

# Winter Guide & Trail Map 2020-2021



Aussi disponible en français.

## Winter Activities

### Cross-country Skiing

Pack a lunch and make a day of it! There are groomed trails for skate and classic skiing or you can choose your own route and venture off the beaten path.

See map for trail distances and difficulty levels.

Great networks of cross-country ski trails are also available at Elk Ridge Resort and Great Blue Heron Provincial Park.

### Snowshoeing

Inspired by nature and developed by Indigenous peoples throughout the global north, snowshoes are a way to become lighter on your feet in deep snow. So, think light on your toes like a lynx or a hare! Use extra caution when snowshoeing over ice.

Please do not snowshoe on groomed ski trails.

Caution: Boardwalk and stairs on any designated winter trail are not cleared of snow.

### Enclosed Picnic Shelter

Need a place to warm up and have lunch? The five enclosed shelters in the park offer the perfect sanctuary for a picnic!

- Main Beach across from the Visitor Centre
- Paignton Beach on the Narrows Road
- Birch Bay on Kingsmere Road
- Crean Day Use at end of Crean ski trail
- Southend on Kingsmere

### Fishing

Ice fishing season on Waskesiu Lake is open until March 31.

A valid Prince Albert National Park fishing license is required. Licenses can be purchased at the Visitor Centre.

### Winter Camping

Why not spend the night? The northern sky, solitude, and sense of adventure make a winter camping experience unlike any other.

Paignton Beach and Birch Bay are designated winter campgrounds with access to firewood, pit toilets, and enclosed shelters. Register at the Visitor Centre before any overnight excursions and for information on random winter camping.

#### ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES

- Road shinny nets available at the Hawood Inn
- Fat biking on Narrows Road



## Trail Conditions

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

### Ski Trail Etiquette

- Skiers descending have the right of way.
- Move off the trail when resting or visiting.
- Pack out all garbage.
- Do not walk, snowshoe, or bike on groomed ski trails.

### Dogs are Welcome

- Keep your pet on a leash and under control while you hit the trail, for your safety and that of wildlife and other visitors.
- Please keep dogs off ski trails that are freshly groomed to allow the track to set.



## Safety

### What to Bring

- ✓ Trail guide, map, and compass
- ✓ Signalling, navigational, and communication devices
- ✓ First aid kit
- ✓ Pocket knife
- ✓ Additional warm clothing
- ✓ Flashlight or headlamp
- ✓ Emergency blankets
- ✓ Food and water for 48 hours
- ✓ Sun protection
- ✓ Fire starter

### Planning

- Research your trip and ask park staff for advice if needed.
- Check the weather forecast and road conditions.
- Have a travel itinerary and inform someone of your plans.
- Study trail information and choose one suitable for your group.
- Travel with a partner or in a group.
- Be prepared for sudden weather changes.
- Trails are not patrolled – help may be more than 24 hours away.
- Remember, overnight stays must be registered with the park at the Visitor Centre.

Visit [Adventuresmart.ca](http://Adventuresmart.ca) for more safety tips and trip planning resources.

### REMEMBER!



Be extremely cautious when travelling over lakes, rivers, and boggy areas as ice thickness can vary over a short distance.



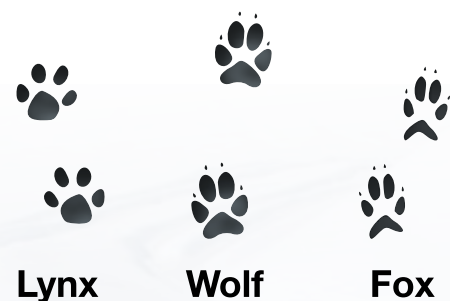
Fuel up your vehicle and pack emergency equipment including flashlight, extra blankets, booster cables, candles, and waterproof matches or lighter. Keep batteries warm to preserve power.



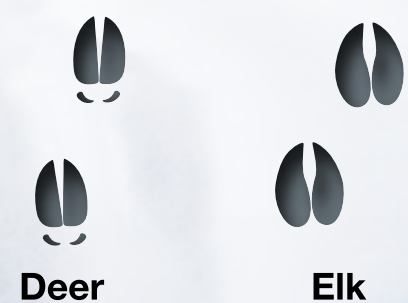
Cell phone coverage is variable throughout the park. Do not rely on your cell phone or other electronic devices.

## View Wildlife

Winter is a great time of year to view wildlife and their tracks. Elk, white-tailed deer, moose, red fox, wolf, and lynx are some of the larger mammals you may see. Watch for otter, fisher, marten, snowshoe hare, and weasel. Bird watchers may enjoy seeing over 30 species of birds that make Prince Albert National Park their winter home.



Lynx Wolf Fox



Deer Elk



Hare



## Wildlife Viewing Opportunities

- Take a drive along the many scenic roadways.
- Look carefully across the frozen lakes for wolves.
- Visit the Narrows of Waskesiu Lake where otters often play in the open waters. Be cautious and stay off the ice – it is very thin.



## FAMILY Forest Walk

Walking or snowshoeing, follow the winding path through snow-covered trees, and discover the park's winter residents. Visit the Family Forest Walk after dawn and experience the trail lighting up! Don't forget to bring your activity pamphlet, available at the Visitor Centre. Located behind Recycling Depot in Waskesiu.



## 2020-21 Winter Events

### CHRISTMAS TREE HARVEST

December 1 - December 23

Start a new family tradition and cut down your own Christmas tree in the Waskesiu Community Fuel Break. Pick up your free tree permit and map at the Visitor Centre. Help protect the community of Waskesiu from wildfire.

For more information about the Christmas tree harvest and to obtain a permit, call the Visitor Centre: 1-306-663-4522.

Most activities are FREE with a valid park pass



## Visitor Centre

OPEN DAILY!

- Register for overnight stays
- Pick up:
  - Park entry passes
  - Fishing licenses
  - Brochures
  - Parks Canada official merchandise



## Services

### Visitor Centre

1-306-663-4522

The Prince Albert National Park Visitor Centre, located in Waskesiu, is open year-round. Friendly staff are available to help with trail conditions, planning a winter camping excursion, and information about upcoming events.

### Accommodation and Dining

#### WASKESIU

- Chateau Park Chalets 1-306-663-5556
- Lost Creek Resort 1-866-663-8622
- The Hawood Inn 1-877-441-5544

#### SURROUNDING AREA

- Elk Ridge Resort 1-800-510-1824

### Gas Station

In winter, the nearest gas station to Waskesiu is LT's Food & Fuel. It is approximately 15 km from Waskesiu at the junction of Highway 2 and Highway 264.

## FREE Equipment

Available for loan at the Hawood Inn on a first-come first-served basis:

- Chariot strollers with ski attachments
- Cross-country skis
- Snowshoes



## Directory

### Visitor Centre

Sunday to Thursday  
8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Friday & Saturday  
8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Hours may vary  
Closed December 25 & 26

1-306-663-4522  
[pc.princealbertinfo.pc@canada.ca](mailto:pc.princealbertinfo.pc@canada.ca)  
[pc.gc.ca/princealbert](http://pc.gc.ca/princealbert)  
[@ParksCanada\\_SK](https://twitter.com/ParksCanada_SK)

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

### Emergency

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

### Road Conditions

[hotline.gov.sk.ca](http://hotline.gov.sk.ca)  
Toll-free across Canada: 1-888-335-7623  
SaskTel cell network: \*ROAD (\*7623)

### Get your Discovery Pass in person!

The Discovery Pass is your gateway to history, nature, and adventure. It provides unlimited admission for 12 full months at over 80 Parks Canada places.

# Prince Albert National Park Winter Trails

## Legend

- |  |                      |  |                          |
|--|----------------------|--|--------------------------|
|  | First Aid            |  | Viewpoint                |
|  | Visitor Centre       |  | Winter Camping           |
|  | Restaurant           |  | Parks Canada Merchandise |
|  | Gas Station          |  |                          |
|  | Enclosed Shelter     |  | Snowshoe Route           |
|  | Accommodation        |  | Cross-country Ski Trail  |
|  | Ice Rink             |  | Paved Road               |
|  | Cross-country Skiing |  | Gravel Road              |
|  | Skate Skiing         |  | Park Boundary            |
|  | Ice Fishing          |  | The Rock                 |
|  | Washrooms            |  |                          |
|  | Parking              |  |                          |

## Cross-country ski trails

(distance, difficulty, trail grooming)

**1** BEAVER GLEN

5.7 km loop, Easy, Classic & Skate Skiing

This trail parallels Waskesiu Drive then circles the Beaver Glen Campground. The Beaver Glen portion links to the Red Deer Yellow trail. The section of trail along Waskesiu Drive is lit for night skiing.

ACCESS: Lakeview Drive and Waskesiu Drive intersection

**2** WAPITI

8.5 km loop, Medium, Classic

A perennial favourite, this short trail follows the golf course. The course's rolling terrain makes for a great ski. Watch for chilly conditions on windy days.

ACCESS: Lakeview Drive and Waskesiu Drive intersection or south end of Montreal Drive

**3** RED DEER RED

6.9 km one way, Medium, Classic

This trail links Wapiti with the Fisher trail. The route, although gently rolling in many sections, has a few significant hills with challenging corners.

ACCESS: Wapiti Trail, Lakeview Drive and Waskesiu Drive intersection or Fisher Trail

**4** RED DEER YELLOW

2.8 km one way, Easy, Classic

This trail is linked to Red Deer Red, Fisher and Beaver Glen trails. The route is flat to gently rolling.

ACCESS: Lakeview Drive and Waskesiu Drive intersection

**5** FISHER

6.3 km loop or 8.9 km, Medium, Classic

This trail is great for a family outing; scenic and close to Waskesiu. The trail ventures through mixed woods, aspen stands and black spruce muskeg.

ACCESS: Adjacent to Highway 264 entrance to Waskesiu or Lakeview Drive and Waskesiu Drive intersection

**6** CREAN

19 km return, Easy, Classic & Skating

With long gentle slopes, this trail parallels the Heart Lakes following a patrol road. The trail passes through mature coniferous forest dotted with balsam fir before it reaches Crean Lake near its entrance to the Hanging Heart Lakes. Be cautious of thin ice on Crean Channel.

ACCESS: 500 m south of Birch Bay, 11 km north of Waskesiu on the Kingsmere Road.

**7** GREAT BLUE HERON PROVINCIAL PARK

Saskatchewan Parks maintains 18 km of groomed cross-country ski trails at Anglin Lake. From rolling hills to challenging slopes, these trails offer a variety of options for skiing. Trailhead parking is located at Jacobsen Bay Boat Launch off Highway 953 approximately 40 km from Waskesiu. A 1-kilometre-spur trail connects Spruce River Highlands Trail to 18km of ski trails in the Anglin Lake area.

For more information, visit [saskparks.com](http://saskparks.com) or contact the Great Blue Heron park office at 1-306-982-6250 or [greatblueheron@gov.sk.ca](mailto:greatblueheron@gov.sk.ca).

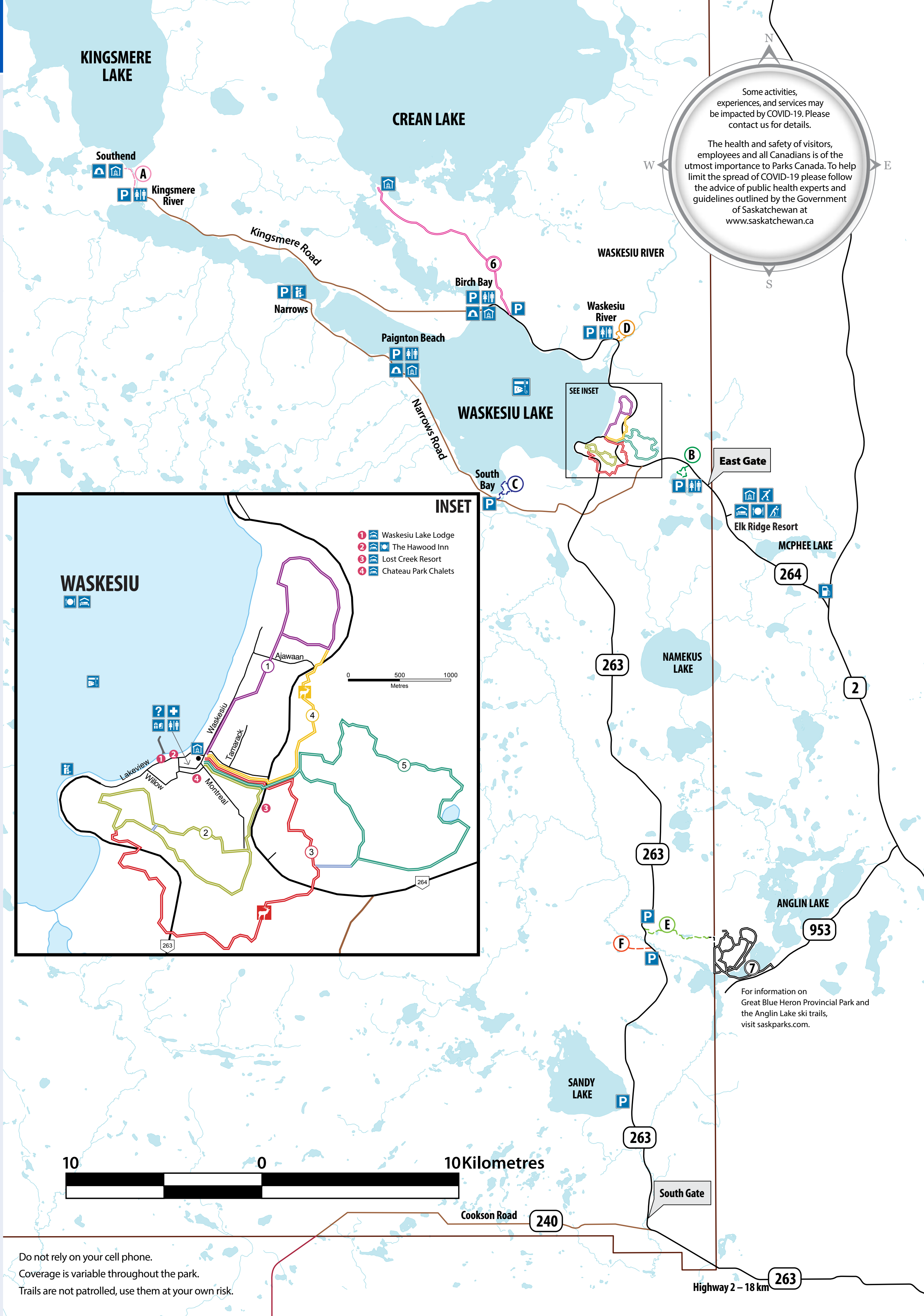
## Snowshoe Trails

- A** KINGSMERE RIVER – 1.5 km one way
- B** BOUNDARY BOG – 2 km loop
- C** MUD CREEK TRAIL – 2 km loop, access 450 m from the Narrows Road
- D** WASKESIU RIVER TRAIL – 2.5 km loop
- E** SPRUCE RIVER HIGHLANDS – 3.75 km one way, 1 km spur to Great Blue Heron Provincial Park ski trail. Note that this is a multi-use trail, and can be used for both snowshoeing and skiing.
- F** FREIGHT TAIT SPRINGS TRAIL – 2 km one way

Please do not walk, snowshoe, or bike on groomed ski trails.

**?** Visitor Centre: 1-306-663-4522  
 Emergency: Dial 9-1-1  
 Parks Canada Dispatch: 1-877-852-3100  
 Trail Conditions: [parkscanada.gc.ca/PANP-trail-conditions](http://parkscanada.gc.ca/PANP-trail-conditions)

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Some activities, experiences, and services may be impacted by COVID-19. Please contact us for details.

The health and safety of visitors, employees and all Canadians is of the utmost importance to Parks Canada. To help limit the spread of COVID-19 please follow the advice of public health experts and guidelines outlined by the Government of Saskatchewan at [www.saskatchewan.ca](http://www.saskatchewan.ca)

Do not rely on your cell phone. Coverage is variable throughout the park. Trails are not patrolled, use them at your own risk.

Highway 2 – 18 km **263**