

Waterton-Glacier International Peace Park

Montana's Glacier National Park and Alberta's Waterton Lakes National Park meet at the border between the United States and Canada. In 1932, the parks were designated the world's first International Peace Park to commemorate the bonds of peace and friendship between the two nations.

Although Glacier and Waterton Lakes National Parks are administered by separate countries, they cooperate to manage their natural and cultural resources. The wild plants and animals ignore political boundaries and claim the mountainous terrain on both sides of the border.

World Heritage Site

Exceptional natural beauty is preserved in Waterton-Glacier International Peace Park, and is a result of dynamic ongoing natural processes. Because of this the parks have been jointly designated a World Heritage Site, an honor shared with the Taj Mahal, The Great Barrier Reef and the Egyptian Pyramids. In December 1995, Waterton-Glacier International Peace Park was designated a joint World Heritage Site. Several criteria make this area uniquely qualified for this designation.

One billion-year-old rocks allow a glimpse into the earth's past. Dramatic glacier-carved landscapes vividly illustrate the power of the earth's erosional forces. Over 1200 species of plants and unusual wildlife associations highlight the area's rich biological diversity.

This recognition by the world community celebrates the International Peace Park's rich geologic history, biological diversity, and dynamic cultural heritage.

Crown of the Continent Ecosystem

The Crown of the Continent Ecosystem is a natural area extending across the Canada/U.S. border to encompass both Waterton Lakes and Glacier National Parks. The ecosystem straddles the Continental Divide and includes nearby wilderness areas, national forests, Indian tribal lands and private land.

Political systems do not describe the Crown of the Continent boundaries. Instead they represent an area inhabited by a distinct group of wild plants and animals that share the rugged mountain terrain at the headwaters of three major river systems: Columbia, Hudson Bay and Missouri.

The area is also shared by unique cultural groups including the Blackfeet, Salish, Kootenai, Pend d'Oreille tribes, as well as people of international heritage who arrived more recently.

Going-to-the-Sun Road

The Going-to-the-Sun Road is a scenic landmark crossing Glacier National Park between the west entrance near the community of West Glacier and east entrance at St. Mary.

The 50-mile paved road was completed in the 1930s. In 1983, it was designated a National Civil Engineering Landmark, placed on the National Register of Historic Places, and in 1996 was designated a National Historic Landmark; the only road in the U.S. with all three designations.

The road is narrow, steep and winding, with numerous pullouts for viewing scenery. Travelers should plan to spend 2 to 3 hours to complete the distance. Low elevation portions are open for vehicles year round.

Glacier Park Campgrounds 2010 Dates and Nightly Fees www.recreation.gov

- Apgar - May 7-Oct. 11 - \$20
- Avalanche - June 11-Sept. 6 - \$20
- Bowman Lake - May 21-Sept. 13 - \$15
- Cutbank* - May 21-Sept. 13 - \$10
- Fish Creek - June 1-Sept. 6 - \$23
- Kintla Lake - May 21-Sept. 13 - \$15
- Logging Creek* - July 1-Sept. 28 - \$10
- Many Glacier - May 21-Sept. 20 - \$20
- Quartz Creek* - July 1-Sept. 28 - \$10
- Rising Sun - May 22-Sept. 14 - \$20
- Sprague Creek - May 14-Sept. 13 - \$20
- St. Mary - June 1-Sept. 20 - \$23
- Two Medicine - May 28-Sept. 20 - \$20

*Cutbank, Logging and Quartz Creek are in primitive status all season. Campgrounds close at noon on respective dates listed. These are full service dates; many campgrounds available before/after these dates for primitive status camping (no running water, no flush toilets).

Road Construction

Portions of Going-to-the-Sun Road are under construction as part of a multi-year rehabilitation. Short traffic delays should be expected. During the rehabilitation, the entire road is open for vehicle traffic, weather permitting, between mid-June at the earliest and mid-September at the latest.

There may be traffic delays. Inquire at entrance stations and visitor centers for information, or call (406) 888-7800; (800) 226-7623. www.nps.gov/glac

Going-to-the-Sun Road Vehicle Length Restrictions

Vehicle size between Avalanche Campground and Sun Point is restricted: 21 feet long, eight feet wide including mirrors. Inquire at entrance stations or visitor centers for further rules and shoulder season restrictions.

Shuttle Service

For the hiker shuttle from Many Glacier call Glacier Park, Inc.: (406) 226-9311. Free NPS Shuttle Service from early July through Labor Day weekend along the Going-to-the-Sun Road. Two transit centers are located along the road at Apgar and St. Mary.

Bicycle Riding

Glacier: Bicycle riding is allowed only on established roadways, bike routes or parking areas. Bicycles are not permitted on backcountry and nature trails.

Waterton: Mountain bikes are allowed only on specific trails in Waterton.

Going-to-the-Sun Road: Plan to spend 45 minutes riding from Sprague Creek to Logan Creek and three hours from Logan Creek to Logan Pass.

From June 15 through Labor Day the following bicycle restrictions are in effect on sections of the Going-to-the-Sun Road:

From Apgar Campground to Sprague Creek Campground bicycles are prohibited, both directions, between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m.

From Logan Creek to Logan Pass eastbound (uphill) bicycle traffic is prohibited between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m. **Bicycle Camping:** a limited number of campsites are held for bicyclists until 9 p.m. at Apgar, Sprague Creek, Avalanche, Rising Sun and St. Mary campgrounds. Shared sites hold nine people. Fee: \$3.00 per person.

Inquire at park entrance stations or visitor center for further information, rules and restrictions.

Vehicle Camping

Glacier Campgrounds are operated on a first come, first serve basis. In July or August, arrive in the morning to select a site. Advance reservations are not accepted.

Most Glacier National Park vehicle campgrounds have drinking water. Most have restrooms with flush toilets and cold running water. The larger campgrounds have trailer disposal stations. None have showers or utility hookups.

Numerous private campgrounds outside Waterton and Glacier offer showers, utility hookups and disposal stations.

Waterton Belly River, Crandell Mountain and Townsite campgrounds are accessible by paved road for tent and vehicle camping. Each has kitchen shelters, firewood, tables, washrooms and running water.

Only Waterton town-site has sewer, water and electrical connections. Crandell Mountain has a disposal tank. There are no facilities for trailers at Belly River, but sites are large enough for self-contained units.

A camping fee is charged. Limit two weeks.

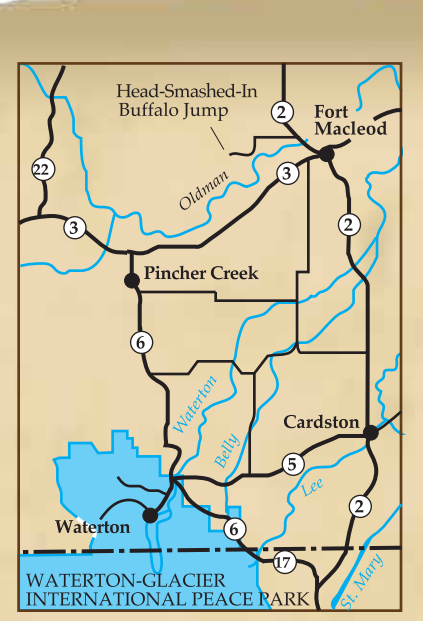
12th Edition Glacier Waterton Map

Glacier National Park
406-888-7800
www.nps.gov/glac

Going-to-the-Sun Road
www.nps.gov/glac

Waterton Lakes National Park
403-859-2224

WATERTON-GLACIER International Peace Park



Boating

Hiking

Horseback Riding

Cultural Tours

Scenic Tours

Scenic Cruise

River Access

Information Centers ?

Public Campsites

Private Campgrounds

Paved Roads

Unpaved Roads

Amtrak

Rivers

Lakes

(406) 888-7800
Shuttle Stops
Shuttle-Friendly Hikes
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Backcountry Hiking & Camping

Before hiking or camping in the backcountry, obtain information provided by the National Park Service about how to avoid encounters with bears, mountain lions and other large mammals. Follow the rules to protect the lives of wild animals and yourself.

Many high passes may not be free of snow until late July. Trail maps are available at park information centers.

Glacier Over 95 percent of Glacier National Park is managed as wilderness. Trails are restricted to foot or horseback use. Permits are required for backcountry overnight use and can be obtained at a visitor center or ranger station. (\$5/person/night (ages 16 and over; \$2.50/person/night for ages 8 through 15))

Advanced Reservations are available for a \$30 fee.

Self-contained stoves are required in most areas, and pets are not allowed on trails.

Waterton All backcountry users camping overnight must register at the park information center.

Camping and open fires are permitted in designated areas only.

Horseback Riding

West Glacier/East Glacier Scheduled, guided horseback trips are available at Many Glacier, Lake McDonald Lodge and Apgar. If you plan to ride your own horse, learn the regulations and restrictions from a free brochure available at park visitor centers.

Waterton Guide services and horses for rent area available. If you have your own horses, contact the park information center for details, restrictions and regulations.

Accessibility

Glacier: A list of facilities, programs and trails accessible to visitors is available at visitor centers and entrance stations. Waterton: Linnet Lake Trail, Waterton Townsite Trail, Cameron Lake Day Use area, International Peace Park Pavilion.

Boating and Fishing

Glacier Boating is permitted on some of Glacier's lakes. Motor size is restricted to 10hp on most lakes.

Excursion boat tours are offered at Many Glacier, Rising Sun, Two Medicine and Lake McDonald.

Fishing regulations are available on request. A Montana fishing license is not required when fishing in Glacier National Park.

Boat rentals are available at several park lakes.

Waterton Canoes and rowboats are permitted on many of Waterton's ponds and lakes. Motorboats, water-skiing and windsurfing are permitted on Upper and Middle Waterton lakes.

An excursion boat offers tours on Upper Waterton Lake. Non-motorized boats can be rented at Cameron Lake.

Fishing licenses are required. Licenses and copies of regulations are available at park information centers, from park wardens or at service stations in the townsite.

Wildlife Viewing

You may see elk, whitetail and mule deer, moose, bighorn sheep, mountain goats, grizzly and black bears, mountain lions, wolves, coyotes, wolverine, pika, marmots, squirrels, chipmunks and other mammals. A mountain goat viewing site is provided a few miles east of Essex on US Hwy. 2.

Viewing Ethics:

If your actions cause a wild animal to discontinue feeding, leave, or otherwise alter behavior, you are too close.

Some animals may appear tolerant of your presence but are nevertheless undergoing stress and will flee or charge unexpectedly.

Gather information at a park visitor center before viewing or photographing wildlife.

A fed animal is a dead animal. Please do not feed bears or any other wild animals; it is against the law.

Wild & Scenic Rivers

In 1976, Congress designated 219 miles of the Flathead River system "Wild and Scenic."

Whitewater raft companies offer half-day, full-day and extended trips on portions of the Flathead River system.

Winter Activities

Cross-country skiing, snowshoeing and wildlife viewing are popular wintertime activities in both parks.

Glacier National Park Interpretation

The "Waterton-Glacier Guide" and "Glacier Explorer" provide a listing of National Park Service educational opportunities and visitor center hours. Copies of these publications are available at park entrance stations, visitor centers and some concession facilities.

National History Associations

Glacier Association offers hiking guides, maps, and books about Glacier National Park, available at park visitors centers or online at www.glacierassociation.org

Waterton Natural History Association

further understanding and appropriate use of Waterton Lakes National Park and publishes visitor information and operates the Heritage Centre & Book Store on Waterton Ave. WNH, Box 145, Waterton, AB T0K 2M0. 406/859-2624.

Border Crossing

Chief Mountain May 15 - 31 • 9 am - 6 pm June 1 - Sept. 6 (Labor Day) • 7 am - 10 pm

Waterton Sept. 7 (Labor Day) - Sept. 30 • 9 am - 6 pm

Piegan/Carway Year-round • 7 am - 11 pm

Trail Creek CLOSED

Rossville (Hwy 93) Open 24 hours, year-round

Driving Times

Times are approximate and do not include wildlife and scenery stops.

From West Glacier

- St. Mary, MT 1:30 via Going-to-the-Sun Rd.
- Many Glacier, MT 2 hrs. via Going-to-the-Sun Rd.
- Waterton, AL 3 hrs. via Going-to-the-Sun Rd.
- East Glacier 1:15 via Hwy 2
- Browning, MT 1:35 via Hwy 2
- Going-to-the-Sun Rd. 3 hrs.
- Whitefish, MT 30 min.
- Kalispell, MT 45 min.

From Waterton

- Fernie, B.C. 2 hrs.
- Lethbridge, AL 1:30
- Cardston, AL 45 min.
- St. Mary, MT 45 min. via Chief Mountain
- Browning 1:30 via Carway
- East Glacier 1:45 via Carway and Browning
- West Glacier 3 hrs. via Chief Mountain and Going-to-the-Sun Rd.

Glacier's Centennial

Glacier National Park was designated the 10th national park on May 11, 1910. In honor of its 100th anniversary, Glacier National Park is supporting a community-based program to recognize the park's rich history of preservation. Educational and commemorative activities are planned throughout the centennial year to inspire personal connections and engage future park stewards. For more information on Glacier's Centennial and for the full calendar of activities, please visit: www.glaciercentennial.org



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