



Discover

# Parks Canada



Lower Fort Garry National Historic Site



Parks  
Canada

Parcs  
Canada

Canada



# PARKS CANADA IN THE CANADIAN PRAIRIES

## AT A GLANCE

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**19**  
NATIONAL  
HISTORIC  
SITES



**4**  
NATIONAL  
PARKS

ONE OF THE  
WORLD'S LARGEST **POLAR**  
**BEAR DENNING SITES**



1<sup>ST</sup> RECORDED FIND  
OF **DINOSAUR**  
**REMAINS**  
IN CANADA



**2** **DARK-SKY**  
PRESERVES



**60+** RED CHAIRS  
**#SHARETHECHAIR**



Fort Walsh National Historic Site



Grasslands National Park  
This image was taken with a telephoto lens to avoid harassing or disturbing wildlife.



The Forks National Historic Site

# YOUR STORY STARTS HERE!

Explore a land of adventures when you explore Canada's history and wide-open spaces across the prairies.

Planning to visit one of Parks Canada's 220 destinations? Plan ahead! Each year more than 20 million visitors explore these magnificent places, so make sure your camping, parking and/or shuttle reservations are in place, and verify what services might be available before you go. Leave with peace of mind and enjoy your vacation to the fullest.

Start living your story today!

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# LEARN ABOUT INDIGENOUS CANADA

## **BATOCHÉ**

NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

## **WANUSKEWIN**

HERITAGE PARK

Immerse yourself in history and culture exploring the site of a Métis settlement where political resistance leader Louis Riel established the headquarters for the Métis provisional government and discover an important meeting place of the Northern Plains Indigenous Peoples for more than 6,400 years.



Find more day trips, weekend getaway ideas and week-long itineraries at

[parks.canada.ca/itineraries](https://parks.canada.ca/itineraries)





## IF YOU'RE A DAY TRIPPER

Your day adventure is focused on **Batoche National Historic Site**, a storied destination accented by the South Saskatchewan River, beautiful trails, and scenic viewing areas. Most important are the human elements of the site, unveiled within the Caron Home,

Saint-Antoine-de-Padoue Roman Catholic Church, the priests' rectory and the Batoche cemetery. Enjoy scenic views at the East Village, lands carpeted with wild flowers and the trembling aspen forest, and meet historically clothed interpreters who share the stories of

Batoche. Following your tour, stop at the Friends of Batoche Gift Shop and visit the Batoche Café for a very unique culinary experience featuring selections such as Hearty Bison Soup, the Bison Burger, and traditional Bannock.

## IF YOU'RE AN OVERNIGHTER

**DAY 1:** Begin at **Batoche National Historic Site**, touring the property, embarking on a series of walking trails, including: the Li pchi shmayna Trail, the Mission Ridge Trail and a 1.4 km section of the 19<sup>th</sup>-century Carlton Trail, named 'the Rectory Path', that once connected Saskatchewan's Fort Carlton to Winnipeg's Fort Garry. Picnic at the site, along the trails, or lunch at the Batoche Café.

Travel 44 km north from Batoche to the **Duck Lake Regional Interpretive Centre** and nearby site of the Battle of Duck Lake where the first shots of the 1885 North West Resistance occurred. The centre interprets the everyday

struggles of pioneers, the devastating impact on First Nations Peoples, the near-extinction of the buffalo, and the harsh aftermath of the North West Resistance on the Métis Peoples. The museum features a 24 metre tower that delivers sweeping views of the countryside, a boardwalk replicating early 1900s storefronts, and exhibits. An outdoor gallery of murals depicts key historical people and events of the area and can be viewed at a dozen locations around the community.

Travel 83 south on the Louis Riel Trail (formerly Saskatchewan Highway 11) to overnight in Saskatoon.

**DAY 2:** Travel 15 km north to visit the **Wanuskewin Heritage Park**, a site of worship, celebration, spirituality. A highlight at Wanuskewin is a true Indigenous mystery, one of fewer than 100 known 'medicine wheels' on the northern plains, believed to have been created about 1,500 years ago. Set on a ridge that overlooks the South Saskatchewan River with a 360-degree view of the surrounding plains, the wheel consists of a seven-metre-diameter central stone cairn, a 13-metre-wide outer ring of rocks, and other cairn and rock features.

## IF YOU'RE A WEEKENDER

**DAY 1:** Enjoy a fully-immersive visit of **Batoche National Historic Site**. Just 10 km away and a free 10-minute ferry ride across the South Saskatchewan River, it's also worthwhile to visit **Saint-Laurent de Grandin Shrine**, an important religious heritage site for Saskatchewan's Métis and French-speaking community. Overnighting

in this area is limited – drive 69 km south on the Louis Riel Trail for accommodations in and around the City of Warman.

**DAY 2:** Head 70 km north on the Louis Riel Trail to Duck Lake to explore its fascinating **Regional Interpretive Centre**. After your visit, drive 83 km south to Saskatoon to spend the night.

**DAY 3:** Travel just 15 km north from Saskatoon to **Wanuskewin Heritage Park** for an enriching, full-day Indigenous experience as described above.

# DAY TRIPS FROM WINNIPEG

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THESE NATIONAL HISTORIC SITES ALL WITHIN 40 MINUTES OF THE CITY



**The Forks**  
National Historic Site

Downtown Winnipeg

- Join us for Where Our Stories Meet, a guided tour that shares the history of The Forks, Winnipeg and Manitoba.
- Venture out into one of the many markets, museums, and festivals in this popular downtown meeting place.
- Download the Parks Canada App and walk through One Heart, Two Rivers, Four Directions, a nine-stop tour exploring Indigenous connections to The Forks.



**Lower Fort Garry**  
National Historic Site

 30 minutes

- Delve into the secrets of this fascinating fort, see how the birch bark is held together and marvel at the intricate details holding the wigwams in place at Gabeshiwin, the camp.
- Take part in a culinary workshop and learn to make tasty bannock bread, chocolate and ice cream surrounded by Canada's oldest collection of stone fur trade buildings.



**St. Andrew's Rectory**  
National Historic Site

 25 minutes

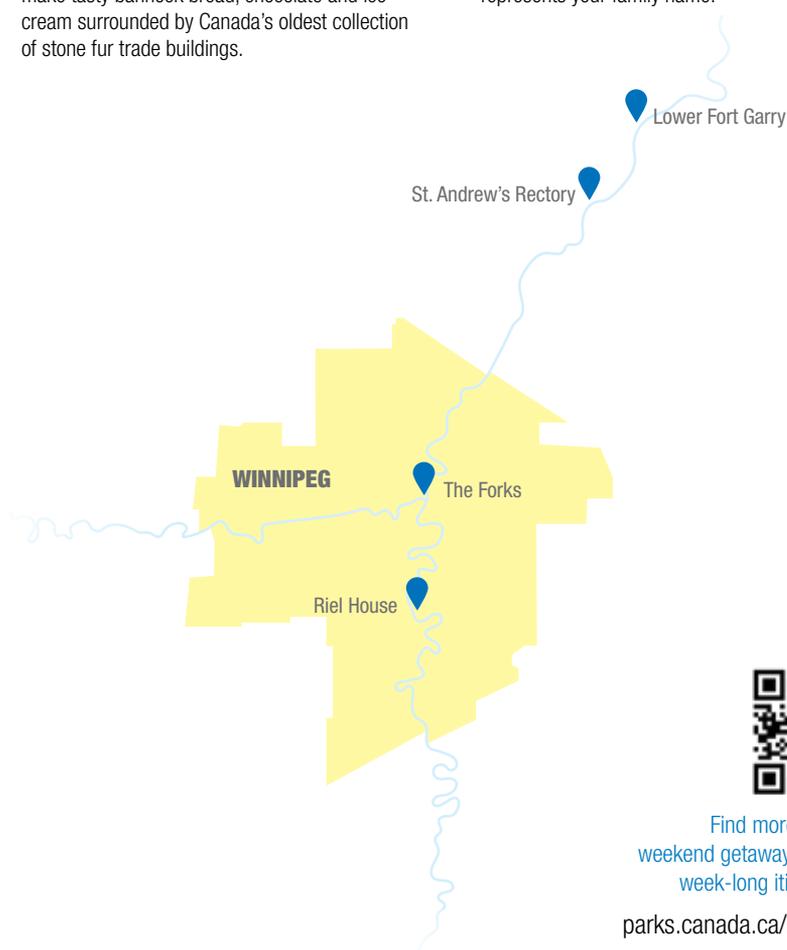
- Take a GPS-triggered self-guided tour and find out more about the people who lived along the Red River in the 19<sup>th</sup> century.
- Are you of Scottish descent? Uncover your family's roots and discover which tartan represents your family name.



**Riel House**  
National Historic Site

 15 minutes  40 minutes

- Learn more about the fascinating life of Louis Riel and the Red River Métis.
- Are your kids ready for some fun? Pick up an Xplorers booklet and uncover interesting ways to explore the site.



Find more day trips, weekend getaway ideas and week-long itineraries at [parks.canada.ca/itineraries](https://parks.canada.ca/itineraries)



# CONSERVING FOR THE FUTURE

## THE CHALLENGE

How can we re-populate the plains with bison?

Prior to European settlement, the prairies were home to millions of free-roaming bison, but by the 1880s this magnificent beast had been hunted to near global extinction.

## THE RESULT

Today, there are some 450 bison thriving and playing an essential role in reshaping the ecology of the prairies.

## A STEP IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION

Back in December 2005, Parks Canada introduced a herd of 71 Plains Bison from Elk Island National Park in Alberta to Grasslands National Park in Saskatchewan in the hopes that they would reclaim the territory.



# GET INVOLVED NOW IT'S YOUR TURN

## FOSSIL FEVER EVENT

Got the fever? *Fossil Fever*? An exclusive opportunity to dig for a day with Royal Saskatchewan Museum Palaeontologists. Learn their techniques, help uncover and cast fossils, and discover the history of the 65.5 million-year-old dinosaur fossils found beneath the earth.

Grasslands National Park in Saskatchewan

## GRAB YOUR BINOCULARS

Lend a biologist a helping hand! Watch out for loons and their young on lakes in the park and keep note of your observations. Your efforts will help strengthen the Canadian loon population as well as monitor the health of the ecosystem.

Prince Albert National Park in Saskatchewan

## RECORD YOUR NATURE OBSERVATIONS

Use the iNaturalist mobile app to record your plant or animal observations—anytime, anywhere. Every observation contributes to our knowledge of biodiversity.



© Parks Canada/P.O. Bourdreault



# STAYING THE NIGHT?

WE'VE GOT YOU COVERED

Prices reflect 2023 rates  
and are subject to change

Reserve today as  
spots book quickly!

[parks.canada.ca/accommodations](https://parks.canada.ca/accommodations)



FROM  
**\$23**  
PER NIGHT

## TENT AND RV CAMPING

Stay close to nature at one of our wonderful campsites—at your preferred comfort level.

Available in Riding Mountain, Grasslands and Prince Albert National Parks; and York Factory National Historic Site.



FROM  
**\$12.75**  
PER PERSON  
PER NIGHT

## BACKCOUNTRY CAMPING

The ultimate overnight adventure: just you, your tent and the great outdoors—far from the beaten path.

Available in Riding Mountain, Grasslands and Prince Albert National Parks.



FROM  
**\$106.50**  
PER NIGHT

## OTENTIK

The perfect mix of tent and A-frame cabin comes together in our oTENTik with its raised floors and cosy beds; great for campers who want a little extra comfort in the wild.

Available in Riding Mountain, Grasslands and Prince Albert National Parks.



FROM  
**\$106.50**  
PER NIGHT

## YURT

Live life without corners in a circular yurt! This traditional dwelling of Central Asian nomads is just right for a night of camping with a dash of homelike comfort.

Available in Riding Mountain National Park.



FROM  
**\$96**  
PER NIGHT

## MICROCUBE

Get super-cosy in a MicroCube, the designer way to score a window over the wilderness, while sleeping with a roof over your head and a floor beneath your feet.

Available in Riding Mountain National Park.



FROM  
**\$23**  
PER NIGHT  
PER TRAILER

## HISTORIC STAY: EQUESTRIAN CAMPING

Immerse yourself in one of Canada's national treasures with a very special overnight stay in truly historic surroundings.

Available in Grasslands National Park.



# STAFF FAVOURITES

Get the inside scoop on the very best way to enjoy our parks and sites from Parks Canada pros!



**Shelly**  
Management

## HORSEBACK RIDING

There's no better way to explore the breathtaking **Grasslands National Park** in Saskatchewan than on horseback. It's the perfect way to cover several miles in rugged terrain, and provides a great vantage point to spot ancient tipi rings hidden in the prairie wool. Riding through this country and observing cultural evidence along the way is a constant reminder of how past peoples interacted with the grasslands. Without their stewardship and respect for the environment, there wouldn't be this natural, intact prairie for us to see today.



**Shayne**  
Indigenous and  
Métis Partnering

## A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A FARMER

One of my favourite things is the horses at the **Motherwell Homestead NHS** in Saskatchewan. The gentle beauty and the sense of awe and wonder that visitors get to experience when they see them, smell them and touch them is truly a highlight of every day. Our amazing team this year was provided by one of our Indigenous partners in the community and we cannot thank them enough!





**Dylan**  
Visitor Services

### THE HOUSE ON THE RIVER

**Riel House** is a tangible connection to Manitoban history and the early Métis way of life, back to a time where this thin “Seigneurial” style lot would stretch from the Red River to the Seine River. There is a myriad of different motivations for visitors to experience Riel House from being a history buff, to discovering or reaffirming their Métis heritage.



### MÉTIS RESILIENCE

My favorite spot is the Caron Home at **Batoche** National Historic Site in Saskatchewan. Still standing from 1895, this house gives the perfect glimpse into Métis homesteading life and the resiliency of the Métis people in Batoche. Learn about life during the Battle of Batoche and the recovery of the village after the events of 1885. My own ancestors lived on the next river lot over, so I feel literally close to home there!

**Jacelyn**  
Heritage  
Presentation



**Julien**  
Heritage  
Presentation

### WORK BEYOND THE STONE WALLS

I love spending time at the farm and the bakehouse at **Lower Fort Garry** in Manitoba because I love nature and food. At the farm, I can watch the garden grow throughout the season and enjoy the harvests directly. At the bakehouse, I can sample freshly made bannock with homemade butter, sometimes a few more elaborate dishes, and enjoy the smaller details of history.



### SOUNDSCAPE OF THE CITY

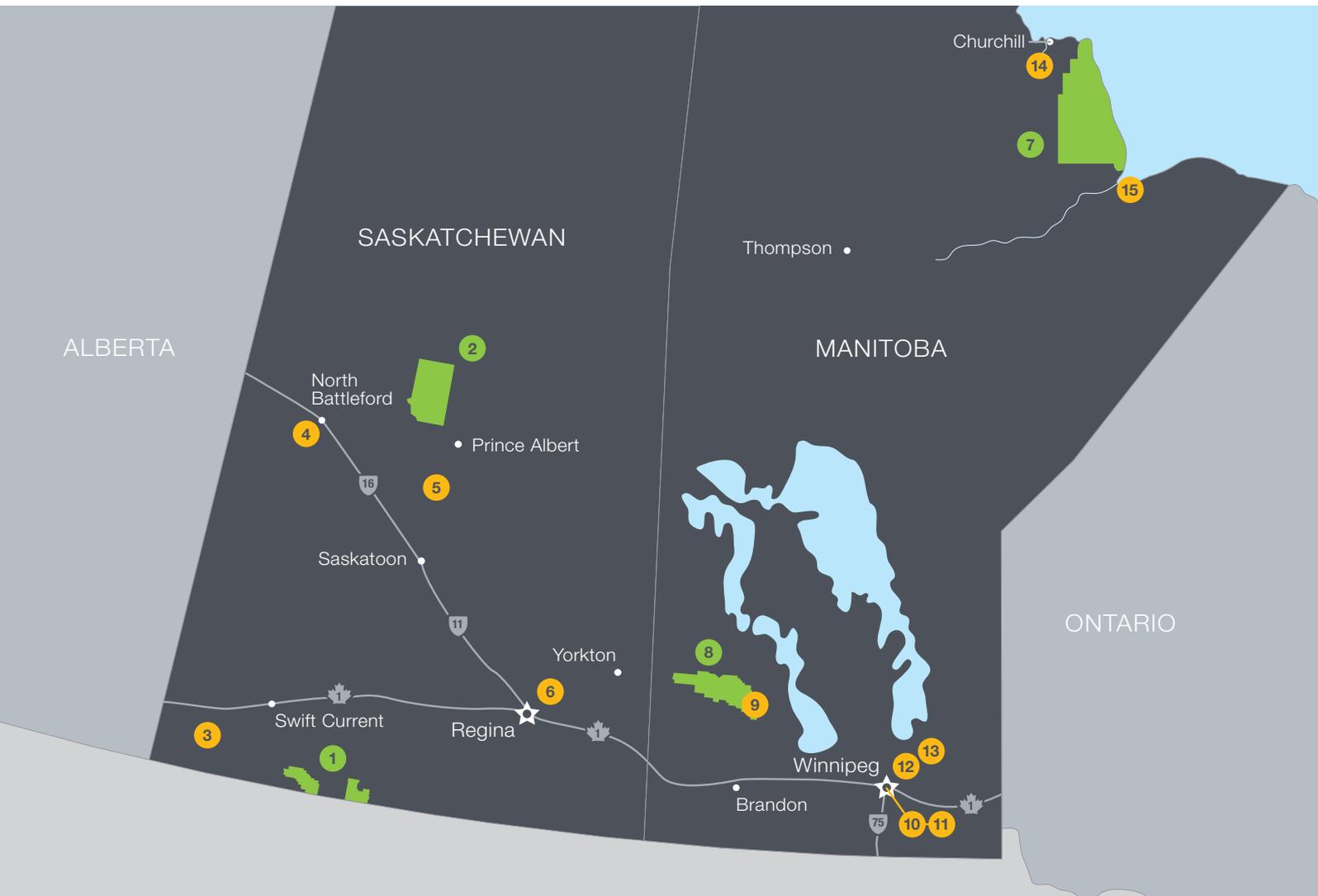
Whenever I visit **The Forks** in Manitoba, I take a moment to listen and it's amazing what you can hear! The squealing of trains as they ship goods all over Canada and the United States, the many languages of visitors, the peeping of ground squirrels, the music of local and international performers, and, beneath it all, the flowing sounds of the Red and Assiniboine Rivers.

**Kaitlyn**  
Event  
Coordination



# DIRECTORY

## CANADIAN PRAIRIES



● National Park    ● National Historic Site

### SERVICES

- Access for persons with reduced mobility
- Restaurant
- Gift shop
- Picnic area/Shelter
- Playground
- Wi-Fi (in certain areas only)
- Equipment rental (varies by site)

### ACCOMMODATION

- Camping
- Recreational vehicle
- oTENTik
- Microcube
- Historic stay
- Yurt
- Cabin

### ACTIVITIES

- Interpretation
- Cycling
- Mountain biking
- Backpacking/Hiking
- Birdwatching
- Marine mammals
- Beach
- Canoeing/Kayaking
- Motorboating
- Fishing
- Scuba diving
- Horseback riding
- Golfing
- Tennis
- Winter activities
- Hot Springs
- Dark-Sky Preserve
- Xplorers activities
- Photo Missions app
- Red chairs

# SASKATCHEWAN



## 1 Grasslands

A home of wild prairie landscapes, species, skies and adventures.

### DON'T MISS

- Meeting some of Canada's rarest fossilized dinosaurs and present-day wildlife.
- Enjoying camping in frontcountry comforts or backcountry getaways. Adventure awaits!



Val Marie | 1-877-345-2257  
[parks.canada.ca/grasslands](http://parks.canada.ca/grasslands)  
 @ParksCanada\_SK | #GrasslandsNP



## 2 Prince Albert

A transition zone between fescue grasslands, aspen parkland and northern boreal forest.

### DON'T MISS

- The Bagwa Paddling Route: a classic Canadian adventure.
- Spending the day at one of the seven sandy beaches with marked swim areas on Waskesiu Lake.



Waskesiu | 306-663-4522  
[parks.canada.ca/princealbert](http://parks.canada.ca/princealbert)  
 @ParksCanada\_SK | #PrinceAlbertNP



## 3 Fort Walsh

A living fort from the 1870s, when the North West Mounted Police brought Canadian law to the West.

### DON'T MISS

- Discovering the Métis trail through the forest along the beautiful Battle Creek.
- Hearing the stories of the Cypress Hills Massacre and learning of its impact on the Nakoda people and on Canada.



Maple Creek | 306-662-3590  
[parks.canada.ca/walsh](http://parks.canada.ca/walsh)  
 @ParksCanada\_SK | #FtWalshNHS



## 4 Fort Battleford

Uncover the central but little-known role of Fort Battleford in the conflict of 1885. Discover the stories of the First Nations, Métis, North West Mounted Police, and settlers in these difficult times.

### DON'T MISS

- Discovering the rich history of the Fort on a self-guided tour.



Battleford – 145 km from Saskatoon  
 306-937-2621  
[parks.canada.ca/battleford](http://parks.canada.ca/battleford)  
 @ParksCanada\_SK | #FtBattlefordNHS



## 5 Batoche

Journey back to 19<sup>th</sup> century Métis settler life on the banks of the South Saskatchewan River.

### DON'T MISS

- The *Journey Through Time* interactive tour.
- Hiking, picnicking and exploring amazing river views and trails.



Wakaw – 90 km from Saskatoon  
 306-423-6227 | [parks.canada.ca/batoche](http://parks.canada.ca/batoche)  
 @ParksCanada\_SK | #BatocheNHS



## 6 Motherwell Homestead

Experience land based living and discover life as a homesteader in the 1900s in the Qu'Appelle region, home to First Nations, Métis, and the waves of new Canadian immigrants.

### DON'T MISS

- Meeting the animals! The heartbeat of the farm starts in the barn. Gather and season your senses with homestead flavours.



Abernethy – 100 km from Regina  
 306-333-2116  
[parks.canada.ca/motherwell](http://parks.canada.ca/motherwell)  
 @ParksCanada\_SK | #MotherwellNHS



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 at one of our gift shops or at [parks.canada.ca/parcanadashop](http://parks.canada.ca/parcanadashop)

# MANITOBA



## 7 Wapusk

A subarctic wilderness protecting one of the largest polar bear maternity denning areas in the world.

### DON'T MISS

- Watching bears from tundra vehicles and the seasonal lodge at Cape Churchill.
- Flying in by helicopter for an aerial tour and the adventure of a lifetime!



Churchill | 204-675-8863  
[parks.canada.ca/wapusk](https://parks.canada.ca/wapusk)



## 10 Riel House

The family home of Louis Riel, commemorating Métis culture.

### DON'T MISS

- Getting the inside track on this amazing site with Parks Canada's Xplorers booklet, full of exciting activities!
- Enjoying lively Métis fiddle music and special guests during the *Thursday night soirees*.



Winnipeg | 204-983-6757  
[parks.canada.ca/riel](https://parks.canada.ca/riel) | @ParksCanadaMB  
#RielHouse



## 8 Riding Mountain

A region of boreal forest, aspen parkland and fescue prairie.

### DON'T MISS

- Exploring Riding Mountain's biggest lake by kayak with the help of a Parks Canada guide.
- Seeing the skeletons hidden in the park's closet with *Wasagaming on Edge: Drinks, debauchery, and the dirty thirties*.



Wasagaming – 270 km from Winnipeg  
204-848-7275 | [parks.canada.ca/riding](https://parks.canada.ca/riding)  
@RidingNP | #RidingNP



## 11 The Forks

The birthplace of Western Canada and a legendary hub of trade and culture.

### DON'T MISS

- Discovering The Forks' hidden history! Take a 6 000-year journey back in time on a 60-minute guided tour.
- Exploring the colourful Prairie Garden, a tribute to Winnipeg's roots.



Winnipeg | 204-983-6757  
[parks.canada.ca/forks](https://parks.canada.ca/forks) | @ParksCanadaMB  
#TheForks



## 9 Riding Mountain Park East Gate Registration Complex

The only rustic design style gate left standing in a National Park.

### DON'T MISS

- Enjoying a picnic while admiring the hand-hewn logs and carefully gathered stones.



Riding Mountain – 245 km from Winnipeg  
204-848-7275  
[parks.canada.ca/riding](https://parks.canada.ca/riding)



## 12 St. Andrew's Rectory

A mission serving as an excellent example of mid-19<sup>th</sup> century Red River Hudson's Bay Company architecture.

### DON'T MISS

- Taking a self-guided GPS tour and learning more about life for those who lived along the Red River in the 19<sup>th</sup> century.



St. Andrews – 25 km from Winnipeg  
204-785-6050  
[parks.canada.ca/standrewsrectory](https://parks.canada.ca/standrewsrectory)  
@ParksCanadaMB | #StAndrewsRectory



Download the Parks Canada app:  
your hand-held guide to the perfect visit!





### 13 Lower Fort Garry

Where Treaty No. 1 was made with the Saulteaux and Swampy Cree First Nations people and the Crown.

#### DON'T MISS

- Experiencing the Fort this summer with hands-on heritage workshops and new evening events.



St. Andrews – 25 km from Winnipeg  
204-785-6050

[parks.canada.ca/fortgarry](https://parks.canada.ca/fortgarry)  
[@ParksCanadaMB](https://twitter.com/ParksCanadaMB) | [#LowerFortGarry](https://twitter.com/LowerFortGarry)



### 14 Prince of Wales Fort

A key site in the 18<sup>th</sup>-century French-English rivalry for control of the territory around Hudson Bay.

#### DON'T MISS

- Hiking along the bedrock, beach front and old ox cart trail from Sloop Cove to Prince of Wales Fort  
- Taking a guided tour of Cape Merry Battery and experiencing panoramic views of the wildflowers, wildlife, and the Hudson Bay.



Churchill | 204-675-8863

[parks.canada.ca/princewalesfort](https://parks.canada.ca/princewalesfort)  
[@ParksCanadaMB](https://twitter.com/ParksCanadaMB) | [#PrinceofWalesFort](https://twitter.com/PrinceofWalesFort)



### 15 York Factory

The Hudson's Bay Company's major trading and administration centre for over 3 centuries.

#### DON'T MISS

- Time-traveling into fur-trade history on a self-guided tour.  
- Exploring the Great Depot building's rooms filled with cannon balls, fine china, and thousands of other artifacts.



Churchill | 204-675-8863

[parks.canada.ca/yorkfactory](https://parks.canada.ca/yorkfactory)  
[@ParksCanadaMB](https://twitter.com/ParksCanadaMB) | [#YorkFactory](https://twitter.com/YorkFactory)

 **450 000 KM<sup>2</sup>  
OF STORIES**

# Discover Parks Canada!

Your **Discovery Pass** provides admission for a full year to over 80 Parks Canada destinations from coast to coast to coast.

Start planning your adventure!

Adult (Ages 18 to 64)	<b>\$72.25</b>
Senior (Ages 65+)	<b>\$61.75</b>
Youth (Ages 0 to 17)	<b>FREE</b>
Family/Group	<b>\$145.25</b>

\*Prices reflect 2023 rates and are subject to change.

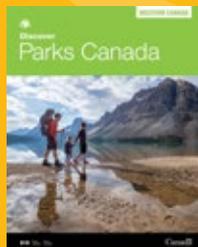


# PLAN YOUR VISIT

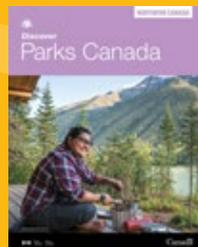
PARKS.CANADA.CA  
1-888-773-8888

## 5 OTHER REGIONS TO DISCOVER

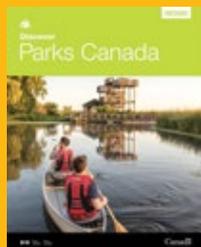
LOOK FOR THESE  
BROCHURES ON  
OUR WEBSITE



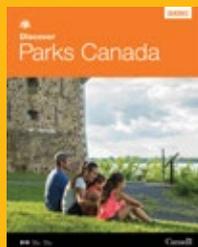
WESTERN CANADA



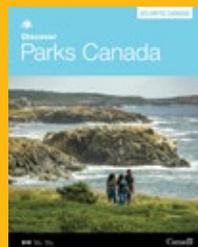
NORTHERN  
CANADA



ONTARIO



QUEBEC



ATLANTIC CANADA

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