



## Welcome to Acadia National Park



Acadia National Park protects some of the most scenic, diverse areas along the eastern coast of the United States. Whether you are looking for an active visit or a relaxing vacation, the park offers something for you. Begin your visit at Hulls Cove Visitor Center (open April 15 to October 31) with a 15-minute audiovisual program. Free literature and sales items provide details about park activities and the area's cultural and natural history. Pick up a copy of the *Beaver Log* newspaper, which features a schedule of ranger-led programs (late May to early October), tide and sunrise/sunset charts, and other information to help guide your park visit. Junior Ranger (up to age 17) and Senior Ranger (18 and older) programs are available during the summer. During the winter, although many park facilities and roads are closed, you can obtain information daily at park headquarters, located on Route 233, three miles west of Bar Harbor. For additional trip planning tips and detailed information about the park's facilities, activities, and natural and cultural resources, visit the official website at [www.nps.gov/acad](http://www.nps.gov/acad).

### When Is the Best Time to Visit?

The summer months, especially July and August, are the most popular and busiest of the year. Ranger-led programs and activities in surrounding communities are in full swing. Temperatures vary from 45°F to 85°F.

Late spring and fall are the shoulder seasons, with temperatures from 30°F to 70°F. Spring offers fewer crowds and great birdwatching, but fog is not uncommon. Fall brings cool, sunny days. Mid-October is usually the time to see vibrant fall colors lighting up the forest.

Winter, with cold temperatures and sometimes icy or snowy weather, feels very different. The slower pace provides opportunities for solitude and activities like cross-country skiing and snow-shoeing. Some facilities are closed, including most of the Park Loop Road, the road to Cadillac Mountain, and

the visitor center. You can obtain information daily (8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) at park headquarters.

Consider a few other items when planning your visit to the park:

- You may encounter rain and fog at any time, but we assure you that the sun does shine!
- The weather changes constantly. Arrive prepared for a wide variety of conditions; layered clothing is always a good idea.
- Blackflies are most common from mid-May through mid-June, and mosquitoes are present during the summer months.
- Popular outdoor activities include hiking 125 miles of trails, bicycling 45 miles of carriage roads, exploring tidepools, kayaking, fishing, boat tours, and more.
- The carriage roads are usually closed for a few weeks around the beginning of April because of soft conditions.

### Getting Here

#### By Land

The park is located along the rugged, rocky coast of Maine. Most of the park is located on Mount Desert Island, which is accessible by vehicle approximately one hour southeast of Bangor, Maine, and six hours north of Boston. Concord Coach (800-639-3317) and Greyhound (800-894-3355) offer bus service between Boston and Bangor. Greyhound (summer only) and the Bar Harbor-Bangor Shuttle (year round, 207-479-5911) travel between Bangor and Bar Harbor.

#### By Air

The Hancock County-Bar Harbor Airport (BHB) is approximately 10 miles from the park. Bangor International Airport (BGR) is located

about 45 miles from the park. Car rentals are available at both airports.

#### By Sea

Local businesses operate ferries and scenic cruises. A ferry (877-359-3760) runs between Bar Harbor and Yarmouth, Nova Scotia.

#### Getting Around

From June 23 to early October, Island Explorer shuttle buses ([www.exploreacadia.com](http://www.exploreacadia.com)) connect the park's hiking trails, carriage roads, and beaches with island communities. The fare-free shuttle buses eliminate the stressful search for parking spaces and contribute to cleaner air by burning propane fuel. Bus passengers entering the park are required to obtain an entrance pass for their family or group.

Local businesses operate bus tours through the park. Taxi service is available in nearby towns.



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## Entrance Fee

The majority of fees paid in Acadia stay right here. Fees support the fare-free Island Explorer bus system and other projects that directly benefit park visitors and resources. The park entrance fee (per car for a seven-day pass) is:

\$20 June 23 through early October  
\$10 May 1 to June 22 and early October to October 31

Fees may be paid at Hulls Cove Visitor Center, Sand Beach Entrance Station, Blackwoods and Seawall Campgrounds, Thompson Island Information Center, park headquarters, and the village green in Bar Harbor.

## Other available fees and passes include:

- Individual Fee: \$5 (seven-day pass for pedestrian, bicycle, motorcycle, etc.)
- Acadia Annual Pass: \$40 (annual)

The America the Beautiful - National Parks and Federal Recreational Lands Passes, new in 2007, provide access into any federal area that charges an entrance fee (including Acadia).

Options include:

- Annual Pass: \$80 (annual)
- Senior Pass: \$10 one-time fee for U.S. citizens 62 years or older (lifetime)
- Access Pass: Free to all U.S. citizens with permanent disabilities (lifetime)

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## Camping

There are two park campgrounds—Seawall and Blackwoods—on Mount Desert Island. Overnight backpacking is prohibited in the park because it is small and fragile.

Campsites in both campgrounds are wooded and within a 10-minute walk of the ocean. The majority of sites are for tents, small and large, but other sites accommodate pop-ups, vehicle campers, and RVs up to 35'. Maximum one vehicle and six people allowed at each site.

Campground facilities include comfort stations, cold running water, dump station, picnic tables, fire rings, and water faucets (winter facilities at Blackwoods are limited to a portable toilet and water pump). **There are no hook-ups.** Showers (fee) and camping supply stores are located within 1/2 mile of both campgrounds.

Camping rates and reservation procedures are subject to change. Camping fees and entrance fees are separate charges; entrance fees must be paid prior to camping.

Campers must follow park regulations, which are available at the campground and on the website. Some of these regulations include:

- Pets must be leashed at all times.
- Camp in established campgrounds only.
- Food, trash, utensils, and other items that attract wildlife must be stored properly.

## Blackwoods Campground

Located on Route 3, five miles south of Bar Harbor. Blackwoods Campground is open all year (see details below). Fee (per site per night): \$20 May 1–October 31; \$10 April and November; free December 1–March 31.

Reservations are recommended from May 1 to October 31; call the National Recreation Reservation Service at 877-444-6777 (US/Canada), 877-833-6777 (TTY), or 518-885-3639 (international) or visit [www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov). Reservations can be made up to six months in advance (e.g., reservations for July 4 can be made beginning January 4). Specific or adjoining sites cannot be reserved.

From December 1 through March 31, Blackwoods Campground is open for primitive camping only. During this time campers must first obtain a camping permit from the ranger office at park headquarters (open 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. daily). The campground entrance road is closed to automobiles; campers must hike in from the campground entrance.

## Seawall Campground

Located on Route 102A, four miles south of Southwest Harbor. Seawall Campground is open from late May through September on a first-come, first-served basis. Walk-in sites are available. Fee (per site per night): \$14 to \$20.

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## Other Accommodations

The park has no overnight accommodations except campgrounds, but nearby communities offer many lodging options. For information, please contact local chambers of commerce:

Bar Harbor - 800-345-4617  
[www.barharbormaine.com](http://www.barharbormaine.com)  
[www.acadiainfo.com](http://www.acadiainfo.com)

Mount Desert - 207-276-5040  
[www.mountdesertchamber.org](http://www.mountdesertchamber.org)

Southwest Harbor/Tremont - 800-423-9264  
[www.acadiachamber.com](http://www.acadiachamber.com)

Schoodic Peninsula - 207-963-7658  
[www.acadia-schoodic.org](http://www.acadia-schoodic.org)

Deer Isle/Stonington - 207-348-6124  
[www.deerisle.com](http://www.deerisle.com)

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## For More Information

Acadia National Park  
P.O. Box 177  
Bar Harbor ME 04609  
207-288-3338 Voice  
207-288-8800 TTY  
[www.nps.gov/acad](http://www.nps.gov/acad)

Maine Office of Tourism  
#59 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333  
888-624-6345 Voice  
888-877-2317 TTY  
[www.visitmaine.com](http://www.visitmaine.com)