The winter season in Jasper National Park is such a beautiful time to visit. From our snow covered mountain peaks to our lightly dusted forests, the landscape is a winter wonderland awaiting adventure.

From snowshoeing to fat biking, the options for winter activities are endless. In fact, the sky is the limit when it comes to winter fun as Jasper National Park is the second largest dark sky preserve on the planet. Most nights you can look up and see billions of stars dancing overhead.

What makes any season in Jasper National Park even more special is the land’s rich indigenous heritage. As we enjoy all the activities and natural beauty, we also respectfully acknowledge that Jasper National Park is located in Treaty Six and Eight territories as well as the traditional territories of the Beaver, Cree, Ojibway, Shuswap, Stoney and Métis nations. We mention this to honour and be thankful for these contributions to building our park, province and nation.

We wish you a warm winter welcome and hope that you enjoy your visit!
Adventures We Love
GET THE SCOOP ON WHERE OUR STAFF PLAY AFTER WORK.

WHIRLPOOL TRAIL
CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING
The Whirlpool Trail is a great cross-country ski trail for all ability levels. Enjoy a short ski to the Whirlpool River that overlooks beautiful Mount Kerkeslin and take a break along the shoreline to watch the American dippers as they fly in and out of the open water all winter long. Either continue along to the end of the trail (14 km return), or make the Whirlpool River your return point (7.2 km return). Don’t forget to bring a picnic and enjoy the river view!

Alan - Field Unit Superintendent

LAKE ANNETTE
WILD SKATING
Wild skating is one of the winter activities my family loves. Typically occurring in November, wild skating is when the ice freezes solid and thick but the snow hasn’t covered it yet. We’ve had some magical days on Patricia and Annette lakes, skating all around while watching fish swim beneath us.

Brenda - Conservation Biologist

MALIGNE LAKE AREA
SNOWSHOEING
A few years ago, with some Christmas turkey to wear off and with Grandma and Grandpa in tow, our family ventured to Maligne Lake for a snowshoe. It was a quintessential Rocky Mountain blue sky day and the snow was plentiful. We saw big and little tracks in the snow, made snow angels, and enjoyed a tailgate picnic.

Pamela - Visitor Experience Manager

PYRAMID BENCH
TRAIL RUNNING
In winter, Pyramid Bench becomes a tranquil refuge for trail runners willing to venture beyond. With its vast network of routes, the bench offers distances and difficulties to suit all abilities. Several trails are flat packed, making them great for fat biking and running all winter as the snow deepens.

Jurgen - Environmental Management Specialist
I’ve had some fun times exploring the north end of Medicine Lake with my kids. It’s a great place to wander out onto a beautiful, snow-covered lake, play hide and seek behind giant boulders… and if you’re lucky, check out huge snow crystals. Bring your skis, snowshoes, or even just your winter boots, and a thermos of hot chocolate for this great outing.

*Amber - Land Use Planning*

---

When I am looking for a gentle 6-km walk (or run), I leave from town and head down the Red Squirrel Trail. From there I connect onto Trail 7 and meander along, taking in the crisp fresh air, views of stunning Pyramid Mountain and the Athabasca River. If I go early enough in the day… I often have the trail all to myself!

*Erin - Promotions Officer*

---

The Pipeline Trail is a great trail to practice skijoring. Skijoring is cross-country skiing while being harnessed to dogs, making it an exhilarating way to explore Jasper’s dog-friendly cross-country ski trails.

*Brian - Senior Interpretation Coordinator*

---

Skating in the sunshine at Pyramid Lake is one of my favourite things to do in winter. It is a stunning spot, with far reaching views and Pyramid Mountain looming above the frozen lake. At only 7 km away, it is quick and easy to get to and a great way to take in some fresh air for a few minutes or a few hours.

*Kim - Product Development Officer*
The best way to experience this incredible landscape is to take a day and explore each of its top 4 winter regions.

1. AROUND TOWN
You don’t have to go far beyond the Jasper townsite to enjoy park wilderness. The many trails around Pyramid Lake make it a winter oasis for snowshoeing and fat biking, while its glistening frozen lake offers spectacular skating. For an enchanting winter walk, venture out onto the extensive trail network surrounding the townsite. The trail from Red Squirrel to Big Horn is a fantastic fat biking route.

2. MALIGNE VALLEY
One of the most stunning areas in Jasper National Park is the Maligne Valley. The frozen waterfalls and surreal ice formations in Maligne Canyon make it a magical place to explore. You might even catch a glimpse of ice climbers here! Further up the valley, admire stunning winter vistas at Medicine Lake and Maligne Lake, then bundle up for a stroll on the Mary Schäffer Trail, along Maligne Lake.

3. HIGHWAY 93A
Situated along this peaceful road are several picturesque cross-country skiing destinations for all levels of experience. For a slightly longer adventure, ski along the rolling hills and gentle river landscape of the Whirlpool Trail to Moab Lake. Once back, trade your cross-country skis for snowshoes and admire spectacular views of Mount Kerkeslin from the Athabasca Falls River Trail.

4. ICEFIELDS PARKWAY AND AREA
Winding 232 glorious kilometres through the heart of Jasper and Banff national parks, the Icefields Parkway has been called one of the most scenic drives in the world. Glaciers, viewpoints, frozen waterfalls and hikes galore can be found along this spectacular parkway. Don’t forget to find the Red Chairs on Wilcox Pass!

Discover winter accessible sets of Red Chairs in the following regions:
- Around Town
- Icefields Parkway

See page 7 for Red Chair icons on map.

Scope out these picture perfect locations at: pc.gc.ca/jasperredchair #sharethechair
## Around Town

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trail and Activities</th>
<th>Distance</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Map</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>WINTER WALKING</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jasper Discovery Trail</td>
<td>8.3-km</td>
<td>An interpretive loop trail around the perimeter of town.</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lac Beauvert Loop</td>
<td>3.4-km</td>
<td>This flat loop around Lac Beauvert begins at Jasper Park Lodge.</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Above Town</td>
<td>5.2 km one way</td>
<td>This mainly flat-packed, popular route climbs onto Pyramid Bench above town.</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Valley of the Five Lakes</td>
<td>4.5-km</td>
<td>Follow Trail 9a and loop back on 9b. Watch for steep/slippery sections.</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SNOWSHOEING</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Edge of the Bench</td>
<td>4.2 km return</td>
<td>This loop offers spectacular valley views.</td>
<td>E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overlook Trail</td>
<td>6-km loop</td>
<td>Steep at first, this trail provides tremendous views of the valley.</td>
<td>F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dorothy, Virl and Christine Lakes</td>
<td>8.6 km return</td>
<td>Steep in places, this forested trail has great lake views.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>FAT BIKING</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Red Squirrel to Lake Mildred</td>
<td>12.7-km</td>
<td>Follow Hazel Ave across Hwy 16. Take Red Squirrel then Trail 7 along the river. Loop back on Trail 4b and Red Squirrel.</td>
<td>H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Woodpecker</td>
<td>4.4-km</td>
<td>Flat packed by Jasper Park Lodge, this gentle loop travels from the lodge to Lake Annette and back.</td>
<td>I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Above Town Loop</td>
<td>10.2 km return</td>
<td>This mainly flat-packed route on Pyramid Bench offers panoramic views.</td>
<td>J</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pyramid Trail</td>
<td>10.4 km return</td>
<td>This mainly flat packed trail steadily climbs to beautiful Pyramid Lake.</td>
<td>K</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Pipeline</td>
<td>11 km return</td>
<td>Gentle terrain with subtle ups and downs.</td>
<td>L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pyramid Fire Road</td>
<td>15 km return</td>
<td>Rolling terrain becomes steep and steady after 3 km, gaining 770 m in elevation.</td>
<td>M</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ICE SKATING

Pyramid Lake
Groomed by Pyramid Lake Resort; enjoy skating on iconic Pyramid Lake with exquisite Pyramid Mountain as your backdrop.

Mildred Lake
Bask in spectacular mountain views as you glide along the Jasper Park Lodge groomed skating oval at Mildred Lake.

The Red Cross recommends an ice thickness of at least 6” for safety.
Maligne Lake

Maligne Canyon
11.5 km from Jasper
Frozen waterfalls and surreal ice formations make Maligne Canyon a magical place to explore. The trail along the rim of the canyon can be slippery; please be prepared. If you’re looking to venture onto the frozen bottom of the canyon, it is highly recommended you travel with a certified guide and wear ice cleats.

Medicine Lake
27 km from Jasper
Stop by Medicine Lake for a generous dose of winter scenery and adventure! Snowshoe the frozen lakeshore and bring your camera to capture the spectacular open views of the Endless Chain Ridge.

Maligne Lake
48 km from Jasper
Nestled among towering winter white peaks, the frozen and snow covered Maligne Lake is nothing short of a winter wonderland. Take in stunning lakeside views from Moose Lake Loop, or wander through the hills and hollows of an ancient rockslide on the Upper Moose Loop.

Note: Delayed access adjacent to this area. See page 19 for more details.

Trail and Activities | Distance | Description | Map
---|---|---|---
**WINTER WALKING**
Maligne Canyon | Varied distances | Varied route options along the top of the canyon. Caution: slippery trail | A

**SNOWSHOEING**
Medicine Lake | 3 km return | Make your own trail along the shoreline from the Medicine Lake northern viewpoint. | B
Beaver or Summit Lakes | 4 or 10 km return | This forested trail begins at the Jacques Lake trailhead. | C
Mary Schäffer Loop | 3.2-km loop | A beautiful loop to a scenic viewpoint looking down Maligne Lake. | D
Moose Lake Loop | 2.6-km loop | This easy trail rolls over the top of an ancient rockslide. | E
Upper Moose Loop | 6-km loop | Steep in places, this trail starts in the forest and finishes along the shores of Maligne Lake. | F
Hidden Cove | 8 km return | Travel along the lakeshore to the Hidden Cove Campground. Ensure safe ice conditions. | G

**FEATURED ACTIVITIES**

**Maligne Canyon | 11.5 km from Jasper** Frozen waterfalls and surreal ice formations make Maligne Canyon a magical place to explore. The trail along the rim of the canyon can be slippery; please be prepared. If you’re looking to venture onto the frozen bottom of the canyon, it is highly recommended you travel with a certified guide and wear ice cleats.

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### Trail and Activities

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Cavell Road</td>
<td>23.2 km return</td>
<td>Opens February 16. A steep climb of 550 m with gorgeous views.</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whirlpool Trail</td>
<td>14 km return</td>
<td>Gentle terrain with river views. Whirlpool Winter Hub</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leach Lake Trail</td>
<td>8.4 km return</td>
<td>Gentle terrain following Hwy 93A with a bit of elevation nearing Leach Lake.</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geraldine Fire Road</td>
<td>11.8 km return</td>
<td>Winding, challenging road gaining 530 m with nice views. Dogs allowed on Fryatt access.</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SNOWSHOEING</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Athabasca Falls River Route</td>
<td>3 km return</td>
<td>Follow the south edge of the Athabasca River for 1.5 km for great panoramic views.</td>
<td>E</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Trail Etiquette**

- Skiers going downhill have the right-of-way.
- Keep to the right when meeting oncoming skiers.
- When resting, move off the trail.
- When passing say “track please” and pass on left side.
- Do not snowshoe on ski track.
The Icefields Parkway is one of the world’s most scenic drives. Its scenery is accentuated during winter as ancient glaciers and mountain peaks glow winter white under blankets of fresh snow. Just beyond the Columbia Icefield is Banff National Park, where plenty of extraordinary vistas and adventures await. Here are a few highlights to visit while you’re travelling:

### ICEFIELDS PARKWAY LINKING JASPER AND BANFF NATIONAL PARKS

The Icefields Parkway is one of the world’s most scenic drives. Its scenery is accentuated during winter as ancient glaciers and mountain peaks glow winter white under blankets of fresh snow. Just beyond the Columbia Icefield is Banff National Park, where plenty of extraordinary vistas and adventures await. Here are a few highlights to visit while you’re travelling:

#### Trail and Activities

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<tr>
<th>Trail and Activities</th>
<th>Distance</th>
<th>Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>SNOWSHOEING</strong></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lower Sunwapta Falls</td>
<td>2.6 km</td>
<td>Descend along the river to a set of stunning falls. SUNWAPTA FALLS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Big Bend</td>
<td>12.6 km</td>
<td>A forested trail with phenomenal views of Dragon Peak and surrounding mountains. SUNWAPTA FALLS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wilcox Viewpoint</td>
<td>3.2 km</td>
<td>A short climb with incredible views of the Athabasca and Dome glaciers. WILCOX</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Suggested Routes

- **Athabasca Falls | 30 km south of Jasper**
  Watch the ever-changing ice formations and hear the roar of the thundering water behind the ice. Be safe; stay beneath railings and on designated trails.

- **Sunwapta Falls | 54 km south of Jasper**
  Walk or snowshoe to this spectacular icefall and watch as it plunges into a deep canyon, or continue another 2 km along an easy route to the lower falls.
**Tangle Falls | 96 km south of Jasper**
This beautiful, cascading icefall right beside the road makes for a great photo stop.

**Athabasca Glacier | 103 km south of Jasper**
Be awestruck by the majestic scenery of the largest mass of ice in the Rocky Mountains. Admire the Stutfield and Dome glaciers from the Icefields Parkway.

**Weeping Wall | 124 km south of Jasper**
The Weeping Wall tumbles more than 100 metres (330 feet) in a series of waterfalls whose main fall is called *Teardrop*. The sight is even more impressive in the winter when the many waterfalls are frozen in time and it becomes a popular ice climbing destination.

**Bow Lake Viewpoint | 193 km south of Jasper**
One of the most scenic lakes along the Parkway and the source of the Bow River. The stunning views take in the Wapta Icefield, Bow Glacier, Crowfoot Mountain and Mount Thompson.

**Peyto Lake | 190 km south of Jasper**
A short uphill snowshoe (2.5 km return) from the road leads to a panoramic view of beautiful frozen and snow covered Peyto Lake. Stay on the main trail to avoid avalanche terrain and other winter hazards. Snowshoes or ice cleats recommended.

**Crowfoot Glacier | 197 km south of Jasper**
Enjoy this rewarding view from the roadside pull-off. When this glacier was named a century ago, it looked like a three-toed crow’s foot. Since then, one toe has melted, and the middle toe is slowly disappearing.

See page 23 for more information on driving safely along the Icefields Parkway.
Winter is the perfect time of year to look for wildlife tracks. Learn how to identify a few tracks and find out whose habitat you’re sharing. It is a challenge for wildlife to survive in the winter, but you can help make it easier by giving them lots of space.

**Elk**

**Characteristics**
Brown body, darker neck and large tan rump patch, backwards slanting antlers.

**Where to find**
Valley bottoms and open areas, commonly found in and around town.

**Coyote**

**Characteristics**
Resembles a medium-sized dog, thick, bushy tail, greyish-brown in colour, long and narrow muzzle.

**Where to find**
Valley bottoms.

**Bighorn Sheep**

**Characteristics**
Narrow black horns carried by both sexes, beard, long white hair.

**Where to find**
Steep rocky terrain.

**Mountain Goat**

**Characteristics**
Narrow black horns carried by both sexes, beard, long white hair.

**Where to find**
Steep rocky terrain.

**Wolf**

**Characteristics**
Built like a large German shepherd, with longer legs. Colour can vary from white to black.

**Where to find**
Throughout the park but particularly in valley bottoms.

Winter is the perfect time of year to look for wildlife tracks. Learn how to identify a few tracks and find out whose habitat you’re sharing. It is a challenge for wildlife to survive in the winter, but you can help make it easier by giving them lots of space.
Viewing Tips
Winter wildlife viewing provides exciting and educational opportunities for the whole family. Here are a few tips to make sure your viewing experience is safe for your family and the wildlife.

If you stop while driving...
- Pull over where it is safe to do so.
- Use your hazard lights to alert other drivers.
- Observe and photograph wildlife from the safety of your car.
- Remain a respectful distance from wildlife.

If you encounter a cougar, a coyote or a wolf...
- Immediately pick up small children and pets.
- Do not turn your back. Back away slowly while maintaining eye contact.
- Do not run; it may trigger an attack.
- Do not play dead.
- Make yourself appear as large as possible; wave an object above your head.

NEVER feed wildlife.

Woodland Caribou: A Special Species
Woodland caribou inhabit some of the most scenic high elevation landscapes in Jasper National Park.

Jasper National Park is home to four distinct herds of woodland caribou whose ranges are found in the northern regions of the park, in the Tonquin Valley, and in the Maligne-Brazeau ranges. Woodland caribou are true winter specialists; their large “snowshoe” hooves, warm fur and ability to survive on a diet of lichen help them avoid predators by staying high in the mountains through winter.

Taking Action for Caribou Recovery
Woodland caribou populations across Canada have been steadily declining and they are considered a Species at Risk. As a leader in conservation, Parks Canada is taking action to protect them, and you can help too.

Annual Delayed Access
At Maligne Lake:
- Access is prohibited from **November 1 through February 28** (reopens March 1). During this time, enjoy the lower elevation trails that are open year-round, such as the Mary Schäffer, Moose Lake and Upper Moose loops.
- **As of March 1**, you are welcome to head up to Bald Hills (this is avalanche terrain—be prepared).

Tonquin Valley, Brazeau and the North Boundary:
- Access is prohibited from **November 1 through February 15** (reopens February 16) for the Tonquin Valley, and **through February 28** (reopens March 1) for the Brazeau and the North Boundary.

Reduced Speed Limit
Icefields Parkway:
- From south of Sunwapta Falls through to Beauty Creek Hostel, a reduced speed zone of 70 km/h is in effect from **February 1 – June 1**. Drive with care. If you are lucky, you may see a caribou in this area.

To learn more visit: [parkscanada.gc.ca/caribou](http://parkscanada.gc.ca/caribou)

Please refer to pages 6-7 for the map indicating delayed access regions.
BOOK YOUR CAMPING EXPERIENCE

Backcountry - Permits are required in Jasper’s backcountry and can be obtained by visiting reservations.pc.gc.ca or calling 1-877-737-3783.

Frontcountry - For the spring, summer and fall months, visit parkscanada.gc.ca/jaspercamping for details on how to book.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Campgrounds and Services</th>
<th>Tent</th>
<th>Trailer</th>
<th>Electrical</th>
<th>Sani Dump</th>
<th>Flush Toilets</th>
<th>Pit Toilets</th>
<th>Showers</th>
<th>Firepit</th>
<th>Cooking Shelter</th>
<th>Drinking Water</th>
<th>Disabled Access</th>
<th>Fees</th>
<th>Number of sites</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>JASPER</strong></td>
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<td>Wapiti Winter</td>
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<td>Whirlpool Winter</td>
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<td><strong>BANFF</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Lake Louise Trailer</td>
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<td>$32.30</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Sites are available on a first-come, first-serve basis, so arrive early. All winter campgrounds are self-registration. Daily fire permits cost $8.80 extra. **Camping permitted in designated campgrounds only.**

Frontcountry Camping with a Backcountry Vibe

**Whirlpool Winter Hub and Camping**

*22 km from Jasper townsite*

In addition to over 25 km of groomed cross-country ski trails that begin from here, this hub offers a winter shelter and winter camping. Camping is available on a first-come, first-serve self-registration basis. There are sites for tents as well as RVs. **Note: there is no power or water on site.**

Backcountry Camping

**Hidden Cove**

*8 km return • Trailhead: End of Maligne Lake Road, 48 km from Jasper townsite*

Located 4 km down Maligne Lake, Hidden Cove can be reached by fat bike, snowshoes and skis. A great family day-use area and campground with four tent pads, a fire pit, picnic tables, a grey water pit, a cook shelter and food storage lockers. **Safe ice travel between mid-January and early April.**

**Big Bend**

*12.6 km return • Trailhead: Sunwapta Falls, 54 km south of Jasper townsite on Highway 93*

Rolling along the upper Athabasca Valley, this trail follows a wide fire road. The campground is accessible by skis, snowshoes or fat bike. This trail takes you to a campsite with incredible views of Dragon Peak and the Athabasca River. There are four tent pads (usually under snow), picnic tables, a fire pit and food storage cables.

**Wilcox Winter**

*Wilcox Parking Lot, 106 km south on Highway 93*

Located on the Icefields Parkway, Wilcox is a simple bivouac campsite next to the highway for mountaineers.
Interpretation and Dark Sky

Jasper National Park’s mountains echo stories to be told. Learn more about the culture, history, wildlife and dark sky from our park interpreters at various events throughout the winter, or simply take a stroll along our many self-guided interpretive trails.

**Events and Festivals**
Join our interpretive team this winter season at:

Jasper in January | [www.jasper.travel/january](http://www.jasper.travel/january)
Family Day Weekend | [parkscanada.gc.ca/jasper-interpretation](http://parkscanada.gc.ca/jasper-interpretation)

**Self Guided Interpretive Trails**
Be sure to visit the interpretive panels along our many trails in the park:

**Around Town Trail Network**
These easy multi-use trails provide opportunities to explore and access areas close to town. Learn about Jasper’s early history along the Discovery Trail. Then, get the details on some of the park’s most common wildlife along the Red Squirrel, Big Horn, Wood Pecker, and Wapiti trails.

**Mary Schäffer Loop**
Snowshoe along this easy loop and read about Mary Schäffer, famous for her explorations in the Canadian Rockies. In 1908 she and her guides arrived at Maligne Lake by following a map drawn for her by Stoney Nakoda guide Samson Beaver.

**Athabasca Falls**
Not only are the Athabasca Falls one of the most powerful falls to be found in the mountain national parks, but the adjoining Athabasca River was a historically significant transportation corridor to the Pacific Coast during the fur trade. Browse the fascinating interpretive panels and snowshoe on the Athabasca Falls River Trail!

---

**Jasper Dark Skies**
On March 26, 2011 the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada (RASC) officially designated Jasper National Park as a Dark Sky Preserve. That means the park makes a special commitment to protect and preserve the night sky and reduce light pollution.

In fall and winter, park interpreters offer dark sky programs that highlight the importance of maintaining our dark sky status from both artificial light reduction perspective and for the benefit of Jasper’s nocturnal critters.

Did you know? Encompassing over 11,000 km², Jasper National Park is the second largest dark sky preserve in the world!

**Best Places to View the Night Sky**

**Pyramid Island** Cross the wooden walkway over the glistening ice of Pyramid Lake and marvel at the sea of stars above Pyramid Mountain.

**Old Fort Point** Just a short walk from the Jasper townsite, Old Fort Point offers stunning views of the night sky dancing over the street lights of town.

**Jasper Airstrip** A short drive east of town along the Athabasca River, pull into the Jasper Airstrip parking lot to watch the stars sparkle over the distant Colin Mountain Range.

[parkscanada.gc.ca/jasperdarksky](http://parkscanada.gc.ca/jasperdarksky)
Winter Safety

Trail and Day-use Area Guidelines
Beyond groomed ski trails and fat biking routes outlined in this guide, Jasper National Park does not maintain other trails or day-use areas in winter months. Be prepared to be self-sufficient.

- Visit the Jasper Information Centre before you go.
- Make sure you have the right gear and clothing—ice cleats are highly recommended.
- Tell someone where you are going and when you expect to return.
- Bring a headlamp—you never know when you might be delayed.
- Wear proper winter footwear, steep snow covered trails can be icy and slippery.

Review the online trail reports before you set out:
parkscanada.gc.ca/jaspertrails
parkscanada.gc.ca/banfftrails

Driving on the Icefields Parkway
- Road reports are based on the worst condition that a driver may encounter over the road’s entire 232-kilometre length. As in any mountain environment, weather can change very quickly, often changing the road conditions.

Check the road conditions before you leave town:
511 • alberta511.ca • drivebc.ca

- Ensure your car has snow tires—look for the snowflake symbol. Snow tires are mandatory from November 1 to March 31 on the parkway.
- Plan to start early and complete your drive (with time for exploration and stops along the way) during daylight hours.
- Fill your gas tank and bring extra windshield washer fluid. There are no services along the Icefields Parkway in winter.
- There is no cell phone reception from Athabasca Falls to Lake Louise.
- The parkway is not salted so it can often be covered in compact snow.

Winter Weather in the Mountains
During the winter months, you could be peeling off a layer of clothing one minute or huddling in your down jacket with your hood up the next. Always check the local weather forecast before you venture out and make sure you are prepared.

More Information
JASPER INFORMATION CENTRE: 780-852-6176
LAKE LOUISE VISITOR CENTRE: 403-522-3833
BANFF VISITOR CENTRE: 403-762-1550
parkscanada.gc.ca/jasper
parkscanada.gc.ca/banff

Weather Forecast: weather.gc.ca
Jasper 780-852-3185 • Banff 403-762-2088
2017 marked the 150th anniversary of Canadian Confederation. We invited you to celebrate with Parks Canada and offered free admission to national parks, national historic sites and national marine conservation areas for the entire year.

The good news doesn’t end in 2017: beginning in 2018, admission for youth 17 and under is free!