

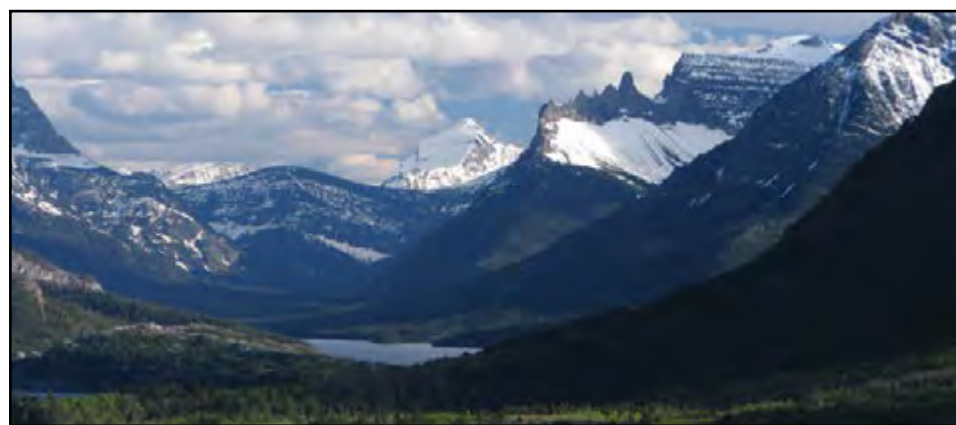


## A Brilliant Idea

It started as an idea at an annual Rotary International meeting, between clubs in Alberta and Montana, and it didn't take long for the idea to catch hold. 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. A spirit of cooperation is reflected in wildlife and

vegetation management, search and rescue programs, and joint interpretive programs, brochures, and exhibits.

Waterton-Glacier International Peace Park was further honored in 1995 when it was designated as a World Heritage Site for its scenic values, its significant climate, landforms and ecological processes, and abundant diversity of wildlife and wildflowers.



Upper Waterton Lake and Surrounding Mountains - Parks Canada

## The Pine Balance: A Shared Responsibility



Black Bear Reaching for Cones - Robert J. Weselmann

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 while creating micro-climates 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 hierarch 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.

The absence of wildfires has tipped the natural balance out of the whitebark pines' favour. Whitebark 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, have fewer habitable areas in the park. A foreign fungus, the white pine

blister rust affects the majority of the whitebark pines in Waterton and Glacier. This fungus was transported to North America from Europe when trees unknowingly infected with the fungus were brought over in the early 20th century, which is credited with 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 pines in the area. In fact, Waterton and Glacier staff, alongside numerous volunteers, have been planting thousands of seedlings over the last several 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.



Cages Protect Ripening Cones - Parks Canada



Planting Seedlings - Parks Canada





## International Peace Park Hike

Join us in celebrating the long-standing peace, friendship, and cooperative management of our two parks by participating in an International Peace Park Hike. These special two-nation hikes explore the landscape surrounding Waterton Lake and also the political realities of a resource shared by two neighboring parks and countries.

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 and friendship ceremony as you cross the International

Boundary on your way to Goat Haunt in Glacier National Park, Montana. Return to Waterton is 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 early evening. Each hike is limited to 30 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. Come prepared with a lunch, water, rain gear, jacket, and hat. Wear sturdy footwear. The trail is not difficult, but you will be hiking most of the day. Don't forget your boat ticket! Pets are not permitted.



The International Peace Pavilion at Goat Haunt - David Restivo



Beargrass - Bill Hayden, "Hands across the border" Ceremony - Jeff Yee, The International - David Restivo



## Discover Our Neighbours' 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 Glacier, also have a close association with the park. Take the time to learn about our neighbours.

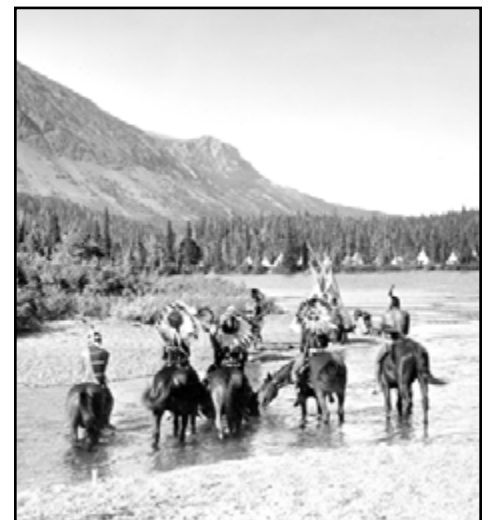
Nearby in Browning, Montana, the Museum of the Plains Indian features fascinating exhibits and Native American

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 centers 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, Running Eagle Falls, and a portion of the Swiftcurrent Nature Trails in Glacier, and the Linnet Lake, Kootenai Brown, and Townsite Trails in Waterton Lakes.

### 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



Parks Canada

Parcs Canada



The Waterton-Glacier Guide is a joint publication between Waterton Lakes National Park of Canada & Glacier National Park in the United States.





**Waterton Lakes  
National Park**



# Waterton Lakes National Park Visitor Guide

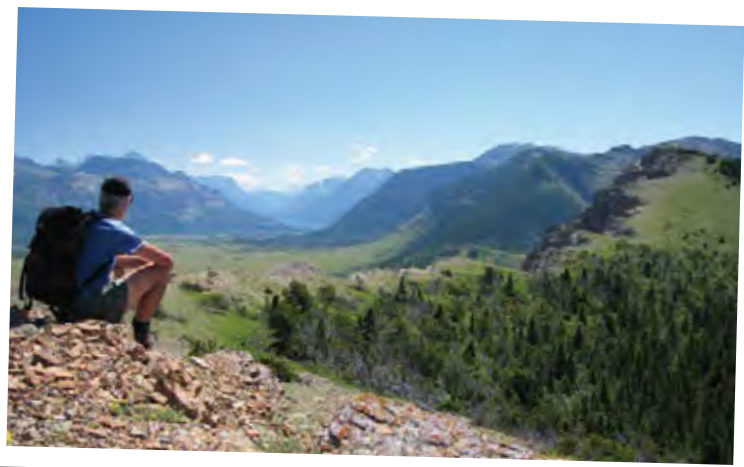
experience  
**PROPER  
AWESOME**

Matt Holland

## 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.

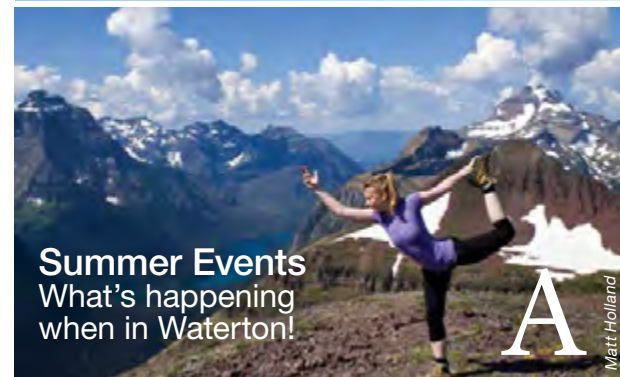
When you’re heading out of the park, remember that Waterton is just one of 44 national parks, 167 national historic sites and 4 marine conservation areas that Parks Canada protects across the country, each representing a place, person or event that Canadians value and that are there for you to experience.



## 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!

A

<b>Visit Planner</b> Get the most from your visit	2
<b>Living with Wildlife</b> Learn to keep yourself and the wildlife you encounter safe	4
<b>Park Management</b> Working to preserve your experience	6
<b>Park Map</b>	8
<b>Glacier National Park</b> Our neighbour and partner offers a lot to see and do	9
<b>Interpretation Programs</b> Theatre programs & guided hikes included free with your entrance fee	B

## 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 403-859-2636**



# VISIT PLANNER



Matt Holland

**Create your own experience**  
We'll take care of the scenery



Whether you enjoy a relaxing stroll with an ice cream, a challenging hike, or an evening program with friends, Waterton Lakes National Park offers a wide range of activities and adventures. Ask our staff for an experience designed with you in mind.

## SCENERY & WILDLIFE

If scenery and wildlife appeal to you, drive one of the scenic parkways. All have pull-offs and viewpoints for safe viewing opportunities and a chance to discover more about this special place. As an alternative, hop on a shuttle to enjoy an interpretive tour along the parkways and leave the driving to someone else.

- 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.

## PICNICKING

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.

## INTERPRETIVE PROGRAMS

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



Kevin Caners

at 8:00 pm, throughout the summer. Or try a guided hike or hands-on activity. As you travel through the park check out trail-side, roadside and day use area exhibits.

## BOATING

If you like the water, whether on your own or guided by experts, try boating. The best spot for paddling a canoe or kayak is Cameron Lake, where both are

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 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.

## HIKING

Like to stay active? Try hiking some of our 200 km of trails. Begin by planning your trip. Take a free guided hike with a Parks Canada Interpreter, check out our "Hiking Waterton Lakes National Park" sheet, hire a licensed interpretive guide, or use a guidebook to pick a hike suitable for everyone in your group. Make sure you have the knowledge, equipment and supplies to have a safe and enjoyable hike. Stop at the Visitor Centre for trail conditions, cautions or closures—you'll increase your safety and enjoyment.

## CYCLING

Cycle, but be aware of other traffic and strong winds. Parkway 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.



Nick Alexander



# 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.

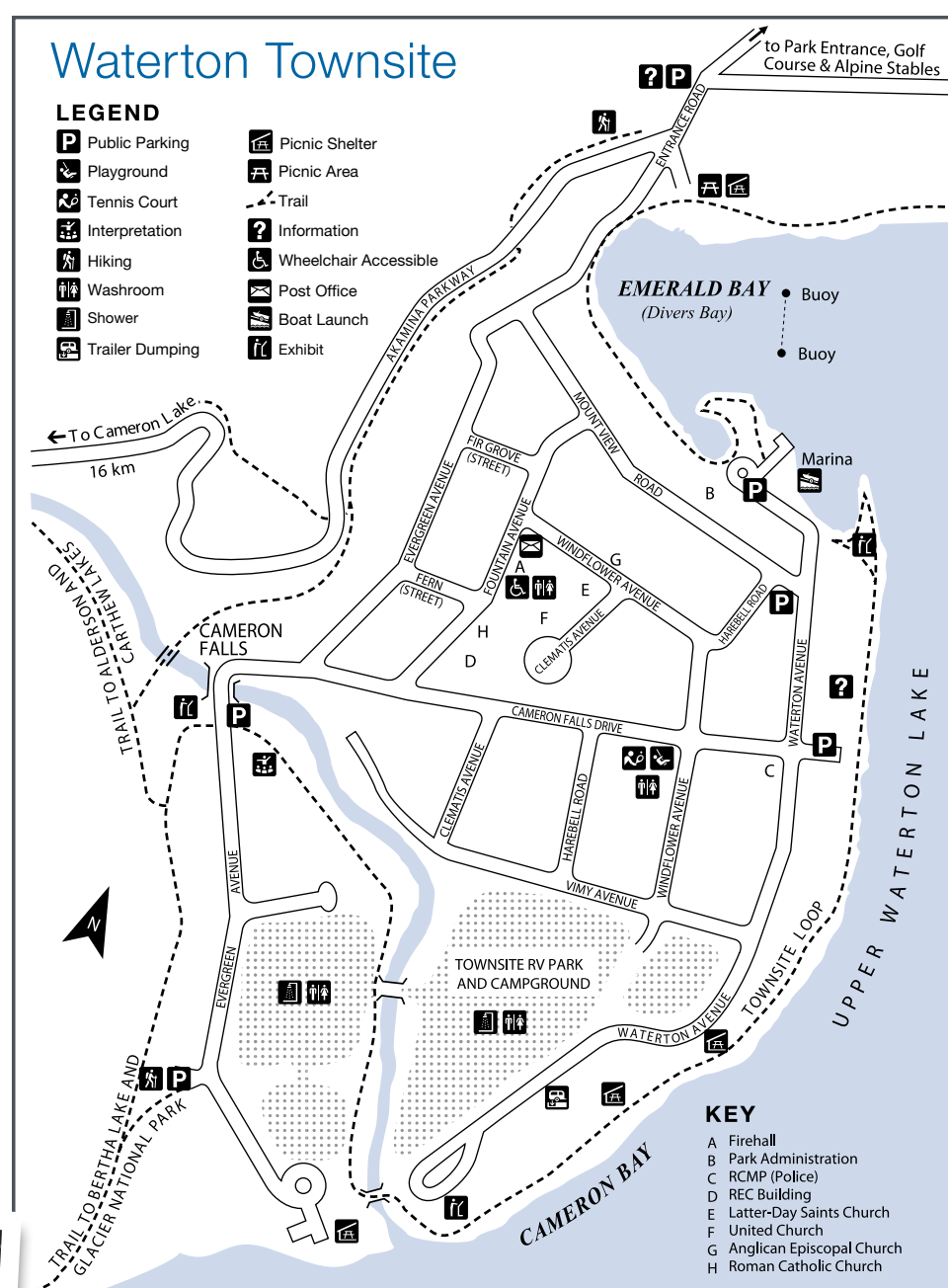
## FISHING

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 three 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.



## 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, drier, and more dependable, and summer time 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.



# 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 to 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.

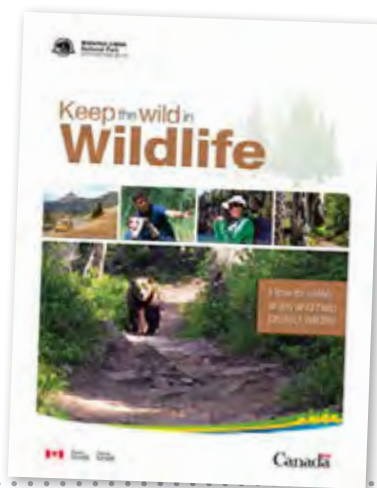
4. If an animal approaches you, keep your distance. Keep the animal's line of travel or escape route clear.



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**



## 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.*

## 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.

## 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.***

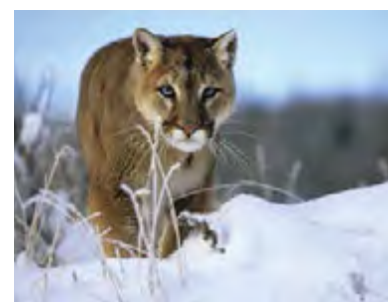
## 3 Tips to watching wildlife wisely

- 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.



## 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

## Rescue the Fescue Grasslands

Have you spotted teams of park staff roaming the open grasslands, pulling or spraying plants? Perhaps you've encountered park employees surveying roadside vegetation or noticed them operating strange equipment in and around the prairies? These are all signs of efforts the Parks Canada Agency is making to restore the health of the fescue grasslands within the 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 from afar. 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, such as knapweed, can displace native plants including lupine and threaten the survival of the half-moon hairstreak butterfly.



natural event (flooding), sites need our help to ensure only native species return. This involves collecting native seed in the park for use in planting on the disturbed site. We either plant the seed directly by lightly raking the seed into the soil in small areas or using a new piece of equipment called a hydroseeder that mixes the seed in slurry with organic matter and fertilizer and sprays it evenly onto the site. The hydroseeder also helps cover the exposed soil reducing erosion and preventing non-natives from establishing. Alternatively we grow the seed into seedlings at a facility run by our colleagues in Glacier National Park in Montana that we then plant back into the restoration site.



The crews you see on the prairie and roadsides are using a variety of techniques in order to combat these invasive species. They carefully apply herbicides using backpack sprayers or use small shovels to dig up species by the roots for safe disposal. Additionally, they have partnered with other organizations in the region to release weevils and other types of insects that have been selected because they only feed on the targeted invasive species – this is called biocontrol and offers the only hope for controlling some species in the area.

### RESTORATION

In some cases, after extensive control of non-native invasive plant species in the Park or after some level of disturbance from park operations (sign installation) or

Whenever you see the Restoration Crew at work feel free to stop, if it is safe to do so, and ask about the work they do or give a wave as you pass them by – it is hard but necessary work they do in our efforts to Rescue the Fescue in Waterton Lakes National Park.

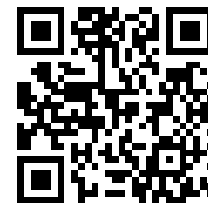
### FIRE

A different type of restoration tool exists – one that has occurred on the prairies and forests for thousands of years and was used extensively by First Nations in the area – fire. Restoring fire as a natural process is important to the health of the



ecosystem, including the wildlife it supports. On the fescue grasslands, fire historically returned every 5-10 years helping to maintain the fescue prairie by reducing the cover of trees, mainly trembling aspen, which have been slowly expanding into the grasslands. The goal of fire management in National Parks is to restore and maintain this historical frequency of fires, while at the same time protecting the public and facilities from wildfires.

So you may see crews walking across the prairie carrying paper bags full of the seeds of native grassland plants and carrying a large weed-whacker like piece of equipment – this is a seed collector that spins a roller head in such manner that the seeds are knocked off and thrown into a catch bag. You may also see a truck parked on the side of the road with a large tank on the back and long hose stretching out across the land with a member of the Restoration Crew at the other end carefully spraying a brown soupy mixture on the ground - this is the hydroseeder hard at work.



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

## 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.

For many years a large deer population has lived within the community because it provides an attractive food source (lawns) and a relatively safe haven from predators. Many years living near people has 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, and attracts 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.

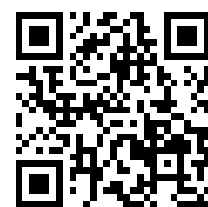
Parks Canada and the community agree that it is important to re-establish a more natural and safe situation. Working together, they established a Deer Advisory Group to address public safety and wildlife protection, while maintaining the quality wildlife viewing everyone enjoys.

For the past several summers, we tried a new technique to reduce conflict between people and deer. An experienced dog handler has been using 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. The shepherding program has been a great success. The number of aggressive encounters between deer and people has dramatically decreased and the unnaturally high density of deer living within the community has declined.

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 do not entice or feed them.



### 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.



### You can help— never approach or feed deer!

Report any deer attacks or injuries due to an attack by calling: 1-403-859-2636



# PARK MANAGEMENT

## 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 by pouring cold water into thirsty streams during the hottest days. In 1850, there were an estimated 150 glaciers in the US 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 Waterton Biosphere Reserve: Carnivores and Communities

Waterton Lakes National Park forms the protected core of a larger cooperative area called the Waterton Biosphere Reserve. People have been working together in this area for more than 30 years to balance biodiversity conservation with sustainable livelihoods for local communities. Designated in 1979 by UNESCO, the Waterton Biosphere Reserve is one of 16 biosphere reserves in Canada and is part of the World Biosphere Reserve Network with over 600 biosphere reserves in more than 115 countries. Through this organization, Waterton park staff have worked with neighboring landowners, provincial and municipal governments, and other agencies and organizations on a number of cooperative projects over the years. Projects have addressed issues of common concern including wildlife, invasive species, water quality, and land use pressures.

One of the biosphere reserve's current projects, the Carnivores and Communities Program, is an example of how communities can work together to seek solutions to complex conservation challenges. Large carnivores such as bears, cougars, and wolves depend on habitats both inside and outside the park. When large carnivores share the landscape with people, conflicts can occur. Conflict is often driven by carnivores gaining access to "attractants" or alternative food sources such as residential garbage, pet food, and bird feeders, and agricultural attractants including dead livestock (deadstock), granaries, bee yards, and calving areas. Since 2008, the biosphere reserve has been supporting the community, bringing landowners together with land managers, federal, provincial and municipal governments, and other partners, as they take steps to reduce conflicts with large carnivores.

Examples of conflict reduction initiatives within Waterton include installation of bear-proof garbage bins and efforts to keep food and food-related items secure from carnivores. In the agricultural lands outside the park, more than 20 ranchers and farmers have implemented projects on their properties to reduce or eliminate access to attractants. Projects have ranged from the installation of bear-proof grain bin doors (using a latch design similar to bear-proof garbage cans) to retrofitting or replacing grain bins to make them inaccessible to bears, to installing electric fencing to protect feed yards and storage areas. As well, a deadstock pickup program helps remove dead livestock from the landscape in high carnivore conflict areas. More than 150 landowners are involved in the deadstock program in the municipalities of Pincher Creek, Cardston County, Ranchland and Willow Creek.

These efforts support the coexistence of large carnivores and people and are critical for long-term conservation of carnivore populations on an ecosystem scale.



Image: Ted Loosen

## 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 1980s 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. A permit to launch a boat in either park is mandatory. The regulations specific to each park are slightly different.

***It is imperative that all boaters comply with these regulations.***

### Boat Permit Regulations Waterton Lakes



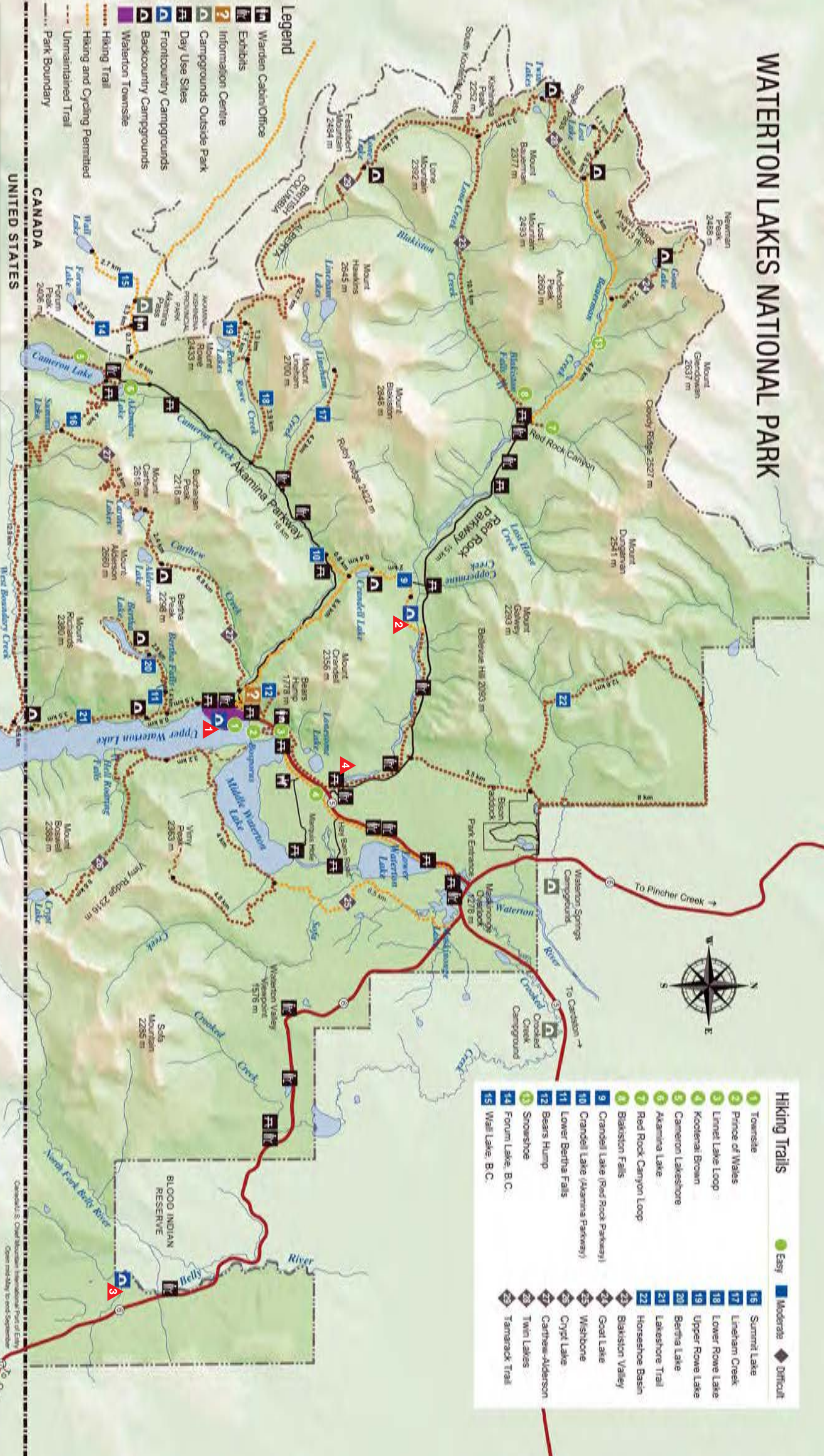
- A permit is required to launch any motorized or trailered boats in Waterton Lakes National Park. Hand propelled boats like canoes or rowboats and flotation devices such as float tubes do not require a permit.
- To obtain the permit you will be asked a few short questions to ensure that the boat has 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, 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, 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



# 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

- ### Hiking Trails
- Easy
  - Moderate
  - ◆ Difficult
- |    |                                  |    |                  |
|----|----------------------------------|----|------------------|
| 1  | Townsite                         | 15 | Summit Lake      |
| 2  | Prince of Wales                  | 17 | Linham Creek     |
| 3  | Linnel Lake Loop                 | 18 | Lower Rowe Lake  |
| 4  | Kootenai Brown                   | 19 | Upper Rowe Lake  |
| 5  | Cameron Lakeshore                | 20 | Bertha Lake      |
| 6  | Akamina Lake                     | 21 | Lakeshore Trail  |
| 7  | Red Rock Canyon Loop             | 22 | Horseshoe Basin  |
| 8  | Blakiston Falls                  | 23 | Blakiston Valley |
| 9  | Crandell Lake (Red Rock Parkway) | 24 | Goat Lake        |
| 10 | Crandell Lake (Akamina Parkway)  | 25 | Wishbone         |
| 11 | Lower Bertha Falls               | 26 | Cryt Lake        |
| 12 | Beers Hump                       | 27 | Carthew-Alderson |
| 13 | Snowshoe                         | 28 | Twin Lakes       |
| 14 | Forum Lake, B.C.                 | 29 | Tamarack Trail   |
| 15 | Wall Lake, B.C.                  |    |                  |

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 pccamping.ca





*“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

Both Waterton Lakes National Park and Glacier National Park charge fees to enter the park. The fees are separate.

Glacier’s fees are subject to change each year, so be sure to check ahead. Annual passes are available that cover just Glacier National Park or you may purchase an annual pass that is good for most U. S. Federal fee areas, including all of the U. S. national parks. You can call 406-888-7800 or check the park website at [www.nps.gov/glac](http://www.nps.gov/glac) for the current fees.



St. Mary Entrance - photo by David Restivo

## Camping

Camping is permitted only in designated campgrounds. Campgrounds, except Fish Creek and St. Mary, are available on a “first-come, first-served” basis. Regulations are posted at each campground. Utility hookups are not provided. Sites for hikers and bikers are available at most campgrounds. They are shared sites holding up to eight people. Ten group sites at Apgar, and one each at Many Glacier and Two Medicine Campgrounds, accommodate parties of 9-24 people. There is a site reservation fee and a per person per night fee for group campsites. You can call 406-888-7800 or check the park website at [www.nps.gov/glac](http://www.nps.gov/glac) for the current fees.

## Backpacking

Permits for backcountry camping are required and are available at the listed locations. 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 currently a \$30.00 reservation fee. The fees are subject to change. 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, Running Eagle Falls Nature Trail, and a ¼ mile section of the Swiftcurrent Nature Trail are wheelchair accessible.



Ground Squirrel - photo by Jon Riner

## 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.



Apgar Visitor Center Shuttle Stop - photo by David Restivo

## 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. Concession operated tours also stop at Logan Pass.

## 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 & Pizzeria 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 the Glacier Park Boat Company at (406) 257-2426

### Lodging

Glacier National Park Lodges operates The Village Inn, Lake McDonald Lodge, Rising Sun Motor Inn, Swiftcurrent Motor Inn, and the Many Glacier Hotel. For reservations contact: (855) 733-4522

For reservations at Apgar Village Lodge contact: (406) 888-5484

For Reservations at Motel Lake McDonald contact: (406) 226-5690

### Guided Bus Tours

Narrated tours and shuttle services are offered by Glacier National Park Lodges. For reservations contact: (855) 733-4522

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: (800) 786-9220 or (406) 226-9220

### Horseback Rides

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

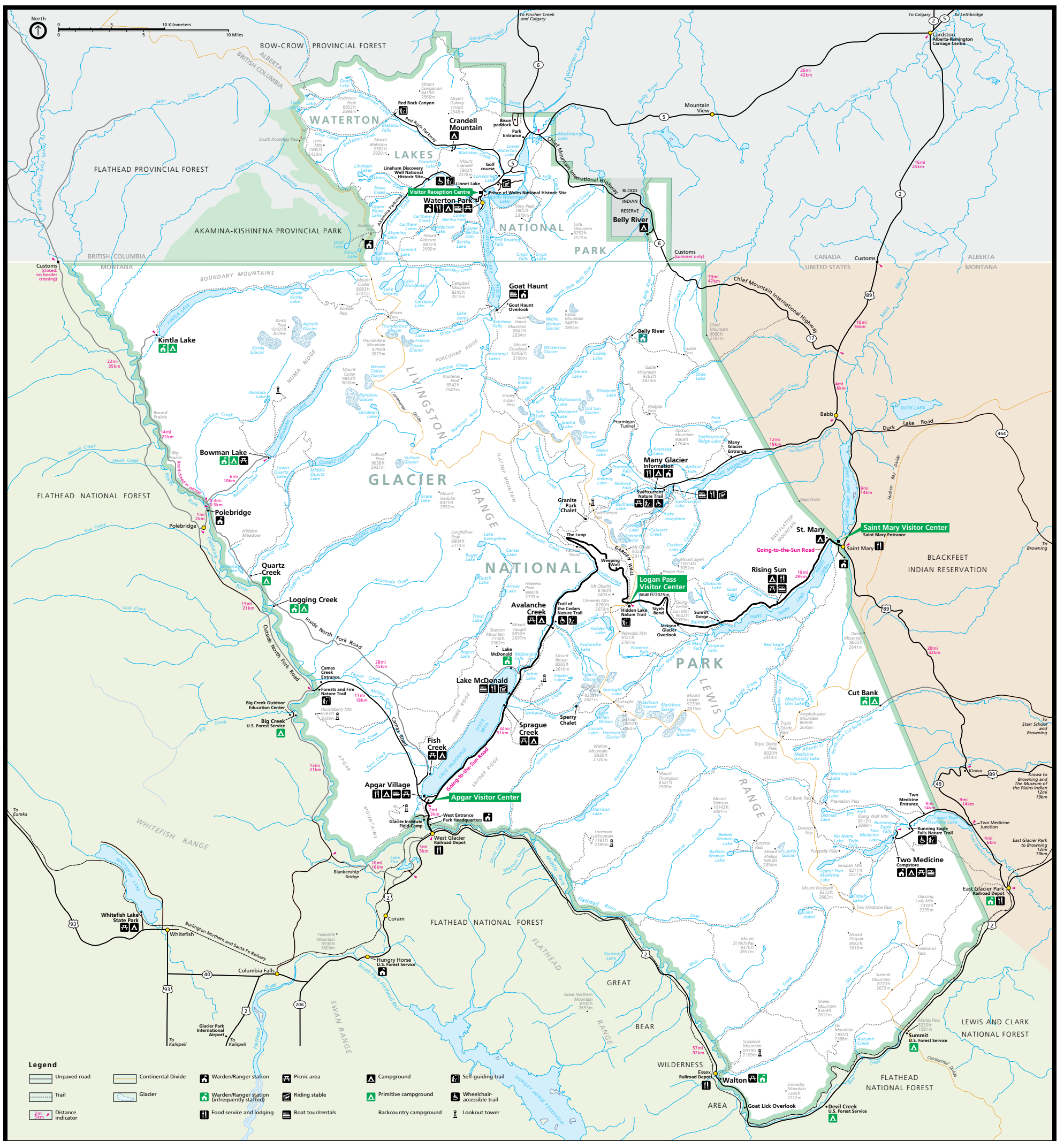
### Granite Park & Sperry Chalets

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 Glacier National Park at (406) 888-7800 for the current phone number for either Chalet.

### 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: (406) 387-5555 or (800) 521-RAFT





## What You Need To Know To Cross 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](http://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 north 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

Times listed are the schedule that has been followed in the recent past. They are subject to change and travelers should check to be sure about crossing times.

- **Roosville** .....open 24 hours west of the park on Highway 93, north of Whitefish, MT and south of Fernie, B.C.
- **Piegan/Carway** .....7 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 9/1 .....7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.  
9/2 to 9/30 .....9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.  
October 1 .....closed for season



# ACTIVITY GUIDE



**Join us for exciting events all summer long!**

Festivals and family activities, storytelling and stargazing... all of this awesomeness is included with your park entry fee!

**WILDFLOWER FESTIVAL**  
June 20-28

- Explore Waterton's spectacular spring wildflowers. Visit [www.wildflowerfestival.com](http://www.wildflowerfestival.com).

**CANADA DAY**  
July 1 Free Admission

- Celebrate Canada in Waterton Lakes National Park!
- Bike parade, flag raising, and free lemonade and cake following the parade.

**PARKS DAY**  
July 18 and 19

- Star Spotting:** 9pm - 11pm Cameron Bay picnic shelter (past Cameron Falls, adjacent to Townsite Campground)
- Join astronomer Alan Dyer, and volunteers for a starry tour of Waterton's night sky.

**SCIENCE AND HISTORY DAY**  
July 29 9:30am - 3:30pm Falls Theatre

- Hear the latest results from scientists and historians carrying out projects in the Peace Park.

**CAMERON LAKE STAR PARTY**  
August 15 (August 16 if visibility is poor)  
9:30 pm-11pm

- Get out of this world! Discover constellations, galaxies, nebulas and stars with volunteer astronomers at Cameron Lake.

**BLACKFOOT ARTS & HERITAGE FESTIVAL**  
August 18-20

- 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 19-21

- Discover Waterton's wildlife at its best through a variety of wildlife events. Visit [www.watertonwildlife.com](http://www.watertonwildlife.com)

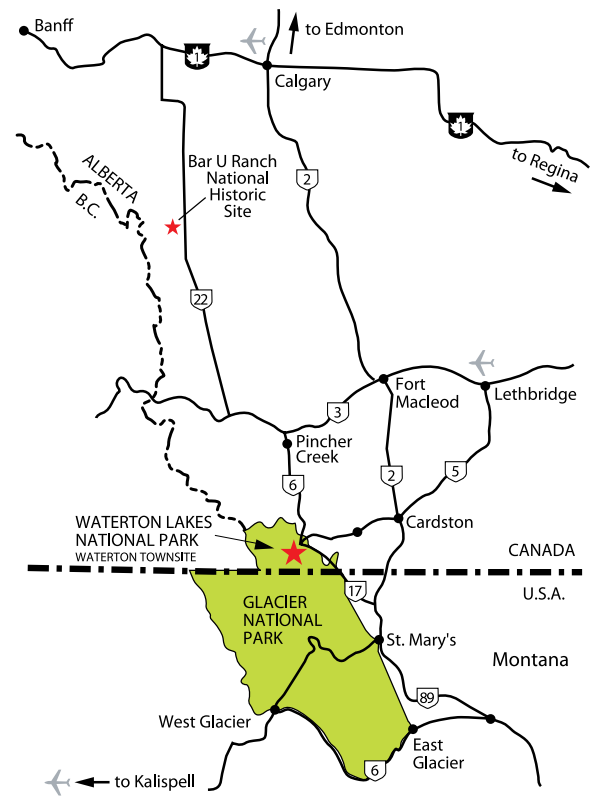
**5<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL RIDE THE RED ROCK / TAKE A KID MOUNTAIN BIKING DAY**  
September 27

- 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**  
1-403-859-5133  
[waterton.info@pc.gc.ca](mailto:waterton.info@pc.gc.ca)  
[www.pc.gc.ca/waterton](http://www.pc.gc.ca/waterton)

Follow us @WatertonLakesNP  
 Like us at WatertonLakesNP

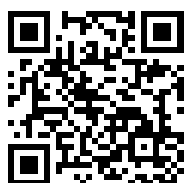


*Approximate Driving Times*  
3 hours from Calgary  
1:15 hours from Lethbridge  
1 hour from Glacier National Park

## Bar U Ranch National Historic Site

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. 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.

**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.



**For more information**  
1-800-568-4996 [www.pc.gc.ca/baru](http://www.pc.gc.ca/baru)



# ACTIVITY GUIDE

## 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 8 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 camp, picnic or hike, but feel a little unsure of bears? Do you know what to do if you see a bear? We have a couple of programs just for you!

#### There's a Bear! Where? Over There!

Meet with Parks Canada's very own "Wildlife Guardians" at the Falls Theatre to learn about more about local wildlife and being safe in bear country! Get a few suggestions for a suitable trail and, if you like, use this opportunity to find a hiking partner!

#### On the Trail of the Great Bear | Adults & Older Children

- EASY 6 km (3.7 miles) return
- Meet the Interpreter at the first pull-out on the south side of the Red Rock Parkway.

Are you curious about Grizzly and Black bears? Want to hike in the safety of a group? Join us for a hike through the picturesque prairies and aspen parkland and learn about Waterton's bears.

### 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.



### Sharon'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!



Sharon is a Park Interpreter. This will be her third 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 with the staff at the Waterton Heritage Centre on Waterton Avenue in the Village

Curious about what Geocaching is? Staff of the Waterton Natural History Association, in partnership with the park, will 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! (Ends August 23)

#### Blackfoot Crafts & Stories | Family Friendly

Meet at the Crandell Theatre Tipi in Crandell Campground

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

#### Be a Butterfly Superhero! | Family Friendly / Children Aged 4-12

From the Entrance Parkway, turn onto Hay Barn Road. Look for the park vehicle and interpreter at the pull-out. We need you! Kids, grab your research assistants (a.k.a your parents) and discover the beautiful home of the endangered Halfmoon Hairstreak Butterfly.

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

- EASY 7 km (4.3 miles) return
- 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.

#### 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 port of entry.

### Staying the night? Take in an evening theatre Program

#### Evening Theatre begins Saturday, 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 butterflies to bears, felines to fire, wolves to wildflowers, grasslands to mountains, we share the latest research and fun stories for 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.





# ACTIVITY GUIDE

## Program Schedule

Programs begin Friday, June 27 and run until Monday, September 1 (unless otherwise noted).

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

ACTIVITIES		M	T	W	T	F	S	S
Be a Butterfly Superhero!	2PM TO 4PM	●				●		
Blackfoot Crafts & Stories	10AM TO 12PM		●		●			
Geocache 101	1PM TO 3PM			●			●	
Look, See, Play!	2PM TO 4PM							●

GUIDED HIKES		M	T	W	T	F	S	S
Ancient Eyes Hike	9AM TO 12 PM 1PM TO 4PM	●				●		
Bertha Falls Walk	2PM TO 5PM		●					
Blakiston Falls Walk	3PM TO 4PM							●
Cameron Lakeshore Stroll	1PM AND 3PM						●	●
International Peace Park Hike	10AM TO 6:30PM			●			●	
On the Trail of the Great Bear	12:30PM TO 3:30PM				●		●	

THERE'S A BEAR! WHERE? OVER THERE!		M	T	W	T	F	S	S
Falls Theatre	9:30AM TO 10AM							●



### There's a Bear! Where? Over There!

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 Wildlife Guardians 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 Into Action - Volunteer Season Kick-Off and Flowering Plant Count | Sat. May 24

Start spring off with a burst of colour at the annual flowering plant count, organized province-wide by Nature Alberta. After lunch, kick off the volunteer season in style with an overview of the new volunteer opportunities and a chance to meet other volunteers. There will also be an orientation for the Native Plant Garden and Adopt-a-Patch volunteers, with on-site work to follow. Lunch time refreshments will be provided, but please be sure to bring your own lunch. See the Waterton Lakes National Park website for more information and contact below to RSVP.

### Spring and Christmas Bird Counts | Early June and mid Dec.

Twitter is not the only place to receive your "tweets". In support of a Nature Alberta's province-wide bird counts, the Lethbridge Naturalists' Society organizes the spring and Christmas counts in Waterton. Sign-up at the Community Fire Hall on a Saturday morning for this self-guided event. Binoculars are helpful. See website for dates.

### Knapweed Rodeo | Sat. July 26

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 21st annual Knapweed Rodeo to help us corral this invasive 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 how about lending a hand restoring and maintaining the park's native plant demonstration gardens? Both are a great opportunity to make a deeper connection with the park.

### OTHER VOLUNTEER PROJECTS AND EVENTS

Volunteer to help run a special event, collect wildflower and native grass seeds, count butterflies, plant endangered whitebark and limber pines, ...there's a volunteer opportunity just right for you! We regularly update our volunteer opportunities online. Upcoming dates and news are just a click away by signing up for our email list on Waterton's volunteer web page at [www.parkscanada.gc.ca/waterton-volunteer](http://www.parkscanada.gc.ca/waterton-volunteer),



To volunteer, for more information or to sign up for updates, contact:

Dianne Pachal  
1-403-859-5107  
[dianne.pachal@pc.gc.ca](mailto:dianne.pachal@pc.gc.ca)  
[www.parkscanada.gc.ca/waterton-volunteer](http://www.parkscanada.gc.ca/waterton-volunteer)



# ACTIVITY GUIDE

## Activities for Young Xplorers

Starting June 28, . 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.



## 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 8.

### 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 and August and on long weekends. Reservations for Townsite campground can be made at [www.reservation.pc.gc.ca](http://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](mailto:waterton.info@pc.gc.ca)

### CRANDELL

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

Is 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.



## 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 28 to August 23. Magellan eXplorist GC GPS units are also available for use at the Heritage Centre, 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](http://geocaching.com) or [parksCanada.gc.ca](http://parksCanada.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](http://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](http://geocaching.com) is recommended.

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### For more information

1-403-859-5133  
[www.pc.gc.ca/waterton](http://www.pc.gc.ca/waterton)  
[www.geocaching.com](http://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.

This not-for-profit organization formed in 1983. It offers educational products and services such as publications and displays, and supports Parks Canada with delivery of the Geocaching program. The WNHA has two key fundraising events each summer; a Moonlight Cruise and a Silent Auction. Check the website for dates.

Visit the Heritage Centre in the community, and check out the bookstore and displays. Information on what to do in the park, as well as maps and trail guides can also be found here, along with the work of many talented local artists. If you are interested, the WNHA is always welcoming new members and volunteers.

### For more information

[www.wnha.ca](http://www.wnha.ca)  
[wnha@toughcountry.net](mailto:wnha@toughcountry.net)

## 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.parksCanada.gc.ca](http://www.parksCanada.gc.ca).



Items may not appear exactly as shown.