Canada's national parks are areas of unusual beauty, set aside to preserve the environment and its wildlife in their original forms. Administered for the federal government by the National and Historic Parks Branch of the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs, national parks are living museums of nature, belonging to all Canadians.

1 Pacific Rim (British Columbia) Fabulous Long Beach is the main part of this park on the west coast of Vancouver Island. Park includes historic Tats Bolivia, Park junction, and nearby coast. Interpretive program. Accessible by Trans-Canada Highway, accommodation in nearby town of Ucluelet. B.C.

2 Mount Revelstoke (British Columbia) Rolling mountain plateaus on west slope of Selkirk Mountains. Colourful alpine meadows, sparkling lakes, waterfalls. Interpretive program. Accessible by Trans-Canada Highway. Area 543 square miles. Address: P.O. Box 350, Revelstoke, B.C.

3 Glacier (British Columbia) Rugged alpine region in Selkirk Mountains. Towering peaks, rushing streams, avalanche slopes, over 300 glaciers and the interior Western Forest of large hemlock and cedar. Interpretive program. Accessible by Trans-Canada Highway. Area 2,564 square miles. Address: P.O. Box 350, Revelstoke, B.C.


5 Kootenay (British Columbia) Spectacular area on west slope of Rockies. Two rivers of different character, high glaciers and deep canyons, icy lakes and hot springs. Interpretive program. Accessible by highway. Area 4,441 square miles. Address: P.O. Box 220, Radium Hot Springs, B.C.


9 Elk Island (Alberta) Rolling hilly landscape of saskatoon and spruce forest, in contrast to the surrounding flat farmlands, near Edmonton. Numerous small lakes, small rivers, interpretation by high road. Interpretive program. Accessible by highway. Area 73 square miles. Address: Site 8, R.R. 1, Fort Edmonton, Alberta.


11 Prince Albert (Saskatchewan) Forested region dotted with lakes and interlaced with streams. Interesting transition between northern forests and prairie grassland. Interpretive program. Accessible by highway. Hotels, motels, bungalows, campgrounds. Area 1,484 square miles. Address: Waskesiu Lake, Saskatchewan.


13 Peter Lougheed (Saskatchewan) Canada's most southern mixedwood. Birdwatchers' paradise on two major migration flyways. Large cat-tail marsh, rare forest. Fourteen miles of beaches. Interpretive centre. Interpretive program. Accessible by highway. Campground in park, other accommodations at Leamington and vicinity. Area 90 square miles. Address: Leamington, Ont.

14 Georgina Bay Islands (Ontario) Some 40 picturesque islands, forming a varied landscape of glacier-scarped rock, weathered pine and dune maple-beech-oak woodland, and isolated sand islands. Remarkable rock pillows on Flowerpot Island. Interpretive program. Accessible by boat from nearby marina. Area 54 square miles. Address: Georgina Bay, Ont.

15 St. Lawrence Islands (Ontario) Small mainland area. 17 large islands and 80 rocky islets in famous Thousand Islands region. Captivating scenery, ideal for all water sports. Manned accessible by highway, islands by boat. Developed by (25) different communities. Campgrounds at Mallorytown Landing and Thousand Islands Bridge. Address: P.O. Box 60, Mallorytown, Ont.

16 Forillon (Québec) Scenic tip of Forillon Peninsula on Gulf of St. Lawrence. Now open to public, although some temporary facilities in operation. Park includes unique coastal environment and rich human history of famous Gaspe Peninsula. Interpretive program just being started. Accessible by highway. Other accommodations nearby. Area 90 square miles. Address: Gaspe, P.Q.

17 Kazan looks (Québec) Fine example of Bay of Fundy's rugged shoreline. Sandstone cliffs, caves, cliffs, coastal cliffs in the world. Ruff­ling, forested landscapes with waterfalls, streams and small lakes. Interpretive program. Accessible by highway. Motel, chalets, campgrounds. Area 79.3 square miles. Address: Alma, N.B.

18 Kejimkujik (Newfoundland) Superb example of Nova Scotia. Nova Scotia, rolling landscape, numerous lakes, with countless islands and concealed caves. Indian pot-pourri rock fretching. Interpretive program. Accessible by highway. Campgrounds in park, other accommodation at Ingonish Beach. Area 7,300 square miles. Address: P.O. Box 36, Maitland Bridge, N.S.

19 Breton Highlands (Nova Scotia) Coastal strip 25 miles long on Gulf of St. Lawrence. Atlantic coastline with forested hills in background. Fine sandy beaches, coves. Mammal-watching on Breton Island, which rises dramatically and abruptly from the low coastal plain. Fjord-like lakes, many beautiful vistas. Spectacular contrast between moun­tains and grazed grassland. Tourist village, hiking trails, highway. Hotels, motels, chalets, campgrounds. Area 72 square miles. Address: Ingonish Beach, Cape Breton, N.S.

20 Prince Edward Island (P.E.I.) Coastal strip 25 miles long on Gulf of St. Lawrence. Scenic area of dunes, cliffs, salt marshes and long horning bunches. Interpretive program. Accessible by highway. Lodge, bungalows, campgrounds. Area 72 square miles. Address: Ingonish Beach, Cape Breton, N.S.


22 Prince Edward Island (P.E.I.) Coastal strip 25 miles long on Gulf of St. Lawrence. Scenic area of dunes, cliffs, salt marshes and long horning bunches. Interpretive program. Accessible by highway. Lodge, bungalows, campgrounds. Area 72 square miles. Address: Ingonish Beach, Cape Breton, N.S.
These Special Places

Canadians and visitors from abroad are flocking to Canada's national parks in greater numbers than ever before. In 1970 alone, more than 13 million people visited the parks.

Such popularity both delights and disturbs the Canadian government. The National Parks Act declares that the parks are "dedicated to the people... for their benefit, education and enjoyment", but it also prescribes that they must remain "unimpaired for future generations."

This means that the National and Historic Parks Branch must walk the fine line between conservation and use. On the one hand there are more and more visitors demanding more and more roads, campgrounds, picnic sites, parking lots and other facilities; on the other hand there is only so much room for development in the parks if they are to remain the havens of natural environment they are today.

To accommodate the increasing demand without endangering wilderness values, the Branch has embarked on a program to create 35 to 55 new national parks within the next three decades. New parks will not only take the pressure off the existing ones but also provide diversification. The national parks system will thus become both more representative of all the varied types of landscape found in Canada and more evenly distributed by province and region.

The Branch is moving as quickly as it can to acquire new park lands before they are lost to industrialization and urbanization, or priced beyond the public pocketbook.

The accompanying map shows the 24 special places that form Canada's national parks system today. The oldest park is Banff, Alberta, created in 1885. The newest is Gros Morne, Newfoundland, acquired in November 1970.

How to Get the Most out of a Park Visit

Visitors are urged to gain a deeper understanding of their natural environment by taking advantage of the interpretive programs presented by park naturalists. The programs consist of conducted outings, illustrated evening talks, nature trails and exhibits. They are free.

Additional copies of this map and further information on a particular park may be obtained from any park information office or by writing to the superintendent of the park concerned.

Canada's National Parks, "...dedicated to the people... for their benefit, education and enjoyment". National Parks Act

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