

2013 - Summer Guide to Waterton-Glacier International Peace Park

Waterton Lakes National Park Visitor Guide included inside

Jewels in the Crown

What would you like to see in the park today? Most of us would answer a bear, a bighorn sheep or a mountain goat. Pygmy poppy, moonwort and bladder-fern may not be high on most visitors’ lists, Yet the role Waterton Lakes and Glacier National Parks play in the protection of rare plants may be even more significant than that of animals.

Both parks contain more than their fair share of the plants represented in their state or province as a whole. For example, over half of Alberta’s plant species can be found in Waterton Lakes National Park. Over 70 of Montana’s 413 rare plants grow in Glacier, with 15 of these found only in the park. Waterton has over 125 of the 360 species considered rare in

Alberta. Both parks also protect plants which are considered rare nationally as well. In Waterton’s case, this includes over 35 species! Over 20 species in Glacier are considered globally rare.

Don’t fret if you don’t know the name of every plant you see here. After all, over a thousand different species have been identified in each park! This diversity is due to the fact that Wateron-Glacier International Peace Park lies on a floral crossroads. Here northern Rocky Mountain plants mingle with southern mountain cousins, and both hardy prairie flowers and lush west coast species inhabit park lands. The high alpine zone is home to species which grow in the arctic. Many are considered

rare because they are living on the fringe of their normal range.

In 1901, when George Bird Grinnell called this area “the Crown of the Continent,” he was likely referring to the magnificent scenery and the parting of waters along the Continental Divide. Today this term seems just as appropriate for the area’s flora – the true jewels in the “crown.”

Protecting these jewels does not seem as easy as it was in Grinnell’s day, when he was promoting the creation of Glacier National Park. Today, we realize that national parks are integrally tied to and affected by the areas surrounding them. Now the term “Crown of the Continent”

is used to describe the entire ecosystem of which the Waterton-Glacier International Peace Park is only a part. If we hope to maintain the diversity of plants and animals living in this ecosystem, we need to work with our neighbors in the surrounding wilderness areas, national and provincial forests, Indian reservations crown and privately-owned lands.

Not all parts of the “crown” require the strict protection provide by our national parks, but all living things within the magnificent ecosystem deserve to be considered with care and respect when decisions affecting them are made.



Wild Rose, Beargrass, Alpine Poppy, & Pinedrops - photos by Bill Hayden & NPS

Aquatic Invasive Species Threaten Park Waters!

Waterton-Glacier International Peace Park is dominated by large fjord-like glacial lakes. For many visitors they are a primary destination. Boating, fishing, or just plain hanging out on the shore and skipping rocks are the stuff of magical memories. We need your help to keep it that way.

On the surface things look fine, but in the past stocking of non-native fish changed the ecosystems of most park lakes. These fish out compete native species for food and habitat. We need to prevent additional non-native species of animals or plants from accidentally being introduced, because each small change effects the overall health of park waters.

Now there is a new and serious threat. Imagine a future where going to your favorite rock-skipping beach, you find the shoreline matted with tens of thousands of small mussel shells, with everything cemented together in a sharp, smelly mess. Imagine once productive fisheries wiped out by these new invaders. It’s not science fiction, impacts are already occurring in waters in the Great Lakes, eastern provinces and states, the prairies and plains, and more recently in the southwest United States.

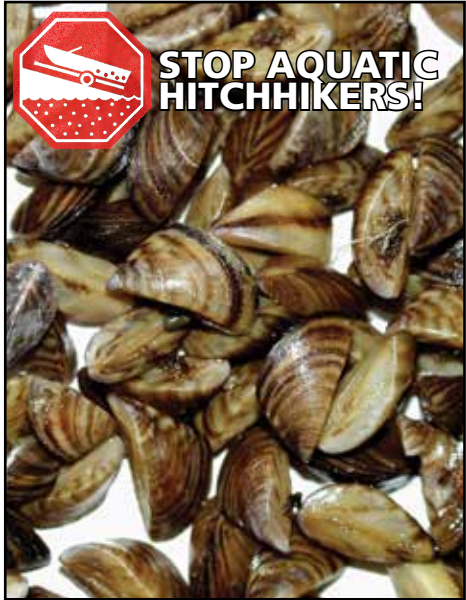
Since the 1980’s freshwater zebra and quagga mussels have steadily advanced westward, presumably transported on trailered boats. In February of 2012 a

mussel-carrying boat was intercepted at a marina on Flathead Lake. The boat had come from the southwest. Flathead Lake is just downstream from Glacier.

Protecting the waters of the Peace Park requires immediate action, both by the parks and by every boater. This summer a permit to launch a boat in either park is mandatory. The regulations specific to each park are slightly different.

Regulations on obtaining a mandatory boating permit are listed on the back page of this paper.

It is imperative that all boaters comply with these regulations.



Zebra Mussels - photo by Amy Benson, USGS

World's First International Peace Park

In 1932, Waterton Lakes National Park and Glacier National Park were officially joined together as Waterton-Glacier International Peace Park. The Peace Park celebrates the peace and goodwill existing along the world's longest undefended border, as well as a spirit of cooperation which is reflected in wildlife and vegetation management, search and rescue programs, and joint interpretive programs, brochures, and exhibits.

Waterton-Glacier International Peace Park became a World Heritage Site in 1995 - for its scenic values, its significant climate, landforms and ecological processes, and abundant diversity of wildlife and wildflowers.



The International Peace Park Pavilion at Goat Haunt - David Restivo

International Peace Park Hike

Join us in celebrating our 80th year of friendship and cooperative management by participating in an International Peace Park Hike. These special hikes are held every Wednesday and Saturday, beginning June 29, and throughout July and August. Starting at 10 a.m. from the Bertha Lake trailhead in Waterton Lakes National Park, this 13 km (8 mi) hike along Upper Waterton Lake is jointly led by a Glacier Park Ranger and a Waterton Park Interpreter. Learn about Waterton-Glacier's three international designations and take part in a peace & friendship ceremony as you cross the International Boundary on your way to Goat Haunt in Glacier National Park, Montana. Return to Waterton via boat.

A fee is charged for the return boat trip and advance reservations are recommended. The boat will have you back to the dock in Waterton by 6:30 p.m. Each hike is limited to 35 people, so you must pre-register at either the Visitor Centre in Waterton (403-859-5133) or at the St. Mary Visitor Center (406-732-7750) in Glacier. Reservations are only accepted for the next scheduled hike (beginning on Saturday for Wednesday hikes; beginning on Wednesday for Saturday hikes).

Come prepared with a lunch, water, rain gear, jacket, hat. Wear sturdy footwear. The trail is not difficult, but you will be hiking most of the day. Bring money for the boat. Pets are not permitted.



"Hands across the border" ceremony - Jeff Yee



The International - David Restivo

Discover Our Neighbors' Cultural Heritage

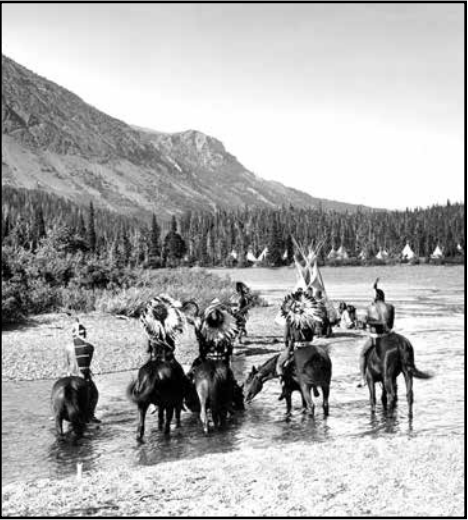
This area holds special appeal for visitors interested in the culture of indigenous peoples. Waterton-Glacier International Peace Park lies just west of the Kainai and Piikani Reserves in Canada and borders the Blackfeet Reservation in the United States. People of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes, southwest of the park, also have a close association with the park. Take the time to learn about our neighbors.

Nearby in Browning, Montana, the Museum of the Plains Indian features fascinating exhibits and Native American

handcrafts as sales items. The museum is open daily from June through September. Also in Browning, North American Indian Days, the second weekend in July, is a large celebration of Native American culture that includes a parade, traditional dress, and dancing. Visitors are always welcome.

Northeast of Waterton, early plains culture is dramatically displayed at Head-Smashed-In Buffalo Jump World Heritage Site. This site is open seven days a week in summer. Phone 403-553-2731 for further information.

The People's Center and Native Ed-Ventures, for the preservation of Kootenai and Salish Culture, are located near Pablo, Montana. The Center provides educational opportunities, full-day and half-day interpretive tours of the Flathead Indian Reservation, a museum collection, and gift shop. Open daily throughout the summer. Call 406-883-5344 or 406-675-0160 for further information.



Blackfeet at Two Medicine - R. E. Marble

Akamina-Kishinena Provincial Park



Calypso Orchid - Bill Hayden

Akamina Kishinena Provincial Park is located in the southeast corner of the British Columbia and borders both Waterton Lakes and Glacier National Parks. High spacious alpine ridges, deep secluded valleys and windswept passes provide habitat and connectivity to the last self-sustaining grizzly bear population in the United States. Exposed alpine ridges, southern latitude and southern exposure provide winter range for goats and big horn sheep.

The trails and passes of the Akamina-Kishinena used today to cross the axis of the continent, were established and used for many years by the early peoples and wildlife travelling between the Flathead Basin and the abundant Great Plains.

Akamina Kishinena is a wilderness area, without supplies or equipment of any kind. All arrangements for supplies and transportation must be made beforehand.

Accessibility

The Apgar and St. Mary Visitor Centers, the International Peace Park Pavilion, and the Cameron Lake Day Use Area are wheel-chair accessible. A listing of additional facilities and services, accessible to visitors with special needs, is available at Visitor Centres and entrance stations throughout Waterton-Glacier International Peace Park.

Interpretive programs in Glacier National Park accessible by wheelchair are highlighted in the park's ranger-guided activity guide, available throughout Glacier.

Wheelchair accessible trails include the Trail of the Cedars and the Running Eagle Falls Nature Trails in Glacier, and the Linnet Lake, Kootenai Brown, and Townsite trails in Waterton Lakes.

Visitors sensitive to altitude should be aware of the following park elevations:

Lake McDonald	3150 ft.	960m
Logan Pass	6640 ft.	2024m
Many Glacier	4900 ft.	1494m
Polebridge	3600 ft.	1097m
St. Mary Lake	4500 ft.	1372m
Two Medicine	5150 ft.	1570m
Waterton	4200 ft.	1280m



Accessible boardwalk on the Trail of the Cedars - Bill Hayden



**Waterton Lakes
National Park**
parksCanada.gc.ca

Visitor Guide 2013

Travel Alberta/Sabrina Hill

Welcome to Waterton Lakes National Park

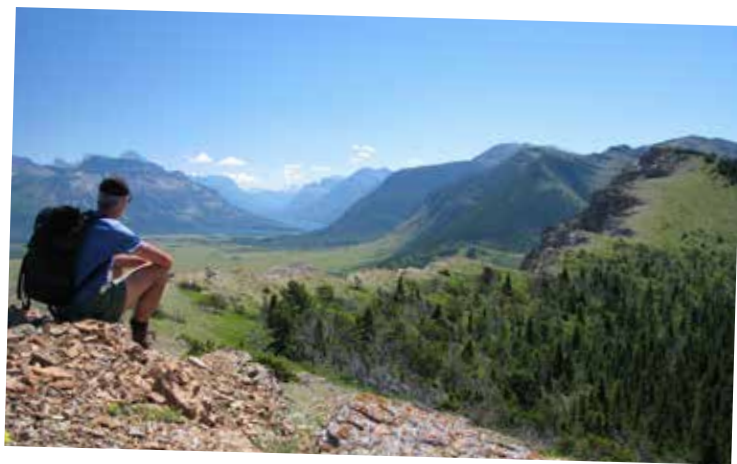
As you travel through this distinctive landscape “where the mountains meet the prairie”, take time to explore and enjoy its natural features. No other national park in Canada protects so much within such a small place. Shaped by wind, fire and water, Waterton has over 250 species of birds, more than 60 species of mammals, 24 species of fish and 8 species of reptiles and amphibians. Because the open prairie sweeps up mountainsides, you can enjoy spectacular vistas, carpeted by abundant wildflowers and peppered with wildlife such as deer, bighorn sheep, ground squirrels, birds and bears.

In Waterton, a combination of geography, topography, and mild, moist, windy climate has created a wide variety of growing conditions within a very small area. Add in the effects of fire, floods, and avalanches and you end up with

a varied landscape which provides homes for many plants and animals, as well as a wonderful place for you to visit.

Stroll along a beach, hike a flowery trail, paddle a canoe, tour the Upper Waterton by boat, relish a picnic, learn something new at an exhibit, spot a deer or jay, brave a chilly dip in a mountain lake, or just kick back and relax. There's lots to do here and you can enjoy it knowing that it will always be here.

When you're heading out of the park, remember that Waterton is just one of 44 national parks, 167 national historic sites and 4 marine conservation areas that Parks Canada protects across the country, each representing a place, person or event that Canadians value and that are there for you to experience.

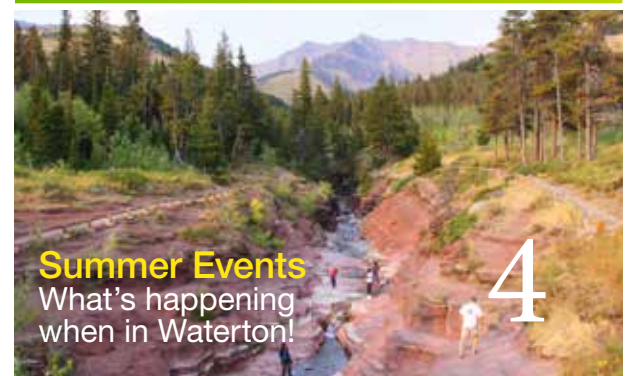


Ask the Interpreters!

Look for us at popular areas as you explore the park. We may have a cougar or bear pelt that you can hold in your hands. We may have a story to tell, or a trail to recommend. Let us make the most of your visit!



What's Inside



Summer Events
What's happening when in Waterton!

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Visit Planner

Get the most from your visit

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Interpretation Programs

Theatre programs & guided hikes included free with your entrance fee

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Living with Wildlife

Learn to keep yourself & the wildlife you encounter safe

8

Park Management

Working to preserve your experience

10

Glacier National Park

Our neighbour and partner offers a lot to see and do

11

Park Map

12

Contact Information

Visitor Information 403-859-5133
RCMP Waterton (May-Oct) 403-859-2244
Hospitals
Cardston 403-653-4411
Pincher Creek 403-627-3333
Park Warden (24 hrs) 1-888-WARDENS

24 HOUR EMERGENCY
Call 911



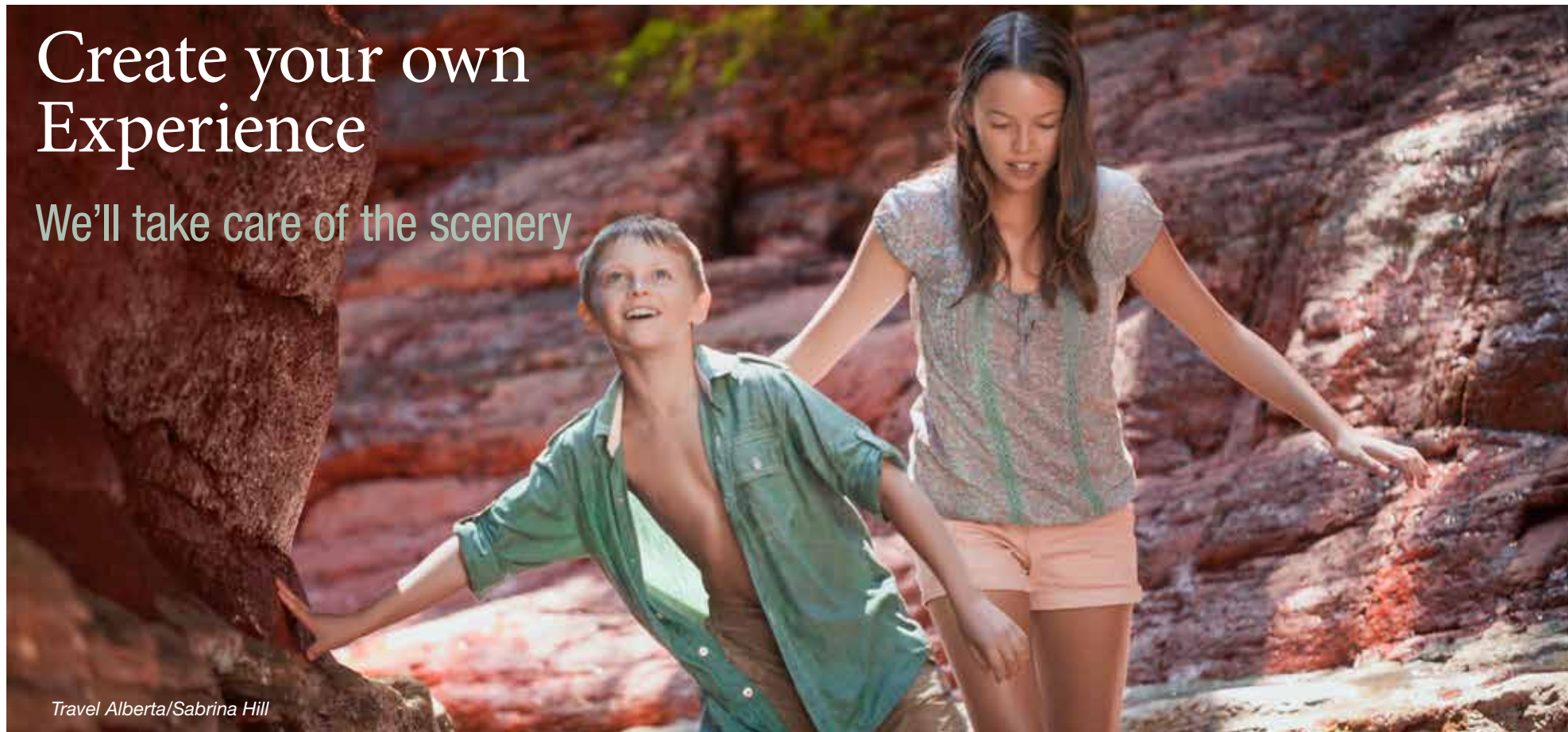
Parks
Canada

Parcs
Canada

Canada


Create your own Experience

We'll take care of the scenery



SCENERY & WILDLIFE

- The [Entrance Parkway](#) begins on the prairie and follows the Waterton Lakes chain to the village. Enjoy scenic views of the Waterton Valley and its wildlife. Take time to explore the Prince of Wales Hotel National Historic Site.
- The [Akamina Parkway](#) winds 16 kilometres through mountains to Cameron Lake, where exhibits describe life in the subalpine. Along the way, visit the First Oil Well in Western Canada National Historic Site, commemorating the first producing oil well in western Canada.
- [Red Rock Parkway](#) is the best place to experience Waterton's special mountain and prairie mix. Stop at the Native History exhibit to gain some insight into the lives of aboriginal peoples in this area. The 15 kilometre parkway is very narrow and may not be suitable for larger motorhomes.
- The [Chief Mountain Highway](#) links Waterton with our neighbour in Montana, Glacier National Park. Stop at the Waterton Valley Viewpoint to view the Waterton and Blakiston valleys, then continue on through the site of the 1998 Sofa Mountain fire.
- Located just inside the park boundary, off Highway 6, the [Bison Paddock loop road](#) provides an opportunity to see these magnificent animals in their natural grassland habitat. For your safety, please do not get out of your vehicle.

A photograph of a person with short brown hair, wearing a pink t-shirt and a purple headband, standing and looking out over a vast, mountainous landscape under a clear blue sky. The person is positioned on the right side of the frame, with their back to the camera, looking towards the left. The landscape features rolling hills and mountains in the distance.

Picnic areas are great places to stop for a meal, or for a break to relax and enjoy the view. Many have level ground and accessible washrooms. Remember to keep a “bare” picnic site so wildlife don’t join your meal.



If you'd like to learn more about the park, join us in the Falls Theatre near Cameron Falls and the Townsite Campground, or the Crandell Theatre in the Crandell Campground


BOATING

available for rent. Boat launching ramps are available at the Linnet Lake picnic site and at the village marina. (Motorboats are restricted to Upper and Middle Waterton Lakes.) A permit is now required to launch any motorized or trailered boats. Hand propelled boats like canoes or rowboats and flotation devices such as float tubes do not require a permit. Join the crew of the MV International for the two hour international cruise of Upper Waterton Lake that leaves from the marina. Remember that park waters are very cold, and Upper and Middle Waterton Lakes frequently have high winds and rough water. Conditions can change very quickly on all lakes.


CYCLING

Cycle, but be aware of other traffic and strong winds. Parkways are heavily travelled and without shoulders, so use caution. The Kootenai Brown multi-use pathway is perfect for families with tot-trailers and young riders in training. Red Rock Parkway is recommended in the spring and fall when the road is closed to motor vehicle traffic. Chief Mountain Highway has wide shoulders, but be prepared for some large hills. Bicycles can be rented in the village.



VISIT PLANNER

Mountain bike on four different trails: Akamina Pass, Snowshoe, Crandell Loop, and Wishbone. These trails are shared with hikers, horseback riders and wildlife. Please yield to them. To avoid unpleasant surprises, slow down and make noise with bells or voice when approaching blind corners.



HORSEBACK RIDING

Horseback ride, whether for an hour or a day. Most trails are open to horses and there are guided trips available. Horse use guidelines are available from the Visitor Centre or Park Gate.



FISHING

Fish with the required national park fishing licence, which can be purchased at the Visitor Centre, campground kiosks, and other locations in the park. Be sure you read and understand the fishing regulations in relation to restrictions, limits, and closed waters.



TOWNSITE

Stay on the beaten path: explore the village. With the Townsite Loop trail, Cameron Falls, the International Peace Park Pavilion, the Heritage Centre, gift shops, restaurants, art galleries, bookstores, coffee shops, ice cream parlours, a gas station, tennis courts, playgrounds, a ball diamond and four churches—there's lots to do! Nearby, play 18 holes of golf, surrounded by mountain splendor.

Many activities are suitable for visitors who have mobility challenges. If you are wondering whether an activity may be appropriate for you or a companion, please ask Parks Canada staff.



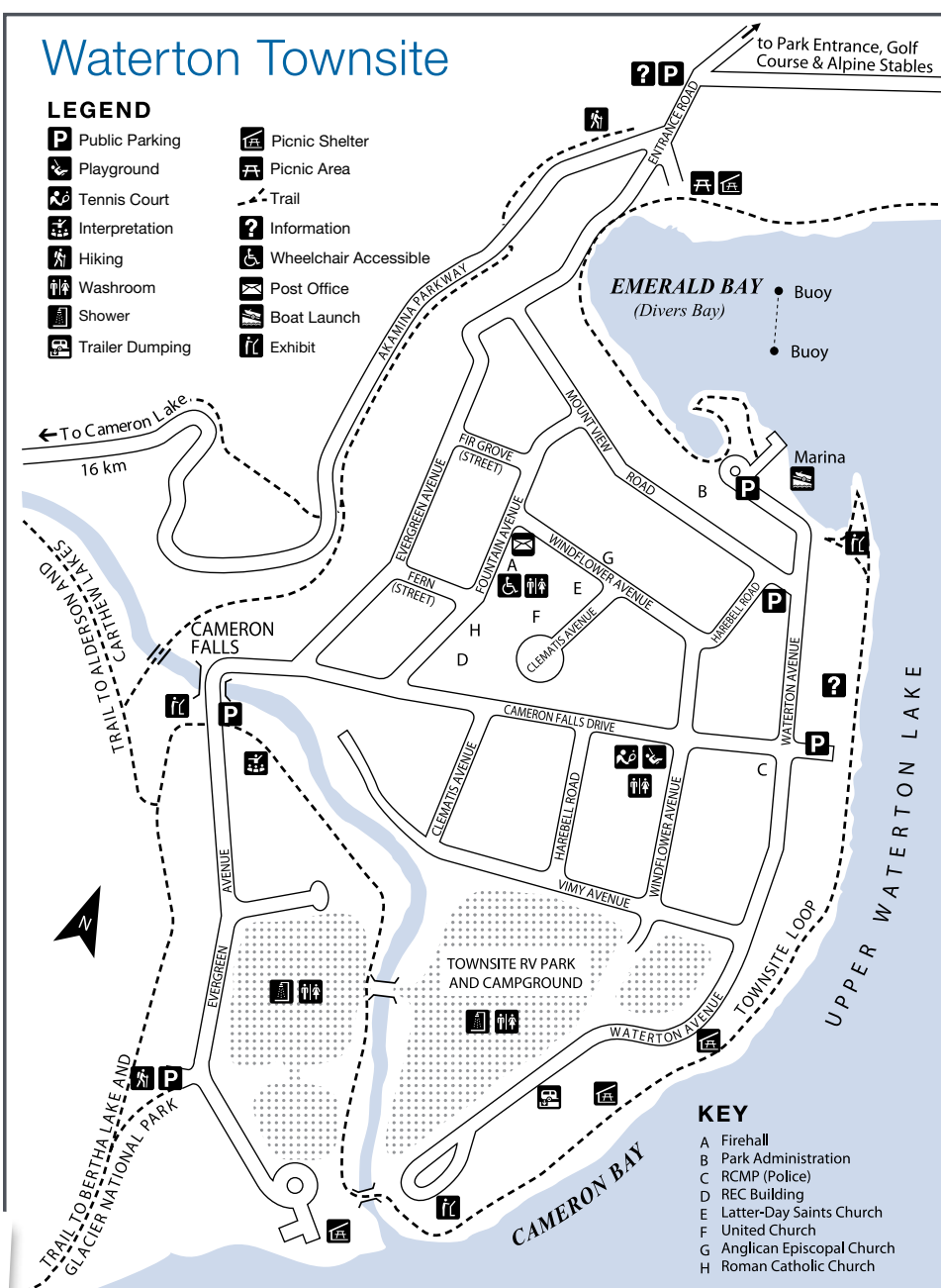
Cheryl Williams



Waterton Townsite

LEGEND

- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------------|
| Public Parking | Picnic Shelter |
| Playground | Picnic Area |
| Tennis Court | Trail |
| Interpretation | Information |
| Hiking | Wheelchair Accessible |
| Washroom | Post Office |
| Shower | Boat Launch |
| Trailer Dumping | Exhibit |



LOOKING FOR MORE INFORMATION

Stop at the Visitor Centre, located on the Entrance Parkway, one kilometre outside the village. Pamphlets, displays, and park staff will help you get the most out of your visit. The Visitor Centre, and adjoining washrooms, are open from mid-May to mid-October. The Park Receptionist, located in the Park Operations Building (open from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm, Monday to Friday, year round), can also provide you with information. Accessible washrooms are located in the village at the Firehall.



Choose the Best Season

Waterton's character changes with the seasons. By understanding these seasonal cycles, you can plan your trip to best suit your interests.

Before you arrive, check the information available. In summer months, planning your arrival times and calling ahead may save you frustrating lineups or lack of accommodation. In winter, check road and avalanche reports and gas up.

Prepare yourself by finding out what the park offers at the time of year in which you intend to travel.

Spring

Spring is the best time for wildflowers in Waterton. Within a short walk from your car you can find 20 or 30 different species. Wildflowers can be seen in the park at almost any season as summer weather progresses up the mountains.

Summer

The most popular time to visit Waterton is July and August. The weather is generally warmer, dryer, and more dependable, and summertime offers the most opportunities. Over half of Waterton's visitors come during these two months.

Fall

Late summer and fall are particularly good wildlife viewing times, especially for black bear, elk and deer. The grasslands of the lower mountainsides provide important food for wildlife, as well as open views which make them more visible. Ungulates such as deer, elk and bighorn sheep mate in the fall, so they are looking their best. The most spectacular birding time is in late fall when large numbers of waterfowl migrate through the park.

Winter

Winter is a time of quiet retreat. Facilities and businesses are limited, and include some accommodation, restaurants, and gift shops. Enjoy a variety of winter activities, such as snowshoeing, cross-country skiing, ice climbing and wildlife viewing. Be prepared for conditions ranging from warm and windy to extreme cold and deep snow. Strong winds can create poor visibility, icy conditions, and drifting snow on roads.



VISIT PLANNER

Join us for exciting events all summer long!



Festivals and family activities, storytelling and science exhibits, it's all included with your park entry fee.

WILDFLOWER FESTIVAL
June 15-23

- Explore Waterton's spectacular spring wildflowers. Visit www.wildflowerfestival.com.

CANADA DAY
July 1 Free Admission

Celebrate Canada in Waterton Lakes National Park!

- Celebrate Canada in Waterton Lakes National Park!
- 10:30 Bike parade. Meet in front of Waterton United Church. All are welcome!
- Flag raising and \$3 hot dog lunch, free lemonade and cake following the parade.

PARKS DAY
Friday, July 19 and Saturday, July 20

Star Spotting: 9pm - 11pm
Cameron Bay picnic shelter (past Cameron Falls, adjacent to Townsite Campground)

- The stars are out! Tips, tricks & tools to guide you through our spectacular night sky.

Saturday, July 20
Waterton's Walter B. Foster: Stone Mason, Log Builder and Outdoorsman: 11 am Waterton Natural History Association

- Special exhibit featuring photographs and memorabilia from Walter B. Foster, who left a legacy of stone and logwork in Waterton.



PERSEID METEOR SHOWER STAR GAZING
Friday August 9 and Sunday August 11: 9:30 pm-11pm Maskinonge Picnic Area

- Marvel at the year's most spectacular meteor shower.

BLACKFOOT ARTS & HERITAGE FESTIVAL
August 20-22

- Celebrate traditional and contemporary aboriginal dancing, music, art, and cuisine. Participate in an Exhibition Pow wow at the Waterton Community Centre.

WATERTON WILDLIFE WEEKEND
September 27-29

- Discover Waterton's wildlife at its best through a variety of wildlife events. Visit www.wildflowerfestival.com.

4TH ANNUAL RIDE THE RED ROCK / TAKE A KID MOUNTAIN BIKING DAY
October 5

- Ride along a vehicle-free Red Rock Parkway! Bring your kids for a family bike ride and get a sneak peek at riding the Red Rock Parkway when it's closed to motor vehicles.

For more information

1-403-859-2224
waterton.info@pc.gc.ca
www.pc.gc.ca/waterton

Follow us @WatertonLakesNP

Like us at WatertonLakesNP



Approximate Driving Times
3 hours from Calgary
1:15 hours from Lethbridge
1 hour from Glacier National Park

Bar U Ranch National Historic Site

BAR U RANCH—WHERE RANCHING HISTORY COMES ALIVE!
A video showing how the Bar U Ranch National Historic Site commemorates ranching history in Canada. Watch it now.



The only National Historic Site that commemorates the importance of ranching to the development of our country, the Bar U was one of the original four outfits that launched the cattle business in southern Alberta. Already world renowned for its beef and Percheron draft horses, the Bar U helped launch the Calgary Stampede. Join us at the historic ranch headquarters this season as the Bar U celebrates 100 years of what has become the "Greatest outdoor show on earth".

The Bar U Ranch is located south of Longview, Alberta just off Highway 22. The site is open from late-May until mid-October each year.



For more information

1-800-568-4996 www.pc.gc.ca/baru

VISIT PLANNER

Activities for Young Xplorers

Starting June 29, 2013. Free with park entry!

Discover Waterton Lakes National Park through our Xplorers program designed for families with children aged 6 to 11. Pick up an Xplorers activity book from the Heritage Centre on Waterton Avenue, and complete as many of the activities as possible to receive a certificate and souvenir.



Parks Canada Merchandise

Bring home a unique souvenir, made by Roots Canada, that will provide lasting memories and inspiration for your next visit to Canada's natural and historic treasures.

Stop by the Heritage Centre on Waterton Avenue to view the merchandise available for purchase or shop online at www.pc.gc.ca.



Items may not appear exactly as shown.

Try the Waterton Geocaching Challenge!

Join the 21st century scavenger hunt. Use your GPS to uncover a series of hidden caches in Waterton Lakes National Park! There are 11 caches to find in or near the park. Find the five Waterton Lakes NP caches to earn a collectible coin.

Want to find out about geocaching? Take our free geocaching 101 course, offered at 10 am at the Heritage Centre on Waterton Ave., Wednesday and Saturdays June 29 to September 1, 2013. Magellan eXplorist GC GPS units are also available for free at the Heritage Centre on Waterton Ave, and pick up your passport. A shout out to the Waterton Natural History Association and Magellan for their support of this program.

If you have your own GPS unit, download the caches and passport from geocaching.com or parks.canada.gc.ca.



WHAT IS GEOCACHING?

Geocaching is a high-tech treasure hunting game played around the world by adventure seekers equipped with GPS devices. The goal is to locate hidden containers, called geocaches, outdoors and then share your experiences online. Anyone can use coordinates found on geocaching.com to locate caches.

WHO GEOCACHES?

People of all ages! Each geocache listing has a difficulty and terrain rating. 1/1 is easiest and 5/5 the hardest. This allows you to seek a geocache suitable for your ability and fitness level.

WHAT DO YOU NEED TO GEOCACHE?

A GPS device or GPS-enabled mobile phone with internet access. In addition, a membership with geocaching.com is recommended.

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For more information

1-403-859-5133
www.pc.gc.ca/waterton
www.geocaching.com



Waterton Natural History Association

The Waterton Natural History Association works closely with Parks Canada to help the public appreciate, enjoy and learn about the natural wonders of the park.

We are a not-for-profit organization formed in 1983. We create educational products and services such as publications, displays, and special events. Our two key fundraising events each summer are the Moonlight Cruise (August 13) and a Silent Auction (September 2 to 5).

Visit our Heritage Centre in the community, and check out our bookstore and displays. We provide information and

advice on what to do in the park, as well as maps and trail guides. We also run the Crooked Creek Campground, six kilometres outside the park on Highway 5. Campground revenues are used to support our efforts.

If you are interested, we welcome new members and volunteers.

For more information

www.wnha.ca
wnha@toughcountry.net

Camping In Waterton Lakes National Park

Waterton has three campgrounds, each providing a unique experience and excellent opportunity to celebrate nature and explore the great outdoors. Campground locations, services, open dates and fees are indicated on the park map on page 12.

TOWNSITE

This sunny open campground is an excellent place for RVs or for those who wish to be within walking distance of Upper Waterton Lake, Cameron Falls and town amenities. The area is in high demand in July & August and on long weekends. Reservations for Townsite campground can be made at www.reservation.pc.gc.ca or call 1-877-737-3783.

For more information or to reserve a tipi

1-403-859-5133
waterton.info@pc.gc.ca

CRANDELL

Located along the Red Rock Parkway, this campground is set in a pleasant montane forest, and popular with those campers who like their campsites more sheltered and removed from town.

Ask about our traditional Tipi camping experience at Crandell.

BELLY RIVER

Located along the Chief Mountain Highway in a pleasant area of mixed aspen forest, right beside the Belly River. Belly River is favoured by campers wanting a secluded experience.



VISIT PLANNER

Interpretive Theatre Programs, Guided Hikes & Activities

How long are you staying in Waterton? A few hours? A couple of days? Waterton’s team of Interpreters offers a variety of visitor programs during July and August. Theatre programs, guided hikes, and family activities—these programs are all free with your park entrance fee. Check the schedule on the next page for days and times and the maps on page 3 and 12 for locations.



New to nature?

Do you want to go for a hike, but aren’t sure which trail is right for you? Are you excited to hike, but feel a little unsure? Do you know what to do if you see a bear? We have a couple of programs just for you!

Bear Safety Brush-Up

Join us in the Falls or Crandell Theatres in the morning to brush up on bear safety. Get a few suggestions for a suitable trail and, if you like, use this opportunity to find a hiking partner!

"Learn to Hike"

Wondering what to put in your pack? What do you do if you meet a bear on a trail? How about if you get lost? Whether you’re new to hiking or just want an entertaining refresher, this program is a great place to start!

Only have an hour to spare?

Cameron Lakeshore Stroll | Family Friendly

- EASY 3 km (1.9 miles) return
- Look for a roving Interpreter at Cameron Lake

A refreshing walk along the west shore of this subalpine lake provides scenic views of Mount Custer and Mount Forum. Be serenaded by Steller’s jays, gray jays, thrushes and various woodpeckers.

Blakiston Falls Walk | Family Friendly

- EASY 2 km (1.2 miles) return
- Look for a roving Interpreter at Red Rock Canyon

Join us for a walk in the park! This short stroll delights with fragrant pine forests that lead to a magnificent waterfall.



Sean's Tip

Walk up to Bertha Falls and be refreshed by the mist of this 'bridal veil' waterfall. The trail has gorgeous views and a variety of plants. Don't forget to check out the lookout and marvel at the spires on Porcupine ridge down in Montana!



Sean is a Park Interpreter. This will be his second summer in Waterton.

Visiting for a half day?

Look, See, Play! | Family Friendly / Children Aged 4-12

Follow Waterton Avenue past the campground to the last building on the left (Community Kitchen Shelter). Look for a park vehicle and interpreter in the parking lot.

Come discover what makes Waterton unique through family games and activities near the lakeshore! New activities every day!

Geocache 101 | Family Friendly

Meet the Interpreter at Waterton Heritage Centre on Waterton Avenue in the Townsite

Curious about what geocaching is? We’ll tell you about this global-wide treasure hunt! Want to try but don’t have a GPS? Sign out one of ours for free! Geared up and ready? Come find out about the Waterton Geocache Challenge!

Blackfoot Crafts & Stories | Family Friendly

Meet in the Crandell Theatre Tipi at Crandell Campground

Join our Blackfoot Interpreters. Listen to stories, hang out by the fire, and make a small craft to take home with you.

Through Ancient Eyes: Bison, Bunchgrass and Burning | Adults & Older Children

- Difficulty: Easy
- Distance: 7 km (4.3 miles) return
- Where: Meet at the pullout on the north side of Red Rock Parkway below Mt. Bellevue

How did people survive here 10,000 years ago? Have arrowheads been found in the park? Join us for a walk along the base of Mt. Bellevue and gain a unique perspective on the park.



Bertha Falls Walk | Family Friendly

- MODERATE 5.2 km (3.2 miles) return
 - Meet at Bertha Lake trail head in the Townsite
- Brilliant flowers? Yes! Stunning scenery? You bet! A cascading waterfall to greet you at the end of your hike? Indeed! Join us for this guided walk along one of Waterton’s most popular trails.

Have a whole day? Try a longer hike

Be sure to bring some extra layers of clothing, sturdy footwear, water, sunscreen, insect protection and a hat. Don’t forget your lunch.

Summit Lake Hike | Adults & Older Children

- Difficulty: Moderate
- Distance: 8 km (5 miles) return
- Where: Meet at Cameron Lake

Hike through old growth forest, past waterfalls and monkey flowers up to Summit Lake. Discover what Park staff are doing to save the endangered Whitebark Pine tree and learn how a bird is teaching us how to do this!

The International Peace Park Hike | Adults & Older Children

- MODERATE 13 km (8 miles) one-way
- Meet at Bertha Trail head in the Townsite

For over thirty years, visitors have hiked across the Canada/U.S. boundary on foot, accompanied by both a Glacier Park Ranger and a Waterton Park Interpreter. The hike ends in the United States at the Goat Haunt Ranger Station where you will board a boat to return to the Waterton Townsite.

Spaces are limited so please **pre-register**, either in person or by phoning the Waterton Visitor Centre (403) 859-5133, or the St. Mary Information Center (406) 732-7750.

Cost: The hike is free with your park entry fee, but there is a charge for the boat ride back.

Identification: The U.S. Department of Homeland Security requires Canadian and American citizens to carry a passport or passport card. All visitors from countries other than Canada or the United States need their passports **and** have to have been documented at another U.S. port of entry.

Staying the night? Take in an evening theatre Program

Evening Theatre begins Friday, June 28

Join us in the Falls Theatre (near Cameron Falls and the Townsite Campground), or the Crandell Theatre (in Crandell Campground), at 8:00 pm most nights for a 45-minute program. From bats to bears, felines to fire, wolverines to wildflowers, we share the latest research and fun stories to kids and adults alike. Look for our What’s Happening posters in the campgrounds and Visitor Centre for this year’s new evening program topics.

Program Schedule

Programs begin Friday, June 28 and run until Sunday, September 1 (unless otherwise noted).

EVENING THEATRE		M	T	W	T	F	S	S
Falls Theatre	8PM	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Crandell Theatre	8PM	●		●	●	●	●	●

ACTIVITIES		M	T	W	T	F	S	S
Look, See, Play!	2PM TO 4PM	●		●			●	
Geocache 101	10AM TO 12PM			●			●	
Blackfoot Crafts & Stories	10AM TO 12PM		●		●			

GUIDED HIKES		M	T	W	T	F	S	S
Blakiston Falls Walk	1PM AND 3PM						●	●
Cameron Lakeshore Stroll	1PM AND 3PM						●	●
Bertha Falls Walk	2PM TO 5PM		●			●		
Ancient Eyes Hike	1PM TO 4PM		●		●			
Summit Lake Hike	10AM TO 3PM				●			
International Peace Park Hike Begins Saturday, June 29	10AM TO 6:30PM			●			●	

BEAR SAFETY BRUSH-UP		M	T	W	T	F	S	S
Falls Theatre	9:30AM TO 10AM		●			●		



Bear Safety Brush-Up

The Canadian Rocky Mountains are home to both grizzly and black bears. You can run into a bear anywhere here, be it on a busy trail close to town, in a campground, or in the remote back-country. Bears generally prefer to avoid people. However, encounters between bears and people do occur.

Knowing how to avoid a bear or how to act if you encounter one is the best way to safely enjoy the park. Watch this short video then ask the Park Interpreter any questions you have. You may even find a hiking partner.

Volunteering in Waterton Lakes National Park

Volunteer programs in Waterton provide a range of opportunities for you to become directly involved with park protection. By contributing your skills and energy, you can help accomplish important work in the park, and benefit from the chance to:

- Explore an interest in nature;
- Learn about new subjects and skills;
- Make a contribution to the community; and,
- Develop a personal connection to Waterton

Upcoming events include:

Spring Plant Count | See website for dates

Twitter is not the only place to receive your “tweets”. In support of a province-wide program of the Federation of Alberta Naturalists, the Lethbridge Naturalists’ Society organizes a count of birds in Waterton Lakes National Park during the first weekend of June each year. Sign-up at the Community Fire Hall on Saturday morning for this self-guided event. Binoculars are helpful.

Knapweed Rodeo | See website for dates

Knapweed is an invasive plant that can crowd out native species by releasing toxins from its roots and producing thousands of seeds. Join us for the 19th annual Knapweed Rodeo to help us wrangle this nasty buckaroo and keep our native plants blooming. Cowboy hats are not mandatory but are appreciated!

ON-GOING OPPORTUNITIES

Are you interested in being more involved? If so, these two projects might be a good fit. The Adopt-a-Patch program allows you to select your own special spot to

visit, pick weeds, and protect wildflowers. Or, while you’re hiking, participating in Weed and Wildlife Watchers allows you to watch for non-native plants and wildlife species we’re particularly interested in. Both projects are a great opportunity to make a deeper connection with the park.

OTHER VOLUNTEER PROJECTS AND EVENTS

We update our volunteer opportunities throughout the summer so please watch for posters or periodically visit Waterton’s volunteer web page by clicking on the “Activities” tab at www.pc.gc.ca/waterton.

For further information about volunteer opportunities or to sign up for volunteer updates, contact:

Becky Mitchell-Skinner
1-403-859-5107
becky.mitchell-skinner@pc.gc.ca
www.pc.gc.ca/waterton



LIVING WITH WILDLIFE

6 Tips to enjoy a safe visit and ensure that future generations have the chance to see wildlife that is truly wild.

1.

Wildlife are attracted to roadsides for feed and for easy travel. To prevent collisions with wildlife, **SLOW DOWN**, be alert, and scan ahead for animals. If you spot one animal, look for others: they often travel in groups.
2.

Store all food and food-related items inside a closed, hard-sided vehicle. Coolers, boxes and cans are not bear-proof. If you leave food or garbage out where wildlife can get at it, you may start a process of habituation, where animals aggressively seek out human food. Animals that become habituated often have to be killed.
3.

Keep at least three bus lengths (30 metres/100 feet) away from large animals and at least 10 bus lengths (100 metres/330 feet) away from bears. Deer and bighorn sheep may appear tame, but they may suddenly strike out with their hooves, antlers or horns.



4.

If an animal approaches you, keep your distance. Keep the animal's line of travel or escape route clear.

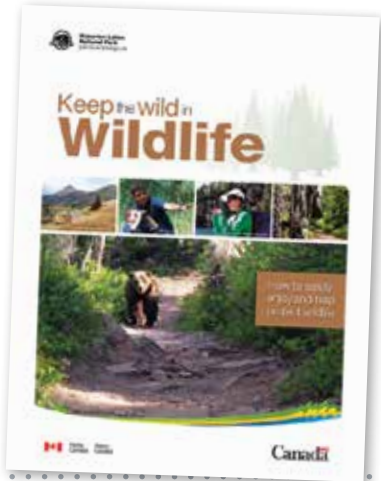


5.

Enticing wildlife by feeding, reaching out or mimicking calls is illegal. It will cause them to lose their natural fear of people, and be more likely to become aggressive, which will put other visitors in danger.
6.

Read the pamphlet “Keep the Wild in Wildlife”—available from all Park facilities.

HELP KEEP OUR ANIMALS WILD & ALIVE



Safe Travel in Bear Country

Bears are naturally wary of humans, and generally choose to avoid us. However, bears may at times threaten or attack people, especially if surprised. Here are some guidelines to keep in mind.

REDUCE YOUR RISK

- If you want to avoid a problem with a bear, avoid the bear. Do this by making noise. Bears will usually move out of the way if they hear you approaching. Bear bells are not loud enough. Use your voice instead.
- Hike in groups and stay on established trails during daylight hours. Keep children close.
- Watch for bears and their sign—tracks, droppings, diggings, torn-up logs and overturned rocks. Leave the area if you see fresh sign. If you come across dead animals, leave the area immediately and report it to park staff.
- Some trail conditions make it hard for bears to hear and see hikers. Be particularly careful by streams, blind corners, dense vegetation and on windy days.

IF YOU ENCOUNTER A BEAR

Bears are intelligent and complex animals. Each bear and each encounter is unique; there is no single strategy that will work in all situations.

- Stay calm. Most bears want to avoid you and ensure you're not a threat.
- Pick up small children and stay in a group.
- Keep your pack on, it may provide protection if you're attacked.
- Back away slowly, while talking calmly and firmly. Do not make eye contact as the bear may interpret this as aggression. Leave the area or take a detour.

IF YOU SURPRISE A BEAR, AND IT DEFENDS



ITSELF

- If a bear attacks and you have pepper spray, use it! Spray only when the bear gets close. Be aware of wind and spray distance.
- If contact is imminent, play dead. Lie on your stomach with legs apart. Use your arms to protect the back of your head and neck.
- If the attack continues for more than a couple of minutes, consider fighting back.

IF A BEAR STALKS YOU, OR ATTACKS AT NIGHT, IT PROBABLY THINKS YOU ARE FOOD

- Try to escape to a building or car.
- If you cannot escape, or if the bear follows, use pepper spray, or shout and try to intimidate the bear with a branch or rock. Do whatever it takes to let the bear know you are not easy prey.
- If the bear attacks, fight back aggressively.

For more detailed information, come see the free DVD “Staying Safe in Bear Country” in the Falls Theatre. You can also get a copy of “Keep the Wild in Wildlife” at the Information Centre, park campgrounds or other park facilities.



Beware the Brown-Eyed Beggar!

Who could resist those liquid brown eyes? That cold wet nose? Those expressive ears? And she's obviously soooooo hungry! But don't be fooled. When deer become accustomed to human food and touch, they lose their natural fear and become “habituated” to people. This causes problems for both them and us.

DEER THAT ARE FED BY PEOPLE LEARN TO AGGRESSIVELY BEG FOR FOOD. THEN THEY TEACH THEIR OFFSPRING.

A deer that lets you touch it or feed it is not afraid of you. When you run out of bread, leaves, grass, popcorn, French fries, or whatever else you're feeding it, it does not understand why the food-source has dried up. It may strike at you, knock you down and trample you, demanding more food.

Their hooves are very sharp and they have a powerful kick. This is especially dangerous to children, who often will put their hands out to lure deer over to them.

IF IT SMELLS LIKE FOOD, IT MUST BE FOOD.

A deer that is fed human food will seek it out in future, and may eat plastic bags, food wrappers and other garbage, mistaking it for food. Parks Canada veterinarians have found plastic bags and garbage tangled up in the intestines of dead deer.

NEVER APPROACH OR FEED DEER. PLEASE HELP KEEP THEM WILD AND ENJOY THEM FROM A DISTANCE.



Dogs, both large and small, have been trampled and killed by deer in Waterton. Does with fawns are particularly aggressive in the spring. Keep dogs closely leashed and steer clear of all deer.

In bear country be loud and make noise!

CYCLISTS AND TRAIL RUNNERS

Your speed and quietness put you at risk for sudden bear encounters. Slow down through shrubby areas and when approaching blind corners.

FOR YOUR SAFETY

7 Tips to preventing injury

Waterton Lakes National Park is a wilderness area so there are hazards to any activity. Reduce your risk of injury or death by taking reasonable precautions.

- 1. Don't go it alone.** Interpreter-led hikes are available, or if you go on your own, tell someone where you're going and when you'll be back. Travel with others and keep your group together.
- 2. Wear sturdy shoes and watch your step.** Most accidents in Waterton occur when people trip and fall. The risk is higher if you're near waterfalls, streams or lakes because the area can be slippery and the water is very cold. Just a few minutes in cold water can cause hypothermia and helplessness. Snowfields and avalanche deposits obscure trails and should be carefully crossed or avoided. Loose rock on scree slopes and near steep inclines creates especially dangerous footing. Reduce the risk by staying on designated trails, stay away from edges and watch your children.
- 3. Pamper yourself.** Take enough food and drinks to keep yourself safe and happy. A snack at the summit or the end of the trail is a great way to relax and take in the view. It's also a good way to bribe reluctant children or friends!
- 4. Be prepared.** Take along enough gear to keep you warm, safe and to keep you from getting lost. Wear layers of clothing. It can snow any month of the year here. Wind can chill the body, especially if you've been sweating, putting you at risk of hypothermia. Sunburn can be a major problem, particularly at higher elevations. Carry sunscreen.
- 5. Bug off!** Few things will ruin your hike like being chased down the trail by mosquitos or horseflies. Avoid stings or bites by using repellents and not wearing scented lotions or perfumes.
- 6. Water.** Though park waters are generally clean, harmful bacteria or parasites may be found in any untreated surface water. Carry water from one of the park's treated water sources or boil and filter all untreated water.
- 7. Cooking and Campfires.** Use fuel stoves for safety and environmental reasons. Small, controlled campfires are allowed in designated places. Check fire hazard and wind conditions first.



If undertaking a hazardous activity (mountain or rock climbing, or hiking alone) you may register with the Warden office. Once registered to go out, you must register back in by returning your registration form as soon as possible. Staff will investigate all overdue permits.

3 Tips to watching wildlife wisely

- 1. Act small.** Resist the urge to get closer, reach out, or call out to wildlife. Use binoculars or a telephoto lens. Your best chance of observing truly wild nature is to become as insignificant as possible — but stay safe. Retreat slowly if any animal approaches you or shows signs of aggression. Wildlife watching and photography are best done from a safe distance and from your car.
- 2. Watch for the signs.** Hone your senses by looking for tracks, diggings, or hair on trees. Listen for bird song or elk bugling. Buy a wildlife postcard and write about hearing coyotes howl, watching the antics of jays or finding squirrel tracks.
- 3. Outta bed, sleepy head!** Dawn and dusk are great times to watch wildlife, but they can be cool. Take a blanket, a thermos of something hot, your wildlife guide, binoculars and camera. Find a spot you like and settle in. Then, sit still and be quiet. After about 10 or 15 minutes, the wildlife will ignore you and go about their business.



C. Reynolds

Cougar Caution

Cougars are not often seen because they are solitary, elusive and active mainly at night. They may be more active in areas that have habituated deer, like towns and campgrounds. Avoid meeting a cougar by travelling in groups and making lots of noise. Keep children close to you. Free-roaming pets may attract and be attacked by cougars.

If you encounter a cougar, immediately pick up small children. Face the animal, and retreat slowly—do not run or play dead. Try to appear bigger and show aggression by holding your arms or an object above your head, waving a stick or throwing rocks. If a cougar attacks, fight back.



Ticked Off

Ticks live in tall grass and wooded areas. They are most active in spring and early summer, but may be found earlier or later depending on the weather.

Tick bites can cause serious illness, although cases are rare. Avoid them by staying on trails and away from bushes and tall grass. Wear light-coloured clothing so you can spot them more easily. Tuck your pant-legs into your socks, so ticks stay on top where you can see them.

If a tick is embedded, carefully remove it so that the mouth parts do not stay in your skin, and wash the area with soap and water. If you are unable to remove the entire tick or the area becomes infected, or if a rash develops around the bite area, see your doctor immediately.



Animal Jam

Seeing wildlife is such a vacation highlight that many people forget safety. That's why we have staff who help keep both visitors and wildlife safe. You can help. If you see wildlife, watch for traffic, then carefully pull over onto the side of the road, keeping your left wheels on the pavement. Limit your viewing time so others have a chance to see. Please do not stop in dangerous locations, e.g. close to a curve. Happy wildlife-watching!



“The National Parks of Canada are hereby dedicated to the people of Canada for their benefit, education and enjoyment... and shall be maintained and made use of so as to leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations.”

~ Canada National Parks Act, 1930



National Park Regulations

It is your responsibility to know and respect park regulations. They are strictly enforced.

- Pets must be on a leash at all times, including in your campsite. Pets are allowed on trails in Waterton. Please remove pet feces and garbage.
- Removing or collecting natural and historic objects is not allowed. This includes antlers, berries, wildflowers, dead wood, fossils and nests.
- It is unlawful to feed, entice or touch park wildlife.
- Obey closures. Areas may be temporarily closed by order of the Park Superintendent. They are marked with signs and/or tape.
- Camping is permitted only in designated areas, as marked by signs.
- Firearms are prohibited.
- A national park fishing permit is required in Canada's national parks. Only barbless hooks are permitted for use.
- Personal watercraft (seadoos, jet skis, etc.) are prohibited on all waters.

PARK MANAGEMENT

Restoring our Terrestrial Ecosystems

Have you spotted teams of park staff roaming the Hopen grasslands, tearing up or spraying plants? Perhaps you’ve encountered park employees surveying roadside vegetation or noticed small cages protecting pine cones? These are all signs of efforts the Parks Canada Agency is making to restore the health of terrestrial ecosystems and to protect species at risk in Waterton Lakes National Park.

NON-NATIVE PLANTS

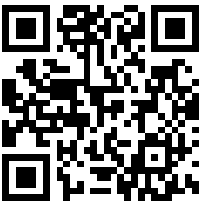
Non-native plants threaten the health of terrestrial ecosystems. These are plants that do not naturally occur here. They arrive as escaped ornamental plants, in hay or soil moved from one area to another, or simply on the undercarriage of a vehicle entering the park. Non-native plants that have no local predators can spread and displace native plants and the animals that use them for food and cover. For example, the half-moon hairstreak butterfly is an endangered species listed in Canada’s Species at Risk Act which relies on native lupine plants as both the nursery and food source for its larvae. If unchecked, invading non-native plants can displace native plants including lupine and threaten the survival of the half-moon hairstreak butterfly. Ask at the Visitor Centre about opportunities for volunteering at weed pull events like the Knapweed Rodeo near the end of July, or for a chance to help park ecologists detect and map infestations along trails in the



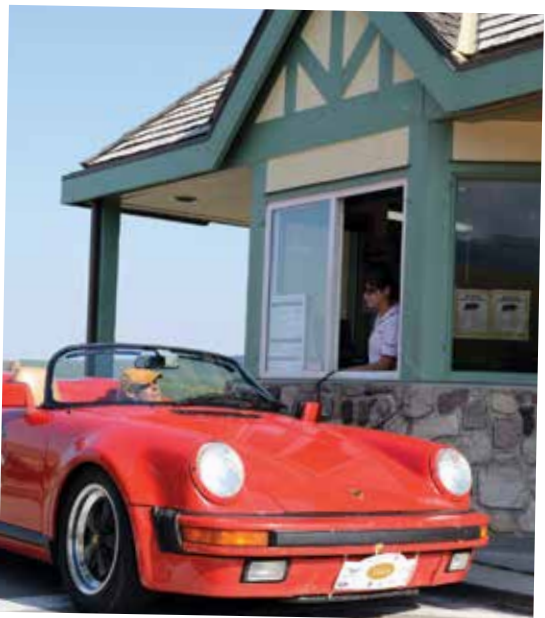
backcountry. Parks Canada invites you to take part in protecting the environment. Every time you visit the Park, ask yourself if you may be transporting plant material, seeds or insects from other areas. Buy and burn local firewood only, ensure hiking boots and camping gear are free of mud and seeds, and give your car a wash before going into to any protected area.

GEOCACHING

Geocaches highlighting restoration activities and species at risk have been placed in various locations throughout the park for geocachers to find. Geocache listings and GPS units (free for use with a credit card imprint) are available at the Heritage Centre on Waterton Avenue. The geocache coordinates are also registered on geocaching.com.



SOS—BUTTERFLY IN DISTRESS!
A video looking at how Parks Canada in Waterton are trying to help the fascinating halfmoon hairstreak butterfly. Watch it now.



Park Entry Fees

Park entry and camping fees help pay for maintaining visitor facilities such as roads, viewpoints, trails, picnic areas, and less obvious water, electrical and natural gas systems. Fees also support visitor services, interpretive theatre programs, guided walks, search and rescue teams and maintenance crews.

PARK ENTRANCE FEES	DAILY*	ANNUAL LOCAL*	NATIONAL PASS*
Adult	\$7.80	\$39.20	\$67.70
Senior	\$6.80	\$34.30	\$57.90
Youth (under 6 FREE)	\$3.90	\$19.60	\$33.30
Family Group	\$19.60	\$98.10	\$136.40

*Fees are subject to change
Separate entrance fees are charged at Glacier National Park, MT.

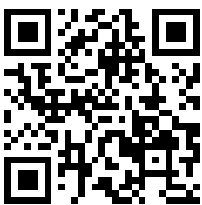


Too Close for Comfort

Everyone enjoys Waterton’s amazing watchable wildlife. A close encounter with deer and their fawns in the community is a real highlight, yet it can also put you in a dangerous situation if you get too close. A large deer population lives within the community because it provides an attractive food source (lawns) and a relatively safe haven from predators. Many years living near people led the deer to lose their natural wariness, and this behavior is reinforced when visitors approach or entice deer. This situation affects everyone’s safety, as well as predators like bears and cougars.

The Waterton community also has a long history of deer aggressively protecting their fawns from dogs during fawning season. Over time the deer have moved from passively tolerating people to boldly approaching people, and some have struck out with their hooves. Parks Canada and the community agree that it is important to re-establish a more natural and safe situation. They are working together on a Deer Advisory Group to address public safety and wildlife

protection, while maintaining the quality wildlife viewing everyone enjoys. For the last two years, we tried a new technique to reduce conflict between people and deer. Christine Jobe, an experienced dog handler, used herding dogs to shepherd deer from the community during the spring and early summer. The dogs were under the control of their handler at all times, and never contacted the deer. This approach built on the deers’ natural avoidance of dogs, which strongly resemble their natural predators, coyotes and wolves. Christine and the dogs will continue their work this year.




EXTRAORDINARY DOG, EXTRAORDINARY JOB
A video following Christine’s dogs as they shepherd habituated mule deer out of the community in Waterton. Watch it now.




Please report any instances of particularly aggressive deer behaviour, deer attacks and any injuries due to an attack. If possible, take a picture of the deer. Make sure you maintain a good distance from deer while watching them and choose not to entice or feed them.

You can help—never approach or feed deer!
Report any deer attacks or injuries due to an attack by calling:
1-403-859-2636

Glacier National Park





“Just across the border, Glacier National Park forms the other half of Waterton-Glacier International Peace Park. Together, with Waterton Lakes, these two parks formed the world’s first international peace park and continue to be models of cooperation, partnership, and ecosystem management.”

Entrance Fees

WATERTON LAKES NATIONAL PARK HAS SEPARATE ENTRANCE FEES.

Single Vehicle Pass.....	\$25.00
Valid for 7 days.	
Single Person Entry	\$12.00
By foot, bicycle, or motorcycle for 7 days.	
Glacier National Park Pass	\$35.00
Valid for one year from month of purchase.	
Interagency Pass*	\$80.00
Valid for one year from month of purchase.	
<i>*The old Golden Age, Golden Eagle, and Golden Access Passes have been replaced with a new series of interagency passes called the America the Beautiful - National Parks and Federal Recreational Lands Annual Pass. Special fees are charged for commercial tour vehicles.</i>	

Park Regulations

It is your responsibility to know and respect park regulations. Violations are punishable by fines up to \$500.00 and/or six months in jail. Park regulations are strictly enforced.

- Pets must be on a leash, and are not permitted on trails or anywhere off maintained roadways.
- Feeding or disturbing any wildlife is prohibited.
- It is illegal to remove any natural or cultural features including plants, rocks, mushrooms, artifacts, driftwood, or antlers.
- Park Rangers strictly enforce drinking and driving laws. Open containers of alcohol in a motor vehicle are prohibited in the Park. DUI and Safety Checkpoints are occasionally conducted.
- All food and utensils must be properly stored to protect wildlife.
- Hunting is not allowed in Glacier.

Camping

Camping is permitted only in designated campgrounds. Campgrounds, except Fish Creek and St. Mary, are available on a “first-come, first-served” basis. Utility hookups are not provided. Visitors may make advanced reservations for sites at the Fish Creek and St. Mary campgrounds, the two group sites at St. Mary, and at five of the ten group campsites at Apgar. Regular sites are \$23 per night, group sites are \$53 for the first 9 campers and \$5 per person each additional camper up to the site limit of 24. Reservations may be made through the National Park Service Reservation Service. Contact www.recreation.gov or call 1-877-444-6777.

There are five group sites at Apgar and one each at Many Glacier and Two Medicine that are operated on a “first-come first-served” basis. These non-reservable group sites are \$50.00 for the first 9 campers and \$5 per person each additional camper up to the site limit of 24.

Hiker-Biker Campsites

Campsites for bicyclists and hikers are shared sites holding up to eight people. The fee is \$5.00 per person. The hiker-biker site at St. Mary is \$8.00 per person.

Backpacking

Permits for backcountry camping are required and are available at St. Mary Visitor Center, Apgar Backcountry Permit Office, and the Many Glacier, Two Medicine, and Polebridge Ranger Stations. Permits are issued no more than 24 hours in advance and are not issued after 4:30pm. There is a \$5.00 per person per night charge. Reservations are also available by mail or at Apgar and St. Mary. There is a \$30.00 reservation fee. Visitors entering the backcountry at Goat Haunt or Belly River may obtain their permit at the Waterton Visitor Reception Centre (credit cards only).

Hiking

Ranger-led hikes are available throughout the park or your group can enjoy Glacier’s 700 miles of maintained trails on your own. Hikers need to assume individual responsibility for planning their trips and hiking safely. Read all the warnings and recommendations in this newspaper. Trail maps, trail guides, topographic maps, and field guides are available at park visitor centers. The Trail of the Cedars and Running Eagle Falls Nature Trails are wheelchair accessible.

Driving the Going-to-the-Sun Road

This 50-mile road combines both history and unparalleled scenery. While portions of the road remain open year-round, the higher sections only open after winter snows are plowed. Ongoing rehabilitation of the Going-to-the-Sun Road may cause short delays of up to no more than 30 minutes. Please allow additional driving time.

Vehicle Size Restrictions on the Going-to-the-Sun Road

Vehicles, and vehicle combinations, longer than 21 feet (including bumpers) or wider than 8 feet (including mirrors), are prohibited between Avalanche Campground and Rising Sun. Vehicles over 10 feet in height may have difficulty driving west from Logan Pass, due to rock overhangs. Stock trucks and trailers may access Packers Roost and Siyeh Bend.

Visiting Logan Pass

Frequently the parking lot at Logan Pass fills to capacity, forcing visitors to drive on without stopping. The most congested times at Logan Pass are between 11:00 am and 3:00 pm. It is best to plan a visit for early morning or later in the afternoon. Consider using the free Going-to-the-Sun Road Shuttle. Shuttles run frequently throughout the day between 7:00 am and 7:00 pm. Concession operated tours also stop at Logan Pass.



Two Medicine Lake and Mt. Sinapah - photo by Bill Hayden



Many Glacier Hotel - photo by David Restivo

Concession Services in Glacier National Park

RESTAURANTS

Food service is available at: Eddie’s Restaurant in Apgar • Russells Fireside Dining Room and Jammer Joe’s Restaurant & Pizzaria at Lake McDonald • Ptarmigan Dining Room and the Italian Garden Ristorante in the Many Glacier Valley • Two Dog Flats Grill at Rising Sun • Snack Bar at Two Medicine Campstore.

CAMPSTORES & GIFT SHOPS

Groceries and gifts are available at: Eddie’s Campstore, The Cedar Tree, Schoolhouse Gifts, and the Montana House of Gifts at Apgar • Lake McDonald Lodge Gift Shop and Campstore at Lake McDonald • Many Glacier Hotel Gift Shop and Swiftcurrent Campstore in the Many Glacier Valley • Rising Sun Campstore at Rising Sun • Two Medicine Campstore at Two Medicine.

BOAT TRIPS & RENTALS

Narrated boat cruises are offered at Lake McDonald, Many Glacier, Rising Sun, and Two Medicine. Optional free guided hikes are offered on some trips. Boat and canoe rentals are also available. For information contact: Glacier Park Boat Company - (406) 257-2426

LODGING

The Village Inn, Lake McDonald Lodge, Rising Sun Motor Inn, Swiftcurrent Motor Inn, and the Many Glacier Hotel are operated by Glacier Park, Inc. **For reservations contact:** Glacier Park, Inc. - (406) 892-2525 **For reservations at Apgar Village Lodge:** Apgar Village Lodge - (406) 888-5484

GRANITE PARK AND SPERRY CHALETs

Granite Park Chalet provides rustic accommodations that include rooms, beds, and a common kitchen. Guests provide their own sleeping bag, water, food, and cooking utensils. Optional bed linen service is available. Sperry Chalet offers full service rustic overnight accommodations and full meal service, in a wilderness setting. For reservations contact: Belton Chalets Inc. (888) 345-2649

HORSEBACK RIDES

Horseback rides are provided by Swan Mountain Outfitters at the following locations: Lake McDonald Lodge, Apgar and Many Glacier Hotel. For information contact: Swan Mountain Outfitters - (877) 888-5557

GUIDED BUS TOURS AND SHUTTLES

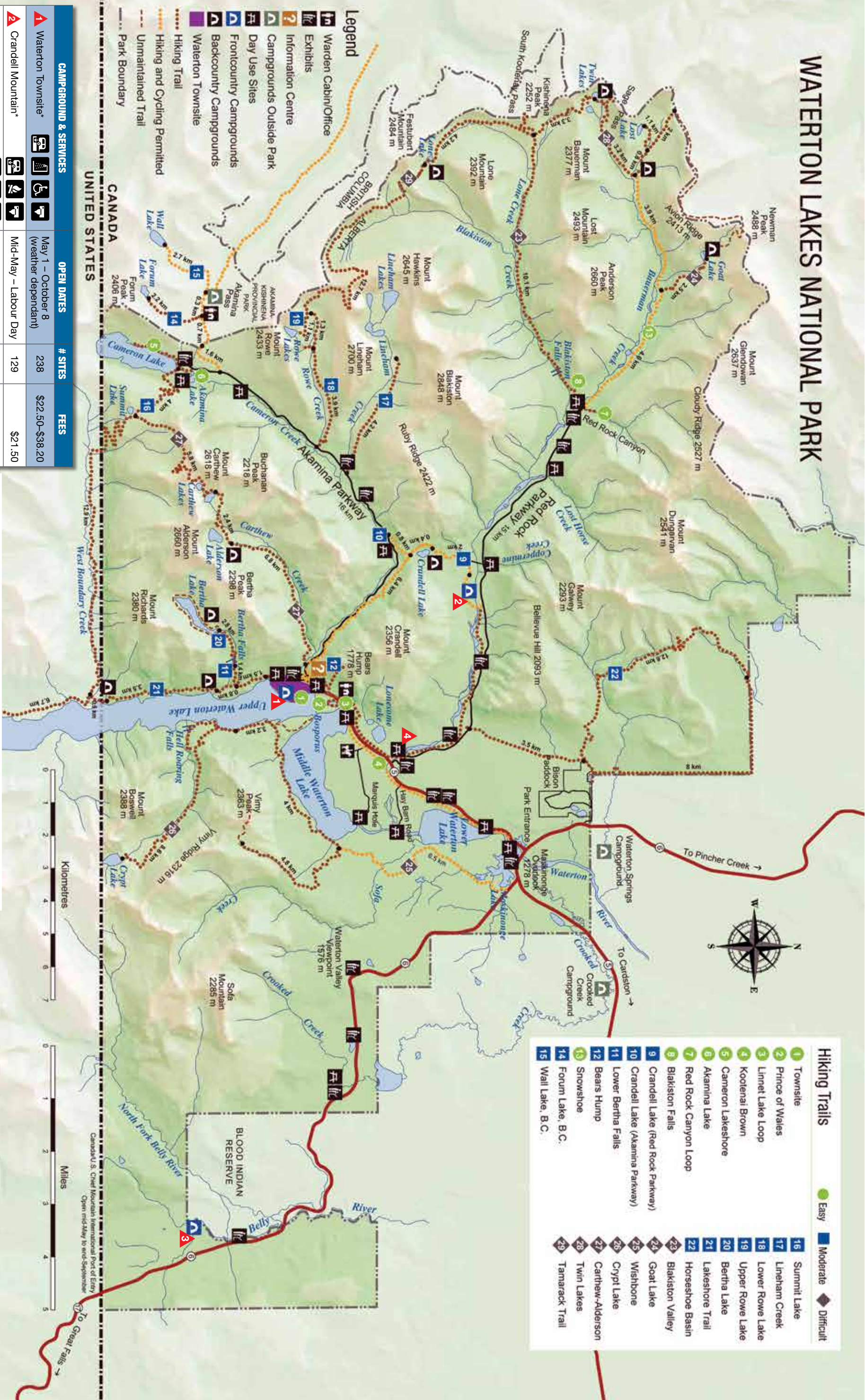
Narrated tours and shuttle services are offered by Glacier Park Inc. For reservations contact: Glacier Park, Inc. - (406) 892-2525




















Sun Tours offers interpretive tours from late May to mid-October. Tours highlight Blackfeet culture and history relating to Glacier National Park’s natural features. Tours begin from St. Mary, East Glacier, and Browning. For reservations contact: Sun Tours - (800) 786-9220 or (406) 226-9220

BACKCOUNTRY GUIDES


Glacier Guides offer guided day hikes and backpacking trips into Glacier’s backcountry for one to seven days. Custom guide service trips are available. Camping equipment is available for rent at their West Glacier office. For reservations contact: Glacier Guides - (406) 387-5555 or (800) 521-RAFT (7238)

WATERTON LAKES NATIONAL PARK



CAMPGROUND & SERVICES				OPEN DATES	# SITES	FEES
1	Waterton Townsite*	   	May 1 – October 8 (weather dependant)		238	\$22.50-\$38.20
2	Crandell Mountain*	   	Mid-May – Labour Day		129	\$21.50
3	Belly River	   	Mid-May – Labour Day		24	\$15.70
3	Belly River Group	   	By Reservation Only			\$4.90/Person
4	Pass Creek Winter	  	Late Oct – Late April		8	Self-registration

Camping season dates are approximate. Please confirm at Visitor Centres prior to heading out. Arrive early. Non-reservable sites are available on a first-come first-served basis. Fire permit is required. Camping permitted in designated campgrounds only. *Interpretive programs offered.

 Highlighted campsites may be reserved: 1-877-RESERVE or pocamping.ca



Bull Trout - NPS photo



Pika - NPS photo

Climate Change in the Crown of the Continent

Climate change is one of the most pressing issues of our time. The impacts of a rapidly warming world may affect every aspect of life on earth. As the earth’s temperature continues to rise, many plant and animal species increasingly face rapid adaptation, migration, or even extinction. Our national parks demonstrate how warming temperatures are changing the environment and may provide a refuge for plant and animal species. They help us to understand the extent of climate change, how to mitigate its effects, and how to protect our natural and cultural treasures for the enjoyment of our children and grandchildren.

Glaciers are responsible for the sculpted peaks, hanging valleys, and azure lakes that inspire park visitors. However, glaciers provide much more than scenery. They are an integral part of the ecosystem, especially during dry periods and pouring cold water into thirsty streams during the hottest days. In 1850, there were an estimated 150 glaciers in the parks. Today there are 25, all in Glacier.

Scientists predict (at current rates of warming) these remaining glaciers will disappear by 2030.

Mountain snowpack has also declined as a result of warming temperatures. Due to changing precipitation and seasonal patterns, snow is often replaced with rain resulting in earlier spring runoff and a decrease in water availability in dry months. This will mean a greater flood potential, and an increase in water temperature in aquatic ecosystems. This trend is expected to have major consequences for aquatic species. For instance, bull trout require clear, cold water and clean gravel-bottom streams to reproduce and survive. The Crown of the Continent is one of bull trout’s last strongholds. Scientists are concerned about the ability of bull trout to survive the long-term impacts of climate change.

Alpine meadows are expected to change rapidly over the next several decades. High altitude meadows provide habitat for an incredible array of rare species

such as pika, mountain goats, and grizzly bears. In addition to less water availability in alpine meadows, the longer growing season is allowing treeline to climb in elevation, decreasing the alpine habitat these species depend on.

Grizzly bears and other wildlife freely traverse multiple ownerships and the international border. The transboundary North Fork Flathead Valley is a critical wildlife corridor. British Columbia and Montana have taken the initial steps to ban mining and gas drilling, in an attempt to preserve vital ancient wildlife pathways. As the climate warms and plant communities change, animals need the freedom to roam in search of suitable habitat. This region’s natural diversity of species and habitats helps buffer the impacts of rapid change.

While some impacts of climate change are inevitable, park managers are working with neighboring communities and agencies to give fish and wildlife a better chance to adapt.

The Pine Balance: A Shared Responsibility

Pale skin, elongated needles, contorted spines; whitebark pines certainly dress for the role they play as the elders of our forest. Patiently growing over centuries, many of the whitebark pines currently living in the Waterton-Glacier International Peace Park began their lives over a thousand years ago, long before there ever was such a thing as a peace park, the boundary dividing it, or Europeans in North America.

This keystone species plays a role in maintaining a healthy ecosystem in the peace park. Growing especially well in alpine regions (2000 to 3000 m elevation), where fewer trees compete for the sunlight they depend on; these trees are perfectly adapted to a delicate balance of natural factors. Growing on steep slopes, the roots of the whitebark pine stabilize the soil, decreasing the rate of soil erosion, and create microclimates wherein neighbouring organisms might thrive. Additionally, the cones of whitebark pines produce nutrient-rich seeds, similar to the pine nuts you might find in a fancy salad, that are an integral food source for numerous animals in the park, including black and grizzly bears, red squirrels and the Clark’s nutcracker. Like the hierarchy of a family, these pines create a foundation that supports an ecosystem.

Though renowned for their resilience and longevity, human actions have inadvertently threatened these trees. Whitebark pines are now on the brink of disappearing from the peace park and are threatened across the continent. The synergistic effects of a century of fire suppression, the introduction of an invasive fungus and a spike in pine-beetle populations have all contributed to the rapid decline of the whitebark pine in the peace park.

The absence of wildfires has tipped the natural balance out of the whitebark pines favour. These pines need lots of sunlight, which means they depend on the canopy-clearing action of wildfires to establish themselves. Without these clear patches in the forests, whitebark pines are outcompeted by other trees and, as our forests become thicker and thicker, lose

their habitat. A foreign fungus, the white pine blister rust, affects the majority of the whitebark pines in Waterton and Glacier. It was transported to North America from Europe when trees unknowingly infected with the fungus were brought over in the early 20th century, which is the cause of the wide spread of the infection throughout the continent. Unlike European relatives of the whitebark pine, North American 5-needled pines have no resistance to this infection. White pine blister rust is especially devastating to seedlings and young pines, with little likelihood that infected seedlings will survive to maturity. Considered alongside a spike in population of native pine beetles in the area, insects whose larvae feast on pine bark, whitebark pine populations have been devastated

in the International Peace Park. A study conducted in the park spanning 13 years (1996-2009) noted that mortality and blister rust infection in whitebark pines both increased by a staggering 3% with every year.

In response to the alarming mortality and infection rates, a joint effort was initiated to reverse the effects of human impact and restore the pine population. A number of prescribed burns were used to open the canopy and create areas suitable for whitebark pines to grow. The area surrounding Summit Lake, for example, has had a number of plots cleared where whitebark pine seedlings have been planted. These seedlings were grown in greenhouses associated with Glacier’s Native Plant Nursery, from seeds collected from healthy whitebark

in the area. In fact, Waterton and Glacier staff, alongside numerous volunteers have been planting thousands of seedlings over the last five years in areas suitable for whitebark pine habitat. The hope is to tip the balance back in favour of our whitebark pines in the hope of reinstating the natural balance that permits these trees to compete in the wild.

The restoration of the whitebark pine population in the International Peace Park is a high priority for both parks as these fascinating trees are crucial to maintaining a healthy ecosystem. Contact the park to see how you can be involved in the restoration project.



A whitebark pine on the eastern slope of the park with the prairies in the distance - NPS photo

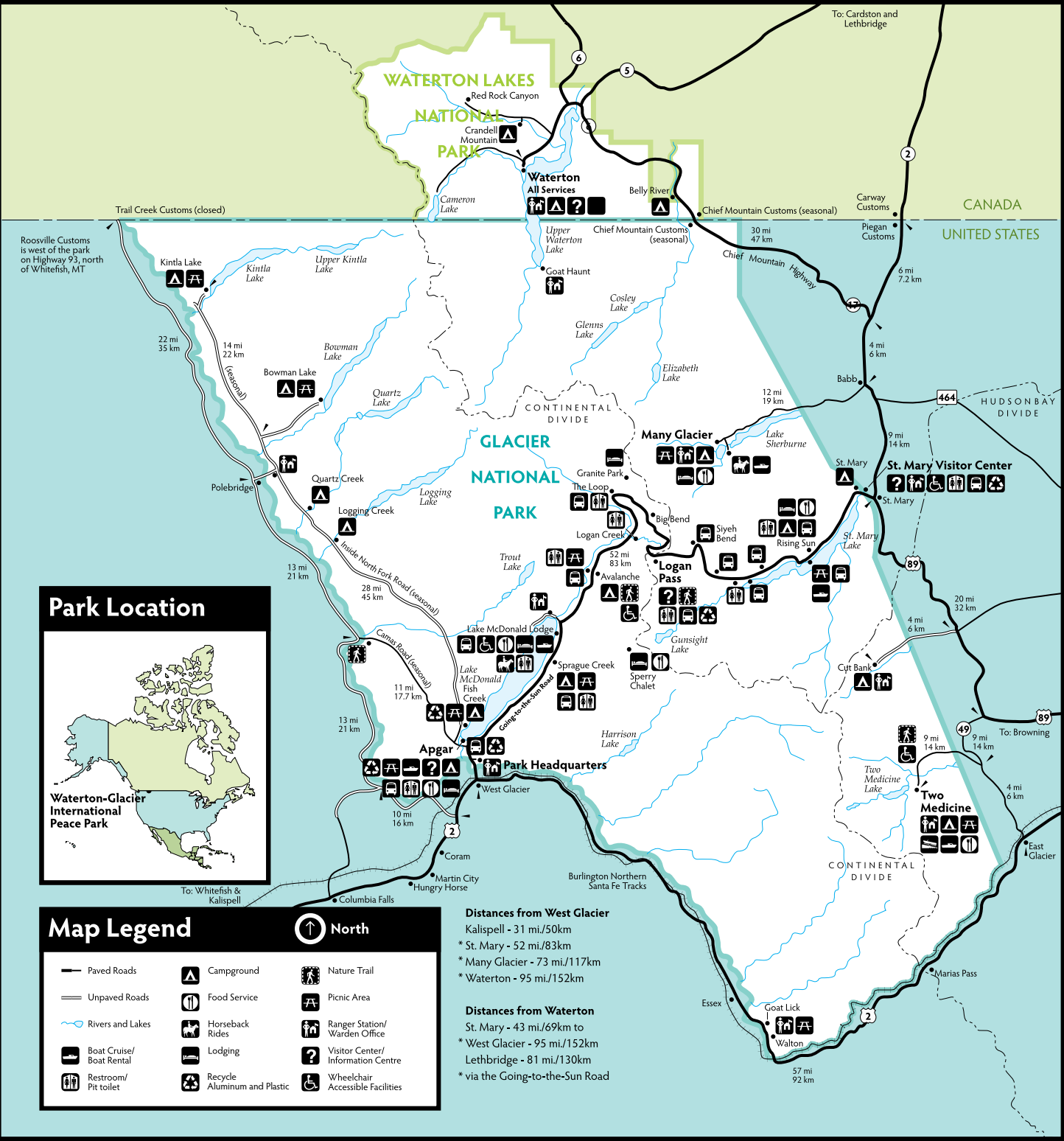


Whitebark cones - NPS photo



Cataloging whitebark pine - NPS photo

Waterton-Glacier International Peace Park World Heritage Site



Crossing the Border

All travelers crossing the border must present documents that are Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative (WHTI) compliant. Those documents include:

- U.S. Citizens must present a U.S. Passport, Enhanced Drivers License*, U.S. Passport Card, or NEXUS Card
- U.S. Resident Aliens must present a U.S. Resident Alien Card
- Canadian citizen must present a Canadian Passport, Enhanced Drivers License*, or NEXUS Card
- Citizens from countries other than Canada or the United States must present a valid passport and a current I-94 or an I-94W.

I-94 forms are available at the Port of Entry for \$6.00 U.S. currency and all major credit cards are accepted. Canadian currency is not accepted.

* For a list of States and Provinces who currently issue Enhanced Drivers Licenses, please visit www.getyouhome.gov

Special restrictions apply when crossing the border with pets, defensive sprays, alcohol, firewood, and purchases. All firearms must be declared. For more information on crossing from the USA to Canada, call 1-800-320-0063; and if crossing from Canada to the USA, call 1-406-889-3865.

Travel To, From, and Through Goat Haunt

Travel between Waterton Lakes National Park, Canada and the Goat Haunt Ranger Station, either by boat or by foot on the Waterton Lake Trail, will require an official government issued photo identification card for U.S. or Canadian citizens or permanent residents. All others must carry a valid passport.

Persons seeking to travel beyond the Goat Haunt Ranger Station into the United States must present documents that are Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative compliant.

The Goat Haunt Port of Entry will operate between 10:30 a.m., and 5:00 p.m. No entry into the United States past the Goat Haunt Ranger Station will be authorized outside of the port's hours of operation. Hikers traveling northbound into Canada from the United States are required to contact the Chief Mountain Port of Entry upon their arrival at the Waterton townsite. Information on contacting the Port of Entry is available at the Waterton Lakes Visitor Centre or the Waterton Station of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

Border Crossing Dates and Times

Roosville.....open 24 hours west of the park on Highway 93, north of Whitefish, MT and south of Fernie, B.C.

Piegan/Carway7 a.m. to 11p.m. east of the park at the joining of U.S. Highway 89 with Alberta Highway 2

Chief Mountain

5/15 to 5/31	9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
6/1 to 9/2	7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.
9/3 to 9/30	9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
October 1	closed for season



The "International" about to dock at Goat Haunt - David Restivo

Boat Permit Regulations Glacier



- Motorized boats and trailered watercraft, such as sailboats, will need an NPS AIS inspection and launch permit. Other watercraft will need a self-certification form (available at ranger stations, visitor centers, backcountry permit offices, and at many boat launches). The signed form should be kept while on the water.
- Between Memorial Day and Labor Day, permits will be available 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. at Park Headquarters, in West Glacier. Permits are also available, between 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., at the St. Mary Visitor Center, and the Two Medicine and Many Glacier Ranger Stations. Boaters headed to the North Fork should obtain permits at Park Headquarters. Boaters planning on early morning or late evening trips should plan accordingly.
- A new launch permit will be required upon each entry into the park. A boat may launch multiple times provided the boat does not leave the park between launches.
- A full inspection will be required for each permit. Inspections may take upwards of 30 minutes. Boaters should factor inspection time into their recreation plans.
- To qualify for a permit, boats must be clean, drained and thoroughly dry (including bilge areas and livewells) on inspection.
- Boats with internal ballast tanks or other enclosed compartments that exchange water with the environment, that cannot be readily opened and fully inspected are prohibited within Glacier National Park.
- Boats that fail to pass the inspection will be denied a permit. Boaters may re-apply for a permit after the boat is thoroughly cleaned, drained and dried.
- Boats found with certain infestations of aquatic invasive species may be quarantined until they can be fully decontaminated. Depending on the infestation, this may take up to 30 days.
- Boaters on Waterton Lake must comply with permit and inspection requirements of Waterton Lakes National Park

Boat Permit Regulations Waterton Lakes



- A permit is required to launch any motorized or trailered boats in Waterton Lakes National Park. Hand propelled boats like canoes or rowboats and flotation devices such as float tubes do not require a permit.
- To obtain the permit you will be asked a few short questions to ensure that the boat has not been in waters where invasive mussels are present.
- Gate staff are required to stop all vehicles towing boats to ensure that they have a permit, or to provide a permit if they do not have one.
- The permits are free and are available at the park gate, the visitor centre, the administration office, and campground kiosks. The permit must be carried on your person while boating in the park. The permits are valid for the entire season as long as the boat has not been launched in any waters where invasive mussels are thought to be present.
- If the boat has been operated in waters of concern, then a free boat inspection is required prior to issuing a permit to ensure that the boat does not carry any invasive species.
- If the inspection indicates the boat is contaminated, then it will not be permitted to launch and must be decontaminated and re-inspected before a permit will be issued.
- Boats with internal ballast tanks that have been operated in waters of concern will not be permitted to launch.



Quagga mussel encrusted motor NPS Photo