FOREWORD

The National Parks of Canada are areas of natural beauty and special interest that have been "dedicated to the people of Canada for their benefit, education, and enjoyment." Established primarily for the preservation of the unspoiled natural landscapes and for the protection of the native wildlife, they are to be "maintained and made use of as to leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations."

The discovery of mineral hot springs bubbling from the slopes of Sulphur Mountain, by engineers exploring the route for Canada’s first transcontinental railway led to the establishment of Canada’s first national park. From this small area of ten square miles at Banff, Alberta, set apart in 1885, the national parks system has been extended until it embraces 26 separate areas totalling more than 99,800 square miles.

Although a few parks have been devoted chiefly to the conservation of certain species of big game animals once threatened with extinction, some contain sites memorable in the early history of Canada. Others have been developed so that park visitors may more conveniently view the magnificent scenery and relax in the enjoyment of the inspirational and peaceful environment. From the sea-girl hills on the Atlantic Coast across the rivers and lakes of Central Canada to the alpine slopes of the Rockies and Selkirks, these national playgrounds provide ideal areas for nature study and for recreation.

It is the responsibility of the National Parks Service of the Lands and Development Services Branch, Department of Mines and Resources, to administer these natural areas for the enjoyment of Canada’s present and future generations. By progressively staging the parks have been made more easily accessible, wildlife scientifically managed, public services provided, and accommodation and recreational facilities expanded. A staff of experienced wardens keeps constant vigilance throughout these park areas to ensure the protection of the flora and fauna, as well as the safety and convenience of park visitors. Conservation of the forests, the flowers, and the natural wildlife is their chief concern, and the co-operation of all visitors in this important work is greatly appreciated.

In marking, preserving, and restoring sites of national historic importance the National Parks Service is advised by the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada, an honorary body of recognized historians representing various parts of the country. From the Fortress of Louisbourg in Nova Scotia to Fort Prince of Wales on Hudson Bay, nine such sites are administered as National Historic Parks, and many other places of historical importance have been suitably commemorated.

Also of historical significance was the act of linking two great national parks in Alberta and Montana to be known as Waterton-Glacier International Peace Park. Commemorating the peace that has existed for over 130 years between adjoining nations, this unspoiled area of natural beauty is symbolic of the goodwill enjoyed by these two peoples.

The National Parks of Canada are part of a great national heritage, and under careful administration will continue as a perpetual asset—undiminished by use—for all future generations.

Front Cover Photo: Cathedral Mountain, Yoho National Park.

YOHO NATIONAL PARK
BRITISH COLUMBIA

Location and Description

Yoho National Park was established in 1886 and has an area of 507 square miles. It lies along the western slope of the Canadian Rockies, its eastern boundary adjoining Banff and Kootenay National Parks along the continental divide. It is divided into two parts by the Kicking Horse River, which has its source in the Great Divide. The park derives its name from the Indian word “Yoho”, an exclamation meaning “It is wonderful”. The splendour of its wild valleys, the magnificence of its lofty snow-capped peaks, the unbelievable colour of its alpine lakes that sparkle like jewels, and its spectacular glaciers and waterfalls make the park a region of outstanding natural beauty, which fully justifies its name.

HOW TO REACH THE PARK

Yoho National Park is traversed by the western section of the Trans-Canada Highway and is linked with the other national playgrounds in the Canadian Rockies and Selkirks. The system of roads leading to and through this park is indicated on the accompanying map. Yoho Park is also accessible by rail, being served by the main transcontinental line of the Canadian Pacific Railway. The nearest airport is at Calgary, Alberta.

PARK ADMINISTRATION

Yoho National Park is administered by the National Parks Service of Canada. The local administration is carried out by a park superintendent whose office is located in Field, British Columbia. Information, maps, and literature concerning the park may be obtained from the superintendent’s office or from the park officer stationed at Leavenworth, the western entrance to the park.

The park regulations are enforced by the park warden service, assisted by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

ACCOMMODATION

Accommodation in Yoho National Park consists of hotels, chalets, lodges, and bungalow cabins. Unless visitors are carrying their own camping equipment it is advisable to arrange accommodations in advance. Rates quoted are the latest available but may be subject to minor revisions from time to time.

Accommodation Details

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Capacity</th>
<th>Daily Rates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monarch Hotel</td>
<td>Field</td>
<td>20 persons</td>
<td>$2.00 up (E)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Y.M.C.A.</td>
<td>Field</td>
<td>15 persons</td>
<td>$2.00 up (E)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Emerald Lake Chalet</td>
<td>Emerald Lake</td>
<td>.75 persons</td>
<td>$8.00 to $11.00 (A)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Wahta Lake Lodge</td>
<td>Wahta Lake</td>
<td>.52 persons</td>
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<tr>
<td>*Lake O’Hara Lodge</td>
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<td>.36 persons</td>
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<tr>
<td>*Yoho Valley Lodge</td>
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<td>$6.00 to $8.50 (A)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Mount Stephen Bungalow</td>
<td>Mount Stephen</td>
<td>.50 persons</td>
<td>$3.50 to $5.50 (E)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(E) indicates European Plan (without meals).
(A) indicates American Plan (with meals).
* indicates summer season only.

CAMPING

Many visitors to Canada’s National Parks bring along their own camping equipment or arrive in cabin trailers. For their convenience, camp-grounds have been laid out and equipped in some of the choicest locations in the parks.

One of the most popular camping places in Yoho National Park is the Kicking Horse camp-ground, near the junction of Highway No. 1 and the Yoho Valley Road to Takakkaw Falls. This camp-ground is equipped with eight kitchen shelters, each with a cook stove and water supply. A community building with fireplace, also tables, benches, and adequate sanitary facilities have been provided. Other camp-grounds in Yoho National Park are situated near Field, with accommodations for sixteen campers, and near Chancellor, where eight overnight campers can be comfortably provided with cooking and other facilities.

Camping is permitted only at places designated for this purpose. For each period of two weeks or less, the camping fee is $1.00 for ordinary tents. For automobile trailers the rate is 50 cents for one day, $1.00 for two days, and $2.00 for any period over two days up to two weeks. Permits may be secured from the camp attendants or from the office of the park superintendent.
KOOTENAY NATIONAL PARK
BRITISH COLUMBIA

Location and Description

Kootenay National Park was established in 1912 and has an area of 434 square miles. The park extends approximately five miles on each side of the Vermilion-Sinclair section of the Banff-Windermere Highway for a distance of 60 miles. It includes the valleys of the Vermilion and Kootenay rivers, and stretches from the southern gateway to the park, at Radium Hot Springs, to the northern extremity which is near Cascade Creek. It traverses the park from north to south an iceberg lake, and mineral hot springs. The lower slopes of its mountains are rich with the growths which form natural avenues for travel. Situated on the western edge of the Gros Ventre Loop, an iceberg lake, and mineral hot springs. The lower slopes of its valley is well forested, and it is a noted wildlife sanctuary.

HOW TO REACH THE PARK

The Banff-Windermere Highway, the first motor road constructed across the central Canadian Rockies, is one of the most beautiful in the world. It enters Kootenay National Park near Red Rock, at the Red Rock Hot Springs. It has eight kitchen shelters, each provided with a stove, wood fuel, tables and benches, and fresh water from the hot springs. It can comfortably accommodate airy-four overnight visitors, providing all of them with kitchen and other facilities. Campers here make good use of the swimming pools at Red Rock Hot Springs.

There are several other camp-grounds strategically placed throughout this park in some of the closest forest settings, including Sinclair Summit, McLeod Meadows, Dutchy Varden Creek, Vermilion Crossing, Hawk Creek, Black's Camp, Marble Canyon, and Vermilion Flats, and Vermilion Hot Springs. These camp-grounds are invaluable to the untiring hiker, and are under constant watch by the park authorities who are always provided with competent guides and proper equipment before attempting the more difficult mountain terrain.

Camping—Camping is permitted only at places designated for this purpose. All campers must register with the district park warden before departure. Camp-fires should be kindled only at places provided for this purpose, and must be completely extinguished before being left. Permit-campers should acquaint themselves with the park regulations. Campers are advised to secure the services of park attendants or from the office of the park superintendent.

ACCOMMODATION

Accommodation in Kootenay National Park consists of hotels, lodges, and bungalow cabins. Unless visitors are accompanied, or have reservations, they are urged to make arrangements in advance. Rooms quoted are the latest available, but may be subject to minor revisions from time to time.

WILDLIFE PROTECTION

The National Parks Act requires that all parks shall be maintained in such a manner as to leave them unimpaired for the use of future generations. Therefore, all wildlife within park boundaries is protected. In addition, the possession of unsealed firearms are strictly prohibited. As the park is situated across the central Canadian Rockies, it is rich in wildlife including black bear, grizzly bear, and numerous fur-bearing animals, birds and their nests. Dogs or cats are not allowed in any national park except under special permission.

CAMPING

The largest equipped camp-ground in this park, Red Rock, is located near Red Rock Hot Springs. It has eight kitchen shelters, each provided with a stove, wood fuel, tables and benches, and fresh water from the hot springs. It can comfortably accommodate airy-four overnight visitors, providing all of them with kitchen and other facilities. Campers here make good use of the swimming pools at Red Rock Hot Springs.

There are several other camp-grounds strategically placed throughout this park in some of the closest forest settings, including Sinclair Summit, McLeod Meadows, Dutchy Varden Creek, Vermilion Crossing, Hawk Creek, Black's Camp, Marble Canyon, and Vermilion Flats, and Vermilion Hot Springs. These camp-grounds are invaluable to the untiring hiker, and are under constant watch by the park authorities who are always provided with competent guides and proper equipment before attempting the more difficult mountain terrain.

REGISTRATION AND MOTOR LIENCES

Motorists entering Yoho or Kootenay National Parks must register and obtain trans-continental motor licences as required by regulations governing motor parks. These park regulations are under constant review and are made up to date to suit the particular requirements of the national park highways.

A special licence may be obtained for motor vehicles used for commercial purposes.

FAUNA AND FLORA

Not only are the trees in the park a joy and inspiration, but they afford sanctuary for many forms of wildlife that add to the beauty and interest to these areas. It is virtually impossible to protect these national playgrounds without the close and constant cooperation of all who frequent them.

FIRE PREVENTION

Visitors are requested to co-operate with park officers in the prevention of fire. Smokey materials should be completely extinguished, before being thrown away, and then dropped only on hard soil.

Camping and Swimming—An outdoor pool at Radium Hot Springs in Kootenay National Park offers year-round bathing facilities. The water was first heated in 1906, and the present water system was designed, just east of the gate. The water is fed by a spring at a temperature of 147°F, where they issue from the rocks. Water supplied by Government analysts indicates a very high radium content and radioactivity. A modern installation equipped with dressing rooms is under construction to replace a building destroyed by fire in 1948.

Boating and Canoeing—Boating and canoeing are popular in some of the lakes in these park areas. Permission to operate motor- or row-boats in the park must be obtained from the park superintendent.

CLIMBING—These parks, which are part of the "roof" of the Canadian Rockies, are a paradise for the mountaineer. The substitutions of achievement which climbers feel in conquering challenging peaks, the thrilling experience of picking one's way through primitive mountain wilderness, and the impressive solitude of remote places make a strong appeal for the adventurous climber. The park authorities are always prepared to supply competent guides and proper equipment before attempting the more difficult mountain terrain.

Cycling—Cycling on some of the main highways is possible as an additional form of recreation, and gradually cyclists are taking advantage of this practical way of enjoying the parks at low costs.

Fishing—The publicity entitled "Angler's Guide to the National Mountain Parks" is available free of charge. It contains up-to-date information on the most popular fishing places in the mountain parks and a list of the species to be expected.

A fishing licence is required for all mountain parks except Glacier and Mt. Revelstoke, and is good in any of these parks during the season. The licence fee is: Two-month licence $1.00; season licence $2.25.

The co-operation of anglers in completing creel census forms is greatly appreciated.

Hiking—Hundreds of miles of improved trails are open to hikers. These park trails provide excellent opportunities for exploring the magnificent scenery in the region; for enjoying the beauty of their forested and mountainous surroundings; and for the enjoyment of the trails for their own sake. Many lovers of nature make annual pilgrimages to these remote areas to observe and photograph wildlife in its native habitat. Trail systems, radiating from Emerald Lake, Takakkaw Falls, and Lake O'Hara in Yoho Park, and from Marble Canyon, the Paint Pots, and Kootenay Crossing in Kootenay Park lead to places of unforgettable beauty and interest. There are over 400 miles of trails and fire roads in these two national parks.

Motorway—The Banff-Windermere Highway which traverses Kootenay National Park will be completed across the Trans-Canada Highway. This project, which creates Yoho National Park, are the two main highways in this mountain region. Side trips are available by the Emerald Lake and the Yoho Valley Roads in Yoho Park. These lead to Takakkaw Falls and some of the most beautiful spots of the region. There are 106 miles of motor roads within these parks.

Trout Fishing—An increasing number of visitors to these park areas are finding the trout trip to their vacation experiences. Trout unseem from the railway or highway thrive through the long winter months in the lakes and streams. This is due to their ability to close different kart, into the territory of the bighorn sheep and the mountain goat, post utilization of the mountain lakes, flocks, osprey, and mighty waterfowl.

Troll riders, hikers, climbers, and others making extended trips into park areas from railroads or park highways, should register with the district park warden before departure.

The flora of Kootenay and Yoho Parks include such species as whitebark pine, lodgepole or Western jack pine, spruce, balsam poplar, cottonwood, mountain maple, and larch. The wildflowers are also of delight to the visitor. Their colour, fragrance, and delicate loveliness add a touch of enchantment to the region. They grow in profusion in the valleys and on the slopes of the mountains. They are often found above timberline at the edge of the eternal snows.

FIRE PREVENTION

Visitors are requested to co-operate with park officers in the prevention of fire. Smokey materials should be completely extinguished, before being thrown away, and then dropped only on hard soil.

Comp-fires should be kindled only at places provided for this purpose, and must be completely extinguished before being left. Persons using the park trails unaccompanied by a licensed guide or in cars not parked with the park officers, may secure particulars concerning suitable camp-sites and the positions of the nearest fire extinguishers.

Any fire observed by a park visitor should be extinguished if possible. Fire which cannot be put out promptly should be reported to the nearest park ranger. A fire in a national park may cause damage which cannot be repaired in 100 years. Not only is the beauty of the forest and landscape involved, but they afford sanctuary for many forms of wildlife that add beauty and interest to these areas. It is virtually impossible to protect these national playgrounds without the close and constant cooperation of all who frequent them.

Registration and Motor Licences

Motorists entering Yoho or Kootenay National Parks must register and obtain trans-continental motor licences as required by regulations governing motor parks. These park regulations are under constant review and are made up to date to suit the particular requirements of the national park highways.

A special licence may be obtained for motor vehicles used for commercial purposes.
Key to map of National Parks

1. Mount Revelstoke
2. Glacier
3. Yoho
4. Kootenay
5. Jasper
6. Banff
7. Waterton Lakes
8. Elk Island
9. Wood Buffalo
10. Prince Albert
11. Riding Mountain
12. Fort Prince of Wales
13. Fort Malden
14. Point Pelee
15. Georgian Bay Islands
16. St. Lawrence Islands
17. Fort Wellington
18. Fort Chambly
19. Fort Lennox
20. Fundy
21. Fort Beausejour
22. Prince Edward Island
23. Port Royal
24. Fort Anne
25. Fortress of Louisbourg
26. Cape Breton Highlands

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