



Banff  
National Park

# Visitor Guide

## 2021 – 2022



Public transit and  
shuttle information:  
See page 6

Two Jack Lake

Également offert en français



Parks  
Canada

Parcs  
Canada

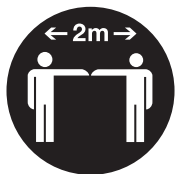
Canada

# COVID-19

## What to expect in Banff National Park during COVID-19



Every visit should start with a trip to [pc.gc.ca/Banff-COVID-19](https://pc.gc.ca/Banff-COVID-19)



**Safety is a shared responsibility. Let's work together to keep Banff National Park safe.**



- Stay home if you are feeling sick.
- Wash or sanitize your hands often.
- Please behave responsibly and practice physical distancing at all times in the park. When possible, create two metres distance between yourself and others by stepping to the side on trails and not following directly behind the person or group in front of you.
- Come prepared with your own "COVID-kit" including hand sanitizer, non-medical masks for everyone in your group, water, snacks and garbage bag to pack up your waste.
- For mask requirements, visit [pc.gc.ca/Banff-COVID-19](https://pc.gc.ca/Banff-COVID-19) and follow posted signage at Parks Canada places and facilities.



**Washrooms are open.**

- Safety is the top priority for Parks Canada; washrooms are cleaned and maintained regularly. Please use washroom facilities provided and obey all signage.
- Only flush toilet paper.
- Do not dispose of any wipes, masks, gloves or other objects in flush or outhouse toilets.







### Put garbage in the wildlife-proof bins provided.

- Dispose garbage in the trash bins, including masks and wipes, to keep wildlife safe and the park clean.



### Parking

- Parking may be restricted at high-use locations to support physical distancing measures. Off-road parking is strictly prohibited and will be monitored and enforced.
- Private motor vehicle access may be restricted on some roads as a COVID mitigation. Visit [pc.gc.ca/Banff-COVID-19](https://pc.gc.ca/Banff-COVID-19) for current status.
- Be prepared with back-up locations to visit if the parking area at your intended destination is full. Visit [pc.gc.ca/banffnow](https://pc.gc.ca/banffnow) for up to the minute information on the status of parking availability in Banff National Park.



- Information is available by calling 403-762-1550 or emailing [pc.banff-vrc.pc@canada.ca](mailto:pc.banff-vrc.pc@canada.ca). In-person information services may be available at visitor centre outdoor booths during the summer in Banff (9 a.m. – 5 p.m.) and Lake Louise (8:30 a.m. – 7 p.m.).
- Visit [pc.gc.ca/Banff-COVID-19](https://pc.gc.ca/Banff-COVID-19) for the latest information on camping.
- Visit [explorethepark.ca](https://explorethepark.ca) for up-to-date information on transit services.

### Do not feed any wildlife.

It is illegal to feed wildlife—this includes littering and leaving food or scented items unattended.

### Trail Etiquette

Share trails, wave hello and make eye contact to acknowledge the need for safe spacing.

What is closed, what is open? Please check [pc.gc.ca/Banff-COVID-19](https://pc.gc.ca/Banff-COVID-19) for updates.



Be responsible  
for your safety  
and behaviours  
while in the park.

*Parks Canada will continue to monitor the evolving situation related to COVID-19 and take action as required to mitigate risks to Canadians, visitors and team members. Always check [pc.gc.ca/Banff-COVID-19](https://pc.gc.ca/Banff-COVID-19) for the most up-to-date information.*





## Canada's First National Park

Encompassing over 6 500 km<sup>2</sup>, Banff National Park is an important historical and contemporary place for Indigenous peoples and others to connect with history and nature. The lands and waters of Banff National Park have been used by Indigenous peoples for millennia; for sustenance, ceremony, trade and travel. Starting in 1885 as 26 km<sup>2</sup> of federally protected lands around the Cave and Basin Hot Springs, the protected area was quickly expanded to 674 km<sup>2</sup>, becoming the core of Canada's first national park. More than a century later, the park draws millions of people each year to experience the natural beauty, seven national historic sites and iconic wildlife, from grizzly bears to the Banff Springs Snail. Providing opportunities for learning and adventure, Canada's oldest national park offers mountains of possibilities.

## A UNESCO World Heritage Site

Four of the mountain national parks – Banff, Jasper, Yoho and Kootenay – are recognized by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) as part of the Canadian Rocky Mountain Parks World Heritage Site, for the benefit and enjoyment of all nations. Among the attributes that warranted this designation were vast wilderness, diversity of flora and fauna, outstanding natural beauty and features such as Lake Louise, Maligne Lake, the Columbia Icefield and the Burgess Shale.



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization

Organisation  
des Nations Unies  
pour l'éducation,  
la science et la culture



**Canadian Rocky  
Mountain Parks**

• inscribed on the World  
Heritage List in 1984

**Parcs des montagnes  
Rocheuses canadiennes**

• inscrit sur la Liste du  
patrimoine mondial en 1984

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Lake Louise Lakeshore




-  **COVID-19:** [pc.gc.ca/Banff-COVID-19](https://pc.gc.ca/Banff-COVID-19)
-  **Transit/shuttle info:** [pc.gc.ca/banff-transit](https://pc.gc.ca/banff-transit) or [explorethepark.ca](https://www.explorethepark.ca)
-  **Real-time park info:** [pc.gc.ca/banffnow](https://pc.gc.ca/banffnow)
-  **Maps:** Parks Canada visitor centres
-  **National park entry fee:** [pc.gc.ca/banff-parkpass](https://pc.gc.ca/banff-parkpass)
-  **Weather:** [weather.gc.ca](https://weather.gc.ca) / 403-762-2088
-  **Important bulletins:** [pc.gc.ca/banff-bulletins](https://pc.gc.ca/banff-bulletins)
-  **Trail report:** [pc.gc.ca/banfftrails](https://pc.gc.ca/banfftrails)
-  **Town of Banff parking:** [banffparking.ca](https://banffparking.ca)
-  **Road report:** [511.alberta.ca](https://511.alberta.ca)



**Banff & Lake Louise Tourism:** [banfflakelouise.com](https://banfflakelouise.com)

**Guidebooks, topographic maps and bear spray** are available at Parks Canada visitor centres and retail outlets in the town of Banff and the village of Lake Louise.

Brochures are available online at: [parksCanada.gc.ca/banff-brochures](https://parksCanada.gc.ca/banff-brochures) or at a Parks Canada visitor centre.

Visit  [facebook.com/BanffNP](https://facebook.com/BanffNP)  
 [twitter.com/BanffNP](https://twitter.com/BanffNP)  
 [instagram.com/parks.canada](https://instagram.com/parks.canada)



## Banff

[pc.gc.ca/banff](https://pc.gc.ca/banff)

Hours are subject to change due to COVID-19. Visit [pc.gc.ca/banff-hours](https://pc.gc.ca/banff-hours) for current hours.

**Banff Visitor Centre: 224 Banff Avenue**  
403-762-1550

Jan. 1 - May 14 | 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. | 7 days / week  
 May 15 - Sep. 30 | 8 a.m. - 8 p.m. | 7 days / week  
 Oct. 1 - Dec. 31 | 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. | 7 days / week  
 Closed Dec. 25

**Banff Train Station: 327 Railway Avenue**

Jan. 1 - Dec. 31 | 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. | 7 days / week  
 Closed Dec. 25

**Lake Louise Visitor Centre:**  
**201 Village Road, next to Samson Mall**  
 403-522-3833

Jan. 1 - May 31 | 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. | 7 days / week  
 June 1 - Sep. 30 | 8:30 a.m. - 7 p.m. | 7 days / week  
 Oct. 1 - Dec. 31 | 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. | 7 days / week  
 Closed Dec. 25

## Jasper

**Jasper Information Centre: 780-852-6176**  
[pc.gc.ca/jasper](https://pc.gc.ca/jasper)

Tourism Jasper: 780-852-6236, [jasper.travel](https://jasper.travel)

## Kootenay

**Kootenay Visitor Centre: 250-347-9505**  
[pc.gc.ca/kootenay](https://pc.gc.ca/kootenay)

Tourism Radium/Radium Chamber of Commerce:  
 1-888-347-9331, [tourismradium.com](https://tourismradium.com)

## Yoho

**Yoho Visitor Centre: 250-343-6783**  
[pc.gc.ca/yoho](https://pc.gc.ca/yoho)

Tourism Golden: 1-800-622-4653, [tourismgolden.com](https://tourismgolden.com), [field.ca](https://field.ca)

## Mount Revelstoke and Glacier

**Rogers Pass Discovery Centre: 250-837-7500**  
[pc.gc.ca/glacier](https://pc.gc.ca/glacier) • [pc.gc.ca/revelstoke](https://pc.gc.ca/revelstoke)

Tourism Revelstoke: 1-800-487-1493, [seerevelstoke.com](https://seerevelstoke.com)

## Waterton Lakes

**Waterton Lakes Visitor Centre: 403-859-5133**  
[pc.gc.ca/waterton](https://pc.gc.ca/waterton)

Waterton Chamber of Commerce: [mywaterton.ca](https://mywaterton.ca)



# Plan Ahead. Take Transit.



COVID-19 may affect service availability.

Visit [parks.canada.ca/banff-transit](https://parks.canada.ca/banff-transit) for up-to-date information on transit.

Significant traffic congestion occurs in Banff National Park during the summer months. Parking is limited, fills quickly in the morning and often stays full throughout the day. Road access may be restricted when parking fills in order to limit congestion and maintain visitor safety. The best way to reach your destination is to take Roam Public Transit or reserve your seat in advance on a Parks Canada shuttle.



## Take Roam Public Transit

Roam Public Transit offers service between the town of Banff and many destinations in the park—look for the transit symbol on the maps.

Visit [roamtransit.com](https://roamtransit.com) for routes, schedules and fares.



## Reserve your ride on a Parks Canada shuttle

Start your day at the Park and Ride loading area and conveniently visit both Lake Louise and Moraine Lake in one day. The round-trip fare includes use of the **Lake Connector** shuttle between Lake Louise and Moraine Lake.

Staying at the Lake Louise Campground or at a hotel in the village? Hop on the free **Park and Ride Connector** shuttle to the Park and Ride loading area with daily service from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. You can also connect from Banff via Roam Public Transit.

## Reservations are required to ride a Parks Canada shuttle.

Visit [pc.gc.ca/banff-transit](https://pc.gc.ca/banff-transit) for fees, schedules and safety requirements.

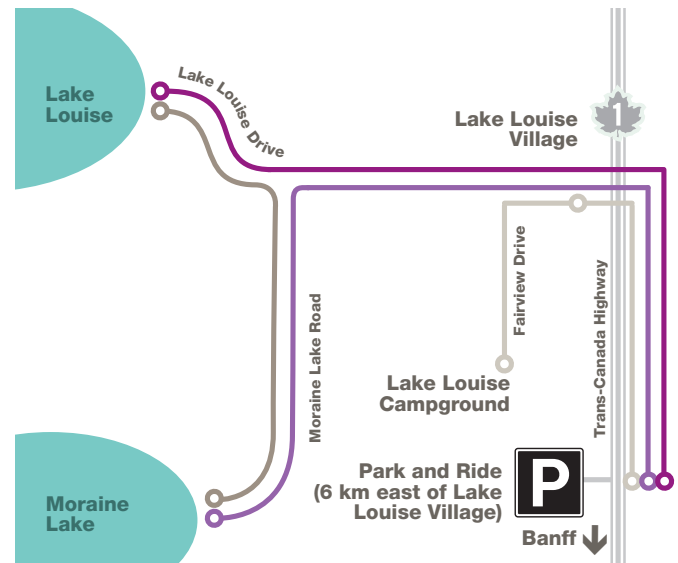
Visit [reservation.pc.gc.ca](https://reservation.pc.gc.ca) to make your reservation.



## Pay to park at Lake Louise Lakeshore

Mandatory paid parking is in effect in the Lake Louise Lakeshore parking lot from mid-May to mid-October, 7 a.m. - 7 p.m. Look for pay stations when you arrive. You must also have a valid national park entry pass, available for purchase where you buy your parking permit.

For fees and information: [pc.gc.ca/banff-transit](https://pc.gc.ca/banff-transit)



- Lake Louise Lakeshore
- Moraine Lake
- Lake Connector
- Park and Ride Connector

### Don't forget:

- Print or take a screenshot of your booking confirmation. Internet access is unreliable at the Park and Ride loading area.
- Check safety requirements for riding shuttles.





## Bucket List

 Check [pc.gc.ca/Banff-COVID-19](https://pc.gc.ca/Banff-COVID-19) before visiting any of these attractions.

Look for the numbers on the maps on pages 10 to 17 to find these sites and attractions.


A valid national park entry pass is required to enjoy these activities.

### 1 Visit the Cave and Basin National Historic Site

 Roam Route 4 (summer service)

Experience a 4-screen HD movie and see bubbling thermal waters that gave rise to the birthplace of Canada's national parks. Visit [pc.gc.ca/cave](https://pc.gc.ca/cave) for current trip planning, activity, and key date information.

### 2 Discover the Banff Park Museum National Historic Site

 From downtown Banff: Roam Routes 1, 2 (year-round) and 4 (summer service)

Take a wild trip back in time with vintage natural history specimens from bears to bees. Visit [pc.gc.ca/banffparkmuseum](https://pc.gc.ca/banffparkmuseum) for current trip planning and key date information.

### 3 Wander through the Cascades of Time Garden

 Roam Route 1 (year-round)

 10 minute walk from downtown Banff

In the summer, take a stroll through a flower-filled heritage garden with water features, pathways and pavilions.

### 4 Soak in the Banff Upper Hot Springs

 Roam Route 1 (year-round)

Relax in Canada's highest elevation operational hot spring. Visit [hotsprings.ca](https://hotsprings.ca) for up-to-date hours, fees and visitor information. *COVID-19 restrictions may be in place.*

### 5 Summit Tunnel Mountain

The 2.4 km trail to this summit provides views across the town and Bow Valley. The trailhead is a 15 minute walk (1 km) from downtown Banff.

### 6 Meander along Vermilion Lakes

Bike or walk Vermilion Lakes Drive, relax on the docks and benches beside the lakes, learn about the area, snap a picture of Mount Rundle or go for a paddle.

### 7 Bike the Banff Legacy Trail

Cyclists, strollers and runners can enjoy mountain views, picnic areas and Vermilion Lakes along this 29 km of paved paths and roadways from Canmore to the Bow Valley Parkway. This trail is not maintained in winter.

### 8 Explore the Lake Minnewanka Area

 Roam Route 6 (summer service)

In the summer, ride the Lake Minnewanka bus to visit picturesque lakes including Johnson Lake and Two Jack Lake. Enjoy hiking, picnicking and being on or by the water. In the winter, it is a great destination for cross-country skiing, winter walking or snowshoeing.

### 9 Visit the Lake Louise Lakeshore

 Roam Routes 8X (year-round) and 8S (summer service)

For the best experience, take Roam Public Transit or reserve your seat in advance on a Parks Canada shuttle.

Visit [pc.gc.ca/banff-transit](https://pc.gc.ca/banff-transit) for more information.

### 10 Drive the Icefields Parkway

This 230 km drive winds through glaciers, turquoise lakes, and broad sweeping valleys. Snow may be present any time of the year—review driving safety on page 31.



## Planning to camp in a national park?

Many campsites can be reserved and most fill up quickly. Book online or call ahead for information and reservations. *Camping is permitted in designated campgrounds only. A valid camping permit and national park entry pass are required.*

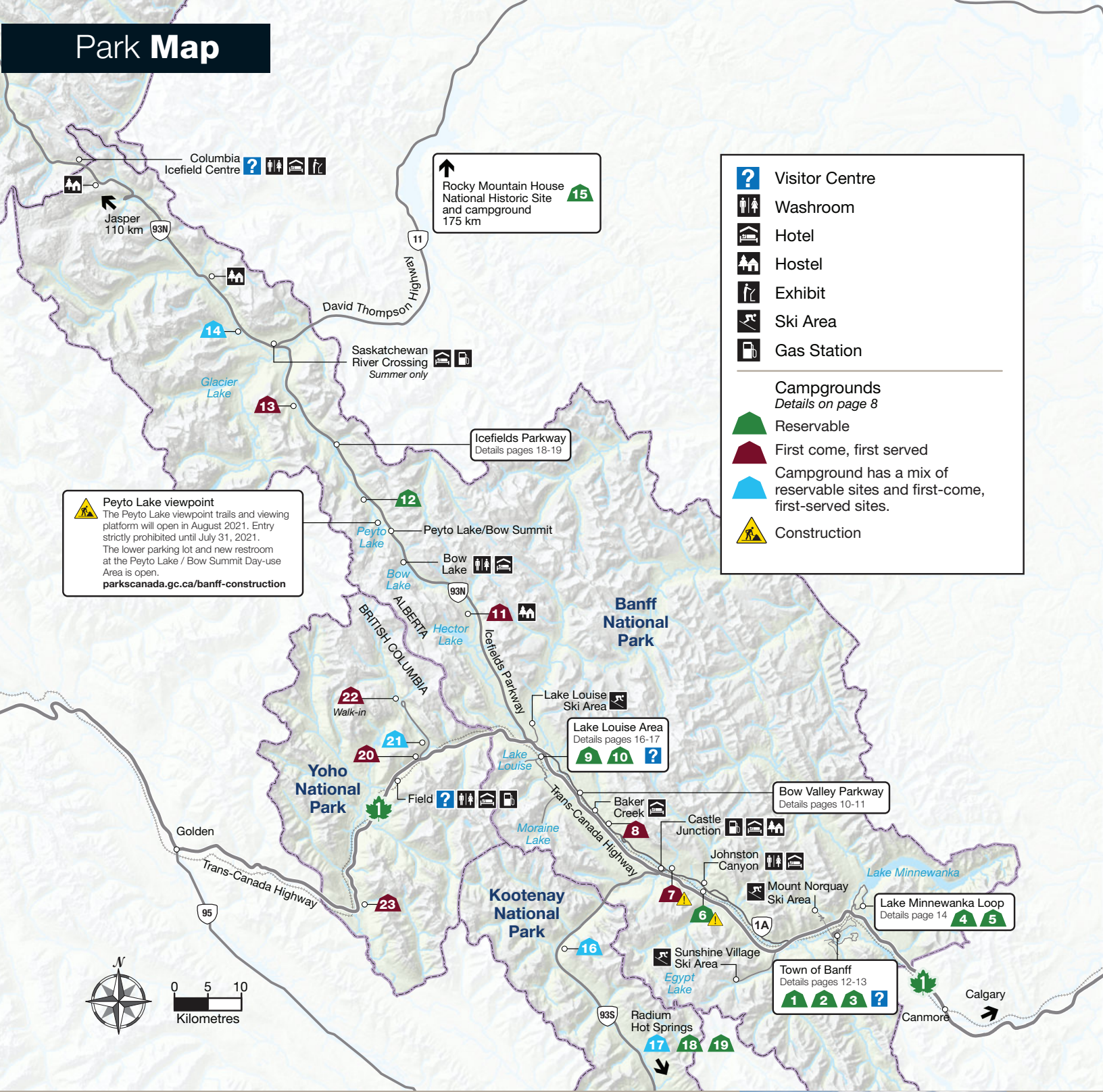
**1-877-RESERVE (1-877-737-3783) or reservation.pc.gc.ca**

	Campgrounds	Open Dates	Full Hook-up	Electrical	Sani Dump	Flush Toilets	Pit Toilets	Showers	Firepit	Cooking Shelter	Drinking Water	Accessible	Interpretive Programs	oTENTik	Equipped Campsites	Tips/Trapper Tents	Sites
Banff	1 Tunnel Mt. Village I	May 13 - Oct. 4															618
	2 Tunnel Mt. Village II	Open year-round oTENTiks May 13 - Oct. 12															209
	3 Tunnel Mt. Trailer Court	May 13 - Oct. 4															322
	4 Two Jack Main	June 24 - Sep. 7															380
	5 Two Jack Lakeside	May 13 - Oct. 4 oTENTiks May 13 - Oct. 4															74
	6 Johnston Canyon	To be determined															132
	7 Castle Mountain	To be determined															43
	8 Protection Mountain	June 18 - Sep. 6															72
	9 Lake Louise Tent	June 22 - Sep. 27															206
	10 Lake Louise Trailer	Open year-round															189
	11 Mosquito Creek	June 3 - Oct. 11															32
	12 Silverhorn	June 3 - Sep. 12															45
	13 Waterfowl Lakes	June 24 - Sep. 12															116
	14 Rampart Creek	June 10 - Sep. 12															50
	15 Rocky Mountain House National Historic Site	May 14 - Sep. 30															
Kootenay	16 Marble Canyon	June 24 - Sep. 6															61
	17 McLeod Meadows	June 10 - Sep. 17															80
	18 Redstreak	Apr. 29 - Oct. 11 oTENTiks May 9 - Oct. 11															242
	19 Crook's Meadow (group camping)	Call 250-347-2218 for non-profit group camping reservations and fees.															1
Yoho	20 Monarch	May 6 - Sep. 20															44
	21 Kicking Horse	May 20 - Oct. 11															88
	22 Takakkaw Falls (walk-in)	June 17 - Oct. 11															35
	23 Hoodoo Creek	June 17 - Sep. 6															30

- Reservation needed for all sites in the campground.
- Campground has first-come, first-served sites only. Self-register at the campground. In summer months, arrive before mid-day for the best chance of getting a site.
- Campground has a mix of reservable sites and first-come, first-served sites.
- Campground may be closed. Visit [pc.gc.ca/banffcamping](http://pc.gc.ca/banffcamping) for the latest information and opening dates.



# Park Map



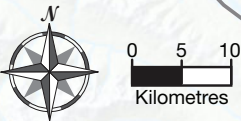
- Visitor Centre
- Washroom
- Hotel
- Hostel
- Exhibit
- Ski Area
- Gas Station

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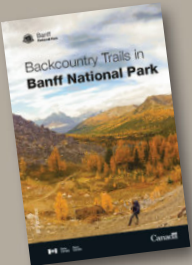
**Campgrounds**  
*Details on page 8*

- Reservable
- First come, first served
- Campground has a mix of reservable sites and first-come, first-served sites.
- Construction

**⚠️ Peyto Lake viewpoint**  
The Peyto Lake viewpoint trails and viewing platform will open in August 2021. Entry strictly prohibited until July 31, 2021. The lower parking lot and new restroom at the Peyto Lake / Bow Summit Day-use Area is open.  
[parkscanada.gc.ca/banff-construction](http://parkscanada.gc.ca/banff-construction)



## Backcountry **Camping**



Banff's backcountry offers spectacular destinations for those new to backcountry camping and to experienced travellers. No matter your level of adventure, be prepared and plan ahead. Pick up your brochure at a Parks Canada visitor centre, and visit [parkscanada.gc.ca/banff-backcountry](http://parkscanada.gc.ca/banff-backcountry) for trip ideas, planning and permit information.



Z. Lynch



# Bow Valley Parkway Map

- |  |                       |   |                              |
|--|-----------------------|---|------------------------------|
| <b>Parking &amp; RV Parking</b><br><i>Parking lots fill quickly. Park only in designated lots, not along the road. Check <a href="http://pc.gc.ca/BanffNow">pc.gc.ca/BanffNow</a> for real-time parking status or transit and shuttle options.</i> | <b>Picnic Area</b>    | <b>Hot Springs</b>  | <b>Trans-Canada Highway</b>  |
| <b>Accessible Parking</b>  | <b>Picnic Shelter</b> | <b>Snack Bar</b><br><i>Summer only</i>                              | <b>Bow Valley Parkway</b>    |
| <b>Roam Public Transit</b><br><i>Schedules: <a href="http://roamtransit.com">roamtransit.com</a></i>   | <b>Viewpoint</b>      | <b>Gas Station</b>  | <b>Highway 93S</b>           |
| <b>Parks Canada Shuttle</b><br><i><a href="http://pc.gc.ca/banff-transit">pc.gc.ca/banff-transit</a></i>   | <b>Exhibit</b>        | <b>Campground Kiosk</b>   | <b>Icefields Parkway</b>     |
| <b>Washroom</b>  | <b>Ski Area</b>       | <b>Bucket List</b><br><i>Details page 7</i>                         | <b>Road</b>                  |
| <b>Hotel</b>   | <b>Gondola</b>        | <b>Reservable Campground</b><br><i>Details page 8</i>               | <b>Road closed in winter</b> |
|  | <b>Chairlift</b>      | <b>First-come, first-served campground</b><br><i>Details page 8</i> | <b>Travel restriction</b>    |
|  | <b>Canoe Docks</b>    |   | <b>Easy trail</b>            |
|  | <b>Boat Launch</b>    |   | <b>Moderate trail</b>        |
|  | <b>Boat Tours</b>     |   | <b>Difficult trail</b>       |

Check [pc.gc.ca/BanffNow](http://pc.gc.ca/BanffNow) for real-time parking status or transit and shuttle options.

Find your Red Chairs  
[parksCanada.gc.ca/redbanff](http://parksCanada.gc.ca/redbanff)

**NEW** - Mandatory paid parking from mid-May to mid-October. See page 6.

**Moraine Lake Road**  
Closed to vehicles from early fall to late spring due to high avalanche risk.



Trail maps available at a Parks Canada visitor centre or at:  
[parksCanada.gc.ca/banff-brochures](http://parksCanada.gc.ca/banff-brochures)



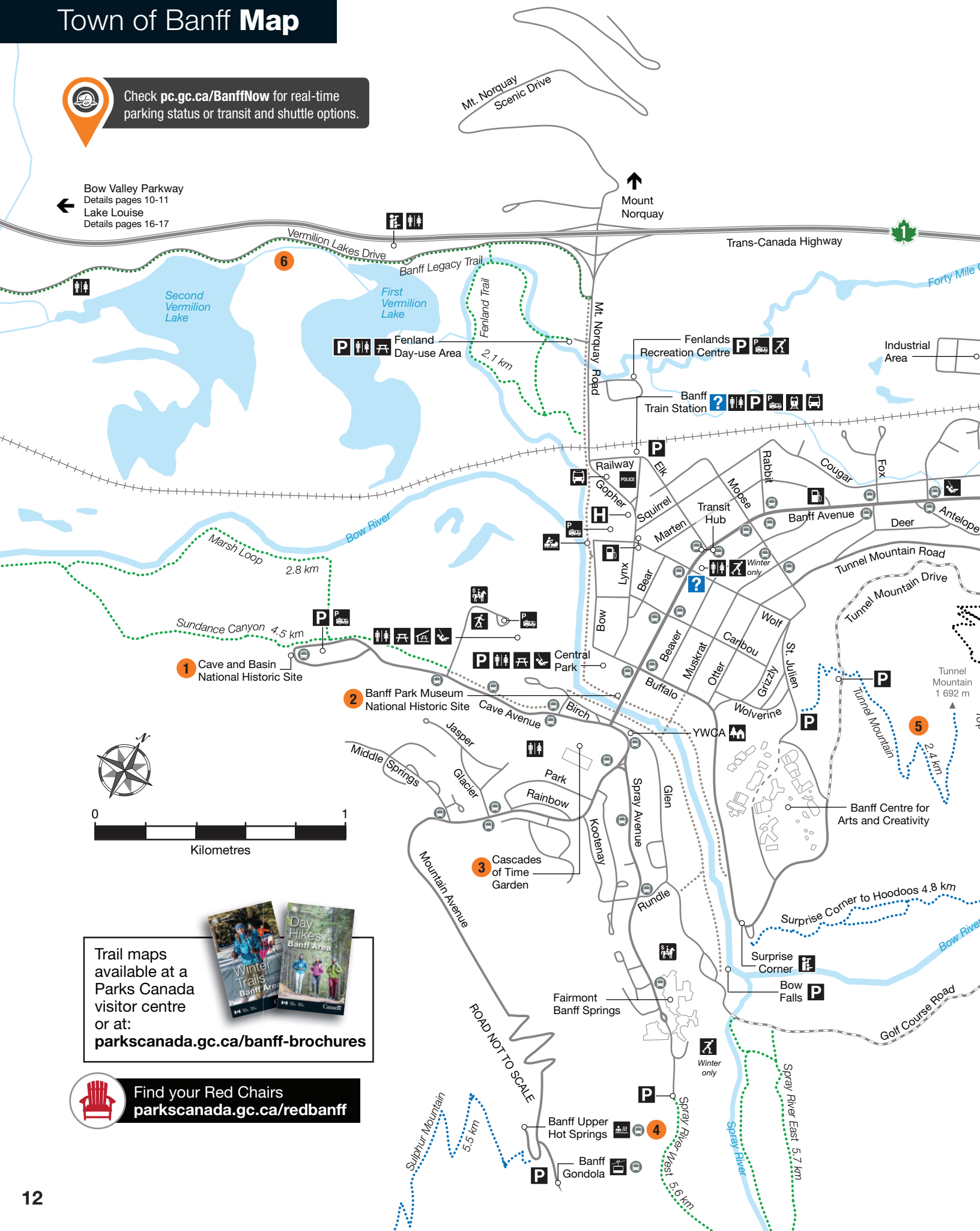


# Town of Banff Map



Check [pc.gc.ca/BanffNow](http://pc.gc.ca/BanffNow) for real-time parking status or transit and shuttle options.

← Bow Valley Parkway  
 Details pages 10-11  
 Lake Louise  
 Details pages 16-17



Trail maps available at a Parks Canada visitor centre or at:  
[parkscanada.gc.ca/banff-brochures](http://parkscanada.gc.ca/banff-brochures)



Find your Red Chairs  
[parkscanada.gc.ca/redbanff](http://parkscanada.gc.ca/redbanff)



8 Lake Minnewanka  
Details page 14

Cascade Ponds

Banff Legacy Trail  
Not maintained in winter  
[pc.gc.ca/banfnp-closures](http://pc.gc.ca/banfnp-closures)

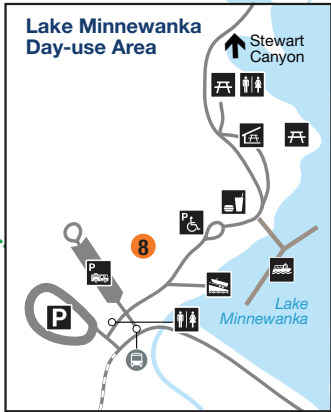
Canmore  
Calgary

**Tunnel Mountain Drive**  
Closed to vehicles from the first major snow fall to spring melt. Private motor vehicle access may be restricted on the road as a COVID mitigation.

**Golf Course Road**  
Closed from November 1 to May 1  
[pc.gc.ca/banfnp-closures](http://pc.gc.ca/banfnp-closures)

Visitor Centre	Bus Station	Skating	Reservable Campground Details page 8
Parking	Gas Station	Skatepark	Trans-Canada Highway
Roam Public Transit Schedules: <a href="http://roamtransit.com">roamtransit.com</a>	Police	Golf Course	Road
RV Parking	Hospital	Dog Park	Road closed in winter
Washroom	Viewpoint	Horseback Riding	Easy trail
Hostel	Interpretation	Playground	Moderate trail
Picnic Area	Gondola	Sani Dump	Difficult trail
Picnic Shelter	Hot Springs	Expect bikes on trail	Other trail
Train Station	Canoe Docks	Bucket List Details page 7	

# Lake Minnewanka Loop Map



**!** Trail restriction – July 10 to September 15. Visit: [parkscanada.gc.ca/minnewanka-restrictions](http://parkscanada.gc.ca/minnewanka-restrictions) for more information.

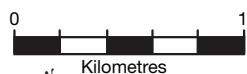


Check [pc.gc.ca/BanffNow](http://pc.gc.ca/BanffNow) for real-time parking status or transit and shuttle options.

- P** Parking & RV Parking  
*Parking lots fill quickly. Park only in designated lots, not along the road.*  
**Check [pc.gc.ca/BanffNow](http://pc.gc.ca/BanffNow) for real-time parking status or transit and shuttle options.**
- P** Accessible Parking
- RT** Roam Public Transit  
*Summer service: [roamtransit.com](http://roamtransit.com)*
- W** Washroom
- PA** Picnic Area
- PS** Picnic Shelter
- V** Viewpoint
- E** Exhibit
- BL** Boat Launch
- BT** Boat Tours
- SB** Snack Bar  
*Summer only*
- BWS** Boat Washing Station
- B** Expect bikes on trail
- BL** Bucket List  
*Details Page 7*
- RC** Reservable Campground  
*Details page 8*
- Easy trail
- Moderate trail
- Difficult trail
- TC** Trans-Canada Highway
- R** Road
- Road closed in winter

**Find your Red Chairs**  
[parkscanada.gc.ca/redbanff](http://parkscanada.gc.ca/redbanff)

**West side of the Lake Minnewanka Loop**  
Closed in winter



Trail maps available at a Parks Canada visitor centre or at: [parkscanada.gc.ca/banff-brochures](http://parkscanada.gc.ca/banff-brochures)

**CLEAN**

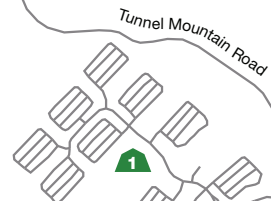
**DRAIN**

**DRY**

Prevent the transport of aquatic invasive species between waterways by using the boat wash station at Johnson Lake.  
[parkscanada.gc.ca/banff-whirling](http://parkscanada.gc.ca/banff-whirling)  
Boating restrictions:  
[parkscanada.gc.ca/banff-boating](http://parkscanada.gc.ca/banff-boating)

Town of Banff Lake Louise

Town of Banff





# Interpretive Programs and Activities



Visit [pc.gc.ca/Banff-COVID-19](https://pc.gc.ca/Banff-COVID-19) for requirements.

## Meet Parks Canada's Interpreters

Want to discover more about the uniqueness of the area's natural and cultural heritage? Friendly and knowledgeable interpreters are here to share the stories of Parks Canada's protected places.

Look for interpreters at campgrounds and popular day-use areas throughout the summer and at national historic sites during various times of the year.

Visit [parksCanada.gc.ca/banff-interpretation](https://parksCanada.gc.ca/banff-interpretation) for more information on interpretive programs and activities in Banff National Park and national historic sites.

Visit [parksCanada.gc.ca/bnp-events](https://parksCanada.gc.ca/bnp-events) for event listings.



## Hike with a guide

Go on a Parks Canada guided conservation hike and learn how species at risk and their habitats are connected. Get an insider's look at Parks Canada's ecological restoration projects and find out how you can help. Visit [parksCanada.gc.ca/yoho-conservation-hikes](https://parksCanada.gc.ca/yoho-conservation-hikes) for more information and reservation.



## Award-winning storybook

*A Beary, Berry Good Day* is a 48-page award-winning bilingual children's book that shares important messages with the next generation of national park visitors. Find out how to help protect Canada's national parks and the wildlife that call these special places home. *A Beary, Berry Good Day* is available for purchase at Parks Canada visitor centres and select locations around town. Visit [parksCanada.gc.ca/Banff-BearBook](https://parksCanada.gc.ca/Banff-BearBook) for more information.



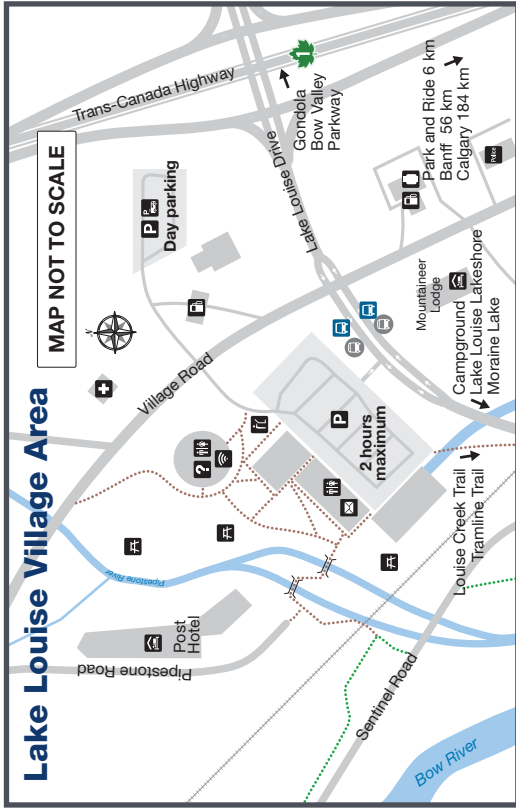
# Unique Adventure

## Rocky Mountain House National Historic Site

From the Icefields Parkway, take the David Thompson Highway and drive 175 km to Rocky Mountain House National Historic Site. Discover a historic fur trade post along the North Saskatchewan River, and immerse yourself in stories of Indigenous Peoples and legendary explorers. Experience the life of a fur trader and camp in a tipi, Métis trapper tent, or trapline cabin. RV and tent campsites available.



# Lake Louise Area Map



## Lake Louise Village Area

- Visitor centre
- Wifi
- Washroom
- Picnic area
- Playground
- Roam Public Transit [roamtransit.com](http://roamtransit.com)
- Parks Canada shuttle [parks.canada.gc.ca/banff-transit](http://parks.canada.gc.ca/banff-transit)
- Parking & RV parking  
Parking lots fill quickly. Park only in designated lots, not along the road. Check [pc.gc.ca/banffnow](http://pc.gc.ca/banffnow) for real-time parking status or transit and shuttle options.
- Bus parking
- Campground
- Recreational vehicles
- Trailers
- Tent trailers
- Gate/kiosk
- Hotel
- Hostel
- Exhibit
- Interpretation
- Canoe docks
- Viewpoint
- Horseback riding
- Heritage train station
- Ski area
- Gondola
- Post office
- Gas station
- Propane
- Police
- Medical clinic
- Bucket List *Details page 7*
- Community pathway
- Electric fence
- Railway

**MAP NOT TO SCALE**

**! Parking at Lake Louise and Moraine Lake is limited, fills quickly and often stays full throughout the day. Visit [pc.gc.ca/banff-transit](http://pc.gc.ca/banff-transit) to know what to expect.**

**Check [pc.gc.ca/banffnow](http://pc.gc.ca/banffnow) for real-time parking status and transit or shuttle options.**

**Visit [reservation.pc.gc.ca](http://reservation.pc.gc.ca) to book your spot on a Parks Canada shuttle**

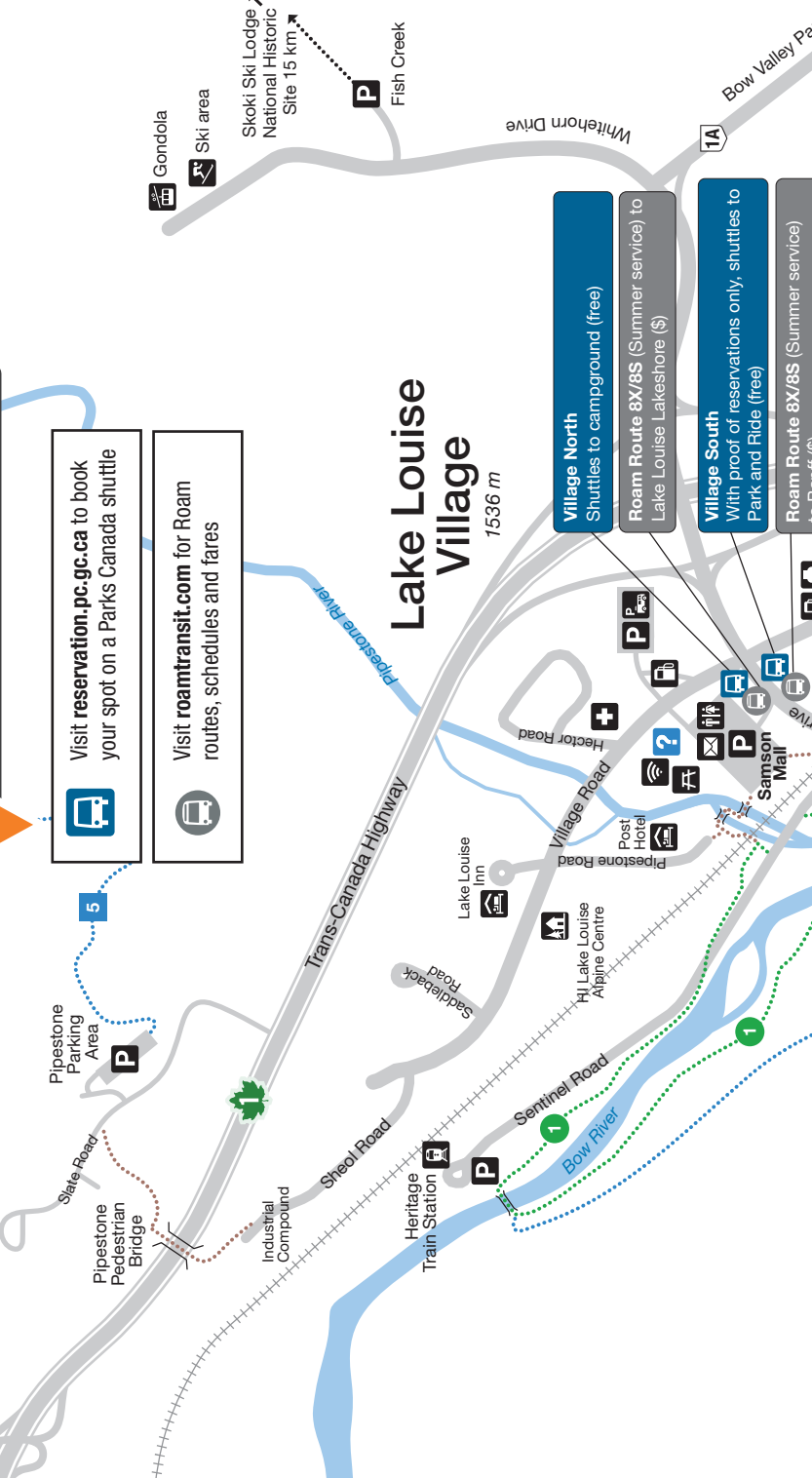
**Visit [roamtransit.com](http://roamtransit.com) for Roam routes, schedules and fares**

### Hiking and Biking Trails

<b>1</b> Bow River Loop		
<b>2</b> Tramline		
<b>3</b> Louise Creek		
<b>4</b> Great Divide		
<b>5</b> Pipestone		
<b>6</b> Moraine Lake Highline		
<b>7</b> Moraine Lake Lakeshore		
<b>8</b> Rock Pile		
<b>9</b> Consolation Lakes		
<b>10</b> Larch Valley		
<b>11</b> Lake Louise Lakeshore		

**Legend:**  
 Easy  
 Moderate  
 Difficult  
 Bikes welcome  
 Pedal assist e-bikes allowed

- West**
- Icefields Parkway gate
- Yoho National Park 11 km
- Field 27 km
- Takakkaw Falls 38 km
- Emerald Lake 39 km
- Golden 85 km
- Vancouver 794 km
- North**
- Highway 11 80 km
- Next gas station (summer only) 80 km
- Columbia Icefield 127 km
- Jasper 230 km



## Lake Louise Village

1536 m

**Village North**  
Shuttles to campground (free)

**Roam Route 8X/8S** (Summer service) to Lake Louise Lakeshore (\$)

**Village South**  
With proof of reservations only, shuttles to Park and Ride (free)

**Roam Route 8X/8S** (Summer service) to Banff (\$)



**Avalanche risk:** Avoid high elevation trails from November to June due to avalanche risk. Check the trail report before departing: [parks.canada.gc.ca/banfftrails](http://parks.canada.gc.ca/banfftrails)

**NO LEFT TURN** to or from Moraine Lake Road from mid-May to mid-October. Expect daily traffic control at this junction. Moraine Lake Road only opens as space becomes available in Moraine Lake parking lot. No waiting area available. Plan ahead and reserve your spot on the Parks Canada shuttle.

**NEW** - Mandatory paid parking from mid-May to mid-October. See page 6.

**Roam Route 8X/8S** (Summer service) to Lake Louise Village and Banff (\$)

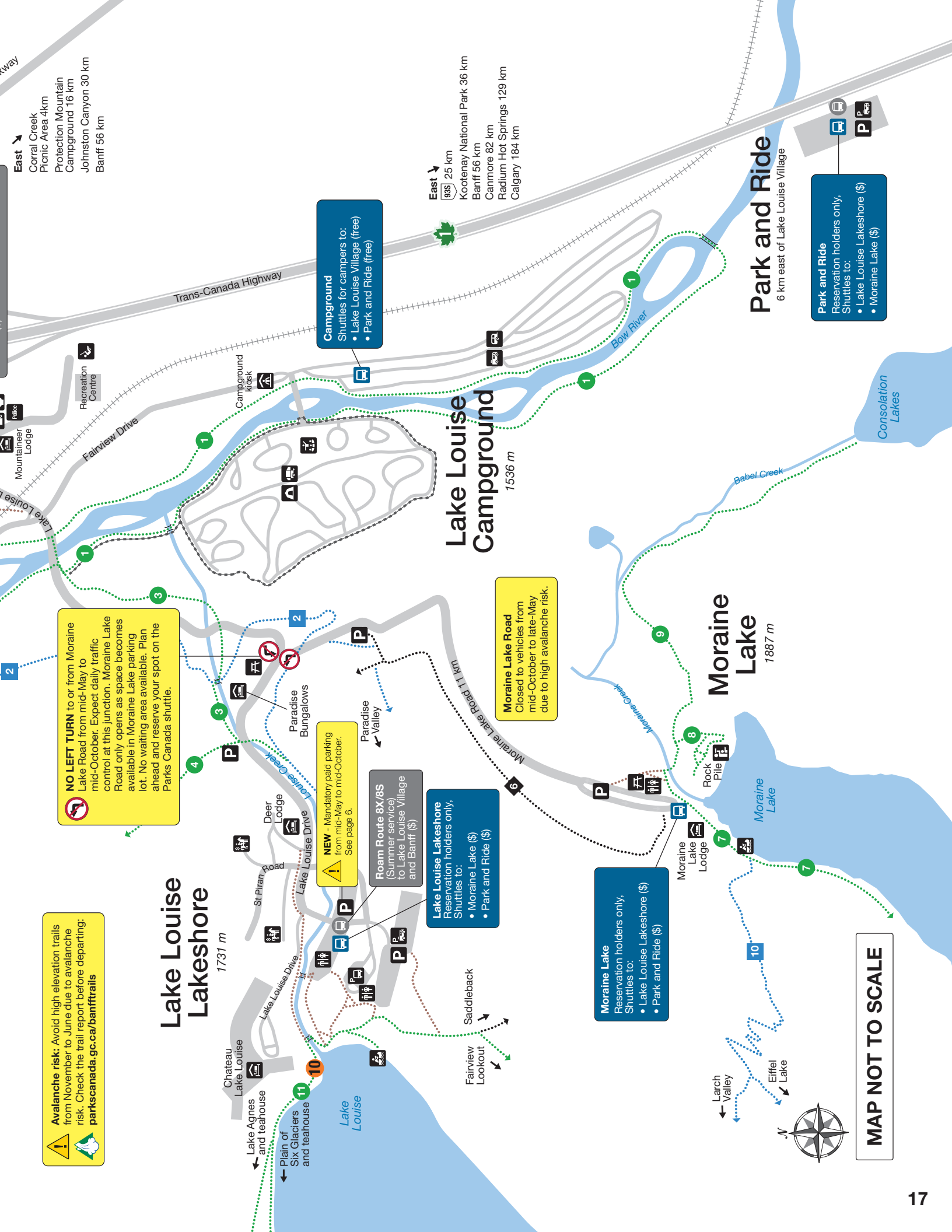
**Lake Louise Lakeshore**  
Reservation holders only,  
Shuttles to:  
• Moraine Lake (\$) • Park and Ride (\$)

**Moraine Lake**  
Reservation holders only,  
Shuttles to:  
• Lake Louise Lakeshore (\$) • Park and Ride (\$)

**Campground**  
Shuttles for campers to:  
• Lake Louise Village (free)  
• Park and Ride (free)

**Moraine Lake Road**  
Closed to vehicles from mid-October to late-May due to high avalanche risk.

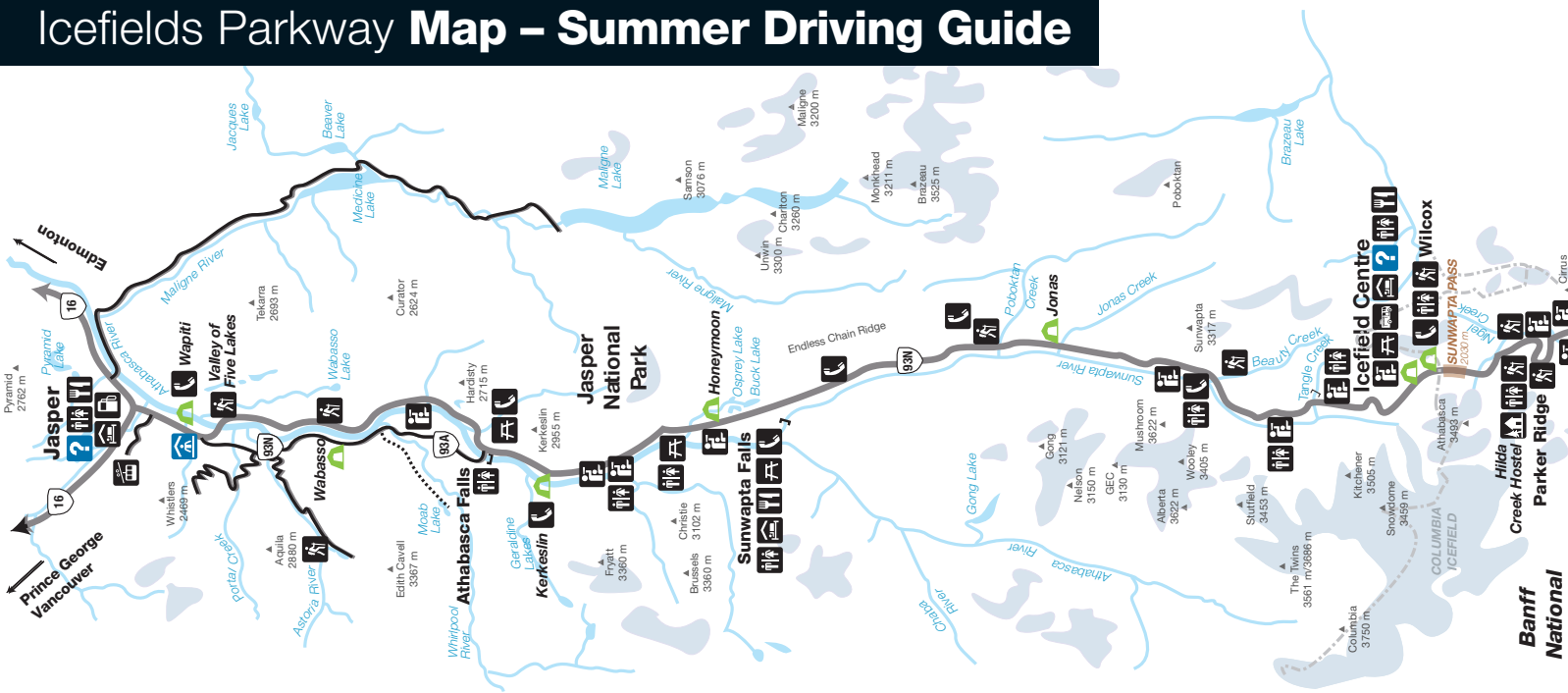
**Park and Ride**  
Reservation holders only,  
Shuttles to:  
• Lake Louise Lakeshore (\$) • Moraine Lake (\$)



**MAP NOT TO SCALE**



# Icefields Parkway Map – Summer Driving Guide



**Jasper Townsite**

**Whistlers** (opening summer 2021)

Jasper Skytram (April to October)

**Wapiti**

**Junction with Highway 93A**

Access to Cavell Road

**Wabasso**

**Valley of the Five Lakes**

Wabasso Lake

Athabasca Pass Lookout

**Athabasca Falls**

Junction with Hwy 93A

Athabasca Falls Hostel

**Kerkeslin**

Goats and Glaciers

Mount Christie

**Honeymoon Lake**

**Sunwapta Falls**

Sunwapta Falls Resort (mid-May to mid-October)

Poboktan Creek

**Jonas**

Mushroom and Diadem Peaks

**Beauty Creek Hostel**

Beauty Creek

Stutfield Glacier

Tangle Falls

**Icefield Centre** (mid-April to mid-October)

Parks Canada information (May-September)

**Icefield RV**

Glacier View Inn

**Icefield Tent**

**Wilcox Pass**

**Wilcox**

SUNWAPTA PASS (Banff and Jasper boundary)

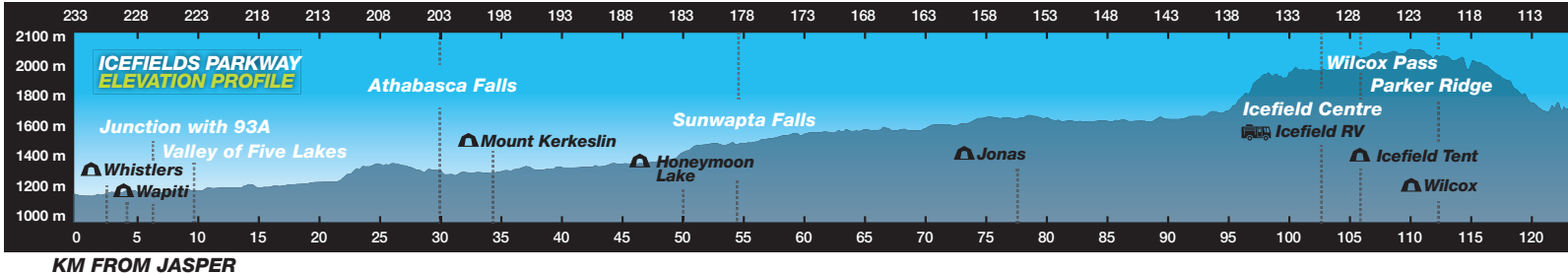
**Driving the Icefields Parkway?**  
 You must have a valid national park entry pass, even if you do not intend to stop along the way. Purchase your pass at any park gates - look for this symbol on the map.

**KM FROM LAKE LOUISE**

0	233
2	231
4	229
6	227
9	224
14	219
25	208
30	203
32	201
34	199
37	196
41	192
50	183
54	179
72	161
77	156
84	149
85	148
87	146
94	139
96	137
103	130
104	129
106	127
108	125

**KM FROM JASPER**

**KM FROM LAKE LOUISE**



**KM FROM JASPER**







R. Schmidt/Parks Canada

### Pika

#### Characteristics

The smallest member of the rabbit family. Has a piercing call that sounds like a high-pitched “eep.”

#### Where to find

Rock slides and talus slopes.



M. Bradley

### Red Squirrel

#### Characteristics

Red body, white underside and very large, bushy tail.

#### Where to find

Coniferous forests, scampering up trees.



R. Grays

### Hoary Marmot

#### Characteristics

A larger member of the rodent family. Silver-brown in colour with longer hair. Has a high-pitched call that sounds like a whistle.

#### Where to find

Alpine and subalpine meadows, rock piles and scree slopes.



M. Bradley

### Columbian Ground Squirrel

#### Characteristics

Tan-coloured. Longer body. Has a high-pitched “squeak.”

#### Where to find

Meadows, roadsides and townsites in underground colonies.

## Grizzly or Black Bear?

### BLACK BEAR



NO SHOULDER HUMP

TALL EARS

SMALL HEAD

SHORT CLAWS

### GRIZZLY BEAR



DISTINCTIVE SHOULDER HUMP

LARGE HEAD

SHORT ROUNDED EARS

LONG CLAWS

## You are in bear country!

- **Be aware, bears can be anywhere at any time.** Watch for fresh scat, tracks or large diggings.
- **Make noise!** Sing, yell, talk loudly and travel in groups of 4 or more when possible.
- **Dogs must be on a leash and under control at all times—It is the law.**
- **Always keep children nearby and in sight.**
- **Never approach or feed a bear.** Stay 10 bus lengths or 100 metres away.
- **Always carry bear spray, ensure it is accessible and know how to use it.**

Visit: [parksCanada.gc.ca/bears-and-people](http://parksCanada.gc.ca/bears-and-people)



Size Chart

Bison

Bear

Moose

Elk

Deer

Sheep

Goat

Wolf

Coyote

Squirrel





M. Bradley

**White-tailed Deer**

**Characteristics**

Tan colour, tail has white underside and is held upright like a flag when alarmed.

**Where to find**

Mostly valley bottoms.

7 cm



M. Bradley  
Female

**Bighorn Sheep**

**Characteristics**

White rump and light brown fur. Males: thick curved horns. Females: short narrow horns.

**Where to find**

Near steep rocky terrain.

8 cm



Parks Canada

**Mule Deer**

**Characteristics**

Black tip on tail, large ears, white rump, grey colour. Antlers that fork in Y's.

**Where to find**

Mostly valley bottoms.

7 cm



Parks Canada

**Mountain Goat**

**Characteristics**

Narrow black horns, beard, long white hair.

**Where to find**

Near steep rocky terrain.

8 cm



M. Bradley

**Elk**

**Characteristics**

Brown body, darker neck and large tan rump patch. Backwards slanting antlers.

**Where to find**

Valley bottoms and open areas. Commonly seen around townsites.

11.5 cm



Parks Canada

**Moose**

**Characteristics**

Long legs, shoulder hump. Built like a horse with a large head. Shovel-like antlers.

**Where to find**

Wet and marshy areas.

15 cm



M. Bradley

**Wolf**

**Characteristics**

Built like a large dog, with longer legs. Colour can vary from white to black.

**Where to find**

Mainly valley bottoms.

12 cm



R. Gruys

**Coyote**

**Characteristics**

Similar to a medium-sized dog. Thick, bushy tail. Greyish-brown in colour.

**Where to find**

Valley bottoms.

7 cm





# Wildlife Need Your Help

## #WildlifeRules in Banff National Park

Banff National Park is a gateway to nature, adventure and discovery. The chance to observe wildlife as they go about their natural lives is a fascinating experience that draws millions of people to the park each year. Along with this opportunity, however, comes the responsibility to treat wildlife with the respect they deserve. Follow these #WildlifeRules to protect wildlife and keep Banff National Park a special place. Learn more at [parksCanada.gc.ca/WildlifeRules](http://parksCanada.gc.ca/WildlifeRules) and throughout this guide.



## Wildlife Rule #1: Help keep animals away from human food.

Human food kills wildlife.



Wildlife quickly find any food, scented items or garbage that is left unattended. Eating these unnatural foods teaches wildlife to approach people for an easy meal.



Once wildlife develop a taste for human food, they often become aggressive in their search for more. This places you and others in danger as they search for food or garbage that is not properly stored.

**Wildlife that eat human food or garbage become aggressive with people. This puts both people and wildlife at risk of being hurt or killed.**

### Properly store all food and scented items.

A clean campsite or picnic area does not have anything that will attract wildlife (food, garbage, food-related or scented items). Never leave these items unattended:

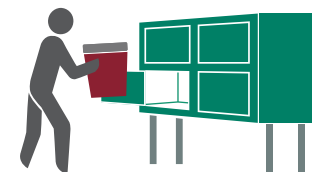
- Coolers – full or empty
- Food – wrapped, unwrapped or in containers
- Garbage/wrappers
- Dishes/pots/cutlery – clean or dirty
- Beverage containers – full or empty
- Pet food/bowls – full or empty
- Bottles/cans – open or unopened
- Scented products – such as shampoo, toothpaste, candles, citronella, dish soap, sunscreen, lip balm, dish towels
- Barbecues, stoves – clean or dirty
- Any other items used for food preparation or that have a smell or scent



*ALL food-related and scented items MUST be stored away in a vehicle,*



*a hard-sided trailer or RV,*



*or in a campground food storage locker.*

**Never leave food or scented items unattended or in a tent for even a minute.**



## Always keep your campsite and picnic area clean.

When you are done cooking or eating at your picnic table, all food, food-related and scented items **MUST** be stored:

- In a hard-sided vehicle, trailer or motor home, **NOT** in tents or tent trailers
- In campground food storage lockers

Non-food items such as lawn chairs, tables or lanterns may be left outside. Items such as coolers, cook stoves, dish towels and toothpaste must be properly stored.

Dump dish water down outdoor sinks or at the sani-dump in campgrounds.

**Parks Canada staff are checking for unattended wildlife attractants. Attractants found in plain view will be removed and safely secured to reduce the risks to you and to wildlife.**



All food, food-related and scented items **MUST** be stored away.



Cooler, stove and dishes (dirty or clean) **MUST** be stored away.



Non-scented items may be left outside.



## Wildlife Rule #2: Put garbage in the wildlife-proof garbage bins.

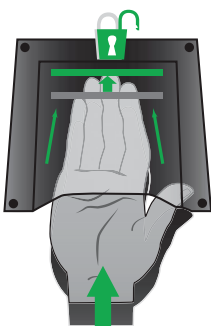


Wildlife may eat garbage and begin to seek out other sources of human food. Ensure all garbage and recycling are disposed in wildlife-proof bins immediately.

- If you see garbage or recycling left outside in the town of Banff, call Bylaw Services at 403-762-1218 (8 a.m. to 6 p.m. seven days a week).
- After hours, call Banff Dispatch at 403-762-1470.



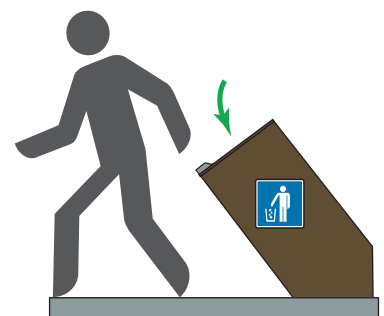
### How to use the wildlife-proof garbage bins.



Place your hand inside the handle and push it to the very back to release the latch.



Raise your arm to open the lid.  
Dispose of garbage.



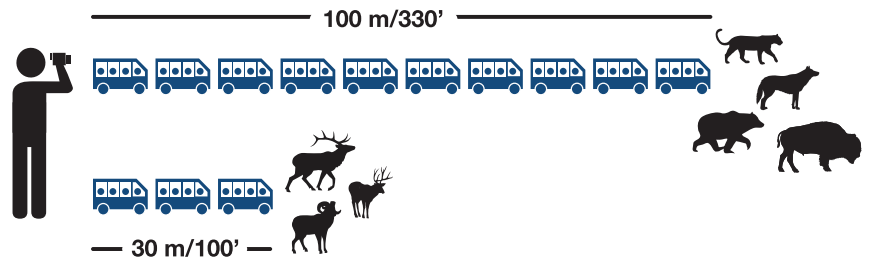
Lower the lid.  
Ensure the lid is **closed tight** before leaving.



## Wildlife Rule #3: Give wildlife the space they need.



For photos, do not surround, crowd or follow an animal. Use zoom or show the animal in its natural surroundings and crop the image later.



Photograph wildlife from a vehicle or safe distance:

- 30 metres for deer, elk, moose and bighorn sheep
- 100 metres for cougars, bears, coyotes and wolves



**Do not startle wildlife. If you make them move, you are too close. Give them space.**

## Dogs stress wildlife.

Dogs cause stress for wildlife as they may be seen as a threat. Off-leash dogs can trigger aggressive behaviour from wildlife such as grizzly bears and elk. To prevent unsafe situations, it is your responsibility to:



Ensure your dog is on a leash and under physical control at all times.



Pick up and dispose of your pet's waste in a wildlife-proof garbage bin.



Do not leave pet food out. Store food dishes – empty or full. Never leave food dishes out at night.

Dogs are not allowed on some trails:

[parksCanada.gc.ca/banfftrails](http://parksCanada.gc.ca/banfftrails)

Consider leaving your dog at home if you plan to camp, hike or go into the backcountry.



## Wildlife Rule #4: Slow down. Obey speed limits.

If you see wildlife by the road, **slow down**, stay in your vehicle and move on. If you choose to stop:

- Be aware of the traffic around you.
- Pull over where safe to do so.
- Turn on hazard lights.
- **Stay in your vehicle.**
- Watch for a few moments, take a quick photo, and then move on.
- If a traffic jam develops, move on. It is unsafe for people and wildlife.





## Keeping Your Children Safe.

Bears, cougars, wolves and coyotes may be curious about children and can attack them:

- Keep children in immediate sight and within close reach at all times.
- Children should avoid playing in or near areas with tall grass or dense bushes.
- Never allow children to pet, feed or pose with wildlife.

## To Learn More About **Wildlife and Safety**

Pick up a copy of *Keep the Wild in Wildlife* and *Bears and People* at a Parks Canada visitor centre or visit [parksCanada.gc.ca/banff-brochures](http://parksCanada.gc.ca/banff-brochures).

Information available in French, Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Spanish and German.

Report bear, cougar, wolf and coyote sightings and encounters to Banff Dispatch when it is safe to do so: 403-762-1470.



**It is illegal to feed, entice or disturb any wildlife in a national park.**

**Violators will be charged, be required to appear in court, and could pay fines up to \$25 000.**

## Bison Return to Banff

Bison once roamed Banff National Park, but until recently, they had not been seen in the wild for over 140 years.

In 2017, Parks Canada reintroduced a small herd of plains bison into Banff's eastern slopes and held them in a pasture for 1.5 years to prepare them for life in the mountains. In summer 2018, the herd was released into the wild and now roams a large area in Banff's backcountry.

Bringing bison back benefits a range of plants and animals. Their return reconnects cultural links between people and bison, and creates opportunities for Canadians and visitors to learn about this iconic creature.

Follow the journey of returning North America's largest land mammal to Canada's first national park:

**Follow the herd:** #Banffbison @BanffNP  Twitter  Facebook [parksCanada.gc.ca/Banff-Bison](http://parksCanada.gc.ca/Banff-Bison)

To observe bison at other Parks Canada locations in Alberta, visit Rocky Mountain House National Historic Site or Elk Island National Park.



## Volunteering in Banff National Park



Are you looking for a unique experience during your trip to Banff National Park? Volunteers play an important part in keeping the park healthy and safe for people and wildlife.

Anyone can volunteer—learn more and sign up:

[parksCanada.gc.ca/banff-volunteer](http://parksCanada.gc.ca/banff-volunteer)







J. Jimmo/Parks Canada

## Creating New Fish Habitat

Over the past three years, Parks Canada completed channel restoration work in Cascade Creek, including construction of fish habitat features like riffles, pools and boulders runs. Parks Canada staff and contractors, supported by members of Banff National Park's volunteer program, are continuing work to restore native riparian plant communities which stabilize soils, shade the stream to maintain cooler water temperatures and provide a source of insects for fish. All of this work is in preparation for the re-introduction of native fish species back into their historic home, including Westslope Cutthroat Trout, a species at risk, scheduled for 2022.

## Protecting Nesting Sites

Black Swift populations have declined by over 50 per cent in the last 40 years. The cause is not fully understood, however it may be related to a decline in their main food supply: flying insects. In 2019, the Black Swift was designated as an Endangered species under Canada's Species at Risk Act.

Johnston Canyon provides critical nesting habitat for Black Swifts and is one of only two known nesting sites in Banff National Park. Typically, they return to the same nesting locations year after year, however fewer birds have been returning.

To protect the nesting sites by reducing disturbances, a restricted activity order is in effect in Johnston Canyon from May 1 to November 15. Visitors must remain on the official trail at all times. Off-trail travel including entering closed areas is strictly prohibited. In 2019, there were two confirmed active nests in Johnston Canyon, and in 2020 there were four. Parks Canada will continue to build on this success moving forward.



J. Reimer

## Managing Fire in the Park

In addition to prescribed fires and FireSmart work in the Bow Valley, Parks Canada is expanding an existing fire guard on the west side of Sulphur Mountain. The project reduces the risk of wildfires to the town of Banff and also improves grizzly bear habitat. Decades of fire suppression created dense forests with significant amounts of woody debris, increasing the risk of wildfires. Through this multi-year project, Parks Canada will selectively remove trees and deadfall and prune branches from approximately 220 hectares of forest. Keeping the public safe is a top priority, and the West Sulphur project contributes to that goal.



Parks Canada





Parks Canada



Parks Canada



K. Trivers

## Mountain Safety

Unpredictable mountain weather can change road and trail conditions quickly and wildlife can be anywhere, at any time. These simple precautions will help ensure a safe and enjoyable visit:



Before heading out, check trail conditions at [parksCanada.gc.ca/banfftrails](https://parksCanada.gc.ca/banfftrails) and the important bulletins at [parksCanada.gc.ca/banff-bulletins](https://parksCanada.gc.ca/banff-bulletins). For road conditions, visit [511.alberta.ca](https://511.alberta.ca), call 511 in Alberta or 1-855-391-9743.



Obey speed limits and watch for wildlife on the roadside, even on fenced portions of a highway. Sometimes wildlife (bears, cougars) get through or over the fence.



Travel and camp on durable surfaces including established trails and campsites, rock, gravel, dry grasses or snow.



Make noise on the trails and let wildlife know you are coming.



Be aware of your surroundings. Earbuds or headphones prevent you from hearing wildlife and increase your risk of a dangerous encounter.



Carry bear spray, ensure it is accessible, and know how to use it. Animals are active in the park throughout the year—even bears can wake up during the winter. Watch a video here: [parksCanada.gc.ca/bearspray](https://parksCanada.gc.ca/bearspray). Additional information and bearspray are available at Parks Canada visitor centres.



Keep clear of cliffs, ledges and fast-moving water.



Research and plan overnight trips including potential trail restrictions and closures, avalanche conditions and mandatory backcountry permits. Visit [avalanche.pc.gc.ca](https://avalanche.pc.gc.ca) and [parksCanada.gc.ca/banff-backcountry](https://parksCanada.gc.ca/banff-backcountry) for more information.



Cell phone coverage is not reliable in many areas of the park. Let someone know your plans before heading out.



# National Park Regulations

## Stay Safe and Enjoy

You are required by law to follow national park regulations. Thank you for helping protect people, landscapes and wildlife.



**All visitors to Banff National Park must purchase a national park entry pass.** Passes are available for purchase at park gates, visitor centres, campgrounds and at partner locations. National park entry fees help support visitor services and facilities within Banff National Park.



**Camping is permitted in designated campgrounds only.** A valid camping permit and national park entry pass are required. Do not sleep in your vehicle or RV roadside, at pull-outs, or pitch a tent in an area that is not a campground.



In campgrounds, alcohol and cannabis cannot be consumed beyond your registered campsite. There is a daily ban on alcohol and cannabis consumption during quiet hours, between 11 p.m. and 7 a.m. During summer long weekends (May – September), the possession and consumption of alcohol and cannabis are not permitted in any campground.



The recreational use of Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs), also known as drones, is prohibited in all national parks.



**Pets must be on a leash and under physical control at all times.** Collect and discard their waste in wildlife-proof garbage bins.



**Do not feed any wildlife.** It is illegal to feed wildlife—this includes littering and leaving food or scented items unattended.



**Do not litter.** Dispose of garbage or recycling only in wildlife-proof bins or pack out any unwanted items.



**Take only photographs.** It is illegal to pick flowers, mushrooms, cut down trees, branches, remove rocks, cultural artifacts or otherwise cause damage to natural objects or living things.

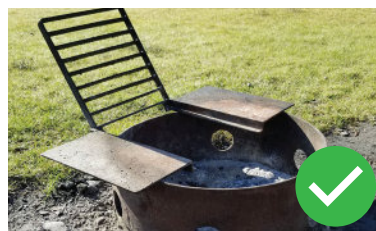
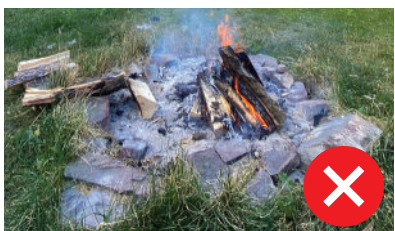


**Stay out of closed areas.** Area closures or activity restrictions are implemented when visitors are at risk or when wildlife require additional protection. Signs indicate the areas impacted.





**Be careful with fire.** Fires are permitted only where designated metal fire rings and cook stoves are provided by Parks Canada. Rock rings are prohibited. Never leave fires unattended, and extinguish them completely using the soak, stir, soak method. Do not use deadwood, bark or branches for fuel.



**Buy fishing permits.** Anglers require a national park fishing permit, available at Parks Canada visitor centres. **Provincial licenses are not valid in national parks.** National Park Fishing Regulations prohibit lead tackle under 50g and all bait, natural or chemical. Fishing is catch and release only in Banff, except for lake trout in Lake Minnewanka reservoir. For more information, see the *Fishing Regulations Summary* brochure, available at Parks Canada visitor centres.



**Going boating?** Motors of all kinds are prohibited on all water bodies except Lake Minnewanka reservoir. Regulations apply for all watercraft launching in Banff National Park including motorboats, canoes, kayaks, paddleboards and inflatables: [parksCanada.gc.ca/banff-boating](http://parksCanada.gc.ca/banff-boating)



**CLEAN** off watercraft and all equipment after every use.



**DRAIN** onto land all water from your watercraft, including buckets or coolers.



**DRY** watercraft and all gear completely.



**Motorized off-road travel is not permitted.**



**Firearms are prohibited in national parks.** Firearms include pellet guns, bear bangers, bows, slingshots and similar items.



**E-bikes** (pedal-electric power-assisted bicycles) are only permitted on roads and select trails in Banff National Park. Visit [parksCanada.gc.ca/banff-mountain-biking](http://parksCanada.gc.ca/banff-mountain-biking) for more information.



**E-bikes are not permitted** on any other trails in the national park.

## The Canada National Parks Act

Park Wardens are responsible for enforcing park regulations as required by the *Canada National Parks Act* ([parksCanada.gc.ca/banffregulations](http://parksCanada.gc.ca/banffregulations)). To report park violations, call 24 hours, 7 days per week:

**1-888-927-3367 Banff, Yoho, Kootenay and Waterton Lakes**

**1-877-852-3100 Jasper, Mount Revelstoke and Glacier**

**Violators will be charged, be required to appear in court, and could pay fines of up to \$25 000.**





AV Wakefield



AV Wakefield



R. Bray



K. MacDonald

## Winter Adventures

Summer trails become a winter wonderland with the turn of the seasons in Banff National Park. Snow covered pines, white-capped mountains, and wildlife tracks are just a few of the discoveries waiting for you. Come outside and play!

### Near the Town of Banff

Grab your hiking poles and ice cleats and **hike** Tunnel Mountain for a beautiful view of the townsite and the Bow Valley. On a day with fresh snow, enjoy the views of Cascade and Rundle mountains by **snowshoe** around frozen Johnson Lake. From the over-sized tires of a **fat bike**, ride to the Cave and Basin National Historic Site and enjoy its winter themed exhibits. After your visit, continue on to find views of the river and mountains along the beginner-friendly Marsh Loop. Enjoy the rolling terrain and groomed **cross-country ski** trails along Spray River West in the tree-lined river valley. **Camp** year-round at Tunnel Mountain Village II—bring your RV or enjoy the season from a tent.

### Near the Village of Lake Louise

Hop on Roam Public Transit Route 8X to visit Lake Louise. At the lake, **walk, ski or ice skate** and enjoy the picturesque view of Victoria Glacier. From the village, view the beautiful frozen river from the seat of a **fat bike** along the Bow River Loop. Experience the charm of the Fairview Loop from a track-set **cross-country ski** trail that runs through open clearings and snow-draped woods. Bring your RV and **camp** year-round in the Lake Louise Trailer campground. For a spectacular winter view, **snowshoe** to the Fairview Lookout and feast your eyes on the striking peaks that surround the lake.

### Ask Us About Winter

We are here to help. Stop by a Parks Canada visitor centre and plan your winter adventure.

- Trip and winter activity planning
- Winter camping
- Trail and road conditions
- Weather updates
- Avalanche safety
- Winter packing list



AV Wakefield

Winter camping



## Safe Winter Driving

Ensure your vehicle has snow tires—look for the snowflake or “M+S” symbol. **Snow tires are mandatory from November 1 to April 1 on mountain roads including the Icefields Parkway (Lake Louise to Jasper).**



Cell phone coverage is not reliable in the mountains, and **there is no cell coverage along the Icefields Parkway.** Tell someone your route, when you are leaving and when you plan on arriving.

Start early and complete your drive—with time for exploration and stops along the way—during daylight hours.

Have a safety kit in your vehicle that includes a cell phone, charger, water, food, first aid kit, ice scraper, snow brush, shovel, flashlight, extra batteries, warm clothing and blankets.

Always check road conditions and the weather forecast before leaving. Visit [511.alberta.ca](http://511.alberta.ca), call 511 in Alberta, or 1-855-391-9743.

## You are in Avalanche Terrain



Avalanche season in the mountains extends from November to June. Even a short walk from downtown Banff or Lake Louise can take you into avalanche terrain.

Check the trail report online or at a Parks Canada visitor centre to see if your trail requires avalanche training and equipment. Avalanche risk changes daily—check online for current information.

Trail report: [parkscanada.gc.ca/banfftrails](http://parkscanada.gc.ca/banfftrails)

Safety information: [parksmountainsafety.ca](http://parksmountainsafety.ca)

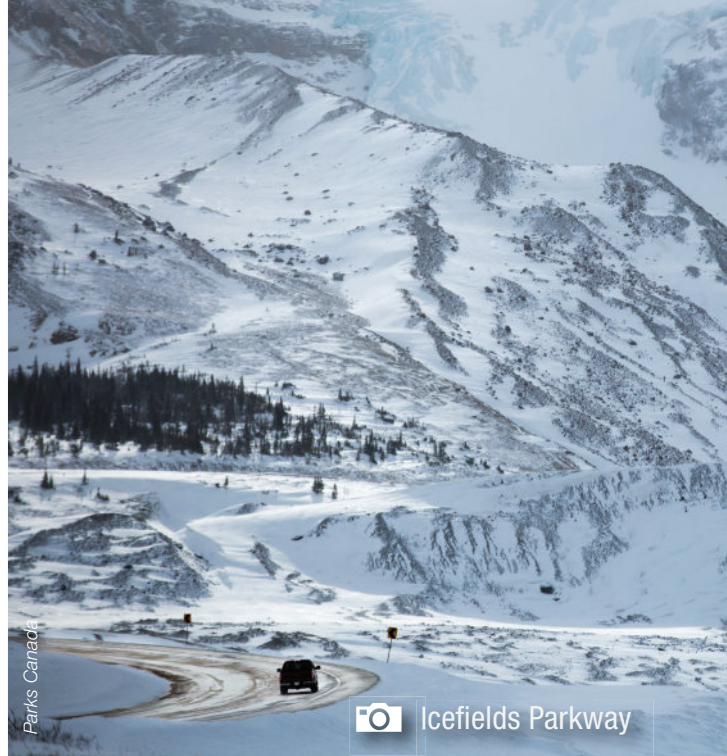
Avalanche forecast: [avalanche.ca](http://avalanche.ca)

## Top Tips for Winter

- Tell someone where you are going and when you expect to return.
- Always check the trail report and local weather forecast before you venture out.
- Mountain weather changes quickly. Make sure you are prepared with warm clothing and supplies.
- Wear proper winter footwear. Snow-covered trails can be icy and slippery.
- Bring a headlamp—you never know when you might be delayed.
- Expect winter driving conditions. Drivers should travel based on comfort level and experience.
- Park your vehicle and take Roam Public Transit: [roamtransit.com](http://roamtransit.com)

## Use Ice Cleats

Trails can be icy in the winter. Hiking poles and ice cleats are recommended. Cleats are designed to fit over shoes or boots and can be purchased at the Banff Visitor Centre, 224 Banff Avenue, and most outdoor stores in the town of Banff.



## Winter Closures, Restrictions and Warnings

See maps or [pc.gc.ca/banffnp-closures](http://pc.gc.ca/banffnp-closures) for more information.

- Tunnel Mountain Drive: page 13
- Golf Course Road: page 13
- Legacy Trail: page 13
- West side of the Lake Minnewanka Road: page 14
- Moraine Lake Road: pages 10 and 17
- Bow Valley Parkway: page 11





**Real-time trailhead parking information:**  
[pc.gc.ca/banffnow](http://pc.gc.ca/banffnow)



**Kicking Horse Canyon Project**  
 Expect delays and extended closures. During periods of full closure, all Trans-Canada Highway traffic will be re-routed via the Village of Radium Hot Springs (Highway 93 South and Highway 95). Check [kickinghorsecanyon.ca](http://kickinghorsecanyon.ca) for updates.

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**Visiting a national park?  
 Driving the Icefields Parkway?**  
**You must have a valid national park entry pass.**  
 Entry fees are charged at most national parks and national historic sites, where revenues support visitor services and facilities. This means that every time you visit a park or site you are investing in its future and in a legacy for future generations. Purchase your national park entry pass at any park gate, Parks Canada visitor centre or staffed campground kiosk.



**Wildlife in area**  
 Obey speed limit  
**Faune dans le secteur**  
 Obéissez à la limite de vitesse

**In case of EMERGENCY,  
 call 911 or satellite phone: 403-762-4506.**

Cell phone coverage is not reliable throughout the national park.  
 Alberta Road Report: 511 or 1-855-391-9743 / [511.alberta.ca](http://511.alberta.ca)  
 British Columbia Road Report: 1-800-550-4997 / [drivebc.ca](http://drivebc.ca)