, species, skies and adventures.

#### DON'T MISS

- Meet some of Canada's rarest fossilized dinosaurs and present-day wildlife.
- Enjoy camping in frontcountry comforts or backcountry getaways. Adventure awaits!



Val Marie | 1-877-345-2257  
[parksCanada.gc.ca/grasslands](http://parksCanada.gc.ca/grasslands)  
 @ParksCanada\_SK | #GrasslandsNP



### 2 Prince Albert

A transition zone between fescue grasslands, aspen parkland and northern boreal forest.

#### DON'T MISS

- Experience the Bagwa Paddling Route: a classic Canadian adventure.
- Spend the day at one of the seven sandy beaches with marked swim areas on Waskesiu Lake.



Waskesiu | 1-306-663-4522  
[parksCanada.gc.ca/princealbert](http://parksCanada.gc.ca/princealbert)  
 @ParksCanada\_SK | #PrinceAlbertNP



### 3 Fort Walsh

A living fort from the 1870s where Canadian law was brought west.

#### DON'T MISS

- Order! Take part in a historic courtroom trial.
- Hike or rent a bike to explore the trails and the backcountry.



Maple Creek | 1-306-662-3590  
[parksCanada.gc.ca/walsh](http://parksCanada.gc.ca/walsh) | @ParksCanada\_SK  
 #FtWalshNHS



### 4 Fort Battleford

A historic fort, featuring five original buildings, which played a central role in the events of 1885.

#### DON'T MISS

- Take part in a *Mountie Marching Drill Experience*.
- Experience National Indigenous People's Day at the Fort June 21<sup>st</sup>.



Battleford – 145 km from Saskatoon  
 1-306-937-2621 | [parksCanada.gc.ca/battleford](http://parksCanada.gc.ca/battleford)  
 @ParksCanada\_SK | #FtBattlefordNHS



### 5 Batoche

The site of the armed conflict between the Canadian and Métis provisional governments in 1885.

#### DON'T MISS

- *Journey Through Time* on an interactive tour.
- Hike, picnic and explore amazing river views and trails.



Wakaw – 90 km from Saskatoon  
 1-306-423-6227 | [parksCanada.gc.ca/batoche](http://parksCanada.gc.ca/batoche)  
 @ParksCanada\_SK | #BatocheNHS



### 6 Motherwell Homestead

W.R. Motherwell's original homestead and an authentic snapshot of prairie farm life.

#### DON'T MISS

- Meet our animals! The heartbeat of the farm starts in the barn.
- Gather and season your senses with our homestead flavours.



Abernethy – 100 km from Regina  
 1-306-333-2116 | [parksCanada.gc.ca/motherwell](http://parksCanada.gc.ca/motherwell)  
 @ParksCanada\_SK | #MotherwellNHS



Great souvenirs and apparel available at our places or online at [parksCanadaShop.ca](http://parksCanadaShop.ca)



# MANITOBA



© Christopher Moskal

## 7 Wapusk

A subarctic wilderness protecting one of the largest polar bear maternity denning areas in the world.

### DON'T MISS

- Book a guided trip for the chance to view polar bears from tundra vehicles and a lodge at Cape Churchill.
- Fly in by helicopter for an aerial tour and an adventure of a lifetime!



Churchill | 1-204-675-8863  
[parks.canada.gc.ca/wapusk](http://parks.canada.gc.ca/wapusk)



## 8 Riding Mountain

A region of boreal forest, aspen parkland and fescue prairie.

### DON'T MISS

- Explore Riding Mountain's biggest lake by kayak with the help of a Parks Canada guide.
- See the skeletons hidden in the park's closet with *Wasagaming on Edge: Drinks, debauchery, and the dirty thirties*.



Wasagaming – 270 km from Winnipeg  
 1-204-848-7275 | [parks.canada.gc.ca/riding](http://parks.canada.gc.ca/riding)  
 @RidingNP | #RidingNP



## 9 Riding Mountain Park East Gate Registration Complex

The only rustic design style gate left standing in a National Park.

### DON'T MISS

- Enjoy a picnic while admiring the hand-hewn logs and carefully gathered stones.



Riding Mountain – 245 km from Winnipeg  
 1-204-848-7275 | [parks.canada.gc.ca/riding](http://parks.canada.gc.ca/riding)



## 10 Riel House

The family home of Louis Riel, commemorating Métis culture.

### DON'T MISS

- Get the inside track on this amazing site with Parks Canada's Xplorers booklet, full of exciting activities!
- Enjoy lively Métis fiddle music and special guests during the *Thursday night soirees*.



Winnipeg | 1-204-983-6757  
[parks.canada.gc.ca/rieh](http://parks.canada.gc.ca/rieh) | @ParksCanadaWPG  
 #RielHouse



## 11 The Forks

The birthplace of Western Canada and a legendary hub of trade and culture.

### DON'T MISS

- Discover The Forks' hidden history! Take a 6,000-year journey back in time on a 60-minute guided tour.
- Explore the colourful Prairie Garden, a tribute to Winnipeg's roots.



Winnipeg | 1-204-983-6757  
[parks.canada.gc.ca/forks](http://parks.canada.gc.ca/forks) | @ParksCanadaWPG  
 #TheForks



## 12 St. Andrew's Rectory

A mission serving as an excellent example of mid-19th century Red River Hudson's Bay Company architecture.

### DON'T MISS

- Take a self-guided GPS tour and learn more about life for those who lived along the Red River in the 19th century.



St. Andrews – 25 km from Winnipeg  
 1-204-785-6050  
[parks.canada.gc.ca/standrewsrectory](http://parks.canada.gc.ca/standrewsrectory)  
 @ParksCanadaWPG | #StAndrewsRectory



## 13 Lower Fort Garry

Where Treaty No. 1 was made between the Saulteaux and Swampy Cree First Nations people and the Crown.

### DON'T MISS

- Experience the Fort this summer with hands-on heritage workshops and new evening events.



St. Andrews – 25 km from Winnipeg  
 1-204-785-6050 | [parks.canada.gc.ca/fortgarry](http://parks.canada.gc.ca/fortgarry)  
 @ParksCanadaMB | #LowerFortGarry



## 14 Prince of Wales Fort

A key site in the 18th-century French-English rivalry for control of the territory around Hudson Bay.

### DON'T MISS

- Zip in a Zodiac to Sloop Cove and see 18th-century graffiti by the Hudson's Bay Company men.
- Experience a breathtaking panoramic view of the Churchill River at Cape Merry.



Churchill | 1-204-675-8863  
[parks.canada.gc.ca/princewalesfort](http://parks.canada.gc.ca/princewalesfort)  
 #PrinceofWalesFort



## 15 York Factory

The Hudson's Bay Company's major trading and administration centre for centuries.

### DON'T MISS

- Time-travel through fur-trading history on a self-guided tour.
- Explore the Depot's rooms filled with countless cannons, a fur press and various trade items.



Churchill | 1-204-675-8863  
[parks.canada.gc.ca/yorkfactory](http://parks.canada.gc.ca/yorkfactory) | #YorkFactory



## Buy your Parks Canada Discovery Pass

### A PASS GETS YOU:

- admission for a full year to Parks Canada places from coast to coast to coast
- faster entry
- exceptional value



Adult (Ages 18 to 64)	\$67.70
Senior (Ages 65+)	\$57.90
Youth (Ages 0 to 17)	FREE
Family/Group	\$136.40

Start planning your adventure at [parks.canada.gc.ca](http://parks.canada.gc.ca)

The Parks Canada mobile app  
 Your guide to a perfect trip!



450 000 km<sup>2</sup>  
 OF MEMORIES





# PLAN YOUR VISIT

PARKSCANADA.GC.CA  
1-888-773-8888

## 5 OTHER REGIONS TO DISCOVER

Look for these  
brochures on  
our website



ATLANTIC CANADA



QUEBEC



ONTARIO



WESTERN CANADA



NORTHERN  
CANADA

## FOLLOW US

 [facebook.com/parkscanada](https://facebook.com/parkscanada)

 [twitter.com/parkscanada](https://twitter.com/parkscanada)

 [youtube.com/parkscanada](https://youtube.com/parkscanada)

 [instagram.com/parks.canada](https://instagram.com/parks.canada)

All images © Parks Canada unless otherwise noted

© Her Majesty the Queen in Right of Canada,  
represented by the Chief Executive Officer of  
Parks Canada, 2019.

*Cette publication est également disponible  
en français.*

