



Canada

National Parks • West



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Front cover:
In the Lake O'Hara area of Yoho National Park.

This page:
The sun sets on a lake in Glacier National Park.

Back cover:
Water skiing in Waterton Lakes National Park.



A Refuge for Wild Creatures and Man

Tired of traffic lights and turnpikes, fumes and frustration? Then come to Canada's national parks and get on a first-name basis with nature. Here are vast preserves where bear and moose and deer and elk roam freely, where mirror-smooth lakes sparkle in the woods and where, of a summer's night, the only sound is the eerie call of the loon.

Yet these living museums of nature are not by any means inaccessible. They are crossed by magnificent highways, some contain excellent hotels and motels, and even the campgrounds are usually furnished with all conveniences, from showers to neatly stacked firewood.

There are 19 national parks in Canada and they are all different. They range from the immense forests and mountains of the West to the steep cliffs and sun-tanned beaches of the Atlantic. They bear romantic names . . . Yoho (Indian for "how wonderful!"), Kootenay, Wood Buffalo, Terra Nova This booklet tells about 11 of them.

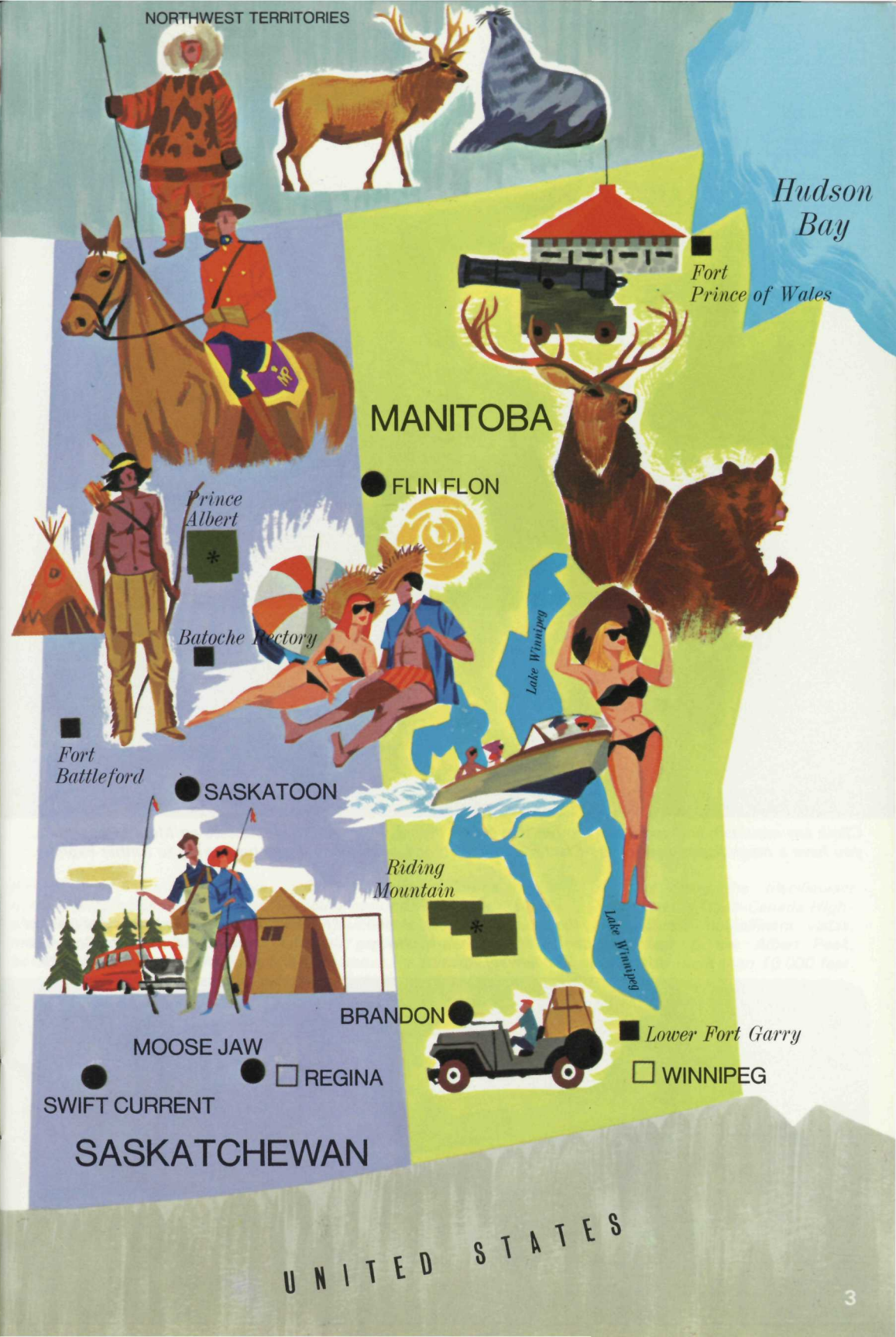
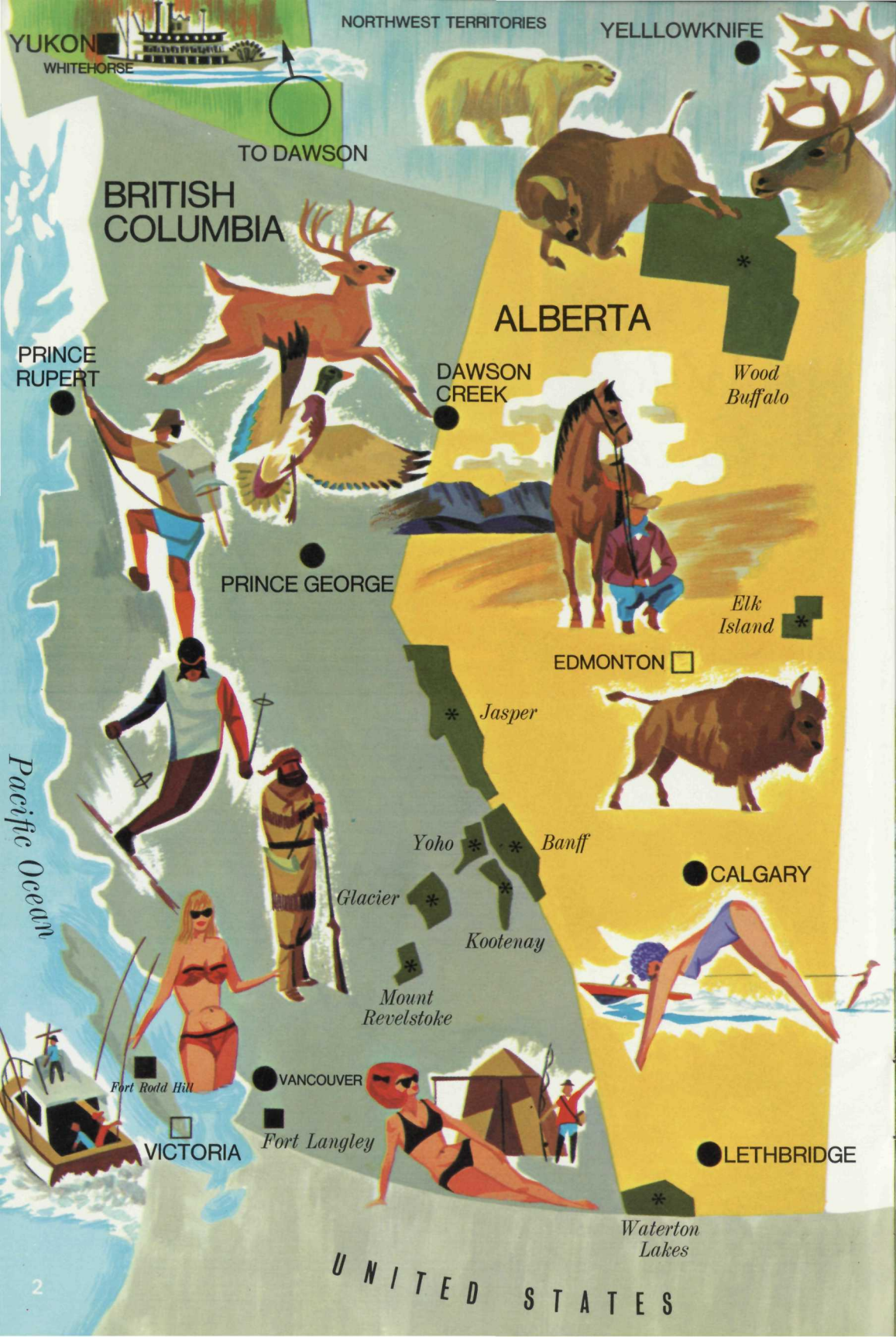
In one park you have a unique view 1,100 feet above the fertile prairies. In another you can, by snowmobile, get onto a glacier that is part of an icefield feeding three oceans with its meltwaters. There is a park where water in a spring-fed swimming pool has to be cooled for comfort; in yet another park children get free swimming lessons.

Would you like to admire pelicans? Sit around a campfire and listen to Indian tales of the supernatural? See grazing herds of wild buffalo? Hike, ride, fish, ski (and how!), explore waterfalls, climb mountains, play golf on a championship course? Be our guest to this and much more in the unspoiled splendour of Canada's national parks.

You can't really compare them to anything. Except, if you must, to Paradise.

Canadian Government Travel Bureau

OTTAWA, CANADA





Climb any mountain and you'll see another that seems higher. Here, amid wild flowers on Mount Revelstoke, you have a magnificent view of the Clachnacudainn Range, with many peaks beckoning to further exploits.

All along the southern edge of the park the scenic Trans-Canada Highway follows the Illecillewaet River.

Hikers pause in their climb to the crest of Mount Revelstoke to view the Columbia River Valley at the city of Revelstoke.



Revelstoke is known as the pioneer ski-jumping centre of Canada, and many of the early records were made on the snow-clad slopes of beautiful Mount Revelstoke.



Alpine flowers in a riotous array of colour abound on the grassy slopes of Mount Revelstoke. These spectacular gardens of nature are found even above the tree line.



A drive along the Illecillewaet River over the Trans-Canada Highway affords magnificent vistas. Seen here is the Albert Peak, soaring to more than 10,000 feet.



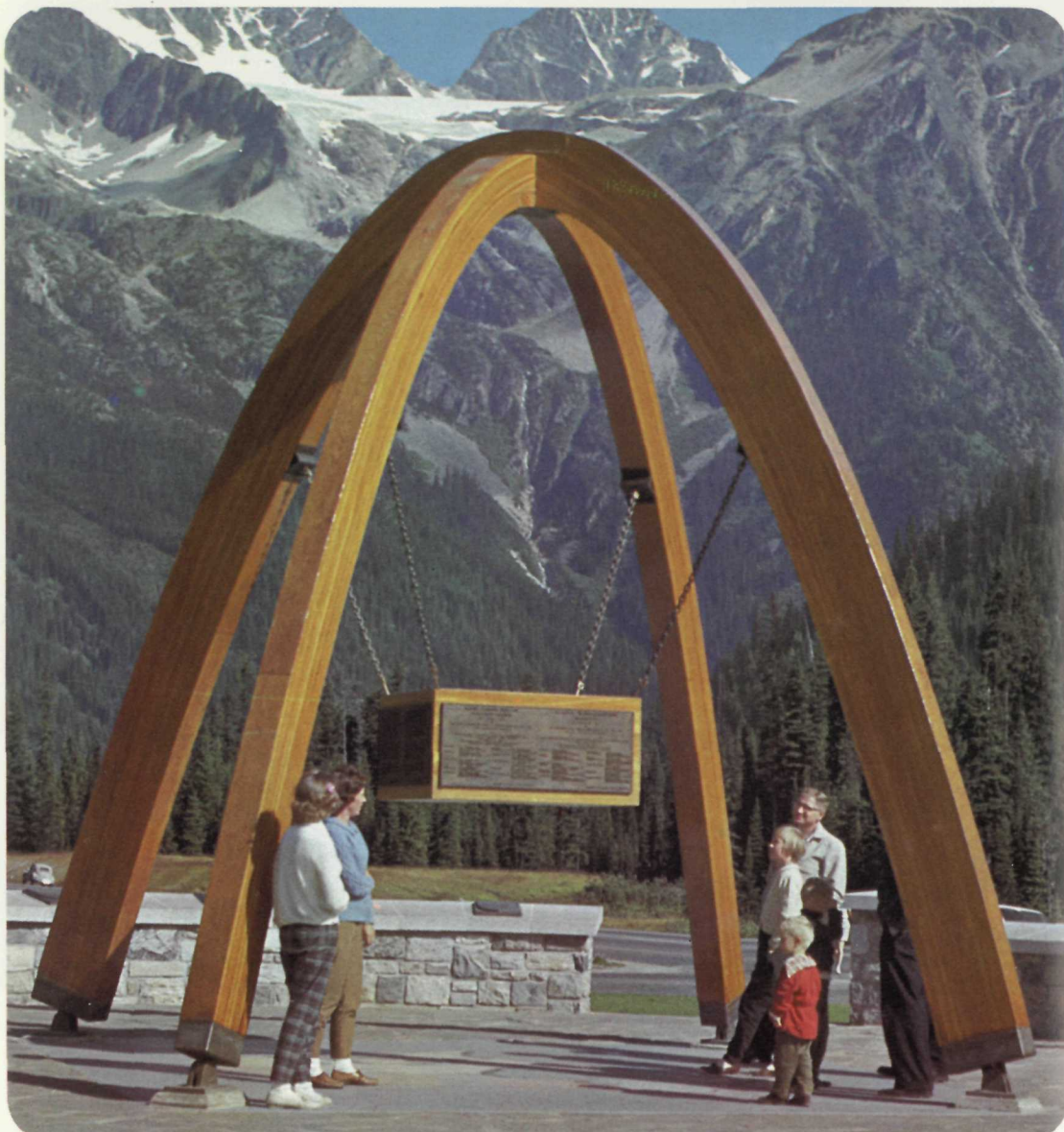
MOUNT REVELSTOKE

NATIONAL PARK

This park is situated in the Selkirk Range, mountains more jagged and spiky than those in the Rockies.

The nearby city of Revelstoke supplies all types of accommodation, shops and services. There are sports facilities, including golf, bowling, tennis and swimming, and, in the winter, excellent skating and marvellous skiing.

An extraordinary experience for good mountain walkers is provided by the nine-mile trail on the summit of Mt. Revelstoke. It winds through flower-strewn meadows and forested slopes to climax in unsurpassed vistas of sharp peaks, ridges clad in snow, glaciers and mountain lakes.



Building the 5,000-mile Trans-Canada Highway, which pierces the heart of the ancient Selkirk Mountains, was a great engineering feat. This memorial at Rogers Pass commemorates its completion.

There are three campgrounds in Glacier National Park, all close to the Trans-Canada Highway. They are open from July to early September. There is also a 60-room motor hotel with dining room, service station, general store and post office, at Rogers Pass. These are open all year.



Snowcapped peaks, flanked by immense icefields and sparkling glaciers, look down forest-clad slopes to canyons and caverns, turbulent rivers and waterfalls, alpine meadows and silent woods.

A network of trails provides hikers with a choice of scenery—glaciers and mountains, mountain cataracts and rock formations, cedar, hemlock and fir forests, and upland meadows. The Alpine Club of Canada holds summer and winter camps here.

Thrilling skiing includes 4,000-foot vertical drops and four-mile downhill runs. For real wilderness skiing, there is nothing like the Asulkan Glacier.

Autumn fishing in the fast-flowing streams yields trout and whitefish.

Top right: "Please enjoy your stay," says a sign at the Illecillewaet campground entrance. A polite request that visitors find easy to fill! Right: Breathtaking scenery accompanies you anywhere in the park.

Snow-capped pinnacles, some rising to heights of more than 11,000 feet, stand sentinel over a kingdom of awesome canyons as well as placid alpine meadows. The beauty can take your breath away!

GLACIER NATIONAL PARK



Modern, year-round accommodation in Glacier National Park is available at the Northlander Motor Hotel at the summit of Rogers Pass on the Trans-Canada Highway—certainly a lovely location.



YOHO NATIONAL PARK

The Indians had a word for it—"Yoho", meaning "how wonderful!"

The park is part of the roof of the Rockies and a paradise for the mountaineer. Its 250 miles of improved trails lead hikers and riders to unforgettable natural wonders: the curtain of mist at Laughing Falls, the exciting Twin Falls, Yoho Glacier, the Ice River Valley, and the strangely shaped pillars in Hoodoo Valley. You can drive to the 1,248-foot Takakkaw Falls, the bright green expanse of Emerald Lake and the Natural Bridge on Kicking Horse River.

There are four campgrounds, a luxurious chalet, lodges and cabins.



Spectacular Takakkaw Falls is formed by melt-water from the Daly Glacier in the "hanging valley" more than 1,200 feet above the picturesque Yoho Valley.

"That was good!" A drink of water near beautiful Emerald Lake, one of the many unforgettable beauty spots here on the roof of the Rockies, is a refreshing treat.

A popular attraction is the "Natural Bridge"—strangely shaped falls and tumbling white water—on the Kicking Horse River, which flows across the park from east to west.



Top right: The swift-flowing Yoho River. Bottom right: More than 250 miles of improved trails afford close-up views of wildlife and colourful flowers.



Left: Yoho National Park is famous for its sparkling alpine lakes. Peaceful Lake O'Hara, shown here, is encircled by trails leading to meadows and valleys.

KOOTENAY NATIONAL PARK

This "valley" park extends five miles each side of the Banff-Windermere Highway for 65 scene-filled miles, following natural avenues formed by the Vermilion and Kootenay Rivers.

The road leads past awesome Marble Canyon, the odd Ochre Beds or "paint pots", the stunning Sinclair Canyon, its copper-coloured walls rising 4,875 feet, and the extraordinary hot mineral springs at Radium.

Here is a modern aquacourt, open year-round where the water in one of the two outdoor pools is cooled from 114° to 85°.

There are serviced and unserviced campgrounds and excellent commercial accommodation inside and near the park. A lodge and bungalow court are open all year.



The Banff-Windermere Highway passes Marble Canyon, eroded by waters of Tokumm Creek.



A lovely suspension footbridge spans the beautiful Vermilion River near the ochre beds or "paint pots."



The road traversing the park leads through exciting Sinclair Canyon with its steeply rising walls.

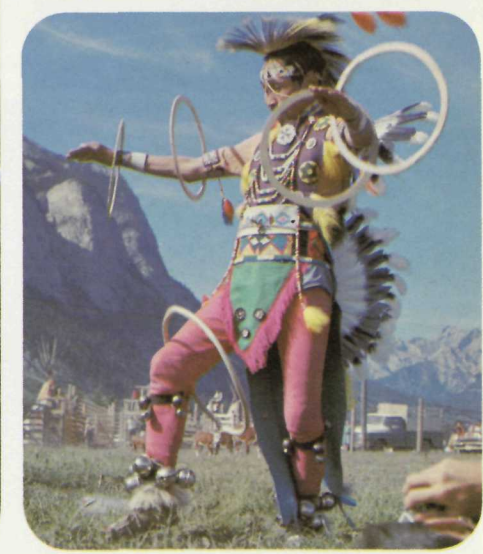
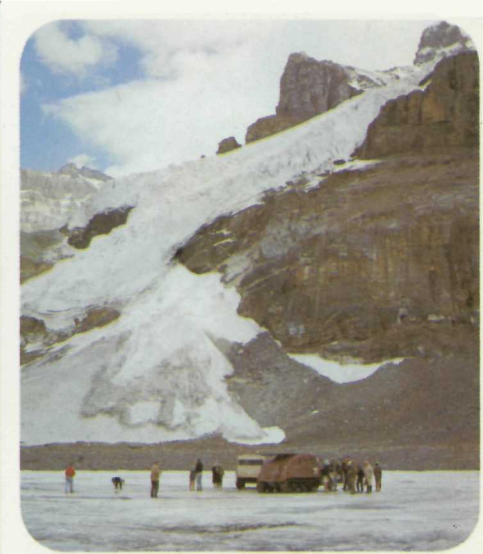
The hot springs at Radium were a favourite meeting place for generations of Indians from the area. Today a modern bathing centre is fed by a daily flow of 475,000 gallons from the odourless mineralized springs.



Many facilities, such as the hot springs at Radium and nearby accommodation, are open all year. In its white winter coat, the park is stunningly beautiful.

Both the highway and many self-guiding nature trails lead tourists to such beauty spots as Marble Canyon, eroded out of grey-white marble limestone.





A delightful way to find some surprising and beautiful spots is to leave car and highway behind, and follow a footpath. One trail leads from Lake Louise to placid Lake Agnes, above, with its picturesque teahouse.



BANFF NATIONAL PARK

In this park, great, naked cliffs of the sedimentary Rocky Mountains reveal their geological life-stories.

Here, too, are the 150 square miles of Columbia Icefield, from which flow impressive glaciers, from 600 to 1,000 feet deep. It is easily reached by bus and snowmobile from the spectacular Icefield Highway connecting Banff and Jasper. *(continued on page 15)*



Top right: Some of the most beautiful scenery along the Trans-Canada Highway is to be found here, near Banff. Above: During the Banff Indian Days in summer, all the Alberta tribes gather in full regalia to perform their ritual dances.

The business centre of the park is the townsite of Banff. A world-famous resort on the Trans-Canada Highway, 85 miles from Calgary, it is served by train and bus. Shown here is pretty Banff Avenue, with Cascade Mountain in the background.



Cowboys... no... Indians... no... Indian cowboys! It's a rollicking, frolicking game of Wild West one-upmanship during the Banff Indian Days as many tribes gather to make things in lively Banff even livelier!

BANFF CONTINUED . . .

For contrast, you can swim in hot mineral spring water; one pool is open all year.

Also operating all year are the cable lifts at Banff and Lake Louise, offering extraordinary mountain panoramas and, in winter, access to developed ski areas.

The Banff School of Fine Arts gives summer courses. There are camps for trail riders and hikers. Half a dozen youth hostels make thrilling mountain safaris possible.

You can stay at the world-famous Banff Springs Hotel or Château Lake Louise, or at a wide choice of hotels, motels, bungalows and many tent and trailer campgrounds.



Lake Louise is generally acknowledged to be one of the loveliest spots in North America. This magnificent view of the mountains is from the terrace of Château Lake Louise.

The Mount Norquay chairlift, rising 1,300 feet vertically to the 7,000-foot level, affords a breathtaking view of Banff and the surrounding panorama. Bighorn sheep, Rocky Mountain goats, moose and deer can often be glimpsed on the forest-clad slopes. In winter, the lift provides access to excellent skiing areas.



High above Banff townsite, passengers in the Sulphur Mountain gondola lift are entranced by the Bow River Valley and the surrounding mountains.



Mount Norquay (8,725 feet) has a ski jump built to Olympic standards. The facilities include a chairlift, T-bars, a comfortable lodge and a ski shop.



JASPER NATIONAL PARK

Named after Jasper Hawes, clerk in the first trading-post at Brulé Lake about 1813, this 4,200-square-mile park lies along the eastern slopes of the Rockies.

In it are part of the exciting Icefield Highway, the towering Ramparts, Mount Edith Cavell, Maligne Lake, 7,350-foot Whistlers Mountain, reached in a 35-passenger cable car, and the Miette Hot Springs, one of which gushes forth at a temperature of 129°! There is excellent bathing in natural and heated water pools.

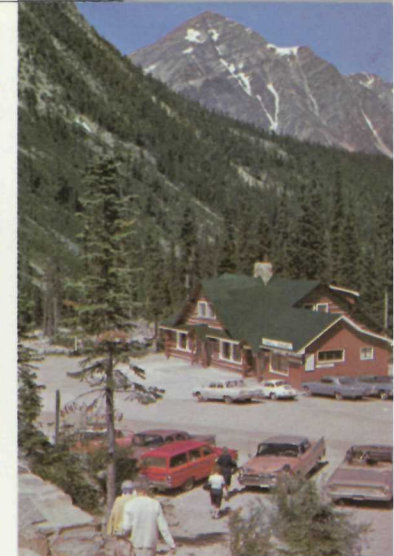
Near the alpine resort village of Jasper is the famous Jasper Lodge, scene of the annual Totem Pole Golf Tournament, and throughout the park are hotels, motels, bungalows and campgrounds.



An 18-hole golf course is operated in conjunction with Jasper Park Lodge. On the shores of Lac Beauvert, with mountains flanking every green and fairway, the course is one of the most picturesque in the world.



The Icefield Highway between Jasper and Banff passes close to the tongue of the Athabasca Glacier, where tours by snowmobile are available for the sightseer.



Perhaps the most popular tour of all is the one to Mount Edith Cavell, 18 miles from Jasper. There is an excellent teahouse for refreshments.

Much of the park's most impressive scenery is accessible by motor road or by improved trail. Interesting short sightseeing trips include those to Lac Beauvert, Pyramid Lake, Maligne Canyon, Medicine Lake and Mount Edith Cavell, reflected here in Lake of Sorrow. The whole area is a photographer's dream.





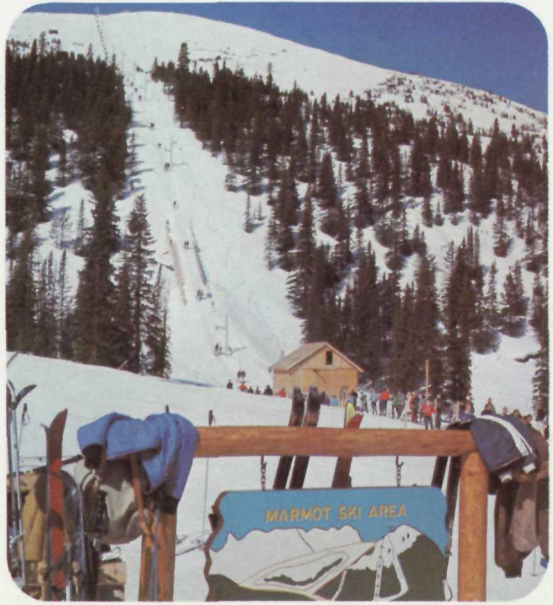
Jasper Park Lodge, a luxurious bungalow-type hotel on Lac Beauvert, is open for the summer season only. It accommodates 750 guests, and sports an outdoor, heated swimming pool and an 18-hole golf course.

JASPER CONCLUDED...

The 35-passenger Jasper Sky Tram on Whistlers Mountain rises 3,950 vertical feet to carry sightseers to a teahouse in the clouds, 7,350 feet above sea level.



Jasper, with its big hills and high-up glaciers, has an almost year-long skiing and ski-mountaineering season. This is the ski development in Marmot Basin.



ELK ISLAND NATIONAL PARK

Just 30 miles east of Edmonton, this 75-square-mile park is the largest fenced wild animal preserve in Canada, with elk, moose, mule deer, numerous smaller animals and a herd of some 600 buffalo.

Once roaming the continent by the millions, the buffalo, or bison, was hunted almost to extinction by the end of the last century. The present herd was built up from about 40 animals in 1907.

WOOD BUFFALO NATIONAL PARK

North America's largest herd, some 12,000 buffalo, is in Wood Buffalo National Park, a huge, undeveloped area on the Alberta-N.W.T. boundary.

The entire park is surrounded by strong fencing. The buffalo may be observed from close up, but walking on the buffalo range is discouraged.



This replica of a Ukrainian settler's home is a point of interest.



The buffalo is the largest wild animal in North America. The Elk Island herd is one of the finest.





View from the Prince of Wales Hotel on the shore of Waterton Lake. The park has four campgrounds, many hotels and motels.



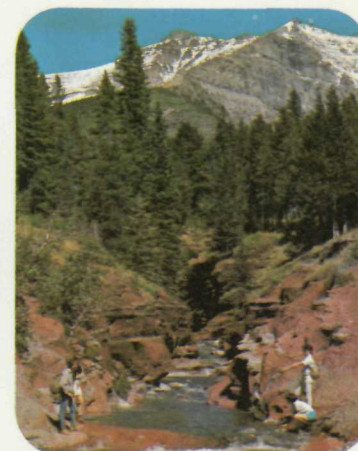
The "International" travels daily between Waterton Park townsite, and Gothaunt Landing in Glacier National Park, Montana.



Beautiful Cameron Lake, in the southwestern corner of the park, is reached by the scenic Akamina Highway from the townsite.

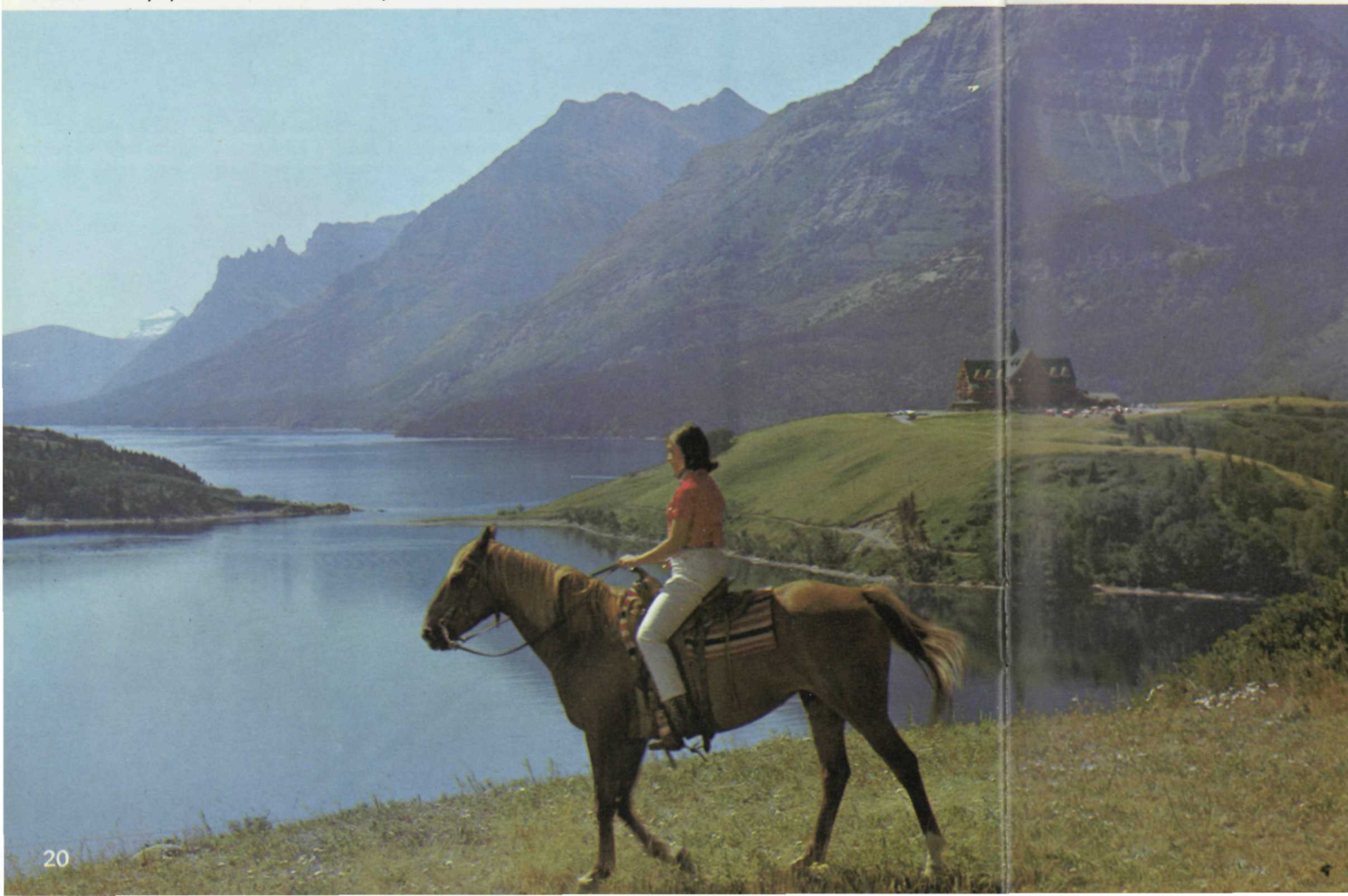


Waterton Lakes Park has a huge swimming pool with showers, dressing rooms, lifeguard and a separate pool for the kiddies.



Photogenic Red Rock Canyon is reached by a good highway up the valley of Blakiston Brook. Several lovely nature trails begin here.

In the development of Waterton Lakes National Park much thought was given to the preservation of the landscape in its natural state. More than 100 miles of wide trails crisscross the park, often leading to the more remote beauty spots. Saddle horses and ponies are for hire at several locations, and guides are also available.



WATERTON LAKES NATIONAL PARK

This park, where mountains rise abruptly from the prairie in southwest Alberta, and Glacier National Park in Montana together form the Waterton-Glacier International Peace Park, the first of its kind in the world, inspired by Rotary Clubs of Alberta and Montana.

Unique in its glacial sculpting of rock-basin lakes, U-shaped valleys, hanging valleys and waterfalls, the park also boasts spectacular mountain scenery. Nature trails to high emerald lakes and vivid alpine meadows reward riders or hikers with vistas of unforgettable beauty and grandeur.

A chain of lakes, that forms the main valley, provides wonderful boating and sightseeing. Rainbow, cutthroat, lake and eastern brook trout offer exciting fishing and succulent eating.

The town has golf, tennis, a swimming pool, a children's playground, and all modern community services. There are four campgrounds, hotels, motels, cabins and many picnic sites.



These impressive totem poles are only one of several fascinating "things to see" in the park. There is, for instance, an interesting museum at the townsite of Waskesiu, which explains the origin and natural features of the park.

Just wear a smile and a bathing suit to this attractive little handicrafts and gift shop in Prince Albert Park.



Excellent facilities for supervised swimming are available at several of the park's beaches. This is a typical summer scene at Lake Waskesiu, one of the many lakes.

PRINCE ALBERT NATIONAL PARK



This 1,496-square-mile park in central Saskatchewan is a fascinating example of the lake and woodland country that lies north of the prairies. Its myriad crystal lakes, rimmed with shining sandy beaches, and many connecting rivers make exciting waterways for canoe safaris.

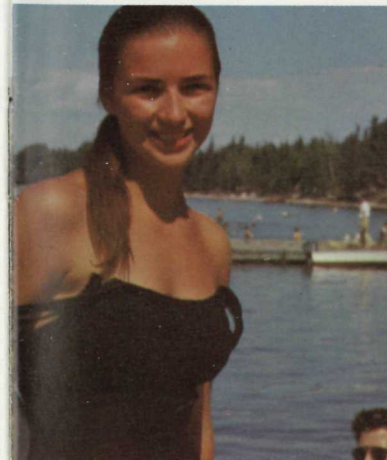
There are tennis courts, golf course, bowling green, children's playground, and boat launching and docking facilities. A buffalo paddock near the entrance, and white pelican and black cormorant rookeries are popular attractions.

Accommodation includes hotels, cabins and campgrounds.

Dozens of lakes dot the landscape in this heavily wooded park, with good swimming at most of them.

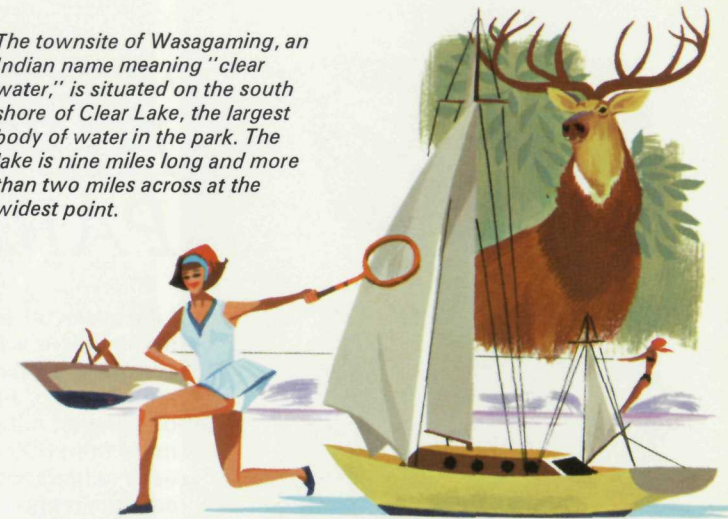
Leafy forest trails provide excellent hiking and riding, and there are saddle horses for hire.

There's room for 120 trailers and 200 tents in the fully serviced campground at Waskesiu.





The townsite of Wasagaming, an Indian name meaning "clear water," is situated on the south shore of Clear Lake, the largest body of water in the park. The lake is nine miles long and more than two miles across at the widest point.



RIDING MOUNTAIN NATIONAL PARK

This unique park, situated on the vast plateau of Riding Mountain, which rises to 2,200 feet, offers magnificent panoramas of the sprawling prairie.

Clear Lake is a picturesque summer resort, offering free swimming classes for children, boating and sightseeing launches on many lakes, fishing, trail riding, an exhibition buffalo herd, and nearly 200 kinds of birds, as the park is in the path of migratory flyways. There are campgrounds, lodges, motels and cabins throughout the park.

A four-lane highway leads in to the park—a vast, 1,200-square-mile area dotted with fish-filled lakes and streams. It offers a unique mixture of untamed wilderness and modern resort convenience.

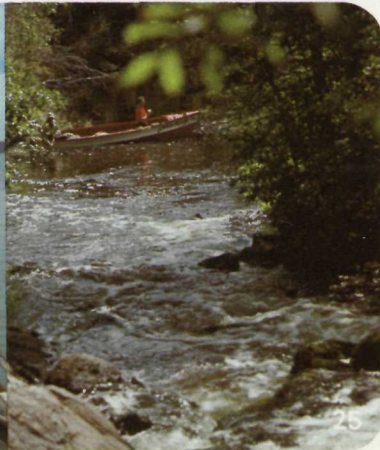
An 18-hole golf course in a picturesque setting is one of the many attractions of Riding Mountain Park. Tennis, lawn bowling, riding, sailing, fishing and swimming are among other popular pastimes.

In Canada's national parks nothing is in poor taste; everything blends in with the atmosphere of unspoiled outdoor beauty. Even the movie house at Wasagaming has the rustic appearance of a log cabin.

The museum building, constructed of natural logs and stone, contains exhibits of mounted wildlife and Indian, geological and other displays relating to the area. It has something of interest for everyone.

Another attraction is a promenade extending for more than 8,000 feet along the main beach, an excellent vantage point from which to view the lake. Steps lead down to the water and excellent swimming.

The park has numerous lakes teeming with game fish. Clear Lake is stocked with lake trout and pickerel. Pike, whitefish and perch are also taken. The angler won't want to miss this chance to test his skill.



NATIONAL HISTORIC PARKS AND SITES

Like every other country, Canada has many places which were once scenes of stirring and historic interest. Preserved and restored, some of these are now designated national historic parks, while more than 600 national historic sites of early settlements, brutal battles, scientific advancement—the whole range of drama, tragedy and achievement—are marked by monuments, stone cairns and bronze tablets.

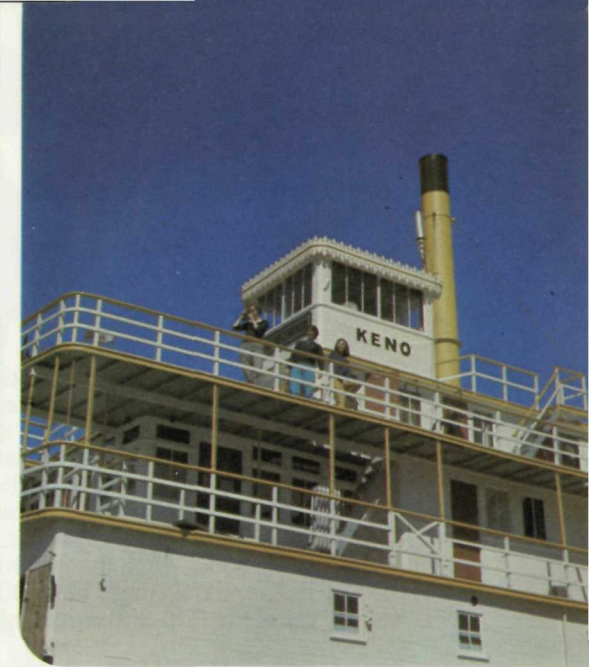
There is no charge for admission to any of these national historic parks and sites.



A fort within a fort is this display in Fort Langley, B.C., itself the reconstruction of a palisaded Hudson's Bay Company post of the 1850's. Situated about 20 miles southeast of Vancouver, the fort has an area of nine acres.

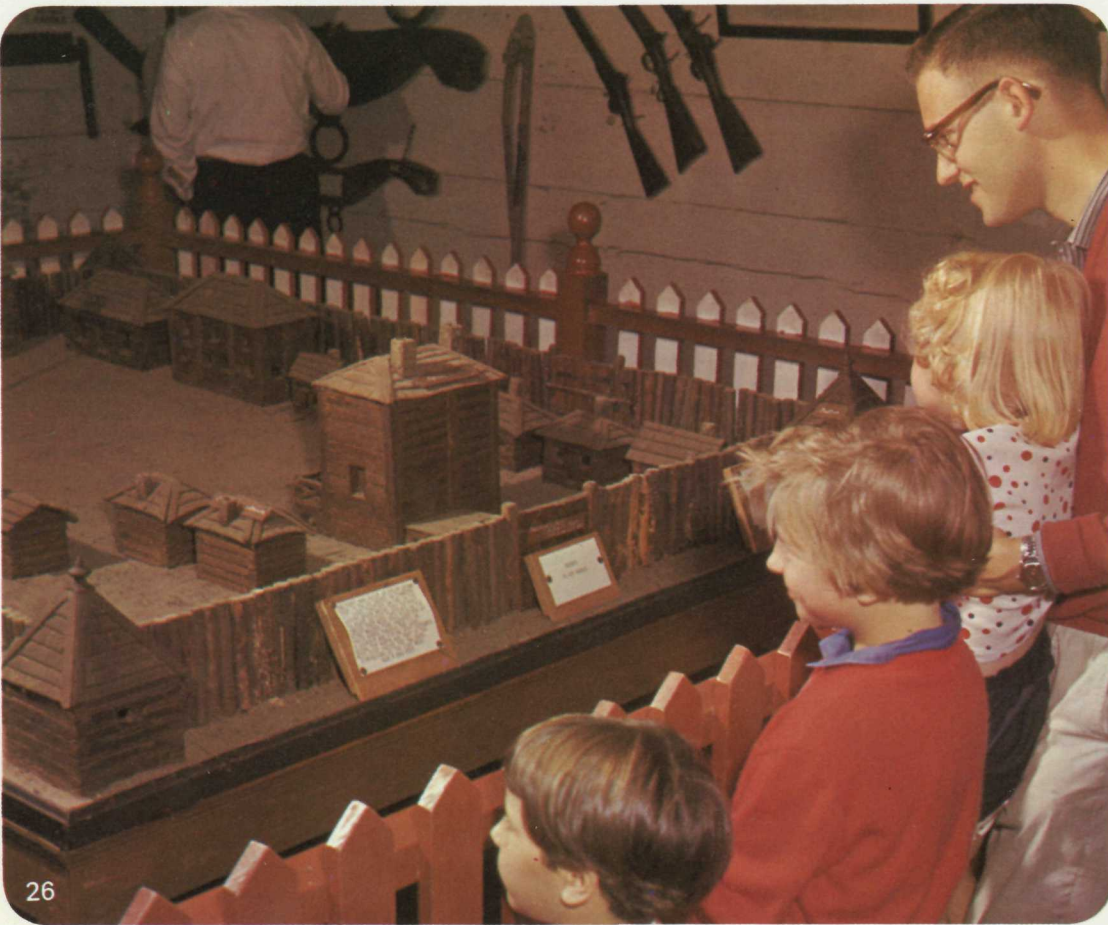


Visitors to Fort Battleford National Historic Park, Saskatchewan, pose with a Royal Canadian Mounted Policeman. The fort is a North West Mounted Police post built in 1876 in Cree Indian territory.



The S.S. "Keno," a stern-wheeler famous during the Yukon gold rush of 1898, is a national historic site. It is now beached at Dawson City, centre of the gold rush, and there are daily guided tours in summer.

There are some very idyllic and photogenic spots within the nearly 13 acres that make up Lower Fort Garry, about 20 miles north of Winnipeg, Manitoba. Situated on the west bank of the Red River, it is a stone fort built by the Hudson's Bay Company between 1831 and 1839, and it served as a trading post until 1909.



What it costs!

FREE ADMISSION:

Admission to Canada's national parks is free, but motorists must register and buy a licence, except in some parks in eastern Canada, not listed in this booklet. In Prince Albert, Riding Mountain and Elk Island it costs 25¢ per car per visit, 50¢ if you are pulling a trailer. You can also get a special licence good for any number of trips during the year in these three parks at \$1.00 per car, \$2.00 for car-and-trailer. In the other parks, all in the mountains, the only licences sold are the annual licences at \$2.00 and \$3.00. These licences are good for 12 months' use in all national parks in Canada.

NO HUNTING:

The whole idea of national parks is to keep them unspoiled for present and future generations. They are game sanctuaries: you're not allowed to hunt or in any other way molest wild animals or birds. Unsealed firearms are prohibited. You can't even pick flowers: plants and trees are as rigidly protected as the animals. You may bring your dog or cat, but dogs must be kept on a leash.

FISHING LICENCES:

A \$2.00 fishing licence is required in all national parks except in Ontario (described in the Canadian Government Travel Bureau booklet "Canada: National Parks—East")

ACCOMMODATION:

Commercial accommodation in the parks is government-inspected. There is a minimum charge of \$1.50 a day for camping in the numerous park campgrounds. For details, see "Accommodation Guide to Canada's National Parks," available from any office of the Canadian Government Travel Bureau.



MORE INFORMATION... FREE!

The Canadian Government Travel Bureau has offices across the United States ready to help you get the most out of your vacation through its free Travel Information Service.

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Detailed information on any of the national parks and historic parks and sites is also available from the National and Historic Parks Branch, 400 Laurier Avenue West, Ottawa 4, Canada.

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