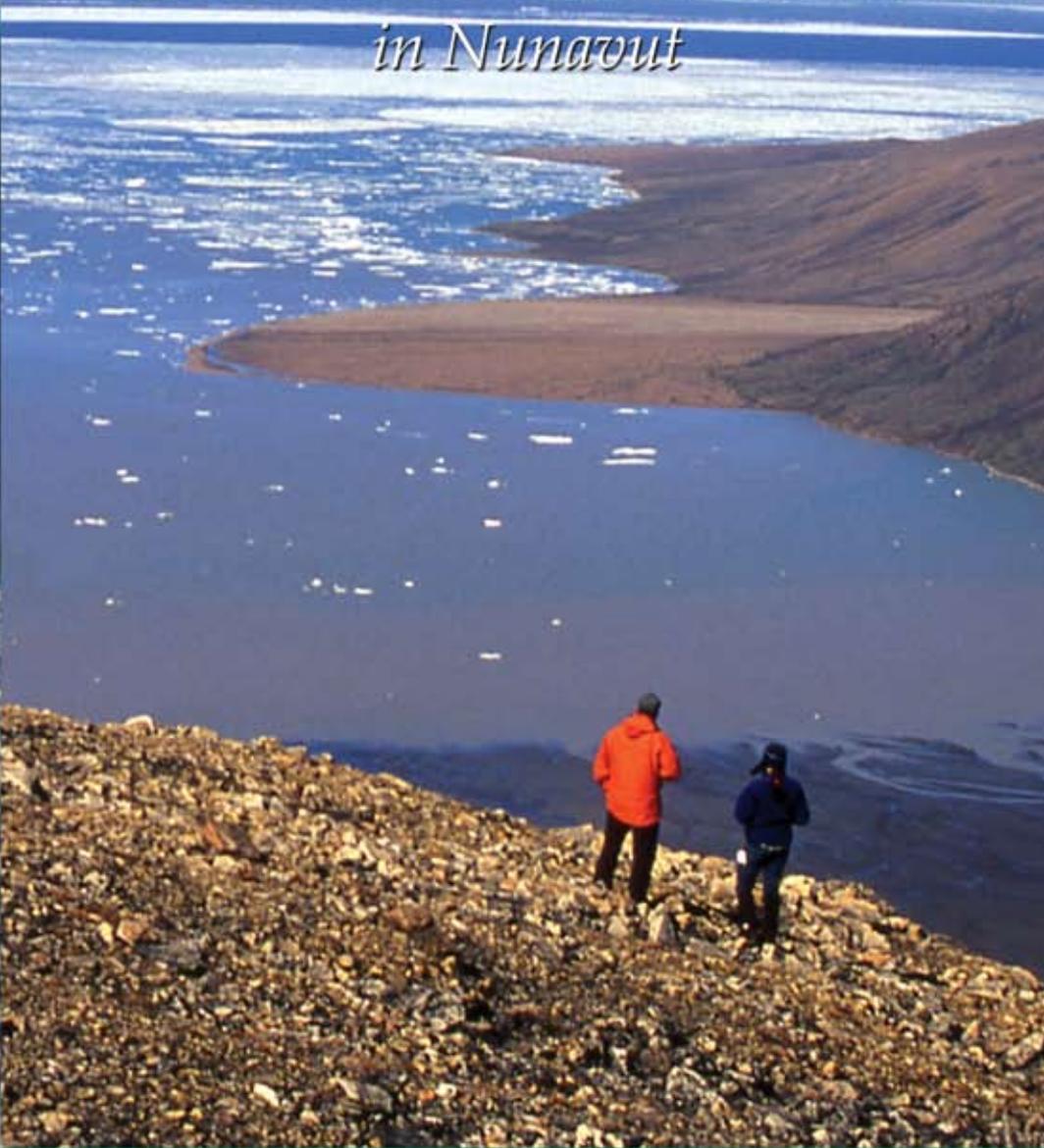


NATIONAL PARKS AND HISTORICAL SITES OF CANADA *in Nunavut*



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 allow us to understand the land, people and events that shaped Canada.

Some things just can't be replaced and, therefore, your support is vital in protecting 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.

Table of Contents

Welcome	1
Auyuittuq National Park of Canada	8
Quttinirpaaq National Park of Canada	14
Sirmilik National Park of Canada	20
Ukkusiksalik National Park of Canada	26
National Historic Sites in Nunavut	32
How to Contact Us	36

Welcome

Safeguarding Canada’s Family of Special Places

Parks Canada is proud of its role in preserving and presenting a nation-wide system of natural and cultural treasures—including national parks, national historic sites, and national marine conservation areas. Together, they symbolize the link between stewardship of the land and respect for our cultural heritage. Parks Canada’s Mandate is protection, education and memorable visitor experience.

National parks and national marine conservation areas protect the ecological integrity of landscapes, water and wildlife representative of Canada’s vastness and diversity. National historic sites commemorate the people and events that shaped this country. Parks Canada’s highest priority is ensuring that our parks and sites are unimpaired by human activity and will persist, healthy and whole, into the future.

You too can do your part in helping to maintain Canada’s family of special places. Tread lightly on the land as you explore the wonders and beauty of Canada. Respect and celebrate the cultural traditions of Nunavut as you visit each community. Your role is important in helping to ensure the continued protection and enjoyment of Canada’s natural and cultural heritage.

So Much To See and Do

Dare to explore where relatively few visitors treke each year – to the far reaches of Canada’s arctic. Discover the protected ecosystems of the rugged north, and celebrate the establishment of some of the newest national parks in Canada.

The four national parks in Nunavut – Auyuittuq, Quttinirpaaq, Sirmilik and Ukkusiksalik – are among the most remote and northerly parks in the world.

The high arctic is THE choice for the truly adventurous. Quttinirpaaq National Park on Ellesmere Island can boast of being on “Top of the World”, as it encompasses one of the most northern points of land on our planet. The visitor season is brief but as Canada’s second largest National Park the choices for unique experiences abound.



Jagged mountains and enormous glaciers characterize Auyuittuq National Park, located on Baffin Island. The park offers world-famous opportunities for winter ski touring and ski mountaineering in a spectacular but unforgiving wilderness. The remote Akshayak Pass, traversed by Inuit for hundreds of years, is a prime destination for summer backpacking.

View icebergs, unexpected geological formations, sea ice, and seabirds at Sirmilik National Park on northern Baffin Island. Fifty bird species - including thick-billed murres and black-legged kittiwakes - live within the Bylot Island Migratory Bird Sanctuary and the sea bird colony at Baillarge Bay as well as elsewhere in the park. From bird watching to botany, the natural and cultural features of Sirmilika are sure to delight those willing to brave the rugged conditions of the region.

High densities of polar bears, an array of other wild life such as caribou, muskox, wolf, seal, golden eagle and peregrine falcon along with a reversing waterfall created by tidal action, await visitors in Ukkusiksalik National Park.

Inuit have forged a life in these harsh but delicate landscapes for thousands of years. Remnants of ancient cultures can be seen in all of these parks - from the Independence I and II cultures of Quttirpaaq National Park to the Thule cultures in Auyuittuq National Park. Visitors may see tent rings, kayak stands, inuksuit, fox traps or other evidence of ancient cultures.

Experience the warmth and hospitality of modern-day Inuit in the remote communities of Pangnirtung, Qikiqtarjuaq, Pond Inlet, Arctic Bay, Resolute Bay, Grise Ford, Repulse Bay, Baker Lake, Chesterfield Inlet, Coral Harbour or Rankin Inlet. Iqaluit is the starting point for access to Auyuittuq and Sirmilik and Quttirpaaq national parks, as well as to their neighbouring communities. Ukkusiksalik can be accessed from Winnipeg, Rankin Inlet or Baker Lake.

Activities Information

Activities in the remote arctic parks revolve around backcountry adventure, with unique opportunities for hiking, mountain climbing, boating, camping, wildlife viewing, kayaking, ski touring, and ski mountaineering. However, due to the remoteness of these parks and the inherent dangers of the arctic terrain, potential visitors should have strong skills in wilderness travel, survival and first aid unless travelling with an experienced and licenced guide.

Wildlife Viewing

Nothing can match the excitement of spotting wildlife in their natural habitat. Muskox, arctic fox, polar bear, arctic wolf, narwhal, beluga and bowhead whale are but a few of the mammals species that may be seen. Use caution and give wildlife the space and respect they deserve.

- Maintain a safe distance from all large animals. Be aware that large animals such as muskox and walrus may be aggressive.
- Please read the pamphlet "Safety in Polar Bear Country" and view the DVD "Polar Bears: A Guide to Safety" for more information. These are available from the Parks Canada offices in Nunavut and the pamphlet can be read on our website: www.pc.gc.ca.



Weather

The polar marine climate is characterized by long, cold, dark winters, with temperatures as low as -55°C . Summers are short and cool. Although you will be treated to endless daylight between May and August, the sun is totally absent between November and February in the high arctic parks and very diminished in the more southern ones. July is usually the warmest month with an average high of 11°C .

Weather in the arctic is extremely changeable, with high winds, storms, and whiteout conditions possible at any time of the year. Travel is impossible during spring break-up and fall freeze-up. Visitors must be well prepared to deal with harsh weather - including travel delays due to weather - at any time of the year.

For Your Convenience

Careful planning is required as some supplies and services may be limited or unavailable in some northern communities. Please contact the Parks Canada office listed for each park or contact the Field Unit office in Iqaluit for a complete package of pre-trip planning information.

Cruise Ships

Although icebreaker expedition size cruise ships have been coming to Nunavut for years, more ships with more cruise options are visiting more communities now. Visits to both national parks and national historic sites are included in the sailing schedules. Visitors get day hikes, see marine wildlife, take part in cultural events and visit archaeological sites all from their floating staterooms.

Park and Site Regulations and Guidelines

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

- A park use permit is required for day use and overnight stays in the backcountry. And all of Nunavut's parks are considered backcountry. Visitors **MUST** participate in an orientation and registration session and pay their fees prior to departing for any of the national parks in Nunavut. De-registration is mandatory at the end of the trip.
- Choose routes on durable terrain. Avoid vegetated and soft soil areas as these areas are easily damaged by foot traffic.
- Fires are prohibited. Camp stoves must be used.
- Firearms are prohibited.
- Pack out all litter, including cigarette butts.
- Leave undisturbed any natural or cultural objects.
- Do not disturb wildlife.
- Fishing may be available in some of the National Parks in Nunavut but is currently under discussion as part of the management planning process. Check in advance with the park you intend to visit about the status of fishing. If fishing is permitted, a national park fishing license is required.



NATIONAL PARKS OF CANADA IN NUNAVUT



NATIONAL PARKS IN NUNAVUT

Auyuittuq
National Park of Canada
Page 8

Quttinirpaaq
National Park of Canada
Page 14

Sirmilik
National Park of Canada
Page 20

Ukkusiksalik
National Park of Canada
Page 26

Auyuittuq National Park of Canada

“The Land That Never Melts”

Sweeping glaciers and polar ice meet the jagged granite mountains of Auyuittuq National Park of Canada. Located on Baffin Island, Auyuittuq represents the Northern Davis natural region. The initial agreement to create the park was signed in 1973. The park protects 19,089 km² of scoured terrain, including the highest peaks of the Canadian Shield. Highlights of the park's geography are Thor Peak, Mount Asgard, the Penny Ice Cap and the famous Akshayuk Pass.

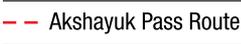
Marine life thrives in the coastal fiords of Auyuittuq, where animals such as narwhal and ringed seal are often seen. Inland, the landscape is windswept and barren, only fifteen percent of the park's area is vegetated. Evidence of the dynamic nature of this park and the erosive action of ice, wind and water can be seen all around as you traverse the park's challenging terrain.



AUYUITTUQ NATIONAL PARK OF CANADA



Legend

 National Park	 Akshayuk Pass Route	 Information Center or Office
 Crown Land	 Glacier	 Emergency Shelter
 Inuit Owned Land	 Airport	 Warden Cabin

Getting There

The nearest communities are Pangnirtung, located 32 km to the south in Pangnirtung Fiord, and Qikiqtarjuaq, located 82 km to the north on Broughton Island. Winter access from the communities is by skiing, dog team or snow machine. Summer access is by boat but the park is virtually inaccessible during spring break-up and fall freeze-up.

Local outfitters may be hired in Pangnirtung or Qikiqtarjuaq to assist with transportation to the park. From Qikiqtarjuaq, use of a local outfitter is advised to provide boat or snow machine access to the park because polar bears are often present in the waters, on the ice or along the coast of that portion of the park.

Iqaluit is the hub for air traffic in Nunavut. Commercial flights are available to Iqaluit from Montreal, Ottawa, Edmonton, and Yellowknife. Scheduled and charter flights are available from Iqaluit to Pangnirtung and Qikiqtarjuaq. Air travellers should plan for the possibility of weather delays when making their travel arrangements.

Making the Most of Your Visit

- There are emergency shelters (for weather, wildlife and other emergencies ONLY) about one day's hike apart through Akshayuk Pass. Visitors may camp close to the shelters or in other locations in the park. There are no designated campgrounds or visitor services in the park except for outhouses located beside the emergency shelters. There is a Parks Canada visitor reception centre in Pangnirtung open year around, and a Parks Canada office in Qikiqtarjuaq during the visitor seasons.
- Careful pre-trip planning is essential. Please contact the Parks Canada office in Pangnirtung, seasonally at the Qikiqtarjuaq office or visit the park website at www.pc.gc.ca for detailed pre trip planning information.
- The best times to visit are spring and summer. Spring visits are best from mid March to early May for over-snow and ice access from Pangnirtung and into early June from Qikiqtarjuaq. Summer visits can be made from July to early September using boat access from Pangnirtung and late July to early September from Qikiqtarjuaq. Check with the park offices about the ice conditions as they vary from year to year. Winter access is not advisable due to the extreme cold, high winds and darkness. Keep in mind that the weather is unpredictable and will influence your travel plans.
- Local outfitters can provide boat or snow machine transportation to the park. In Pangnirtung, contact the Angmarlik Interpretive Centre at (867) 473-8737. In Qikiqtarjuaq, contact the Qikiqtarjuaq Hamlet Office at (867) 927-8832.

Activities

Hiking

Akshayuk Pass, the 97 km corridor between mountains and ice has been traversed by Inuit for hundreds of years and is the park's prime summer hiking destination. Hikers should be prepared for many potentially hazardous river crossings en-route. Side trips off the main route are possible. Contact the Parks Canada office in Pangnirtung for detailed information. A detailed route map for Akshayuk Pass is available for sale at the park office, or can be purchased from the manufacturer's website at: www.chrismar.com

Camping

Low-impact backcountry camping is part of the Auyuittuq experience. No additional camping permit is required beyond your park use permit. Campers should bring a camp stove and fuel as campfires on the limited amount of tundra are not permitted. Camp fuel can be purchased in Pangnirtung or Qikiqtarjuaq.



Wildlife Viewing

Narwhal, ringed seal, and polar bear can be seen along the coast. Arctic hare and lemming are the most common mammals in the park's interior. Low densities of limited numbers of bird species, nest in Auyuittuq.

Ski Touring



Because most of the park is glaciated, ski touring is possible for much of the year. Akshayuk Pass, the park's most popular ski touring destination, can be accessed for skiing from mid March until early May. Contact the Parks Canada office in Pangnirtung for detailed information.

Mountaineering

Auyuittuq's glaciers, rock cliffs and mountains provide world-class opportunities for mountaineering and ski mountaineering in an arctic environment. Harsh conditions and a lack of local rescue services make mountaineering in this park inadvisable for all but the most experienced of climbers. Contact the Parks Canada office in Pangnirtung for detailed information. An expedition registration and orientation is required.



Safety Considerations

Visitors traveling in this park must carry appropriate gear, be self-reliant and able to handle any medical or wildlife-related emergencies on their own. Many hazards may be encountered - from dangerous river crossings and polar bears, to severe cold and storms. Depending on your routes and the time of the year you may have limited encounters with other visitors.

Search and rescue operations are very basic, and there can be lengthy delays due to weather and lack of availability of aircraft. Take every precaution to keep yourself out of danger. We recommend bringing a GPS and satellite phone. Satellite phones in conjunction with the VHS radios at the emergency shelters provide communication options in the arctic, with its variable contact dependability.

If you have any doubts about your skill level, consider visiting the park with a licensed guide or outfitter. Contact the Parks Canada office in Pangnirtung for a list of licensed outfitters.

Operating Season

The park is virtually inaccessible during spring break-up (mid-May to June from Pangnirtung and mid-May to late July from Qikiqtarjuaq) and fall freeze-up (mid-October - November). Winter access (December to February), while possible, is not advised.

Park Office Hours & Phone

Pangnirtung

Monday - Friday, year-round 8:30 - 12:00 PM & 1:00 - 5:00 PM

Summer hours posted in June

Phone (867) 473-2500

Qikiqtarjuaq

By appointment during spring and summer visitor seasons.

Phone (867) 927-8834

Park Passes

Backcountry fees 2006/2007*

Daily \$23.36 + GST

Annual \$140.19 + GST

Nationwide Parks Canada Front Country Pass fees do not apply to these backcountry excursion fees. The northern annual backcountry pass is valid in all National Parks in Nunavut, the North West Territories and the Yukon with the exception of Kluane National Park and Wood Buffalo National Park. * Future years – subject to change.

Camping

Backcountry camping is included in the backcountry entry fees

Payment

Visa, Mastercard, cash or cheque.

Quttinirpaaq National Park of Canada

“Top of the World”

Far to the north, in the highest reaches of Ellesmere Island, lies Quttinirpaaq National Park of Canada. A mere 720 km from the north pole, this is the most northerly protected area in Canada. Established as Ellesmere Island National Park Reserve in 1988, Quttinirpaaq became a national park in 2001.

Quttinirpaaq National Park represents the Eastern High Arctic Glacier natural region. Much of the park's 37,775 km² is mountainous and glaciated, with ice caps up to 900 metres thick. Relief from this harsh polar desert environment can be found at Lake Hazen, where a relatively lush ecosystem is tucked within a valley of south-facing mountains. One hundred and fifty species of plants, 192 species of moss, and 44 species of lichen nestle in this tundra oasis, along with a rich diversity of arctic wildlife.



QUTTINIRPAAQ NATIONAL PARK OF CANADA

Ward Hunt Island

Arctic Ocean



Nares Strait

Legend

-  National Park
-  Crown Land
-  Routes
-  Warden Station
-  Aircraft Landing Site
-  Glacier

Both ancient campsites and structures and remnants of scientific and military explorations can be found in the park. These sites provide archaeologists and researchers with important clues about the past.

Quttinirpaaq National Park and its surrounding region has a rich legacy of cultural resources that tell the story of human occupation of the area – a story that dates back thousands of years.

It is believed that the Paleo-Eskimos of the Independence I culture (2000 – 1700 B.C.) were the first to arrive in Quttinirpaaq after crossing the Bering Strait from Siberia 4000 years ago. Their campsites in the park, characterized by box-shaped hearths, tell us that their numbers were low and that they only occupied the area for 300 – 400 years. These people hunted muskox and caribou and survived the long dark arctic winters with very little that could be used to produce heat.

For many centuries afterward, it appears no humans lived on Quttinirpaaq. Then about 3000 years ago, a second wave of Paleo-Eskimo people, the Independence II culture (1000 – 500 B.C.) migrated across the arctic islands and reached Quttinirpaaq. A third distinct culture, the Dorset culture (A.D. 800 – A.D. 1000), endured on Quttinirpaaq until about a 1000 years ago. They in turn were supplanted by the Thule people who were skillful hunters of whales and other marine mammals. While the Thule culture survived elsewhere in the arctic, Quttinirpaaq was abandoned by the Thule as the climate became colder leading up to the Little Ice Age (A.D. 1600 – 1850). The Thule were the ancestors of modern Inuit.

Getting There

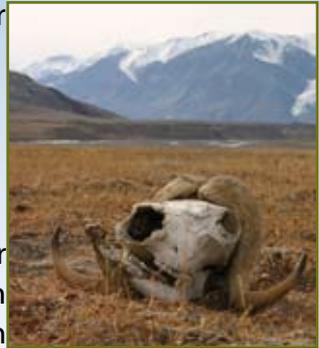
Access to Quttinirpaaq is by air charter from Resolute Bay, located 900 km to the southeast. A charter flight using a 10 seat Twin Otter plane will take four hours each way, and will cost approximately \$40,000 (for the return flight, 2007) or more depending on your drop off location. Contact us to get the latest list of charter companies licensed to fly to the park. A Twin Otter charter can hold up to 10 people with gear, and should be booked well in advance. Sharing flights can reduce the per person costs.

Scheduled, twice weekly air connections to Resolute are from Iqaluit. Commercial flights are available to Iqaluit from Edmonton via Yellowknife, or Montreal and Ottawa. Travellers should include in their northern plans, the possibility of weather delays and allow some flexibility with their connecting flights.

An ice breaker cruise ship is a recent annual occurrence. It departs to the park from Resolute Bay and returns to that community in late August.

Making the Most of Your Visit

- There are not traditional southern visitor facilities, services, or campgrounds in the park, however staff provide personalized orientations and travel recommendations. There is an emergency tent shelter at both Tanquary Fiord and Lake Hazen. Visitor information, orientation and registration is available at Tanquary Fiord, the main access point into the park. Backcountry camping with your own tent is the only accommodation option.
- Careful pre trip planning is essential. Please contact the Parks Canada office in Pangnirtung or Iqaluit, or visit the park website www.pc.gc.ca for detailed pre trip planning information.
- The best time to visit are late May to late August for skiing, hiking and camping. Winter access is not available as during the 4-5 months of total darkness charter companies will not fly to the park. Keep in mind that the weather is unpredictable and will influence all travel plans.
- You may wish to make a side trip to the picturesque community of Grise Fiord, Canada's most northerly community, located 360 km northeast of Resolute Bay on the southern shore of Ellesmere Island. Arrangements for accommodations and outfitting can be made through the Grise Fiord Inuit Cooperative at (867) 980-9135.
- As you access the park from Resolute Bay be sure to include an extra day or two to see the variety of sites and attractions this community has to offer.



Activities

Hiking

Hikers can explore the park from drop-off points at Tanquary Fiord or Lake Hazen. Historic Fort Conger visits are possible by special permission and will require that a Parks Canada Warden or Patrol person accompany your group. The tundra around Lake Hazen is particularly lush and diverse. Tanquary Fiord has a coastal high arctic climate and wildlife. Contact the Parks Canada office in Pangnirtung or Iqaluit for details. (867) 473-2500 or (867) 975-4673.



Camping

Low-impact backcountry camping is part of the Quttinirpaaq experience. The general backcountry park-use permit, registration and orientation are required. Campers must bring a camp stove and fuel as campfires are not permitted. Camp stove fuel can be purchased in Resolute Bay.

Wildlife Viewing

In the high arctic plants and animals are sparsely scattered. While visiting Quttinirpaaq it may be possible to see muskox, arctic wolf, arctic fox, lemming, arctic hare, weasel and thirty species of migrating shore and seabirds. The park is home to the endangered Peary caribou. Polar bear sightings are possible, especially along the coast, but are more rare than the southerly arctic parks.



Ski Touring

Because much of the park is glaciated, ski touring is possible for most of the year. Contact the Parks Canada office in Pangnirtung or Iqaluit for details.

Safety Considerations

Visitor traveling in this park must carry appropriate gear, must be self-reliant and able to handle any medical or wildlife-related emergencies on their own. Many hazards may be encountered - from dangerous river crossings to severe cold and storms. However, the biggest hazard is the profound remoteness of Quttinirpaaq and the distance from any medical or rescue assistance. There may be few if any other visitors in the park at the same time as your visit.

Local search and rescue operations are limited and there can be lengthy delays due to weather and lack of availability of aircraft. Take every precaution to keep yourself out of danger. We highly recommend bringing a GPS and an Iridium satellite phone. All high arctic communication systems may be unreliable.

Operating Season

It is recommended that visits take place in the spring and summer (late May to late August or early September). Winter access during the dark months is not possible.

Park Office Hours & Phone

Quttinirpaaq visitor information is available year-round through the Pangnirtung or Iqaluit offices.

Monday - Friday, year-round.....8:30 - 12:00 PM & 1:00 - 5:00 PM

Phone (867) 473-2500 or (867) 975-4673

Park Passes

Backcountry fees 2006/2007*

Daily.....\$23.36 + GST

Annual.....\$140.19 + GST

Nationwide Parks Canada Front Country Pass fees do not apply to these backcountry excursion fees. The northern annual backcountry pass is valid in all National Parks in Nunavut, the North West Territories and the Yukon with the exception of Kluane National Park and Wood Buffalo National Park.* Future years - subject to change

Camping

Backcountry camping is included in the backcountry entry fees.

Payment

Visa, Mastercard, cash or cheque.

Sirmilik National Park of Canada

“The Place of the Glaciers”

Sirmilik National Park of Canada was established in 2001. Sirmilik is spread over four separate parcels of land on the northern tip of Baffin Island near Lancaster Sound. The park's 22,252 km² protect representative examples of the Eastern Arctic Lowlands and Northern Davis natural regions.

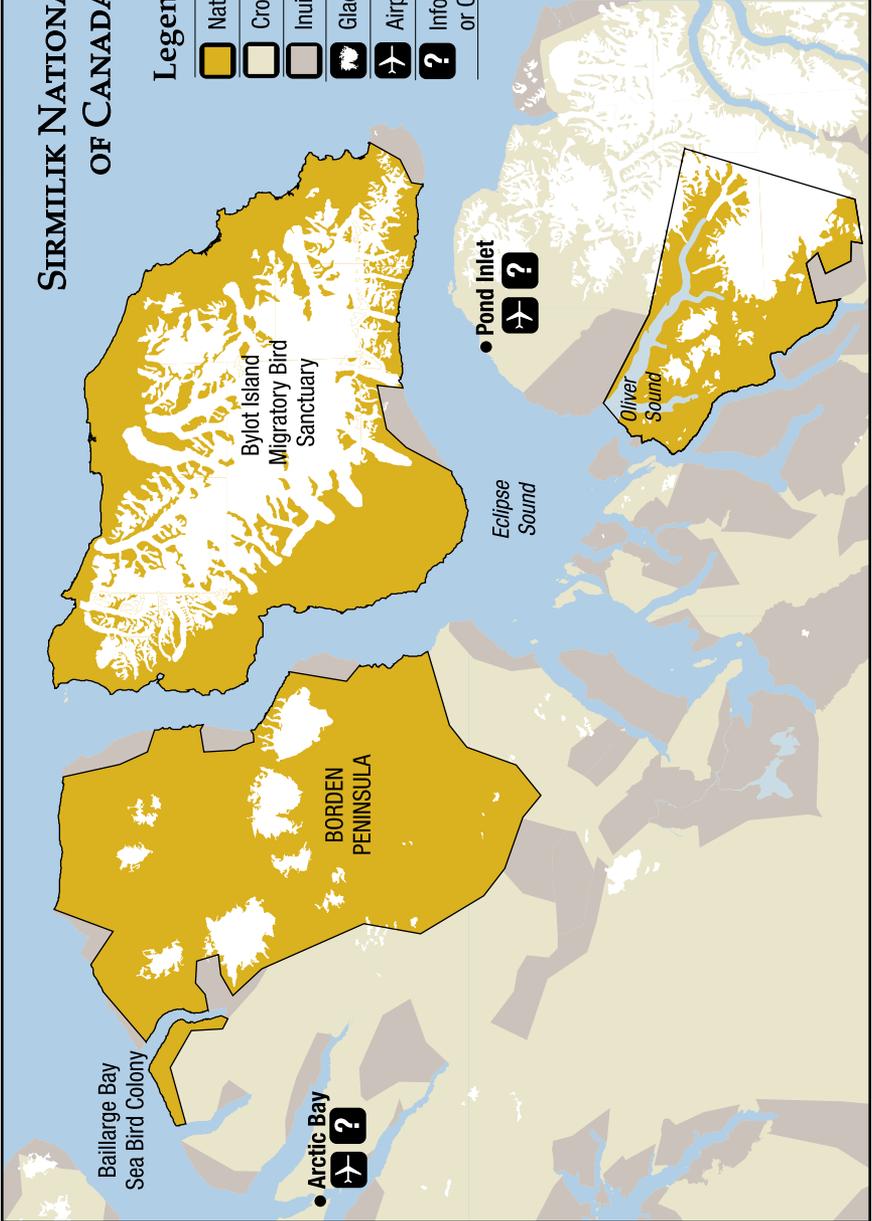
Sirmilik is the summer home to one of the most diverse avian communities in the high arctic. The park features more than fifty species of birds including 45 species of breeding birds. The Bylot Island Migratory Bird Sanctuary part of the park, was established over 10 years ago by the Canadian Wildlife Service and is now jointly managed with Parks Canada. Bylot Island is a haven for seabirds, migratory waterfowl, and other wildlife and has the largest colony of greater snow geese in the world. Thousands of thick-billed murres and black-legged kittiwakes colonize the bird cliffs within the park. Summer wildflowers and interesting hoodoos sprinkle the plateau and river valleys of the Borden Peninsula, while picturesque icebergs grace the waters of Oliver Sound.



SIRMILIK NATIONAL PARK OF CANADA

Legend

-  National Park
-  Crown Land
-  Inuit Owned Land
-  Glacier
-  Airport
-  Information Center
or Office



Getting There

Sirmilik National Park can be accessed from Pond Inlet or Arctic Bay. Local outfitters may be hired in either community to provide boat or snow machine transportation to the park. For information on Pond Inlet, contact the Nattinnak Visitor Centre at (867) 899-8226. For information on Arctic Bay, contact (867) 439-8483.



Iqaluit is a hub for air traffic in Nunavut. Commercial flights are available to Iqaluit from Montreal, Ottawa, and Yellowknife via Edmonton. Scheduled flights and charters are available from Iqaluit to Pond Inlet and Arctic Bay/Nanasivik. Air travellers should plan for the possibility of weather delays when making their travel arrangements.

Making the Most of Your Visit

- There are no visitor facilities, services, or campgrounds in the park. There is a Parks Canada office in Pond Inlet for information, registration and orientation to the park. Parks Canada information and orientations are also available through hamlet staff in Arctic Bay.
- Careful pre trip planning is essential. Please contact the Parks Canada office in Pond Inlet (867-899-8092) or the Field Unit office in Iqaluit (867-975-4673) or visit the park website at www.pc.gc.ca for detailed pre trip planning information.
- The best times to visit are spring (late April to early June) for winter activities, and after ice break-up in summer (late July to early September) for hiking and camping. During ice break-up (mid-June to late July) and freeze-up (mid-October to early November), the park is not accessible. Winter access is not advisable due to the extreme cold and darkness. Keep in mind that the weather is unpredictable and will influence all travel plans.

- Plan for an extra travel day on your way to and from the park. For many people, this opportunity for an encounter with the people of a small Arctic community becomes the most treasured memory of their trip to Sirmilik National Park.”

Activities

Hiking

A high plateau and broad river valleys of the Borden Peninsula and the variety of terrain of Bylot Island are prime hiking destinations in the park. Numerous species of birds and arctic wildlife, and extensive cover of summer wildflowers are key attractions.

Contact the Parks Canada office in Pond Inlet for details.



Camping

Low-impact backcountry camping is part of the Sirmilik experience. A backcountry excursion permit, registration and orientation is required. Campers should bring a camp stove and fuel as fires are not permitted. Camp fuel can be purchased in Pond Inlet or Arctic Bay.



Wildlife Viewing

Birdwatchers will delight in the sheer volume and diversity of birdlife in Sirmilik. The most popular wildlife viewing is guided, spring floe edge tours where visitors may see narwhal and beluga whales, seal, polar bear and many species of birds.

Ski Touring

Spring (late March to early June) is the ideal time for ski touring in Sirmilik especially on Bylot Island. Contact the Parks Canada office in Pond Inlet for details.



Safety Considerations

Visitors traveling in this park must carry appropriate gear and be self-reliant and able to handle any medical or wildlife-related emergencies on their own. Many hazards may be encountered - from polar bears to severe cold and storms. It is unlikely that other people will be encountered during a trip in the park.

Search and rescue operations are very basic, and there can be lengthy delays due to weather and lack of availability of aircraft. Take every precaution to keep yourself out of danger. We strongly recommend bringing a GPS and satellite phone. Sirmilik is on the border of two satellite phone systems so contact the park staff in advance to discuss which system you will need for your planned visit. In the high arctic any communication system is variable.



If you have any doubts about your skill level, consider visiting the park with a licenced guide or outfitter. Contact the Parks Canada office in Pond Inlet for more information.

Operating Season

It is recommended that visits take place in the spring (late April to early June) or summer (late July to early September). The park is inaccessible during spring break-up (mid-June to early July) and fall freeze-up (mid-October to early November). Winter access during the dark months (December to February), while possible, is not advised.

Park Office Hours & Phone

Pond Inlet

Monday - Friday, year-round8:30 – 12:00
and 1:00 - 5:00 PM for information and orientations.

Phone (867) 899-8092

Park Passes

Backcountry fees 2006/07*

Daily.....\$23.36 + GST

Annual.....\$140.19 + GST

Nationwide Parks Canada Front Country Pass fees do not apply to these backcountry excursion fees. The northern annual backcountry pass is valid in all National Parks in Nunavut, the North West Territories and the Yukon with the exception of Kluane National Park and Wood Buffalo National Park.

* Future years - subject to change.

Camping

Backcountry camping is included in the park entry fees.

Payment

Visa, Mastercard, cash or cheque.

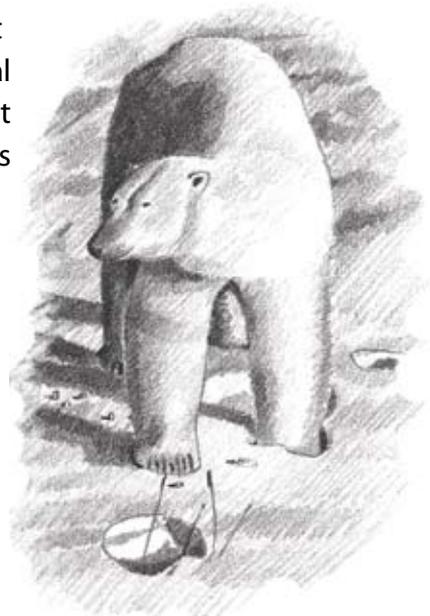
Ukkusiksalik National Park of Canada

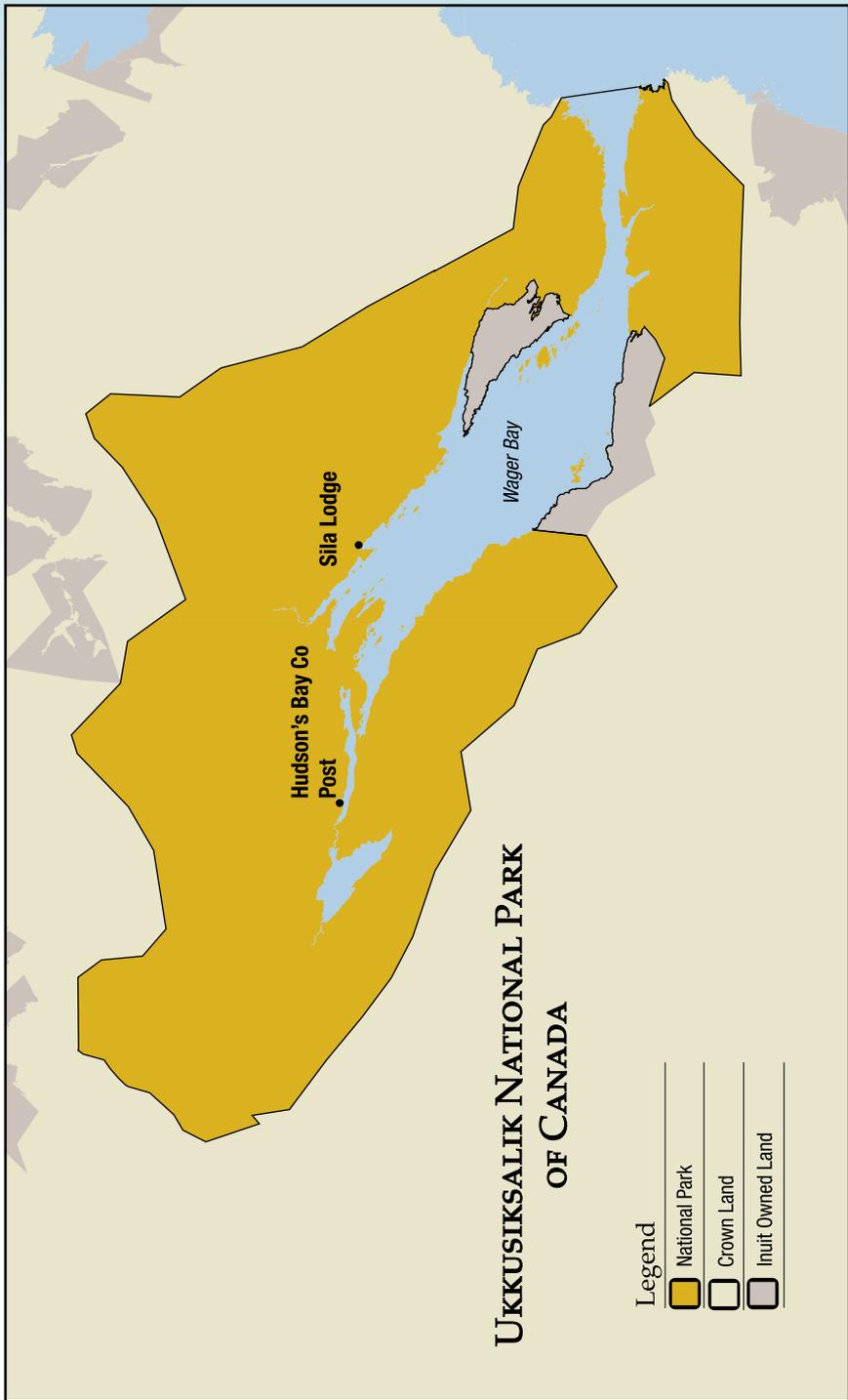
“The place where there is stone that can be used to carve pots and oil lamps”

Ukkusiksalik National Park is located just west of the community of Repulse Bay and the Arctic Circle. The park surrounds Wager Bay, a 100 km long saltwater inlet on the northwest coast of Hudson Bay in Nunavut. Declared a national park on August 23, 2003, Ukkusiksalik became Canada's 41st national park. Named after the soapstone found within its boundaries, the park includes 20 500 km² of eskers, mudflats, cliffs, rolling tundra banks and unique coastal regions. While Inuit do hunt in the region, the park land is uninhabited. Inuit had lived in the area from 1000 AD through to the 1960s, and the Hudson's Bay Company had a trading post there from 1925-1947.

Over 500 archaeological sites have been identified in the park, including such features as fox traps, tent rings, and food caches. The park protects a representative sample of the Central Tundra Natural Region.

This new park is in the very first stages of development. The normal infrastructure and staffing have just begun, so please contact the Parks Canada office in Repulse Bay.





**Ukkusiksalik National Park
of Canada**

- Legend
- National Park
 - Crown Land
 - Inuit Owned Land

Getting There

Ukkusiksalik National Park can be accessed from the communities of Rankin Inlet, Repulse Bay, Chesterfield Inlet, Baker Lake, or Coral Harbour. Local outfitters can access the park by boat in July and August. It is a 7-hour boat trip from the closest community or a charter flight can be arranged from Baker Lake or Rankin Inlet. For more information on outfitters and accommodations, contact the Kivalliq regional office of Nunavut Tourism at 1-866-686-2888.



Sila Lodge is an Inuit owned outfitting operation inside the park that provides, accommodations and guided trips for their guests. Contact Sila Lodge at (867) 793-2905 for more information.

Rankin Inlet is the hub for air traffic heading to Repulse Bay, Chesterfield Inlet, Baker Lake, and Coral Harbour. Scheduled flights and charters to Rankin Inlet are available from Winnipeg, or from Ottawa via Iqaluit or Edmonton via Yellowknife. Air travellers should plan for the possibility of weather delays when making their travel arrangements.



Making the Most of Your Visit

There are no Parks Canada visitor facilities, services or campgrounds in the park. There is a Parks Canada office in Repulse Bay for information, registration and orientation to the park.



Careful pretrip planning is essential. Please contact the Parks Canada office in Repulse Bay (867) 462-4500 or the Field Unit office in Iqaluit (867) 975-4673 or visit the park website at www.pc.gc.ca for detailed pre trip information.

The best times to visit are in summer, in July and August. Spring trips may be possible up until break-up in May and June. Fall and winter access is not advisable due to heightened bear hazard, weather and darkness. Contact the Parks Canada office in Repulse Bay (867) 462-4500 for more current information.

Plan for an extra travel day on your way to and from the park. For many people, this encounter with the people of a small Arctic community becomes the most treasured memory of their trip to Ukkusiksalik National Park.



Activities

Hiking & Camping

Experienced guides and outfitters can lead you on day hikes along the rolling hills surrounding Wager Bay. Exciting viewing opportunities of the abundant wildlife and countless cultural sites are scattered throughout the park.



Daylight in the summer months will never limit your hiking options, but tide schedules may since the swift currents and long tidal flats influence boat access.

An experienced outfitter may be able to set up an appropriate campsite with a solar powered electric fence and a sentry. Otherwise, we only recommend the use of hard sided accommodations. Contact the park office in Repulse Bay for more options.

Boating

Getting to the park by boat with an experienced outfitter is a great Arctic adventure and a wonderful way to experience Wager Bay. It is the safest way to view polar bears and the surest way to see the abundant marine life including seals, beluga whales and occasional narwhal. Kayaking is discouraged because of the extreme polar bear risk.

Traditional Inuit Use

Ukkusiksalik is the traditional homeland of the modern Inuit who live in the area. Many of those who were born before the establishment of the local communities were raised along the shores of Wager Bay. Residents maintain living ties to the land, and it is not unusual to see Inuit families camping in the park practicing their traditional harvesting activities.

Safety Considerations

Visitors must travel with an experienced guide or outfitter. A guided group traveling in this park must carry appropriate gear, be self-reliant and able to handle any medical or wildlife-related emergency.

Parks Canada search and rescue capabilities are limited and there can be lengthy delays due to weather and lack of available aircraft. Take every precaution to keep yourself out of danger. We highly recommend bringing a GPS and an Iridium satellite phone. All high arctic communication systems may be unreliable.

Polar bears are far more abundant in Ukkusiksalik than in most other National Parks in the Arctic. Several encounters are likely on any trip. Because of this extreme danger, visitors must travel in the park with a properly equipped and trained guide who is experienced in polar bear country.

Operating Season

Ukkusiksalik is best enjoyed in July and August. The park is virtually inaccessible in May and June during spring break-up and freeze-up. Fall and winter access (September through February), while possible, is not advised. Please contact the Parks Canada office in Repulse Bay for current information 867-462-4500.

Park Office Hours & Phone

Repulse Bay

Monday - Friday, year-round8:30 - 12:00 PM & 1:00 -5:00 PM

For more information or to book an orientation phone: (867) 462-4500

Park Passes

Backcountry fees 2006/2007*

Daily \$23.36 + GST

Annual \$140.19 + GST

Nationwide Parks Canada Front Country Pass fees do not apply to these backcountry excursion fees. The northern annual backcountry pass is valid in all National Parks in Nunavut, the North West Territories and the Yukon with the exception of Kluane National Park and Wood Buffalo National Park. * Future years – subject to change

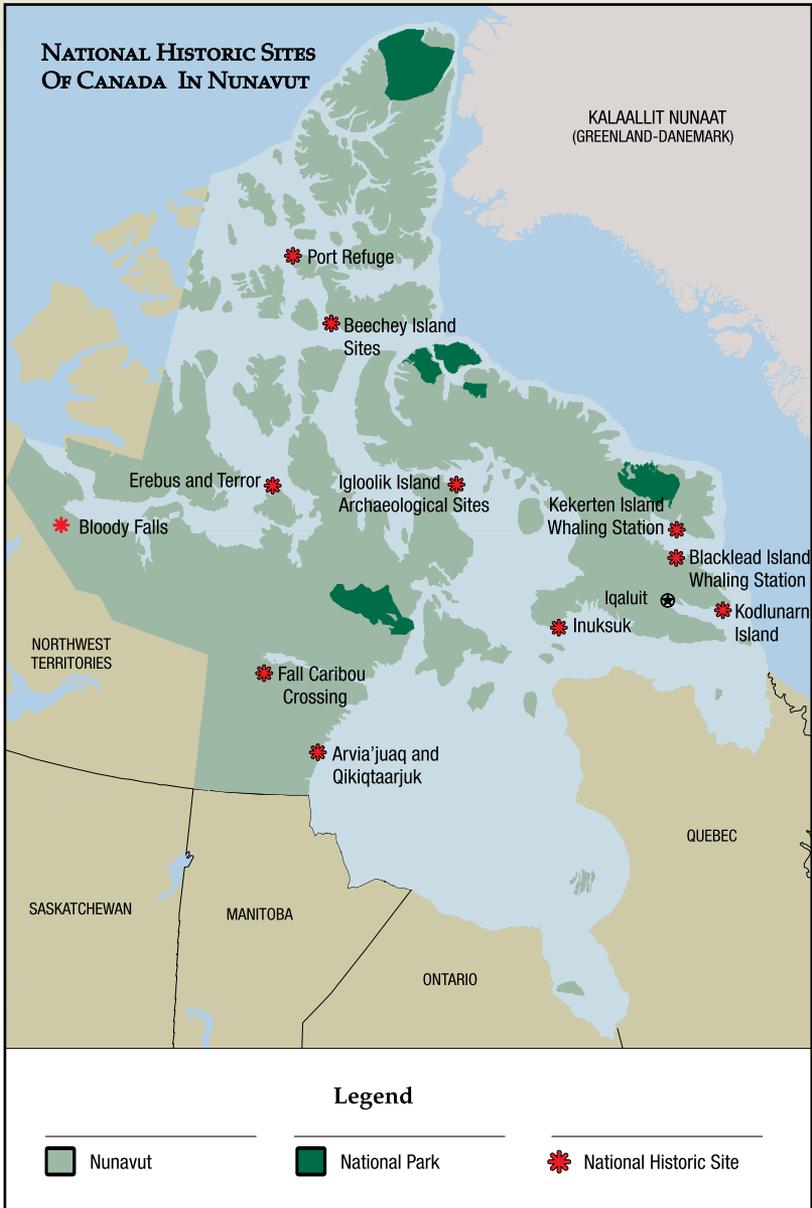
Camping

Backcountry camping is included in the backcountry entry fees

Payment

Visa, Mastercard, cash or cheque.

National Historic Sites of Nunavut



There are eleven National Historic Sites within Nunavut. Parks Canada does not directly manage any of these Sites. The National Historic Sites in Nunavut are:

- Arvia'juaq and Qikiqtaarjuk, Arviat: Inuit summer occupations sites with rich history and in-situ resources (designated 1995);
- Fall Caribou Crossing, Kazan River, Baker Lake: fall caribou hunting site of critical importance to the historical survival of the inland Inuit, (designated 1995); managed by the Hamlet of Baker Lake;



- Blacklead Island Whaling Station, Blacklead Island: Aboriginal and European bowhead whaling (designated 1985);
- Beechey Island Sites, Related to 19th-century Arctic exploration (designated 1993); Cairns, Devon Island Site at Cape Riley, Franklin Wintering Site, Northumberland House, Wreck of H.M.S. Breadalbane (Beechey Island);



- Bloody Falls, near Kugluktuk: Pre-contact hunting and fishing sites (designated 1978);
- Igloodik Island Archaeological Sites, Igloodik Island: Archaeological sequence, 2000 BC – AD 1000 (designated 1978);
- Inuksuk, Enusko Point: Inuit complex of 100 stone landmarks (designated 1969, plaqued 1984);
- Kekerten Island Whaling Station, Kekerten Island: Aboriginal and European bowhead whaling (designated 1985);



- Kodlunarn Island: Martin Frobisher habitation and iron smelting, 1576-78 (designated 1964);
- Port Refuge, Devon Island: Pre-contact occupations, trade with Norse colonies (designated 1978);
- Erebus and Terror (*exact location unknown), Undetermined: Ships of Franklin's last expedition, 1845 (designated 1992).

How To Contact Us

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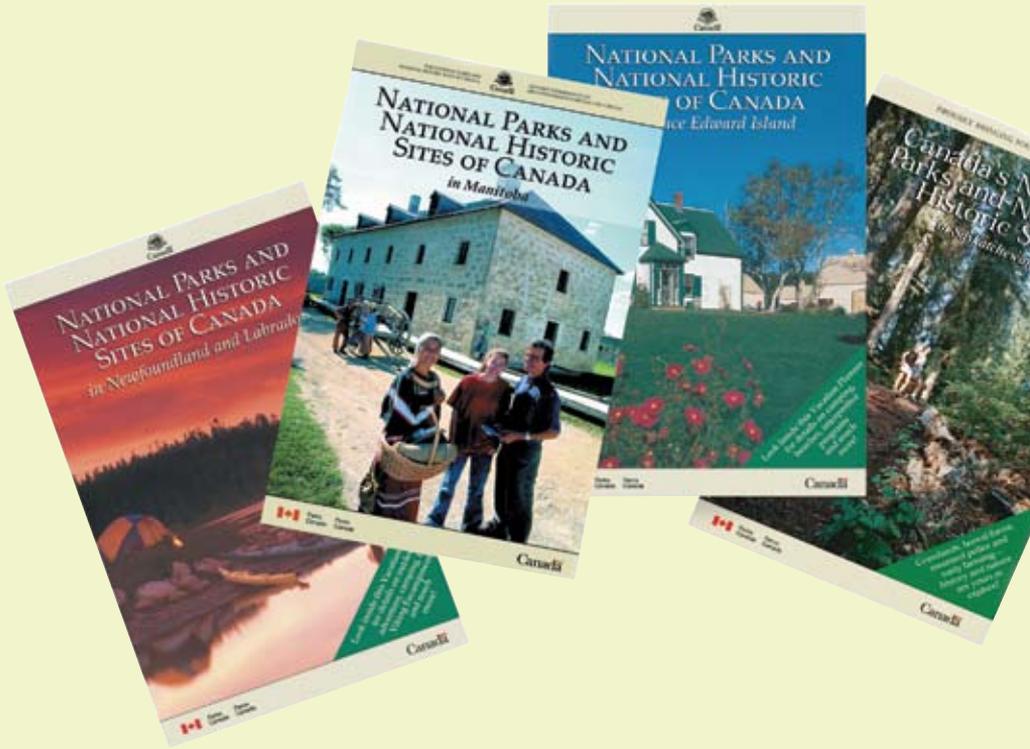
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Planning a Visit to a Park or a National Historic Site Elsewhere in Canada?

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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- Auyuittuq National Park of Canada
- Quttinirpaaq National Park of Canada
- Sirmilik National Park of Canada
- Ukkusiksalik National Park of Canada

