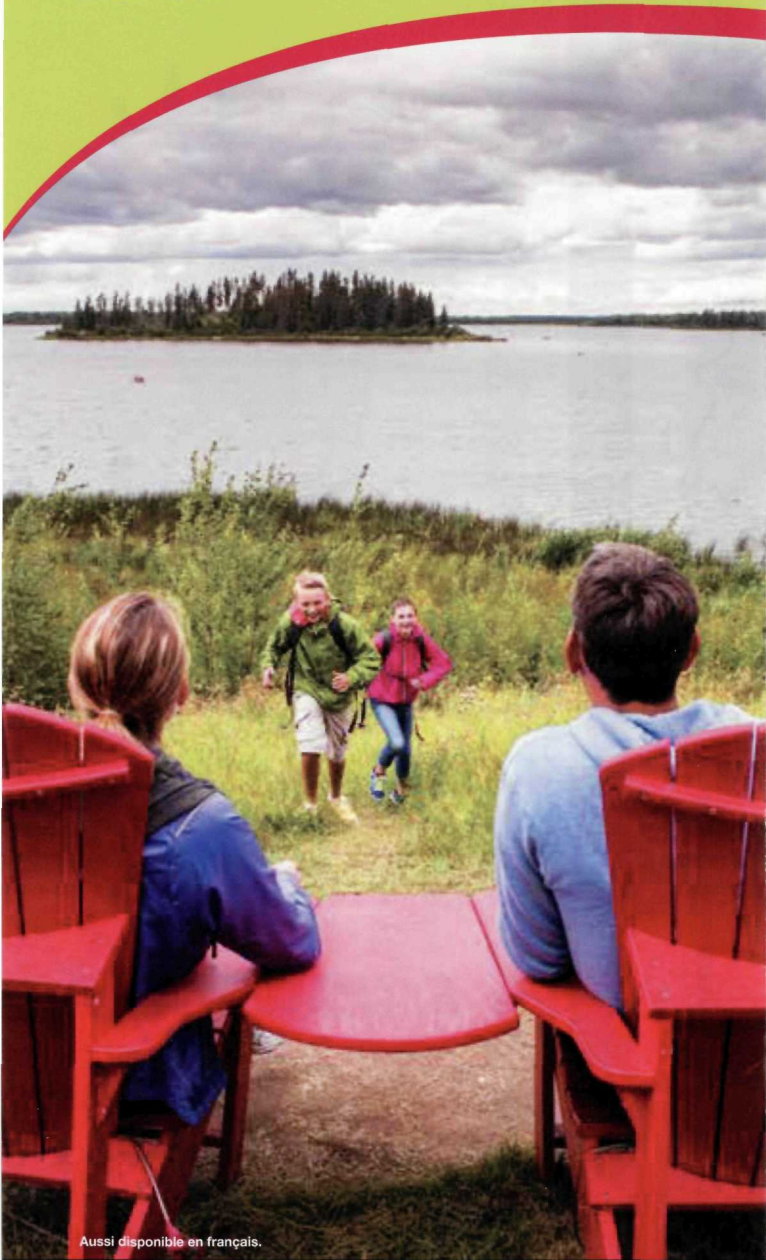




Elk Island
National Park

Summer Guide 2016



Aussi disponible en français.



Parks Canada
Parcs Canada

Canada

Interpretation Programs

Weekly Programs (They're free! Drop-in!)

BISON BACKSTAGE

**Saturday/Sundays
in July and August,
1 pm and 3 pm**

Your behind-the-scenes VIP access to bison conservation at Elk Island National Park begins at the Visitor Centre! Experience a tour of the Plains Bison Handling Facility featuring hands-on activities and demonstrations. Registration required at the Visitor Centre. Maximum 20 participants per tour.



CAMPFIRE PROGRAMS

**Saturday evenings
at 7 pm throughout
July and August**

Join a Parks Canada Interpreter every Saturday night this summer around a campfire for an evening of storytelling. Campfire

goodies are provided. Meet at the Astotin Lake recreation area main parking lot.

Program is weather dependant. For more details and to confirm ask at the Visitor Centre or call 780-922-5790.

Meet our interpreters!

Visit the friendly and informative interpreters at the Astotin Theatre to learn of other exciting programs taking place in the park during your stay.



Special Events

Canada Day Family Fun

Friday, July 1, 2016 12 – 4 pm

On Canada Day, enjoy free entry to all of Canada's National Parks, National Historic Sites and National Marine Conservation Areas. There's no better way to celebrate our heritage as Canadians than visiting your nearest national park: Elk Island! Join us for a multicultural celebration of our nation's birthday!

Parks Day Celebration

Saturday, July 16, 2016 12 – 4 pm

Get back to nature this Parks Day at Elk Island National Park. With musical performances, children and adults alike will experience nature like never before. Try your hand at "Learn To" activities including fire building, pemmican making and canoeing! Come out to Elk Island National Park and experience the great Canadian tradition of a day at the park with your friends and family!

The Bison Festival

Saturday, August 13, 2016 12 – 8 pm

Bison were nearly lost from North America! But by the early 20th century, bison purchased from Montana and brought to Elk Island National Park began to slowly re-build their numbers. Today nearly every plains bison you see in southern Canada, whether in conservation or domestic herds, had an ancestor in Elk Island National Park. We think that's something to celebrate! Join us for this sensory festival celebrating all things bison, from conservation, to culture, to cuisine!

Star Party

**Saturday, September 3, 2016 (Miquelon Lake Provincial Park)
and Sunday, September 4, 2016 (Elk Island National Park)**

The Beaver Hills Dark Sky Preserve's 11th annual Star Party will be bigger and better than ever before. Taking place over two days at two different locations the Beaver Hills Star Party will feature volunteer astronomers to help show you the stars with both solar and night sky viewing. Guest speakers, presenters, displays and activities will keep the whole family entertained at this 2 day celebration.

**For detailed event schedules visit
parkscanada.gc.ca/elkisland-events**

Camping

Astotin Lake Campground at Astotin Lake is open May long weekend to Thanksgiving.

Call 780-922-5790 for information

Online reservations open January 15, 2016

at <http://reservation.parkscanada.gc.ca>

Equipped Camping now available at Elk Island!

Equipped Campsites provide the opportunity to go camping even if you don't have camping equipment or simply want to avoid the hassle of organizing and packing everything for your camping trip.

Available upon request: Tent, sleeping pads, camping chairs, propane stove and lantern.

1-877-737-3783 www.reservation.parkscanada.gc.ca

Group camping and backcountry camping at Oster Lake

Imagine pitching your tent nestled against an aspen forest on the shores of Oster Lake. Hike in to this secluded camping area that accommodates groups of up to 60 people but can also be reserved for smaller groups. Call 780-922-5790 for more information or to book.

**Contact Edmonton Tourism for information on
commercial accommodation at exploreedmonton.com.**

Discovery Kits

Visit the Astotin Theatre to borrow one of our discovery packs for free! These themed family-day-packs are pre-packed with tools such as binoculars, animal identification guides, pond dipping kits, trail maps, GPS units and other items to suit your park exploration interests.

Choose between the:

- Pack Elk Island on Your Back Kit;
- Discover Geocaching Kit; or
- Pond Dipping Kit

Kits available May-August.



Contact Information

Visitor Centre & Gift Shop

780-922-5790

elk.island@pc.gc.ca

Toll-free National General Information Line:

1-888-773-8888

Parks Canada Reservation Service:

1-877-RESERVE (737-3783)

reservation.parkscanada.pc.gc.ca

Elk Island Golf Course:

1-780-998-3161

Emergency

Dial 9-1-1 RCMP, Fire, and Ambulance

1-877-852-3100 24-hour Emergency
Parks Canada

1-800-642-3800 Report-a-Poacher

1-780-468-4940 Weather

Elk Island National Park

1-54401 Range Road 203

Fort Saskatchewan, AB

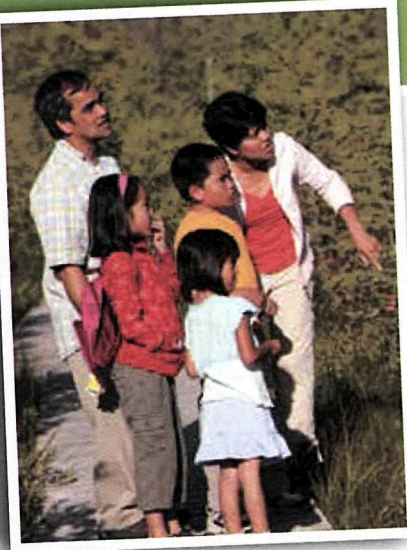
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parkscanada.gc.ca/elkisland

[@ElkIslandNP](https://twitter.com/ElkIslandNP)

To get here from Edmonton: Travel east on Highway 16. The park entrance is located on the north side of highway 16 approximately 35 minutes east of Edmonton.

Note: The first large Elk Island sign south of Highway 16 only marks the park boundary. Continue 7 km further east to reach the park main entrance.



Hiking

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, viewpoints, washrooms and garbage facilities.

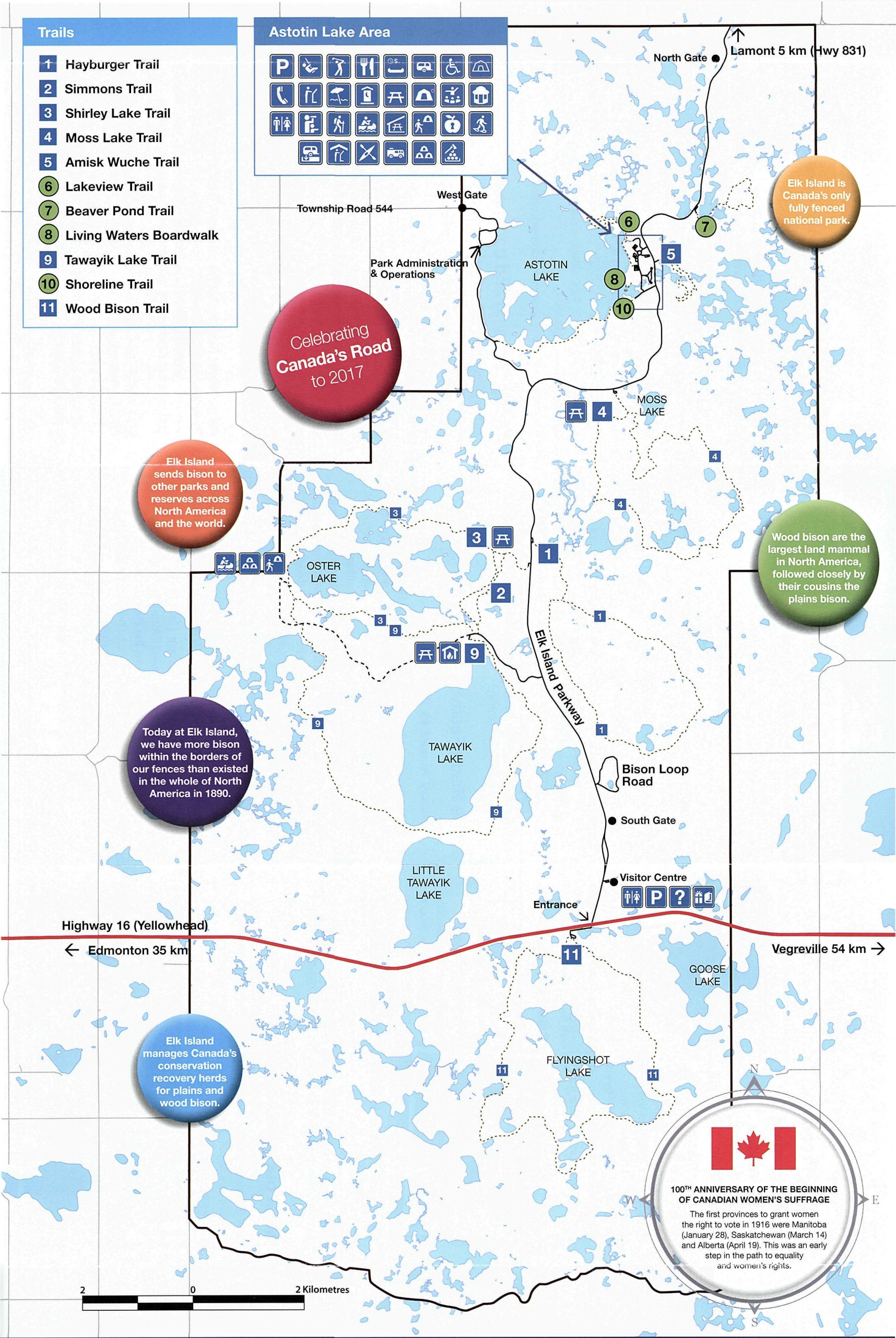
Safety Info

Keep Safe While Exploring the Park

- Bring a map and watch for trail markers. Look for yellow diamonds to mark designated trails.
- Watch your step on slippery paths and boardwalks.
- Respect area and trail closures.
- Wildlife encounters are possible. Be alert and use caution.
- You are responsible for your own safety. Be self-reliant and tell a friend where you're going. Trails are not patrolled.

PET OWNERS

- Join other pet owners in protecting pets and wildlife by keeping your dog on leash.



Legend

Easy

Moderate

Water

Road

Trail

Restricted vehicle access

?

Information

P

Parking

Visitor Centre

Kiosk

Gift Shop

Washrooms

Outhouse

Telephone

Accessible

Golfing

Hiking

Snowshoeing

Cross-country Skiing

Cycling

Playground

Exhibit

Lookout

Picnic Area

Picnic Shelter

Warming Shelter

Beach

Canoe/Kayak Rental

Canoeing

Kayaking

Food Locker

Restaurant

Trailer Dump

Interpretation

Astotin Theatre

Recreational Vehicles

Trailers

Back-country Camping

Camping

Walk-in Camping

Group Camping

Overflow Camping

Firewood