

# Activity Guide & Trail Map 2018

## Top 5 Park Activities

- A DAY OF DISCOVERY**  
Experience hands on learning for all-ages at the Nature Centre! See, read, and learn about the Indigenous cultures and languages of this landscape.
- WASKESIU GEOCACHE**  
Learn about the park's natural and cultural heritage while exploring the townsite of Waskesiu. Borrow GPS units at the Nature Centre for an afternoon of fun!
- UNFENCED. UNEXPECTED. UNFORGETTABLE.**  
Perk your ears and listen for the thundering hooves of plains bison as you hike, bike, or horseback ride along the expanded Valleyview Trail Network.
- FIND YOUR SPOT IN THE SUN**  
Pack a picnic and spend the day at one of the six sandy beaches with marked swim areas on Waskesiu Lake.
- TAKE THE SCENIC ROUTE - HIGHWAY #263**  
Explore the length of the park's transition zone from aspen parkland to boreal forest. Keep your camera ready for wildlife sightings!

### Mark Your Calendar

- July 1 Canada Day
- July 21 Waskesiu Children's Festival
- August 24 - 26 Waskesiu Lakeside Music Festival

For a full list of events, visit [parks.canada.gc.ca/princealbert](http://parks.canada.gc.ca/princealbert)

## Waskesiu

**Parks Canada's Infrastructure Program**

When visiting or driving through Prince Albert National Park, you may encounter one or more construction zones or reduced services while work is being completed. Please plan ahead before you travel to avoid inconvenience.

Projects underway in 2018 include:

- Grey Owl Trail and site rehabilitation
- Kingsmere day-use area
- Kingsmere railcart system
- Campground revitalization

For more information contact the Visitor Centre (1-306-663-4522 or [panp.info@pc.gc.ca](mailto:panp.info@pc.gc.ca)) and check the Prince Albert National Park Important Bulletins at [parks.canada.gc.ca/princealbert](http://parks.canada.gc.ca/princealbert)

**Legend**

- 1 Waskesiu Recreation Centre and Chamber of Commerce
- 2 Community Hall
- 3 Nature Centre
- 4 Operations Centre
- 5 Terrace Gardens
- The Rock
- Red Deer Trails
- Fisher Trail
- Disc Golf
- RCMP
- Dog-friendly beach
- Dogs prohibited
- First Aid
- Lawn Bowling
- Recycling Depot
- Sani-Dump Station
- Tennis
- Visitor Centre
- Washrooms
- Playground
- Ask ? staff for picnic shelter and additional parking locations in Waskesiu

**NO DRONE ZONE!**  
All Parks Canada places are "no drone zones" for recreational use. Please leave your drone at home and enjoy Prince Albert National Park from the ground!

## Contact Information

### Visitor Centre - Open Daily

1-306-663-4522  
[panp.info@pc.gc.ca](mailto:panp.info@pc.gc.ca)  
[parks.canada.gc.ca/princealbert](http://parks.canada.gc.ca/princealbert) @ParksCanada SK

**Toll-free National General Information Line:**  
1-888-773-8888

**Parks Canada Campground Reservation Service:**  
1-877-737-3783  
[reservation.parks.canada.gc.ca](http://reservation.parks.canada.gc.ca)

### Emergency

Dial 9-1-1 RCMP, Fire, and Ambulance  
1-877-852-3100 For all other calls (Parks Canada Dispatch)

### Batoche National Historic Site

**NEW!** Rent a canoe at Batoche National Historic Site, only 1 hour south of the City of Prince Albert.  
[parks.canada.gc.ca/batoche](http://parks.canada.gc.ca/batoche)

## Top 5 Summer Programs

- DISCOVER AQUATIC ANIMALS**  
Explore the underwater forest and discover inhabitants that prefer lake living.
- HOME AND HEARTH**  
Cook bannock over an open fire and learn about indigenous tools, toys, medicines, and legends.
- BE BEAR AWARE**  
What would you do if you met a bear? The do's & don'ts in Bear Country.
- WILD WOLVES OF WASKESIU**  
Join in the campfire for a tail wagging and tongue swagging time to learn the wild ways of the wolf.
- ART IN THE PARK**  
Paint, craft and learn about the wilderness around you. A great program to help you tap into your creative side!

### More Activities

- Pick up an Xplorers or Club Parka booklet at the Nature Centre or Visitor Centre. At the end of your visit, present your booklet at the Nature Centre or Visitor Centre to receive a souvenir!
- Download the *My Photo Missions* app and snap pictures as Parka helps you explore the park.
- Prince Albert National Park is open year-round! Experience four seasons of family fun.

**Program and Event Details**  
[parks.canada.gc.ca/princealbert](http://parks.canada.gc.ca/princealbert) or [wrsask](mailto:wrsask)

## Wildlife Viewing Tips

- Dawn and dusk are the best times to view wildlife. During summer, many animals escape the midday heat by staying among the trees.
- Get wet! Moose and waterfowl are active in rainy weather.
- Be patient! Stop and look around, kick back and wait to see what will wander by.

### Stay Safe and Protect Wildlife

- Keep a safe distance from all wildlife. If an animal notices you by lifting its head, looking at you or listening to you, you are too close and should back away.
- Travelling in groups and making noise will let wildlife know you are nearby.
- Late summer and early fall is elk and bison mating season; be especially aware of wildlife along trails at this time.
- If you encounter elk, moose or bison on a trail make yourself known by singing a song or whistling a tune. Walk slowly around them at a safe distance or return the way you came.
- Do not feed wildlife;** they have a greater rate of survival and are healthier when they feed on natural food.
- Keep your pet on a leash and under physical control at all times. Dogs can provoke defensive behaviour in bears and other wildlife.
- Read *Bear Country* and *Bison Country* brochures; available at any park facility.

## Frontcountry Camping

LOCATION	FRONTCOUNTRY CAMPGROUNDS - VEHICLE ACCESSIBLE				
	RED DEER	BEAVER GLEN	NARROWS	NAMEKUS LAKE	SANDY LAKE
Waskesiu townsite	Northern edge of Waskesiu townsite	25 km NW of Waskesiu	10 km S of Waskesiu	35 km S of Waskesiu	
161 pull-through sites	200 electrified back-in sites, 10 oTENTik's	78 back-in, 8 pull-through	14 back-in, 6 walk-in sites	25 back-in, 6 walk-in sites	
RESERVATIONS	1-877-737-3783*	1-877-737-3783*	Self-registration	Self-registration	Self-registration
POWER	✓	✓			
WATER	✓	Central tap			
SEWER	✓				
FLUSH TOILETS		✓	✓		
SHOWER	✓				
SEWAGE DISPOSAL		✓		12 km N	3 km S
FIRE PITS	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
PIT TOILETS		✓	✓	✓	✓
SPECIAL FEATURES	Short walk to main beach	Short walk to Beaver Glen beach	Marina close by	Non-motorized watercraft only	Boat launch and beach

*There is an alcohol restriction in effect in frontcountry campgrounds on all long weekends.*

\* Reservation website: [reservation.parks.canada.gc.ca](http://reservation.parks.canada.gc.ca)

Contact the Waskesiu Chamber of Commerce for information on commercial accommodations 1-306-663-5410 or [WaskesiuLake.ca](http://WaskesiuLake.ca)

## Backcountry Camping

Pack your tent and stay at one of 15 designated backcountry campgrounds. Enjoy all the wonders of the backcountry with the benefits of a few simple comforts. Campgrounds are complete with picnic tables, pit toilets, firewood, fire pits, and bear-proof food caches (some exclusions at Camp and Fish Lake campgrounds). For the experienced adventurer, try random backcountry camping. With over 3800<sup>2</sup> kms of protected, unspoiled wilderness, outdoor enthusiasts have an endless opportunity to experience the beauty of Prince Albert National Park.

### Backcountry Basics

**Register:** All overnight visitors must register at the ? on the day of arrival. Sites are not reservable.

**Fees:** Backcountry fees apply where facilities and services are offered.

#### Safety:

- Check the weather, trail and fire conditions before heading into the backcountry.
- Pack appropriate equipment, extra drinking water and food in case you're out longer than anticipated.
- Before your trip, please read the *Bear Country* brochure.
- Take a map, compass and first aid kit.
- REMEMBER - cell phone coverage is variable throughout the park. Do not rely on it.
- Prepare a trip plan and leave it with a responsible adult before heading out.
- For additional resources: [AdventureSmart.ca](http://AdventureSmart.ca)

**Random Backcountry:** You must camp farther than 2 kms from any public highway, maintained trail, or designated campground. On Waskesiu, Kingsmere, Ajawaan, Bagwa, Lily, Clare, Crean, Hanging Heart and Lost lakes, you must camp at a designated backcountry campground.

### Grey Owl's Cabin

Challenge yourself with the park's most popular backcountry route. Paddle, hike or bike to where Grey Owl, one of Canada's great conservationists, once lived.

**Where to Start:** A 45-minute-drive from Waskesiu Lake to Kingsmere parking lot.

**Trail Distance:** 19.9 km one way (4-6 hours)

**By Water:** 3-5 hours and a 0.5 km portage or 3 km hike  
2 hours and 3 km hike

All watercraft must use a 1 km rail portage to access Kingsmere Lake. Pick up a copy of *Routes To Grey Owl's Cabin* at the ? for details. A *Bagwa Canoe Route* brochure is also available.

## Picnic and Beach Areas

**HEAD FOR THE BEACH!**  
Groomed sandy beaches, picnic shelters, and fire pits are ready for your enjoyment. Pack a picnic, your swimsuit, and spend the day with friends and family at:

- Waskesiu Beach
- Birch Bay
- South Bay
- Paignton Beach
- Point View
- Trippes Beach

### More picnic areas and beaches in the park:

- Namekus Lake
- Sandy Lake
- Clean Lake
- Kingsmere Lake

### Pets are welcome!

Help ensure your safety, the safety of your pet as well as that of other visitors and wildlife by keeping your pet on a leash and under physical control at all times. Dogs are allowed on most beaches, except for those with buoyed swimming areas.

## Fishing

Experience northern Saskatchewan fishing at its finest by casting into the cool waters of the park. Each lake offers a different experience, so grab the whole family and make a day of it.

### Fish species found in the park:

- northern pike
- walleye
- lake trout
- perch
- white fish

**Prince Albert National Park fishing licenses are available for purchase at the Visitor Centre, entry gates, campground kiosks, or any of the marinas.** Contact the Visitor Centre to learn more about lake trout fishing regulations and to pick up your lake trout endorsement.

### Clean, Drain, and Dry!

Preventing the spread of aquatic invasive species starts with you! Clean, drain, and dry your vessel whenever you leave a body of water to minimize the risk of spreading aquatic invasives.

Get the 2018 Summer Program from the Visitor Centre.

# Trails



## Hiking

With over 150 km of trails, Prince Albert National Park is Saskatchewan's premiere hiking destination.

Want to learn more about the world/nature around you? Check out the self-guided trail brochures available at Boundary Bog, Mud Creek and Treebeard trailheads.



## Biking

Jump on your bike and cycle along the many trails in the park. The Red Deer Trail is a perfect option located just outside Waskesiu. For the more adventurous, head to the West Side and cruise down the trails in search of plains bison.

Highway #263 lends itself naturally to bike touring. Quiet and resurfaced, this roadway is jam-packed with scenic diversity, wildlife, and points of interest. Wear bright clothing and make yourself visible to motorists.



## Horseback Riding

Escape the hustle and bustle of the daily grind along one of our horse-friendly trails.

Bring your own horse or contact the ? for information on horseback riding outfitters in the surrounding area.

## TRAIL SAFETY

- Register at the ? prior to all overnight backcountry trips.
- Trails and beaches are not patrolled; use them at your own risk.
- Watch for slippery or broken boardwalk on trails.
- Respect area and trail closures.
- Wildlife encounters are possible, please use caution.
- Always take emergency gear! Be Adventure Smart: [www.adventuresmart.ca](http://www.adventuresmart.ca)

For up-to-date trail conditions visit our website: [www.parksCanada.gc.ca/princealbert](http://www.parksCanada.gc.ca/princealbert)

## Paddling



The best seat in the house! Your canoe or kayak provides a unique vantage point to watch wildlife and explore the water. It is a great low-impact way to discover the natural wonders of the park. High water levels in spring make it the perfect time to enjoy the rivers. Paddle routes are not maintained; use them at your own risk.

### Day Paddles

NAME	ROUTE	LENGTH (one way)
AMISKOWAN LAKE	Amiskowan Lake to Shady Lake	1-2 hours
KING ISLAND	Trippes Beach to King Island	.5 hour
WASKESIU RIVER	Waskesiu River to Waskesiu Lake Waskesiu River to Highway #2	5 hour 4-7 hours
SPRUCE RIVER	Spruce River on Hwy #263 to Anglin Lake	1.5 hour
HANGING HEART LAKES	Hanging Heart Lakes to Crean Lake	3 hours

### Overnight Paddles

Remember to register at the ? for all overnight stays

NAME	ROUTE	DAYS
BAGWA	Kingsmere Lake/Bagwa route	2
GREY OWL'S CABIN	Kingsmere Lake/Ajawaan Lake	2-3
CREAN LAKE	Hanging Heart Lakes/Crean Lake	2-3
TIBISKA LAKE	MacLennan River/Tibiska Lake	3-4

## Legend

- Hiking
- Biking
- Horseback Riding
- Lookout
- Viewing Tower
- Visitor Centre
- Washrooms
- Wheelchair Access
- Self-guided Trail
- Easy
- Moderate
- Difficult

## The Scenic Route Highway #263 (paved, no shoulders)

- Shady Lake Trail** 1.7 km loop, stairs span a vertical of 45 m  
**Start:** 8 km from ? on Highway #263  
Hike down towards the lake in a counter-clockwise direction. East of the lake, a 1-km spur brings you to the 15-m-high Height-of-Land Tower.
- Height-of-Land Tower** Staircase, 60 m one way  
**Start:** 8.5 km from ? on Highway #263  
Climb the 15-m tower for a view of Shady Lake and the mixed-forest canopy. This tower sits on the divide between the Churchill and Saskatchewan rivers.
- Spruce River Highlands Trail** 8.5 km loop  
**Start:** 29 km from ? on Highway #263  
Ascend the path for 0.7 km and climb to the top of a 10-m tower. Below, the Spruce River meanders through a characteristically glacial landscape. The hills of the aspen parkland are radiant in their fall foliage. The trail then passes through rolling terrain providing great viewing opportunities of Anglin Lake.
- Freight Tait Springs Trail** 2 km one way  
**Start:** 29.5 km from ? on Highway #263  
Early freighters stopped at this natural spring to rest and replenish water supplies. The spring water spills over its banks and flows onward to the Spruce River. The iron-rich springs are interesting to explore but take care not to harm this sensitive area.
- Elk Trail** Trailhead to Fish Lake 13 km one way  
• Horse wagon access  
Trailhead to Camp Lake 15 km one way  
**Start:** 40 km from ? on Highway #263  
Walk through tall aspen stands, see views of Sandy Lake, and discover small wilderness lakes.

## Cookson Road (gravel, narrow, no shoulders, hills & curves)

- Hunters Lake Trail** 12 km one way  
**Start:** 16 km west of South Gate on Cookson Road  
This trail offers a challenging experience including some steep hills and exposed rocks along the trail.

## Valleyview Trail Network

The following are four exploration options. The trails provide access to fescue grasslands where free-roaming plains bison are sometimes seen.

- Valleyview Lookout Trail** 200 m one way  
**Start:** Valleyview day use area  
This short wheelchair accessible hike takes you to the Valleyview picnic site. Enjoy beautiful views of the Sturgeon River Valley.
- Valleyview Easy Loop** 4.1 km loop  
**Start:** Valleyview day use area  
Great for families, this short trail leads users through aspen forest.
- Stoney Plain Meadow Spur** 1 km one way  
**Start:** 1 km from parking lot  
Follow a marked route through Stoney Plain Meadow, a native fescue grassland. Look for wildflowers throughout the summer months.
- Valleyview Moderate Loop** 8 km loop  
**Start:** Valleyview day use area  
Follows the Valleyview Trail along the crest of the Sturgeon River Valley and through aspen forest. There are many great views and opportunities for random backcountry camping along the way.
- Valleyview Difficult Loop** 24.5 km loop  
**Start:** Valleyview day use area  
Follows the entire length of the Valleyview Trail with many great lookouts over the Sturgeon River Valley. This trail goes through Jonassons Flats, a native fescue grassland. This trail also provides access to Sturgeon Lookout.
- Amyot Lake Trail Spur** 2 km one way  
**Start:** 5.2 km from parking lot along the Valleyview Trail Network  
Explore sedge meadows where free-roaming plains bison sometimes graze. Enjoy great waterfowl viewing opportunities and the scenic Amyot Lake.  
Horse wagon accessible.

## The Narrows Road (gravel, narrow)

- Mud Creek Trail** 2 km loop  
**Start:** 4.5 km down the Narrows Road, access at South Bay day-use area  
The trail skirts the lake and then follows Mud Creek. An active beaver lodge and dam can be seen on the creek. In the spring, spawning fish attract black bears to the area.
- Treebeard Trail** 1.2 km loop  
**Start:** 17.6 km down the Narrows Road  
Ascend the steep, winding trail through a white spruce and balsam fir forest. The trees along this path are among the oldest and largest in the park. As you descend, watch for a spur to the right. It leads to a small, fern-edged creek, dark and cool.

## Kingsmere Road (first 15 km paved with narrow shoulders, last 17.5 km gravel, no shoulders)

- Waskesiu River Trail** 6 km from ? on Kingsmere Road  
From the parking lot, walk towards the river and across the pedestrian bridge. Special displays are on exhibit along this boardwalk. The trail parallels the rock-filled river for 0.5 km before leaving the river's north shore to loop through aspen and spruce forests and a sedge meadow.
- Narrows Peninsula Trail** 3 km loop, staircase  
**Start:** 22 km from ? on Kingsmere Road  
This trail passes through a variety of habitats following the shore of Waskesiu Lake. Of particular interest is a spectacular fern bed, luxuriant and green in the early summer. In the 1880's a fur trade post was set up on the point by an independent trader.
- Kingsmere River Trail** 1.5 km one way, staircase  
**Start:** 32.5 km from ? on Kingsmere Road  
The trail crosses the river and follows a rail portage, then passes through a spruce forest and ends on the east side of the Southend Campground on Kingsmere Lake.
- Grey Owl Trail** 19.3 km one way  
**Start:** 32.5 km from ? on Kingsmere Road  
The trail follows the eastern shoreline of Kingsmere River until you reach a junction at 0.3 km. The trail to Grey Owl's cabin branches to the right. Kingsmere Lake becomes visible 1.5 km from this junction. From there, continue east along the shoreline.
- Westwind** 3.3 km one way
- Chipewyan Portage** 6.7 km one way
- Sandy Beach** 12.8 km one way
- Northend** 16.8 km one way
- Grey Owl's Cabin** 19.9 km one way

## Highway #264 (paved with shoulders)

- Boundary Bog Trail** 2 km loop  
**Start:** 4.5 km from ? on Highway #264  
Boundary Bog is an excellent representation of the many black spruce bogs that exist in the Park.
- Red Deer Trail** Three loops totalling 19 km  
**Red Loop**  
**Start:** At The Rock on the corner of Waskesiu Drive and Lakeview Drive.  
The Red Loop takes you 8.1 km through a variety of habitats from townsite to lakeshore through the rolling hills south of Waskesiu.  
**Yellow Loop**  
**Start:** At The Rock on the corner of Waskesiu Drive and Lakeview Drive.  
The Yellow Loop takes you 5.8 km through a variety of habitats from townsite through the Community Fuel Break and back along the lakeshore.  
**Blue Loop**  
**Start:** At the corner of Waskesiu Drive and Ajawaan Drive from Beaver Glen Road on the east side of the campground.  
The Blue Loop takes you 5.2 km around Beaver Glen Campground, through the rolling hills north of Waskesiu, then back along the shore of Waskesiu Lake. If you are walking, you may choose to leave the trail and walk on the beach from Kapaswin Bungalows to Orchid Street.
- Fisher Trail** 6.3 km loop  
**Start:** 1 km from ? south on Highway #264\*  
\*From parking lot, walk 250 m to the first trailhead or an additional 50 m to the second trailhead.  
Scenic and close to Waskesiu, this trail is great for hiking or biking through mixed woods, aspen stands and black spruce muskeg.

**Note:** Trail maintenance schedules can vary per trail. Before heading out, check up-to-date trail conditions on-line ([www.pc.gc.ca/princealbert](http://www.pc.gc.ca/princealbert)) or at the Visitor Centre.

## Map Legend

- Backcountry Camping
- Boat Launch
- Canoe Route
- Gravel Road
- Group Camping
- Lookout
- Marina
- Park Cabin
- Paved Road
- Picnic Area
- Picnic Shelter
- Sani-Dump Station
- Trailer/Tent Camping
- Viewing Tower
- Visitor Centre

For up to date trail conditions visit our website: [parksCanada.gc.ca/princealbert](http://parksCanada.gc.ca/princealbert)  
Topographical maps available for purchase at the ?

## THE ORIGINAL INDIGENOUS / HISTORIC NAME OF LAKES

- Lavallee Lake - Pelican Lake
- Waskesiu Lake - Red Deer Lake
- Wasaw Lake - Bays Lake
- Namekus Lake - Trout Lake
- Crean Lake - Big Trout Lake
- Sandy Lake - Hallett Lake
- Kingsmere Lake - Little Trout Lake

