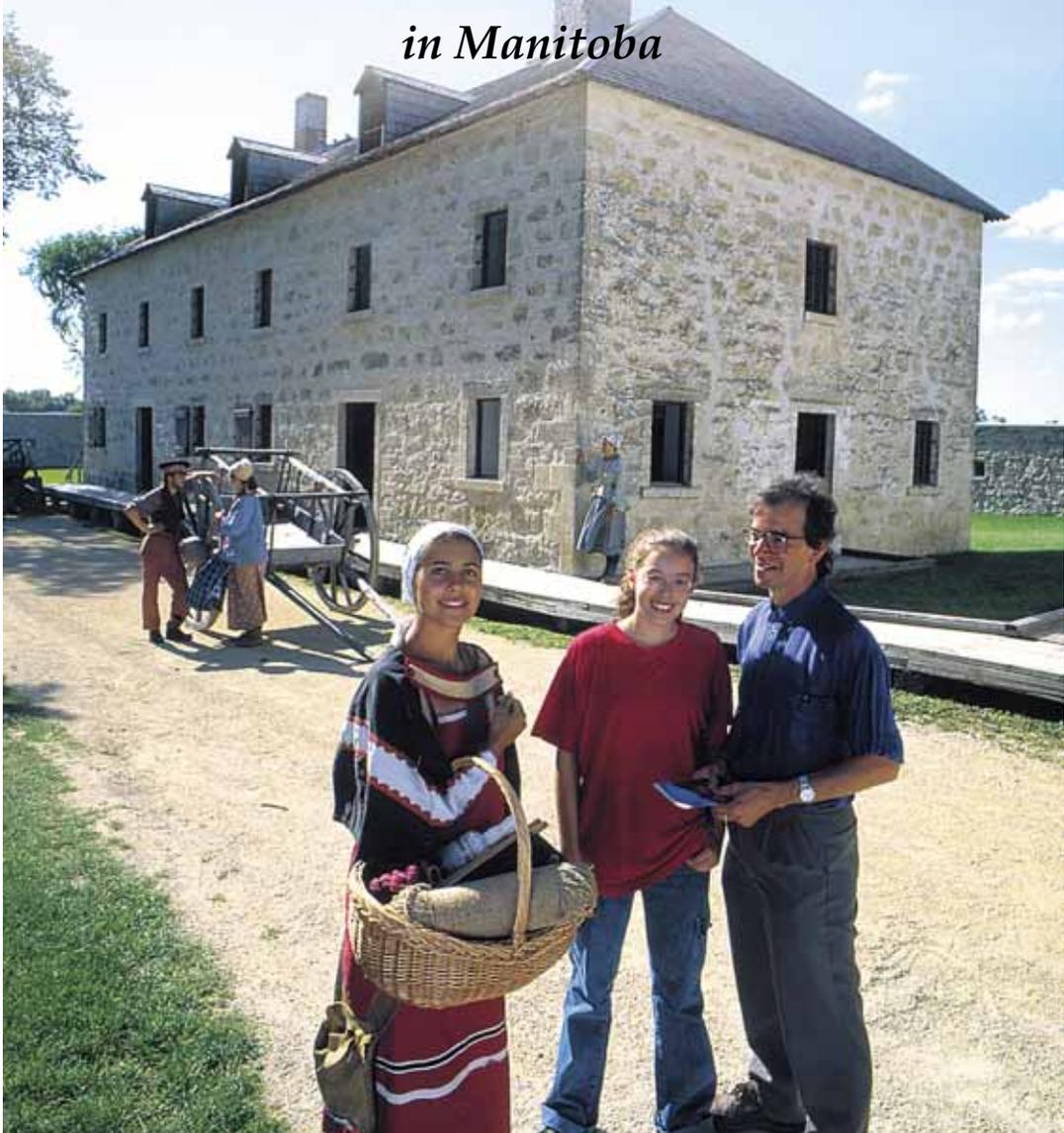




NATIONAL PARKS AND NATIONAL HISTORIC SITES OF CANADA

in Manitoba



Parks Canada
Parcs Canada

Canada

Proudly Bringing You Canada at its Best

Land and culture are woven into the tapestry of Canada's history and the Canadian spirit.

The richness of our great country is celebrated in a network of protected places that allows us to understand the land, people and events that shaped Canada.

Some things just can't be replaced. Your support is vital to protect the ecological and commemorative integrity of these natural areas and symbols of our past, so they will persist, intact and vibrant, into the future.

Discover for yourself the many wonders, adventures and learning experiences that await you in Canada's national parks, national historic sites, historic canals and national marine conservation areas. Help us keep them healthy and whole -- for their sake, for our sake.



Our Mission

Parks Canada's mission is to ensure that Canada's national parks, national historic sites and related heritage areas are protected and presented for this and future generations.

These nationally significant examples of Canada's natural and cultural heritage reflect Canadian values, identity and pride.

WELCOME

You thought that only seasoned explorers, scientists or millionaires could visit places like this, but here you are in Churchill, Manitoba's outpost on the remote edge of the arctic. An awesome display of northern lights follows a once in a lifetime encounter with polar bears. Beluga whales swim so close you can hear them breathe. A visit to the astonishing Prince of Wales Fort National Historic Site on the bare, windswept coast of Hudson Bay gives you a real sense of what it would be like to have been a fur trader here 250 years ago.

You knew that Riding Mountain National Park was one of the best places in Manitoba to see wildlife and enjoy a family vacation in the outdoors. But you didn't expect to find the charming Victorian style resort town of Wasagaming set in the wilderness. Whether you're hiking a trail, canoeing on a pristine lake, taking in an interpretive program, camping or relaxing in a resort, you're sure to be making everlasting memories.



You've heard stories of the Ojibway and Cree, the Red River settlers, Louis Riel and the Métis nation, the fur traders of the Hudson's Bay and Northwest Companies, the opening of the Canadian West... Now these tales come to life as you follow the Red River, visiting Riel House, The Forks, St. Andrew's Rectory and Church and Lower Fort Garry National Historic Sites.

All of these destinations are more than just great travel experiences. They are part of Parks Canada's family of heritage places where you can really get to know the land and its people. Canada's National Parks make up the best protected system of natural areas in the country. Canada's National Historic Sites are a cultural legacy that Canadians are proud of and want to share with the world. Parks Canada staff manage these national treasures by working with all Canadians to help ensure the health of the country's ecosystems and the protection of its cultural heritage.

Within the pages of this vacation planner, you can read more about what we have to offer at each park and site, how to get there, when to visit, and most importantly, how to contact the friendly and knowledgeable Parks Canada staff who will help you have your best vacation yet.

Scenic Touring

Your trip to a national park or national historic site in Manitoba also provides you with an opportunity to visit other attractions in the neighbourhood, like wildlife viewing areas, historic sites, museums and provincial parks. Look for "Nearby Attractions and Services" throughout this vacation planner for some great touring ideas.

Weather and Road Conditions

Summer in Manitoba can be delightfully warm and full of sunny, blue sky days. Evenings can be cool, especially in spring and autumn. Bring along all-weather clothes, a sweater, light jacket, rain coat and comfortable walking shoes. Churchill has a cooler, marine climate that may require additional layers of clothing. When visiting Manitoba in winter, come prepared for cold temperatures - bring gloves, hat and layers of clothing for insulation and protection from the wind. For current weather and road conditions in Manitoba call 1-204-983-2050 (English), 1-204-983-4437 (French).

For Your Convenience

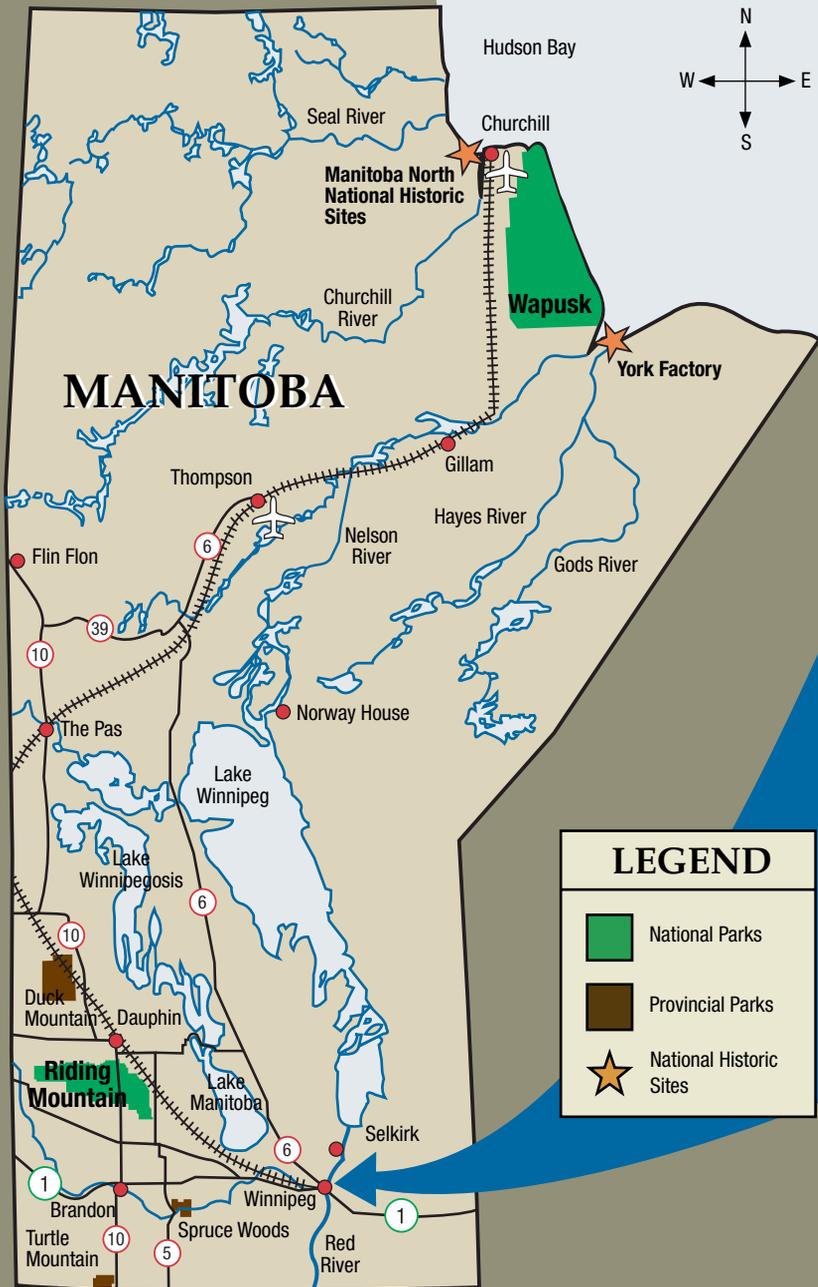
The legend below identifies the services available at our parks and sites. Watch for these symbols throughout this vacation planner. You may wish to call ahead for more details before visiting.

 Services available in English and French	 Information	 Public Washrooms
 Parking	 Gift Shop	 Restaurant/ Coffee Shop
 Picnic Facilities	 Camping	 Fixed Roof Accommodation in Park
 Boat Launch	 Swimming	 Hiking/ Interpretive trails
 Backpacking	 Totally or partially accessible. Services for visitors with disabilities vary. Please inquire.	

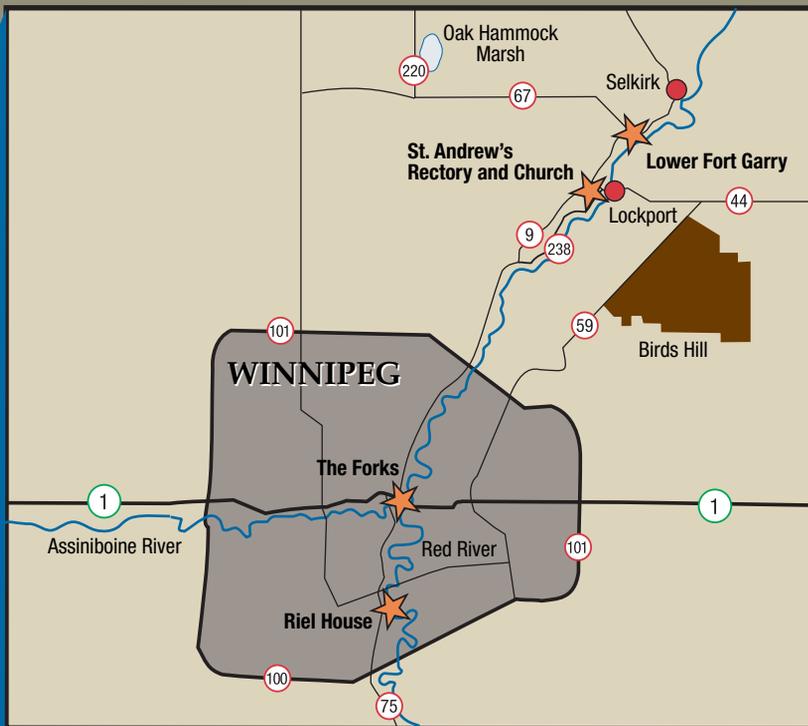
Park and Site Regulations

Park and site regulations are designed to protect these special places, and to ensure that you have a safe and memorable visit.

- Please leave these areas as you found them so that others may enjoy them as you have.
- Do not disturb or collect any historic artifacts.
- For your own safety, never feed or approach wildlife.
- Please keep pets on a leash at all times.
- Drive with care and stay on public roads.
- Please consult staff and on-site publications for other important safety messages. Each park and site may have specific hazards.



NATIONAL PARKS AND NATIONAL HISTORIC SITES OF CANADA IN MANITOBA



Riding Mountain National Park

RIDING MOUNTAIN

National Park of Canada

- You can drive through the park in one to three hours, but to truly experience Riding Mountain National Park, you should plan on staying at least two to three days.
- Try horseback riding in the summer and cross-country skiing in the winter.
- Explore some of the 400 km of trails - the park is known for its excellent hiking and mountain biking opportunities.
- Take a stroll around Wasagaming, a Victorian style resort town.

For Your Convenience



Riding Mountain National Park is wild and wonderful, yet easily accessible. It is a fascinating blend of natural habitats, cultures and people. In this majestic 3,000 square kilometre park, plants and animals of eastern, western and northern Canada meet amid towering white spruce, hardwood forests and prairie grasslands. Some of the largest elk, moose, and black bears on the continent can be found in the park. The Ojibway of Riding Mountain have lived here for many generations, and still call the area home.

Riding Mountain offers many choices for all visitors, year round. It is the prime destination in Manitoba to see wildlife and enjoy a family vacation in the outdoors. It is also one of the best places to learn first hand about the challenges of protecting wilderness in the 21st century. To better manage Riding Mountain's complex ecology, park staff must work closely with area residents, researchers, educators and other governments.



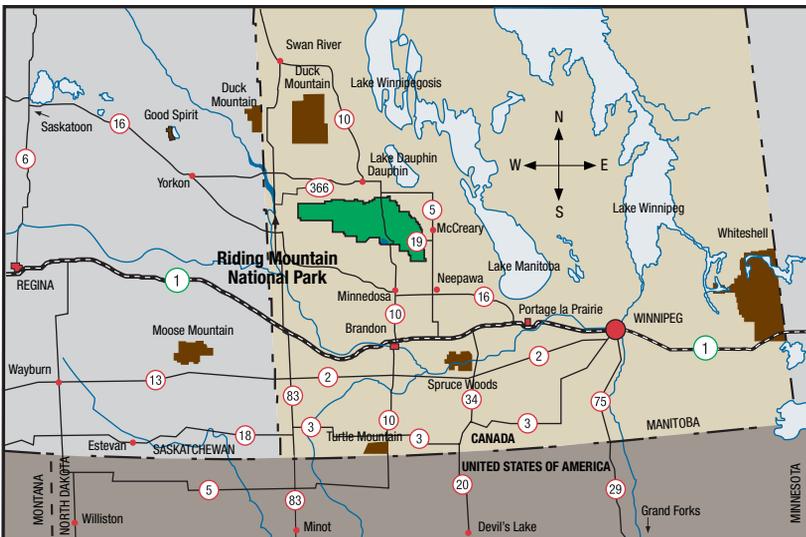
Parks Canada/Dave McArthur

Getting There

The park is easily accessible by vehicle or bus. From Winnipeg, it will take you about three hours to drive to Riding Mountain. Travel west on Hwy. #1 to Brandon, or take the Yellowhead Hwy. #16 at Portage la Prairie and drive through Neepawa. From Brandon take Hwy. #10 north for 95 km to the south park entrance. From Dauphin, follow Hwy. #10 south 16 km to the north park entrance. From Hwy. #5, you can take Hwy. #19 up through the East Gate National Historic Site and over the escarpment. There are several side roads that will bring you to trailheads found around the boundary of the park.

Bus service is available from Winnipeg, Dauphin and Brandon to the town of Wasagaming (Clear Lake). Check local bus stations for current schedules. From fall to spring you should make arrangements with Grey Goose Bus Lines for pick up and drop off in the park.

The nearest commercial airports are Dauphin, Brandon and Winnipeg. Air service between Winnipeg and Dauphin operates twice each weekday.



Making the Most of Your Visit

The park is open year round. Facility hours vary according to the season.

Each season in Riding Mountain has its special appeal. **Spring** brings returning birds, calling frogs, the scent of warming earth and growing plants, and quiet camping. **Summer** is a hot sandy beach beside a cool lake, shady hiking trails and a lively townsite. **Autumn** offers crisp weather and golden colours, excellent wildlife viewing, and the haunting sound of elk bugling. **Winter** is a white wonderland of snowshoe and ski trails through the silent forest.

Advanced booking is recommended for all accommodations including campgrounds, especially in July and August.

You can drive through the park in one to three hours, but to truly experience Riding Mountain National Park you should plan on staying at least two to three days. This will give you time to explore some of the trails, natural attractions, historic sites, activities and programs. We suggest that you allow yourself at least one day to enjoy the sports and recreational opportunities.



Celes Davar
Great Gray Owl

Wasagaming has a 510 site campground where you can reserve serviced and unserviced sites. There are four drive-in campgrounds alongside lakes in the park. Twenty-one backcountry campgrounds, accessible by hiking, biking or on horseback, are supplied with firewood, pit privies and picnic tables. Some of these campgrounds have corrals or hitching posts for horses. There are two group camps and many picnic sites throughout the park as well.

If you prefer to have a roof over your head, you can choose to stay in Wasagaming in accommodations ranging from a resort to a rustic cabin. This full-service community on the shores of Clear Lake was built in the 1930's to resemble an English retreat in the wilderness. Its graceful log buildings are framed by majestic spruce, while the elm-shaded public grounds along the beach have gardens, a bandstand, a playground, horseshoe pits and tennis courts. Enjoy the challenge of the nationally known Clear Lake Golf Course, one of several in the area.



Activities

- Drop by the Visitor Centre in Wasagaming to begin your discovery of this special sanctuary. Ask about park activities, special events, interpretive programs and other attractions.
- Take a stroll around Wasagaming, a Victorian style resort town. Enjoy its historical buildings, famous flower gardens, fine restaurants and unique stores.
- Take a driving tour or plan your own scenic route on any park road to see wildlife.
- Drive to Lake Audy to see the bison herd and the Bison and Grasslands display.
- Fish for walleye, northern pike, rainbow trout, lake trout, whitefish and perch.
- Try horseback riding in the summer and cross-country skiing in the winter.
- Explore some of the 400 km of trails - the park is known for its excellent hiking and mountain biking opportunities.
- Bring your binoculars to see some of the 260 species of birds like Great Gray Owls and Spruce Grouse that make the park a birding “hot spot”, especially in spring and fall.
- Set up camp in one of our drive-in campgrounds or hike, bike or horseback ride into one of the backcountry campsites. To book a backcountry site, just call 1-204-848-7275.
- Take a walk on one of our short self-guiding trails. They provide an outdoor experience for all levels of ability.
- Visit the East Gate National Historic Site at the Hwy. # 19 park entrance. Built in the 1930's, it is the best remaining example of an original log entrance gate.

Special Events

- Attend one of the many special events National Aboriginal Day, Canada Day, Parks Day, and Wasagaming Weekend in the summer, and the Christmas Bird Count in the winter.

Children's Corner

- Enroll your children in the Friends of Riding Mountain National Park's "Keepers of the Wild" programs (Tuesdays through Saturdays in July and August).
- Rent a bike with a child carrier in Wasagaming and go for a scenic ride.
- Explore a family-friendly trail. Both the Ominik Marsh Boardwalk and Boreal Island Trail feature colourful cartoon characters.
- Try out the new playground near the Clear Lake beach - then take a short walk for ice cream.

Nearby Attractions and Services

Riding Mountain is part of the Parkland Region of Manitoba. The diverse cultural and natural landscape of this area offers many other attractions and services. You can enjoy Ojibway, Métis and French cultures in neighbouring communities. Visit Dauphin, just north of the Park, and learn about its Ukrainian heritage. A one-hour drive west of Wasagaming brings you to Inglis Grain Elevators National Historic Site, the last surviving vintage row of the fast-disappearing prairie grain elevators. Spruce Woods Provincial Park to the south east and Duck Mountain Provincial Park

to the north are each only an hour-and-a-half away by car. These parks offer opportunities to enjoy other parts of Manitoba's natural and cultural heritage.



Parks Canada

WAPUSK

National Park of Canada

- See rare migrating birds from North America and other continents - world famous birding peaks from mid-April to mid-July.
- Go whale watching - over 3,000 beluga whales return to the Churchill River in July and August.
- Watch breathtaking displays of “Northern Lights” from the end of September through April.
- See polar bears in the wild. These impressive animals congregate near Churchill during October and early November, and can be seen as early as June in coastal areas when there is no sea ice present.

For Your Convenience

Parks Canada Visitor Reception Centre in Churchill



Wapusk (Wáh-psk), is the Cree word for “white bear”. The park encompasses an immense lowland of 11,475 square kilometres south and east of Churchill, Manitoba. The park is representative of the diverse geology, physiography, vegetation and wildlife of the Hudson/James Lowlands.

The area is one huge low-lying plain that dips gently toward Hudson Bay. Much of this plain is underlain with permafrost and covered by the most extensive mantle of muskeg or peat in North America. Water lies everywhere, covering half of the land’s surface with lakes, bogs, streams and rivers.

The treeless tundra of low-growing, arctic vegetation gradually gives way inland to the sub-arctic vegetation of white and black spruce, tamarack and lichen. The transition from arctic tundra to sub-arctic vegetation, together with the influence of the marine climate, results in a high diversity of plant species being found in the area.



Parks Canada

Wapusk National Park protects one of the world's largest known polar bear denning areas, where female bears give birth. When the ice on Hudson Bay melts in summer, Polar bears are forced onshore. Males tend to stay near the coast, while pregnant females head inland to den. In the fall, bears congregate along the shore around Churchill, waiting for freeze-up when they can go out on the ice in search of seal, their primary food source.

The Churchill/Wapusk area is one of the most accessible places in the world to see Polar bears in their natural habitat on a safe guided tour. Great care is taken by park managers and tour operators to ensure that the bears remain wild and are not disturbed by visitors. Please remember that polar bears can be dangerous. Respect all safety and viewing instructions and regulations.

In addition to safeguarding bears, the park provides critical habitat for hundreds of thousands of waterfowl and shorebirds that nest along the Hudson Bay coast in summer and gather there to feed during spring and fall migrations. Birders from around the world travel to Churchill to see rare northern bird species such as the king eider, gyrfalcon and Ross' gull. It is important for observers to keep a respectful distance and not disturb the birds.

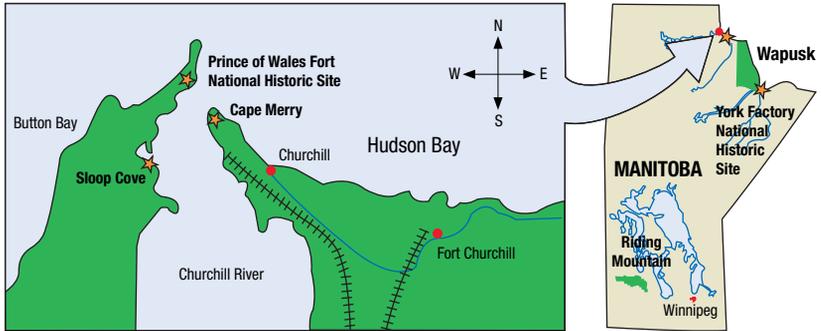
Wapusk is also home to many other wildlife species, including caribou, moose and fur-bearers such as beaver, red fox, arctic fox, wolverine, ermine, otter, mink, lynx, timber wolf and black bear. The fact that all of these mammal species still live in the park is a good sign of a healthy ecosystem - one that park managers are striving to maintain.



Parks Canada/Kevin Burke Jr.

Getting There

Churchill is on the edge of Hudson Bay, 1,000 km north of Winnipeg, Manitoba. It's accessible by plane from Winnipeg (daily), and from communities in Nunavut as well as Northern Manitoba, including Thompson, Gillam and The Pas. The 36 hour train trip from Winnipeg to Churchill leaves three times weekly, with stops in many small communities along the way.



Making the Most of Your Visit

- Wapusk National Park is a wilderness park with no roads, hiking trails or any visitor facilities. Local tour operators are well equipped to take you into the area on a plane or helicopter aerial tour or in a tundra vehicle depending on the weather and the season.
- Contact Parks Canada while planning your trip. Safety is an important issue due to the park's climate, remoteness, hazards and the abundance of polar bears.
- Plan on spending one to four days in Churchill.
- Upon arrival in Churchill, visit the Parks Canada Visitor Reception Centre at the heritage railway station to see the exhibits, participate in interpretive presentations and to view audio-visual productions. Parks Canada Staff will enjoy sharing their knowledge about the area's natural and cultural history. Polar bear safety information is also available.
- Come prepared for a changeable and cool sub-arctic marine climate, biting insects and rugged terrain.

Activities

Each season offers something spectacular in Wapusk and the Churchill area.

- See rare migrating birds from North America and other continents - world famous birding peaks from mid-April to mid-July.
- View the subarctic plant life - the tundra blooms in July, and puts on autumn colours in August and September. Watch your step - tiny fragile blooms may be beneath your feet!
- Go whale watching - over 3,000 beluga whales return to the Churchill River in July and August.
- Watch breathtaking displays of “Northern Lights” from the end of September through April.
- See polar bears in the wild - these impressive animals congregate near Churchill during October and early November, and can be seen as early as June in coastal areas when there is no sea ice present.
- Take a dogsled ride across the winter tundra, with or without snow!



Parks Canada/Blake Maybank

Special Events

- Churchill hosts a memorable Canada Day (July 1) and Parks Day (third Saturday in July).

Nearby Attractions and Services

- Visit the national historic sites in the Churchill area - Prince of Wales Fort, Sloop Cove and Cape Merry. Local outfitters can arrange tours.
- Ask at the visitor reception centre about how to get to York Factory National Historic Site.
- Try the delicious, traditional northern meals and shop for hand-crafted clothing and souvenirs in Churchill.
- Visit the fascinating Eskimo Museum.
- For information on accommodation (hotel/bed-and-breakfast), travel and tours, call the Churchill Chamber of Commerce at 1-888-389-2327.



MANITOBA NORTH

National Historic Sites of Canada

- Plan to spend one to four days in Churchill.
- Sign up for a guided tour in July and August to Cape Merry and the Churchill area. Get a first-hand impression of what it was like to live at a bayside Hudson's Bay Company post 200 years ago.
- Make arrangements with a local tour operator to travel by water to Sloop Cove and Prince of Wales Fort. Come see beluga whales during July and August.

For Your Convenience

Parks Canada Visitor Reception Centre in Churchill



Come to Churchill and hear the stories of the many people that have lived in Manitoba's subarctic for the past 4,000 years... stories from the traditions and culture of the aboriginal peoples... stories of the trade between Europeans and the native people they met in the new land, and of the rivalry between the English and the French for control of the fur trade riches and resources of Hudson Bay and its hinterland.

Prince of Wales Fort took the Hudson's Bay Company 40 years to build and only a few days for the French to destroy. Today, the rebuilt fort stands improbable and monumental, silently guarding Manitoba's arctic coast. You can also visit the Cape Merry battery designed to help protect the mouth of the Churchill River, and Sloop Cove, a natural harbour that sheltered British ships from storms and ice.

Visit York Factory at the mouth of the Hayes River, even more remote than Prince of Wales Fort... a huge fur-trade era depot in the Hudson Bay wilderness. It was the gateway to the interior for British trade goods, Hudson's Bay employees, settlers and soldiers. Native peoples were a key part of this trade, acting as guides, traders, hunters, and labourers.



Sloop Cove Parks Canada

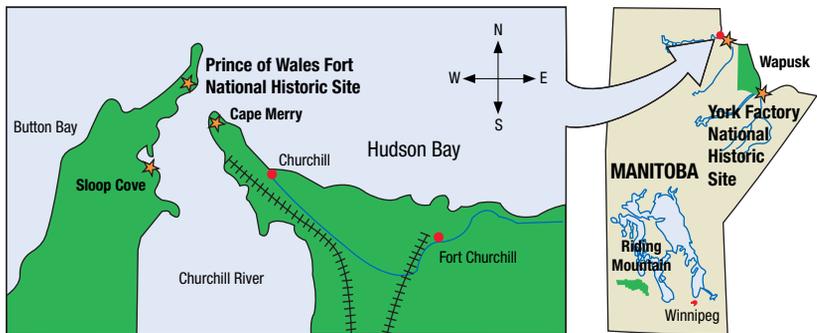
A visit to the National Historic Sites near Churchill is also an excellent opportunity to see whales. More than 3,000 beluga whales return to the Churchill River every summer. Groups of whales are easy to spot during July and August, and they can sometimes be seen with their young calves. Local outfitters provide whale-watching tours, bringing you close enough by boat to hear these fascinating marine mammals that have been called the canaries of the sea.

Getting There

Churchill is on the edge of Hudson Bay, 1,000 km north of Winnipeg, Manitoba. It's accessible by plane from Winnipeg (daily) from communities in Nunavut, and from other northern Manitoba communities including The Pas, Thompson and Gillam. The 36 hour train trip from Winnipeg to Churchill leaves three times weekly, with stops in many communities along the way.

Cape Merry is only a 1 kilometre drive from Churchill. Take a boat tour from Churchill to reach Sloop Cove and Prince of Wales Fort.

York Factory is accessible by charter aircraft and boat. Make travel arrangements in Churchill, Thompson or Gillam. Contact Parks Canada in Churchill for more information.



Making the Most of Your Visit

- Plan to spend one to four days in Churchill.
- Upon arrival in Churchill, visit the Parks Canada Visitor Reception Centre at the heritage railway station to see the exhibits, participate in interpretive presentations and to view audio-visual productions. Parks Canada Staff will enjoy sharing their knowledge about the area's natural and cultural history. Polar bear safety information is also available.
- Come prepared for a changeable, cool sub-arctic marine climate, biting insects and rugged terrain.
- Sign up for a guided tour in July and August to Cape Merry and the town of Churchill. Get a first-hand impression of what it was like to live at a bayside Hudson's Bay Company post 200 years ago.
- Make arrangements with a local tour operator to travel by water to Sloop Cove and Prince of Wales Fort. Come see beluga whales during July and August.
- At York Factory, enjoy a personal guided tour of the site, June to September.



Special Events

- Churchill hosts a memorable Canada Day (July 1) and Parks Day (third Saturday in July).

Nearby Attractions and Services

- Try the delicious, traditional northern meals and shop for hand-crafted clothing and souvenirs in Churchill.
- Visit the captivating Eskimo Museum in Churchill (allow 2 to 3 hours).
- Local tour operators are well equipped to take you into nearby Wapusk National Park, on a plane or helicopter aerial tour or in a tundra vehicle.
- York Factory National Historic Site has wilderness services only. The nearby Silver Goose Lodge provides limited accommodation by advance reservation. Contact Parks Canada if you plan to visit York Factory.
- For information on accommodation (hotel/bed-and-breakfast), travel and tours, call the Churchill Chamber of Commerce at 1-888-389-2327.



THE FORKS

National Historic Site of Canada

- Take a leisurely stroll through the Forks National Historic Site's 9 acres of landscaped park, decorative gardens of prairie perennials and riverside promenade. See the fascinating interpretive displays and works of art and sculpture by noted Canadian artists.
- During the summer, enjoy the comical and dramatic theatrical presentations and entertaining guided interpretive tours. Call ahead for schedules and fees.

For Your Convenience

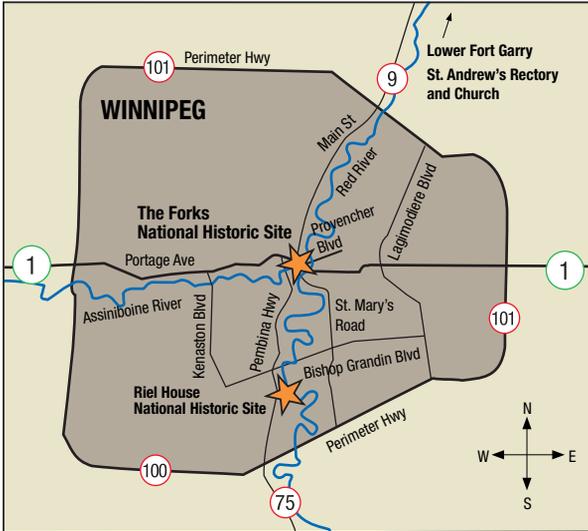


The Forks National Historic Site is a green oasis in downtown Winnipeg. This 6,000 year old traditional meeting place for aboriginal peoples is located at the junction of two great prairie rivers, the Red and the Assiniboine. The Forks area has witnessed many of the key events in the transformation of the Canadian West... as a centre for trade and commerce, a hub for road and rail transportation and the nucleus for the city of Winnipeg. Walk the tree-lined river promenade, touch the inspiring sculptures and carvings, and enjoy the spirit of The Forks.



Getting There

From the intersection of Portage and Main in downtown Winnipeg, travel south on Main St. and look for the Parks Canada beaver trail blazer signs directing you east toward “The Forks”. You can also take a city bus, such as “The Downtown Spirit”, to our doorstep.



Making the Most of your Visit

- Plan on spending at least two hours at the Forks - to see the works of art, interpretive exhibits, perennial prairie garden and heritage adventure playground - more if you want to join a guided walking tour or enjoy the unique shopping, restaurants and other attractions in the Forks Market area as well.
- Pick up a map at the Parks Canada Kiosk in the Explore Manitoba Centre and find out about special events and programs that may be taking place during your stay. Ask about walking tours of The Forks, and the nearby historic areas of St. Boniface and the Exchange District.
- Take a leisurely stroll through the Forks National Historic Site's 9 acres of landscaped park, decorative gardens of prairie perennials and riverside promenade. See the fascinating interpretive displays and works of art by noted Canadian artists.

- You won't want to miss the unique, sunlit, pictographic sculpture, "The Path of Time", or the fascinating renditions of Aboriginal "Gambling Sticks".
- During the summer, enjoy the comical and dramatic theatrical presentations and entertaining guided interpretive tours. Call ahead for schedules and fees.
- The grounds are open year-round.

Special Events

- The Forks hosts a great variety of community events and festivals including the Winnipeg International Children's Festival and National Aboriginal Day in June, Canada Day in July, and Festival du Voyageur in February. Call ahead for more information.

Children's Corner

- Kids will love to climb, slide and make believe at the Heritage Adventure Playground, featuring fun historical cut-out characters and play train.
- Pick up a copy of *I Spy – The Forks* or *ForksQuest* (at the Explore Manitoba Centre) that will take the whole family on a "heritage scavenger hunt" through The Forks.
- The Manitoba Children's Museum and the Manitoba Theatre for Young People are located adjacent to The Forks National Historic Site.



Nearby Attractions and Services

Visit each unique attraction in Parks Canada's family of National Historic Sites in and around Winnipeg: Riel House, the family home of the Métis leader Louis Riel; Lower Fort Garry, the only restored stone fur trade post in North America; and St. Andrew's Rectory and Church, located along the scenic River Road Heritage Parkway.

Explore the traditional travel routes of the Red and Assiniboine by taking a River Interpretive Tour offered by the City of Winnipeg, a Paddlewheel Cruise to Lower Fort Garry National Historic Site, or the Splash Dash Water Bus, all of which leave from The Forks. The nearby Exchange District National Historic Site commemorates the best collection of turn of the century architecture in all of North America! Exchange District Walking tours are offered during the summer.

Winnipeg offers all amenities and is famous for its festivals. The Winnipeg Folk Festival, held at nearby Birds Hill Provincial Park, is a July tradition. Folklorama, the world's largest multi-cultural celebration, is held for two weeks every August. There are many other festivals, attractions, restaurants, shops, motels, hotels, and other historic sites in the Winnipeg area and along the Red River corridor.



Parks Canada/Doug Dealey

Wayne Nicklas, Nicole Beaudry and Christian Perron in "From Meeting Place to Metropolis" presented at The Forks National Historic Site.

Photo Courtesy of Brian Richardson Productions/Canadian Actors' Equity Association

RIEL HOUSE

National Historic Site of Canada

- Tour the house and gardens with a knowledgeable and friendly bilingual guide in period costume.
- See the outdoor exhibits that tell the story of the Métis and Francophone society of Red River at the end of the 19th century, including the unique settlement pattern of Métis river lots.
- Bring a picnic lunch and enjoy the site's peaceful heritage setting.
- Call ahead for schedules and fees.

For Your Convenience



Riel House National Historic Site is the family home of the famous Métis leader and founder of Manitoba, Louis Riel. It was here, in the living room of his mother's house, that Riel's body lay in state for two days in December of 1885. Walk into this restored Red River Frame house and enter an historical oasis - a place to pause and reflect on the fascinating and complex story of Louis Riel, and to explore his modern legacy. Parks Canada provides a personal touch, making each visit to Riel house a memorable and deeply felt experience.

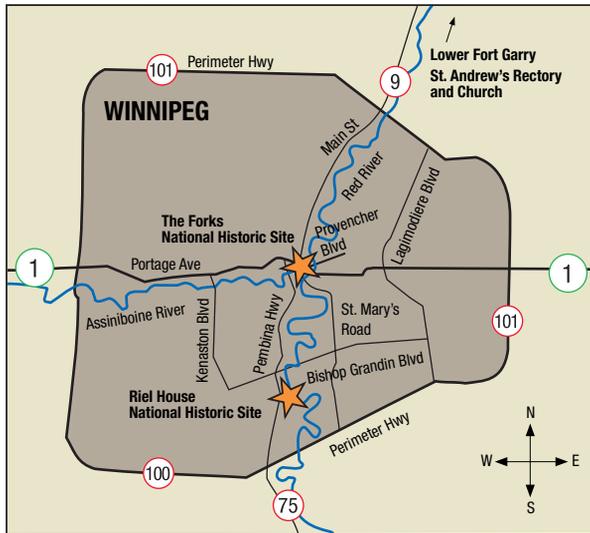
Making the Most of your Visit

- Plan to stay at least one hour at Riel House. The site is open daily from mid-May to Labour Day.
- Throughout the summer, Riel House offers historic activities and special events such as the annual "Harvest Celebration" on the Sunday of the Labour Day weekend. Call for more detailed information.



Getting There

Riel House is on River Road in south Winnipeg, a short, fifteen-minute drive from downtown. To get there, drive south on Pembina Highway or St. Mary's Road and turn onto Bishop Grandin Boulevard. Travel south on River Road at the east end of the Bishop Grandin bridge over the Red River. Watch for Parks Canada beaver trail blazer signs directing you to Riel House. The site is also accessible by public transit.



Nearby Attractions and Services

Riel House is a key attraction in a network of heritage places in which the stories of Louis Riel are told, and which present Métis and Francophone heritage in Western Canada. See artifacts relating to Riel in the nearby St. Boniface Museum which is housed in the oldest wooden building in Winnipeg, the Grey Nun's Convent National Historic Site. Visit the historic St. Boniface Cathedral and explore the cemetery where Louis Riel is buried. Travel to St. Norbert, in south Winnipeg, to see the Riel Monument and nearby Votive Chapel.

Visit other unique attractions in Parks Canada's family of National Historic Sites in and around Winnipeg.

LOWER FORT GARRY

National Historic Site of Canada

- Plan on spending between two and four hours to truly enjoy Lower Fort Garry.
- Start in the Visitor Reception Centre - the friendly staff will suggest ways to enjoy your visit.
- Talk to the costumed interpreters as they show you the day-to-day lives of the people who lived at the fort 150 years ago. See the blacksmith's shop, the native encampment, the fur loft, the Governor's residence... The sights and sounds will take you back to a time long since passed.

For Your Convenience



The sound of metal being pounded, the smell of fires and baking, and the sight of trappers and fur packers greet you at Lower Fort Garry, the only restored stone fur trade post in North America. The walls of this Hudson's Bay Company fort still encircle the largest group of original 19th century fur trade buildings in Canada.

The first major treaty in Western Canada was made at the Stone Fort between the Crown and the area's First Nations in 1871.

Today, you can stroll through Lower Fort Garry's beautifully restored heritage buildings and extensive grounds along the banks of the Red River, hear the stories and see the thousands of artifacts that bring Manitoba's past to life.

In 2005, join us in celebrating Lower Fort Garry's 175th Anniversary. Opening Day festivities on May 15, special programming in July and August and the *Red River Descendants Reunion*, August 14-21, 2005, are some of the many planned events.



Parks Canada/Doug Dealey

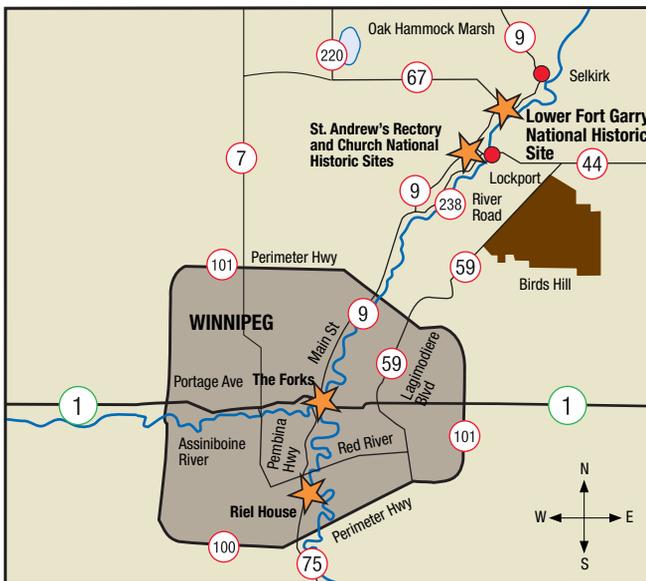
Getting There

Lower Fort Garry is close to Winnipeg and easy to reach.

By car: Just a half-hour drive (32 km) north of downtown Winnipeg and a few minutes south of Selkirk on Highway #9 (Main Street).

By bus: Accessible by daily scheduled runs from Winnipeg and Selkirk on Beaver Bus Lines (call 1-204-989-7007).

By boat: Enjoy a scenic boat tour down the Red River from Winnipeg to the Fort through St. Andrew's lock. Call Paddlewheel River Rouge Tours at 1-204-942-4500.



Making the Most of your Visit

- Visit the gift shop, run by the Lower Fort Garry Volunteer Association, and try the great food at Sylvia's Restaurant.
- NEW: Electric Vehicle Shuttle Service is available from the Visitor Reception Centre.

Special Events

- Come and help celebrate Lower Fort Garry's 175th Anniversary in 2005! Festivities begin May 15 with Opening Day entertainment.
- Participate in the *Red River Descendant's Reunion*, August 14 to 21. You can pay us a visit to enjoy on-site programming, or you can register for the reunion.

For registration: <http://www.redriverdescendantsreunion.org>

- In July and August, theme days will offer fun:
 - Mondays will be Seniors Day
 - Tuesdays will feature craft and trade demonstrations
 - Children's Day on Wednesdays – fun for kids who can try “working under contract” doing activities typical of the fort during its fur trade heyday
 - Thursdays will feature dramatic presentations
 - Fridays will be “Who's Who” programming, about the people of Red River
 - Saturdays will highlight aspects of the fort's varied 175-year history
 - Sundays will be Family Day



Children's Corner

Lower Fort Garry is fun for the whole family. Kids of all ages will enjoy the feel of pelts in the fur loft...sitting in a teepee and imagining living in one all the time... watching the sparks fly at the blacksmith's shop...chatting with interesting costumed characters. On Wednesdays during July and August, children can have fun "signing on" as a Hudson's Bay Company employee and trying out life in the 1800s. They can learn historic games and crafts (call for programme times). The south grounds of the fort provide lots of safe, open space for family picnics and outdoor games.

Nearby Attractions and Services

Visit each unique attraction in Parks Canada's family of National Historic Sites in and around Winnipeg: St. Andrew's Rectory, located along the scenic River Road Heritage Parkway; The Forks, at the fabled junction of the Red and Assiniboine Rivers; and Riel House, the family home of the Métis leader Louis Riel.

There are plenty of shops, motels and hotels in the Winnipeg and Selkirk areas. For those interested in history, the St. Andrews Caméré Curtain Bridge Dam in Lockport, the Kenosewun Museum in Lockport Provincial Heritage Park and the Marine Museum of Manitoba in Selkirk Park, all provide interesting stops on your way to or from Lower Fort Garry.

The area's natural beauty can be seen at Oak Hammock Marsh and Birds Hill Provincial Park, both within a 20 minute drive of Lower Fort Garry. Birds Hill provides family camping, a good swimming beach, and hiking, biking and rollerblading trails.



Parks Canada/Doug Dealey

ST. ANDREW'S RECTORY AND CHURCH

National Historic Sites of Canada

- Plan on spending about one hour at the site to enjoy both the rectory and the church.
- Talk with the heritage interpreters about the colourful personalities who have lived and worked at St. Andrew's.
- Take a drive along the River Road Heritage parkway, stopping at the outdoor displays and sites of historical interest along the way.

For Your Convenience



For over one hundred and fifty years, St. Andrew's Rectory and Church have been at the heart of the religious and social life of the lower Red River Settlement. Even today, St. Andrew's is at the centre of a vibrant, contemporary parish.

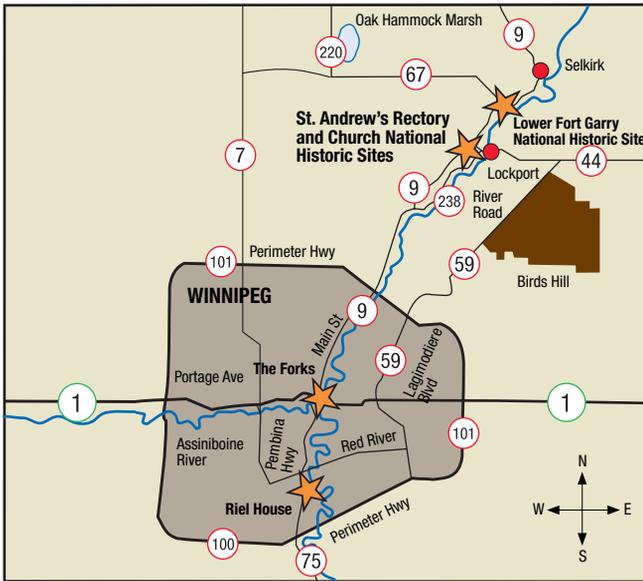
But now, both church and rectory serve a double role - they are open to the public during the summer as National Historic Sites. These striking limestone buildings, constructed between 1830 and 1855 by the Church of England, are excellent examples of the "Hudson Bay" style of Red River architecture.

The two-storey rectory has served as the residence for rectors from the nearby church. Today the parish rector lives on the top floor, but you are welcome to visit the rooms on the lower floor and see displays on Red River architecture and the religious, social and economic life of Red River.

Visitors can also explore St. Andrew's Church when services to parishioners are not in progress. The grounds are open any time during daylight hours, and include an interesting historic cemetery.



Parks Canada/T. Krause



Getting There

From Winnipeg drive north on Main Street (Highway 9), turn right on River Road (# 238) and proceed to St. Andrews Road. Turn left and then park on the right side of the road, in the church parking lot. The rectory is across the street from the church.

From Selkirk, drive south on Highway 9 to Highway 44 at Lockport. Turn left, and then turn right onto River Road (# 238) just before the bridge. Drive along River Road to St. Andrews Road. Turn right and then park adjacent to the church.



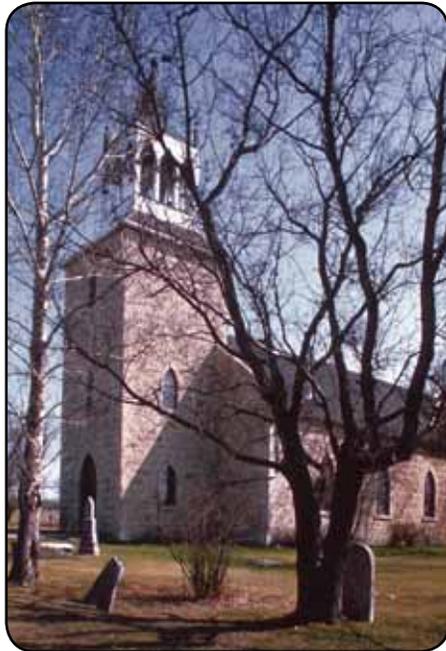
Making the Most of your Visit

- Plan on spending about one hour at the site to enjoy both the rectory and the church.
- Talk with the heritage interpreters about the colourful personalities who have lived and worked at St. Andrew's.
- Take a drive along the River Road Heritage parkway, stopping at the outdoor displays and sites of historical interest along the way.
- Enjoy a picnic on the rectory grounds.
- Attend one of the special events offered at the National Historic Site. Just call ahead for details.

Nearby Attractions and Services

Visit each unique attraction in Parks Canada's family of National Historic Sites in and around Winnipeg: Lower Fort Garry, the only restored stone fur trade post in North America; The Forks, at the fabled junction of the Red and Assiniboine Rivers; and Riel House, the family home of the Métis leader Louis Riel.

There are plenty of shops, motels, hotels, and other historic sites in the Winnipeg and Selkirk areas and along the scenic River Road Heritage Parkway that are well worth visiting, such as the Captain Kennedy Tea House and Museum on River Road, and the St. Andrews Caméré Curtain Bridge Dam in Lockport.



Parks Canada

FEES AND HOURS OF OPERATION

All fees and hours of operation quoted are subject to minor changes. Please call ahead for more current information.

Riding Mountain National Park

Telephone: 1-204-848-7275

Hours of Operation

The park is open all year round. The park administration building is open Monday to Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The Visitor Centre is open daily from 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. from mid-May to the Thanksgiving long weekend (it remains open until 8:00 p.m. in July and August). It is closed for the remainder of the year (information is available Monday to Friday at the Administration Building and over the telephone).

Admission Fees

Admission passes are required when visiting a national park. You can purchase one at the North and South gate entrances, the Administration Building, the Visitor Centre, the campground office, some businesses in the Riding Mountain area, or by calling 1-204-848-7275.

Daily Passes

Family group (up to 7 people)	\$12.50
Adult (17 to 64 yrs.)	\$5.00
Senior (65 yrs. and over)	\$4.25
Youth (6 to 16 yrs.)	\$2.50
Children (5 yrs. and under)	free
Commercial Group (per person)	\$3.00

All prices include G.S.T.

In addition to the Daily Passes listed above, you can purchase Annual Passes and Parks Canada National Passes.

Non-profit group and commercial tour group passes are available. Please call for more information.

Camping

All camping areas are open from mid-May to mid-October. A variety of camping services are available, from non-service to full-service (water, sewer and electrical).

Reservations can be made from late March until mid-October. (Group camping and backcountry reservations can be made all year. Backcountry sites are open from spring to fall. Winter camping is also available.)

Please call 1-204-848-7275 for reservations and camping fees. (Prices vary.)

Wasagaming Campground Reservations are available online at www.pccamping.ca or by calling 1-877-RESERVE.

Interpretive Programs

Exciting interpretive programs and individual and group hikes are scheduled throughout the summer. For more information and rates please call.

Manitoba North National Historic Sites and Wapusk National Park

Telephone: 1-204-675-8863

Hours of Operation and Fees

Churchill Visitor Reception Centre

Year Round
Monday to Friday
8:30 am to 4:30 pm

July - August
October - November
8:30 am to 8:30 pm

Appointments always welcome.

Special Events

Celebrate Canada Day (July 1) and Parks Day (3rd Sat. in July) with us!

Interpretive Programs

Audio Visual Programs

Year Round - Please call for times.

Adult (17 to 64 yrs.)	\$5.00
Senior (65 yrs. and over)	\$4.50
Youth (6 to 16 yrs.)	\$2.50
Children (5 yrs. and under)	free
Family	\$12.00

Special Interpretive Programs

Adult (17 to 64 yrs.)	\$8.00
Senior (65 yrs. and over)	\$7.25
Youth (6 to 16 yrs.)	\$4.00
Children (5 yrs. and under)	free
Family	\$20.00

Guided Walks at Cape Merry, Prince of Wales Fort and York Factory
Please call for tour times.

Per person	\$8.00
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Telephone: 1-877-534-3678

Lower Fort Garry National Historic Site

Hours of Operation

Daily 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. from
May 15th to Labour Day.

Admission Fees - Daily

Adult (17 to 64 yrs.)	\$5.75
Senior (65 yrs. and over)	\$5.00
Youth (6 to 16 yrs.)	\$3.00
Children (5 yrs. and under)	free
Family Day Pass	\$16.50

Interpretive Programs

Historic interpretation by costumed guides, a daily tour and special events are included with admission fees. Special group programming is available for a fee with prior reservation.

Fall 2005

New public programming is planned for this fall. Call for more information.

All prices listed include the Goods and Services Tax. Programs and prices are subject to change.

St. Andrew's Rectory and Church National Historic Sites

Telephone: 1-204-334-6405

Hours of Operation

Mid-May to August 31st and Labour Day.

Admission Fees

No Admission Fees. Donations accepted.

Riel House National Historic Site

Telephone: 1-204-257-1783

Admission Fees

Hours of Operation

Daily 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. from
mid-May to Labour Day.

Call for Admission Fees and Tour Schedules.

The Forks National Historic Site

Telephone: 1-204-983-6757

Hours of Operation

Grounds are open year round. Entry to the grounds is free. Public wash-rooms on site are available seasonally. Information about all of Canada's National Parks and National Historic Sites in Manitoba is available in the Explore Manitoba Centre located at The Forks.

Interpretive Programs for Groups

Available spring, summer and early fall. Call for more information on program selection, group prices and on how to book a tour.

Community Events

Call if you would like an information kit on how your group can hold a special event at The Forks National Historic Site.

Walking Tours and Programs

July and August
Call for tour times, fees and days.

"Beaver Tales and River Trails"

- An interactive Guided Interpretive Tour for all ages

Adult (17 to 64 yrs.)	\$3.00
Senior (65 yrs. and over)	\$2.25
Youth (6 to 16 yrs.)	\$1.50
Children (5 yrs. and under)	free
Family (Max. 2 adults and up to 3 children)	\$7.50
Educational Group	\$1.00 per person

All prices listed include the Goods and Services Tax. Programmes and prices are subject to change.

NEW for 2005!

I Spy - The Forks - A Heritage Scavenger Hunt for ages 7 - 10

ForksQuest - A Heritage Scavenger Hunt for ages 10 and up

How To CONTACT Us

For information on Canada's National Parks and National Historic Sites in Manitoba call:

1-888-773-8888

or visit the Parks Canada Kiosk in the Explore Manitoba Centre at The Forks in Winnipeg.

Parks Canada on the Internet...A rich source of information on National Parks and National Historic Sites across Canada

www.pc.gc.ca

Riding Mountain National Park

Wasagaming, Manitoba
R0J 2H0

Telephone:

1-204-848-7275 (information and backcountry reservations)

Reservations: 1-877-737-3783

or reserve on-line at

www.pccamping.ca

(Wasagaming Campground only)

TTY: 1-866-558-2950

Fax: 1-204-848-2596

Internet: www.pc.gc.ca

Wapusk National Park

Box 127
Churchill, Manitoba
R0B 0E0

Telephone: 1-204-675-8863

TTY: 1-866-558-2950

Fax: 1-204-675-2026

Internet: www.pc.gc.ca

Manitoba North National Historic Sites

Box 127
Churchill, Manitoba
R0B 0E0

Telephone: 1-204-675-8863

TTY: 1-866-558-2950

Fax: 1-204-675-2026

Internet: www.pc.gc.ca

**Lower Fort Garry
National Historic Site**

5981 Highway 9
St. Andrews, Manitoba
R1A 4A8
Telephone: 1-877-534-3678
TTY: 1-866-558-2950
Fax: 1-204-482-5887
Internet: www.pc.gc.ca

**St. Andrew's Rectory
and Church
National Historic Sites**

374 River Road
St. Andrew's, Manitoba
R1A 2Y1
Telephone: 1-204-334-6405
TTY: 1-866-558-2950
Fax: 1-204-338-3790

**Riel House
National Historic Site**

330 River Road (St. Vital)
Winnipeg, Manitoba
Mailing Address:
Box 73, Winnipeg, Manitoba
R2N 3X9
Telephone: 1-204-257-1783
TTY: 1-866-558-2950
Fax: 1-204-254-8331
(mid-May to mid-September),
1-204-983-2221
(mid-September to mid-May)
Internet: www.pc.gc.ca

**The Forks
National Historic Site**

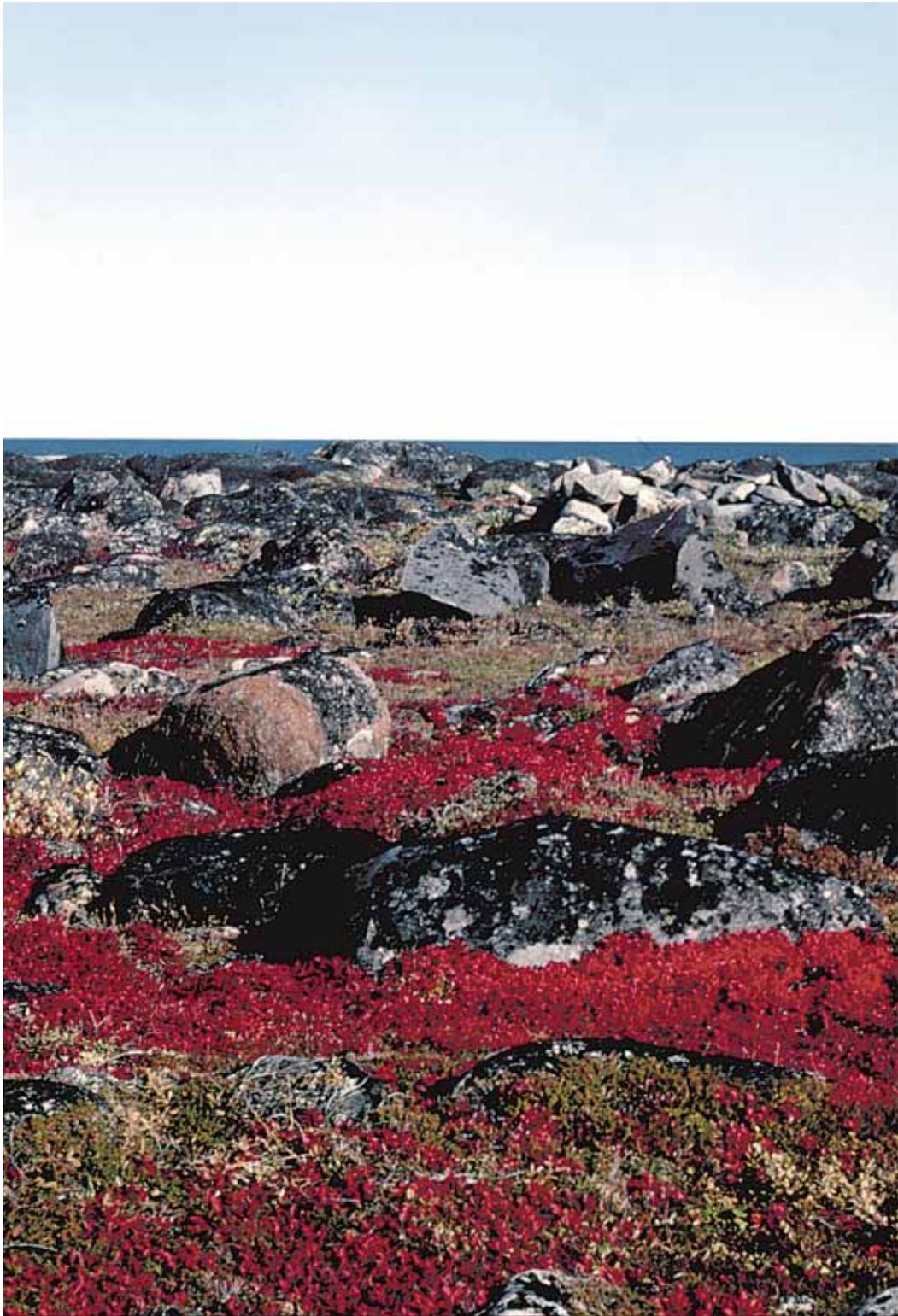
401-25 Forks Market Road
Winnipeg, Manitoba
R3C 4S8
Telephone: 1-204-983-6757
TTY: 1-866-558-2950
Fax: 1-204-983-2221
Internet: www.pc.gc.ca

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information call**

1-800-665-0040

or write

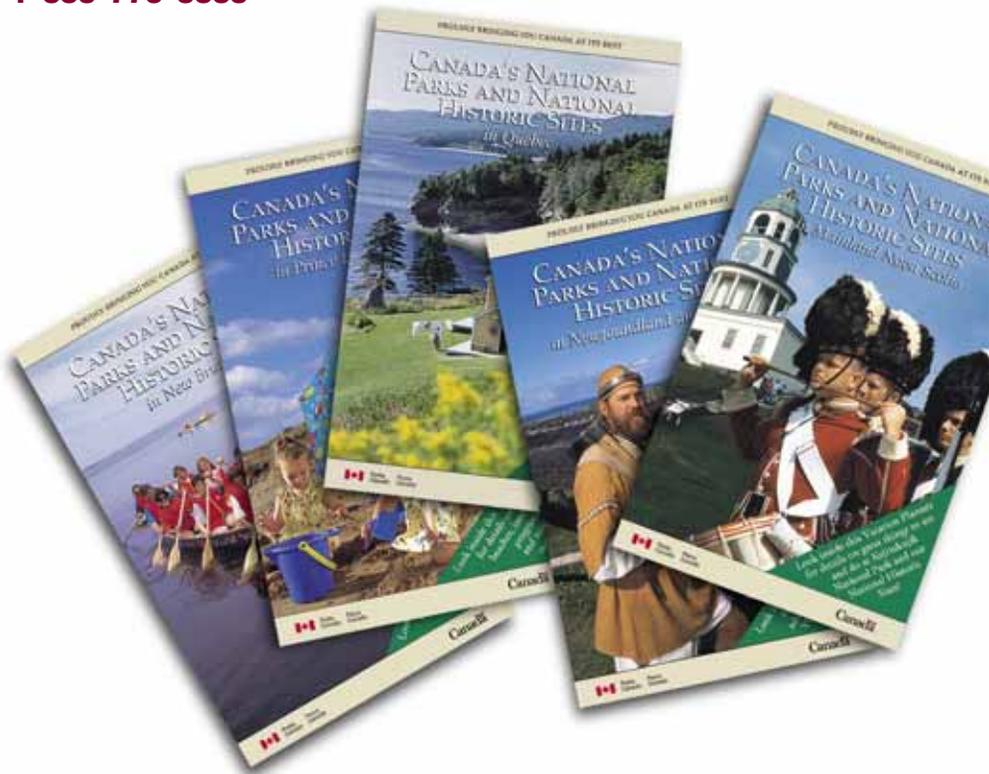
Travel Manitoba
7th Floor, 155 Carleton St.
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 3H8



Planning Your Visit to Canada's National Parks and National Historic Sites

To receive **FREE** trip-planning information on Canada's National Parks and National Historic Sites in other provinces and territories call today:

1-888-773-8888



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Lower Fort Garry National Historic Site/Parks Canada/Doug Dealey

Back Cover:

Riding Mountain National Park/Parks Canada/Barrett & MacKay

Coyote/Celes Davar

Ojibway man/Celes Davar

Costumed guide/Parks Canada/Doug Dealey

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- Lower Fort Garry National Historic Site
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