Mount Revelstoke National Park
British Columbia

Introducing a park and an idea
Canada covers half a continent, fronts on three oceans, and stretches from the extreme Arctic more than halfway to the equator. There is a great variety of land forms in this immense country, and Canada's National Parks have been created to preserve important examples for you and for generations to come.

The National Parks Act of 1930 specifies that National Parks are “dedicated to the people ... for their benefit, education and enjoyment” and must remain “unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations.”

Mount Revelstoke National Park, approximately 100 square miles in area, is an outstanding example of the rugged Selkirk Mountain Range, with its timbered slopes, alpine meadows and sparkling lakes. The park lies on the western flank of the Selkirks. The city of Revelstoke, B.C., is situated just outside its western entrance, at the confluence of the Columbia and Illecillewaet Rivers.

The park environment
Each National Park has its own character, its unique story as a living, outdoor museum. The Mount Revelstoke story is one of an ancient mountain terrain characterized by sharp peaks, heavily timbered slopes, and beautiful alpine meadows.

The mountains: carved by time, weather and ice
Flanked on the east by the Purcell Mountains and on the west by the Monashee Range, the Selkirk Mountains stand out in height and geologic complexity, although all three mountain ranges are very much alike. The deeply forested slopes, extensive snowfields, and glaciers bear witness to the heavy precipitation in this region. In many areas the annual winter snowfall averages 30 to 40 feet. Streams are mostly glacier-fed, short and rapid. Lakes are neither numerous nor large, and are covered this part of North America. Tens of millions of years later, great forces within the earth's crust lifted, folded and sheared the layers of hardened sediments, and the mountains were born.

During the period of mountain building and more recently, masses of molten or igneous rock invaded faults and weakened zones in the sedimentary rock, causing changes in the original strata. Erosion by running water and the scouring action of glaciers have shaped and carved the mountains into their present sculptured forms.

The park's western entrance
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Mount Revelstoke National Park owes its existence largely to the people of the city of Revelstoke. In 1906 a group of residents who always seemed to be present if there is food to be had. There is good trout fishing in Eva, Millar, and Jade Lakes.

A brief park history
Mount Revelstoke National Park was created in 1914 to the people of the city of Revelstoke. In 1906 a group of townpeople spent a week exploring what is now the park, and under their leadership, local support for a park was organized. In 1910 the municipal government built a trail to Balsam Lake. That year the Revelstoke Mountain Club constructed a small log chalet there. Later, trails were extended to Millar and Eva Lakes.

The plants: a study in contrasts
Mount Revelstoke National Park exhibits an endless variety of wildflowers, trees, and shrubs, which differ in character at various altitudes. On the lower slopes and in valleys and creek bottoms, trembling aspen, black cottonwood, Rocky Mountain maple, mountain ash, and elder shade (the underbrush, where devil's club, salmon berry, thimbleberry, and bracken fern grow in abundance. Forested hillsides are covered with western white pine, western red cedar, western hemlock, Engelmann spruce and Douglas fir. From between 4,000 and 5,000 feet to timberline, Engelmann spruce and alpine fir predominate. At the summit they take on the typical spire-like forms of deep-snow country. In summer, the rolling alpine meadows at the summit are carpeted with colour, as they literally burst into bloom with a continuous profusion of flowers—scarlet paint brush, blue lupine, aster, yellow arnica and white valerian.

The animals: to each its own environment
Because of the deep snow, which persists until late June on the high, open plateaus, and because of the densely timbered slopes, few large mammals inhabit the park. Deer are occasionally encountered on the lower slopes, while mountain goat may be seen periodically on the steeper bluffs at the park's western entrance. The smaller mammals in the park include the beaver, marmot, Columbian ground squirrel, golden-mantled ground squirrel, chipmunk, white-footed mouse, and pika, or rock rabbit.

Bird life is well represented by most of the mountain species and includes the golden eagle, wren and marshwren. Three species of grouse—railed, Franklin's, and blue— are found in the coniferous and mixed-wood forests, while a close cousin, the white-tailed ptarmigan, prefers the alpine summits. Among the smaller birds are the ubiquitous junco, rosy finch, red-eyed and warbling vireo, western junco, who always seems to be present if there is food to be had. There is good trout fishing in Eva, Millar, and Jade Lakes.

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How to get there
The Trans-Canada Highway passes through the southeast-
ern section of the park for eight miles and parallels the
south boundary for another 11 miles. The main line of
the Canadian Pacific Railway provides the city of Revelstoke
with regular passenger service, and a good landing strip
for light planes is situated just south of town. Commercial
service from here connects with larger airports in Kam-
loops and in the Okanagan region.
A park motor vehicle permit is required for all motor-
ized vehicles and may be purchased at the park gates.

How to enjoy the park
Season — The park is open all year, but deep snow often
covers the summit of Mount Revelstoke until mid-June.
Cross-country skiing is popular in winter, and each year
international ski jumping is featured in late winter.
Skiing — From the Trans-Canada Highway, a 16-mile
road leads by easy grades to the broad summit of Mount
Revelstoke. The road has several viewpoints along its
length and offers some of the finest mountain scenery in
Canada. The summit affords a magnificent view of the
Columbia River and the glaciated peaks of the Selkirk and
Monashee Ranges.
Hiking — This is one of the best ways to explore Mount
Revelstoke National Park. Altogether there are over 40
miles of improved trails in the park. Some are for fire
protection; others are of interest to the naturalist and hiker.
From the terminus of the road leading to the summit of
Mount Revelstoke good paths lead to such sites as the
"octagon", a snow-filled cleft near the head of the Lake,
and Millar and Jade Lakes.
Mountain Climbing — Mountain climbers, and hikers trav-
elling off park trails, must register with a park warden
before and after each trip. Hikers and climbers should also
purchase a topographical map of the park, available at a
nominal charge at the administration office or from
any park warden.
Protect your park:
National Parks are selected areas set apart as nature sanc-
tuaries and special care is taken to maintain them in their
natural state. For this reason all wildlife, including birds,
and plants, trees, and rocks, are to be left undisturbed.

Even the wildflowers are not to be picked; they must be
left for others to enjoy. Feeding, touching, or molesting
wild animals is not permitted. You may bring your dog or cat, but dogs must be
kept on leash. No permit or vaccination certificate is needed.

Where to stay
There are no campgrounds or other types of accommoda-
tion within the park. However, the City of Revelstoke,
provides good year-round accommodation and other visitor
facilities. There are no campgrounds or other types of
accommodation within the park. However, the City of Revelstoke,
provides good year-round accommodation and other visitor
facilities. Overnight trail trips into the back country are allowed,
provided visitors register with a park warden. Mount
Revelstoke is mainly a day-use park and contains
picnic areas, parking space, and sanitary facilities.

Fires
Campfires may be lit only in fireplaces provided by
the park, or in portable stoves. Barbecues may be used only in
picnic areas, and all coals must be dumped into existing
park fireplaces. Fire permits must be obtained from a park
warden for any open fires during trail travel. Anyone who
observes an unattended fire should try to extinguish it, or
if it is beyond his control, report it to the nearest park
employee.

How to get the most out of your visit
To help you understand and appreciate Mount Revel-
stoke's natural environment, you are urged to take advan-
tage of the park's free interpretive program, conducted
by a trained park naturalist and his staff. It will
provide you with an insight into how climate, land forma-
tions, plants, and animals are interrelated, and it will make your
stay more rewarding.

This program includes self-guiding trails, signs, and
exhibits. A schedule of interpretive events is found in the
natural history program for Mount Revelstoke and Glacier
National Parks, available from the park administration
office in Revelstoke, information centres, entrance gate-
ways, wardens and naturalists.
Organizations, service clubs, and schools can arrange
for group programs by getting in touch with the Superin-
tendent, Mount Revelstoke and Glacier National Parks,
Revelstoke, British Columbia.

Where to get information
Detailed information may be obtained from the park
administration office in Revelstoke. Staff will answer
questions, provide maps, outline travel routes, and refer
visitors to various areas and facilities in the park.
Park wardens and naturalists, though not primarily
responsible for general information, will aid you whenever
possible. They are particularly helpful in planning trips
into isolated areas.

Additional information on Mount Revelstoke is avail-
able from the Superintendent, Mount Revelstoke and
Glacier National Parks, Revelstoke, British Columbia.
For information on other National Parks, write the Direc-
tor, National and Historic Parks Branch, Department of
Indian Affairs and Northern Development, Ottawa, K1A 0H4.

The British Columbia Government began construction
of a road to the summit in 1911, and in 1914 Mount
Revelstoke was established as a National Park. In 1927
the road to the summit was completed and officially open-
- en by the Prince of Wales. It has recently been completely
reconstructed.

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Note: This is but a reference map, designed to give you a general idea of what you will find in this park. It is not a hiking or road map.

Legend
- Trans-Canada Highway
- Secondary Road
- Walking or Hiking Trail
- Railroad
- Lake, River, Creek
- Snowfield, Glacier
- Mountain
- Warden's Cabin
- Picnic Area
- Campground
- Viewpoint
- Ski Area

Canada's National Parks
1 Pacific Rim
2 Mount Revelstoke
3 Glacier
4 Yoho
5 Kootenay
6 Jasper
7 Banff
8 Waterton Lakes
9 Elk Island
10 Wood Buffalo
11 Prince Albert
12 Riding Mountain
13 Pukaskwa
14 Point Pelee
15 Georgian Bay Islands
16 St. Lawrence Islands
17 La Mauricie
18 Fjordland
19 Kejimkujik
20 Fundy
21 Kejimkujik
22 Cape Breton Highlands
23 Prince Edward Island
24 Gros Morne
25 Terra Nova
26 Kluane
27 Nahanni
28 Baffin Island