

JASPER NATIONAL PARK
Winter Trails Guide

Canada

Winter, the season to play in...

Welcome to winter in Jasper National Park. Whether you're here for a family adventure, or a relaxing getaway, there's no better way to experience this pristine mountain landscape than on foot. Lace up your boots, wax up your skis, strap on a pair of snowshoes and enjoy one of our many winter trails.



Trail Grooming Info

Cross-country ski trails are groomed regularly and on a priority basis.

HIGH GROOMING PRIORITY:
Whistlers, Whirlpool and Leach Lake
Pyramid Fire Road

LOWER GROOMING PRIORITY:
Pipeline, Geraldine Road, Wabasso
Campground, Summit Lakes
and Cavell Road

Check and report on trail conditions at the Information Centre:
780-852-6176 • www.pc.gc.ca/jaspertrails

Concerning dogs...

Dogs are welcome on a number of groomed ski trails in the park. However, to allow the track to set, please keep dogs off trails that are freshly groomed. And remember, be considerate and pick up after your pet.

Snowshoe, Hikes and other Winter Delights

Most of the hiking and snowshoeing trails outlined in the guide follow the summer hiking trails. As a general rule, if there is fresh snow, conditions may be better suited for snowshoeing; if the snow is old and well-travelled, it may be better for hiking. Remember, please do not hike or snowshoe on groomed ski trails.

10 SIGNAL FIRE ROAD (MAP D)  

9 km one way snowshoeing
Higher elevation usually means better snow. This gradual climb, along the shoulder of Signal Mountain, meanders through pine forest under open canopy. If you're really keen, you can reach the alpine!

11 PYRAMID BENCH (MAP D)   

Variable distance and terrain snowshoeing
Starting from the Pyramid Riding Stables, work your way towards the edge of the bench on the Trail 2 system. The views of the valley and the townsite are stunning. Take advantage of the multiple trails and mix it up a bit.

12 WAPITI CAMPGROUND (MAP D)   

Variable distance and terrain hiking
Bring the family and the dog! Nestled along the Athabasca River, this area is packed for winter hiking with a chance for Fido to hone his winter skills.

13 TRAIL 7 (MAP D)  

Variable distance and terrain hiking
From the Old Fort Point trail head, this level trail flows with the Athabasca River and into the Jasper Park Lodge. If you're feeling ambitious, bring your skates along and glide across Mildred Lake. Treat yourself to some hot chocolate at the canteen.

Directory

EMERGENCY

Dial 911
Cell phones are not always reliable
780-852-3100 (satellite)

JASPER INFORMATION CENTRE

Winter hours: Monday-Thursday 10:00 am - 4:00 pm
Friday and Saturday 9:00 am - 5:00 pm
Closed during the lunch hour.
780-852-6176 • Location: 500 Connaught Drive

GENERAL

Jasper weather: 780-852-3185
Road conditions: 780-852-3311
www.ama.ab.ca/road-reports/highways
Parks Canada website: www.pc.gc.ca/jasper
Jasper trail conditions report:
www.pc.gc.ca/jaspertrails

TOURISM JASPER
Hours of operation: 9:00 am - 5:00 pm
780-852-3858 • www.jasper.travel

MAPS AND GUIDE BOOKS
Friends of Jasper National Park:
780-852-4767 • www.friendsofjasper.com
Location: 500 Connaught Drive

Également offert en français
PRINTED 01-2012
PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER

EASY TRAILS

1 WHISTLERS CAMPGROUND (MAP A) HIGH GROOMING PRIORITY   

4.5 km loop classic or skate
This trail is ideal for beginners and families, or for those looking for a conditioning track. Take a break at one of the ski-in fire sites in Marmot Meadows for a wiener roast or a campfire sing-along!
Lights on Thurs-Sat. until 9:00pm.



2 PIPELINE TRAIL (MAP D) LOW GROOMING PRIORITY  

5.5 km one way classic
Gentle terrain, with subtle ups and downs. It is often a few degrees colder here.

3 WABASSO CAMPGROUND (MAP D) LOW GROOMING PRIORITY   

Outer loop: 3.6 km
Internal loops (from west to east)
A: 0.7 km, B: 0.6 km, C: 0.7 km, D: 0.8 km
classic or skate

Popular with families and dogs, this area provides a medley of options for all ski enthusiasts. Gentle terrain, with a beautiful section of classic trail alongside the Athabasca River.

7 SUMMIT LAKES (MAP D) LOW GROOMING PRIORITY  

4.8 km one way classic
Meander along Beaver Creek, through fragrant pine forest. This old road bed provides gentle terrain, passing Beaver Lake and on to Summit Lakes.

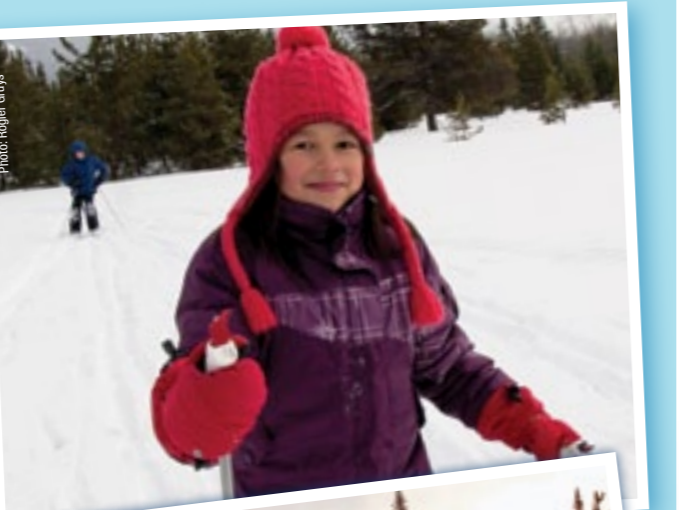
MODERATE TRAILS

4 WHIRLPOOL TRAIL (MAP B) HIGH GROOMING PRIORITY   

9.0 km one way classic or skate (EASY-MODERATE)
Gentle terrain brings you from the parking lot to a junction at km 2.0—stay right and continue along this easy section until km 5.8, where the terrain begins to roll. Beyond this point the snow tends to improve as you climb towards Moab Lake.

5 LEACH LAKE TRAIL (MAP B) HIGH GROOMING PRIORITY   

10.5 km one way classic or skate
Also known as the *sunny side*, this trail brings you to sparkling Leach Lake. Near Athabasca Falls, you'll be rewarded with dramatic views of Mount Hardisty and Kerkeslin.



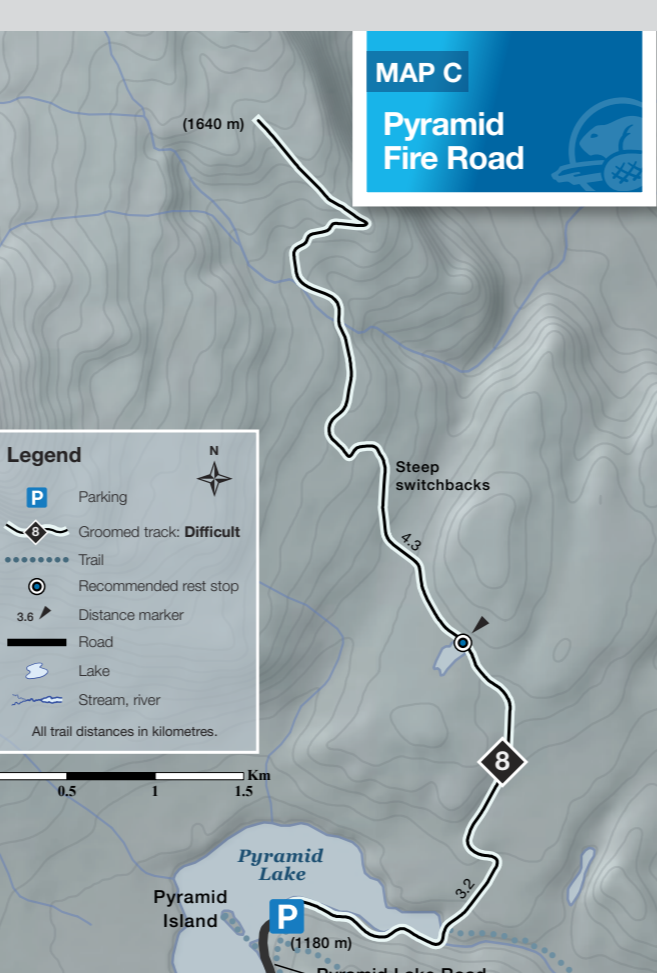
DIFFICULT TRAILS




6 GERALDINE ROAD (MAP B) LOW GROOMING PRIORITY   

5.9 km one way classic or skate
This winding road definitely has its ups and downs. You'll build up a sweat as you climb, but don't forget to bring an extra layer for the ski down towards Mt. Kerkeslin, which will have you "yippping" all the way.

8 PYRAMID FIRE ROAD (MAP C) HIGH GROOMING PRIORITY   

15 km return classic or skate
As you travel along the shoulder of Pyramid Mountain, you may want to catch your breath at one of the recommended rest stops, only to have it taken away by the stunning views.



9 CAVELL ROAD (MAP D) LOW GROOMING PRIORITY   

11.6 km (to the Edith Cavell Hostel) classic or skate
Are you ready for a workout? This winding road brings you up along the Astoria River Valley. The viewpoints make you feel like you're on top of the world! **Contact the Information Centre for opening dates.**

TRAIL INFORMATION



Although snow can fall any time of year, optimal skiing and snowshoeing runs from Mid-December to early April. Lower elevations in the park may be available for hiking year round.

Trail Report

Get the latest information on trail conditions by checking trail reports online: www.pc.gc.ca/jaspertrails and at the Information Centre. The report is updated as conditions change and includes a rating and a grooming report.

Trail Etiquette

- Please respect dog restrictions and closures
- Do not walk or snowshoe on groomed ski tracks
- Skiers going downhill have the right-of-way
- Keep to the right when meeting oncoming skiers
- When resting or visiting, move off the trail
- When passing say "track please" and pass on left side
- Pack out all your garbage

Winter Wildlife

Winter offers a unique glimpse at wildlife as prints in the snow reveal the story of their movements. Learn how to identify a few tracks and find out whose habitat you're sharing. It is a challenge for wildlife to survive in the winter, but you can help make it easier by giving them lots of space.



Safety Considerations

Planning

- Visit the Jasper Information Centre
- Study trail information before starting
- Choose a trail suitable for your group
- Check weather forecast and trail conditions
- Do not travel alone
- Tell somebody where you are going, when you'll be back and who to call if you don't return (see directory)
- Be prepared for sudden weather changes
- Trails are not patrolled – use them at your own risk

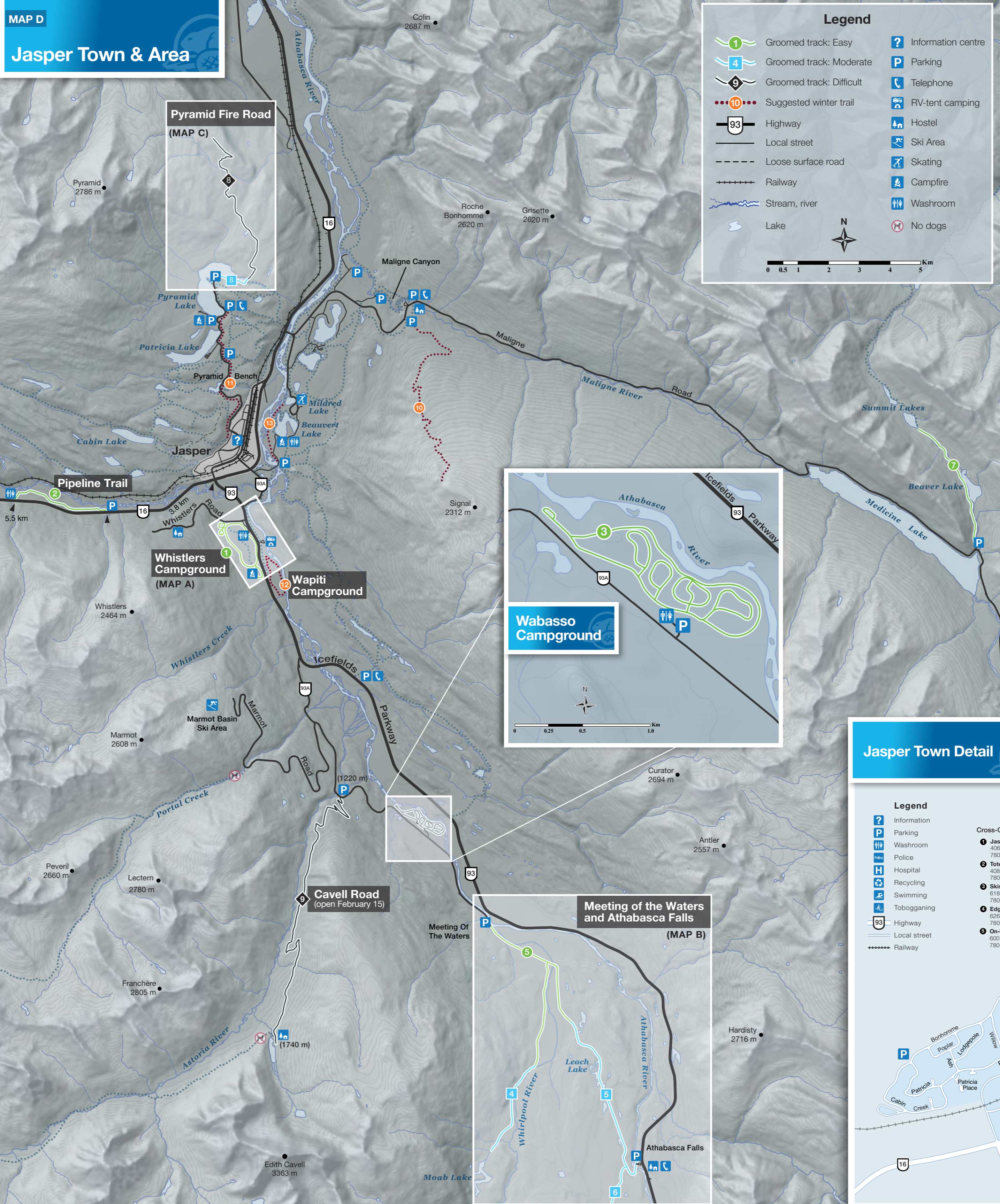
What to Bring

- Trail guide and map
- Water bottle, thermos and high energy food
- Sunscreen and sunglasses
- First aid kit
- Headlamp or flashlight
- Extra clothes
- Waterproof matches or lighter
- Ski wax, cork and scraper
- Camera and binoculars



Avalanches

If you are planning to travel in areas beyond these trails, you may be in avalanche terrain. For information about a trail you are considering, contact the Jasper Information Centre, consult the Avalanche Terrain Exposure Scale at: www.avalanche.ca, and read the Jasper daily avalanche bulletin at: www.pc.gc.ca/avalanche



Our Suggested Itineraries

Want to squeeze in an hour of snowshoeing after lunch? Kids starting to get a little squirrely indoors? Here's a menu of fun winter activities, sorted by time required:

1 hour adventure

Grab the kids and pop out to Mildred Lake for some ice skating fun – Jasper Park Lodge even hosts a bonfire and a small concession stand.

Close to town, Whistlers Campground offers some great beginner tracks to tackle with classic or skate skis.

The gentle slopes of Centennial Park are a great toboggan run for tots and teens alike.

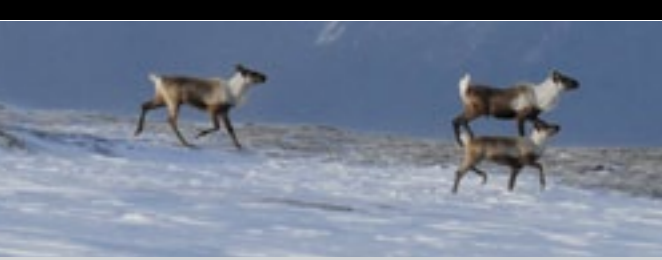
3 hours of fun

Head up to the Pyramid bench for some fresh air – rent snowshoes in town or just explore on foot.

Have a furry friend along with you? Check out dog-friendly Wabasso Campground, which is a great spot for classic skiing.

Hoping to get your heart rate up? Head over to the Pyramid Fire Road for a ski adventure where you'll gain some serious vertical feet.

Caribou



Woodland Caribou are a threatened species in Canada. If you want to support caribou conservation efforts, the best choice is to avoid caribou habitat in winter as your ski or snowshoe tracks could inadvertently lead wolves into these relatively inaccessible areas.

For information about a trail you are considering, contact the Jasper Information Centre: **780-852-6176**, or www.pc.gc.ca/caribou

Jasper Town Detail

