



Glacier Visitor Guide

The official newspaper
of Glacier National Park

Summer 2015



Many Glacier Hotel, past and present.

NPS Archive / George A. Grant 1933 and NPS / Jacob W. Frank

HAPPY 100 MANY GLACIER HOTEL

While most of us see the historic Many Glacier Hotel as a place to find food and lodging for a few days of vacation, for thousands of employees this hotel has been something more; home for the summer. For one hundred years, employees from every imaginable background have been brought together at Many Glacier Hotel to spend a summer staffing the hotel and exploring the trails on their days off.

The first employees to live and work at the hotel had perhaps the most challenging experience. These were the 400 craftsmen who spent much of the winter of 1914-1915 living on site to construct the building. Overcoming the difficulties of building what was then Montana's largest hotel in a remote setting in temperatures below zero, those employees had enough of the hotel completed for a quiet July 4, 1915 opening. For many years, a majority of hotel employees hailed from Minnesota, where the winter headquarters of the hotel company was located. Each June young people would board Great Northern Railway cars to head west for a summer of hard work and adventure working in Glacier's hotels and chalets.

Many Glacier might not be celebrating a centennial if not for the dedication of the crew of employees from 1936. In late August of that year, a forest fire came roaring down the

Swiftcurrent Valley, causing a hasty evacuation. Employees who stayed behind choked through smoke with firebrands raining down upon them as they wetted the building with hoses and beat out embers landing on and around the hotel to save the building.

From 1961-1983, Englishman Ian B. Tippet managed the Many Glacier Hotel. In an effort to add to visitor experiences, Tippet began a program of recruiting music and drama students from throughout the country to work regular hotel jobs and then provide entertainment for guests during their off-duty hours. The program grew to include evening Hootenanny and Serenade performances, a full Broadway musical performed throughout the month of August, the popular Dining Room Choir singing during dinner service, and lederhosen-clad bellmen welcoming arriving tour buses with their polished song and dance routine.

Over the years, the experience of living, working, and recreating in this remote location has nurtured a bond among employees and a passionate dedication to this place. Join Many Glacier Hotel's employees and visitors of the past hundred years in celebrating this summer's centennial and looking forward to the next century of tradition. Share your photos using #MGH100 on social media!



Tourists in 1916.

photo / NPS Archives



Dining room 1940.

photo / NPS Archives



Visitors on Many Glacier Hotel porch.

photo / NPS Archives



Many Glacier dining room choir, early 1980's.

courtesy / Diane Steele Sine

ENTRANCE FEES

Single Vehicle Pass	\$25
Valid for 7 days	
Single Person Entry	\$12
Foot, bicycle, or motorcycle for 7 days	
Glacier Annual Pass.....	\$35
Valid for one year from month of purchase.	
America the Beautiful Pass	\$80
Senior Pass	\$10
62 and over, U.S. Citizens and residents	
Access Pass	Free
Permanently disabled U.S. Citizens and residents	
Active Military Pass	Free

Special fees are charged for commercial tour vehicles. Waterton Lakes National Park has separate entrance fees.

VISITOR CENTER HOURS

Apgar Visitor Center	
May 16–June 12	9am–4:30pm
June 13–Sept. 7	8am–6:00pm
Sept. 8–Oct. 12	8am–5:00pm
St. Mary Visitor Center	
May 23–June 27	8am–5pm
June 28–August 22	8am–6pm
August 23–Sept. 27	8am–5pm
Logan Pass Visitor Center	
Road opening–Sept. 7	9am–7pm
Sept. 8–Sept. 20	9:30am–4pm
Many Glacier Ranger Station	
May 24–Sept. 19	7am–5pm
Two Medicine Ranger Station	
May 24–Sept. 19	7am–5pm

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This publication is made possible
by the Glacier National Park
Conservancy. See page 13.



Glacier National Park
CONSERVANCY

#GLACIERNPS

In addition to the park website, Glacier is also active with social media. Search for "GlacierNPS" on any of the following platforms to connect with us. Share your photos, videos, and stories about your experiences using #GlacierNPS.



Facebook Instagram Twitter YouTube Flickr



Lake McDonald.

photo / Tim Rains

NEED TO KNOW

IN AN EMERGENCY

Dial 911. If possible, contact a park ranger.

PARK REGULATIONS

Regulations are designed to protect park resources and preserve the quality of your visit. Park rangers and wardens strictly enforce park regulations.

- Do not feed or disturb wildlife.
- Do not remove any natural or cultural features like flowers, rocks, artifacts, or antlers.
- Berry picking (including huckleberries) is limited to one quart/person/day.
- Do not pick mushrooms.
- Open alcohol containers in a motor vehicle are prohibited.
- Seatbelts, or the appropriate child restraint system, must be worn by all occupants of motor vehicles.

FIREARMS

The possession of loaded firearms is legal in national parks. People can openly carry legal handguns, rifles, shotguns and other firearms and concealed guns if allowed under state statutes and permits. Firearms are prohibited in federal facilities. Check with the state of Montana for specifics at: doj.mt.gov/enforcement/concealed-weapons or dojmt.gov/features/frequently-asked-questions

The federal law does not change existing laws and regulations that prohibit the use of firearms in national parks. Hunting is illegal and target practice is also banned.

No single deterrent is 100% effective fending off threatening and attacking bears. The proper use of bear spray compared to all other methods, including firearms, has proven to be the best for preventing injury to the person and animal.

ACCESSIBILITY

A listing of Glacier's accessible facilities and programs is available at visitor centers and entrance stations or you may request a copy by contacting Glacier National Park.

The Apgar and St. Mary Visitor Centers, the Trail of the Cedars, Running Eagle Falls Nature Trail, part of the Swiftcurrent Nature Trail, the International Peace Park Pavilion, the Linnet Lake Trail (near the town of Waterton), the Waterton Townsite Trail, and the Cameron Lake Day Use area are all accessible by wheelchair.

PETS

Pets are permitted in campgrounds, along roads, and in parking areas. Pets must be on a leash no longer than 6 feet, under physical restraint, or caged at all times. Pet owners must pick up after their pets and dispose of waste properly. Pets are not to be left unattended and are not permitted on trails, in the backcountry, or in any building.

MEDICAL SERVICES

Montana Hospitals & Clinics:

Northern Rockies Medical Center
802-2nd St. E., Cut Bank, MT
(406) 873-2251

Kalispell Regional Medical Center
310 Sunny View Lane, Kalispell, MT
(406) 752-5111

North Valley Hospital
1600 Hospital Way
Whitefish, MT
(406) 863-3500

Teton Medical Center
915 4 NW, Choteau, MT
(406) 466-5763

West Glacier Clinic
100 Rea Road, West Glacier, MT
(406) 888-9924

Memorial Day through Labor Day

HAVE FUN AND STAY SAFE



McDonald Creek Falls.

photo / Bill Hayden

DROWNING

Drowning is the number one cause of fatalities in Glacier. Please use extreme caution near water. Swift, cold glacial streams and rivers, moss-covered rocks, and slippery logs all present dangers. Children, photographers, boaters, rafters, swimmers, and fishermen have fallen victim to these rapid, frigid streams and deep glacial lakes. Avoid wading in or fording swift streams. Never walk, play, or climb on slippery rocks and logs, especially around waterfalls. When boating, don't stand up or lean over the side, and always wear a life jacket.

Sudden immersion in cold water (below 80° F) may trigger the "mammalian diving reflex." This reflex restricts blood from outlying areas of the body and routes it to vital organs like the heart, lungs, and brain. The colder the water, the younger the victim, and the quicker the rescue, the better the chance for survival. Some cold-water drowning victims have survived with no brain damage after being submerged for over 30 minutes.

Drowning Revival Procedure

- Retrieve victim from water without endangering yourself.
- Prevent further body heat loss, but do not rewarm.
- Near-drowning victims may look dead. Don't let this stop you from trying to revive them! If there is no pulse, start CPR regardless of the duration of submersion.
- Delayed symptoms may occur within 24 hours. Victims must be evaluated by a physician.

HYPOTHERMIA

Hypothermia, the "progressive physical collapse and reduced mental capacity resulting from the chilling of the inner core of the human body," can occur even at temperatures above freezing. Temperatures can drop rapidly. Sudden mountain storms can turn a pleasant hike into a drenching, bitterly cold and life-threatening experience. People in poor physical condition or who are exhausted are particularly at risk.

Prevention

- Use water-resistant clothing before you become wet.
- Wear clothing that wicks moisture away.
- Minimize wind exposure and if your clothes become wet, replace them.
- Avoid sweating by dressing in layers, rather than in a single bulky garment.
- Pack a sweater, warm hat, and rain gear for any hike.

Warning Signs

- Uncontrolled shivering, slow or slurred speech, memory lapses and incoherence, lack of coordination such as immobile or fumbling hands, stumbling, a lurching gait, drowsiness, and exhaustion.

Immediate Treatment

- Seek shelter from weather and get victim into dry clothes.
- Give warm non-alcoholic drinks.
- Build a fire and keep victim awake.
- Strip victim and yourself, get into sleeping bag and make skin-to-skin contact.
- If victim is semi-conscious or worse, get professional help immediately.

SNOW AND ICE

Snowfields and glaciers present serious hazards. Snow bridges may conceal deep crevasses on glaciers or large hidden cavities under snowfields, and may collapse under the weight of an unsuspecting hiker. Don't slide on snowbanks. People often lose control and slide into rocks or trees. Exercise caution around any snowfield.

STEEP TERRAIN

Many accidents occur when people fall after stepping off trails or roadsides, or by venturing onto very steep slopes. Stay on designated trails and don't go beyond protective fencing or guard rails. Supervise children in such areas. At upper elevations, trails should be followed carefully.

HANTAVIRUS

Deer mice are possible carriers of Hantavirus. The most likely source of infection is from rodent urine and droppings inhaled as aerosols or dust. Initial symptoms are almost identical to the onset of flu. If you have potentially been exposed and exhibit flu-like symptoms, you should seek medical care immediately.

Avoid rodent infested areas. Camp away from possible rodent burrows or shelters (garbage dumps and woodpiles), and keep food in rodent-proof containers. To prevent the spread of dust in the air, spray the affected areas with a water and bleach solution (1½ cups bleach to one gallon of water).

TICKS

Ticks are most active in spring and early summer. Several serious diseases, like Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever, can be transmitted. Completely remove attached ticks and disinfect the site. If rashes or lesions form around the bite, or if unexplained symptoms occur, consult a physician.

MOUNTAIN LIONS

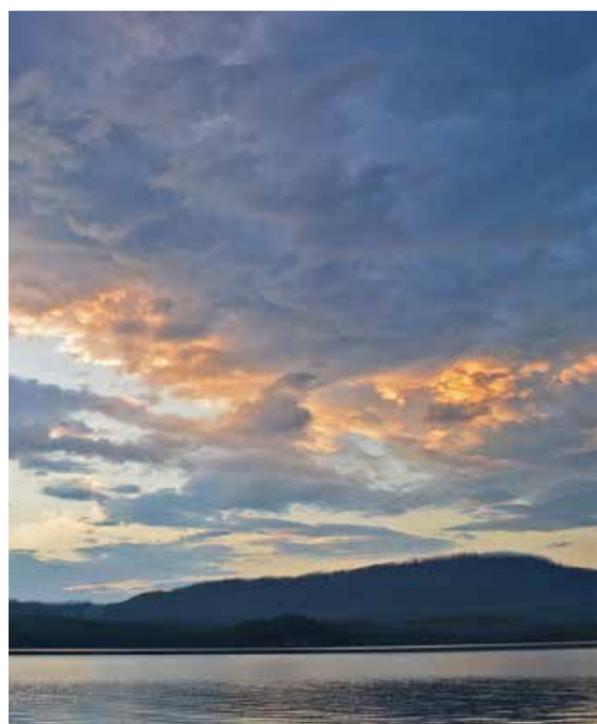
A glimpse of one of these magnificent cats would be a vacation highlight, but you need to take precautions to protect you and your children from an accidental encounter. Don't hike alone. Make noise to avoid surprising a lion and keep children close to you at all times. If you do encounter a lion, do not run. Talk calmly, avert your gaze, stand tall, and back away. Unlike with bears, if attack seems imminent, act aggressively. Do not crouch and do not turn away. Lions may be scared away by being struck with rocks or sticks, or by being kicked or hit.

Lions are primarily nocturnal, but they have attacked in broad daylight. They rarely prey on humans, but such behavior occasionally does occur. Children and small adults are particularly vulnerable. Report all mountain lion encounters immediately.



Wood Tick.

photo / Jacob W. Frank



Prepare for changing weather.

photo / Bill Hayden

PARK CAMPGROUNDS

Camping is permitted only in designated campgrounds. Campgrounds, except Fish Creek and St. Mary, are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Utility hookups are not provided.

RESERVATIONS

Visitors may make advanced reservations for sites at the Fish Creek and St. Mary campgrounds, the two group sites at St. Mary, and at five of the ten group campsites at Apgar. Regular sites are \$23 per night, group sites are \$53 for the first 9 campers and \$5 per person each additional camper up to the site limit of 24. Reservations may be made through the National Park Service Reservation Service at recreation.gov or by calling (877) 444-6777.

GROUP SITES

There are five group sites at Apgar and one each at Many Glacier and Two Medicine that are operated on a “first-come first-served” basis. These non-reservable group sites are \$50 for the first 9 campers and \$5 per person each additional camper up to the site limit of 24.

HIKER-BIKER CAMPSITES

Campsites for bicyclists and hikers are shared sites holding up to eight people. The fee is \$5 per person. The hiker-biker site at St. Mary is \$8 for the first person, and \$5 for each additional person.

CAMPFIRES

Campfires are permitted only in designated campgrounds and picnic areas where grates are provided. Collecting firewood is prohibited except along the Inside North Fork Road from Dutch Creek to Kintla Lake, along the Bowman Lake Road, and St. Mary Campground. Only dead and down wood may be collected.

Dates	Fee	Sites	Flush Toilets	Disposal Station	Hiker Biker	For Larger RV's and Additional Information
Apgar May 1–Oct. 11	\$20.00	192	Yes	Yes	Yes	The largest 25 sites have a maximum parking space of 40'. Primitive camping is available after listed dates.
Avalanche June 19–Sept. 13	\$20.00	87	Yes		Yes	The largest 50 sites have a maximum parking space of 26'.
Bowman Lake May 21–Sept. 13	\$15.00	48				Campground accessible by dirt road, large units not recommended. Primitive camping is available after listed dates.
Cut Bank June 5–Sept. 27	\$10.00	19				Campground accessible by dirt road, maximum parking space 21'. Primitive camping only, no potable water.
Fish Creek June 1–Sept. 6	\$23.00	180	Yes	Yes	Yes	The largest 18 sites have a maximum parking space of 35'. 62 additional sites will accommodate up to 27'.
Kintla Lake June 12–Sept. 13	\$15.00	13				Campground accessible by dirt road, large units not recommended. Primitive camping is available after listed dates.
Logging Creek July 1–Sept. 20	\$10.00	8				Campground accessible by dirt road, large units not recommended. Primitive camping only, no potable water.
Many Glacier May 22–Sept. 27	\$20.00	110	Yes	Yes	Yes	The largest 13 sites have a maximum parking space of 35'. Primitive camping is available after listed dates.
Quartz Creek July 1–Oct. 30.	\$10.00	7				Campground accessible by dirt road, large units not recommended. Primitive camping only, no potable water.
Rising Sun June 19–Sept. 13	\$20.00	84	Yes	Yes	Yes	The largest 10 sites have a maximum parking space of 25'.
Sprague Creek May 8–Sept. 13	\$20.00	25	Yes		Yes	No towed units. Some sites have a maximum parking space of 21'.
St. Mary* April 1–Oct. 31	\$23.00	148	Yes	Yes	Yes	Three sites up to 40' and 22 sites up to 35'. Primitive camping is available after listed dates.
Two Medicine May 22–Sept. 27	\$20.00	100	Yes	Yes	Yes	The largest 10 sites have a maximum parking space of 35'. Primitive camping is available after listed dates.

*St. Mary Campground will be a primitive, walk-in only campground April 1st -June 4th for \$10/ night. Park in the St. Mary Visitor Center parking lot and walk to Loop C, approximately a 1/2 mile.

THINGS TO DO

HIKING

Over half of the visitors to Glacier report taking a hike. That's a lot of hikers, but over 700 miles of trail provide many outstanding opportunities for short hikes, strenuous day hikes, or extended backpacking trips.

Good day hikes are plentiful, and free maps to popular trails are available at park visitor centers. Visitor center bookstores carry a complete line of trail guides, topographic maps, and field guides to aid hikers. Publications are also available by mail. To place an order call the Glacier National Park Conservancy at (406) 888-5756 or visit GlacierConservancy.org

BACKCOUNTRY CAMPING

Glacier has over 700 miles of trails and an extensive system of backcountry campgrounds. With a little planning, an overnight in Glacier's wilds can be a highlight of any trip to the park. Bookstores in park visitor centers offer many good hiking guides and maps, and staff at the parks several backcountry permit centers are available to assist in trip planning. One important requirement is a backcountry permit. Permits cost \$5 per person per night and are issued no more than 24 hours in advance. Permit issuing stations are located at:

- Apgar Backcountry Permit Center**
May 1–Sept. 30.....7am–4:30pm
Oct. 1–Oct. 31.....8am–4:00pm
- St. Mary Visitor Center**
May 24–Sept. 19.....7am–4:30pm
- Many Glacier Ranger Station**
May 24–Sept. 19.....7am–4:30pm
- Two Medicine Ranger Station**
May 24–Sept. 19.....7am–4:30pm
- Polebridge Entrance Station**
May 24–Sept. 7.....9am–4:30pm

Some stations may be closed for lunch hour. Visitors entering the backcountry at Goat Haunt or Chief Mountain trailheads may obtain their permit at the Waterton Visitor Centre (credit cards only).

WILDLIFE WATCHING

Many animals are more active at dusk and dawn. However, hiking alone or after dark is never recommended in bear country. Look in a variety of habitats. One of the park's most remarkable features is the diversity of habitats it offers. You will see different animals in forests than on the prairie or in marshy areas. Spend some time away from the roads. Glacier offers fine short walks that can reward wildlife watchers.

Learn about animal behavior. Knowing when and where to look is important. For example, in autumn elk congregate in large groups around St. Mary. Harlequin ducks and American Dippers frequent the fast moving sections of streams and creeks. Golden eagles use the McDonald Creek valley in their fall migration.

BOATING

Pick up a copy of the park's boating regulations at a visitor center or entrance station to learn about specific requirements on each lake. To guard against the introduction of aquatic invasive species, a boat inspection is required prior to launching boats.

To protect nesting Harlequin Ducks, the section of Upper McDonald Creek between Mineral Creek and Lake McDonald is closed to boating and floating from April through September 30.

One U.S. Coast Guard approved, wearable, personal floatation device (per person), of the appropriate size for the intended user, must be carried on board. This included kayaks, canoes, and paddle boards. Personal watercraft (jet skis) are prohibited on all park waters.

FISHING

A license is not required, but there are regulations that need to be followed. The general park fishing season is from the third Saturday in May to November 30. Lakes are open year-round. Several bodies of water are either closed to fishing or are catch-and-release only. Use of bait, lead weights, and sinkers is prohibited. Stop at a visitor center to obtain a copy of the current regulations.

RANGER-LED PROGRAMS

Several times daily, rangers guide easy strolls, short half-day hikes, or vigorous all-day hikes. Each evening, at major campgrounds, the campfire circle is the place to meet for programs on a host of topics to help visitors learn about and enjoy their park. Illustrated slide programs are offered nightly at Fish Creek Campground Amphitheater, St. Mary Visitor Center, Lake McDonald Lodge, and Many Glacier Hotel.

The Ranger-led Activities newspaper and schedule is available throughout the park and online. Schedules are posted online about 3 weeks before each program segment begins. Segments covers 3-4 weeks. Programs start early to mid-June and conclude in September. Information at: nps.gov/glac/planyourvisit/ranger-led-activities.htm



Father and son fishing in the park. photo / Chris Downs



Along the Highline Trail. photo / Sue Olin



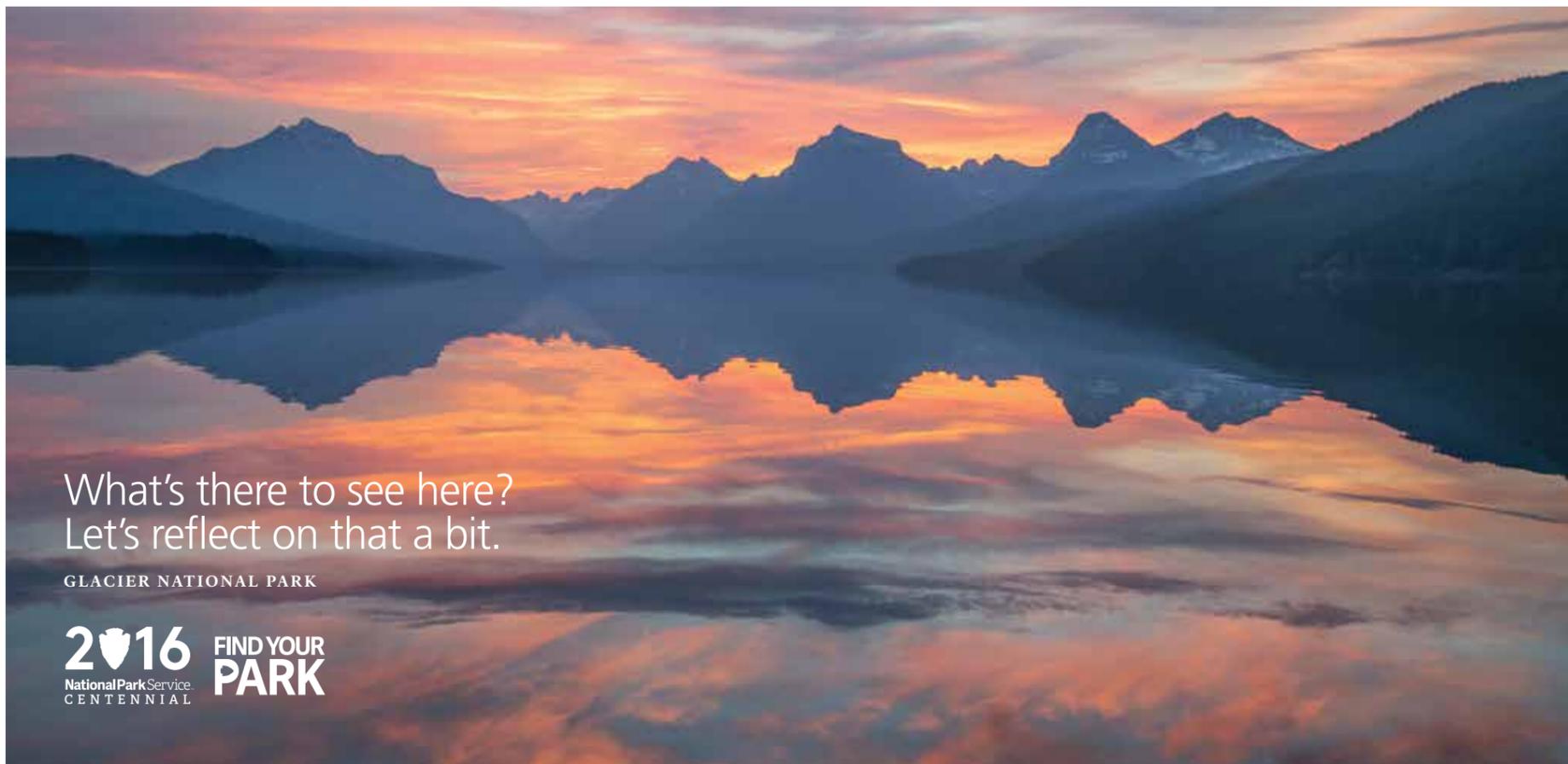
Listening to a Ranger-led Program at Logan Pass.

Photo / David Restivo



Mountain Goat.

photo / David Restivo



What's there to see here?
Let's reflect on that a bit.

GLACIER NATIONAL PARK



FIND YOUR PARK

In addition to exploring Glacier, we encourage you to visit our neighbors. Find out more at: FindYourPark.com

GRANT-KOHR'S RANCH

Wide open spaces, the hard-working cowboy, his spirited cow pony, and vast herds of cattle are among the strongest symbols of the American West. Once the headquarters of a 10 million acre cattle empire, Grant-Kohrs Ranch National Historic Site preserves these symbols and commemorates the role of cattlemen in American history.



Haying the field.

NPS photo

LITTLE BIGHORN BATTLEFIELD

This area memorializes the U.S. Army's 7th Cavalry and the Sioux and Cheyenne in one of the Indian's last armed efforts to preserve their way of life. Here on June 25 and 26 of 1876, 263 soldiers, including Lt. Col. George A. Custer and attached personnel of the U.S. Army, died fighting several thousand Lakota, and Cheyenne warriors.



Little Bighorn Battlefield.

photo / Michael Brunk

BIG HOLE BATTLEFIELD

On August 9, 1877 gun shots shattered a chilly dawn on a sleeping camp of Nez Perce. By the time the smoke cleared on August 10, almost 90 Nez Perce were dead along with 31 soldiers and volunteers. Big Hole National Battlefield was created to honor all who were there.



Big Hole Battlefield.

photo / Flickr CC stpaugirl



NEZ PERCE

Established in 1965 to tell the story of the Nez Perce (Nimiipuu) people. This park follows the route of the 1877 conflict and offers something for everyone. The history and culture of the Nez Perce surrounds the park. Discover how the Nimiipu adapted and today thrive continuing to make the land their own.



Bear Paw Battlefield.

NPS photo

BIGHORN CANYON

The wild landscape of Bighorn Canyon National Recreation Area offers visitors unparalleled opportunities to immerse themselves in the natural world and experience the wonders of this extraordinary place. Bighorn Canyon showcases an astounding diversity in ecosystems, wildlife, and more than 10,000 years of human history.



Devil Canyon Overlook.

photo / Diana Boudreau

FORT UNION TRADING POST

Between 1828 and 1867, Fort Union was the most important fur trade post on the Upper Missouri River. Here, the Assiniboine and six other Northern Plains Indian Tribes exchanged buffalo robes and smaller furs for goods from around the world, including cloth, guns, blankets, and beads. The post annually traded \$100,000 in merchandise.



Fort Union Trading Post.

photo / Scott Jones

LEWIS AND CLARK TRAIL

Between May 1804 and September 1806, 31 men, one woman, and a baby traveled from the plains of the Midwest to the shores of the Pacific Ocean. In their search for a water route to the Pacific Ocean, they opened a window into the west for the young United States. The trail passes through 11 states including Montana.



Pompey's Pillar.

photo / Bob Wick

YELLOWSTONE

Over half of the world's geysers are preserved here. They are the main reason the park was established in 1872 as America's first national park. A mountain wildland, home to grizzly bears, wolves, and herds of bison and elk, the park is the core of one of the last, nearly intact, natural ecosystems in the Earth's temperate zone.



Lone Star geyser.

photo / Neal Herbert

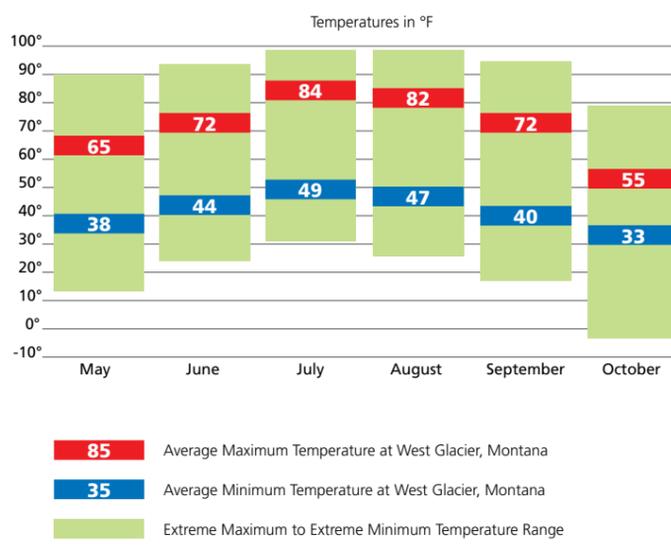
WEATHER AND CLIMATE

Glacier's summer weather is as varied as its landscape. Warm days and cool nights are the norm. Even when it's in the 80s and 90s in the daytime it can cool down into the 40s at night. Rain is common in May and June followed by great summer weather in July and August. September and October are cooler, but often the days are quite pleasant and the summer crowds are mostly gone.

The western valleys generally receive the most rainfall, but daytime temperatures can exceed 90 degrees F. It is frequently 10 to 15 degrees cooler at higher elevations, like Logan Pass. Strong winds and sunny days often predominate on the east side of the park.

The following chart shows the historic maximum and minimum temperature range for West Glacier, in light green. Average daytime highs and lows are indicated for each month. Overnight lows throughout the park can drop to freezing, and snow can fall anytime.

Prepare for a variety of weather conditions and pack accordingly. You may start the day in a T-shirt and shorts, and need a sweater or parka by evening. Dress in layers and always bring rain gear!



OFF THE BEATEN PATH

MANY GLACIER

This area in the northeastern corner of the park is often referred to as the heart of Glacier. Boat rides, horseback riding, and great hiking are all found here. Three excellent all-day hikes are the Iceberg Lake, Cracker Lake, and Grinnell Glacier trails. Roughly 10-12 miles round-trip, these moderately strenuous hikes bring visitors to unmatched subalpine scenery.

For shorter hikes, Grinnell Lake, Red Rock Falls, and the Swiftcurrent Nature Trail are good choices. Guided boat trips and horseback riding are also available.



Mt. Gould. photo / Jonathan Riner

TWO MEDICINE

Most visitors miss Two Medicine. Those who find it, are rewarded with some of the best scenic hiking to be found. Trails to Scenic Point, Cobalt Lake, Aster Park, and Old Man Lake are all excellent. Guided boat trips on Two Medicine Lake make No Name Lake, Upper Two Medicine Lake, and Twin Falls easy family trips.

Don't miss Running Eagle Falls. Site of a wheelchair-accessible nature trail, this area highlights Native American use of plants, and the spiritual importance of this site to the neighboring Blackfoot Tribe.



Running Eagle Falls. NPS Photo

THE NORTH FORK

If you have a high clearance vehicle you might enjoy a trip to the northwest corner of Glacier, but expect rough and dusty roads. The Inside North Fork Road has several narrow sections that make passing oncoming traffic a challenge. Allow all day for the drive to beautiful Kintla and Bowman Lakes. The Bowman and Kintla Lakes campgrounds are north of the Polebridge Ranger Station and two small primitive campgrounds are south of the ranger station at Logging and Quartz Creeks. Limited services offered in the town of Polebridge.



Bowman Lake. photo / Bill Hayden

AREA INFORMATION

Travel Montana

VisitMT.com / (800) 847-4868

Blackfeet Indian Reservation

Immediately east of Glacier National Park lies the home of the Blackfoot Nation.

Glacier-Waterton Visitors Association

P.O. Box 96, West Glacier, MT 59936

Flathead Convention & Visitor Bureau

FCVB.org / (800) 543-3105

Bigfork, MT

BigFork.org / (406) 837-5888

Columbia Falls, MT

ColumbiaFallsChamber.org / (406) 892-2072

Cut Bank, MT

(406) 873-4041

Kalispell, MT

KalispellChamber.com / (406) 758-2800

Whitefish, MT

WhitefishChamber.com / (406) 862-3501

Travel Alberta

TravelAlberta.com / (800) 252-3782

Calgary, Alberta

CalgaryChamber.com / (403) 750-0400

Lethbridge, Alberta

LethChamber.org / (403) 327-1586

Waterton Park, Alberta

MyWaterton.ca / (403) 859-2224

Big Hole National Battlefield

(406) 689-3155

Bighorn Canyon Natl. Recreation Area

(406) 666-2412

Fort Union Trading Post Natl. Historic Site

(406) 572-9083

Grant-Kohrs Ranch National Historic Site

(406) 846-2070 ext 250

Little Bighorn Battlefield Natl. Monument

(406) 638-2621

Nez Perce National Historical Park

(208) 843-7001

Yellowstone National Park

(307) 344-7381

Flathead National Forest

(406) 758-5200

Kootenai National Forest

(406) 293-6211

Lewis & Clark National Forest

(406) 791-7700

JUNIOR RANGER PROGRAM

Thanks to a private donation to our Junior Ranger Program children who complete a hike, in addition to doing all the other required activities in the Glacier Junior Ranger booklet, will receive our new "Let's Move" sticker along with their Junior Ranger badge.

Glacier National Park is joining with First Lady Michelle Obama's nationwide *Let's Move* campaign to encourage children to get active. The benefits of hiking in Glacier go far beyond getting exercise. Spectacular scenery, wildlife viewing, beautiful wildflowers, connecting with nature, and quality time with family and friends are some that immediately come to mind. However, it's not always that easy to hike with children. Safety concerns, fickle weather, physical limitations, not knowing the trail, and time constraints can all become good excuses for staying inside.

The good news is that Glacier has 734 miles of trail and there are many family friendly options for children of all abilities. For younger children or beginning hikers, start small with one of our level and paved nature trails. For children and families who want more of a challenge, see our *Day Hikes*

in Glacier newspaper. Make sure you are familiar with our Bear Safety guidelines and check the weather before you go. If you're still not sure you want to brave it on your own, join one of our Ranger-led hikes suitable for families and children. A schedule can be found in the *Ranger-led Activity Guide*.

Children who become Glacier Junior Rangers learn about the significant reasons this area was designated a national park. Now along with sharing that knowledge, we hope they will talk about their hiking accomplishment with friends and family and encourage others to get outside and stay active. They'll be part of a new generation of Let's Move Outside Junior Rangers.



WELCOME TO BEAR COUNTRY

MAKE NOISE

Bears will usually move out of the way if they hear people approaching, so make noise. Most bear bells are not loud enough. Calling out and clapping hands loudly at regular intervals are better ways to make your presence known. Hiking quietly endangers you, the bear, and other hikers. Don't hike alone or after dark!

A bear constantly surprised by quiet hikers may become habituated to close human contact and less likely to avoid people. This sets up a dangerous situation for both visitors and bears. **Incendiary and pyrotechnic devices, (bear bangers) used to scare away a bear, are not permitted to be possessed or used by the public in Glacier National Park.**

BEAR ENCOUNTERS

A commonly asked question is "What do I do if I run into a bear?" There is no easy answer. Like people, bears react differently to each situation. The best thing you can do is to make sure you have read all the suggestions for hiking and camping in bear country and follow them. Avoid encounters by being alert and making noise.

Bears may appear tolerant of people and then attack without warning. A bear's body language can help determine its mood. In general, bears show agitation by swaying their heads, huffing, and clacking their teeth. Lowered head and laid-back ears also indicate aggression. Bears may stand on their hind legs or approach to get a better view, but these actions are not necessarily signs of aggression. The bear may not have identified you as a person and is unable to smell or hear you from a distance.

BE ALERT

You can't predict when and where bears might be encountered along a trail. People often assume they don't have to make noise while hiking on a well-used trail. Some of the most frequently used trails in the park are surrounded by excellent bear habitat. People have been charged and injured by bears fleeing from silent hikers who unwittingly surprised them along the trail. Even if other hikers haven't seen bears along a trail section recently, don't assume that bears aren't there.

Don't assume a bear's hearing is any better than your own. Some trail conditions may make it hard for bears to see, hear, or smell approaching hikers. Be careful by streams, against the wind, or in dense vegetation. A blind corner or a rise in the trail also requires special attention.

ROADSIDE BEARS

It's exciting to see bears up close, but we must act responsibly to keep them wild and healthy. If you see a bear along the road, please do not stop. Stopping and watching roadside bears will likely start a "bear jam" as other motorists follow your lead. "Bear jams" are hazardous to both people and bears as visibility is reduced and bears may feel threatened by the congestion. Roadside bears quickly become habituated to vehicles and people, increasing their chances of being hit by motor vehicles. Habituated bears may learn that it is acceptable to frequent campgrounds or picnic areas, where they may gain access to human food. When a bear obtains human food, a very dangerous situation is created that may lead to human injury and the bear's death. Please resist the temptation to stop and get close to roadside bears – put bears first at Glacier National Park.

BEAR ATTACKS

The vast majority of bear attacks have occurred because people have surprised a bear. In this type of situation the bear may attack as a defensive maneuver. In rare cases, bears have attacked at night or after stalking people. These types of attacks are very serious because it may mean the bear is viewing you as prey. If you are attacked at night or if you feel you have been stalked and attacked as prey, try to escape. If you cannot escape or if the bear follows, use bear spray, or shout and try to intimidate the bear with a branch or rock. Do whatever it takes to let the bear know you are not easy prey. If you surprise a bear, here are a few guidelines to follow that may help:

- Stop. Talk quietly or not at all. Do not run! Do not drop your backpack. Back away slowly, but stop if it seems to agitate the bear.
- Think and Observe. Quickly assess the situation. Does the bear see you? Is the bear behaving defensively or some other way? Is it a grizzly or black bear? Are there cubs present? Avoid direct eye contact with the bear as this may seem threatening.
- Plan. Can you safely move away? If you can, do so. Is your bear spray accessible and ready to use? Which way is the wind blowing? What will you do if the bear charges? Never drop food for the bear!
- Act. If the bear attacks and you have bear spray, use it! If the bear makes contact, protect your chest and abdomen by falling to the ground on your stomach, or assuming a fetal position to reduce the severity of an attack. Cover the back of your neck with your hands. If you have a pack on, it may help protect your back. If it's an attack by a defensive grizzly bear, try to remain quiet and motionless until the attack ends. Don't try to leave until you're sure the bear has left the scene. If it's a black bear, or if the attack is prolonged and no longer defensive, fight back!

BEAR SPRAY

This aerosol pepper derivative triggers temporarily incapacitating discomfort in bears. It is a non-toxic and non-lethal means of deterring bears.

There have been cases where bear spray apparently repelled aggressive or attacking bears and accounts where it has not worked as well as expected. Factors influencing effectiveness include distance, wind, rainy weather, temperature extremes, and product shelf life.

If you decide to carry spray, use it only in situations where aggressive bear behavior justifies its use. Bear spray is intended to be sprayed into the face of an oncoming bear. It is not intended to act as a repellent. Do not spray gear or around camp with bear spray.

Under no circumstances should pepper spray create a false sense of security or serve as a substitute for standard safety precautions in bear country.

Be aware that you may not be able to cross the U.S./Canada border with some brands of bear spray. Canadian Customs will allow the importation of USEPA-approved bear spray into Canada. Specifications state that the bear spray must have USEPA on the label.



Never leave gear unattended. photo / Terry Dossey



Bear looking for picnic scraps. NPS photo

OVERNIGHT CAMPING

Odors attract bears. Our campgrounds and developed areas can remain "unattractive" to bears if each visitor and employee manages food and trash properly. Regulations require that all edibles (including pet food), food containers (empty or not), and cookware (clean or not) be stored in a hard-sided vehicle, food locker, or hung when not in use, day or night.

- Keep a clean camp! Improperly stored or unattended food will likely result in confiscation of items and/or issuance of a Violation Notice.
- Inspect campsites for bear sign and for careless campers nearby. Please notify a park ranger of any potential problems that you may notice.
- Place all trash in bearproof containers.
- Pets, especially dogs, must be kept under physical restraint.
- Report all bear sightings or encounters to the nearest ranger or warden immediately.

A FED BEAR IS A DEAD BEAR! PLEASE ENSURE THAT ALL FOOD AND GARBAGE ARE STORED OUT OF REACH OF BEARS AT ALL TIMES.

GRIZZLY OR BLACK BEAR

Waterton-Glacier International Peace Park is home to both black and grizzly bears. Even for experts, it is sometimes difficult to distinguish between the species. The following clues will help you to tell the species apart.

Color is not a reliable indicator of species. Contrary to their name, black bears also come in brown, cinnamon, and blond. Grizzlies range from blond to nearly black. Grizzlies sometimes have silver-tipped guard hairs that give them a "grizzled" appearance.

DON'T APPROACH BEARS

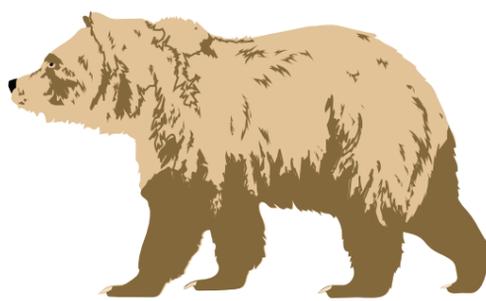
Bears spend a lot of time eating, so be especially alert in obvious feeding areas like berry patches, cow parsnip thickets, or fields of glacier lilies. Keep children close by. Hike in groups and avoid hiking early in the morning, late in the day, or after dark.

Never intentionally get close to a bear. Individual bears have their own personal space requirements which vary depending on their mood. Each will react differently and its behavior can't be predicted. All bears can be dangerous and should be respected.



Black Bear

Shoulder: No hump
Ears: Taller
Face: Straight profile
Front Claws: Dark ~ 1.5" long



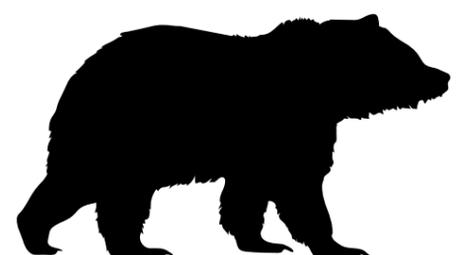
Grizzly Bear

Hump
Short rounded
Dished profile
Light ~ 2-4" long



0 75 feet

0 25 yards



300 feet

100 yards

Approaching, remaining, viewing or engaging in any activity within 100 yards of bears or wolves, or within 25 yards of any other wildlife is prohibited.

KEEPING WILDLIFE WILD

Prairie, Rocky Mountain, and west coast plants all meet in Waterton-Glacier. Add in the effects of natural processes like fire, floods, and avalanches and you end up with a varied landscape which provides homes for many different species of animals.

Please take the time to learn about the wildlife and respect their need for undisturbed space. Although some animals spend part of the year close to roads and developed areas where they are easy to observe, enjoy viewing them at a distance. While some animals appear to tolerate people, approaching too close can disturb them from feeding areas or travel routes.

Visitors must stay at least 100 yards away from bears and wolves and at least 25 yards from any other animal. Use binoculars or a telephoto lens to improve your view. Keep the animal's line of travel or escape route clear and move away if wildlife approaches you.

"Animal jams" occur when many people stop along the road to view wildlife. In their excitement, some folks forget they need to be aware not only of safety concerns related to wildlife, but also traffic hazards. Slow down and pull over carefully. Remain in your vehicle, safe from wildlife and traffic, and move on in a short time so others can watch. If you are too close to an animal, on a hill, curve, or in heavy traffic, drive by slowly and avoid stopping.

Because park animals are wild, they remain unpredictable, and may strike out with antlers, horns, teeth, hooves, or claws without warning. Animals may be hit by cars if they hang around parking lots and roads, and habituated animals often have to be relocated or killed.

How can you help? Enjoy wildlife from a distance and keep all food and garbage properly stored. We all share responsibility to keep the park healthy and wild.



Pileated Woodpecker.

photo / Bill Hayden

NEVER FEED PARK WILDLIFE! WILD ANIMALS CAN BECOME HABITUATED, LEADING TO BEGGING AND AGGRESSIVE BEHAVIOR.



Radio Collared Mt. Goat.

NPS Photo

RESEARCH AT LOGAN PASS

Visitors may notice something a little different about mountain goats in the Logan Pass area. Some of them will be sporting radio collars! As part of a three year study that began late summer of 2013, park staff and researchers started to capture mountain goats and fit them with the radio collars. The study is part of the overarching Going-to-the-Sun Road Corridor Management Plan environmental compliance process and will provide information and insight into the challenges inherent in understanding relationships among people and wildlife and how roads can influence these interactions. In the Logan Pass and Highline Trail regions, mountain goats and people interact frequently. Little is known about direct or indirect consequences of such behavior and if such interactions are desirable. This study will help frame a broader understanding of how mountain goats are affected by roads, people and possible predators, and adjacent trails.

Key objectives of the study are to determine:

- whether the same or different goats use Logan Pass and the Highline area yearly,
- timing of movements into and beyond the Logan Pass/Highline Trail area, and
- relationships between goats and humans, particularly patterns of habituation and goat-directed aggression, if at all, to humans.

Additional components of the study will assess the extent to which goat reliance on humans result in 'unnatural' behavior including patterns of grouping and sex differences in attraction to human constructs, whether goats use roads, popular adjacent trails, and people as safe havens from predators, and effectiveness of possible deterrents to problem goats.

There are two type of collars in use, VHF and GPS, that utilize different technology to collect data. VHF collars only collect a data point when they are located by an observer on the ground or in an aircraft, whereas the GPS collars collect a data point every couple of hours and then transmit that information via satellite to the researcher's computer. The collars are fitted with a device that is programmed to disengage thus allowing the collar to fall off the animal without it having to be handled again. So if you are lucky enough to observe one of the animals that is helping us answer these complex questions, please do so from a safe distance, and know that those specific animals are temporarily helping park managers to better understand how actions of humans can influence a myriad of wildlife species.



Elk.

photo / Bill Hayden



Cow Moose.

photo / Bill Hayden



Ground Squirrel.

photo / Jonathan Riner



Fox.

photo / Mark Wagner

AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES



PROTECTING OUR WATERS

Waterton-Glacier International Peace Park is dominated by large fjord-like glacial lakes. For many visitors they are a primary destination. Boating, fishing, or just plain hanging out on the shore and skipping rocks are the stuff of magical memories. We need your help to keep it that way.

On the surface things look fine, but in the past stocking of non-native fish changed the ecosystems of most park lakes. These fish out compete native species for food and habitat. We need to prevent additional non-native species of animals or plants from accidentally being introduced, because each small change effects the overall health of park waters.

Now there is a new and serious threat. Imagine a future where going to your favorite rock-skiing beach, you find the shoreline matted with tens of thousands of small mussel shells, with everything cemented together in a sharp, smelly mess. Imagine once productive fisheries wiped out by these new invaders. It's not science fiction, impacts are already occurring in waters in the Great Lakes, eastern provinces and states, the prairies and plains, and more recently in the southwest United States.

Since the 1980's freshwater zebra and quagga mussels have steadily advanced westward, presumably transported on trailered boats. In February of 2012 a mussel-carrying boat was intercepted at a marina on Flathead Lake. The boat had come from the southwest. Flathead Lake is just downstream from Glacier.

Protecting the waters of the Peace Park requires immediate action, both by the parks and by every boater. This summer a permit to launch a boat in either park is mandatory. The regulations specific to each park are slightly different. It is imperative that all boaters comply with these regulations.

BOATING PERMIT REGULATIONS

- Motorized boats and trailered watercraft, such as sailboats, will need an inspection and launch permit. Other watercraft will need a self-certification form (available at ranger stations, visitor centers, backcountry permit offices, and at many boat launches). The signed form should be kept while on the water.
- Between Memorial Day and Labor Day, permits will be available 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. at Park Headquarters, in West Glacier. Permits are also available, between 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., at the St. Mary Visitor Center, and the Two Medicine and Many Glacier Ranger Stations. Boaters in the North Fork should obtain permits at Park Headquarters. Boaters planning on early morning or late evening trips should plan accordingly.
- A new permit will be required upon each entry into the park. A boat may launch multiple times provided the boat does not leave the park between launches.
- A full inspection will be required for each permit. Inspections may take upwards of 30 minutes. Boaters should factor inspection time into their recreation plans.
- To qualify for a permit, boats must be clean, drained and thoroughly dry (including bilge areas and livewells) on inspection.
- Boats with internal ballast tanks or other enclosed compartments that exchange water with the environment, that cannot be readily opened and fully inspected are prohibited within Glacier National Park.
- Boats that fail to pass the inspection will be denied a permit. Boaters may re-apply for a permit after the boat is thoroughly cleaned, drained and dried.
- Boats found with certain infestations of aquatic invasive species may be quarantined until they can be fully decontaminated. Depending on the infestation, this may take up to 30 days.

PARK ROADS AND TRAVEL

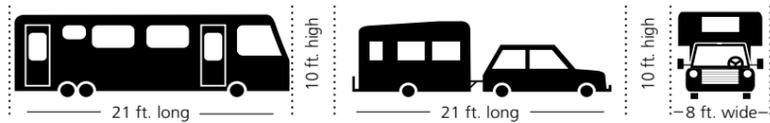
DRIVING

A drive across the park on the Going-to-the-Sun Road is a highlight of any visit. This 50-mile road combines both history and unparalleled scenery. While portions of the road remain open year-round, the higher sections only open after winter snows are plowed. Ongoing road rehabilitation work may cause delays of no more than 30 minutes total. Please allow additional driving time.

When driving the road remember to keep an eye out for wildlife. Animals frequently dart out into the road. Also, for some people driving the road this will be their first experience with steep mountainous terrain. They may be going slow and might stray into the oncoming lane. Remain alert. If you find that several cars have backed up behind you, pull over in one of the many scenic turn outs provided and enjoy the views, while the other cars pass. Mornings and evenings have the best lighting for photos. In mid-day the road is often crowded and parking at destinations (like Logan Pass and St. Mary Falls) may be full. Plan your day accordingly.

SIZE RESTRICTIONS

Length and width restrictions are in effect on the Going-to-the-Sun Road. Vehicles, and vehicle combinations, longer than 21 feet (including bumpers) or wider than 8 feet (including mirrors), are prohibited between Avalanche Campground and Rising Sun. Vehicles over 10 feet in height may have difficulty driving west from Logan Pass, due to rock overhangs. Stock trucks and trailers may access Packers Roost and Siyeh Bend.



Scenic turnouts are found all along the road.

photo / Bill Hayden



Going-to-the-Sun Road East Tunnel.

photo / Ray Radigan



Shuttle at Logan Pass.

photo / Ray Radigan

ROAD REHABILITATION

While the exact date for the full opening of the upper section of the Going-to-the-Sun Road is dependent on weather and plowing progress, it will not open any earlier than Friday, June 19 at 7:00am.

For the majority of the 2015 summer season, between Friday, June 19 and Monday, September 20 at 7:00am, travelers should expect construction activities between Siyeh Bend and St. Mary, Monday through Friday with some areas experiencing heavier construction than others. Work includes utility upgrades, parking improvements, roadway preparation and paving operations along this 15 mile segment. This season, unlike past years, construction related nighttime delays are not anticipated.

Beginning 7:00am Monday, September 20, the road will be closed to vehicular traffic between Logan Pass and a point near the St. Mary Campground to facilitate accelerated construction on the east side.

Sun Point is closed to all visitor traffic including picnicking, transit, restroom use and hiking.

Prior to the road fully opening for vehicle traffic and during the fall accelerated construction period after September 20, hiker and bicycle travel will be restricted in construction areas while construction is underway. Advance signing will be posted to advise visitors of restrictions and any hazardous conditions.

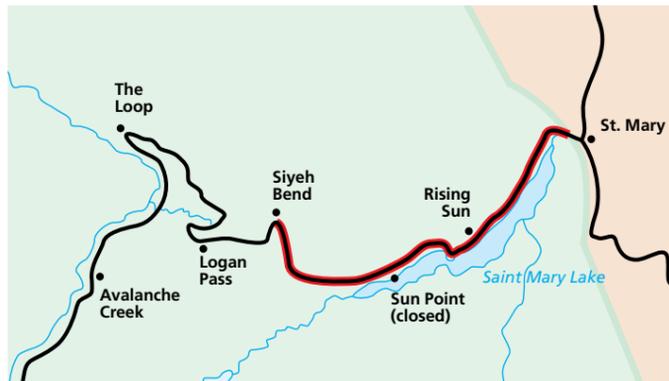
Many of the points of interest on the east side will be difficult to access by private vehicle during construction operations. Shuttle access is recommended for Jackson Glacier, Gunsight pass, St. Mary Falls, and Sunrifle Gorge.



Rose Creek bridge.

photo / Jack Gordon

2015 CONSTRUCTION ZONE



TRAFFIC AND PARKING

During the summer many of the parking areas throughout the park will fill to capacity early in the day. This is especially true for Logan Pass, St. Mary Falls Trailhead, Avalanche Creek, Sunrifle Gorge, and several other locations along the Going-to-the-Sun Road.

Expect the Logan Pass parking lot to fill around 10:30am most mornings and remain full until mid-afternoon. The Avalanche Creek parking area and the small parking spots near St. Mary Falls and Sunrifle Gorge fill everyday.

Many of the most popular locations are serviced by the Going-to-the-Sun Road Shuttle System. With a bit of pre-planning you will be able to visit these area without the hassle of finding a place to park your car.



Logan Pass at mid-day.

photo / Ray Radigan

USING THE SHUTTLE SYSTEM

Glacier's free shuttle service provides access for visitors to visitor centers, trailheads, campgrounds, and lodges along the Going-to-the-Sun Road. This year the shuttle service starts July 1 and runs through September 7.

The Apgar Visitor Center is the shuttle hub on the west side of the park. Shuttles providing service to all west side locations depart at 9:00am and run about every 15-30 minutes until 7:00pm, when the last shuttle leaves Logan Pass.

Prior to 9:00am there is limited service to some spots on the west side.

- At 7:00am and 7:18am there are express trips from the Apgar Visitor Center straight to Logan Pass, without intermediate stops, and then continuing on to St. Mary making all regularly scheduled stops.
- At 7:36am an express shuttle departs the Apgar Visitor Center straight to Logan Pass, where a connection can be made to the St. Mary Shuttle.
- At 7:56am shuttles begin service about every 15-30 minutes from the Apgar Visitor Center, with stops at the Avalanche Creek, The Loop and Logan Pass Shuttle Stops.

There is no shuttle service to Apgar Village, Apgar Campground, Sprague Creek, or Lake McDonald Lodge prior to the 9:00am departure from the Apgar Visitor Center.

Due to heavy demand, only limited seating may be available for passengers waiting at The Loop. At a minimum, two seats will be available on all shuttles arriving at The Loop.

The St. Mary Visitor Center is the transit hub for the east side. East side shuttles begin service at the visitor center starting at 7:00am and depart every 40 to 60 minutes. The last shuttles of the day leave Logan Pass at 7:00pm. Refer to the map on the opposite page for transit stop locations.

You will need to transfer one, or possibly, two times to travel from one end of the Going-to-the-Sun Road to the other. Transfer points are located at Avalanche Creek and Logan Pass. Signs on the shuttles indicate their destinations. Information at the Apgar Visitor Center and St. Mary Visitor Center will aid with trip planning and questions.

BICYCLING

Bicyclists must comply with all traffic regulations and must ride under control at all times. Keep to the right side of the road, ride in single file, and pull over if there are four or more vehicles behind you. During periods of low visibility or between sunset and sunrise, a white light or reflector visible from a distance of at least 500 feet in front and a red light or reflector visible from at least 200 feet to the rear must be exhibited on the operator or bicycle. The more visible you are, the safer you will be! Bicycles are prohibited on trails except the Apgar and Fish Creek Bike Paths, and the Flathead Ranger Station trail. Watch for falling rocks, drainage grates, and debris. You may encounter gravel surfaces in construction areas. Helmets are recommended.

BICYCLING RESTRICTIONS

From June 15 through Labor Day, the following sections of the Going-to-the-Sun Road are closed to bicycle use between 11:00am and 4:00pm:

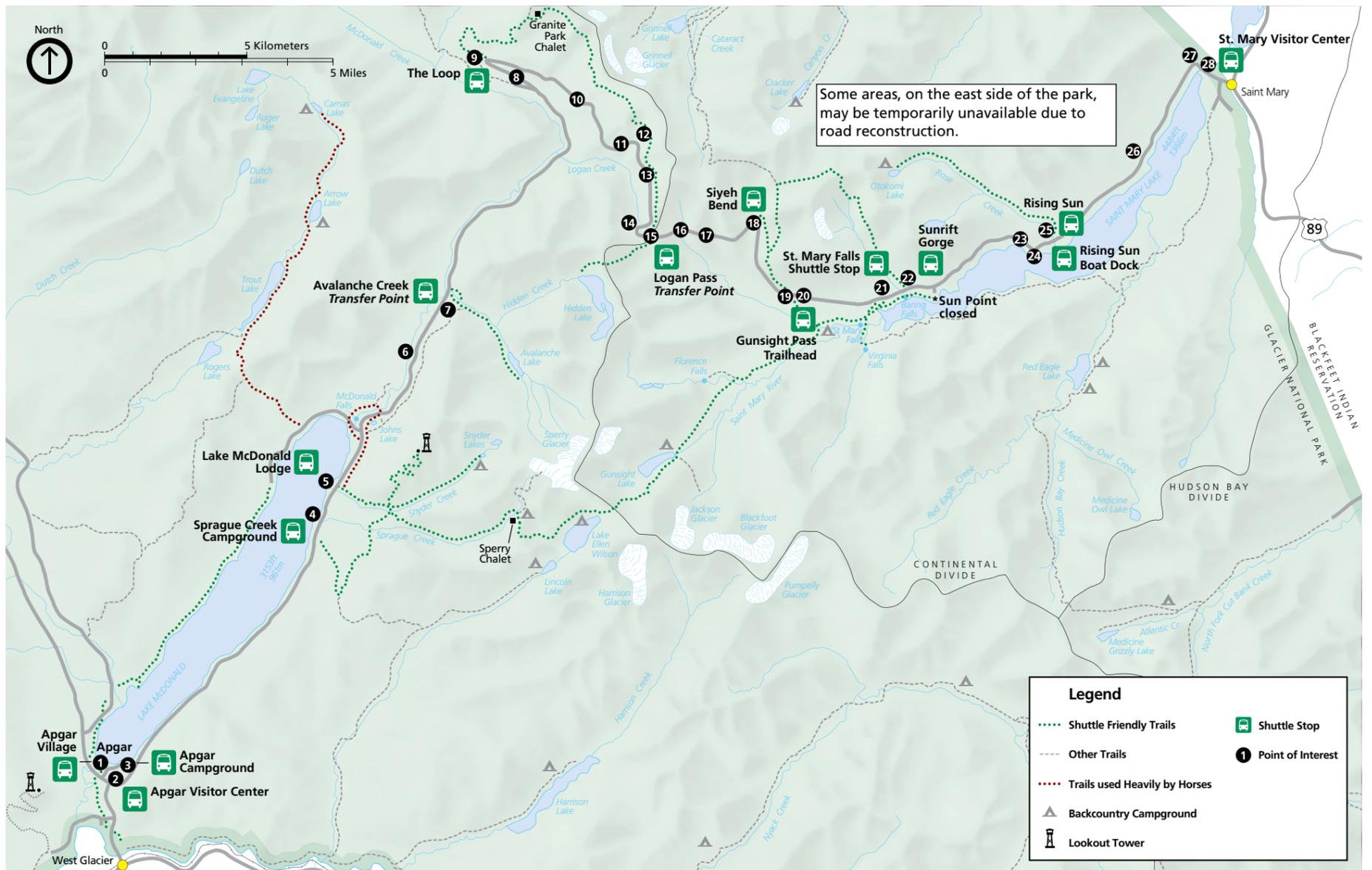
- Eastbound and westbound from the Apgar turnoff to Sprague Creek Campground.
- Eastbound (up hill) from Logan Creek to Logan Pass.

Allow 45 minutes to ride from Sprague Creek to Logan Creek and three hours from Logan Creek to Logan Pass. Roads are narrow; please ride safely.

ELEVATIONS

Lake McDonald.....	3150ft.	960m
Logan Pass	6640ft.	2024m
Many Glacier.....	4900ft.	1494m
Polebridge.....	3600ft.	1097m
St. Mary Lake	4500ft.	1372m
Two Medicine	5150ft.	1570m
Walton	3900ft.	1189m
Waterton	4200ft.	1280m

POINTS OF INTEREST



McDonald Creek Overlook. photo / Bill Hayden



Weeping Wall. photo / David Restivo



Jackson Glacier Overlook. photo / David Restivo



Two Dog Flats. photo / David Restivo

1 Apgar Village

Lodges, gift shops, and food service make Apgar the hub of activity on the west side.

2 Apgar Visitor Center

The Apgar Visitor Center offers visitor information services and serves as the shuttle hub for the west side of the park.

3 Apgar Campground

Apgar is the largest campground in the park and makes a great base camp for explorations of the west side of Glacier.

4 Sprague Creek Campground

Get here early to obtain one of the sites right on the water. No towed units are permitted, making this a favorite of tent campers.

5 Lake McDonald Lodge

On the shores of Lake McDonald, the lodge is reminiscent of a Swiss chalet with a hunting lodge atmosphere. Boat tours and horseback rides depart from here.

6 McDonald Creek Overlook

McDonald Creek looks placid and calm for most of the summer, but early season visitors see a thundering torrent carrying trees and boulders.

7 Avalanche Creek

Explore the dense cedar-hemlock forest on the Trail of the Cedars Nature Trail, a hike to Avalanche Lake, a picnic, or by camping at one of the most popular sites in the park.

8 West Tunnel

As you drive through the West Tunnel, imagine the time and manpower it took to bore through 192 feet of mountain using 1926 technology.

9 The Loop

This only switchback on the Going-to-the-Sun Road affords a scenic view of Heavens Peak and an up-close look at the aftermath of the Trapper Fire of 2003. A strenuous, 4-mile hike to Granite Park Chalet begins here.

10 Bird Woman Falls Overlook

Across the valley, Bird Woman Falls cascades 492 feet from the slopes of Mt. Oberlin.

11 Weeping Wall

Roll up your windows as you pass the Weeping Wall. A gushing waterfall in spring, the flow reduces to a mere trickle in late summer.

12 Big Bend

One of the most spectacular views from the Going-to-the-Sun Road is at Big Bend. As its name suggests, this big bend in the road provides enough room to park and take in the views of Mt. Canon, Mt. Oberlin, Heavens Peak, and the Weeping Wall.

13 Triple Arches

This architectural and engineering marvel is best seen by eastbound travelers on the road.

14 Oberlin Bend

Oberlin Bend is just west of Logan Pass below cascading waterfalls of Mt. Oberlin. A short boardwalk offers views of hanging valleys and the Going-to-the-Sun Road as it winds across the landscape below the Garden Wall. Don't be surprised if you see mountain goats.

15 Logan Pass

Logan Pass sits on the Continental Divide at 6,646 feet. Alpine meadows filled with wildflowers carpet the hillsides. Mountain goats and marmots are frequently seen along with the occasional grizzly bear. The popular Hidden Lake and Highline trails begin here.

16 Lunch Creek

Surrounded by carpets of wildflowers in the summer, Lunch Creek flows down a natural rock staircase from the striking backdrop of Pollack Mountain.

17 East Tunnel

The East Side Tunnel was one of the most difficult challenges on the Going-to-the-Sun Road. This 408-foot tunnel through Piegan Mountain often has waterfalls cascading down the portal.

18 Siyeh Bend

Located at a prominent bend on the Going-to-the-Sun Road, the Siyeh Bend Shuttle Stop marks the transition between the higher elevation sub-alpine vegetation and the forests of the east side. Several day hikes begin here.

19 Jackson Glacier Overlook

Stop here for the best view of a glacier from anywhere on the Going-to-the-Sun Road.

20 Gunsight Pass Trailhead

Backpackers or physically-fit day hikers up for an all-day, strenuous adventure can ascend to the Continental Divide and gain access to subalpine lakes, the historic Sperry Chalet, and many unparalleled mountainous vistas.

21 St. Mary Falls Shuttle Stop

This stop accesses one of the most popular hikes in the park. The hike offers a short stroll down to the valley floor, crossing the stream below the roaring St. Mary Falls.

22 Sunrift Gorge

A spectacular view of a water-carved gorge is just a short 75 foot walk. Look for dippers in the creek. These chunky, slate-grey birds are often sighted along rushing streams, foraging for aquatic insects.

23 Wild Goose Island

This is one of the most frequently photographed spots in the park. Tiny Wild Goose Island offers a striking counter-point to the majestic peaks in the background.

24 Golden Staircase

This large pullout along Saint Mary Lake offers views of Saint Mary Lake as well as an opportunity to marvel at the skill of the builders of the Going-to-the-Sun Road.

25 Rising Sun

The prairies meet the mountains at Rising Sun where spectacular sunrises sparkle across the surface of Saint Mary Lake. Guided boat tours allow visitors to experience towering mountain peaks, from a perspective not available on the Going-to-the-Sun Road.

26 Two Dog Flats

This native grassland community provides habitat for a number of species. Hawks prey on small mammals while songbirds forage for seeds and insects. Two Dog Flats supplies winter range for a large elk population.

27 St. Mary Campground

St. Mary campground is the largest campground on the east side of Glacier National Park, and is conveniently located approximately one half mile from the St. Mary Visitor Center.

28 St. Mary Visitor Center

The St. Mary Visitor Center includes an information desk, backcountry permits, an auditorium with park films shown throughout the day, exhibits, on-site interpretive programs, the east side shuttle hub, and a Glacier National Park Conservancy store.

DISCOVER GLACIER



THE NORTH FORK

The North Fork is one of the most uncrowded sections of Glacier National Park. Rough dirt roads tend to reduce visitation and yet those that do travel here are rewarded with views of Bowman and Kintla Lakes, a homesteading site, the entire Livingston Range, and chances to see and hear park wildlife. A visit to this primitive and rustic location will transport you back in time.



View along North Fork Road. photo / Tim Rains



Bowman Lake.

photo / Jacob W. Frank



LAKE MCDONALD VALLEY

Lake McDonald is the hub of activity on the west side. Campgrounds, lodging, shops, restaurants, and trails all surround the lake. The ten mile long and nearly 500 feet deep lake is the result of a massive glacier that once filled the valley and carved out the deep basin that is today filled with water. Lake McDonald is known for its spectacular sunsets.



Lake McDonald.

photo / Jacob W. Frank



McDonald Creek Falls.

photo / Tim Rains



Avalanche Lake.

photo / Tim Rains



LOGAN PASS

Logan Pass is the highest point along the Going-to-the-Sun Road at 6,646 feet. This destination on the Continental Divide is extremely popular with visitors interested in hiking, watching wildlife, and viewing the spectacular alpine scenery. Parking fills daily so arrive early or use the free park shuttle.



Granite Park in bloom with glacier lillies.

photo / Jacob W. Frank

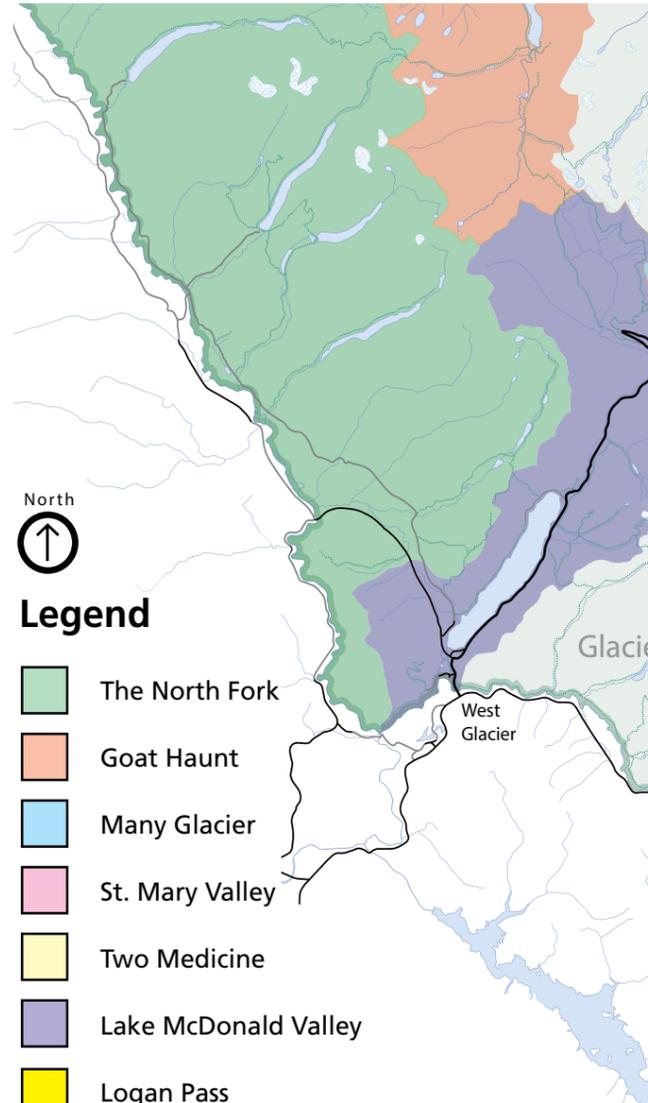


GOAT HAUNT

Goat Haunt offers opportunities to explore Glacier away from the crowds. Access this unique location by historic boat from Waterton Lakes National Park, 100 feet through Glacier's backcountry trails. Visitors to Goat Haunt can hike if they wish to hike further south into Glacier National Park. At the border of the United States and Canada are permitted access to the U.S. through



Goat Haunt sunrise.



For a detailed list of services and facilities, hours of operation, and more information, visit www.nps.gov/glacier.



Baby goat near Logan Pass.

photo / Tim Rains

crowds. Most visitors ac-
 tional Park in Canada, or by
 will need to bring a passport
 his time, only citizens of the
 h this limited port of entry.



photo / Jacob W. Frank



MANY GLACIER

Massive mountains, active glaciers, sparkling lakes, hiking trails, and abundant wildlife make this a favorite of visitors and locals alike. Many Glacier is also a destination where one can travel by car, foot, boat, or horseback to get a closer look at alpine glaciers.

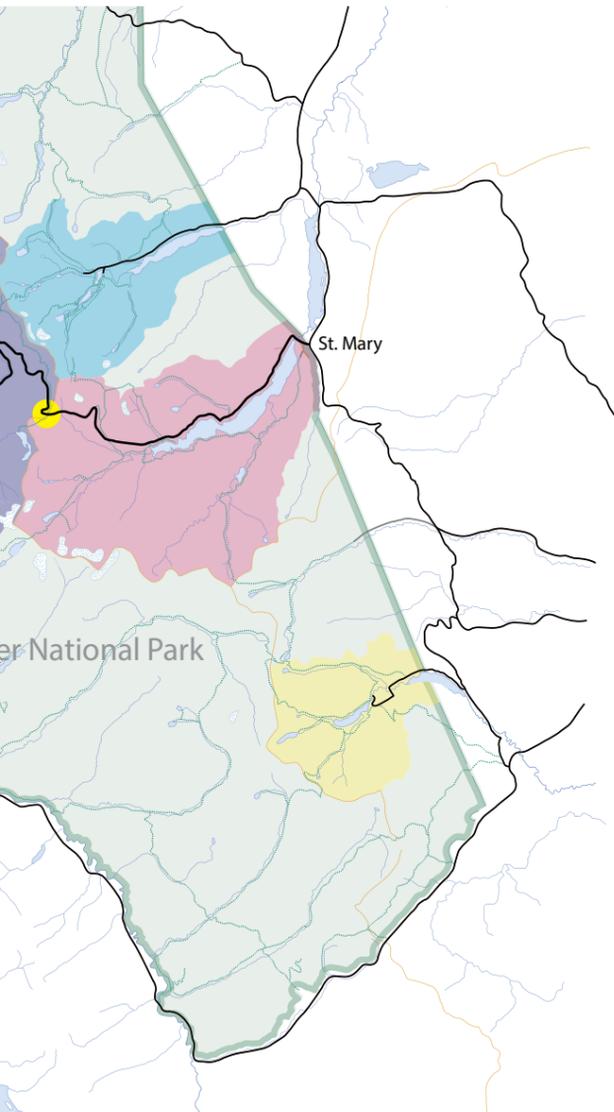


Many Glacier valley.



Overlooking Grinnell Lake.

photo / Jacob W. Frank



- Restroom  Boat Ramp  Food and Lodging 
- Shuttle Stop  Boat Tour  Camp Store 

of operation, and contact information refer to page 12.



Hidden Lake sunset.

photo / Tim Rains



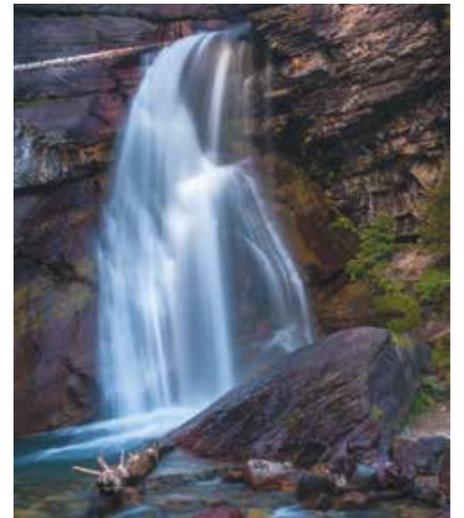
ST. MARY VALLEY

The St. Mary Valley is the eastern gateway to the park. Prairies, mountains, and forests all converge here to create a diverse and rich habitat for plants and animals. A drive along Saint Mary Lake provides some of the most incredible vistas available in the park. St. Mary Valley is known for its spectacular sunrises.



Virginia Falls.

photo / Jacob W. Frank



Baring Falls.

photo / Jacob W. Frank



St. Mary Valley and Wild Goose Island.

photo / David Restivo



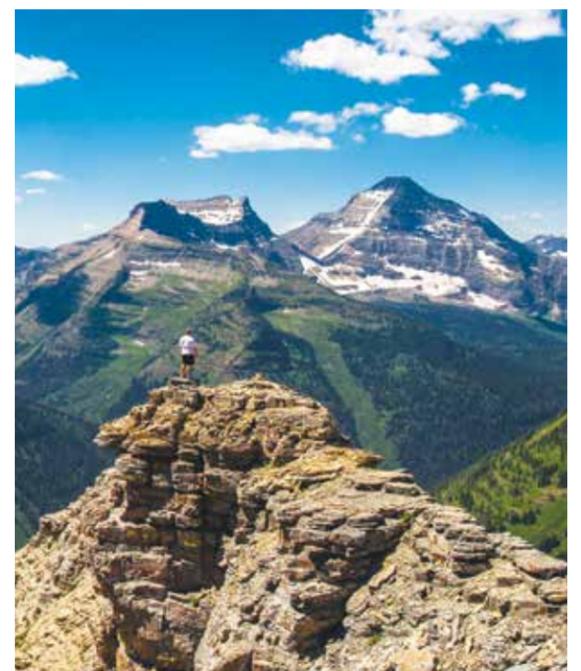
TWO MEDICINE

Before the Going-to-the-Sun Road was constructed, Two Medicine was a primary destination for travelers arriving by train. Today, backpackers and dayhikers find this area rich in scenery, providing those willing to travel by foot into the mountains with a true wilderness experience. Boat tours are also available on Two Medicine Lake.



Aster Falls.

photo / Jacob W. Frank



Hiker near Dawson Pass.

photo / Jacob W. Frank

SERVICES AND FACILITIES

Apgar	Lodging	Village Inn Motel Apgar Village Lodge	May 29.....Sept. 20 May 22.....Sept. 27	Call (855) 733-4522 for advance reservations or (406) 888-5632 for same day reservations Call (406) 888-5484 for reservations
	Food Service	Eddie's Restaurant	May 16..... late-Sept.	Breakfast, lunch, and dinner
	Campstore/Gift Shops	Eddie's Campstore The Cedar Tree Schoolhouse Gifts Montana House	May 1 October mid-May late-Sept. mid-May mid-Oct. Open all year	
	Horseback Rides	Apgar Corral	May 23.....Sept. 7	Call local (406) 387-4405 or toll free (877) 888-5557 for schedule and information
	Boat Rentals	Glacier Park Boat Co.	May 30 Aug. 31	Small boat rentals including rowboats, paddle boards, canoes, single and double kayaks, and 8hp & 10hp motors. June and Sept. hours are 10:00am to 6:00pm (last rental out at 5:00pm). July 1 through Labor Day hours are 9:00am to 7:00pm (last rental out at 6:00pm).
Lake McDonald	Lodging	Lake McDonald Lodge Motel Lake McDonald	May 22.....Sept. 30 May 29.....Sept. 27	Call (855) 733-4522 for advance reservations or (406) 888-5431 for same day reservations Call (406) 226-5690 for advance reservations.
	Food Service	Russell's Fireside Dining Room	May 22.....Sept. 30	Lake McDonald Lodge - breakfast, lunch, and dinner
		Jammer Joe's Grill & Pizzeria	June 13 Sept. 13	Lunch and dinner
		Lucke's Lounge	May 22.....Sept. 30	Lake McDonald Lodge - opens 11:30am daily
	Campstore	Lodge Campstore Lodge Gift Shop	May 22.....Sept. 30 May 22.....Sept. 30	Groceries, fishing and camping supplies, firewood, and gifts Lake McDonald Lodge
	Scenic Boat Tours	Glacier Park Boat Co.	May 23.....Sept. 20	Narrated tours of Lake McDonald - 1 hour. Daily tours at 11:00am, 1:30pm, 3:00pm, 5:30pm, and 7:00pm. After Labor Day 1:30pm, 3:00pm, and 5:30pm tours only. Rowboat and motorboat rentals available 10:00am to 8:00pm daily (last rental out at 7:00pm). After Labor Day boat rentals available 1:00pm to 6:30pm (last rental out at 5:30pm). Call (406) 257-2426 for information and rentals.
Horseback Rides	Lake McDonald Corral	May 30.....Sept. 27	Call local (406) 387-4405 or toll free (877) 888-5557 for schedule and information	
Many Glacier	Lodging	Many Glacier Hotel Swiftcurrent Motor Inn	June 10Sept. 21 June 16Sept. 20	Call (855) 733-4522 for advance reservations or (406) 732-4411 for same day reservations Call (855) 733-4522 for advance reservations or (406) 732-5531 for same day reservations
	Food Service	Ptarmigan Dining Room	June 10Sept. 21	Many Glacier Hotel - breakfast, lunch, and dinner
		Swiss Lounge	June 10Sept. 21	Many Glacier Hotel - opens 11:30am daily
		Italian Garden Ristorante Heidi's	June 16Sept. 20 June 10Sept. 21	Swiftcurrent Motor Inn - Breakfast, lunch, and dinner Espresso, food, retail
	Campstore	Swiftcurrent Campstore Many Glacier Hotel Gift Shop	June 15Sept. 20 June 10Sept. 21	Groceries, fishing and camping supplies, firewood, and gifts Many Glacier Hotel
	Scenic Boat Tours	Glacier Park Boat Co.	June 13Sept. 18	Narrated tours of Swiftcurrent and Josephine Lakes - 1 hour and 30 minutes. Daily tours at 9:00am, 11:00am, 2:00pm, and 4:30pm in June. Additional tours at 1:00pm and 3:00pm begin July 1st through Labor Day. Optional guided walks to Grinnell Lake included on the 9:00am and 2:00pm tours. An 8:30am tour with a guided hike to Grinnell Glacier begins mid July, trail conditions permitting. Boat rentals available from 8:30am to 7:00pm (last rental out at 6:00pm) – rowboats, canoes, and kayaks. Call 406-257-2426 for information and rentals. Advance tour reservations highly recommended.
	Horseback Rides	Many Glacier Corral	June 13Sept. 13	Call local (406) 387-4405 or toll free (877) 888-5557 for schedule and information
Laundry and Showers	Swiftcurrent Motor Inn	June 16Sept. 20	Purchase tokens at the campstore or front desk	
Rising Sun	Lodging	Rising Sun Motor Inn	June 19Sept. 13	Call (855) 733-4522 for advance reservations or (406) 732-5523 for same day reservations
	Food Service	Two Dog Flats Grill	June 19Sept. 13	Breakfast, lunch, and dinner
	Campstore/Gift Shops	Rising Sun Motor Inn	June 19Sept. 13	Groceries, fishing and camping supplies, firewood, and gifts
	Scenic Boat Tours	Glacier Park Boat Co.	June 20 Aug. 31	Narrated tours of Saint Mary Lake - 1 hour and 30 minutes. Daily tours at 10:00am, 12:00pm, 2:00pm, 4:00pm, and a 1 hour tour at 6:30pm. Optional guided walks to St. Mary Falls included on the 10:00am and 2:00pm tours. Call (406) 257-2426 for information and rentals.
	Showers	Rising Sun Motor Inn	June 19Sept. 13	Purchase tokens at the campstore or front desk
Two Medicine	Campstore	Two Medicine Campstore	June 6Sept. 6	Gifts, self-serve convenience food, groceries, fishing tackle, camping supplies, and firewood
	Scenic Boat Tours	Glacier Park Boat Co.	June 6Sept. 7	Narrated tours of Two Medicine Lake - 45 minutes. Daily tours at 10:30am, 1:00pm, 3:00pm, and 5:00pm. Additional tour at 9:00am begins July 1st. Optional guided walks to Twin Falls included on the 1:00pm and 3:00pm tours. Boat rentals available from 8:00am to 7:00pm (last rental out at 6:00pm) - rowboats, canoes, kayaks, and electric motor boats. Call (406) 257-2426 for information and rentals.
Waterton/ Goat Haunt	Scenic Boat Tours	Waterton Inter-Nation Shoreline Cruise Co.	May 2Oct. 12	Boat cruises and transport service between Waterton Townsite (Canada) and Goat Haunt (USA). Daily lake tours. Landings at Goat Haunt May 30–September 20. Call for more information. (403) 859-2362
Other Services	Backcountry Lodging <i>(only accessible by trail - reservations are required)</i>	Belton Chalets, Inc. •Granite Park Chalet •Sperry Chalet	July 1.....Sept. 12 July 10.....Sept. 12	Granite Park Chalet provides rustic accommodations that include rooms, beds, and a common kitchen. Guests provide their own sleeping bag, water, food, and cooking utensils. Optional bed linen service is available. Sperry Chalet offers full service rustic overnight accommodations and full meal service, in a wilderness setting. For reservations at either Granite Park or Sperry Chalets, call (888) 345-2649. You may also visit their websites at: GraniteParkChalet.com and SperryChalet.com
	Backpacking & Hiking	Glacier Guides, Inc.	May.....Oct.	Guided day hikes and backpacking trips into Glacier's backcountry for one to seven days - custom guide service trips available - Camping equipment available for rent at their West Glacier office Call (406) 387-5555 or (800) 521-RAFT for reservations and information - GlacierGuides.com
	Bus Tours	Sun Tours	May 15.....Oct. 15	Interpretive tours highlighting Blackfeet culture and history relating to Glacier National Park's natural features. Tours begin from Browning, East Glacier, St. Mary, Rising Sun, Apgar, and West Glacier. Call (800) 786-9220 or (406) 226-9220 for reservations and information.
		Red Bus Tours	May 22.....Oct. 19	Red Bus tours between park lodges as well as Two Medicine, East Glacier, West Glacier, Waterton, and St. Mary Call (855) 733-4522 for reservations and schedule information
	Cash Machines			Automatic Teller Machines (ATMs) are available at Apgar, Lake McDonald Lodge, Many Glacier (hotel and motor inn), St. Mary, East Glacier, Rising Sun, and West Glacier
Worship Services			Interdenominational and Roman Catholic services are held in campground amphitheaters and other locations within the park. For a listing of times and locations please consult a ranger in the campground or at one of the park visitor centers.	

GLACIER NATIONAL PARK CONSERVANCY



HONORING THE LEGACY

You are one of the 2.3 million people expected to visit the Crown of the Continent this year and one of 100 million people that have passed through the park gates since its establishment as a national park over 100 years ago. A century from now, what will people find when they visit Glacier? What will we leave the next generation?

photo / Jacob W. Frank



Glacier National Park CONSERVANCY

PO Box 2749, Columbia Falls, MT 59912
 GlacierConservancy.org
 P: 406-892-3250
 F: 406-892-3252

The Glacier National Park Conservancy is the official non-profit fundraising partner of Glacier National Park and the only philanthropic organization dedicated exclusively to supporting Glacier.

While federal funding provides for Glacier's day to day operations, Glacier National Park Conservancy provides resources that support exceptional and transformational projects that the park cannot do on its own.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

You can donate directly to the Conservancy online, at the address listed here, or in our Columbia Falls office. Your donation, Park Store purchase, or Friends of Glacier membership helps to fund critical projects and programs in the park.

If you stay at a hotel within the park or in one of the gateway communities, you will be asked to "Add On for Glacier" by adding \$1 to your bill. The funds raised through this program will directly benefit Glacier National Park.

In 2015 we funded more than 40 park programs and projects, including the printing of this publication and the projects listed here.

EDUCATION

Kids who care become adults who act. The Conservancy invests in K-12 and adult education to grow the next generation of Glacier caretakers.



Native America Speaks

Inspiring over 5,000 visitors annually, Native America Speaks will enter its 31st year in 2015. Partnering with cultural leaders from local tribes to share traditional dance, songs, and poetry, visitors across the park have the opportunity to learn about and celebrate the enduring connection between the Blackfeet, Salish, Pend d'Oreille and Kootenai peoples.

RESEARCH

Glacier National Park is celebrated for its wildlife, mountains, valleys, and alpine landscape. The Conservancy supports research and science that leads the park and the world.



Seek International Dark Sky Designation

Funding for this project will allow both Glacier and Waterton Lakes National Parks to apply for International Dark Sky designation, creating the first International Dark Sky Preserve. Achieving this status will allow both parks to compete for grants to retrofit lighting fixtures and other dark-sky friendly technology to minimize the parks' impacts to the night sky.

PRESERVATION

The Conservancy furthers heritage projects and programs that celebrate the Glacier experience by protecting and sharing park history and cultural resources for generations to come.



Expanded Bear Box Program

Drive through Apgar Campground and you'll see brown food storage lockers, many provided by generous conservancy donations in the past. In 2015, the program will expand the bear box program to reach additional picnic areas as well as backcountry campsites that do not currently have food storage lockers in place.

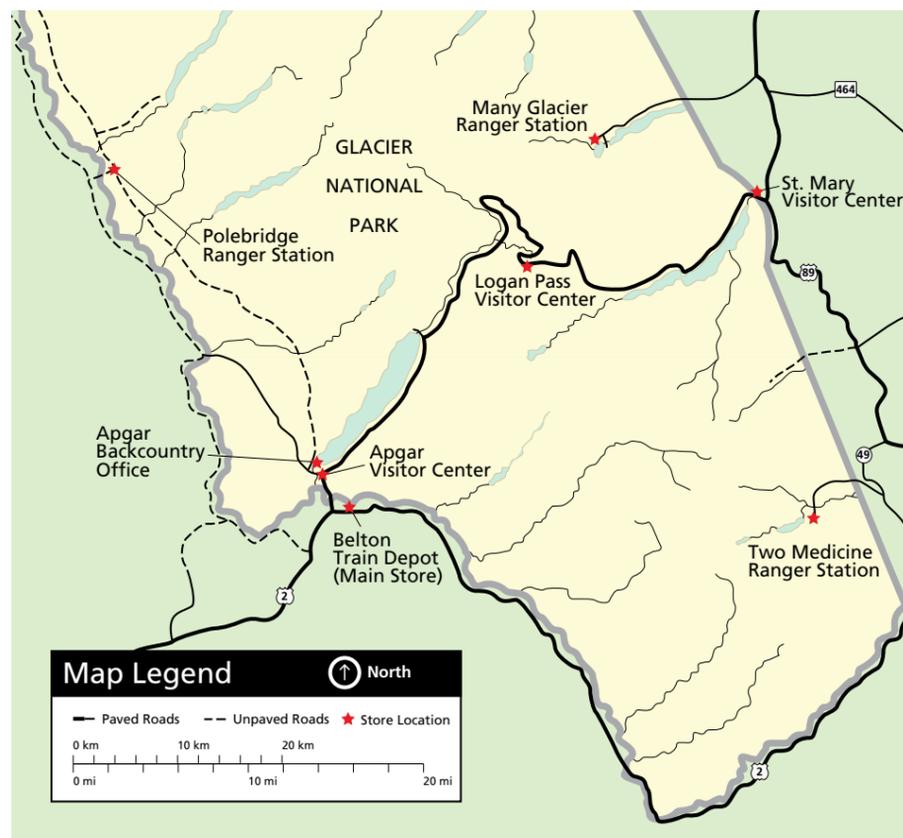


Glacier Conservancy

PARK STORES

Maps • Books • Apparel

All proceeds benefit
 Glacier National Park



SHOP AND SUPPORT GLACIER

Our Park Stores are your best resource to enhance your visit to Glacier National Park. From maps and books to water bottles and bear spray, we can get you ready for your day on the trail. Keepsakes and souvenirs are also available to commemorate your visit. Shop our Historic Belton Train Station store in West Glacier for the largest selection of merchandise.

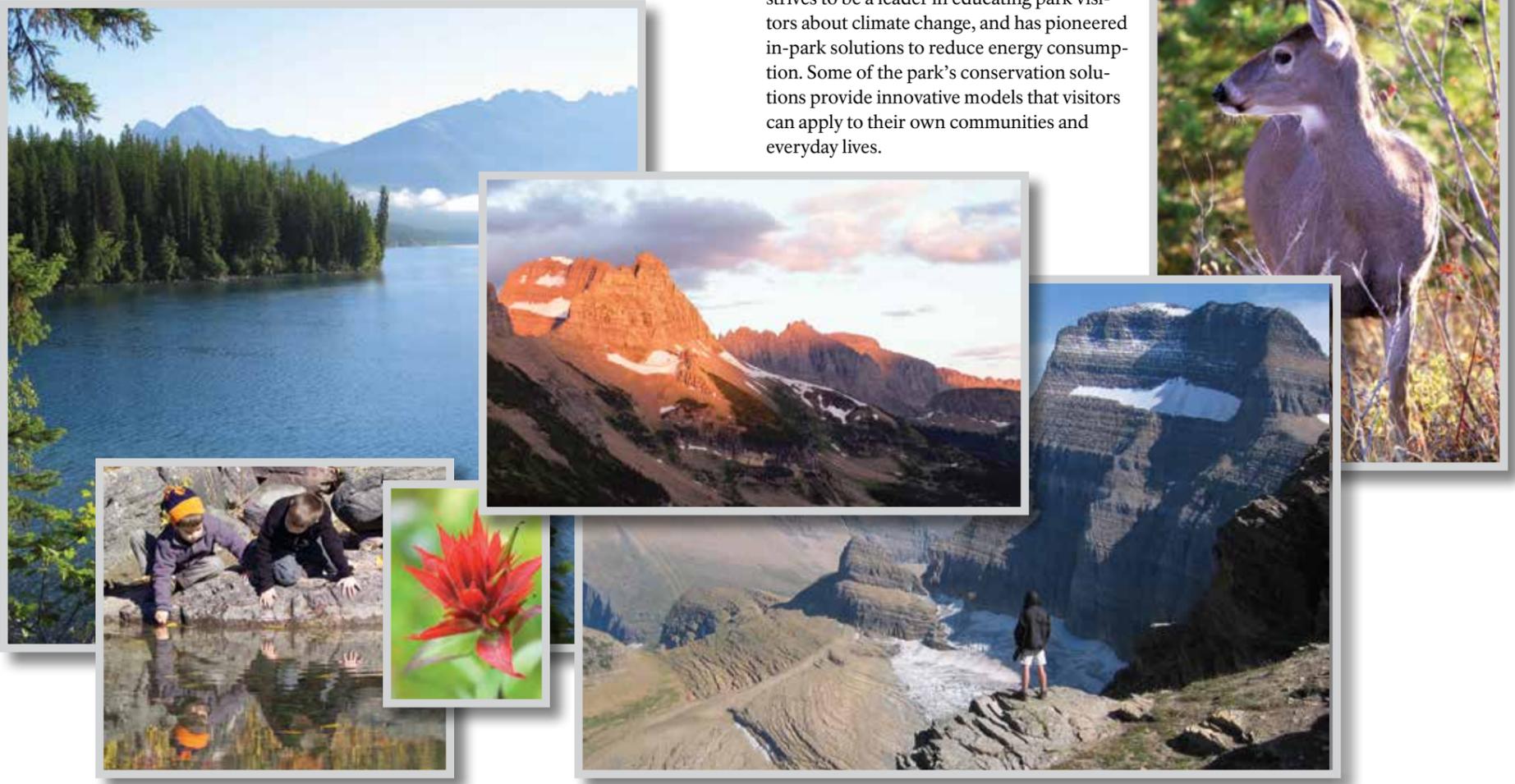


Junior Ranger booklets and Park Passport Stamps are available at all store locations. Shop Online at GlacierConservancy.org

A CHANGING CLIMATE

Climate change is one of the most pressing issues of our time. The impacts of a rapidly warming world ultimately will affect every aspect of life on earth, and already are visible here in Glacier National Park. As the earth's temperature continues to rise, many plant and animal species are forced toward rapid adaptation, migration, or even extinction. Our national parks serve as natural laboratories, demonstrating how warming temperatures change the environment. National parks also provide a critical refuge for plant and animal species. These protected places help us to understand the extent of climate change, how to mitigate its effects, and how to protect our natural and cultural treasures for the enjoyment of our children and grandchildren.

In Glacier National Park, the impacts of climate change are becoming increasingly evident. Once home to 150 glaciers, the park's 25 remnants are expected to be gone in a couple decades. Drier woodlands fuel increasingly intense forest fires, and lower (and warmer) streamflows are affecting the aquatic food web as well as downstream human communities. The park's changing environment provides a powerful example of what could be lost without global action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Glacier's diverse landscape is an ideal outdoor research center, helping scientists explore how climate change affects an intact mountain ecosystem. Glacier National Park strives to be a leader in educating park visitors about climate change, and has pioneered in-park solutions to reduce energy consumption. Some of the park's conservation solutions provide innovative models that visitors can apply to their own communities and everyday lives.



CLIMATE Friendly PARKS

The Climate Friendly Parks Program is a collaboration of the National Park Service and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The program provides national parks with the tools and resources to address climate change both within park boundaries and in surrounding communities.

As a Climate Friendly Park, Glacier National Park is confronting climate change head on. The park is working to increase in-park energy efficiency and alternative energy use, as well as educate visitors through interpretive programs and displays. Other park initiatives include:

- Since inception, Glacier's public shuttle system has transported over a half a million visitors through the park, decreasing the park's carbon footprint and reducing visitor traffic.
- The Transit Center in West Glacier is a LEED certified building.
- The "Red Bicycle" program offers employees transportation alternatives for traveling around the park.
- Recycling opportunities for visitors and staff are available throughout the park
- Red "jammer" buses have been refurbished to use cleaner-burning propane.
- The park is monitoring energy use in buildings to maximize efficiency.

For more information about the Climate Friendly Parks program visit: www.nps.gov/climatefriendlyparks

CLIMATE CHANGE

While the Earth's climate changes naturally, the rate of warming experienced over the last century is unprecedented. The global scientific consensus is that a significant part of this record-pace warming is due to human activities. As a result, climate change is threatening our greatest natural and cultural resources, including our iconic national parks.

Scientists link the rise in Earth's surface temperature to the accumulation of certain gases in the atmosphere, such as carbon dioxide, methane, and nitrogen oxides. These are commonly known as greenhouse gases (GHGs) because they trap heat within our atmosphere. Without GHGs, life on earth would not be possible.

But increasing amounts of GHGs in the atmosphere are causing the unprecedented warming we are experiencing today. Many human activities, especially those related to the consumption of fossil fuels, cause GHGs emissions into the atmosphere.

In the words of the 2014 National Climate Assessment, "Climate change, once considered an issue for a distant future, has moved firmly into the present." One conse-

quence of climate change in the U.S. is the increase in extreme weather such as droughts, heavy precipitation events, and superstorms. Like other parts of the West, Montana forest fires of the past decade have been more frequent and more intense because of earlier snowmelt, longer summers, and recurring drought. At the same time, heavy downpours have increased 16% in this region and caused flooding, erosion, and damage to the Going-to-the-Sun Road. Extreme weather events will become more common with continued climate warming and will reshape our mountain ecosystems. For instance, frequent repeated fires and hotter temperatures will allow some tree species to become more dominant and others to become less common in Glacier Park, leading to different forest types.

Ongoing climate change is also reshaping the alpine areas of Glacier Park. High-elevation meadows have been invaded by trees whose seedlings can now survive the reduced snow packs and benefit from the longer snow free periods. This forest expansion is crowding out meadow vegetation currently utilized by alpine mammals, birds and insects and may

eventually reduce their populations. At the treeline, trees have expanded upslope and are reducing the area of alpine tundra that is home to a diverse flora. At the same time, accelerated tree growth has created denser canopies at treeline that can carry forest fires to new heights. The outcome of these different dynamics isn't clear but it is clear that the changes are ultimately due to climate change.

In late summer, many streams in alpine basins of Glacier Park are fed primarily by meltwater from small glaciers, keeping their water temperatures cold. Bull trout and other aquatic organisms adapted to alpine environments are highly dependent on this cold water to thrive. As the glaciers vanish over the next several decades due to climate change, the temperature regulating impact of the glaciers will be lost and lead to changes in bull trout population viability that won't be favorable. Stories like these show how climate change can affect many components of ecosystems in ways that are often indirect.

ECOSYSTEM SOLUTIONS

While some impacts of climate change are inevitable, park managers work with neighboring communities and agencies to give fish and wildlife a better chance to adapt. Fortunately, Waterton-Glacier International Peace Park lies at the core of the Crown of the Continent ecosystem, at the intersection of Alberta, British Columbia and Montana -- a place where animals still can move freely across borders.

The region's diversity of species and habitats helps buffer the impacts of rapid change. Scientists here have developed guiding principles to promote resiliency to warming climate.

- **Freedom to Roam:** Plant communities and wildlife habitats shift as climate warms, and animal species are better able to survive if they can move, too. Some may need to expand their range, climb in elevation, or move northward. Conservationists seek to protect connectivity corridors by maintaining open lands between key habitats, and even constructing road crossings for wildlife.

- **Protect the headwaters:** Three major rivers of North America originate from the ice and snow fields atop Glacier Park's alpine peaks, with summer meltwater flowing to the Pacific Ocean, the Gulf of Mexico and Hudson Bay. By minimizing development and protecting shaded streamside zones, community groups and land managers are keeping these waters clean, cold and free-flowing for native trout and downstream uses, including irrigation and drinking water.
- **Collaborate, renew and restore:** Rapid change often favors invasive plant and animal species that quickly colonize areas disturbed by logging, wildfire or construction. Land managers collaborate to control the spread of exotic weeds, to revegetate lands with native species, and to reduce pollution to streams. Through cooperative stewardship, private land owners and public agencies can reduce the negative impacts of wildfires, floods and drought.

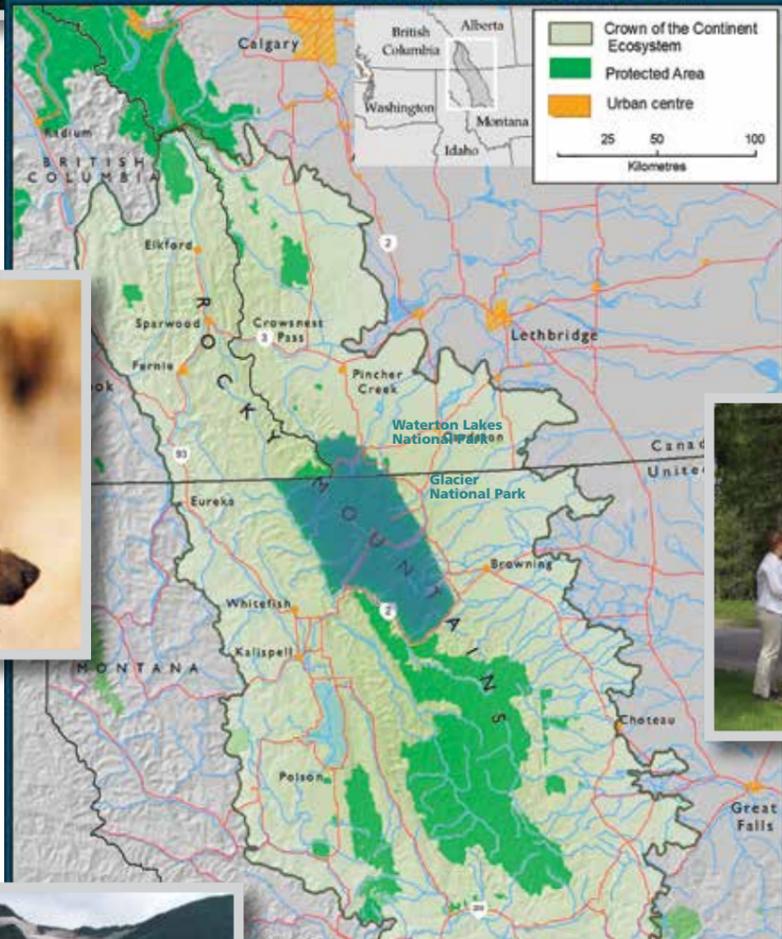
A CHANGING LANDSCAPE

PLANT COMMUNITIES

Plant communities from the moist Pacific Northwest converge here with species from the prairie and the northern forests, creating a complex ecological mixing zone. With more than 1,000 vascular plant species, Waterton Lakes National Park and the adjoining Castle River Valley are home to the richest diversity of plants in Alberta. Warming temperatures threaten many native plants, such as Jones' columbine, while exotic weeds are invading otherwise pristine backcountry.



The Crown of the Continent



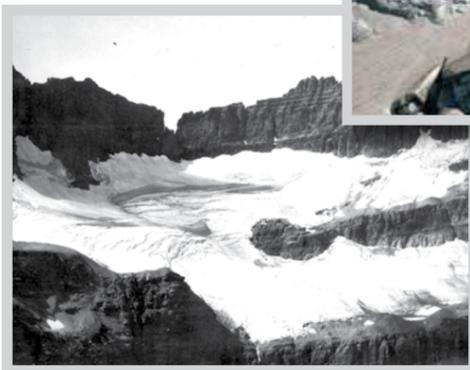
FIRE

An increase in hot summer days (90°F and greater), and a decrease in the number of frost days, has resulted in longer and more severe wildfire seasons. Although fire is natural part of Waterton-Glacier's ecosystem, increasing fire size and intensity is resulting in unprecedented changes throughout the region's wild forests.



BEYOND OUR BORDERS

Glacier Park's grizzly bears and other wildlife freely traverse multiple land-ownerships and the international border. The trans-boundary North Fork Flathead Valley is a critical wildlife corridor. British Columbia and Montana have taken important steps to ban mining and drilling, in an attempt to preserve vital and ancient wildlife pathways. As the climate warms and plant communities shift, animals need the freedom to roam in search of suitable habitat.



OUR CARBON FOOTPRINT

As a Climate Friendly Park, Glacier is committed to increasing energy efficiency in park operations. The park will continue to educate park visitors through interpretive programs, displays, and leading by example. Glacier's popular tours and shuttle system provide visitors the opportunity to enjoy the park's scenery in a more environmentally friendly way.

VANISHING GLACIERS

In 1850, there were an estimated 150 glaciers in the Glacier. By 1968, the number was reduced to around 50. Today, only 25 glaciers remain in the park, many of which are mere remnants of what they once were. Scientists predict all glaciers in Glacier National Park will be gone within the next several decades.



PIKA

Pika are an alpine-obligate species that is very sensitive to warming temperatures. They can only go so far uphill before there is no where left to go.

RISING TREELINE

As the temperature rises, the treeline is rising with it. Take a look at how the forest has grown around Hidden Lake since 1930, especially at the foot of Bearhat Mountain. This new growth might seem good, but it can have a devastating effect on the fragile alpine environment. As the treeline continues to rise, where can alpine-obligate species go when even these areas become inhospitable?



THE GLACIER INSTITUTE



P.O.Box 1887, Kalispell, MT 59903
406-755-1211
register@GlacierInstitute.org
GlacierInstitute.org

Our classrooms are the mountain trails and vast river basins that are home to more than 1,200 species of native plants, over 270 species of birds and nearly 70 species of native mammals. Our instructors are recognized experts in their fields, published authors, wildlife biologists, college professors, naturalists and teachers. We host one, two and three-day outdoor educational workshops and youth camps which immerse our participants in Glacier's stunning and stimulating environment.

Please join us for a learning adventure you will never forget.



/glacrinstitute



Bighorn Sheep - Photo by Dylan DesRosier

PERSONALIZED EDUCATIONAL OUTINGS

Families and Groups: Join us for a private guided educational tour of Glacier National Park! Your personalized educational outing will include instruction, a personal educator, and transportation in a Glacier Institute vehicle.

Choose from these educational outings:

Glacier, Goats and Going-to-the-Sun • Avalanche Lake and Trail of the Cedars • Hike to an Active Fire Lookout • Grinnell Glacier Hike • Wildlife Wanderings Along the Continental Divide

Advance Reservations Required:

Daily summer/fall rates: \$375, Group size: 1-6 participants
Courses offered: June - September

JUST FOR KIDS

Youth Adventure Series:

Children ages 6-11 can join a Glacier Institute naturalist every Friday for a six-hour hands-on course. \$50/child

Big Creek Youth Science Adventure Camps:

Join us at our Big Creek Site for multi-day camps that blend hiking, recreation, and education to create lasting memories. Camps are for children ages 7-16.



SAMPLE OF 2015 FIELD COURSES

June 12.....	Spring Wildflowers.....	\$65
June 12-16.....	Montana Master Naturalist.....	\$725
June 16-17.....	Birding by Ear.....	\$160
June 27-28.....	Summer Mushrooms.....	\$160
July 20.....	Geology along the Highline.....	\$65
July 21-24.....	Geology of Glacier.....	\$325
August 6.....	Fly Fishing for Beginners.....	\$65
August 10.....	Of Bears & Berries.....	\$65
August 10-12.....	Family Camp # 3.....	\$200
Aug 28-30.....	Geology at Sperry Chalet.....	\$575
September 6.....	Glacial Recession at Grinnell.....	\$75
September 11.....	Autumn in Glacier.....	\$65

Visit GlacierInstitute.org for a complete course listing.

GLACIER VOLUNTEER ASSOCIATES



Glacier National Park Volunteer Associates

PO Box 91, Kalispell, MT 59903
www.gnpva.org

The Glacier National Park Volunteer Associates (GNPVA) is a non-profit, volunteer park partner with no paid staff. The GNPVA efforts highlight their primary purpose - to bring together people interested in the proper care, protection, management, and preservation of Glacier National Park.

Established in 1989, GNPVA has made significant contributions to the park and would like help in continuing this service. Join Us! Become a member and help support this magnificent national park.



GNPVA restoring horse barn.

photo / GNPVA

STAFFING SUPPORT

Over 145 members of GNPVA provide Glacier National Park with over 6,700 volunteer hours annually including:

- Trail maintenance
- Backcountry ranger patrols
- River patrols
- Work projects
- Native plant nursery
- Visitor Centers and Permit offices
- Apgar Nature Center staffing

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

The GNPVA have sponsored a backcountry ranger since 1995 and also manage the Backcountry Preservation Fund.

Contributions from backcountry campers are used to purchase supplies, materials, and resources needed in the park including:

- Backcountry preservation
- Historic structure rehabilitation
- Native plant nursery intern
- Apgar Nature Center organizational costs

YOU'RE INVITED

Every May the GNPVA hold a Volunteer Day in the park. Everyone is invited to help clear trails, transplant seedlings in the nursery, work in the carpentry shop or help with other projects. Glacier National Park Volunteer Associates projects do not conclude at the end of the season. In January, February, and March the Associates hold a Winter Speakers Series. These free presentations by biologists, geologists, historians and other park staff highlight the past, present and future of Glacier National Park.



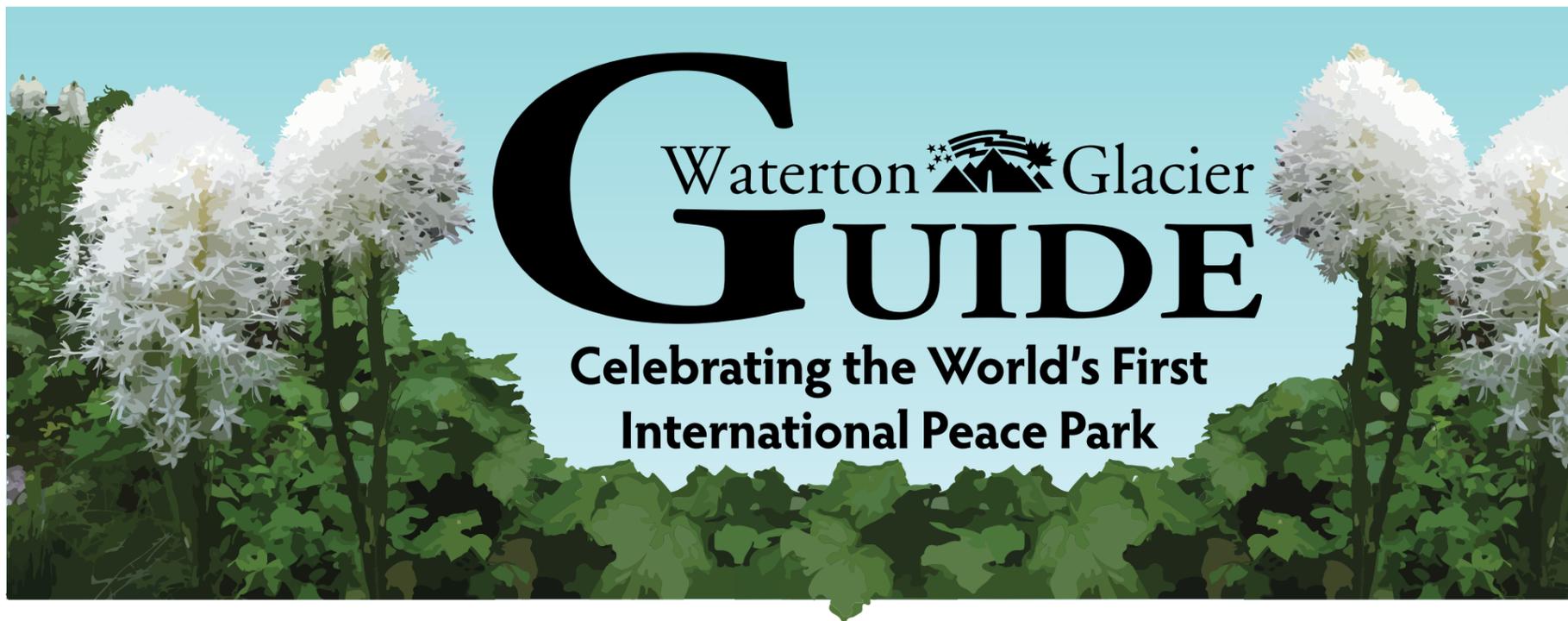
GNPVA volunteer.

photo / GNPVA



Historic preservation of the Matejka cabin by the GNPVA.

NPS / Tracy Ammerman



A Brilliant Idea

It started as an idea at an annual Rotary International meeting, between clubs in Alberta and Montana, and it didn't take long for the idea to catch hold. In 1932, Waterton Lakes National Park and Glacier National Park were officially joined together as Waterton-Glacier International Peace Park. The Peace Park celebrates the peace and goodwill existing along the world's longest undefended border, as well as a spirit of cooperation which is reflected in wildlife

and vegetation management, search and rescue programs, and joint interpretive programs, brochures, and exhibits.

Waterton-Glacier International Peace Park was further honored in 1995 when it was designated as a World Heritage Site for its scenic values, its significant climate, landforms and ecological processes, and abundant diversity of wildlife and wildflowers.



Upper Waterton Lake and Surrounding Mountains - Parks Canada

The Pine Balance: A Shared Responsibility



Black Bear Reaching for Cones - Robert J. Weselmann

Pale skin, elongated needles, contorted spines; whitebark pines certainly dress for the role they play as the elders of our forest. Patiently growing over centuries, many of the whitebark pines currently living in the Waterton-Glacier International Peace Park began their lives over a thousand years ago, long before there ever was such a thing as a peace park, the boundary dividing it, or Europeans in North America.

This keystone species plays a role in maintaining a healthy ecosystem in the peace park. Growing especially well in alpine regions (2000 to 3000 m elevation), where fewer trees compete for the sunlight they depend on; these trees are perfectly adapted to a delicate balance of natural factors. Growing on steep slopes, the roots of the whitebark pine stabilize the soil, decreasing the rate of soil erosion while creating micro-climates wherein neighbouring organisms might thrive. Additionally, the cones of whitebark pines produce nutrient-rich seeds, similar to the pine nuts you might find in a fancy salad, that are an integral food source for

numerous animals in the park, including black and grizzly bears, red squirrels and the Clark's nutcracker. Like the hierarch of a family, these pines create a foundation that supports an ecosystem.

Though renowned for their resilience and longevity, human actions have inadvertently threatened these trees. Whitebark pines are now on the brink of disappearing from the peace park and are threatened across the continent. The synergistic effects of a century of fire suppression, the introduction of an invasive fungus and a spike in pine-beetle populations have all contributed to the rapid decline of the whitebark pine.

The absence of wildfires has tipped the natural balance out of the whitebark pines favour. Whitebark pines need lots of sunlight, which means they depend on the canopy-clearing action of wildfires to establish themselves. Without these clear patches in the forests, whitebark pines are outcompeted by other trees and, as our forests become thicker and thicker, have fewer habitable areas in the park.

A foreign fungus, the white pine blister rust affects the majority of the whitebark pines in Waterton and Glacier. This fungus was transported to North America from Europe when trees unknowingly infected with the fungus were brought over in the early 20th century, which is credited with the wide spread of the infection throughout the continent. Unlike European relatives of the whitebark pine, North American 5-needled pines have no resistance to this infection. White pine blister rust is especially devastating to seedlings and young pines, with little likelihood that infected seedlings will survive to maturity. Considered alongside a spike in population of native pine beetles in the area, insects whose larvae feast on pine bark, whitebark pine populations have been devastated in the International Peace Park. A study conducted in the park spanning 13 years (1996-2009) noted that mortality and blister rust infection in whitebark pines both increased by a staggering 3% with every year.

In response to the alarming mortality and infection rates, a joint effort was initiated to reverse the effects of human impact and restore the pine population

A number of prescribed burns were used to open the canopy and create areas suitable for whitebark pines to grow. The area surrounding Summit Lake, for example, has had a number of plots cleared where whitebark pine seedlings have been planted. These seedlings were grown in greenhouses associated with Glacier's Native Plant Nursery, from seeds collected from healthy whitebark pines in the area. In fact, Waterton and Glacier staff, alongside numerous volunteers have been planting thousands of seedlings over the last five years in areas suitable for whitebark pine habitat. The hope is to tip the balance back in favour of our whitebark pines in the hope of reinstating the natural balance that permits these trees to compete in the wild.

The restoration of the whitebark pine population in the International Peace Park is a high priority for both parks as these fascinating trees are crucial to maintaining a healthy ecosystem. Contact the park to see how you can be involved in the restoration project.



Cages Protect Ripening Cones - Parks Canada



Planting Seedlings - Parks Canada



International Peace Park Hike

Join us in celebrating the long-standing peace, friendship, and cooperative management of our two countries by participating in an International Peace Park Hike. These special two-nation hikes explore the landscape surrounding Waterton Lake and also the political realities of a resource shared by two neighboring parks and countries.

Starting at 10 a.m. from the Bertha Lake trailhead in Waterton Lakes National Park, this 13 km (8 mi) hike along Upper Waterton Lake is jointly led by a Glacier Park Ranger and a Waterton Park Interpreter. Learn about Waterton-Glacier's three international designations and take part in a peace & friendship ceremony as you cross the International

Boundary on your way to Goat Haunt in Glacier National Park, Montana. Return to Waterton is via boat. A fee is charged for the return boat trip and advance reservations are recommended. The boat will have you back to the dock in Waterton by early evening. Each hike is limited to 35 people, so you must pre-register at either the Visitor Centre

in Waterton, (403) 859-5133, or at the St. Mary Visitor Center, (406) 732-7750, in Glacier. Reservations are only accepted for the next scheduled hike. Come prepared with a lunch, water, rain gear, jacket, hat. Wear sturdy footwear. The trail is not difficult, but you will be hiking most of the day. Bring money for the boat. Pets are not permitted.



The International Peace Pavilion at Goat Haunt - David Restivo



Beargrass - Bill Hayden, "Hands across the border" Ceremony - Jeff Yee, The International - David Restivo

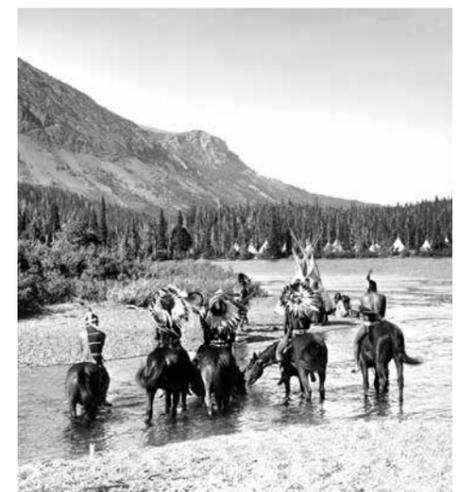


Discover Our Neighbors' Cultural Heritage

This area holds special appeal for visitors interested in the culture of indigenous peoples. Waterton-Glacier International Peace Park lies just west of the Kainai and Piikani Reserves in Canada and borders the Blackfeet Reservation in the United States. People of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes, southwest of the park, also have a close association with the park. Take the time to learn about our neighbors.

handcrafts as sales items. The museum is open daily from June through September. Also in Browning, North American Indian Days, the second weekend in July, is a large celebration of Native American culture that includes a parade, traditional dress, and dancing. Visitors are always welcome.

The People's Center and Native Ed-Ventures, for the preservation of Kootenai and Salish Culture, are located near Pablo, Montana. The Center provides educational opportunities, full-day and half-day interpretive tours of the Flathead Indian Reservation, a museum collection, and gift shop. Open daily throughout the summer. Call (406) 883-5344 or (406) 675-0160 for further information.



Blackfeet at Two Medicine - R. E. Marble

Nearby in Browning, Montana, the Museum of the Plains Indian features fascinating exhibits and Native American

Northeast of Waterton, early plains culture is dramatically displayed at Head-Smashed-In Buffalo Jump World Heritage Site. This site is open seven days a week in summer. Phone (403) 553-2731 for further information.

Akamina-Kishinena Provincial Park



Calypso Orchid - Bill Hayden

Akamina Kishinena Provincial Park is located in the southeast corner of the British Columbia and borders both Waterton Lakes and Glacier National Parks. High spacious alpine ridges, deep secluded valleys and windswept passes provide habitat and connectivity to the last self-sustaining grizzly bear population in the United States. Exposed alpine ridges, southern latitude and southern exposure provide winter range for goats and big horn sheep.

The trails and passes of the Akamina-Kishinena used today to cross the axis of the continent, were established and used for many years by the early people's and wildlife travelling between the Flathead Basin and the abundant Great Plains.

Akamina Kishinena is a wilderness area, without supplies or equipment of any kind. All arrangements for supplies and transportation must be made beforehand.

Accessibility

The Apgar and St. Mary Visitor Centers, the International Peace Park Pavilion, and the Cameron Lake Day Use Area are wheel-chair accessible. A listing of additional facilities and services, accessible to visitors with special needs, is available at visitor centers and entrance stations throughout Waterton-Glacier International Peace Park.

Interpretive programs in Glacier National Park accessible by wheelchair are highlighted in the park's ranger-guided activity guide, available throughout Glacier.

Wheelchair accessible trails include the Trail of the Cedars, Running Eagle Falls, and a portion of the Swiftcurrent Nature Trails in Glacier, and the Linnet Lake, Kootenai Brown, and Townsite trails in Waterton Lakes.

Park Elevations:

Lake McDonald	3150 ft. 960m
Logan Pass	6640 ft. 2024m
Many Glacier	4900 ft. 1494m
Polebridge	3600 ft. 1097m
St. Mary Lake	4500 ft. 1372m
Two Medicine	5150 ft. 1570m
Waterton	4200 ft. 1280m



Accessible Boardwalk on the Trail of the Cedars - Bill Hayden





“As part of a Canada-wide system of national parks, Waterton Lakes represents the southern Rocky Mountains natural region - “Where the Mountains Meet the Prairie.”

Shaped by wind, fire, and water, Waterton remains for all time a place of spectacular natural beauty - a Canadian legacy of mountains, lakes, prairies, forests, alpine meadows and wildlife.”

Scenic Drives and Attractions

The Entrance Road

These 8 kilometres (5 miles) provide magnificent views that beautifully illustrate the park’s theme, “where the mountains meet the prairie.”

Colourful prairie flowers and grasses, and the glittering blue chain of the Waterton Lakes are set against a mountain backdrop. The sight of the historic Prince of Wales Hotel National Historic Site, on a knoll above the lakes, indicates you will soon arrive at our lakeside community.

The Chief Mountain Highway

The Chief Mountain Highway is the primary route between Waterton Lakes and Glacier national parks. From the border crossing, the road traverses fields and forests, dotted with wetlands created by Crooked Creek and marked by the 1998 Sofa Mountain Fire. It then descends to the grasslands near Maskinonge Lake, passing a viewpoint which gives a magnificent vista of the Front Range of the Rockies and Waterton Valley.

The Red Rock Parkway

Red Rock Parkway meanders over rolling prairie and through the Blakiston Valley. It ends at the strikingly coloured rocks and cascades of Red Rock Canyon, a distance of 15km (9 miles). The drive features views of magnificent mountains, including Mt. Blakiston, the park’s highest peak.

The Akamina parkway

This route begins near the Townsite and runs for 16km (10 miles) along the Cameron Valley. Points of interest include the site of western Canada’s first producing oil well, the Oil City site, and scenic Cameron Lake.

Wildlife and Wildflowers

Bear, deer, elk, and bighorn sheep can be seen throughout the park, particularly in prairie areas. Sheep and deer frequent the townsite. Fall is probably the best time for wildlife watching. The larger animals come down from their summer ranges and waterfowl are on their migratory routes through the park.

Services and Activities

Lodging

The Aspen Village Inn (888) 859-8669 • Bayshore Inn & Convention Centre (888) 527-9555 • Bear Mountain Motel (403) 859-2366 • Crandell Mountain Lodge (866) 859-2288 • Northland Lodge (403) 859-2353, off-season (403) 653-4275 • Prince of Wales Hotel - in Canada phone (403) 859-2231; in U.S. (406) 892-2525 • Waterton Glacier Suites (866) 621-3330 • The Waterton Lakes Resort (888) 985-6343

Private Campgrounds

Crooked Creek Campground (403) 653-1100 • Great Canadian Barn Dance (866) 626-3407 • Waterton Springs Campground (403) 859-2247



Heading into Waterton - Parks Canada photo

Cameron Falls

Located in the community, this picturesque waterfall is created as Cameron Creek falls into Waterton Valley.

The Bison Paddock

The Bison Paddock, near the north entrance to the park off Highway 6, features a small herd of plains bison, maintained to commemorate the larger herds that once roamed freely in this area. The bison can be seen while driving a narrow road through the paddock. Please do not leave your vehicles. The road is not suitable for vehicles with trailers.

The Maskinonge Lake

The park’s diversity of habitats is home to a great variety of birds; over 250 species have been identified in Waterton. The Maskinonge area, located near the park entrance, is particularly rich in bird life.

An abundance of wildflowers can be seen in the park. In spring and early summer, prairie wildflower displays are particularly rich. In late summer, wildflowers continue to bloom at the higher elevations.

Camping and Hiking

Auto Camping

Waterton’s three campgrounds provide almost 400 campsites.

- The Townsite Campground has 237 sites, including 94 fully-serviced. Fees vary depending on the service provided. Fires permitted in picnic shelter stoves. Most sites are reservable. Call (877) 737-3783 or visit: reservation.parksCanada.gc.ca
- The Crandell Mountain Campground has 129 semi-serviced sites, five tipis, and is located 6km up the Red Rock Parkway.
- Belly River Campground, located on the Chief Mountain Highway, has 24 unserviced sites. Reservations can be made in advance for the group sites at Belly River. Call (403) 859-5133 for information.

Backcountry Camping

An overnight wilderness pass is mandatory and can be purchased at the Visitor Centre. A per-person fee is charged for those 16 years and older. Passes are issued up to 24 hours in advance on a first-come, first-served basis. Call (403) 859-5133.

Wilderness campground use and group size is applied to minimize impact on the land, and maximize your wilderness experience.

Waterton’s nine designated wilderness campgrounds offer dry toilets and surface water supply. Some have facilities for horses.

Hiking the Trails

There are 200km (120 miles) of trails in Waterton Lakes National Park. They range in difficulty from a short stroll to steep treks of several days duration. Trails are provided for a variety of users, including hikers, horse riders, and bicyclists. Watch for information signs at the trail head for the type of use permitted. Trails in Waterton also lead to extensive trail systems in Montana’s Glacier National Park and in British Columbia’s Akamina-Kishenina Provincial Park.



View From the Top - Parks Canada photo

Entrance Fees

(subject to change)

	Daily	Annual	National
Adult	\$7.80	\$39.20	\$67.70
Senior	\$6.80	\$34.30	\$57.90
Youth	\$3.90	\$19.60	\$33.30
Family	\$19.60	\$98.10	\$136.40



Elk - Parks Canada photo



Bighorn Sheep - Parks Canada photo

Park Regulations

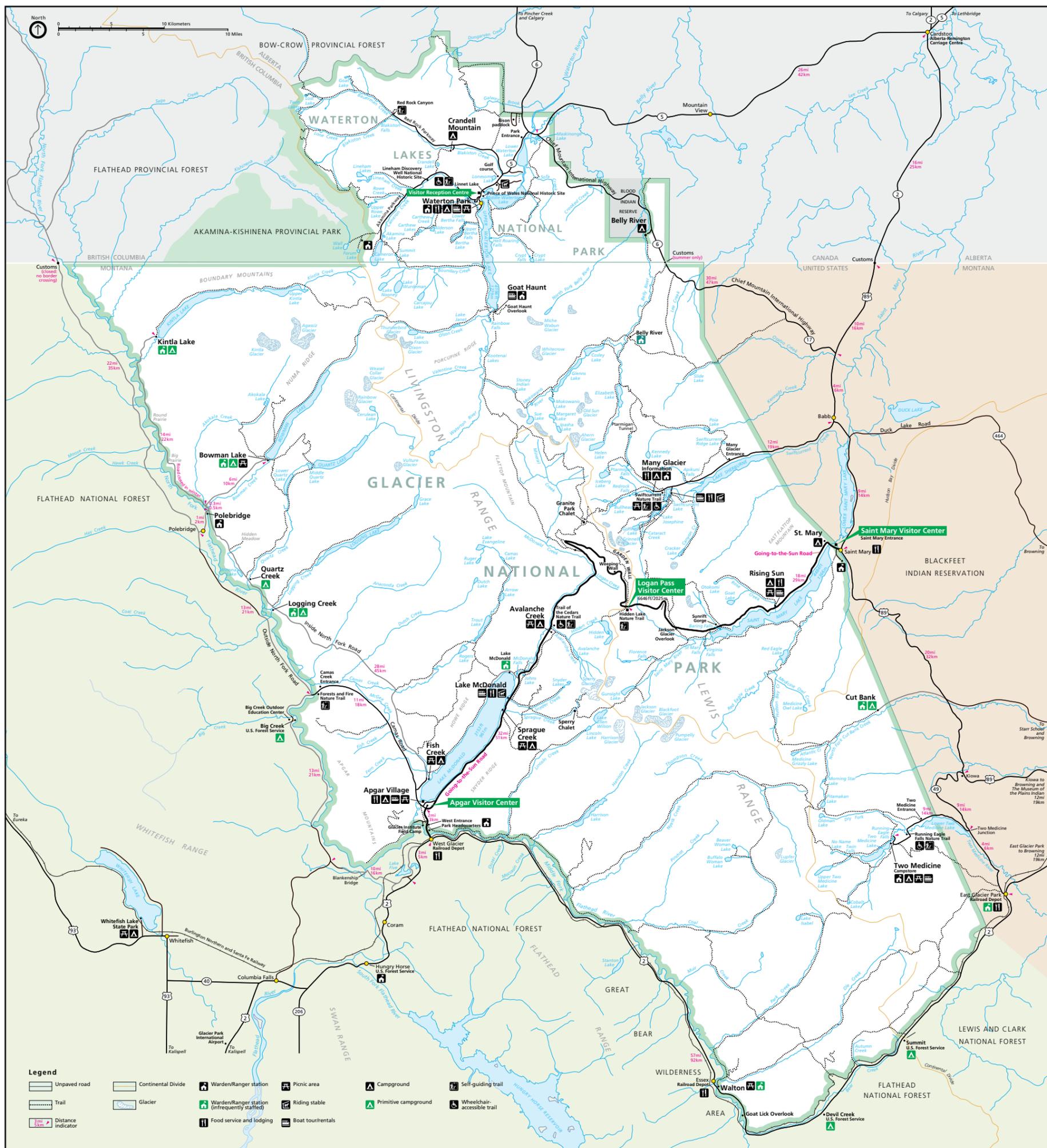
Leave rocks, fossils, horns, antlers, wildflowers, nests, and other natural and historic objects undisturbed so that others may discover and enjoy them. Removal of such objects is subject to fines.

- It is unlawful to feed, entice, or touch park wildlife.
- Pets must remain on a leash at all times while in the park. Pets, on a leash, are allowed on trails in Waterton Lakes National Park.
- Camping is permitted only in designated areas, as marked by signs.
- Collection of dead or downed wood is not allowed.
- A national park fishing permit is required in Canada’s national parks.
- Motorcyclists must wear a helmet.

For Additional Information

the Waterton Lakes Visitor Centre
Waterton Lakes National Park
Box 200
Waterton Park, Alberta T0K 2M0
Phone (403) 859-5133

or visit Waterton Lakes National Park online at: pc.gc.ca/waterton



Crossing The Border

What You Need

All travelers crossing the border must present documents that are Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative (WHTI) compliant. Those documents include:

- U.S. Citizens must present a U.S. Passport, Enhanced Drivers License*, U.S. Passport Card, or NEXUS Card
- U.S. Resident Aliens must present a U.S. Resident Alien Card
- Canadian citizen must present a Canadian Passport, Enhanced Drivers License*, or NEXUS Card
- Citizens from countries other than Canada or the United States must present a valid passport and a current I-94 or an I-94W. I-94 forms are available at the Port of Entry for \$6.00 U.S. currency and all major credit cards are accepted. Canadian currency is not accepted.

* For a list of States and Provinces who currently issue Enhanced Drivers Licenses, please visit www.getyouhome.gov

Special restrictions apply when crossing the border with pets, defensive sprays, alcohol, firewood, and purchases. All firearms must be declared. For more information on crossing from the USA to Canada, call (800) 320-0063; and if crossing from Canada to the USA, call (406) 889-3865.

Travel To, From, and Through Goat Haunt

Travel between Waterton Lakes National Park, Canada and the Goat Haunt Ranger Station, either by boat or by foot on the Waterton Lake Trail, will require an official government issued photo identification card for U.S. or Canadian citizens or permanent residents. All others must carry a valid passport.

Persons seeking to travel beyond the Goat Haunt Ranger Station into the United States must present documents that are Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative compliant.

The Goat Haunt Port of Entry will operate between 10:30 a.m., and 5:00 p.m. No entry into the United States past the Goat Haunt Ranger Station will be authorized outside of the port's hours of operation. Hikers traveling north into Canada from the United States are required to contact the Chief Mountain Port of Entry upon their arrival at the Waterton townsite. Information on contacting the Port of Entry is available at the Waterton Lakes Visitor Centre or the Waterton Station of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

Border Crossing Dates and Times

Times listed are the schedule that has been followed in the recent past. They are subject to change and travelers should check to be sure about crossing times.

- **Roosville** **open 24 hours**
west of the park on Highway 93, north of Whitefish, MT and south of Fernie, B.C.
- **Piegan/Carway** **7 a.m. to 11 p.m.**
east of the park at the joining of U.S. Highway 89 with Alberta Highway 2
- **Chief Mountain**
5/15 to 5/31 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
6/1 to 9/1 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.
9/2 to 9/30 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
October 1 closed for season