

NATIONAL PARKS IN BRITISH COLUMBIA CANADA

FOREWORD

The National Parks of Canada are areas of natural beauty and special interest that have been "dedicated to the people of Canada for their benefit, education, and enjoyment." Established primarily for the preservation of the unspoiled natural landscape and for the protection of the native wildlife, they are to be "maintained and made use of so as to leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations."

The discovery of mineral hot springs, bubbling from the slopes of Sulphur Mountain, by workers exploring the route for Canada's first transcontinental railway, led to the establishment of Canada's first national park. From this small area of ten square miles at Banff, Alberta, set apart in 1885, the national parks system has been extended until it embraces 41 separate areas totalling more than 29,000 square miles.

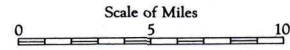
Although a few parks have been devoted chiefly to the conservation of certain species of larger mammals once threatened with extinction, some contain sites memorable in the early history of Canada. Others have been developed so that park visitors may more conveniently view the magnificent scenery and relax in the enjoyment of the inspirational and peaceful environment. From the sea-girt hills on the Atlantic Coast across the rivers and lakes of Central Canada to the alpine vistas of the Rockies and Selkirks, these national parklands provide ideal areas for nature study and for recreation.

It is the responsibility of the National Parks Branch of the Department of Northern Affairs and National Resources to administer these natural areas for the enjoyment of Canada's present and future generations. By progressive stages the parks have been made more easily accessible, wildlife scientifically managed, public services provided, and accommodation and recreational facilities expanded. A staff of experienced wardens keeps constant vigilance throughout these park areas to ensure the protection of the flora and fauna, as well as the safety and convenience of park visitors. Conservation of the forests, the flowers, and the natural wildlife is the chief concern of the wardens, and the co-operation of all visitors in this important work is greatly appreciated.

National historic sites are marked, preserved and restored by the National Historic Sites Division, National Parks Branch. Advice on these activities is given by the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada, a committee of historians representing Canada as a whole. From Signal Hill in Newfoundland to Rodd Hill in British Columbia such sites are administered as National Historic Parks. Many other places of historical importance have been suitably commemorated.

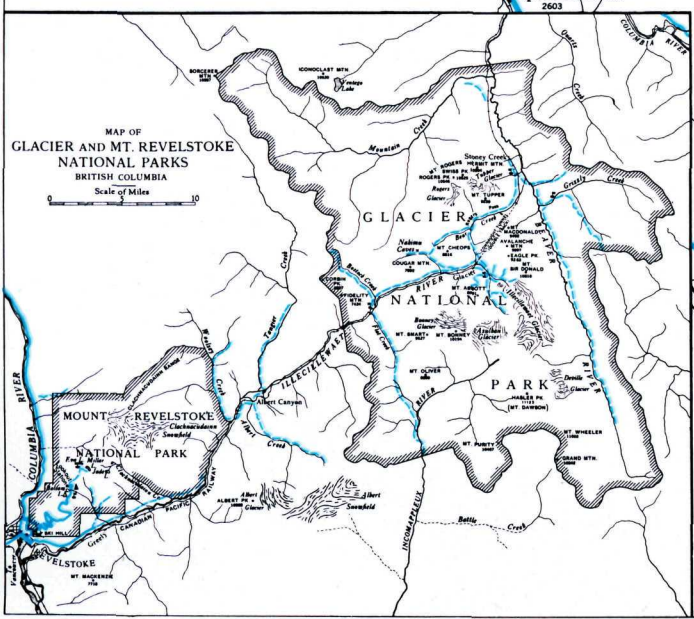
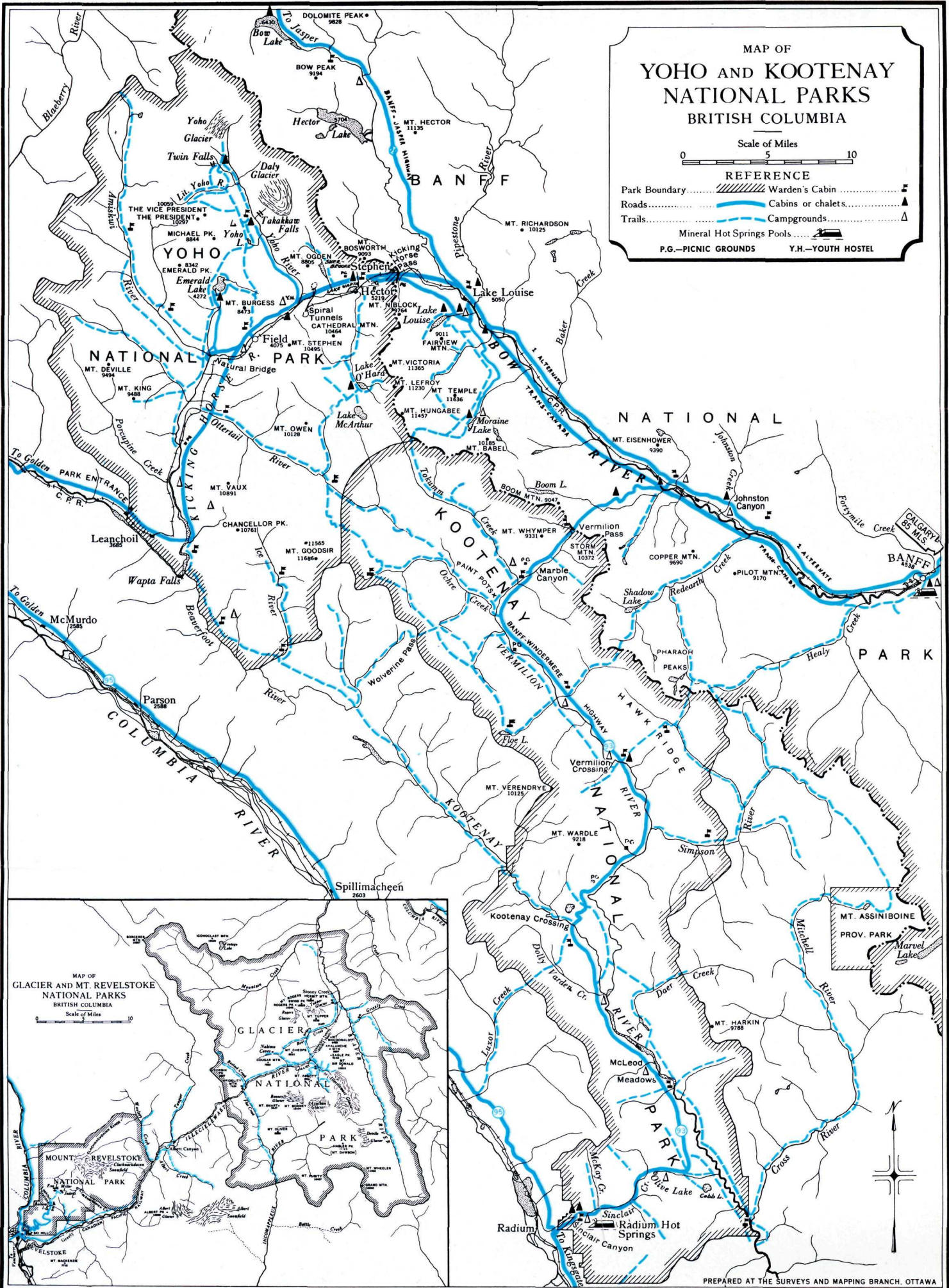
The National Parks of Canada are part of a great national heritage, and under careful administration they will continue as a perpetual asset—undiminished by use—for all future generations.

MAP OF YOHO AND KOOTENAY NATIONAL PARKS BRITISH COLUMBIA



REFERENCE

Park Boundary		Warden's Cabin	
Roads		Cabins or chalets	
Trails		Campgrounds	
		Mineral Hot Springs Pools	
P.G.—PICNIC GROUNDS		Y.H.—YOUTH HOSTEL	



YOHO NATIONAL PARK

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Location and Description

Yoho National Park was established in 1886 and has an area of 507 square miles. It is situated in the heart of the Canadian Rockies along the western slope of the continental divide and its eastern boundary adjoins those of Banff and Kootenay National Parks. The Kicking Horse River, which has its source at the Great Divide, traverses the park from east to west. The park derives its name from the Indian word "Yoho", an explanation meaning "It is wonderful". The splendour of its wild valleys, the magnificence of its lofty snow-capped peaks, the unbelievable colour of its alpine lakes that sparkle like jewels, and its spectacular glaciers and waterfalls make the park a region of outstanding natural beauty.

How to Reach the Park

Yoho National Park is traversed by the western section of the Trans-Canada Highway and is linked with the other national parklands in the Canadian Rockies and Selkirks. The system of roads leading to and through this park is indicated on the accompanying map. Yoho Park is also accessible by rail, being served by the main transcontinental line of the Canadian Pacific Railway. The nearest airport is at Calgary, Alberta.

Recreation

The park, which is part of the "roof" of the Canadian Rockies, is a paradise for the mountaineer. The satisfaction of achievement which climbers feel in conquering challenging peaks, the thrilling experience of picking one's uncharted way through primitive mountain wilderness and the impressive solitude of remote places have a strong appeal for the adventurous.

Fishing—Information about the most popular fishing places in the park and a list of the species to be caught may be obtained from a park warden, information bureau or at Kicking Horse campground. A fishing licence is required in Yoho National Park and the fee for the season is \$2.00.

Hiking—More than 200 miles of improved trails are open to hikers. These trails provide excellent opportunities for exploring the magnificent scenery in the region. Nature lovers are afforded an opportunity to observe and photograph wildlife and flowers which are unexcelled in any other region. Trail systems radiating from Emerald Lake, Takakkaw Falls, Lake O'Hara and Leancoil lead to places of unforgettable beauty and interest.

A nature trail encircles Emerald Lake where a 3-mile walk provides an excellent opportunity for the visitor to see many of the mountain flowers at first hand.

Climbing—The rugged mountains in this area offer an irresistible challenge to the followers of mountaineering. There are several peaks over 11,000 feet, the highest being Mount Goodsir, 11,686 feet.

Trail Riding—Horses are available at Emerald Lake and in adjoining Banff National Park for those visitors wishing to ride the trails.

Motoring—From the Trans-Canada Highway, branch roads lead to the Yoho Valley and Emerald Lake. Private motor vehicles are not permitted on the fire road into Lake O'Hara. Particulars on the bus concession operating on the Lake O'Hara road may be obtained at Wapta Lodge.

KOOTENAY NATIONAL PARK

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Location and Description

Kootenay National Park was established in 1920 and has an area of 543 square miles. The park extends approximately five miles on each side of the Vermilion-Sinclair section of the Banff-Windermere Highway for a distance of 60 miles. It includes the valleys of the Vermilion and Kootenay Rivers which form natural avenues for travel. Situated on the western slope of the Canadian Rockies, it contains superb mountain

The stark beauty of Sinclair Canyon draws many visitors to Kootenay National Park.

scenery, deep canyons, spectacular waterfalls, an iceberg lake and mineral hot springs.

How to Reach the Park

The Banff - Windermere Highway, the first motor road constructed across the central Canadian Rockies, is one of the main approaches from the south leading to the mountain national parks. It traverses the park north to south linking the Trans-Canada Highway with British Columbia Highway No. 95. Connection is thus provided with Banff, Yoho and Jasper National Parks on the north and Cranbrook, Kingsgate and points in the United States to the south.

Recreation

Angling—Four lakes, three rivers and several small streams offer good fishing during certain seasons of the year.

Visitors can obtain up-to-date information from the park information bureau or park wardens about the best fishing waters and species to be caught.

Mineral Hot Springs—For the greater convenience of park visitors to enjoy the waters of Radium Hot Springs, a modern bathing establishment has been provided. Two outdoor pools fed by water flowing directly from these mineralized hot springs are available the year round. The natural pool is fed by deep subterranean hot springs which issue from the rock at a temperature of 114°F. The same source supplies the modern pool, maintained at an



average temperature of 85°F. These waters are odorless and tasteless, and tests by government analysts indicate a high chemical content. The Aquacourt contains steam rooms, massage rooms, plunge pools, dressing booths, lockers, first-aid rooms, staff rooms and a coffee bar. There is an elevator for the use of wheel-chair patients and a broad roof terrace for sun bathers and spectators.

Hiking—Many trails of varying length and difficulty are to be found throughout the park. A self-guided nature trail is located near Radium Hot Springs townsite.

Visitors must register with the park superintendent before undertaking trail trips or hikes involving camping out overnight and report back on return.

Mountain Climbing—See Regulations under "General Information".

GLACIER NATIONAL PARK BRITISH COLUMBIA

Location and Description

Glacier National Park contains an area of 521 square miles in the heart of the Selkirk Mountains, which lie west of the Canadian Rockies within the great northern bend of the Columbia River. The park was established in 1886—one of the first areas in Canada to be set apart as a public possession.

Of all Canada's lofty mountain ranges, none possesses greater physical attractions than the Selkirks. Ages older than the Rockies, these peaks have a character so distinct as to be recognized at once. Many of the highest mountains in the Selkirk Range are included in the park area, some rising to heights of more than 11,000 feet. These snow-capped pinnacles, flanked by immense ice-fields and sparkling glaciers, stand sentinel over a kingdom of canyons and caverns, turbulent rivers and waterfalls, brilliant against a background of forest-

clad slopes. For lovers of primitive nature, this vast alpine panorama, with its wealth of flower-filled meadows and valleys, gives to the park unusual charm, compounded of both beauty and challenge.

One of the outstanding attractions of the park is the Illecillewaet Glacier, less than 4 miles from Glacier Station. The snow-field is reached by a good trail involving very little climbing. This gigantic mass of ice falls more than 3,500 feet from the névé and is almost 10 square miles in area. Seen from the trail, it gleams through the green forest. Although actually 5 miles distant, the ice mass appears close at hand. In spite of the enormous snowfall for which the district is noted, this glacier, in common with other glaciers in the Canadian Rockies and Selkirks, is gradually retreating.

Recreation

There is a network of good trails radiating from Illecillewaet Highway to places of outstanding beauty and interest to the nature lover. One popular trail goes to the ridge on Mount Abbott affording striking views of the Asulkan and Illecillewaet Glaciers and such peaks as Cheops, Grizzly, Sifton, Hermit, Shaughnessy, Grant, Macdonald, Avalanche and famous Mount Sir Donald. This trail passes through magnificent stands of cedar, hemlock and alpine fir trees. The upland meadows are covered with alpine flowers of many varieties. Another broad



Exploring ice crevasses on the Illecillewaet Glacier is just some of the fun at Glacier National Park.

trail leads to the Cougar Valley past Nakimu Caves offering views of outstanding mountain cataracts and rock formations. This alpine meadow land is a study in plants and flowers indigenous to the mountains. Other trails lead to the magnificent glaciers, past rugged peaks and through wilderness areas of superb beauty and attraction. The Nakimu Caves are closed to the public until suitable access is provided. Most trails in the area are not long and can be walked easily in one day from the campground.

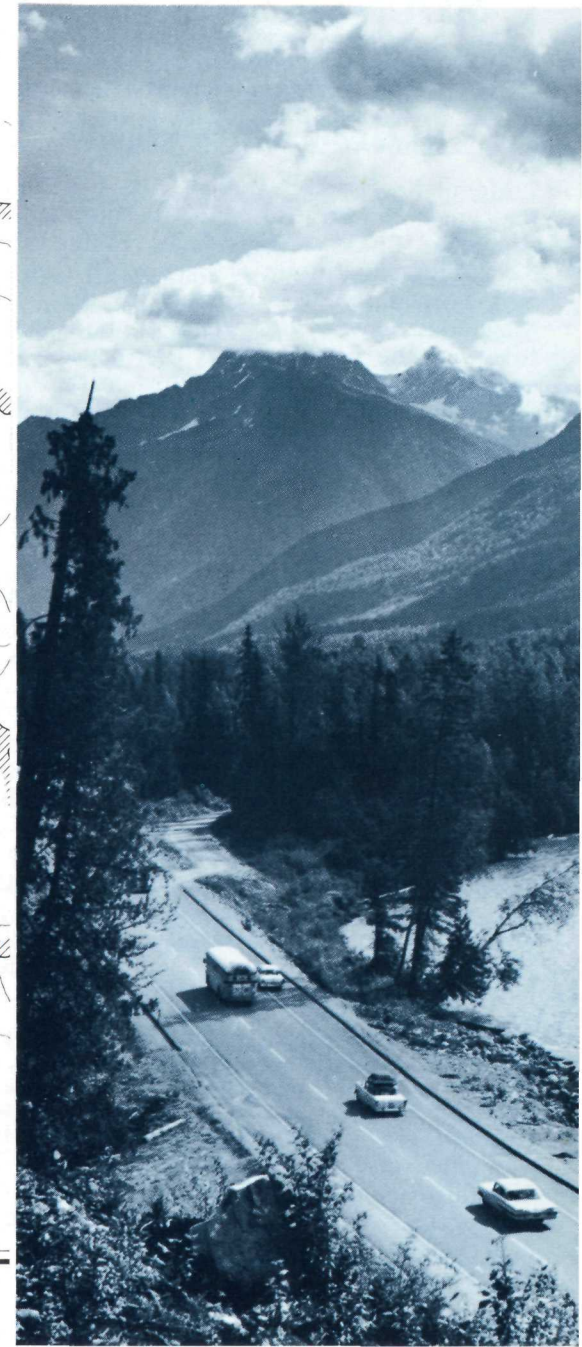
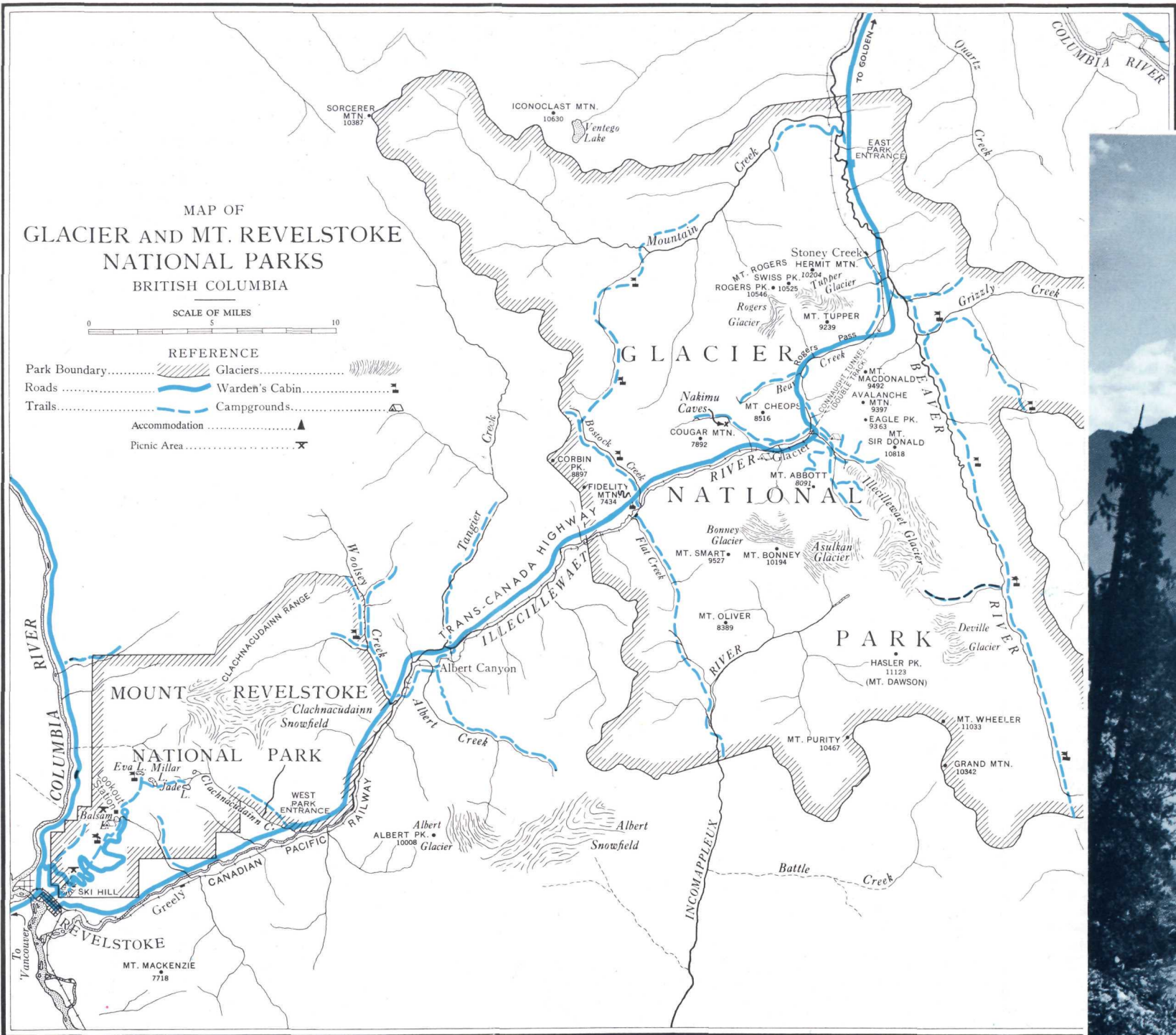
Name	Location	Length in Miles
Nakimu Caves and Cougar Valley Hermit	From Glacier Station westerly along old "Tally Ho" road.....	6
Balu Pass	From Rogers Pass Trail to Alpine Hut on Hermit Mountain.....	2
Mount Abbott	From Rogers Pass to Nakimu Caves —The Cougar Valley Trail.....	4
Asulkan Pass	From Glacier Station to Marion Lake and shoulder of Mount Abbott.....	6
Glacier Crest	From Glacier Station south along Asulkan Brook.....	7
Great Glacier	From Asulkan Pass Trail easterly to a point overlooking the Illecillewaet Glacier and névé.....	2
Sir Donald	From Asulkan Pass Trail south easterly along Illecillewaet River to the foot of Illecillewaet Glacier	2
Avalanche Crest	From Glacier Station southeast on north side of Illecillewaet River to Vaux Glacier at base of Mount Sir Donald.....	3.5
Beaver River	From Glacier Station to base of Mount Avalanche.....	3.5
Grizzly Creek and Bald Mountain	From Stoney Creek — South on Beaver River.....	30
Bostock Creek	From Grizzly Creek Bridge on the Beaver River Trail easterly to west side of Copperstain Creek, thence south to park boundary.....	9
Flat Creek	From Flat Creek Warden's cabin north-westerly to the head of Bostock Creek and the west boundary of the park.....	7
Incomappleux River	From Flat Creek Pass south along Slick Creek to the Incomappleux River to the south boundary of the park.....	6
Mountain Creek	From Bostock Summit to Mountain Creek.....	7
		9

Periodically, the Alpine Club of Canada holds both summer and winter camps in the park. The club has a permanent hut near Glacier Station and another on Hermit Mountain.

Superb high-country skiing facilities are available in Glacier National Park, particularly in the Asulkan Valley, 5 miles from Glacier Station. Ten square miles of glacier and névé provide a wide variety of skiing conditions, including 4,000-foot vertical drops and downhill runs up to four miles.

Fishing in Glacier Park is largely confined to streams. These usually have a rapid flow and

An Olympian panorama of mist-shrouded peaks greets you in Revelstoke National Park.



PREPARED AT THE SURVEYS AND MAPPING BRANCH, OTTAWA.

consequently the fish populations are not large. Dolly Varden and Rocky Mountain whitefish are present in most streams, and fishing is best in autumn when the streams are freer of silt.

MOUNT REVELSTOKE NATIONAL PARK BRITISH COLUMBIA

Location and Description

Mount Revelstoke National Park is situated in the angle formed by the Illecillewaet and Columbia Rivers and includes rolling alpine landscapes at altitudes of over 6,000 feet. The park lies on the western slope of the Selkirk Mountains between the valleys of the Columbia River on the east and the Illecillewaet River on the south and stretches across to the Clachnacudainn Range. Mount Revelstoke was established as a National Park in 1914. The views from the Lookout at The Summit are breathtaking. Three mountain ranges are visible from this location—Monashee, Selkirk and Purcell. To the west is Eagle Pass through which run the Trans-Canada Highway and the Canadian Pacific Railway. Across the picturesque Columbia Valley rises the Monashee Range, dominated by triple-peaked Mount Begbie, and to the north of the Lookout, nearer at hand, the Clachnacudainn Snowfield's peaks which are visible from this vantage point include Begbie, MacPherson, Mackenzie, Tilley, Ghost Rock, Harry and Twin Buttes. A "view identifier", with arrows pointing to the various peaks and glaciers in the vicinity has been erected at the Lookout. The arrows bear the name and elevation of each peak; also the names of the glaciers. Far below, the city of Revelstoke spreads out like a giant fan at the junction of Columbia and Illecillewaet Rivers.

How to Reach the Park

Mount Revelstoke National Park is accessible from the city of Revelstoke, which is served both by railway and the Trans-Canada Highway. The 18-mile road leading to The Summit on Mount Revelstoke from the Trans-Canada Highway is closed to the public for a period of at least two

years to allow the road to be reconstructed and paved. During this time, The Summit is not accessible by car to the public, although trails permit hiking into that area. There are no campgrounds or any commercial accommodation open to the public at present at Mount Revelstoke National Park.

Revelstoke is on the main trans-continental line of the Canadian Pacific Railway which provides a daily service east and west. It is also situated on the Trans-Canada Highway, which forms part of the highway from Vancouver to Banff and points east. An approach from the south by highway may also be made via Nelson, Nakusp and the Arrowhead ferry.

Revelstoke also forms the western terminus of the "Big Bend" Highway which was opened for travel in 1940. This stretch, between Revelstoke and Golden, follows the Columbia River around its great northern bend, a breath-taking drive of 193 miles through an almost primeval mountain region.

Trails

There are more than 40 miles of improved trails in the park. Perhaps the most popular is the trail leading from the Lookout at The Summit to Millar and Eva Lakes, and Lake of Jade.

Name	Location	Length in Miles
Main Mountain Trail	From City of Revelstoke to Lookout Station on Summit of Mount Revelstoke	8.5
Mile 2 Park Road Trail	From Mile 2 on Auto Road along northwest slopes.....	4
Mile 6 Park Road	From Mile 5½ on Auto Road to Balsam Lake.....	6
Mile 8 Park Road	From Mile 8 on Auto Road along eastern slopes.....	1
Mile 12 Park Road	From Mile 12½ Auto Road along slopes to east.....	4
Millar and Eva Lakes	From Summit of Mount Revelstoke to Millar and Eva Lakes.....	4.5
Jade Lakes	From Millar Lake to the Jade Lakes	2
Greely Clachnacudainn (Hamilton Creek Trail)	From Greely northeast up Clachnacudainn slopes.....	5.5
North Boundary	From Mile 11½ on Big Bend Highway to the Northern Boundary of Mount Revelstoke Park.....	9
Clachnacudainn Nature Trail	Loop Trail through Summit area.....	2

Canada's parks are yours to enjoy.
Prevent forest fires.

Winter Sports

Revelstoke is known as the pioneer championship ski-jumping centre of Canada, and many of the earlier records — both amateur and professional—were made on the southern slopes of Mount Revelstoke. Recently the hill has been redesigned and the new ski jump has been approved by the Canadian Amateur Ski Association as an 80-meter hill. Additional development of the ski slopes has widened the practice areas so that novices also enjoy ample opportunity to perfect their techniques. The downhill course, one of the most thrilling on the North American continent, has been laid out on the southern slopes of the mountain with a length of 1¼ miles and a vertical drop of 2,500 feet.

FORT RODD HILL NATIONAL HISTORIC PARK

Located at the end of Belmont Road, which joins Highway 1A, five miles west of Victoria, B.C., Fort Rodd Hill is the last remaining large fort on the Pacific Coast of Canada. It was completed in 1898 and mounted three 6-inch guns on disappearing carriages and two 12-pounder quick-firing guns. During World War II, the fort was used to defend Esquimalt Harbour against attack by motor torpedo boats. Near the fort is the Fisgard Lighthouse, which was the first lighthouse on the British Columbia coast and has been in continuous operation since 1860. It is preserved with the fort as a National Historic Park.

FORT LANGLEY NATIONAL HISTORIC PARK

Fort Langley commemorates the remaining original building and other reconstructed buildings and stockade of the principal Hudson's Bay Company post on the Fraser River. Originally built in 1827, rebuilt in 1840 after burning, the post was an important agricultural and fishery establishment. In 1858 British Columbia was proclaimed a crown colony at a ceremony in the fort, which for a short time was the provisional capital.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Registration and Motor Vehicle Licences

Motorists entering Yoho, Kootenay, Glacier and Mount Revelstoke National Parks must register and obtain park motor licenses as required by regulations governing the use of national park highways.

Licence is good for any number of trips during the fiscal year ending March 31st, which will be honoured in all national parks in Canada: Automobile \$2; auto with trailer attached \$3.

Single trip fee during the period November 1st to March 31st inclusive: Automobile, 50 cents; auto with trailer attached \$1.

Parks Administration

Yoho, Kootenay, Glacier and Mount Revelstoke National Parks are administered by the National Parks Branch. The superintendent of Yoho Park is located at Field, B.C., and the superintendent of Glacier and Mount Revelstoke Parks, at Revelstoke, B.C. The superintendent of Kootenay Park is stationed at Radium Hot Springs, B.C.

The parks regulations are enforced by the park warden service assisted by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

Accommodation

Copies of publications containing details of the name, location, capacity, rates and plan for all tourist accommodation in Canada's National Parks may be obtained from park information bureaus or from the Canadian Government Travel Bureau, Ottawa.

Due to the popularity of the National Parks it is advisable to make reservations well in advance.

Camping

Many visitors to Canada's National Parks bring along their own camping equipment or arrive in travel trailers. For their convenience, campgrounds have been prepared and equipped in some of the choicest locations in the parks.

Publications providing information as to the name, location, capacity, facilities and fees of campgrounds are obtainable from park information bureaus or from the Canadian Government Travel Bureau, Ottawa.

Wildlife Protection

The National Parks Act requires that all parks shall be maintained and made use of so as to leave them unimpaired for the use of future generations. Consequently, all wildlife within park boundaries is rigidly protected, and hunting and the possession of unsealed firearms are strictly prohibited. As the parks are also wildlife sanctuaries, visitors must not molest any wild animals or birds and their nests. Dogs and cats may accompany visitors into the park. For protection of park animals, however, dogs must be kept on a leash. No fossil or mineral should be removed from a park.

Fauna and Flora

The National Parks in British Columbia contain very interesting wild animal and bird life. The most prominent species of large mammals in Yoho and Kootenay Parks are moose, elk, mule and white-tailed deer, black and grizzly bear, Rocky Mountain goat and cougar. Several smaller species including lynx, marten, weasel and beaver are also found. Rocky Mountain sheep are also prevalent in Kootenay Park. Most of these species, except sheep, are also found in Glacier and Mount Revelstoke National Parks. Bird life in the parks includes grouse, ptarmigan and various species of insectivorous birds, many of whom have bright plumage.

The forests of the parks include most of the species native to the Canadian Rockies and Selkirks. The predominant species in Yoho and Kootenay Parks are lodgepole pine, spruce and poplar. Balsam and Douglas fir are also found. Glacier and Mount Revelstoke Parks contain spruce, balsam fir, hemlock, western red cedar, Douglas fir and poplar.

The vegetation in Glacier Park, in particular, is luxuriant where cedar, hemlock, spruce and Douglas fir are most prominent.

The wildflowers of the park are a delight to the visitor. Their colour, fragrance and delicate loveliness add a touch of enchantment to the region. Growing in profusion in the valleys and on the slopes of the mountains, these alpine gardens of nature are found even above the tree line at the edge of the glaciers.

Mountain Climbing—The National Parks Regulations require that all mountain travel off the park trails must be registered with the nearest park warden or other park officer before and after the climb. Persons camping out overnight are subject to the same regulations. Inexperienced climbers should obtain the services of a guide and full information concerning the necessary equipment. Visitors unaccustomed to mountain terrain should exercise great caution when climbing or hiking in unfamiliar country.

Films

Motion picture films, 16 mm., mostly in colour with sound, depicting National Parks of Canada are available through various distribution outlets in Canada and the United States.

Full information can be obtained from all regional offices of the National Film Board in Canada, and from:

Canadian Travel Film Library,
680 Fifth Avenue,
NEW YORK, N.Y., U.S.A., 10019.

Canadian Travel Film Library,
230 North Michigan Avenue,
CHICAGO, Ill., U.S.A., 60603.

Canadian Travel Film Library,
1 Grosvenor Square,
LONDON, W.I., ENGLAND.

Cinémathèque canadienne de films touristiques,
1, rue Chanez,
PARIS 16e, FRANCE.

Compiled by the Canadian Government Travel Bureau in co-operation with the National Parks Branch, Department of Northern Affairs and National Resources.

For additional information write to:

CANADIAN GOVERNMENT TRAVEL BUREAU

- Ottawa, Canada.
- 680 Fifth Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10019
- 102 West Monroe Street (Corner Clark Street), Chicago, Ill. 60603
- 1 Second Street (Corner Market), San Francisco, Calif. 94105
- 19 Cockspur St., London, S.W. 1, England.



Smooth highways wend through high serrated peaks of the Selkirk Mountains in Glacier National Park.

