



Enjoy accessible experiences and backcountry treks amid the northern boreal plains of Canada's first northern national park.

- See wood bison grazing by the roadside
- Stare into the cavernous Angus Sinkhole
- Taste Mother Nature's salt at the Salt Plains
- Become acquainted with Indigenous culture and history
- Wiggle your toes in the soothing clay at Grosbeak Lake
- Enjoy star gazing in the world's largest dark sky preserve
- Swim in the aquamarine waters of karst sinkholes at Pine Lake
- Enjoy a picnic at the Salt River Day Use Area or Pine Lake Recreation Area
- Listen to the joyful sounds of a community coming together at the annual Pine Lake Picnic

Safety Measures

- Always let someone know where you are going and when you plan to be back.
- Stay on the trails.
- Carry bear spray or noisemakers to deter bears. Bear safety information is available at the Visitor Centre.
- Never approach wood bison. They are most dangerous during rutting season from mid-July to September and cows can be protective of their young in early spring.
- If you see wildlife along the roads, stop at a safe distance and stay in your vehicle until they leave the area. Don't try to herd, harass or feed them.

How To Reach Us

Wood Buffalo National Park

Box 750
Fort Smith, NT.
X0E 0P0
Tel: (867) 872-7960
Fax: (867) 872-3910

Box 38
Fort Chipewyan, AB.
T0P 1B0
Tel: (780) 697-3662
Fax: (780) 697-3560

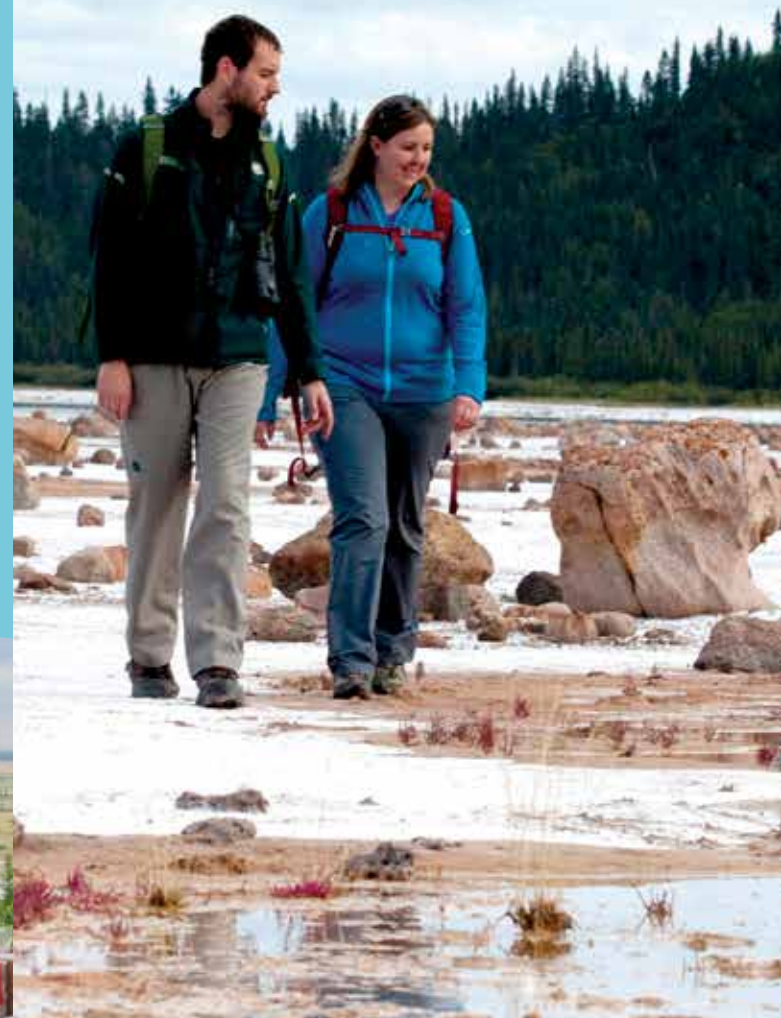
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Wood Buffalo
National Park

Experience Nature at Large



Experience the wonders of a UNESCO World Heritage Site and Canada's largest national park. Wood Buffalo National Park's 44,807 square kilometres sprawls across northern Alberta and part of the southern Northwest Territories. It's even bigger than Switzerland.

The park was created in 1922. It's now home to the world's largest free-roaming bison herd, the world's only natural whooping crane nesting site, the most northerly snake hibernacula in North America and the world's second largest inland freshwater delta. Four North American flyways converge over the Peace-Athabasca Delta, where birds pass through each spring and fall on their migration route.



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

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



Wood Buffalo National Park
inscribed on the World
Heritage List in 1983

Parc national Wood Buffalo
inscrit sur la Liste du
patrimoine mondial en 1983



THE WORLD'S LARGEST DARK SKY PRESERVE

Join us for an astronomy festival under northern skies. The annual Thebacha & Wood Buffalo Dark Sky Festival is held in late August.



wbnp.info@pc.gc.ca
www.parkscanada.gc.ca/woodbuffalo



Parks
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Canada

Canada

1. Angus Sinkhole & Fire Tower

Peer into one of the park's largest sinkholes, which is 100 metres across and 60 metres deep. It formed when the roof of an underground cave collapsed. Stay on the trail. Edges of the sinkhole could be unsafe.

2. Nyarling River Pull-Off

Find out why the Nyarling River disappears to flow underground for 26 km through karst terrain.

3. Wetlands Pull-Off

Take a short interpretive trail down to a peaceful area overlooking habitat similar to that of the whooping crane nesting area.

4. Salt Plains Lookout & Day Use Area

Breathe in the beauty of the 370 km² Salt Plains from the viewpoint or hike down a moderate 500-metre switchback trail to explore saline springs, salt mounds, salt-tolerant vegetation and animal tracks on this unique salt-encrusted landscape. Accessed from a side road off Highway 5.

5. Parson's Lake Road

This 57-km single-lane dirt bush road leads to Parson's Tower viewpoint deep in the boreal forest and bison territory. Not recommended for large vehicles and impassible when wet.

6. Fort Smith Visitor Centre

Enjoy an exhibit about the park, watch DVDs and get the latest information from staff. Open daily throughout the summer, Monday to Friday the rest of the year.

7. Salt River Day Use Area

This popular spot overlooking the Salt River is the trailhead for five hikes:

- The Karstland Loop Trail through active karst terrain is an easy, 780-metre interpretive trail past active sinkholes and the most northerly red-sided garter snake hibernaculum.
- The Salt River Meadows Trail starts on the east side of Pine Lake Road. It's an easy 1.3-km hike that meanders through meadows and along a saline stream.
- The 7 km Salt Pan Lake Trail is a moderate hike that climbs gently to the top of an escarpment, passing sinkholes, the Keg River geological formation, fossil outcrops and a scenic view of Salt Pan Lake.

- The Benchmark Creek Trail is a 8.5 km moderate trail that starts at the Salt River and meanders along a saline creek to Grosbeak Lake.
- A 20-minute shortcut to Grosbeak Lake starts off the road 2 kms south of the Salt River Day Use Area. It takes you through a forest to the unique salt flats with glacial erratics and rocks eroded into strange shapes by salt and frost.

8. Pine Lake Day Use Area

Enjoy the sandy beach. Have a picnic. Swim or paddle in the aquamarine waters of Pine Lake, which was formed when several sinkholes merged together. Fire pits, playground, cooking shelter and outhouses.

- Pine Lake Campground has peaceful, basic campsites that sit amid the trees and feature fire pits, firewood, tent pads and picnic tables. No hookups or showers. Water available for boiling. Self-registration camping.
- The 3.1 km (one way) Lakeside Trail is an easy stroll along the shores of Pine Lake and ends at the Kettle Point Group Camp.

9. Kettle Point Group Camp

Located by the lake, this group camp is for a minimum of eight people. It has a large log shelter, tenting area, beach, fire circle, firewood, picnic tables, outhouses and a playground. Reservations required.

- The 6.5 km (one way) Lane Lake Trail is a moderate, rugged hike deep into the heart of the boreal forest. It starts on Kettle Point Road 1 km past the Pine Lake access road and follows a chain of small sinkhole lakes to Lane Lake.

10. Peace Point Reserve

Home to Mikisew Cree First Nation, this spot provides boat and canoe access to the Peace River.

11. Fort Chipewyan Visitor Centre

Gateway to the Peace-Athabasca Delta. Located on Mackenzie Avenue in Fort Chipewyan, Alberta, the centre offers visitor information and backcountry registration services, a small exhibit area, and audio visual presentations about the park. Open Monday to Friday year-round.

