

MOUNT REVELSTOKE NATIONAL PARK

British Columbia

Location and Description

Mount Revelstoke National Park is situated on the summit of Mount Revelstoke. It has an area of 100 square miles and occupies a broad undulating plateau at a general elevation of 6,000 feet above sea-level. The park lies on the western slope of the Selkirk Mountains between the valleys of the Columbia River on the west and the Illecillewaet River on the south and stretches across to the Clachnacudainn Range. Mount Revelstoke was established as a National Park in 1914. The views from the Lookout at the Summit are breathtaking. Three mountain ranges are visible from this location — Monashee, Selkirk, and Clachnacudainn. To the west is Eagle Pass through which run the Banff-Vancouver Highway and the Canadian Pacific Railway. Across the picturesque Columbia Valley rises the Monashee Range, dominated by triple-peaked Mount Begbie, and to the north of the Lookout, nearer at hand, the Clachnacudainn Snowfields. Peaks which are visible from this vantage point include Begbie, MacPherson, Mackenzie, Tilley, Ghost Rock, Harry, and Twin Buttes. A directional table, with arrows pointing to the various peaks and glaciers in the vicinity, has been erected at the Lookout. The arrows bear the name and elevation of each peak; also the names of the glaciers. Far below, the town of Revelstoke spreads out like a giant fan at the junction of Columbia and Illecillewaet Rivers.

Not far from the Lookout is the "Ice Box", a great cleft in the rock, which usually contains, even in midsummer, a mass of snow and ice. It is an unending attraction for visitors. The rolling alplands of the park area are partly covered with evergreens; tiny lakes nestle in hollows chiselled out of rock by ancient glaciers; and flowers grow in profusion on open alpine meadows. During July and August these meadows don their full summer finery, but the colouring of the landscape from early summer to late autumn makes it a veritable floral paradise. This floral display begins early with the avalanche lily followed by the Indian paint brush, anemone, trillium, blue lupin (wild delphinium), yellow arnica, mountain heather, rhododendron, marsh marigold, wild heliotrope, bog laurel, wild asters, spirea, mountain daisies, the saxifrages, and many others that add brilliance and beauty to the scene. With a backdrop of gleaming glaciers and majestic peaks, it would be difficult to imagine a more fascinating scene anywhere in the world. When autumn tints the foliage on the huge granite mound, on which the Lookout is built, it takes on the appearance of a "Castle in Fairyland".

HOW TO REACH THE PARK

Mount Revelstoke National Park is accessible by both railway and motor road. A scenic highway has been built from the main through highway near the town of Revelstoke to the summit of Mount Revelstoke on which the park is situated. In a distance of 18 miles this road rises 4,850 feet to an altitude of 6,350 feet above sea-level, yet it has no mental hazards for the average driver. The ascent is gradual and is made by a number of switchbacks with sweeping curves, with plenty of room for cars to pass. Regular applications of calcium chloride keep down the dust; consequently the foliage along the roadside is always fresh and green. The highway is known locally as the "Royal Road" as several members of the British Royal Family have driven over it on their way to the summit of the mountain. Viewpoints, with parking space, have been located at strategic positions along the route so that motorists may pause to enjoy the scenery.

The town of Revelstoke is on the main transcontinental line of the Canadian Pacific Railway which provides a daily service east and west. Revelstoke is also situated on Provincial Highway No. 1, which forms part of the highway from Vancouver to Banff and points east. An approach from the south by highway may also be made via Nelson, Nakusp, and Arrowhead, with the aid of the Arrow Lakes ferry service.

Revelstoke also forms the western terminus of the "Big Bend" Highway which was opened for travel in 1940. This stretch, between Revelstoke and Golden, follows the Columbia River around its great northern bend, and provides a spectacular drive of 193 miles through an almost primeval mountain region.

ACCOMMODATION

Summer accommodation in the park is provided by Heather Lodge located at the Summit overlooking Heather Lake. The Lodge has accommodation for 14 persons, has its own generating plant for electricity, and provides its guests with hot and cold showers. The rates vary from \$4.50 to \$7.50 a day (European Plan) depending on the type of accommodation required. A number of camp-grounds, equipped with kitchen shelters, camp stoves, tables and benches, and provided with wood fuel, have been laid out in the park. Up until now these camp-grounds have been used almost exclusively by picnic parties, anglers and hikers. Good hotel and bungalow cabin accommodations are available in the town of Revelstoke adjacent to the park.

Entrance fees are not required at Mount Revelstoke National Park, but visitors are requested to register for record purposes at the Lookout Station at the summit of the mountain.

TRAILS

There are more than 40 miles of improved trails in the park. Perhaps the most popular of these is the trail leading from the Lookout at the Summit to Millar and Eva Lakes, and Lake of Jade. This trail crosses alpine meadows, popularly known as the "wild flower garden", and skirting the Columbia Valley winds through rocky hollows to crystal pools of pale green water that reflects the surrounding trees, rocks and mountains. Millar Lake is 4 miles from the Lookout, and Eva and Jade Lakes 4½ and 6½ miles respectively. Rainbow and cutthroat trout abound in these waters. A list of the trails in the park with their location and length in miles is as follows:

Location	Length in Miles
From town of Revelstoke to Lookout Station on summit of Mount Revelstoke	8
From summit of Mount Revelstoke to Millar, Eva, and Jade Lakes	4½
From Millar Lake to Lake of Jade	2
From Mile 2 on the Summit Road along northwest slopes of Mount Revelstoke	4
From Mile 6 on Summit Road leading northwest	6
From Mile 8 on Summit Road to Bridge Creek	1
From Mile 12½ on Summit Road east along mountain slopes	4
From Greely leading up Clachnacudainn slopes	4
From Bridge crossing Silver Creek (6 miles from Albert Canyon) to northwest boundary of park	14

WINTER SPORTS

Revelstoke is known as the pioneer championship ski-jumping centre of Canada, and many of the earlier records—both amateur and professional—were made on the southern slopes of Mount Revelstoke. Early training of Canadian skiers for national and international competition took place on this downhill course and on the old ski-jump. It was here that Nels Nelson in 1925 established a new record when he jumped 240 feet. Recently the hill has been redesigned and the new ski jump has been approved by the Canadian Amateur Ski Association as an 80-meter hill. Old records were eclipsed by Peter Hugsted, the Norwegian Olympic Champion, who in March, 1949, made two jumps of 247 feet each.

Additional development of the ski slopes has widened the practice areas so that novices also enjoy ample opportunities to perfect their techniques. The downhill course, one of the most thrilling on the North American continent, has been laid out on the southern slopes of the mountain with a length of 1¼ miles and a vertical drop of 2,500 feet. Regional and international competitions are frequently held in this area.

With frequent falls of powder snow providing excellent skiing conditions Mount Revelstoke offers pleasant opportunities for the enjoyment of spectators and skiers of all classes.

GENERAL INFORMATION

PARKS ADMINISTRATION

The administration of Glacier and Mount Revelstoke National Parks is carried out by a superintendent whose office is located at Field in Yoho National Park, British Columbia. The superintendent is assisted by wardens stationed in the parks. Information, maps, and literature concerning the parks may be obtained from the Superintendent's office and from the local park wardens.

WILDLIFE PROTECTION

The National Parks Act requires that all parks shall be maintained and made use of so as to leave them unimpaired for the use of future generations. Consequently, all wildlife within park boundaries is rigidly protected, and hunting and the possession of unsealed firearms are strictly prohibited. As the parks are also game sanctuaries, visitors must not molest any wild animals or birds or their nests. Dogs or cats are allowed in a national park only by special permission.

FAUNA AND FLORA

Wild animal and bird life is very abundant in the parks. Among the species of large mammals found are mountain caribou, black and grizzly bear, mule and whitetailed deer, moose, and goat. In addition, Glacier Park has some elk. Bird life includes grouse, ptarmigan, and numerous song birds of bright plumage.

The flora of Mount Revelstoke Park include such species as the lodgepole or western jack pine, spruce, balsam fir, poplar, cottonwood, mountain maple, and larch. The vegetation in Glacier Park is luxuriant, with giant cedar, hemlock, and Douglas fir abundant.

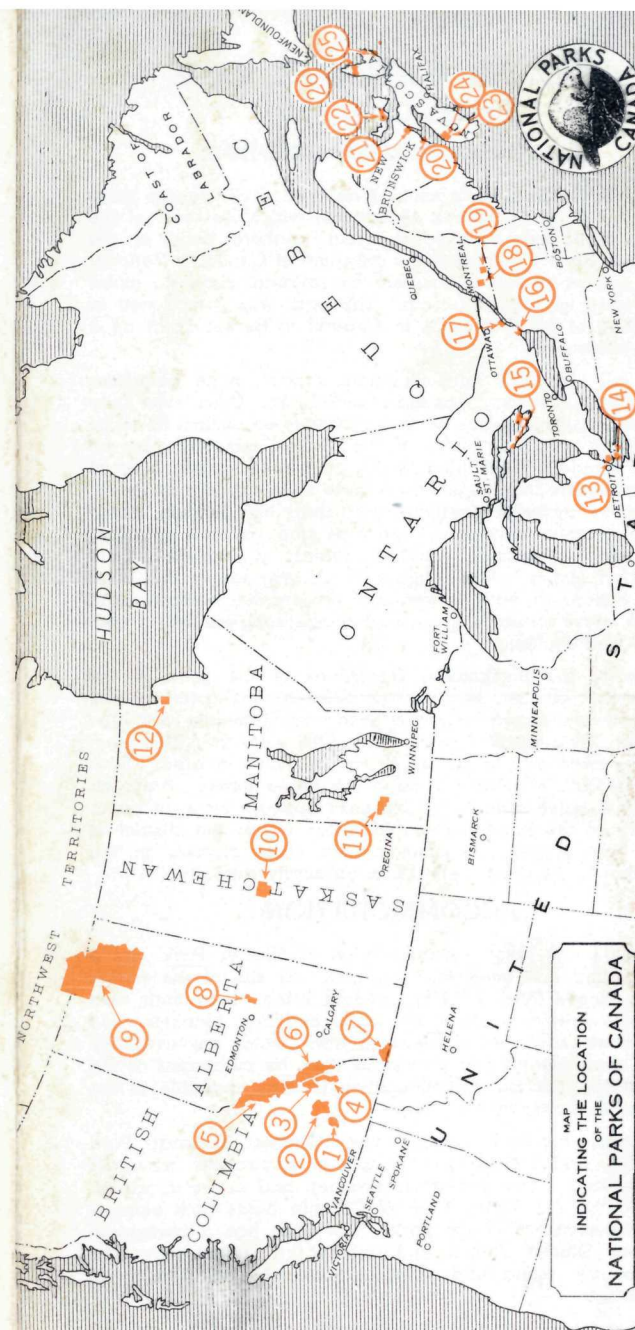
The wild flowers of the parks are a delight to the visitor. Their colour, fragrance, and delicate loveliness add a touch of enchantment to the region. Growing in profusion in the valleys and on the slopes of the mountains, these alpine gardens of nature are found even above timber-line at the edge of the glaciers.

FIRE PREVENTION

Visitors are requested to co-operate with park officers in the prevention of fires. Smoking materials and camp-fires should be completely extinguished.

Camp-fires should be kindled only at places provided for the purpose. Persons using the park trails unaccompanied by a licensed guide should acquaint themselves with the park regulations and secure particulars concerning suitable campsites and other related information. Parties making extended trips into park areas from railroads or park highways should register with the district park warden.

Any fire observed by a park visitor should be extinguished if possible. Fires which cannot be put out promptly should be reported to the nearest park officer. A fire in a national park may cause damage which cannot be repaired in a century. Not only are the trees in the park a joy and inspiration, but they afford sanctuary for many forms of wildlife that add beauty and interest to the areas. It is virtually impossible to protect these national playgrounds without the close and constant co-operation of all who frequent them.



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 Beauséjour
22. Prince Edward Island
23. Fort Royal
24. Fort Anne
25. Fortress of Louisbourg
26. Cape Breton Highlands

EDITORIAL AND INFORMATION DIVISION
DEPARTMENT OF MINES AND RESOURCES

Write for information to:

GLACIER AND MT. REVELSTOKE NATIONAL PARKS CANADA



OTTAWA, CANADA

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 landscape and for the protection of the native wildlife, they are to be "maintained and made use of so 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 29,000 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-girt hills on the Atlantic Coast across the rivers and lakes of Central Canada to the alpine vistas 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 progressive stages 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: Lookout Station on Summit of Mount Revelstoke.

GLACIER NATIONAL PARK British Columbia Location and Description

Glacier National Park contains an area of 521 square miles in the heart of the Selkirk Mountains, which lie west of the Canadian Rockies within the great northern bend of the Columbia River. Glacier is the only unit of Canada's National Parks system served exclusively by railroad, since no motor roads span its rugged terrain. The park was established in 1886—one of the first areas in Canada to be set apart as a public possession.

Of all Canada's lofty mountain ranges, none possesses greater physical attractions than the Selkirks. Ages older than the Rockies, these peaks have a character so distinct as to be recognized at once. Many of the highest mountains in the Selkirk Range are included in the park area, some rising to heights of more than 11,000 feet. These snow-capped pinnacles, flanked by immense ice-fields and sparkling glaciers, stand sentinel over a kingdom of canyons and caverns, turbulent rivers and waterfalls, brilliant against a background of forest-clad slopes. For lovers of primitive nature, this vast alpine panorama, with its wealth of flower-filled meadows and valleys, gives to the park unusual charm, compounded of both beauty and challenge.

One of the outstanding attractions of the park is the Illecillewaet Glacier, less than 2 miles from Glacier Station. The snow-field is reached by a good trail involving very little climbing. This gigantic mass of ice falls more than 3,500 feet from the nève and is almost 10 square miles in area. Seen from the trail, it gleams through the green forest. Although actually 3 miles distant, the ice-mass appears close at hand. In spite of the enormous snowfall for which the district is noted, this glacier, in common with other glaciers in the Canadian Rockies and Selkirks, is gradually retreating.

ACCOMMODATION

There is no hotel accommodation in Glacier Park, but a camp-ground has been laid out near the site of the former Glacier House hotel. Visitors should bring along their own camping equipment, such as tents, bedding, blankets, and cooking utensils. Wood fuel and fresh water are available at the camp-ground and provisions may be purchased at the local store. Limited accommodation is also available in the building occupied by this store.

Several hundred persons visit Glacier National Park annually, and include photographers, naturalists, mountain climbers and a few anglers in summer, and skiers in winter. Periodically, the Alpine Club of Canada holds both summer and winter camps in the park. The Club has a permanent hut near Glacier Station and another on Hermit Mountain. High-country skiing and ski-mountaineering are popular in this park.

Fishing in Glacier Park is largely confined to streams. These usually have a rapid flow and consequently the fish populations are not large. Dolly Varden and Rocky Mountain white fish are present in most streams, and fishing is best in autumn when the streams are freer of silt.

Visitors to the Park should register at the Park Warden's cabin near Glacier Station.

TRAILS

Although there are no motor roads in Glacier National Park, it is well served by trails radiating from Glacier Station to places of phenomenal beauty and interest. A broad trail, 12 miles in length, leading from Glacier Station follows the

old Canadian Pacific Railway right-of-way through Rogers Pass to Stoney Creek on the main line of the railway. Breathtaking views of Hermit Range, which includes such magnificent peaks as Cheops, Catamount, Ursus Minor, Ursus Major, Grizzly, Tupper, Sifton, Grant, and Shaughnessy, as well as several glaciers feature this trail. To the south rise many notable peaks in the Sir Donald Range, and creeping down from their summits is the glittering Avalanche Glacier. Another broad trail leads west from Glacier Station to the Nakimu Caves, and on to the Upper Cougar Valley, Cougar Mountain, Cougar Glacier, and Cougar Brook, passing several spectacular falls including Bear, Goat, Whistler, Gopher, and Douglas. The alpine meadows in the Upper Cougar Valley are carpeted with wild flowers, presenting a riot of colour. Other trails wind through the primitive wilderness, by the edge of the tiny mountain tarns, past cataracts, along the rim of canyons, through wild mountain passes up to the very edge of the eternal snows.

The following is a list of some of the principal trails in the park showing their name, location, and length in miles:

Name	Location	Length in Miles
Rogers Pass	From Glacier Station to Stoney Creek	10
Nakimu Caves and Cougar Valley Hermit	From Glacier Station westerly along old "Tally Ho" road	6
Balu Pass	From Rogers Pass Trail to Alpine Hut on Hermit Mountain	2
Glacier-Flat Creek	From Rogers Pass to Nakimu Caves — The Cougar Valley Trail	4
Mount Abbott	From Glacier Station to Marion Lake and shoulder of Mount Abbott	6
Asulkan Pass	From Glacier Station south along Asulkan Brook	7
Glacier Crest	From Asulkan Pass Trail easterly to a point overlooking the Illecillewaet Glacier and nève	2
Great Glacier	From Asulkan Pass Trail south-easterly along Illecillewaet River to the foot of Illecillewaet Glacier	2
Sir Donald	From Glacier Station southeast on north side of Illecillewaet River to Vaux Glacier at base of Mount Sir Donald	3.5
Avalanche Crest	From Glacier Station to base of Mount Avalanche	3.5
Beaver River	From Stoney Creek — South on Beaver River	25
Grizzly Creek and Bald Mountain	From Grizzly Creek Bridge on the Beaver River Trail easterly to west side of Copperstain Creek, thence south to park boundary	9
Bostock Creek	From Flat Creek Warden's cabin northwesterly to the head of Bostock Creek and the west boundary of the park	7
Flat Creek	From Flat Creek Warden's cabin south to head of Flat Creek	6
Incomappleux River	From Flat Creek Pass south along Slick Creek to the Incomappleux River to the south boundary of the park	7



Mount Macdonald from Rogers Pass Trail, Glacier National Park.

