# **ELK ISLAND**





Canada

**Summer** programs

Have FUN this July + August

• Bison backstage

• Kids Xplorers program

Join park staff this summer for some fun-filled

Your canoe or kayak is the best seat in the house! It provides you with a unique vantage

point - the perfect spot to watch wildlife from a

low-impact way to discover the natural wonders

Bring your own canoe/kayak or rent one at the

For details visit www.edmontoncanoe.com

respectful & safe distance. It is a great

Astotin Lake from Edmonton Canoe.

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• And so much more...

programs and activities.

Check the website for details:

www.pc.gc.ca/elkisland

Geocaching

**Paddle** 

of the park.

# **Activities**



Top 5 activities

- Drive the Bison Loop a 1-kmloop that winds through open prairie and herds of bison.
- Escape the city lights and gaze at the stars in this dark-sky preserve.
- Go behind the scenes on the Bison Backstage tour with park staff.
- Hit the links or enjoy a tasty meal at the historic Elk Island Golf Course.
- Rediscover the park in winter. Snowshoe, ski, view wildlfie and have a picnic.



## Geocache

Geocaching is a fun high-tech adventure where participants use a GPS (Global Positioning System) to hunt for containers called caches.

Find the 8 geocaches in Elk Island! Caches range from quick grabs to challenging 1/2-day finds. Locate all 8, crack the code and receive a collector coin. Don't have a GPS? Borrow one from Astotin

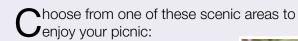
Visit www.geocaching.com to find the Elk Island cache clues.







# **Picnic**



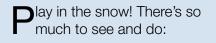
- Astotin Lake
- Beaver Bay (along Shoreline Trail)
- Tawayik Lake
- Moss Lake Trail

Too wet, cold or warm? We've got you covered year-round! Picnic shelters are available at:

- Astotin Lake Pavilion (year-round)
- Astotin Lake Shelters (seasonal)
- Tawayik Lake



# Winter



- Snowshoe to different geocache locations.
- Cross-country ski on favourite summer trails. Prepare for powder as trails are not groomed or track set.
- View wildlife. With no leaves on the trees they're much easier to see.
- Picnic and cozy up to a fire at the Tawayik Lake warming shelter.

# Wildlife







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Please slow down for your safety and ours.



When travelling by foot or on a bike stay at least 30 metres (100 ft) away from elk, moose and bison. Bison can reach up to 50 km/h in a few

Astotin Lake Area

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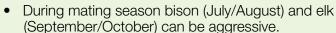
Respect wildlife

If you encounter an elk, moose or bison on a trail make yourself known, walk slowly around them at a safe distance or return the way you came.









- not blocking traffic.
- Wildlife have a greater rate of survival and are

- When driving the parkway and Bison Loop stay in your vehicle. Only pull over if it is safe and you are
- healthier when they feed on natural food. Please refrain from feeding them.

# Legend

Parking 🛉 🛊 Washrooms

**1** Outhouse

Telephone **Accessible** 

**Golfing** 

Hiking

**Snowshoeing** 

Playground

Exhibit

Lookout

Picnic Area

Picnic Shelter

Beach

Canoe Rental

Canoeing

Kayaking

Portage

Food Locker

Restaurant

Trailer Dump

**Interpretation** 

Astotin Theatre

Recreational Vehicles

Trailers

Camping

Walk-in Camping Group Camping

Overflow Camping

Firewood

Trail Beach

6 Lakeview Trail

10 Shoreline Trail

Living Waters Boardwalk

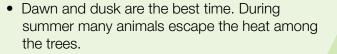


Fort Saskatchewan, AB T8L 2N7

www.parkscanada.gc.ca/elkisland @ElkIslandNP



Wildlife viewing tips



- Drive slowly on the parkway where bison and coyotes often travel. Better yet, go for a
- Rainy day fun moose and waterfowl like wet weather.
- Be patient! Kick back and wait to see what will wander or waddle by.



**Candy Beach Campground**, located at Astotin Lake, offers 69 unserviced campsites including RV and walk-in tenting sites. Group camping is also available.

Campsite fees include access to:

- Flush toilets
- Hot showers
- Food storage lockers

Picnic shelters

Firewood is provided with the purchase of a fire

To reserve your campsite call 1-877-737-3783 or visit www.reservation.parkscanada.gc.ca

# **Contact** information



National Information Service

elk.island@pc.gc.ca

Sandy Beach Campground (seasonal) 780-992-0017 Parks Canada Campground

1-877-737-3783/ Reservation Service 1-877-RESERVE www.reservation.parkscanada.gc.ca

Elk Island Golf Course 780-998-3161

**EMERGENCY**:

RCMP/Fire/Ambulance 24-hour Emergency Report-a-Poacher Weather

Elk Island National Park Site 4, R.R. 1







780-922-5790

1-888-773-8888

9-1-1

1-877-852-3100

1-800-642-3800

780-468-4940

# **Trails**



## Hike



With 80 km of trails to explore, your day will be filled with unique and memorable experiences. Watch the busy beaver as it constructs its dam; listen to songbirds sing you a tune; or breathe in the fresh air as you watch the sunset over Astotin Lake.

Most trails have parking, view points, washrooms and garbage facilities.



# Cycle



ooking for a quick way to cover some **L**ground? Bring your bike and challenge yourself to one of the longer trails in the park. Adventure + exercise + amazing scenery = one awesome day!

The parkway lends itself naturally to touring -20 km of well-surfaced road with ample wildlife viewing opportunities.

## **Safety Tips**

- The quiet speed of cyclists is a recipe for sudden encounters. Make noise, stay alert and slow down.
- Find an elk or bison on the parkway? Wait for a vehicle and keep it between you and the animal as you bike past to safety.



### Pack Elk Island on Your Back

These family day-packs come with binoculars, an animal identification guide, a pond dipping kit, trail maps and information about other attractions in the area.

Pick up a pack at the Astotin Theatre and spend a fun-filled day with your family! (Offered June-August)



# Park map

### Hayburger Trail (3-4h) 12.2 km, flat terrain

Spruce bog, aspen forest and meadows. Be mindful of hazards in areas off-trail (see trailhead sign for details). Good for viewing bison and moose.

**Simmons Trail** (1-2h) 5 km, moderate terrain

Aspen forest, meadows and beaver ponds. A nested loop of the Shirley Lake Trail. Good for viewing bison, moose and elk.

**Shirley Lake Trail** (3-4h) 12.5 km, moderate terrain

Aspen forest and meadows. Good for viewing bison, moose and elk.

Moss Lake Trail (3.5-4.5h) 13 km, moderate terrain

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Picnic tables and firepits. Mixed wood forest. Great for viewing beaver, waterfowl, elk and bison.

Amisk Wuche Trail (1-1.5h) 2.5 km, moderate to steep terrain

# 直流液

Boardwalks through marsh and forest. Rich in aquatic and bird life.

**Lakeview Trail** (1-2h) 3.5 km, gentle terrain

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Poplar and spruce forest, great views of Astotin Lake, islands, beaver and waterfowl.

**Beaver Pond Trail** (1-2h) 3.5 km, gentle terrain

Aspen forest and sedge meadows. Good for viewing bison, moose, beaver and waterfowl.

**Living Waters Boardwalk** (.5-1h) 300 m boardwalk, gentle terrain

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Floating boardwalk and exhibits. Great view of Astotin Lake, islands, beaver, waterfowl, and aquatic

Tawayik Lake Trail (4-5h) 16.5 km, moderate tèrrain

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Picnic tables, warming shelter and firepits at trailhead. Aspen forest and meadows; great for viewing elk, bison and waterfowl. A portion of trail is shared with Shirley Lake Trail.

10 Shoreline Trail (2-3h) 6 km return, gentle terrain (pavement)

Parking lot across from golf course. Mixed-wood forest, good view of islands, beaver and waterfowl. Beaver Bay picnic area; picnic tables and firepits.

Wood Bison Trail (4-5h) 16 km, moderate terrain

Aspen forest, great for viewing wood bison, moose, elk and birds.



## Legend

Information

Parking

Telephone

Golfing

Cross-country
Skiing

// Hiking

Washrooms

# Moderate



Difficult

Exhibit

Lookout

Picnic Area

Picnic Shelter

Accessible Warming Shelter **1** Outhouse

Beach Canoe Rental

Canoeing

Kayaking

Snowshoeing Portage

Food Locker Playground Restaurant Cycling

Firewood

Trailer Dump

Interpretation Astotin Theatre

Visitor Centre

Recreational Vehicles

Trailers

Camping Walk-in Camping

Group Camping

Back-country Camping

Overflow Camping

Water

Hike

# Gift Shop



----- Restricted Road

# **Trail** safety

- Stop at the Visitor Centre for trail information.
- Bring a map and watch for trail markers. • Ensure you are self-reliant; trails are not
- patrolled.
- Watch for slippery or broken boardwalk.
- Respect area and trail closures. • Use caution, wildlife encounters are possible.
- For up-to-date trail conditions visit the website:

www.pc.gc.ca/elkisland

## Leave it for others to enjoy

 Take nothing but photos and leave nothing but footprints.

### Pet owners

- Join other dog owners in protecting pets and wildlife by keeping your dog on leash.
- Dog waste bags are provided throughout the park.

