

Saskatchewan Travel Guide



Explore the Unexpected.

From vast prairies to boreal forests,

Saskatchewan's beauty will surprise you.



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Winter in
Saskatchewan



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Call Toll-Free: 1-877-237-2273
Chat Live: [TourismSaskatchewan.com](https://www.tourismsaskatchewan.com)

Important Numbers

Call 911 in an emergency

Travellers experiencing a serious health-related situation, illness or injury should call 911 immediately. Available provincewide, 911 will assist with identifying and dispatching appropriate emergency services.

Call 811 for HealthLine inquiries

Travellers who may be experiencing a health-related situation, unexpected illness, chronic illness or injury can access professional health advice by dialing 811, the number for Saskatchewan's HealthLine.

Highway Hotline

Regina and area: 306-787-7623
Saskatoon and area: 306-933-8333
SaskTel Cellular Network: *ROAD (*7623)
Toll-free across Canada: 1-888-335-7623
hotline.gov.sk.ca/map

Websites

TourismSaskatchewan.com is where you will find a wealth of travel planning information, ideas for vacations, road trips, activities and more. You can chat live with a knowledgeable Customer Service Representative.

FishHuntSask.com is where you can plan your Saskatchewan fishing and hunting adventures. It features travel and licensing information, outfitter listings, blog articles, travel offers and more.

Email us at toursask.info@tourismsask.com.

Social Media

-  facebook.com/TourismSaskatchewan
-  instagram.com/TourismSask
-  youtube.com/TourismSaskatchewan
-  facebook.com/FishHuntSask
-  instagram.com/FishHuntSask

Parks Reservations

Provincial Parks
parks.saskatchewan.ca
1-833-7SK-PARK (1-833-775-7275)
1-800-205-7070 (general inquiries)

National Parks
reservation.pc.gc.ca
1-877-737-3783

Regional Parks
saskregionalparks.ca
Online reservation booking is available for some parks.

Free Saskatchewan Travel Resources



Saskatchewan Official Road Map
This fully detailed navigator is a handy tool for touring the province.



To order, follow the QR code.

Saskatchewan Travel Zones

The Saskatchewan Travel Guide is divided into four Travel Zones defined on the map:

 **Northern Lights & Waterways**

 **Unlimited Lakes & Parkland**

 **Prairie Life & City Lights**

 **Living Skies & Badlands**

Contact Tourism Saskatchewan:

Regina Office 189 – 1621 Albert Street 1-877-237-2273	Saskatoon Office* #410 – 350 3rd Avenue North 306-933-5900 <i>*No visitor services available</i>
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Contact the Cities:

Tourism Regina 306-777-7000	Discover Saskatoon 1-800-567-2444 or 306-242-1206
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Tourist information centres operate year round in most Saskatchewan cities and many smaller communities.

Contact information is subject to change.

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Travel corridors, along with all communities, major highways and roads are shown in full detail on the Saskatchewan Official Road Map.

Saskatchewan comprises lands covered by Treaties 2, 4, 5, 6, 8 and 10, the traditional lands of the Cree, Dakota, Dene, Lakota, Nakota and Saulteaux Peoples, and the traditional home of the Métis.



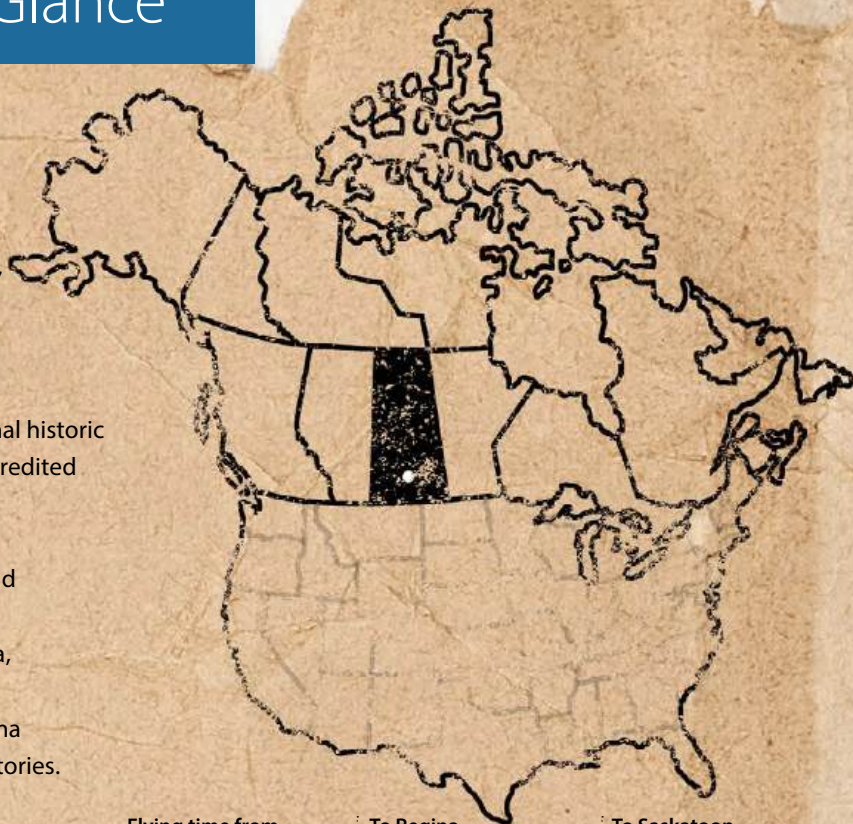
Saskatchewan at a Glance

Quick Facts

- » Saskatchewan's population reached 1,132,505 in 2021.
Source: Statistics Canada, 2021 Census of Canada
- » The capital city is Regina, with a population of 249,217 (metropolitan). The largest city is Saskatoon, with a population of 317,480 (metropolitan).
Source: Statistics Canada, 2021 Census of Canada
- » Saskatchewan has 2 national parks and over 20 national historic sites, 39 provincial parks and historic parks and 82 accredited regional parks.
- » Saskatchewan covers 651,900 sq. km – one-half of the province is covered by forest, one-third is farmland and one-eighth is freshwater.
- » Saskatchewan is located in the heart of North America, neighbouring the provinces of Manitoba and Alberta. To the south, it borders the American states of Montana and North Dakota. To the north is the Northwest Territories.
- » The Cypress Hills reach 1,392 m above sea level, the province's highest elevation point.
- » Saskatchewan's principal export industries are mining, oil and gas, agriculture, manufacturing and tourism.

National Distinctions

- » Saskatchewan is home to Canada's only training academy for Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) recruits, in Regina.
- » Scotty, the world's largest *T. rex* skeleton was excavated near Eastend in 1994-95. It is one of only 20 such discoveries in the world.
- » The Athabasca Sand Dunes are the most northerly major sand dunes in the world, and among the largest in North America.
- » The Canadian Light Source, the only stadium-sized synchrotron light research facility in Canada, is located on the University of Saskatchewan campus in Saskatoon.
- » Saskatchewan supplies more than one-third of the world's total exported durum wheat and is the world's top exporter of lentils and dry peas.
- » Wanuskewin Heritage Park, a national historic site where Indigenous Peoples have gathered for as long as 6,400 years, is home to 19 archeological dig sites, and is the longest-running archeological dig in Canada.



Flying time from	To Regina	To Saskatoon
Vancouver, BC	2 hours	2 hours
Calgary, AB	1 hour 25 min	1 hour 15 min
Edmonton, AB	1 hour 30 min	1 hour 10 min
Winnipeg, MB	1 hour 10 min	1 hour 30 min
Toronto, ON	3 hours 20 min	3 hours 35 min
Minneapolis, MN	2 hours 15 min	2 hours 20 min
Denver, CO	2 hours	



 T. rex Discovery Centre, Eastend

Living Skies & Badlands



 Great Sand Hills

LIVING SKIES & BADLANDS

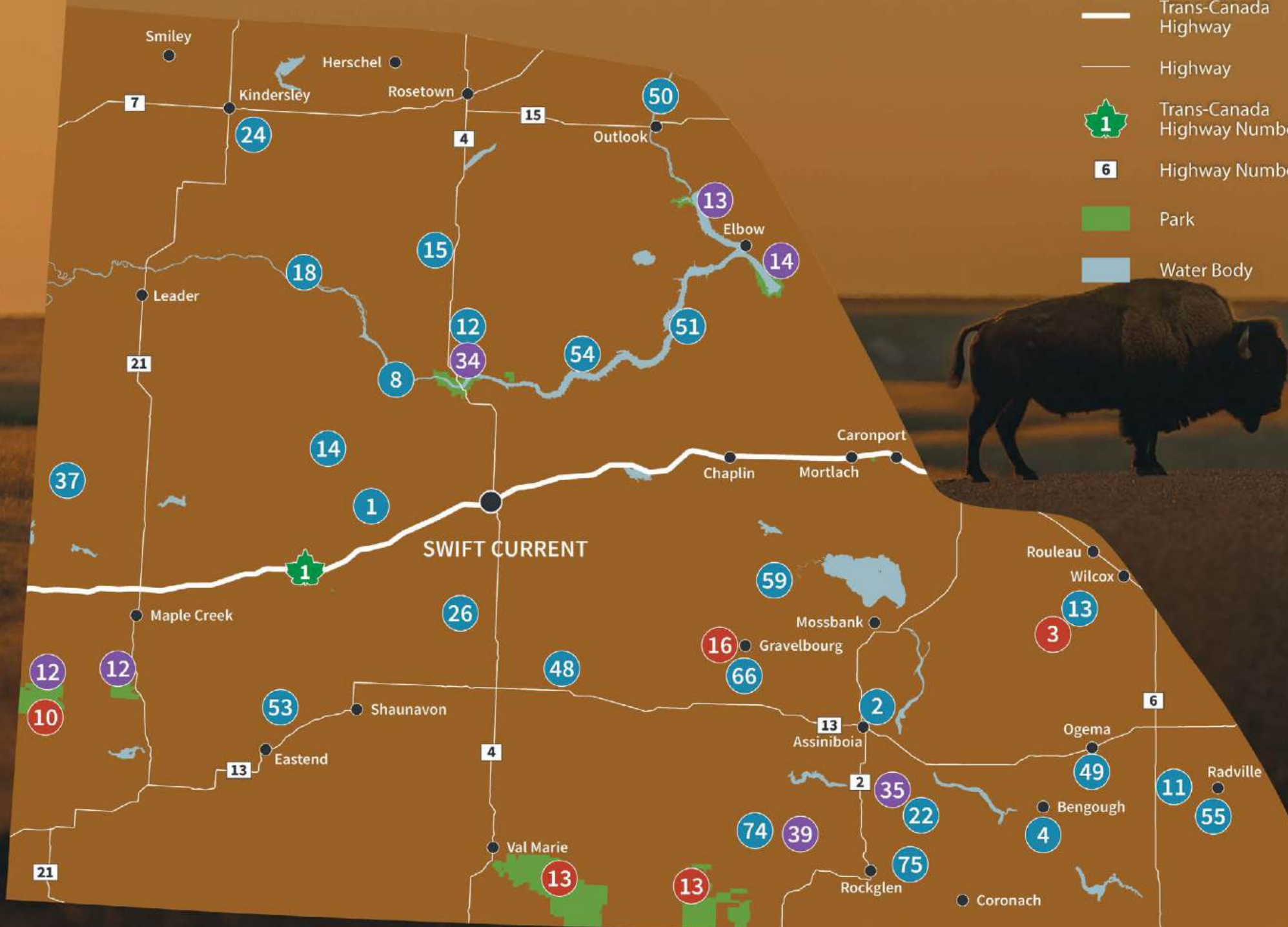


LEGEND

- City
- Town
- National Park /Historic Site
- Provincial Park /Historic Park
- Regional Park
- Trans-Canada Highway
- Highway
- Trans-Canada Highway Number
- Highway Number
- Park
- Water Body

PARK LIST

- | | |
|--|----------------------------------|
| Claybank Brick Plant National Historic Site and Massold Clay Canyons | Elrose Regional Park |
| Fort Walsh National Historic Site | Eston Riverside Regional Park |
| Grasslands National Park – West/East Block | Jean Louis Legare Regional Park |
| Our Lady of the Assumption Co-Cathedral Notre Dame de l'Assomption | Kindersley Regional Park |
| Cypress Hills Interprovincial Park – West/Centre Block | Lac Pelletier Regional Park |
| Danielson Provincial Park | McLaren Lake Regional Park |
| Douglas Provincial Park | Notukeu Regional Park |
| Saskatchewan Landing Provincial Park | Ogema Regional Park |
| St. Victor Petroglyphs Provincial Historic Park | Outlook & District Regional Park |
| Wood Mountain Post Provincial Historic Park | Palliser Regional Park |
| Antelope Lake Regional Park | Pine Cree Regional Park |
| Assiniboia Regional Park | Prairie Lake Regional Park |
| Bengough & District Regional Park | Radville-Laurier Regional Park |
| Cabri Regional Park | Shamrock Regional Park |
| Ceylon Regional Park | Thomson Lake Regional Park |
| Clearwater Lake Regional Park | Wood Mountain Regional Park |
| Dunnet Regional Park | Rockin Beach Regional Park |
| Hazlet Regional Park | |





Grasslands National Park

Finding FREEDOM in GRASSLANDS NATIONAL PARK



Bison bones



Bison



Burrowing owl

required to navigate the land, not just moving through a pre-ordained path. I walked slower, looked harder, and felt deeper.

“What if we step on a fossil, or kill lichen that took one year to grow one millimetre, or ...?” I trailed off as I asked the guide, Jeneva. She smiled and said: “A cow could do it as easily as you.” Fair point. Why aren’t other parks using the same thinking? I felt a sense of freedom here that I’ve seldom known.

A Park Like No Other

Grasslands might not have the name recognition of Banff or Jasper, but it’s a national treasure. It’s also Canada’s darkest dark sky preserve, ideal for stargazing or catching the aurora. Its East and West blocks offer different experiences – from bison and prairie dog colonies to ancient fossils and wide-open grazing lands. There are oTENTiks for glampers, drive-in campsites, and backcountry treks in the park, as well as hotels conveniently located outside the park.

But more than anything, Grasslands offers space – physical, mental, and spiritual. It’s not just a place to visit. It’s a place to feel small, to feel wild and to feel free.

So, chart your course to Grasslands National Park, step on the lichen, pick up the bison bone, touch the *T. rex* tooth fossil... It’s all fair game. Ignore the path, make your own, and let Grasslands challenge everything you thought you knew about national parks.



Prairie dogs



Fossil find

The prairie dogs, we learned, are keystone species, shaping the land with their burrows and trimming vegetation to spot predators. Every mound tells a story. Every hoofprint is a clue. And you’re allowed to follow them to where their story – and yours – takes you.

Firsts, and Freedom

I experienced a lot of firsts on my Grasslands tour, including my first time in the Canadian Prairies. I learned that the prairies aren’t so flat. It was my first time drinking lentil beer. It was my first time standing in a tipi ring (and there are more than 20,000 in the West Block of the park alone).

There are paths and interpretation panels, if you are looking for a more curated experience, but the giddiness I experienced stepping off trail to take a photo of something that called to me was exciting. It was definitely my first time experiencing a national park without rails, ropes, and excessive signage.

There was an element of danger, which brought with it an element of ownership

Wildlife on Their Terms

Off-trail freedom means animal encounters aren’t staged – they’re serendipitous. We spotted bison grazing, a greater short-horned lizard, and prairie dogs yipping warnings from their colony mounds in the west. In the east, we saw Richardson’s ground squirrels and a burrowing owl – a lifer for me – perched on a fence post. Not to mention coyote, pronghorn antelope, mule deer, and so many gorgeous birds, too.



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Dr. Nadine Robinson is an international award-winning freelance writer, travel writer, best-selling non-fiction author, keynote speaker, and a weekly Postmedia columnist. She has travelled to over 70 countries chasing hope, adventure, wildlife encounters, food, fitness, and sunsets that light up the imagination. She has written for CAA/AMA, Paddling Magazine, explore, Porter Airlines, TravelLife, and Business Insider, among others. Holding a Doctorate in Business Administration and an International MBA, follow her on Facebook and Instagram @theinkran.



Horned lizard

Parks Canada’s Grasslands National Park in southern Saskatchewan doesn’t ask you to follow in someone else’s footsteps. It dares you to make your own.

I’ve hiked in dozens of parks across Canada and beyond, and in every single one, the message is clear: stay on the trail. Protect the landscape. Don’t disturb the fragile flora. But here, in Grasslands National Park, the invitation is the opposite. This is a place where you’re not only allowed, but encouraged, to forge your own path as it is good for the prairies.

For someone who’s spent a lifetime heeding trail markers and switchbacks (because rules matter to some of us) it felt rebellious, almost wrong – like scribbling in a book. But we started our trip with beers at Rebellion Brewery Co. in Regina, so perhaps that was setting the mood for the next four days. Once I took that first off-trail step, something shifted. Perhaps I wasn’t breaking rules; I was breaking free.

Where the Wild Paths Are

Grasslands is Canada’s only national park dedicated to protecting native prairie. With its open skies, dinosaur-rich badlands, and staggering biodiversity, it’s also the only park I’ve ever visited where freedom of movement is built into the experience. The terrain – cracked buttes, sagebrush valleys, and more than the occasional cow or bison pie – becomes a canvas, not a predetermined route. We were creating our own experience, and this level of trust felt almost misplaced. “What if we fell off a butte?” But that made me more aware of my surroundings ... and more part of them.

My new travel companions and I sprinted off the Badlands Parkway one evening to literally chase the sunset. When our lungs gave out, we abandoned the trail and cut across the terrain for a more direct line to the bluff. The next day we ignored the trail almost immediately with our Parks Canada guide and crossed popcorn-textured buttes, slid down shale embankments,

wandered along precarious animal paths etched into the clay, and crouched to admire wildflowers and mint sometimes crushed underfoot. Hiking here is wild.

Living Landscape

Every moment off-trail brought surprises. One day we hiked across needle-and-thread grass that clung to our socks, past vetch and scarlet mallow in bloom. We followed deer tracks baked into the clay. We sniffed prairie sage and admired blue grama grass, its eyelash-like tufts fluttering in the wind.

You’re not just allowed to touch the park – you’re encouraged to. In the West Block, we picked up bison bones (and put them back), and in the East Block we handled a fossilized juvenile *T. rex* tooth. We did guided tours with passionate, knowledgeable Parks Canada interpreters, who told us to walk wherever we wanted, but to look out for cacti and cow pies. They also mentioned that we should be aware that there are rattlesnakes in the park, so not to stick your hand where it doesn’t belong.





Grotto Gardens Family Fun Farm

12 HOURS in MAPLE CREEK

Experience the true essence of southwestern Saskatchewan hospitality with a visit to Maple Creek, proudly known as Canada's Greatest Western Town. Lace up your boots and hold onto your hat as you explore local history, cuisine and unique experiences.

9 a.m.: Breakfast

To start your morning off right, stop in at The Daily Grind Roastery and Coffee Shop and choose from a vast selection of specialty coffees and teas and some freshly baked treats.



11 a.m.: Alpaca Walk

Located just south of Maple Creek, Grotto Gardens Family Fun Farm hosts Alpaca Walks. During this hour-long session, you will be acquainted with your alpaca and shown how to lead them through the grounds and into a Saskatoon berry orchard. At the end of your stroll, be sure to stay for a round of mini golf at the "putting zoo" – an 18-hole mini golf course surrounded by the sights and sounds of the farm.

1:30 p.m.: Wine Tasting

Next up is a visit to Cypress Hills Winery. Enjoy a tasting of wines made from fruits grown in Saskatchewan, local honey and Cypress Hills spring water. Learn about pairings from the knowledgeable staff, enjoy some lunch and stroll through the gift shop for locally made crafts, artwork and wine-related items.

2:30 p.m.: Shop Jasper Street

Maple Creek is home to many unique shops that can't be found anywhere else in Canada. Head over to Jasper Street to explore local gems such as Big Blue Whale Candy & Ice Cream, Broken Spoke Fine Art Gallery, and Saskatchewan's largest independent toy store – Cowtown Kids Toy & Candy.



The Daily Grind Roastery and Coffee Shop



4 p.m.: Discover Maple Creek's Past

Now that you are in the heart of Maple Creek, check out the Jasper Cultural and Historical Centre. The Centre has developed 12 themed rooms dedicated to the settlement era and ranch history.

6:30 p.m.: Supper

Whether you are a local, a family, or a tourist, The Rockin' Horse Cookhouse is a comfortable place to stop in for a delicious meal. From gourmet pizzas to fire-grilled steak, tasty house-made burgers to pad thai, you will treasure every bite.

8 p.m.: Cheers to a Day Well Spent

Jasper Lounge is located in the Historic Jasper Hotel and is known as the "Oldest Tavern in Saskatchewan" with 120 years under its belt. They host a wide range of events from karaoke to paint nights. Order a pint and kick back – you deserve it!



Jasper Cultural & Historical Centre

Cypress Hills Winery

Cowtown Kids Toy & Candy



Saskatchewan Landing Provincial Park

By LAND and by LAKE:

Exploring Lake Diefenbaker on and off the Water

Lake Diefenbaker, southern Saskatchewan's largest lake and premier recreation area, is a manmade wonder created by the construction of the Gardiner and Qu'Appelle dams in the 1960s. It now boasts some of the most dramatic and beautiful shorelines in the province. Ragged cliffs, rolling hills and big sandy beaches with shallow waters make it the perfect destination for your next vacation – whether you're admiring the scenery from a campsite or diving into the water.

Across the water

Glide along the 800 km of shoreline as the wind catches your sail on Lake Diefenbaker. Living Sky Sailing School offers tours and excursions or sailing lessons. Launch your boat and spend the day on the lake. With wide-open water and secluded bays and coulees, it is the ideal spot for boating enthusiasts.

Head out for a day of fishing and reel in a record-breaking catch. Renowned for its trophy-sized rainbow trout, Lake Diefenbaker is also known for the diversity of species found in its waters, including walleye, northern pike, burbot, yellow perch, whitefish and lake trout.



Lake Diefenbaker

Over the land

Three provincial parks are located along the lake's shores: Saskatchewan Landing, Douglas and Danielson, all with their own beaches, campgrounds and plenty of nearby amenities. Palliser Regional Park is another great choice for an afternoon at the lake. Park your RV, tent or enjoy a fully equipped camping experience in Camp-Easy yurts at Douglas Provincial Park. Glamping Resorts Ltd. offers luxury safari tents at Saskatchewan Landing Provincial Park. Some fixed-roof accommodations include Sarah's Cove Condo Rentals at Harbour Inn in Elbow and Mainstay Inn Resort & Restaurant at Riverhurst.



Lake Diefenbaker



Harbor Golf & RV Park

TRAVEL TIP

If you are travelling from Lucky Lake on the west side of Lake Diefenbaker to Riverhurst/Palliser Regional Park on the east side, you (and your car) can take the seasonal Riverhurst Ferry. The ferry is toll-free and operates 24 hours a day.

In Elbow, hit some golf balls at Harbor Golf & RV Park, an 18-hole championship course situated on the bluffs overlooking the lake and marina (Lakeside Marina Service). You can also enjoy scenic vistas and panoramic views while teeing off at Sask Landing Golf Resort and the desert-like, links-style Sage View Golf Course at Palliser Regional Park.





📍 Cypress Hills Interprovincial Park

STARRY NIGHTS and STUNNING VIEWS in CYPRESS HILLS



When the glaciers retreated over North America, they left a forested plateau towering high above the plains below at Cypress Hills Interprovincial Park. This unexpected mountain-like oasis on the border between Saskatchewan and Alberta reaches an elevation of 1,392 m above sea level, marking the province's highest geographical point.

Take in the View

The mix of landscapes – towering hills, lush lodgepole pine and white spruce forests, and fescue prairie and wildflowers – provides breathtaking views. Take a driving tour to some of the park's most scenic spots, including Lookout Point and Bald Butte in the Centre Block. In the West Block, along with two quiet, rustic campgrounds, there is an equestrian campground with corrals. Witness spectacular vistas on horseback as you explore a portion of the Trans Canada Trail to see the Hidden Conglomerate Cliffs. It's a fantastic place to watch one of Saskatchewan's beautiful sunsets.



📍 Dark Sky Observatory



📍 Fort Walsh National Historic Site



📍 Treeosix Adventure Parks

Camping Out



Wake up among the lodgepole pines in one of the park's seven front-country campgrounds that range from basic to full-service. Go swimming at the pool or try stand-up paddleboarding and canoeing on Loch Leven. It will make for a great story around the campfire.

Hike the Trails

The Trans Canada Trail transects the park. In the Centre Block, this trail covers over 16 km of rugged countryside that will challenge the seasoned hiker. Visitors can hike the backcountry to see nature untamed or navigate relaxing self-guided trails with interpretive signage. Paved trails provide quick access between the campgrounds and the beach, resort and swimming pool in the core area.

Sail the Canopy

One of the popular attractions in the park allows you to experience the beauty of its forest canopy by zipline. Treeosix Adventure Parks offers electric fat bike rentals, providing an exciting way to explore the park. Additionally, visitors can enjoy an outdoor climbing wall, treetop drop, 18-hole disc golf course, slackline course and mini-zips for kids.



📍 Cypress Hills Interprovincial Park

Discover History

At Fort Walsh National Historic Site, find out what life was like in a working fort during a time that shaped the history of Western Canada. The fort was a North West Mounted Police (NWMP) post established in 1875. Hear stories of the Cypress Hills Massacre and its impact on the Nakoda People in southwest Saskatchewan.

Find the Stars

The brilliance of the night sky will amaze you if conditions are right for stargazing in this designated Dark Sky Preserve. Switch off all the lights, find constellations and trace the dense band of the Milky Way across the sky. Public programs and special astronomy events are held at the Dark Sky Observatory each summer.



📍 Battle Creek

Cast your Line



The constant, cool streamflow of spring-fed creeks offers an ideal habitat for trout all year long. Some streams have been stocked since the 1920s and a few have established populations of what could now be considered wild trout. Three species – brown, rainbow and brook trout – have been introduced into the winding streams. Battle Creek contains all three, which is why it is a favourite location for avid fly-fishers.

Battle Creek flows from Alberta into the West Block of the park. The creek can be accessed easily at Fort Walsh National Historic Site. Parking at designated angler spots within the park is strongly advised. More remote entry points can only be reached on foot.

WHERE TO STAY: The Resort at Cypress Hills, Cobble Creek Lodge, Spring Valley Guest Ranch, Historic Reesor Ranch



DISCOVER SOUTHERN SASKATCHEWAN'S NATURAL ATTRACTIONS



Saskatchewan's varied landscape is on full display in the south. This part of the province features legendary badlands, unique forested areas, fertile farmland and some of the largest tracts of untouched grassland. Appreciate Saskatchewan in all of its glory as you discover the natural attractions that make this province so unique and beautiful.

Cypress Hills Interprovincial Park

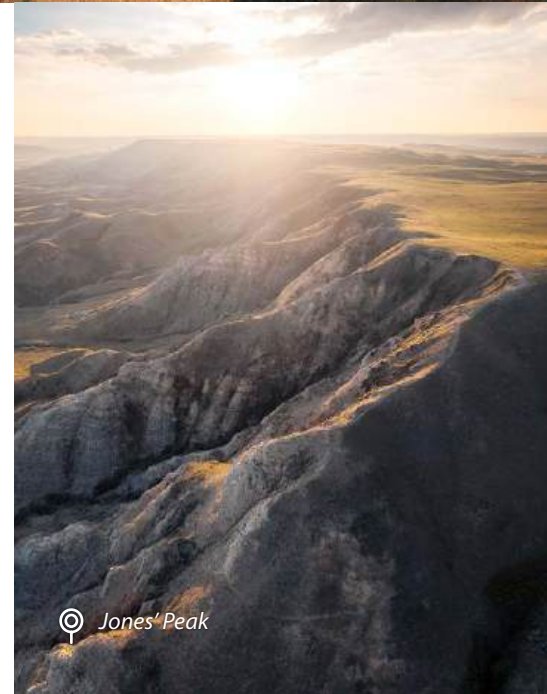
The Great Sand Hills

The Great Sand Hills are a unique phenomenon to southwestern Saskatchewan. Characterized by large dunes that rise 15-20 meters high and span 1,900 sq. km, the area offers an expansive landscape to explore. This unique ecosystem is home to many species of birds, pronghorn antelope, mule deer and even the rare Ord's Kangaroo Rat. Just up the hill from the visitor parking area you will find a large wooden arch adorned with dozens of cowboy boots. The arch was initiated by John Both, longtime caretaker of the community cow pasture. Both had a tradition of nailing his well-worn cowboy

boots to the post. Today, visitors come to the arch to hang their own boots as a tribute to the hardworking ranchers of the area.

Cypress Hills Conglomerate Cliffs

Overlooking Adam's Lake, the Conglomerate Cliffs in Cypress Hills Interprovincial Park offer magnificent views – particularly at sunrise and sunset. The cliffs are composed of smooth water-worn stones – a mixture of gravel and stones known as "cobbles". Looking out below, enjoy a view of the glassy lake's surface framed by vibrant spruce and aspen trees while taking in the aroma of the surrounding fresh pine.



Jones' Peak

Wildlife is abundant, with over 700 species of plants and animals that thrive in this park – including moose, deer, mink and at least 18 species of orchids. Conglomerate Cliffs Road takes you right to the top of the cliffs, where an incredible view awaits.

Jones' Peak

Located just 11 km west of Eastend, this impressive spot rises above the terrain, offering stunning panoramic views of the Frenchman River Valley and the surrounding rolling hills. The peak's height makes it a great place to watch local wildlife, drawing birdwatchers and nature lovers alike. The unique landforms, including colorful buttes and hoodoos, tell a story of the area's ancient past. Jones' Peak received its name in honor of Harold 'Corky' Jones, who was a local rancher and amateur fossil hunter that famously discovered a triceratops skull in the area.



Great Sand Hills

Additional Attractions



St. Victor Petroglyphs Provincial Historic Park

These 300 rock carvings from 500-1700 A.D. are the only known petroglyphs carved upon a horizontal surface on the Canadian Plains. Friends of St.

Victor Petroglyphs offer site tours and operate the Monarch Lodge Interpretative Centre, featuring petroglyph displays, local Métis history, a Dakota tipi, and a mud-plastered house from the late-1880s.



Old Man on His Back Prairie and Heritage Conservation Area

Renowned for its unique grassland ecosystem and diverse wildlife, Old Man on His Back Prairie and Heritage

Conservation Area also pays tribute to the Indigenous Peoples of the region, showcasing the enduring connection between the land and its original stewards.



Big Muddy Badlands and Castle Butte

These badlands have sprawling, intricate hills, valleys and caves that are a relic of the ice age. Discover the rich history of how this area was utilized by Indigenous

Peoples, the North West Mounted Police, outlaws and early settlers on the engaging Big Muddy Tours, offered through the Coronach Visitor Centre.



Chimney Coulee

Just 6 km north of Eastend, lies a steep-sided ravine covered in lush pine trees, saskatoon berry bushes and centuries of rich Saskatchewan history. The Chimney Coulee Provincial Historic Site is named

after the stone chimneys that were left as remnants from a Métis settlement.



Avonlea Badlands

Witness the scenic views of stone-capped hoodoos and strange buttes in the Avonlea Badlands. This natural wonder is on private property and can only be accessed during a pre-booked

guided tour hosted by the Avonlea Heritage Museum.



HISTORIC REESOR RANCH

For 113 years and six generations, the Reesor family at Historic Reesor Ranch has been preserving the legacy of ranching in western Canada. Nestled in the breathtaking Cypress Hills, this working guest ranch combines cowboy comfort with rich history and warm hospitality. Experience the thrill of horseback riding, explore the stunning landscapes on an ATV tour, or simply savour the stillness away from the bustle of the city. Dine at the onsite Ranch Hill Grill & Bar, renowned for its signature New York Striploin and handcrafted pizzas, complemented by a selection of locally produced wines and beers. Whether you're looking for adventure or a peaceful retreat, Historic Reesor Ranch provides an opportunity to experience the essence of ranching tradition surrounded by the beauty of nature.

TRAVEL TIP

Please note that some of Saskatchewan's natural wonders are located in protected provincial or national parks, on private land or in ecologically fragile environments. When accessing these areas, be respectful and obey all posted signs, close gates, park in designated areas and pack out what you pack in. As visitors, we are all responsible for conserving these natural attractions.



Semipalmated sandpiper

Shorebird Spectacles in SASKATCHEWAN

Shorebirds can fly remarkable distances. Small shorebirds like the semipalmated sandpiper are capable of non-stop flights over 5,000 km, which is about the width of Canada.



Baird's sandpiper



Piping plover

Even though these tiny arctic shorebirds are capable of incredible distances, they still need a place to rest and feed during their migrations. For many of these birds, Saskatchewan is the perfect place to refuel on their journey. For prairie breeding shorebirds, the province is their nesting destination. Whether stopping or staying, locations like Chaplin Lake are hotspots for shorebirds to flock.

One of the best times for birders to experience the Chaplin Lake area is around late May and June. This is when the birds are migrating from Central and South America to their northern breeding grounds in the Arctic.

Chaplin Lake is Canada's second-largest inland saline lake. It lies in the southwest corner of Saskatchewan along the Trans-Canada highway.

In warmer months, travellers might do a double take, wondering if there is still snow on the ground. The white banks

visible year-round are actually saline mudflats, a testament to the lake's rich mineral content. These minerals support a thriving brine shrimp population, which in turn provides a crucial food source for migrating shorebirds.

Since the area is so rich in minerals, a mining operation has developed adjacent to the lake, which helps preserve the well-being of the shorebird habitats. The mining operations maintain water levels, which ensures the lake does not dry up during drought conditions. The persistence of water in Chaplin Lake means there is continued habitat for brine shrimp to thrive, which in turn helps the shorebirds feast. This unique combination of natural and human activity supports a wonderful diversity of bird life.

Some of the arctic shorebirds that can be seen staging at Chaplin Lake include the black-bellied plover, red knot, ruddy turnstone, Baird's sandpiper and sanderling. It is estimated that nearly half of the world's sanderling population

stop at Chaplin Lake during the summer migration. Single-day counts of these birds have exceeded 50,000.

Birders will also be able to spot prairie breeding shorebirds, like Wilson's phalarope, marbled godwit, willet and piping plover at the lake.

The piping plover is a rare species renowned in the Chaplin area. It is an endangered shorebird with a breeding population under 10,000. The birds travel long distances to breed on the prairies - often returning to the same nesting locations.

Altogether, birders may spot about 30 shorebird species while exploring the area.

This significant habitat for shorebird populations has earned some special designations. Chaplin Lake, alongside the nearby Old Wives Lake and Reed Lake, makes up the Chaplin Lake Important Bird Area.

The area was also designated part of the Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network in 1997. In that same year, the nearby town of Chaplin opened the Chaplin Nature Centre - a place to learn about shorebirds, brine shrimp and the salt mining industry.

The centre offers visitors a chance to hear about the unique characteristics of the area, which co-founder Clem Miller describes as "nature at its best."

WALK THROUGH TIME: SASKATCHEWAN'S SOUTHWEST MUST-VISIT MUSEUMS

Saskatchewan's rich history spans millions of years, from the age of dinosaurs to early settlers and rodeo legends. Whether you're fascinated by ancient creatures or local heritage, these museums in southwest Saskatchewan provide a unique experience for all ages.



T. rex Discovery Centre



T. rex Discovery Centre
Nestled in the scenic town of Eastend, the T. rex Discovery Centre is a must-visit destination for prehistoric enthusiasts. Its star attraction is Scotty, the world's largest *Tyrannosaurus rex*, whose 65-million-year-old skeleton is one of the most complete ever discovered. Visitors can learn about Scotty's discovery in the documentary *Dinosaur Hunters*, shown regularly in the Centre's theatre.

The Centre also features life-sized replicas of creatures like the *Tylosaurus*, a massive marine reptile that once swam in Saskatchewan's ancient seas. Exhibits highlight other fascinating species, including *Triceratops* and duck-billed *Hadrosaurs*, painting a picture of the Cretaceous Period.

Don't miss the "Saskatchewan After the Dinosaurs" exhibit, showcasing post-dinosaur wildlife like the *Borealosuchus*, a northern crocodile, and the *Champsosaurus*, a fish-eating reptile. This exhibit also introduces some of the mammals that shaped the region's ancient ecosystems.

For hands-on exploration, the Paleo Lab Experience lets visitors step into a palaeontologist's role, uncovering fossils, experimenting with stratigraphy, or creating stop-motion animations.

Whether marvelling at Scotty or engaging in interactive learning, the T. rex Discovery Centre offers a unique blend of education and adventure.

1 Eastend Historical Museum & Cultural Centre

Eastend



Founded by Corky Jones with local fossils, the museum features the 1909 Tie Rail Ranch Log House, vintage machinery, and a schoolroom.

2 Wood Mountain Rodeo Ranch Museum

Wood Mountain Regional Park



Explore the ranching and rodeo heritage. Exhibits showcase Métis and Lakota history, along with the North West Mounted Police and ranching traditions. Celebrate the legacy of the Wood Mountain Stampede, Canada's oldest continuous rodeo.

3 SW Sask. Oldtimers' Museum

Maple Creek



Established in 1926, this museum occupies three historic buildings on Jasper Street, showcasing artifacts from the North West Mounted Police, Indigenous Peoples, ranching, and early settlers.

4 Assiniboia & District Historical Museum

Assiniboia



The museum's collections feature classic cars from 1916, farm equipment, the Pole Trail display, and the Prentice Safari Exhibit. Outdoor exhibits showcase antique tractors and a threshing machine.

Smiley

Some additional stops:

- Clearwater Drive-In Theatre *Kyle*
- Dean Francis at Sagebrush Studios *near Leader*
- Willow Bunch Museum & Heritage Society/Willow Bunch Giant *Willow Bunch*
- Trigo Food + Drink *Lafleche*
- Great Wall of Saskatchewan *Smiley*
- Ancient Echoes Interpretive Centre *near Herschel*
- Hidden Haven Tiny Houses *Swift Current*
- Crooked River Retreat *Outlook*

Guests can choose between a room in the main lodge or the luxury suite inside a metal grain bin at Alive Sky Lodge. Other options include the two-storey Bohemian Grain Bin, Lone Star Lodge, and the Schoolee in the Coulee, a converted school bus.

Herschel

Broderick

Rosetown

Saskatchewandering with Andrew Hiltz

Saskatchewanderer Andrew Hiltz has travelled across the province. Here are some of his top stops and favourite hidden gems, as well as a few locations that are still on his Saskatchewan bucket list.

Leader



Located at the InnovationPlex in Swift Current, the Ted Knight Saskatchewan Hockey Hall of Fame welcomes visitors from around the world to discover Saskatchewan's history in hockey. The Hall is constructed with movable display cases in a mock-arena with actual rink boards, a theatre room, an interactive area and a chandelier of hockey sticks.

Alive Sky Lodge
ROSETOWN



Ted Knight Saskatchewan Hockey Hall of Fame
SWIFT CURRENT

Kyle



Robertson Gallery & Gift / Susan Robertson Pottery
BRODERICK

This boutique specializes in a wide range of quality, handmade Canadian merchandise from pottery to greeting cards and everything in between. Ask for a tour of Susan Robertson's onsite pottery studio to see where she creates thousands of unique pieces each year.

Other stops near Broderick:
Wolf Willow Winery/Camp Wolf Willow



SWIFT CURRENT

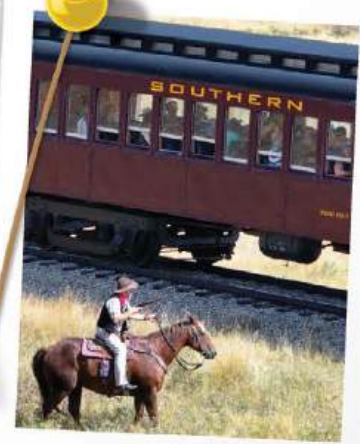


Our Lady of the Assumption Co-Cathedral Notre Dame de l'Assomption
GRAVELBOURG

National historic site with magnificent stained-glass windows from France and painted arched ceilings.

The Shurniak Art Gallery in Assiniboia holds the extensive and permanent collection of founder William Shurniak, amassed during a lifetime of world travel. Seven gallery rooms feature exhibitions of international and Canadian painting, sculptures and artifacts.

Other stops in Assiniboia:
Assiniboia Regional Park



Southern Prairie Railway
OGEMA

Maple Creek



Shaunavon



Harvest Eatery and The Blind Boar
SHAUNAVON

Focusing on regional and seasonal ingredients, this award-winning restaurant invites you to enjoy a relaxed dinner with Saskatchewan-made spirits and craft beer.

Other stops in Shaunavon:
Meeting Grounds Coffee House, Studio South West Salon & Shop, and The Ole Blacksmith Shop

Gravelbourg

Lafleche



Assiniboia



Shurniak Art Gallery
ASSINIBOIA

Ogema

Willow Bunch

Visitors ride the rails, experience living history and participate in a variety of memorable journeys on a full-sized tourist train at Southern Prairie Railway.

Other stops in Ogema:
Solo Italia Fine Pasta Inc., Deep South Pioneer Museum, and Bud's BBQ

Rockglen

Estevan





Grasslands National Park, East Block

Fossil Fever Brings HISTORY to LIFE



Celebrate the thrill of discovery at Fossil Fever, Grasslands National Park's signature event offering a hands-on paleontology experience. Held among the stunning Rock Creek Badlands in the park's East Block, this annual program invites participants to dig into history – literally.

Fossil Fever partners with Parks Canada and the Royal Saskatchewan Museum to allow guests to join paleontologists in uncovering prehistoric treasures. From learning excavation techniques to exploring the dinosaur mass extinction boundary, participants get a behind-the-scenes look at the science displayed in museums.

Exciting finds include *Tyrannosaurus rex* teeth and sections of *Edmontosaurus* vertebrae. Suitable for all ages, the event includes transportation, lunch, and expert-led tours, promising a memorable day in one of Saskatchewan's most unique landscapes.



Prairie Life & City Lights



EVENTS CALENDAR

Lake Diefenbaker Walleye Classic
Elbow • May 30-31, 2026

Back in the Boreal
Meadow Lake Provincial Park • June 6, 2026

Sandhill Rodeo
Lancer • June 13-14, 2026

Long Day's Night Music Festival
Swift Current • June 18-20, 2026

SaskPower Windscape Kite Festival
Swift Current • June 20-21, 2026

Frontier Days Regional Fair and CCA Rodeo
Swift Current • June 24-27, 2026

Cars in the Hills 2026
Cypress Hills Interprovincial Park • June 27, 2026

River and Rail ArtVenture
Outlook • June 27-28, 2026

Big Flat Folk Fest
Eastend • July 10-11, 2026

Wood Mountain Sports & Stampede
Wood Mountain • July 10-12, 2026

Shaunavon Boomtown Days
Shaunavon • July 16-19, 2026

Gateway Festival
Bengough • July 24-25, 2026

Dino Days Weekend
Eastend • July 24-26, 2026

Annual Riverhurst Bean Festival
Riverhurst • July 25, 2026

Sask Parks Summer Cinema
Douglas Provincial Park • August 1, 2026

Kyle Community Rodeo
Kyle • August 8-9, 2026

Fossil Fever
Grasslands National Park - East Block
August 11-15, 2026

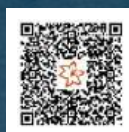
Saskatchewan Summer Star Party
Cypress Hills Interprovincial Park
August 12-16, 2026

Hilltop Sheepdog Trial 2026
Mankota • August 26-30, 2026

Beaver Flat 50
Saskatchewan Landing Provincial Park
September 19, 2026

Beechy Western Days
Beechy • September 18-20, 2026

For more information about events
in the province, visit
tourismsaskatchewan.com/things-to-do/events.

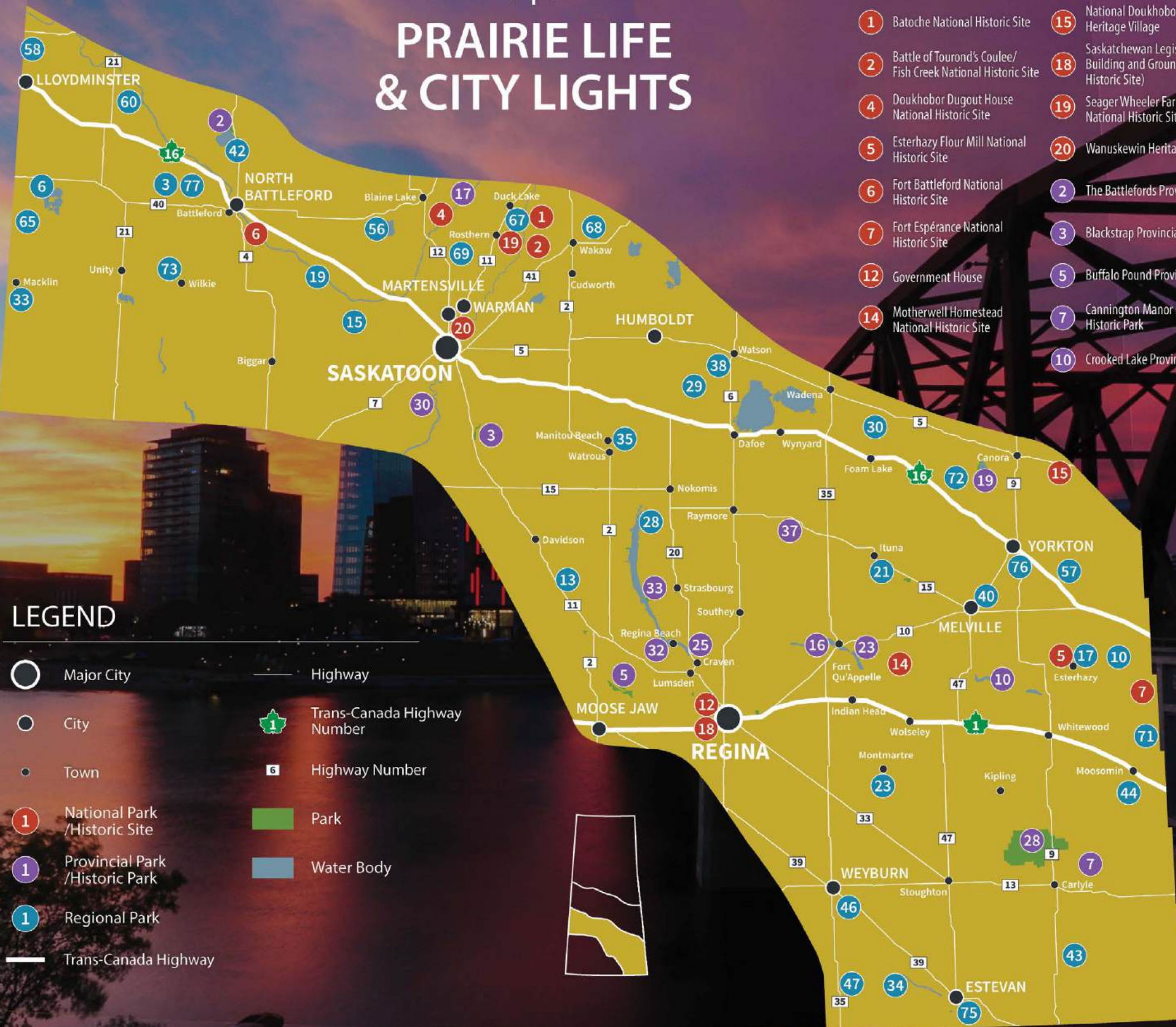


Contact organizers for the latest event information.



PRAIRIE LIFE & CITY LIGHTS

PARK LIST



LEGEND

- Major City
- City
- Town
- National Park /Historic Site
- Provincial Park /Historic Park
- Regional Park
- Trans-Canada Highway
- Highway
- Trans-Canada Highway Number
- Highway Number
- Park
- Water Body

- | | | | |
|---|---|--|---------------------------------------|
| 1 Batoche National Historic Site | 15 National Doukhobor Heritage Village | 16 Echo Valley Provincial Park | 34 Mainprize Regional Park |
| 2 Battle of Tourond's Coulee/ Fish Creek National Historic Site | 18 Saskatchewan Legislative Building and Grounds (National Historic Site) | 17 Fort Carlton Provincial Historic Park | 35 Manitou & District Regional Park |
| 4 Doukhobor Dugout House National Historic Site | 19 Seager Wheeler Farm National Historic Site | 19 Good Spirit Lake Provincial Park | 38 McNab Regional Park |
| 5 Esterhazy Flour Mill National Historic Site | 20 Wanuskewin Heritage Park | 23 Katepwa Point Provincial Park | 40 Melville Regional Park |
| 6 Fort Battleford National Historic Site | 2 The Battlefords Provincial Park | 25 Last Mountain House Provincial Historic Park | 42 Meota Regional Park |
| 7 Fort Espérance National Historic Site | 3 Blackstrap Provincial Park | 28 Moose Mountain Provincial Park | 43 Moose Creek Regional Park |
| 12 Government House | 5 Buffalo Pound Provincial Park | 30 Pike Lake Provincial Park | 44 Moosomin & District Regional Park |
| 14 Motherwell Homestead National Historic Site | 7 Cannington Manor Provincial Historic Park | 32 Regina Beach Recreation Site | 46 Nickle Lake Regional Park |
| | 10 Crooked Lake Provincial Park | 33 Rowan's Ravine Provincial Park | 47 Oungre Memorial Regional Park |
| | | 37 Touchwood Hills Post Provincial Historic Park | 56 Redberry Lake Regional Park |
| | | 3 Atton's Lake Regional Park | 57 Saltcoats & District Regional Park |
| | | 6 Big Manitou Regional Park | 58 Sandy Beach Regional Park |
| | | 10 Carlton Trail Regional Park | 60 Silver Lake Regional Park |
| | | 13 Craik and District Regional Park | 65 Suffern Lake Regional Park |
| | | 15 Eagle Creek Regional Park | 67 Valley Regional Park |
| | | 17 Esterhazy Regional Park | 68 Wakaw Lake Regional Park |
| | | 19 Glenburn Regional Park | 69 Waldheim Regional Park |
| | | 21 Ituna & District Regional Park | 71 Welwyn Centennial Regional Park |
| | | 23 Kemoca Regional Park | 72 Whitesand Regional Park |
| | | 28 Last Mountain Regional Park | 73 Wilkie Regional Park |
| | | 29 LeRoy Leisureland Regional Park | 75 Woodlawn Regional Park |
| | | 30 Leslie Beach Regional Park | 76 York Lake Regional Park |
| | | 33 Macklin Lake Regional Park | 77 Table Mountain Regional Park |



Saskatoon Forestry Farm Park & Zoo

PLAY and LEARN with the FAMILY in SASKATOON

Whether you are looking for a place to let the kids burn off some steam, or an educational experience for the whole family, Saskatoon's many offerings are sure to keep everyone busy all summer long. Check out these places to play and learn in Saskatoon.



Nutrien Playland at Kinsmen Park

Places to Play

Nutrien Playland at Kinsmen Park

Celebrate the magic of play at Nutrien Playland at Kinsmen Park. Take a ride on the Ferris wheel for a bird's-eye view of the city, twirl around on the colorful carousel or hop aboard the modern-day freight train for a tour of the park. The children's play area features dome mountains in the sand play section, a water attraction with an engineering table, jets, and a forest fountain spray, while a climbing zone offers a pyramid tower with a tunnel slide.

The Local Adventure Co.

Experience the thrill of exploring Saskatoon by e-bike or paddling the scenic South Saskatchewan River, which runs through the city. The Local Adventure Co. offers rentals for kayaks, paddleboards, and e-bikes, allowing you to get active on land and water. Cycling paths along the river showcase stunning views year-round, providing a perfect backdrop for honing new skills and sharing quality time with friends and family.

The Stoked Centre

The Stoked Centre began with The Velocity Raceway, where high-speed electric go-karts navigate sharp turns and straightways, but has since added many more thrilling attractions. Soar through the treetops on the SkyRail, the world's first 220-degree, 200-ft zipline, or test your agility on the SkyTrail, a series of rope courses two storeys high. For gaming enthusiasts, The Next Level Arcade features a mix of classic and modern games. Enjoy traditional 10-pin bowling or elevate the experience with interactive VIP lanes that project mini-games and challenges right onto the lanes.



The Stoked Centre

Places to Learn

Beaver Creek

Beaver Creek Conservation Area, located 13 km south of Saskatoon, is an accredited watchable wildlife site with a variety of species inhabiting the area including minks, northern leopard frogs and beavers. Learn more about the flora and fauna of this conservation area through engaging programs like Birding Breakfasts, Wildflower Walks and Dark Skies. At the Visitor Centre, you can pick up bird seed to hand-feed the chickadees along the trails. For a flexible experience, you can choose the self-guided tour option.

Saskatoon Forestry Farm Park & Zoo

Rekindle a sense of childhood wonder with a trip to the Saskatoon Forestry Farm Park & Zoo where you will meet an adorable mob of meerkats, cheeky Goeldi Monkeys, a majestic snow leopard and many other species. Immerse yourself in nature while exploring the walking trails, picnic sites, and restored heritage buildings. Spend the day learning about species of butterflies in the Prairie Butterfly House or hop aboard the Kinsmen Express II (wheelchair accessible) for a guided train tour of the zoo.

Remai Modern

Perched on the banks of the South Saskatchewan River in Saskatoon, the Remai Modern art museum immediately impresses with its award-winning architecture, reflecting its dedication to innovation. Inside, you'll discover a diverse collection of over 8,000 artworks, including the world's largest public collection of Picasso linocuts. Remai Modern offers activities and special exhibitions designed for children, such as stroller tours and creative drop-in hours. This vibrant space invites families to spark creativity while touring the works of local and international artists.



Remai Modern



The Local Adventure Co.



Beaver Creek Conservation Area

MORE PLACES TO LEARN IN SASKATOON:

- Western Development Museum
- Nutrien Wonderhub
- Wanuskewin Heritage Park

MORE PLACES TO PLAY IN SASKATOON:

- River Landing Water Spray Feature
- Flynn's Forest Indoor Playground
- The Fun Factory
- Apex Adventure Plex Saskatoon



COME FIND IT: HEART AND HISTORY WITH PÊMISKA TOURISM

Pêmiska Tourism is where culture, history and nature come together. Pêmiska, a Cree word meaning “come find it”, invites guests to arrive open-minded and ready to actively participate in the variety of experiences available. All visitors are welcome at Pêmiska Tourism and will be met with Cree hospitality.

Discover an enriching year-round journey through Treaty 6 Territory, located on the lands of Beardy’s & Okemasis’ Cree Nation. Visitors can immerse themselves in the living stories that have shaped the region for generations through guided walking, paddling, biking and ATV tours. Each tour is an opportunity to connect with the land, learn its history and understand the bond between people and nature.

Kevin Seesequasis, Director of Tourism Development with Pêmiska Tourism, notes that “Here, visitors can experience many of the defining moments in the relationship between Indigenous Peoples and Canada, all in one place and on the land where those stories were lived.”

Guests are invited to come stay in tipi-inspired lodges nestled in the tranquil setting of Fort Carlton Provincial Historic Park. These four-season glamping-style accommodations offer a unique blend of tradition and comfort, offering a calm

retreat away from the pace of modern life. Each lodge sleeps up to four guests and includes a kitchenette, air conditioning, and a private in-suite washroom-inviting you to rest, reconnect, and feel at home on the land.

For those looking to really get back to nature, Pêmiska Tourism also offers options for backcountry camping, whether you bring your own tent, or choose to sleep close to the land in a traditional tipi in Fort Carlton Provincial Historic Park. Get immersed when you take part in a Treaty Talk storytelling session rooted in the relationships of Treaty 6, on the land where those agreements were first made. Taste bannock-on-a-stick prepared over an open fire or, enjoy dinner theatre featuring Indigenous cuisine, song, dance, and storytelling.

Looking to deepen your understanding of Cree culture through meaningful educational opportunities and cultural experiences? Come find the land where pivotal moments in Indigenous and Canadian history unfolded. Explore four National Historic Sites, including the Treaty 6 signing site, the Battle of Duck Lake, the grounds of the former St. Michael’s Indian Residential School, and Carlton House. Exploring these places together invites reconciliation, fosters understanding, and creates space to learn not only about the Willow Cree People, but about yourself.



Treaty 6 150th

On August 20-23, 2026, all are welcome to attend a free, multi-day gathering at the site where the negotiation and signing of Treaty 6 took place 150 years ago. This event will bring people together through ceremony, food, arts, and hands-on learning while creating space for reflection, connection, and shared understanding.



SHOP LOCAL in Rural Saskatchewan

When it comes to shopping off the beaten path in Saskatchewan, you’ll find charming small-town storefronts and warm, welcoming shopkeepers everywhere. Pop in on your way through or plan a day trip to one of these hidden gem boutiques.

Prairie Girl Gallery & Gift Boutique

Moosomin



This gallery, boutique and art centre is located inside the historic McNaughton Building in Moosomin. Stop in and browse original artwork by owner, artist and musician Eli Barsi, along with handmade crafts by Saskatchewan artisans.

The Little Glass Hut

Lebret



In Lebret, The Little Glass Hut is a studio and retail shop that features handcrafted stained glass, stepping stones, pottery, quilting, photography, paintings and jewellery.

Jacq’y Jaye’s Boutique & Espresso Bar

Outlook



Sip on a cappuccino or smoothie as you browse fashion and gifts at Jacq’y Jaye’s. With new arrivals hitting the shelves regularly, there’s always something exciting to discover.

Past Times Old Time Photography & Gifts

Moose Jaw



Located in Moose Jaw’s Historic Downtown, this shop offers antique-style photography with costumes from the 1920s, Wild West and Victorian eras. Explore the gift shop filled with unique souvenirs, vintage decor, and repurposed furniture.

Freba Pottery

Wynyard



This must-see pottery studio operates on the honour system, where visitors can make a purchase from a wide selection of beautiful handmade ceramics all on their own. Freba Pottery focuses on functional art, creative retreats, and pottery workshops. It’s a unique and welcoming stop along Highway 16.

The Sinking Canoe Antiques

Indian Head



If you have a passion for the past, a nostalgia for all-things vintage, or a deep appreciation for the artistic soul, then you must visit The Sinking Canoe Antiques. Housed in a quaint red cottage barn in Indian Head, this well-curated selection of antiques and collectibles surely has that treasure you’ve been searching for.

Kinder Surprises Antiques

Davidson



Situated in a gorgeous hip roof barn near Davidson and jam-packed with beautifully displayed items, Kinder Surprises Antiques is a visitor’s delight. Each treasure comes with its own history and story – from antiques and reclaimed building parts to glassware and furniture. Stroll through the main street lined with heritage buildings, including a one-room schoolhouse and church.

MORE BOUTIQUES TO EXPLORE

Hand Wave Gallery & Craft Shop (Meacham)

Sisters’ Boutique & Bistro (Montmartre)

Becky’s Place (Fort Qu’Appelle)

Creekside Country Home Decor & Antiques (Delisle)



MacKenzie Art Gallery

TOP ATTRACTIONS IN REGINA

Located in the southern part of the province, Saskatchewan’s capital city is teeming with must sees and dos. Plan a vacation to the Queen City and visit these top attractions.

MacKenzie Art Gallery

Saskatchewan’s oldest public art gallery, the MacKenzie has long been a pioneer in showcasing diverse and groundbreaking art. With a permanent collection spanning 5,000 years and nearly 5,000 works, it plays a vital role in the province’s cultural landscape. Notably, the MacKenzie has shown Indigenous works as contemporary art since the 1970s, making it a leader in this field. “Saskatchewan has a lot of firsts that people wouldn’t necessarily know in the art world,” notes John Hampton, CEO, who returned to the prairies to engage more deeply with Indigenous art and the community. Hampton envisions the gallery as a storyteller of Saskatchewan’s rich cultural identity, stating, “art is where people learn about each other, come to a common understanding of the world... It’s the foundation for our culture, for our society, for who we are.” Through exhibitions, outreach and digital programs, the MacKenzie Art Gallery continues to connect local and global narratives.

Kramer IMAX Theatre

Grab some popcorn and get ready for an unforgettable movie adventure at the Kramer IMAX Theatre, home to Saskatchewan’s biggest screen. A digital IMAX with Laser system was added in 2023, and the theatre retains its ability to show 3D and IMAX 15/70mm films. IMAX with Laser is a cutting-edge experience,



Kramer IMAX Theatre

featuring a next-generation 4K laser projection system. Viewers can expect sharper, brighter images with enhanced resolution, deeper contrast and incredibly vibrant colours. The system also features IMAX’s 12-channel sound technology, including side and overhead channels, for an immersive audio experience. Every movie comes to life with stunning detail, contrast and clarity. Keep the adventure going with a visit to the co-located Saskatchewan Science Centre featuring more than 185 hands-on exhibits showcasing history, nature and technology.



Wascana Pool

Wascana Pool

Wascana Pool is a vibrant, inclusive outdoor facility offering a water-filled summer experience for all ages. Its exciting features include two waterslides, a climbing wall, lazy river and 25m leisure pool. Guests can also enjoy a 25m lane pool, 1m and 3m diving boards, hot tub, basketball hoop and concession operated by The Bannock House. Accessibility is a priority, with zero-depth entry, mechanical lifts, aqua wheelchairs and accessible side-by-side slides. The pool also features all-gender washrooms and changerooms, as well as a free playground and spray pad. When you arrive, you will be greeted by a stunning mural, designed by Anishnaabe-Saulteaux artist Larissa Kitchemonia, showcasing a connection to local culture.

Check Off These Local Hotspots On Your Visit:



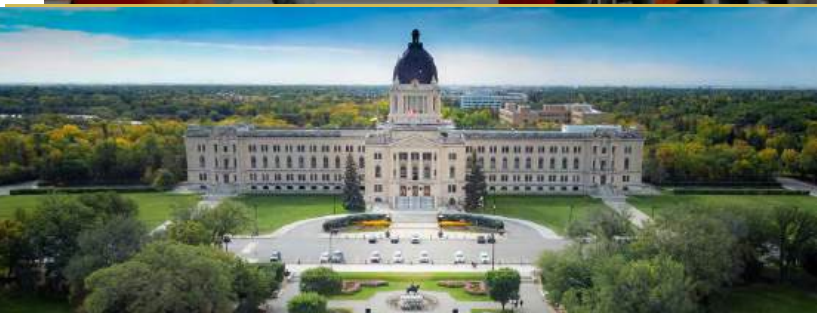
Wascana Centre



Royal Saskatchewan Museum



RCMP Heritage Centre



Saskatchewan Legislative Building



Government House

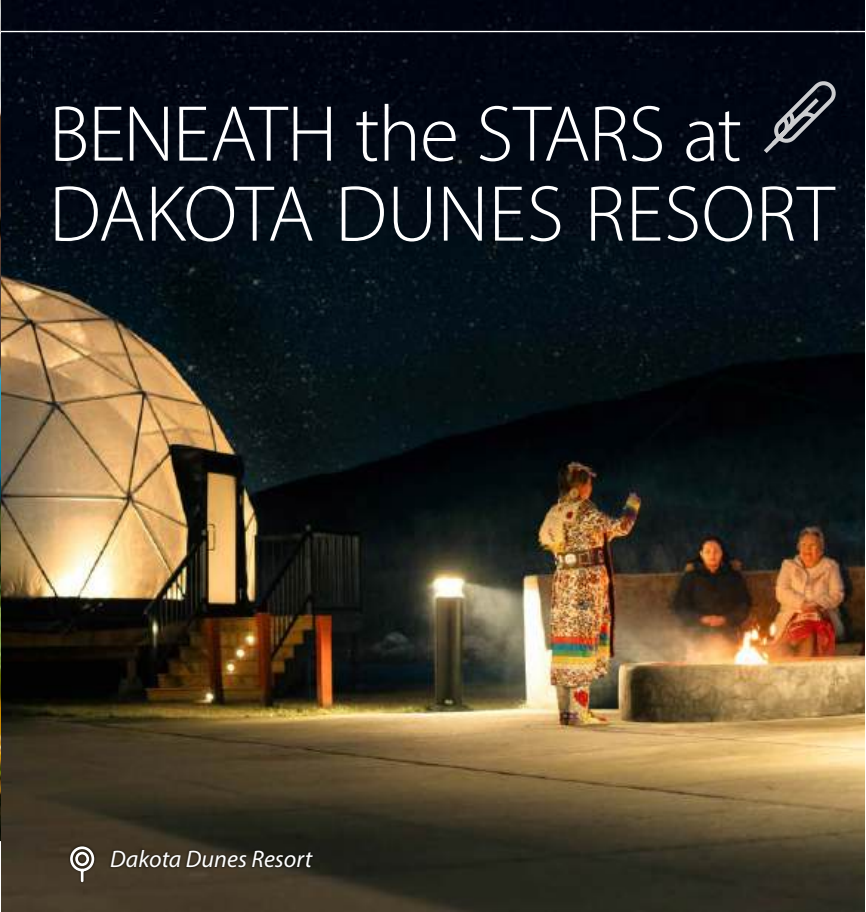


VISIT THE VALLEY: A DAY TRIP to LUMSDEN

Turn a quiet Saturday into a spontaneous day trip. Whether you're interested in treating yourself to great food and drink or browsing unique shops, grab your friends, fill your tank and discover these hidden gems in the town of Lumsden, just a short drive from Regina.



Free Bird



Dakota Dunes Resort



Food and Drink

Free Bird

Free Bird's philosophy is "common food done uncommonly well." Serving brunch, lunch and dinner, the menu features unique takes on fried chicken, shrimp tacos, pizza and burgers.

Last Mountain Distillery



Are you curious to find out exactly how a handful of grain becomes a glass of spirits? Take a tour of Last Mountain Distillery with owners Colin and Meredith Schmidt, who will walk you through the process and even let you in on the secret of their dill pickle vodka (hint: it's dill). Tours are available on Saturdays from 12 to 5 p.m. Pick up a bottle of spirits made from Saskatchewan grain on your way out.

Over the Hill Orchards and Winery



Not far from Lumsden is Over the Hill Orchards and Winery, a certified organic fruit grower. The orchard may be best known for its tangy Prairie Cherry products and selection of fruit wines. Take in a tour or tasting, or indulge in a gourmet meal prepared by a guest chef at one of its weekend Supper in the Orchard events. Visitors are welcome to stop in and pick up a bottle of wine, a package of Prairie Cherry Chocolates or a gluten-free pie.



Shopping

Thr3e Clothing Connection



On James Street, Thr3e Clothing Connection offers a curated collection of trendy and timeless styles for everyday wear. They have racks and racks of beautiful and stylish clothes, shoes and accessories for women.

The Painted Parasol Gift & Toy



The Painted Parasol Gift & Toy is an eclectic boutique shop that offers an assortment of fine products, including home décor, giftware, jewellery, bath and body products, local arts and crafts, toys, candy and baby items.

Lumsden Florist



Located in the scenic downtown area, Lumsden Florist offers unique, quality floral designs, a wide selection of plants, DIY workshops and kits, and gift options, such as throw pillows, coffee cups, jewellery and purses.

Corn Maiden Market at Lincoln Gardens



Corn Maiden Market at Lincoln Gardens, a garden centre and country market, has fresh produce and herbs, locally made jams, honey and baking, as well as a gift shop, corn maze and pumpkin patch onsite.

Just south of Saskatoon, Dakota Dunes Resort invites you into a world where refined luxury meets authentic culture, and every season offers a new reason to escape. Set within breathtaking natural beauty and proudly owned by Whitecap Dakota Nation, this award-winning destination is a place to slow down, reconnect, and experience Saskatchewan in an unforgettable way.

Here, comfort is elevated by meaning. Guests are welcomed into thoughtfully curated moments that honour the history, traditions, and living culture of the Dakota People, blending timeless teachings with modern, immersive experiences. Take part in hands-on cultural programming including bannock-making, fireside storytelling, and learning to set up a traditional Dakota tipi. Enjoy peaceful outdoor adventures framed by prairie skies and river valley views – every experience is designed to be both enriching and restorative.

One of the resort's newest signature offerings is the Cosmic Dome Experience – a truly one-of-a-kind journey that brings the wonder of the universe to life. Guests are invited into an 8-metre clear geodesic dome, where stargazing becomes an immersive experience. Designed as a high-end night-sky experience, the Cosmic Dome blends modern astronomy with storytelling and atmosphere, creating a moment that feels both grounding and extraordinary.

To deepen the experience even further, the Cosmic Dome Experience includes a portable 360-degree planetarium featuring the cutting-edge Digitalis space simulation system. This breathtaking visual journey brings the universe to life in stunning detail, allowing guests to explore planets, constellations, and celestial events through an immersive, theatre-style experience. Thoughtfully designed to honour both innovation and tradition, the program weaves in Dakota culture and sky teachings, inviting guests to experience the night sky through the wisdom of Dakota star stories, alongside modern astronomy. The result is a signature experience that is both luxurious and meaningful – a memorable encounter with the cosmos for guests of all ages.

As evening settles in, guests are treated to warmth by the fire, complemented by comforting touches such as fresh bannock, tea, and jam. Dakota Dunes Resort continues to evolve, with future-forward enhancements designed to deepen relaxation and elevate the guest journey. The resort will welcome Saskatchewan's only thermal spa at the end of 2026, offering a luxurious sanctuary for rejuvenation, renewal, and calm.

Whether you seek serenity, celebration, or discovery, Dakota Dunes Resort is an escape into land, sky, culture, and comfort.





Regina Beach Recreation Site

PICK a PARK

At these 11 provincial parks and recreation sites in central and southeast Saskatchewan, opportunities abound for boating and watersports, fishing, canoeing, kayaking and sunny summer days at the beach. Find that perfect spot to pitch a tent at one of the great campgrounds, explore the park on a nature hike or hit some balls at a nearby golf course.

1 | Good Spirit Lake Provincial Park

📍 Good Spirit Lake, 48 km NW of Yorkton

Accommodations: camping (Camp-Easy site), Good Spirit Golf Resort, Mistik Resort
Amenities/Nearby Attractions: beach, dog beach, golfing (Good Spirit Golf Resort), hiking (Trans Canada Trail), fishing, disc golf, mini golf, non-motorized boat/equipment rentals (PAR-TICI-PUTT Mini Golf & Rentals)



Buffalo Pound Provincial Park



Echo Lake Provincial Park



Blackstrap Provincial Park



Good Spirit Lake Provincial Park

2 | The Battlefords Provincial Park

📍 Jackfish Lake, 39 km N of North Battleford

Accommodations: camping, Jackfish Lodge Golf & Conference Centre

Amenities/Nearby Attractions: beach, dog beach, golfing (Jackfish Lodge Golf & Conference Centre), hiking, bike trails, mini golf (Lakeshore Mini Golf), disc golf, fishing, motorized and non-motorized boat rentals (Beachside Boat Rental)

3 | Blackstrap Provincial Park

📍 Blackstrap Lake, 40 km SE of Saskatoon

Accommodations: camping (Camp-Easy site), Blackstrap Glamping Resort

Amenities/Nearby Attractions: beach, dog beach, hiking, birdwatching/wildlife viewing, bike trails, disc golf, Sask Aquatic Adventures, fishing, outdoor sauna (Back2Nature Wellness & Adventures)

4 | Pike Lake Provincial Park

📍 Pike Lake, 30 km SW of Saskatoon

Accommodations: camping (Camp-Easy site), Night Owl Camping Cabins

Amenities/Nearby Attractions: beach, hiking, swimming pool/waterslide (wheelchair accessible), birdwatching/wildlife viewing, mini golf (Pike Lake Minigolf), disc golf, fishing

5 | Moose Mountain Provincial Park

📍 Kenosee Lake, 23 km N of Carlyle

Accommodations: camping, Kenosee Inn and Cabins

Amenities/Nearby Attractions: ATV trails, beach, golfing (Golf Kenosee, White Bear Lake Golf Course – outside of park), hiking, birdwatching/wildlife viewing, bike trails, fishing, disc golf, horseback riding (Kenosee Lake Riding Academy), mini golf (Masters Mini Golf), non-motorized boat/equipment rentals (Kenosee Lake Outdoor Rentals), Prairie Dog Drive-In Theatre, Sask Aquatic Adventures, Cannington Manor Provincial Historic Park

6 | Echo Valley Provincial Park

📍 Echo Lake/Pasqua Lake, 8 km W of Fort Qu'Appelle

Accommodations: camping (Camp-Easy site), Earth to Sky Accommodations

Amenities/Nearby Attractions: beach, fishing, hiking, birdwatching/wildlife viewing, mini golf (Echo-Par Mini Golf), yoga classes (Yoga Haven), outdoor sauna (Back2Nature Wellness & Adventures), golfing (Echo Ridge Golf Course – outside of park), Saskatchewan Fish Hatchery



Moose Mountain Provincial Park

7 | Katepwa Point Provincial Park

(day-use park – no entry fee)

📍 Katepwa Lake, 17 km SE of Fort Qu'Appelle

Accommodations: Sundays Log Cabins, Katepwa Beach Hotel

Amenities/Nearby Attractions: beach, fishing, hiking, golfing (Katepwa Beach Golf Club), disc golf, birdwatching/wildlife viewing

8 | Crooked Lake Provincial Park

📍 Crooked Lake, 40 km N of Broadview/Trans-Canada Hwy 1

Accommodations: camping (Camp-Easy site)

Amenities/Nearby Attractions: beach, fishing, hiking, birdwatching/wildlife viewing, golfing (Last Oak Golf and Country Club – outside of park at Cowessess First Nation)

9 | Buffalo Pound Provincial Park

📍 Buffalo Pound Lake, 33 km NE of Moose Jaw

Accommodations: camping (Camp-Easy site), Glamping Resorts Ltd., Buffalo Pound Eco Lodge

Amenities/Nearby Attractions: beach, bike trails (Fresh Trails Mountain Bike Skills), hiking, swimming pool (wheelchair accessible), birdwatching/wildlife viewing (Nicolle Flats Interpretive Area), mini golf (Squirrely Putt & Play), disc golf, fishing

10 | Rowan's Ravine Provincial Park

📍 Last Mountain Lake, 46 km NW of Craven

Accommodations: camping (Camp-Easy site), G&S Marina Outfitters

Amenities/Nearby Attractions: beach, dog beach, fishing, hiking, birdwatching/wildlife viewing, mini golf (Rowan's Ravine Mini Golf Course) motorized and non-motorized boat/equipment rentals (G&S Marina Outfitters)

11 | Regina Beach Recreation Site

(day-use park – no entry fee)

📍 Last Mountain Lake, 50 km NW of Regina

Amenities/Nearby Attractions: beach (accessible with a beach mat and floating beach wheelchair), Sask Aquatic Adventures, fishing, hiking, birdwatching/wildlife viewing, golfing (Regina Beach Golf Club)



A True GRAIN-TO-GLASS Experience at Black Fox Farm & Distillery



Black Fox Farm & Distillery



Nestled in the heart of the prairies lies a unique distillery that serves up award-winning spirits. Black Fox Farm & Distillery, much like the elusive black fox that inspired its name, is a symbol of mystery, beauty, and the unexpected. Combining traditional farming methods with a passion for creating world-class gin and whiskey, every bottle is a tribute to the grains grown right on site.

Where the Land Meets the Spirit

John Cote and Barb Stefanyshyn-Cote, the visionaries behind Black Fox, are more than just distillers - they are stewards of the land. As fifth-generation farmers, they have always understood the deep connection between agriculture and the products they make. Over the years, their passion for the land grew, driving them to create something more personal, something closer to the heart of their harvest. And so, Black Fox Farm & Distillery was born.

At Black Fox, spirits aren't just made - they're cultivated. Nearly 90% of the ingredients in every bottle are grown on their own land, giving John and Barb complete control over quality and flavour. This grain-to-glass approach is what makes their gin, whiskey, and liqueurs stand out, each one reflecting the unique character of the prairies.

The couple's expertise goes beyond their own fields. With global experience across five continents and accolades like the Canadian Agricultural Lifetime Leadership program and the Nuffield Canada Scholarship, they've brought their rich knowledge of farming and craftsmanship back home, elevating Black Fox to a place of distinction in the world of craft spirits.

A Vision Rooted in Sustainability

Black Fox's commitment to sustainability runs through every aspect of its operations. From water conservation to waste reduction, the business takes its role as a steward of the environment seriously. The distillery reuses 95% of its water, returns spent grains and fruit back to the soil as compost, and even opts for organic cleaning solutions to reduce its environmental impact. John and Barb's farming practices emphasize soil health, biodiversity, and long-term sustainability, ensuring that the land thrives for future generations.



Experience Black Fox Farm & Distillery

The magic of Black Fox Farm & Distillery goes beyond the glass. Owners John and Barb not only create spirits, but visitor experiences rooted in passion and delivered with a profound respect for the land: "We really like to invite people out to visit us. It's a chance for us to tell them the story of Saskatchewan, the story of agriculture, the story of pioneers; all the things that have sculpted where we are now. And then to show them how that affects the whiskey."

Outdoor Tasting Experience

Reserve a table in the open air and sip on a cocktail or whisky flight while a gin expert or whisky connoisseur guides you through the tasting. Enjoy paired bites as you soak in the peaceful prairie surroundings.

Black Fox Excursion

Take a guided tour through the distillery and the fields where Black Fox's ingredients are grown. Learn the secrets behind their award-winning gins and whiskey and enjoy a sampling of handcrafted spirits along the way.

uPick Flower Experience

Wander through fields of fresh flowers and pick your own bouquet to brighten your day. Black Fox supplies all the tools you need to pick your beautiful fresh bouquet to take home.

Garden Delights: Floral Arranging

Tap into your creativity with this beginner-friendly floral arranging workshop. Sip on a welcome cocktail while learning the art of floral design and leave with a stunning arrangement that's all your own.

Distillery Tour

Step inside the heart of Black Fox and discover the journey from seed to spirit. Take your cocktail with you as you explore the distillery, learning how each bottle is carefully crafted using the Black Fox method.

Buzz Into Fun with Prairie Bee Meadery



In the southern part of the province, not too far from Moose Jaw, you'll find Prairie Bee Meadery. Since 2016, Prairie Bee has been combining local honey and fruits in small batches of award-winning mead. With honey sourced from clover, alfalfa, and wildflowers, and blended with all-Canadian fruits, each sip offers a burst of flavor, from sweet and fruity to bold and dry.

Explore the World of Mead

Pollinator Pathway Tours

Discover the buzz of honeybees on this self-guided app tour. Or, join a hosted excursion to interact with beekeeping equipment and enjoy hands-on fun suitable for the whole family.



Crafting Fun

Unleash your creativity at Prairie Bee's crafting pavilion. Build a bee-watering station or decorate a bee cookie with edible paints - perfect activities for all ages.



Honey Wine Highway Tours

Uncover the secrets of the mead-making process, as you see the winery equipment in action. Finish with a tasting session that brings the ancient art of mead-making to life.





Redberry Lake Biosphere Region



Whooping cranes



Northern saw-whet owl

Redberry Lake Biosphere Region: SASKATCHEWAN'S HIDDEN ECOLOGICAL GEM



American white pelicans



lake has protected status, rural communities and farms dot the area. A regional park bustles with activity in the summer. The landscape is a mix of cultivated and grazed land with patches of natural prairie and aspen forest.

Redberry Lake reaches a depth of 75 feet, which is unusual for a saline lake. The water reflects vibrant shades of turquoise and blue, due to the magnesium sulphate composition. The extended area around the lake is a nesting and feeding spot for migratory birds, including endangered whooping cranes. Over 200 bird species have been spotted in the area.

The region is a popular destination for birding enthusiasts, some of whom make annual pilgrimages to enjoy rare sightings and capture photographs of species such as whooping cranes, American white pelicans, piping plovers, and more. Islands within Redberry Lake support nesting colonies for pelicans, California and ring-billed gulls, common terns, white-winged scoters, double-crested cormorants, great blue herons, and black-crowned night herons.

Infrastructure improvements have aided the creation of new programming and visitor experiences. These new developments and activities aim for a minimal environmental footprint and to be least disruptive to the land, forest, plants, animals and even the night sky.

With its own bird banding station, RLBR offers guests a variety of packages. They range from half-day tours that include working with a bird banding specialist to overnight and multi-day excursions that involve nighttime activities.

One of the exciting new experiences at RLBR is an evening adventure that immerses visitors in the natural wonders of

the region. Start with the Guided Bird Tour along the ridge overlooking Redberry Lake, where you can spot a variety of bird species against the stunning prairie backdrop. Afterward, enjoy the Sunset Supper featuring a locally sourced BBQ cookout that highlights the flavours of the region. The evening culminates with A Night with Owls. Here guests meet Saskatchewan's smallest nocturnal owl, the Northern saw-whet owl, with guidance from a bird specialist. This unique blend of conservation and tourism captures the essence of the RLBR experience.

The new interpretive and research centre is designed as a multi-purpose facility, ideal for meetings, retreats, indoor programming and classroom learning. Sustainable, on-site guest accommodations include geodesic domes that sleep up to six people.

The RLBR is an appealing destination for birders and visitors alike, offering visitors unique and immersive experiences. The interpretive centre and birding tours serve as cornerstone attractions. Beyond these highlights, collaborative efforts with local community members aim to expand tourism opportunities, allowing guests to engage with an authentic rural lifestyle. The region aspires to demonstrate the coexistence of people and nature, showcasing how conservation and sustainable development can work together as a driving force for building stronger, more resilient communities.

SASKATCHEWAN'S BIRDING HOTSPOTS

1. WASCANA LAKE AND A.E. WILSON PARK (Regina)
2. LAST MOUNTAIN BIRD OBSERVATORY
3. CONDIE NATURE REFUGE (Lumsden)
4. PIKE LAKE PROVINCIAL PARK
5. EKAPO LAKE
6. BLACKSTRAP PROVINCIAL PARK
7. QUILL LAKES INTERNATIONAL BIRD AREA
8. BUFFALO POUND PROVINCIAL PARK
9. REDBERRY LAKE BIOSPHERE REGION
10. SASKATCHEWAN BURROWING OWL INTERPRETIVE CENTRE (Moose Jaw)





Little Manitou Lake

12 Hours in Manitou Beach: The “Dead Sea of Canada”

Manitou Beach should be on your list when planning a getaway in Saskatchewan. From the mineral-rich waters to learning a polka in a genuine dance hall, you will easily fall in love with the charm of this resort town. Take full opportunity of your day at Manitou Beach with this 12-hour guide.

9 a.m.: Hit the Beach

You won't want to miss the magic of a swim in Little Manitou Lake. Legend has it that Indigenous Peoples discovered the lake's healing properties while travelling through the area. With its high mineral content, this body of water is unlike anything else in North America. People come from all over the world for its mineral concentration and remarkable buoyancy - making it impossible to sink. To experience the waters in a heated indoor setting, stop in at the Manitou Springs Resort & Mineral Spa.

11 a.m.: Explore Local Artists

After your swim, wander the village and check out the local shops, especially Little Manitou Art Gallery. The work of more than 300 Saskatchewan artists is on display in seven gallery-style pavilions among the perennial gardens. If you time your visit just right, you can catch a live music performance booked every Saturday in the summer months.

12 p.m.: Lunch Time

When it's time to eat, head over to Oda Coffee + Wine Bar for a delightful lunch. Whether you're craving crêpes or a charcuterie board, this spot's got you covered. Pair one of their many tasty treats with a gourmet iced coffee or a summer sangria - best enjoyed on their beach front patio.

1 p.m.: A Tee Time Awaits

Challenge your golf skills at the lush Manitou Beach Golf Club. The club features a 36-par, nine-hole course that offers scenic views and well-maintained greens, making it ideal for golfers of all skill levels. Be sure to book your spot by calling ahead or going online to reserve your tee time.

5 p.m.: From Greens to Eats

After your round, head to Mulligans Grill, conveniently located onsite at the Manitou Beach Golf Club. The grill offers a variety of delicious options to satisfy your appetite, from a quick snack to a full meal. With a laid-back atmosphere, it's the perfect spot to unwind and recap your game.



Salty Cinema Drive-In Theatre



Manitou Beach Golf Club

7 p.m.: Step Back in Time

Next up is a visit to Danceland, a must-see historic dance hall that's been around since 1928. It's famous for its horsehair-cushioned floor, which makes dancing feel extra smooth. Kick up your heels for an evening featuring polka, Latin and big band performances.

9 p.m.: End the Night

Wrap up your day at the Salty Cinema Drive-In Theatre. This vintage spot has been screening blockbusters since the 1950s and is one of the last drive-in theaters left in Saskatchewan. It is truly an experience straight out of the past, but with the pristine quality of digital projection. No car? No problem - they've got indoor seating too.

And just like that, you've experienced a perfect day at Manitou Beach!



Danceland



Batoche National Historic Site

On the Trail of History

The Louis Riel Trail is a 391-km route from Regina to Saskatoon to Prince Albert. The highway is named in honour of Louis Riel, who led Métis and allied First Nations in defense of their land during the 1885 Northwest Resistance. Riel was captured by government forces and brought to Regina, where he stood trial and was executed for treason. Sites along the Louis Riel Trail mark episodes in the resistance and highlight stories of Métis and First Nations Peoples.



Batoche National Historic Site

At Rosthern, turn east onto Highway 312, then onto Highway 225, to visit Batoche National Historic Site. View history through the experiences of Métis residents who farmed along the South Saskatchewan River and had their way of life disrupted in the late 1800s. Guided and self-guided summer tours pass by remaining homes, the restored St.-Antoine-de-Padoue church and rectory, and the site of the Battle of Batoche - where residents defended their land during the 1885 Northwest Resistance. Visitors are urged to plan ahead and check the Parks Canada website, pc.gc.ca, for hours of operation.

Duck Lake Regional Interpretive Centre

Through exhibits, activities and displays of artifacts, stories are shared about the Northwest Resistance and First Nations, Métis and settler history in 1870-1905. The centre features a 24-m tower and viewing platform, sculpture court and picnic area.

Fort Carlton Provincial Historic Park

At Duck Lake, turn west on Highway 212 to reach Fort Carlton Provincial Historic Park. An important station for the Hudson's Bay Company and negotiation site for Treaty 6, Fort Carlton caught fire and was destroyed during a hasty evacuation that took place during the Northwest Resistance. Today, the site features a reconstructed palisade, trade store, fur and provisions storage, clerks' quarters and tipi encampment. Interpretive programming and hands-on activities are offered during the summer.



Fort Battleford National Historic Site



Fort Carlton Provincial Historic Park

TRAILS OF 1885

These national historic sites and provincial historic parks are a part of the transprovincial Trails of 1885 initiative (trailsof1885.ca). Here are a few additional Saskatchewan sites that make up the trail:

- » Fort Battleford National Historic Site
- » Humboldt & District Museum & Gallery
- » Original Humboldt Site
- » The Marr Residence (Saskatoon)
- » RCMP Heritage Centre (Regina)
- » The Battle of Tourond's Coulee/Fish Creek National Historic Site



Shelter Brewing Company

A PUB CRAWL in SASKATOON: FIVE FAVOURITES

Anyone who has been there will tell you, immediately: Saskatoon is one of the best places in Canada to get a great meal. But over several visits - and more than a few pub crawls - I've learned that it is also a truly excellent city to find a good drink.

Surrounded by fertile soil and a wealth of natural ingredients, these bars and beverages are enriched by nature and diversity. Drawing from cultures around the world and crafted by expert mixologists, they offer a unique and flavorful experience. Here are a few of my absolute favourites. Each offers its own unique menu and style, all conveniently located in the heart of the city within easy walking distance of one another.

Shelter Brewing Company

This is the perfect place to kick off a pub crawl. They have a sunny patio and a full menu of authentic Mexican and Tex-Mex delights. Think: carnitas, birria, and chicken asado tacos, a big selection of burritos, plus "pool nachos" with a mountain of pickled jalapeños, salsa fresca and slathered in gooey nacho cheese.

A must-try is their handcrafted nano-brewed, small-batch beer, with staple ales plus a few taps that change with the season. A frosty pint of Saison, their Belgian farmhouse ale, is always a good choice, or a pineapple Hefeweizen - a nice, fresh sip on a summery afternoon.



Congress Beer House



Bar Stella

Bar Stella

If you close your eyes when you walk into Bar Stella, you might think that you have been transported to a trendy trattoria in Rome, or maybe a bright, beautiful spot in Positano.

Bar Stella really feels like Italy. Three floors, bathed in light on a lovely corner in Riversdale. There's delicious Italian cuisine, including pastas and a big selection of small plates, many of them sourced locally and served up family-style. And the drinks will take you on an Italian adventure too. Pull up a seat at the bar and order an Italian wine, beer or cocktail - the latter includes classic favourites such as Negroni, Americano, and, if you're looking for a little caffeine boost, an espresso martini.

Congress Beer House



Just really good food, and so much brew. One of the best burgers in the city. Local ingredients in almost all of the dishes.

Can't forget to mention the 32 beers on tap - plus 50 more in bottles. The draughts often include hard-to-find labels and a preponderance of Saskatchewan beers: Rebellion, Pile O' Bones, Flatlander, 9 Mile. So grab a drink and keep crawling.



Bokeh on the Plaza



Parlor

Bokeh on the Plaza

The lobby bar at the Alt Hotel Saskatoon is classy, moody and cool. Find it right across from the Remai Modern, and steps from the big bends of the South Saskatchewan River.

Bubbles and beers and even a Spritz menu. Signature cocktails using locally made spirits and liqueurs from LB Distillers, Black Fox and others. Large charcuterie boards, piled high with prosciutto, Thai sausage, truffle Jack cheese, and more, are sure to keep you going.

Parlor

I've always found that a speakeasy is the perfect place to finish a pub crawl. So, at the end of your delicious wandering, head to 2nd Ave South, right in the heart of downtown. Look for the blue neon cat in the window. If it's lit up, you're in.

Climb up a flight of stairs to the second floor. You don't need a password. Just settle into this stylish space with a welcoming wooden bar and lascivious lipstick-red banquettes for a cocktail, or two. They're delightfully made and garnished with ingredients grown on their rooftop. The owners' only ask is that when you descend back down the stairs, try to keep it down, so you don't wake the neighbours across the hall. Which, of course, only adds to its super-secret feel.



AUTHOR: TIM JOHNSON

Tim Johnson was Tourism Saskatchewan's travel-writer-in-residence in summer 2023. Johnson has visited 148 countries on all seven continents, always in search of a good story. He's taken the Trans-Siberian across frozen landscapes during the coldest winter in a decade, cruised on a submarine below the Antarctic Circle, tipped back fermented camel's milk in a Mongolian tent, and heli-hiked in Greenland. He contributes regularly to the *Toronto Star*, *The Globe and Mail*, *Reader's Digest* and the *Vancouver Sun*, and also writes for *CNN Travel*, *The New Yorker*, *National Geographic*, *Bloomberg*, *BBC Travel*, *The Daily Beast*, *The Telegraph* (UK) and many others.

ADDITIONAL FAN-FAVOURITE STOPS



- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 Armoury Brewing Company (North Battleford) | 6 Homebound Brewery (Warman) |
| 2 Bandits Distilling Inc. (Weyburn) | 7 Honey Pot Distillery (Moose Jaw) |
| 3 Bushwakker Brewpub (Regina) | 8 Malt National Brewing Corp. (Regina) |
| 4 Crossmount Cider Company (Saskatoon) | 9 Nokomis Craft Ales (Nokomis) |
| 5 District Brewing Co. (Regina) | 10 Rebellion Brewing Co. (Regina) |



Allen Sapp Gallery/The Gonor Collection

PIONEERING TO PROSPERITY: Saskatchewan's History on Display at Western Development Museum

The Western Development Museum (WDM) holds the title of the largest human history museum in Saskatchewan. With over 75,000 artifacts, this impressive collection spans four separate locations with each branch focusing on a different aspect of Saskatchewan history.

Moose Jaw

Highlighting the modes of transportation that changed the face of the prairies, the Moose Jaw WDM features automobiles, locomotives, watercrafts and vintage aircraft. Check out the Snowbirds gallery, the only gallery in the world that features Canada's premier aerobatic team, the 431 Squadron Snowbirds.

Experience the personal side of the team, learn about Canadian military aerobatic flight history, and view behind-the-scenes areas frequented by pilots and crew.

Other historical stops in/near Moose Jaw: Moose Jaw Museum & Art Gallery, Sukanen Ship Pioneer Village & Museum.

North Battleford

Experience the story of Saskatchewan agriculture and rural life. The Heritage Farm and Village outdoor exhibit brings the 1920s boom years to life through 40 hectares featuring 30 residential and commercial buildings. From a replica telephone office, original schoolhouse, churches and homes, discover Saskatchewan's early prairie stories of hardship and resilience.

Other historical stops in North Battleford: Allen Sapp Gallery/The Gonor Collection, North Battleford Sports Museum & Hall of Fame.

Saskatoon

Showcasing a typical Saskatchewan town of the early 1900s, the Saskatoon WDM focuses on capturing the atmosphere and style of a bustling colony. Stroll through Boomtown Street and encounter over 30 buildings of settlement-era businesses where visitors can imagine a time when the clip clop of horse's hooves filled the air. Pop in for a cold drink or a delicious meal at Boomtown Café, a "working exhibit" themed restaurant with 1910-era décor.

Other historical stops in/near Saskatoon: Ukrainian Museum of Canada, Saskatchewan Railway Museum, Saskatoon Museum of Military Artifacts.

Yorkton

Discover stories of immigrants to Saskatchewan and how Yorkton became one of the major centres of Ukrainian settlement in the province. Indoor displays include an attic filled with toys and an authentic log home, while outdoor exhibits feature a wide variety of antique farm equipment. A visit to the Yorkton WDM sheds light on the experiences of early settlers.

Other historical stops in Yorkton: Yorkton Brick Historic Flour Mill, Godfrey Dean Art Gallery.



Yorkton Western Development Museum



Tunnels of Moose Jaw

Step Back in Time at the Tunnels of Moose Jaw



Beneath the bustling streets of downtown Moose Jaw lies a hidden world, where history comes alive in a series of immersive adventures. The Tunnels of Moose Jaw offer engaging, live-action tours that transport visitors into moments of Canada's past.

Imagine slipping into the shadows of the Prohibition era on the Chicago Connection Tour. It's 1929, and you're not just hearing about bootleggers - you are one, caught in the crosshairs of the Capone organization. You must navigate the treacherous underground maze, all while dodging the sharp eye of Police Chief Walter Johnson. Starting out at Miss Fanny's Club, you'll need to learn the tricks of the trade fast - or risk getting caught in this dangerous game.

Or picture yourself as a Chinese immigrant, stepping into the shoes of those who came to Canada with nothing but hope. The Passage to Fortune Tour plunges you into the heart of early Chinese immigration, where every corner of the underground laundry echoes with stories of struggle, perseverance, and quiet triumph. You'll witness the challenges faced by these early pioneers as they carved out a life beneath a nation that didn't always welcome them.

For those fascinated by Cold War intrigue, Bunker 24 (wheelchair accessible) offers a chance to step into the boots of a fresh recruit in 1958. It's your first day of training, and you're entering a world on the brink of catastrophe - one where Canada stands vigilant against the rising threat of the Eastern Bloc. Set in a meticulously recreated 1950s bunker, this tour pulls you into a time when the fear of global conflict loomed large, and every decision carried the weight of national security.

Each tour is a thrilling chance to not just learn history, but to experience it. From dodging law enforcement to stepping into the shoes of courageous immigrants or cold war recruits, the Tunnels of Moose Jaw turn the past into a heart-pounding experience.

More Trips Down Memory Lane:



Lloydminster Museum & Archives

MELVILLE

- » Melville Heritage Museum
- » Melville Railway Museum

ESTEVAN

- » Estevan Art Gallery & Museum
- » Souris Valley Museum

WEYBURN

- » Weyburn and Area Heritage Village
- » Soo Line Historical Museum

LLOYDMINSTER

- » Lloydminster Museum & Archives



Temple Gardens Hotel & Spa

PLAN YOUR TRIP TO MOOSE JAW: CANADA'S MOST NOTORIOUS CITY

Where to Stay:

- Grant Hall Hotel
- Temple Gardens Hotel & Spa
- Wakamow Heights Bed & Breakfast

Where to Visit/Dine:

- Yvette Moore Gallery/Gallery Café
- Grant Hall Hotel/Grant Hall Steakhouse/
The Burrowing Owl Lounge
- Prairie Bee Meadery (inside Grant Hall Hotel)
- Bobby's Place Olde World Tavern
- The Mad Greek
- Cask 82 Ale & Table
- Rosie's on River Street
- Wakamow Valley
- Honey Pot Distillery
- Western Development Museum



Yvette Moore Gallery/Gallery Café



Wanuskewin Heritage Park

HONOURING the LAND and Embracing the Story at WANUSKEWIN HERITAGE PARK

Just above the opimihāw Creek and the South Saskatchewan River, Wanuskewin Heritage Park offers a glimpse into thousands of years of Indigenous history on the Northern Plains. Named after the *nēhiyawēwin* (Plains Cree) word that translates to “seeking peace of mind,” this sacred gathering site preserves ancient traditions, stories, and cultural practices.

Indigenous traditions are at the heart of what Wanuskewin embodies today - a space that celebrates connection and community. Evidence of medicine wheels, bison jumps and tool-making areas are found throughout the park, each revealing essential pieces of the story of those who walked these lands many, many years ago. These elements come together to tell a unique narrative of the land’s cultural significance. They highlight not only the survival and ingenuity of the Indigenous Peoples of the Northern Plains, but also the profound spiritual connection they share with the land.



The site contains Canada’s longest-running archaeological research project. Work has uncovered evidence of human occupation from over 6,400 years ago, along with traces of every cultural group that existed on the Northern Plains.

Wanuskewin has been a flagship tourism attraction. Activities and programming highlight the scientific research underway, as well as focus on arts and culture, ecological sustainability, environmental protection, Indigenous history and traditions, and reconciliation. The park has tripled in size since it opened in 1992 and now occupies 741 acres.

Major renovations were completed in 2020, increasing the size of the Visitor Centre, enhancing exhibits and restoring trails to provide a richer visitor experience. Expanding the land base was a goal from early on as founders, Elders and partners envisioned a day when bison would return to the area. One of the most celebrated milestones during this time was the reintroduction



of bison to the land in 2019, bringing full circle a story that has endured for thousands of years. The bison stand not only as a symbol of renewal but as a vital connection to Indigenous culture, traditions and the Northern Plains ecosystem.

Opportunities to Learn

Wanuskewin offers a wide variety of programs and activities designed to engage, educate, and immerse visitors in the cultural and natural history of the opimihāw Valley.

Guided Tours: Knowledgeable interpreters guide visitors through the park, animating history with engaging stories and cultural insights. From school groups to solo explorers, these tours bring to life Wanuskewin’s vibrant legacy of gathering and celebration.

Self-Guided Tours: Stroll through 7 km of trails winding through the opimihāw Valley, marvelling at scenic views and historical landmarks. Explore the Visitor Centre’s exhibits and Indigenous art galleries or enjoy seasonal activities such as snowshoeing. A must-see is the bison viewing platform, where you can witness these majestic animals in their natural habitat.

Tipi Sleepovers: Spend a memorable night in an 18-foot Plains Cree-style tipi, soaking in the serene beauty of the valley under a star-filled sky. Guided evening programs include cultural storytelling, traditional activities and moments of quiet reflection. Awakening to the beauty of the valley makes for a tranquil and restorative experience.



North
Battleford



**Back2Nature
Wellness and Adventures**
SASKATOON AND AREA

Offering wood-burning barrel sauna experiences, glow stand-up paddleboarding (SUP) tours, and all-inclusive multi-day retreats, Back2Nature Wellness and Adventures invites guests to embark on an inner journey while exploring the outdoors.



Blackstrap Glamping Resort
BLACKSTRAP PROVINCIAL PARK

Blackstrap Glamping Resort is located in the heart of Blackstrap Provincial Park. The Resort's five luxury domes are surrounded by stunning natural scenery and a variety of outdoor activities year-round. The domes come fully-equipped with the comforts of home, right down to a bathrobe and slippers. **Other stops at Blackstrap Provincial Park:** Little Kahuna's Beach Café and Tiki Bar



With its mobile approach, The Wandering Market is at the heart of the shop local movement. The business delivers products from over 180 Saskatchewan producers – fresh, locally grown, farmed, baked and handcrafted goods – to doorsteps across the province weekly. **Other stops in/near Moose Jaw:** Moose Jaw Cultural Centre and Mae Wilson Theatre, Moose Jaw Trolley Company and Nicolle Flats Interpretive Area (Buffalo Pound Provincial Park)



The Wandering Market
MOOSE JAW

Blaine Lake

Rosthern

Wakaw

Cudworth

Martensville

St. Denis

SASKATOON

Blackstrap
Provincial
Park



Champêtre County
ST. DENIS

Not far from Saskatoon, Champêtre County is a country-themed resort and event space that makes guests feel as if they've been transported back in time. Cosy ranch accommodations, family-friendly activities, a small animal barn, saloon and café make this resort a charming venue for a wedding, retreat, family reunion or just a weekend getaway. **Other stops near St. Denis:** Wander's Tiny Farm



**Wheatland Express
Excursion Train**
CUDWORTH/WAKAW

Saskatchewandering with Andrew Hiltz

Saskatchewanderer Andrew Hiltz has travelled across the province. Here are some of his top stops and favourite hidden gems, as well as a few locations that are still on his Saskatchewan bucket list.



Operating on a heritage railway that runs between Cudworth and Wakaw, Wheatland Express Excursion Train delivers adventures through the rolling prairies with interactive characters, musical entertainment and culinary elements that showcase the province's rich art, culture, and heritage (wheelchair accessible). **Other stops near Cudworth and Wakaw:** Wakaw Lake Regional Park and Dancing Sky Theatre (Meacham)

Southey



Italian Star Deli
REGINA

100 grams of deli meat. 50 grams of provolone. Feta cheese, basil pesto, banana peppers, spicy house-made bomba spread and fresh, locally made bread. Put them together and you get Italian Star Deli's "legendary" sandwiches. This family-run deli has been perfecting the art of sandwich making for over 25 years, but they've been stocking their shelves with specialty imported ingredients since 1966. **Other stops in Regina:** Regina Farmer's Market, Cedar Creek Gardens and Milky Way Ice Cream

Some additional stops:

- Becky's Place Fort Qu'Appelle
- YDB Scoops Yorkton
- Happy Hollow Corn Maze near Lumsden
- The Grotto Vibank
- Cork & Bone Bistro Moosomin
- Sunnyside Creamery Martensville
- Station Arts Centre Rosthern
- Dejma's Curry House North Battleford

Yorkton

For a nostalgic way to spend a summer evening, watch a movie on the big screen at one of the province's drive-in movie theatres. Opened in 1954, Twilite Drive-In Theatre in Wolseley has been an area attraction for decades. **Other stops near Wolseley:** The Wolseley Gallery, Grace & Thyme (Indian Head) and Historic Bell Barn (Indian Head)



Twilite Drive-In Theatre
WOLSELEY



Moosomin

Fort Qu'Appelle

Wolseley

Vibank

REGINA

Moose Jaw

Buffalo
Pound
Lake





GAME DAY in Saskatchewan



Cheer loud for your team on game day in Saskatchewan! Regina is home to the Canadian Football League (CFL)'s Saskatchewan Roughrider Football Club and Saskatoon is the where the Saskatchewan Rush Lacrosse Club takes on its opponents in the National Lacrosse League (NLL).



Saskatchewan Roughriders

For a real sense of Regina's community spirit, take in a Saskatchewan Roughriders football game. Fans flock to Saskatchewan Roughrider games all over Canada, but there's nothing quite like sitting in Mosaic Stadium, surrounded by cheering fans. Take home a game day memento with a visit to the Rider Store.

In 2022, the 109th Grey Cup was hosted in Regina, marking the fourth time the championship game was held in the city, and the first time it was played at the new Mosaic Stadium. In the Saskatchewan Roughriders' century-long history, the team has won five Grey Cup Championships: in 1966, 1989, 2007, 2013 and 2025.

Saskatchewan Rush

Feel the excitement as the Saskatchewan Rush takes to the field at SaskTel Centre and welcomes NLL teams from across North America. The season runs from December to April.

Rep your favourite lacrosse team with some official Saskatchewan Rush merchandise from The FEZ - the Fan Experience Zone.

EVENTS CALENDAR

Energy City EX & KCRA Rodeo
Estevan • June 12-14, 2026

Davidson Days
Davidson • June 19-21, 2026

Bazaar
Regina • June 20, 2026

Doukhobor Dugout House NHS Season Opening: Wedding Theme Day
Blaine Lake • July 4, 2026

Sask Jazz Fest
Saskatoon • July 5-11, 2026

Lloyd Ex Fair
Lloydminster • July 8-11, 2026

Country Thunder Saskatchewan
Craven • July 9-12, 2026

Trade Days
Fort Carlton Provincial Historic Park • July 11, 2026

Spirit of Manitou Studio Trail
Watrous • July 11-12, 2026

Back to Batoche Days
Batoche National Historic Site • July 16-19, 2026

Saskatchewan Festival of Words
Moose Jaw • July 16-19, 2026

The Queen City Ex (REAL District)
Regina • July 29-August 2, 2026

Saskatoon EX
Saskatoon • July 30-August 6, 2026

Saskatoon Fringe Festival
Saskatoon • July 30-August 8, 2026

Macklin World Bunnock Championship
Macklin • July 31-August 2, 2026

Mid Summer's Art Festival
Fort Qu'Appelle • August 1, 2026

Cannington Fair
Cannington Manor Provincial Historic Park
August 2, 2026

Sask Parks Summer Cinema
Blackstrap Provincial Park • August 8, 2026

North West Territorial Days
The Battlefords • August 12-14, 2026

Sask Parks Summer Cinema
Rowan's Ravine Provincial Park • August 15, 2026

Trails and Tales Festival
Buffalo Pound Provincial Park • August 15, 2026

Sask Parks Summer Cinema
Pike Lake Provincial Park • August 22, 2026

Fall Guided Hikes
Echo Valley Provincial Park • September 26, 2026

Nuit Blanche
Saskatoon • September 19, 2026

Canadian Western Agribition
Regina • November 23-28, 2026

Carlyle's Dickens Village Festival
Carlyle • December 5-6, 2026

Canada's Farm Show
Regina • March 9-11, 2027

For more information about events in the province, visit tourismsaskatchewan.com/things-to-do/events.



Contact organizers for the latest event information.

Unlimited Lakes & Parkland



PARK LIST

- 8

Fort Livingstone National Historic Site
- 9

Fort Pelly National Historic Site
- 11

Frenchman Butte National Historic Site
- 17

Prince Albert National Park
- 4

Bronson Forest Recreation Site
- 6

Candle Lake Provincial Park
- 8

Clarence-Steepbank Lakes Provincial Park
- 15

Duck Mountain Provincial Park
- 18

Fort Pitt Provincial Historic Park
- 20

Great Blue Heron Provincial Park
- 21

Greenwater Lake Provincial Park
- 26

Makwa Lake Provincial Park
- 27

Meadow Lake Provincial Park
- 29

Narrow Hills Provincial Park
- 31

Porcupine Hills Provincial Park
- 36

Steele Narrows Provincial Park
- 38

Wildcat Hill Provincial Park
- 6

Big River Regional Park
- 7

Brightsand Lake Regional Park
- 9

Canwood Regional Park
- 16

Emerald Lake Regional Park
- 20

Hudson Bay Regional Park
- 25

Kipabiskau Regional Park
- 27

Lake Charron Regional Park
- 31

Little Loon Regional Park
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Martins Lake Regional Park
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Meeting Lake Regional Park
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Memorial Lake Regional Park
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Morin Lake Regional Park
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Nipawin & District Regional Park
- 52

Pasquia Regional Park
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St. Brieux Regional Park
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Struthers Lake Regional Park
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Sturgeon Lake Regional Park
- 64

Sturgis & District Regional Park – Lady Lake
- 70

Wapiti Valley Regional Park
- 71

Duck Mountain Regional Park

UNLIMITED LAKES
& PARKLAND

LEGEND

- 

City
- 

Town
- 

Highway
- 

Highway Number
- 

Park
- 

Water Body
- 

National Park/Historic Site
- 

Provincial Park/Historic Park
- 

Regional Park



Prince Albert National Park

7 FAMILY ADVENTURES in PRINCE ALBERT NATIONAL PARK



Prince Albert National Park



Prince Albert National Park (PANP) offers an abundance of adventures for all ages. Whether you're paddling on serene lakes or competing in a round of mini golf, this 3,875 sq. km park is packed with natural wonders where prairieland meets forest. Located 90 km north of Prince Albert, the charming village of Waskesiu provides a perfect mix of northern wilderness encounters and lakeside resort comforts. Here are seven adventures the whole family will enjoy.



1 | Rent a canoe/kayak/paddleboard

The lakes and rivers found in PANP offer varied routes for both experienced and novice paddlers alike. Glide on a stand-up paddleboard at your favourite beach, kayak along a gentle river, or pilot your canoe across a large lake. Vessel rentals can be found at Waskesiu Marina Adventure Centre or the Grey Owl Centre.

2 | See a movie

Looking for a rainy-day activity? Sit back, relax and enjoy an afternoon matinee or evening movie at Twin Pine Cinema. This charming two-screen theatre plays newly released films all summer long, boasts state-of-the-art digital equipment and offers a great selection of concession favourites.

3 | Golf

Whether you're a seasoned golfer or just looking for some lighthearted fun, Waskesiu offers an array of golfing experiences that cater to every interest and skill level. Waskesiu Golf Course features a beautifully designed layout that combines lush fairways and challenging greens. For those looking for a different kind of play, a 9-hole disc golf course can be found in the day-use area, with discs available to rent at the Recreation Building. To scale back the size but still have a blast, try Little Al's Mini Golf, which offers a nature-themed 18-hole experience that captures the unique character of the park.

4 | Learn about the park

The Prince Albert National Park Nature Centre features family-friendly exhibits, including interactive installations, audio recordings, and short videos. Explore the park's three major ecosystems, learn about diverse wildlife, and discover Indigenous culture and history. Other museums nearby: Waskesiu Heritage Museum and Friends of the Park Bookshop & Grey Owl Display.

5 | Catch a sunset on the beach

With seven sandy beaches lining the shores of Waskesiu Lake, and more to be found on Sandy and Kingsmere Lakes, you're spoiled for choice when it comes to watching the sunset. For a lively atmosphere, head to the Main Beach, where the "Bears on the Beach" playground will keep the kids entertained as the sun dips below the horizon, painting the sky with vibrant colors. Stop in at Big Olaf Sundaes nearby to enjoy a sweet ice cream treat before making your way down to the water's edge.

6 | Take a scenic drive

A scenic drive through PANP is a delightful way to discover and capture stunning photos of the diverse landscapes of northern Saskatchewan. Narrows Road offers a 24-km path along the southern shoreline of Waskesiu Lake, ideal for wildlife viewing. Kingsmere Road provides superb views of the northern shoreline, while Scenic Route Highway #263 shows off the beauty of the park's transition zone.

7 | Shop the townsite

Explore Waskesiu's resort village where you'll find boutiques selling clothing and gifts such as Outter Limits. Local grocery and convenience stores ensure your stay is always comfortable, while galleries including Black Spruce Gallery and All in the Wild Gallery offer lasting mementos to take home from your visit. Refuel with casual and fine dining experiences like Restaurant Pietro, Happy Camper's Bar & Grill, and Evergreen Coffee and Food.



Main Beach



Waskesiu



Elk Ridge Resort Golf Course

Elk Ridge Resort

Just outside the park, Elk Ridge Resort offers upscale accommodations and first-class amenities. Start your day with a massage at Drift Spa & Wellness, then enjoy a round on the championship 27-hole golf course, where it's not uncommon to see elk on the fairway. Indulge in deliciously elegant cuisine at Fredrich or opt for casual fare at The Wyld in the clubhouse. For an adrenaline rush, visit Treosix Adventure Parks, where you can soar up to 21 m above the ground on a two-hour zipline tour, tackle an outdoor climbing wall, or try the giant swing and spikeball court, all surrounded by the lush boreal forest.



Prince Albert National Park Nature Centre



CAMPING COUNTRY

Find the perfect spot to pitch a tent or rent a cabin at one of these scenic parks in northern Saskatchewan. Check out all the opportunities for boating, fishing, golfing and hiking while taking in the lush scenery and fresh air.



CAMPING



BARRIER FREE ACCESS



BOAT LAUNCH/MARINA



SWIMMING/BEACH



FISHING



HIKING TRAILS



GOLF COURSE



CABIN RENTAL

PROVINCIAL PARKS



Greenwater Lake Provincial Park

📍 Greenwater Lake, 38 km N of Kelvington



Great Blue Heron Provincial Park

📍 50 km N of Prince Albert



Duck Mountain Provincial Park

📍 Madge Lake, 25 km E of Kamsack



Candle Lake Provincial Park

📍 Candle Lake, 80 km NE of Prince Albert



REGIONAL PARKS



Brightsand Lake Regional Park

📍 Brightsand Lake, 27 km NE of St. Walburg



Pasquia Regional Park

📍 11 km S of Carrot River



Hudson Bay Regional Park

📍 Ruby Lake, 2 km S of Hudson Bay



Memorial Lake Regional Park

📍 Memorial Lake, adjacent to Shell Lake



Little Loon Regional Park

📍 Little Loon Lake, 5 km E of Glaslyn



Wapiti Valley Regional Park

📍 Codette Lake, 25 km S of Choceland



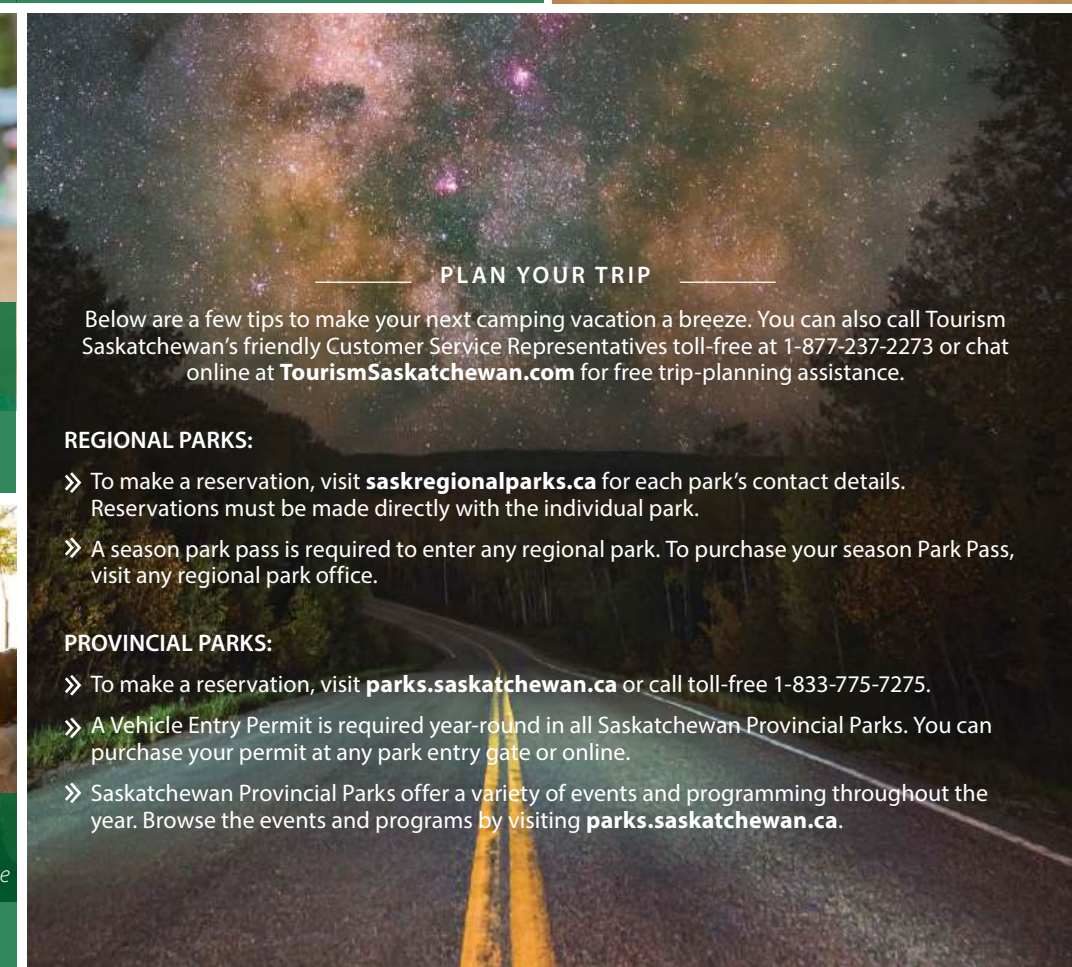
Makwa Lake Provincial Park

📍 5 lakes including Makwa Lake, 20 km E of Whelan



Meadow Lake Provincial Park

📍 20+ lakes, including Greig Lake/Kimball Lake/Waterhen Lake/Lac des Îles, 40 km N of Meadow Lake



PLAN YOUR TRIP

Below are a few tips to make your next camping vacation a breeze. You can also call Tourism Saskatchewan's friendly Customer Service Representatives toll-free at 1-877-237-2273 or chat online at **TourismSaskatchewan.com** for free trip-planning assistance.

REGIONAL PARKS:

- » To make a reservation, visit **saskregionalparks.ca** for each park's contact details. Reservations must be made directly with the individual park.
- » A season park pass is required to enter any regional park. To purchase your season Park Pass, visit any regional park office.

PROVINCIAL PARKS:

- » To make a reservation, visit **parks.saskatchewan.ca** or call toll-free 1-833-775-7275.
- » A Vehicle Entry Permit is required year-round in all Saskatchewan Provincial Parks. You can purchase your permit at any park entry gate or online.
- » Saskatchewan Provincial Parks offer a variety of events and programming throughout the year. Browse the events and programs by visiting **parks.saskatchewan.ca**.



Nipawin Regional Park

TAKE A HIKE in NORTHERN Saskatchewan

Northern Saskatchewan, with its rolling parklands, boreal forests and maze of waterways, is full of trails to discover. Here are just a few to get you started.



Meadow Lake Provincial Park



Prince Albert National Park



Carrot River

Discover Northeast SASKATCHEWAN



Tobin Lake

EASY/BEGINNER

Boundary Bog Trail, Prince Albert National Park

Distance: 2.1-km loop

Average time: 33 mins

A boardwalk leads you into the heart of a northern fen. Look for the popular pitcher plants here; they are distinguishable with their red-green, cup-shaped leaves used to lure, drown and digest insects.

Doghide River Trail, Tisdale

Distance: 3.4-km loop

Average time: 42 mins

This charming route features bridges, boardwalks (stroller/wheelchair friendly), a playground, and plenty of sights, making it a great afternoon adventure for the whole family.

Nipawin Regional Park Loop, Nipawin Regional Park

Distance: 4.7-km loop

Average time: 1h 11m

This loop features a mix of wooded areas and open spaces, with gentle terrain.

Jumbo Lake Loop, Makwa Lake Provincial Park

Distance: 5.3-km loop

Average time: 1 h 4m

This trail is great for hiking, and it's unlikely you'll encounter many other people while exploring.

MODERATE

Shady Lake Trail, Prince Albert National Park

Distance: 1.7-km loop

Average time: 40 mins

As you ascend through birch and aspen, listen for loons and grebes. Near the end of this hike, a 750m spur leads to the Height of Land tower, offering a spectacular view of Shady Lake.



Little Raspberry Trail, Meadow Lake Provincial Park

Distance: 9.5-km loop

Average time: 2h

This trail highlights the vibrant wildflowers and dense forests of Meadow Lake Provincial Park, where diverse flora attracts an array of birds and wildlife along the trail.

DIFFICULT

Rice River Canyon, 94 km east of Carrot River on Hwy 55

Distance: 21.4 km out and back

Average time: 6h 26m

In the northwest Pasquia Hills, Rice River Canyon provides a rugged backcountry hike. With no defined trail, you'll navigate the riverbed to reach the impressive view of the river forks.

Madge Lake Loop, Duck Mountain Provincial Park

Distance: 21.4-km loop

Average time: 5h 26m

This trail showcases Duck Mountain Provincial Park's rich biodiversity as it leads you through lush forests, along serene lake shores, and across rugged terrain.



TRAVEL TIP

- » Be sure to obtain a valid vehicle entry permit for any national, provincial or regional park where you plan to hike.
- » Cell service can be limited or non-existent; carry a satellite communication device and download all maps beforehand.
- » Trails are in sensitive ecosystems; practice Leave No Trace principles when exploring. Pack out what you pack in.
- » Keep an eye out for wildlife; carry bear spray and wildlife deterrents.



AURORA HOUSEBOATS

Nipawin

Discover miles of boreal shoreline and sheltered coves on picturesque Tobin Lake on a fully equipped houseboat.

Based out of the Nipawin and District Regional Park, Aurora Houseboats offers three, four and seven-day houseboating packages that sleep a range of four to 16 people. Whether you come to explore, fish, or relax, there's a houseboat adventure in store for any kind of traveller. Houseboats are stocked with some kitchen supplies, cleaning supplies, and

safety equipment such as lifejackets and a life ring and rope.

For those seeking on-water activities, kayaks and paddle board rentals are available. If a relaxing dinner cruise is what you're after, book a River Cruise & Tour, with catering customized to your preferences.



SHELL'S FITNESS & SOUL CENTER

Carrot River

Here lies an escape to recharge your batteries and nourish your soul. Shell's Fitness & Soul Centre, tucked away in Carrot River, offers a sanctuary for those seeking balance and rejuvenation. Sheltered in the wilderness of northeastern Saskatchewan, the Centre offers an array of experiences designed to strengthen the connection between mind, body and spirit. Whether you're challenging yourself on the army-style obstacle course or unwinding with calming yoga and meditation, this retreat provides a peaceful place to unwind.

Founded by Shelley Waddell-Enns, a highly trained fitness and wellness expert, the Centre is rooted in the belief that true wellness comes from harmonizing all aspects of our being. With cosy cabins, scenic walking trails, and outdoor activities from kayaking to snowshoeing, visitors are invited to recharge and embark on a journey of self-discovery and growth.

Plan Your Trip

NIPAWIN/CARROT RIVER AREA:

- » Located in northeast Saskatchewan – approx. 270 km NE of Saskatoon and 360 km N of Regina

ACCOMMODATIONS:

- » Nipawin & District Regional Park (Nipawin)

- Camping

- Aurora Houseboats

- » Carrot River Inn (Carrot River)

- » Pasquia Regional Park (Carrot River)

- Camping

OTHER AREA ATTRACTIONS:

- » World-class fishing – Tobin Lake and Codette Lake

- » Golfing

- Evergreen Golf Course (Nipawin)

- Rolling Pines Golf and Country Resort (Tobin Lake)

- Pasquia Regional Park Golf Course (Carrot River)

- » Dining

- The Dam Smokehouse (Nipawin)

- Wild Bill's Pizza (Nipawin)

- » Artisanal Knifemaking - Grant Schiller Knives (Carrot River)





 *kāniyāsikh Culture Camps*



 *kāniyāsikh Culture Camps*



 *Miywāsin; Ōta Resort*



 *Cree North Adventures*

CONNECTING to the LAND and its STORIES in NORTHWEST SASKATCHEWAN



 *kāniyāsikh Culture Camps*

The area around Meadow Lake is distinct for its pristine beauty. Picture this – lush forests, calming lakes, and skies that dazzle with clouds during the day and northern lights at night. It is where the traditional lands of First Nations and Métis Peoples reflect stories and customs that bridge cultures and teach respect for the land and the natural world.

Waterhen Lake First Nation owns two tourism businesses in Meadow Lake Provincial Park – Miywāsin Ōta Resort and Waters Edge Eco Lodge.



The name Miywāsin Ōta means: “It is beautiful here.” The four-season lakeside resort boasts comfortable cabins, a campground for nightly rentals and dozens of long-term campsites. During winter, guests receive complimentary ice fishing tents with a cabin rental, while snowmobile rental allows for thrilling rides along designated trails, and in summer, visitors can rent pontoon and fishing boats to explore the waters and fish for the day. All are among lush boreal forest, beneath star-filled skies and on land that echoes stories of the Cree Peoples.

Waters Edge Eco Lodge has a sterling reputation as one of Saskatchewan’s top spots to escape and reconnect to nature. Experiences reflect customs and traditions of local First Nations and their relationship to the land – past and present. Discover a variety of all-season activities such as paddle boarding, canoeing, hiking, bird watching, skating or cross-country skiing. Locally grown products and ingredients foraged from the forest are showcased on the menu, which highlights the rich flavours of Indigenous cuisine.

New to the lodge are the Acahkos Astrology Excursion, exploring the teachings of the stars as understood through Indigenous knowledge; and the Askiy Land Experience, a grounded, hands-on journey into connection with the earth.

Cree North Adventures launched in 2019. Located on Flying Dust First Nation, near Meadow Lake, guests can enjoy the experience of sleeping in an 18-ft. comfortable tipi. Other activities include horse-drawn wagon rides, canoeing and kayaking the Meadow River, Elder storytelling and campfire cooking demonstrations,

traditional women’s Fancy Dance performances, and learning about Indigenous traditions and culture. In winter, there are guided snowshoe tours along the river and through the boreal forest.

The concept behind Cree North Adventures is rooted in *miyo-pimâtisiwin*, a Cree word that means “the Cree way.” The goal is to provide opportunities for reconnecting with the land, rediscovering traditional practices, and immersing oneself in Cree culture and language.



The visitor’s experience blends elements of Plains and Woodland Cree traditions, reflecting the rich cultural heritage of the area. The Plains Cree are known for their lifestyle centered around riding horses and following the bison, while the Woodland Cree focused on trapping and living in the forest. This diversity is woven into the activities and stories shared with visitors.

The operation continues to evolve, with plans to expand and enhance its offerings, all in the spirit of *miyo-pimâtisiwin*. Guests are encouraged to engage in hands-on learning, connect to the land and make new discoveries about Cree life.

Further west on Ministikwan Lake Cree Nation, kāniyāsikh Culture Camps has been delivering immersive land-based learning opportunities for over 25 years.

Owner and founder Kevin Lewis wears many hats – host, educator, guide, knowledge and language keeper, scholar and researcher. He refers to the Cree word *oskâpêwis* to describe his role. “It means a person who is a server, who serves the community and helps the Elders,” he said. “That person

might develop into one of the best hunters, berry pickers or medicine gatherers. You are making sure that everybody is fed, everybody is looked after, but also looking out for yourself and staying healthy, so you can continue the work.”

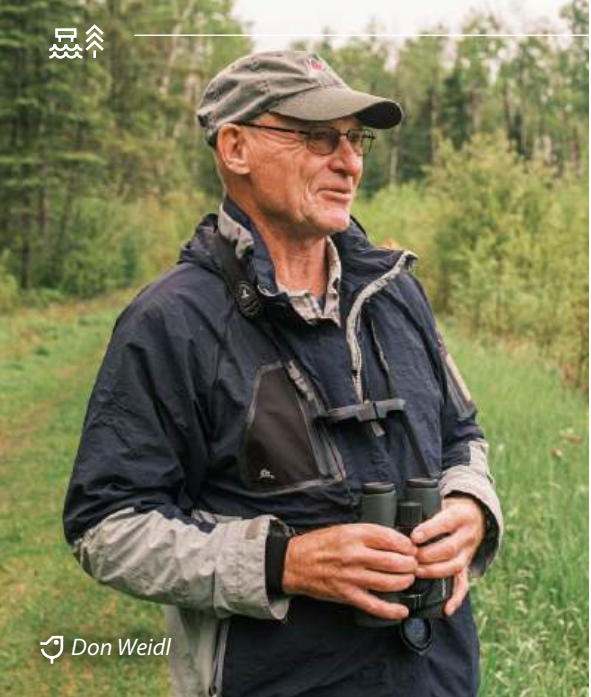
kāniyāsikh Culture Camps is multi-faceted - the four-season operation offers a range of land-based programming that explores traditional customs and skills. Offerings include multi-day backpacking expeditions that take guests fishing, hiking, and gathering plants and ingredients for basic teas. In winter, programs and packages are designed around dogsledding, ice fishing, traditional trapping and other seasonal activities. An annual fall hide tanning camp engages local experts in teaching techniques to harvest and tan moose, elk and deer hides.



Lewis acknowledges the positive, reciprocal experience of welcoming and hosting guests. “We’ve made devout friends over 25 years and continue to make more,” he said. “When people visit, they bring health, they bring friendship. It’s not just us delivering a program or saying, ‘we’re going to show you this.’ They, as equals, bring their teachings, as well.”



 *Cree North Adventures*



Don Weidl



SEARCHING for SONGBIRDS in DUCK MOUNTAIN PROVINCIAL PARK



Yellow warbler



Trumpeter swans



Red-necked grebe

Heavy raindrops splash in the puddles forming on Ski Hill Road, as winds create waves in the forest of bending branches and dancing leaves. These are not ideal conditions for birding, but Don Weidl stops along a stand of trees. He listens carefully and discovers a reason to pull out his field notebook.

Zip zip zip zip titititi tseee! Zip zip zip zip titititi tseee!

Weidl jots down “BLBW” – the shorthand for the blackburnian warbler, which Weidl just heard through the rustling leaves and nearby calls of other songbirds.

Weidl’s small notebook contains pages of coded information, detailing what seems to be a lifetime’s worth of bird sightings.

It’s late spring and Weidl, in lock step with the migration of songbirds, arrives in Duck Mountain Provincial Park. It’s a short journey from his home on the Saskatchewan prairies, but a necessary one if Weidl is going to achieve his bird count goal for this year. Weidl is an avid birder, he says when it comes to birding “it’s part of who I am.”

Weidl started birding at a young age under a mentor’s guidance, and later refined his skills through formal education. He worked for decades as an environmental consultant, conducting bird surveys across Saskatchewan and Western Canada.

His work took him into many remote areas of the country, sometimes travelling to secluded areas by helicopter and spending days or weeks alone in the wilderness to survey listed endangered species.

On one project, Weidl worked as part of an inter-provincial team which surveyed the flora and fauna of Duck Mountain Provincial Park. He spent about six months exploring the area and



conducting breeding bird counts. Weidl says being able to identify birds by sound is vital in this line of work.

That’s because in a densely forested area like Duck Mountain Provincial Park, it can be challenging to see certain birds. It’s especially difficult to catch a glimpse of species that perch high up in the forest canopy. This is why the term “birdwatching” is a less common description for observing birds. “Birding” includes identifying birds by sound and Weidl says that “listening for birds opens up a whole new world” of experiences.

Most birds make a noise, but there’s a special group of birds, referred to as songbirds, which do more than caw or crow. Their melodies bring landscapes to life with patterns of chirps and trills. Their calls are a natural symphony that play in unique orchestration throughout the park.

The red-eyed vireo sings “Look at me, way up high, over here, in a tree!” That’s the common mnemonic to help birders identify this species. “Oh sweet Canada, Canada, Canada” is often used to identify the sweet melody of the white-throated sparrow. “Pleased, pleased, pleased to meet you” is a friendly phrase for remembering the chestnut-sided warbler. Duck Mountain Provincial Park is bursting with a variety of birds.

From warblers to waterfowl, birders have recorded 217 different species in this area. Weidl leads the **eBird.org** chart for most species observed in the park at 178. He attributes this diversity of species to the variety of habitats and natural features of the region.

Duck Mountain Provincial Park is on the eastern border of Saskatchewan and on the southern edge of the boreal forest where the forest transitions to aspen parkland. The upland region rises 240 metres above the surrounding plain and was once a

peninsula on the shoreline of the prehistoric Lake Agassiz. The landscape now features beautiful rolling hills, creeks, lakes and ponds within mixed forest.

Weidl is able to access distinct areas of the park in search of a variety of birds using the park’s vast trail system. The Fen Trail features a boardwalk through black spruce forest to the rarest ecosystem in Saskatchewan: a calcareous fen.

Other hikes like Pelly Point Trail wind through thick understory of maple trees and mixed vegetation. Even the campgrounds offer great birding experiences. Weidl once heard and located a barred owl from his campsite. In the summer months, the sounds of loon calls echo through Pickerel Point Campground from East Bay of Madge Lake.

Duck Mountain Provincial Park is awash with water bodies which attract waterfowl and shorebirds. Madge Lake is the largest lake in the park. Most of the park’s infrastructure is centred around its southeast shorelines and sandy beaches.

For Weidl, coming to the park each year is a rewarding experience, especially in June when many birds, including warblers, are migrating through the area. Warblers are small, vocal, perching birds which Weidl describes as “little gems of the forest” because of their bright plumage.



Weidl can’t imagine a day when he won’t want to go out birding or to experience the feeling of being out in nature. After 58 years of birding, Weidl still feels that there is always something new to see. There’s little doubt he’ll be back in the park next year when the forest becomes a stage for the songbirds passing through.



Common loon

Saskatchewandering with Andrew Hiltz

Saskatchewanderer Andrew Hiltz has travelled across the province. Here are some of his top stops and favourite hidden gems, as well as a few locations that are still on his Saskatchewan bucket list.



Meadow Lake Provincial Park



Lake Time Rentals
GREIG LAKE,
MEADOW LAKE PROVINCIAL PARK

Plan a hiking adventure on the Boreal Trail and stay with Lake Time Rentals at Greig Lake. Book an all-inclusive RV campsite or one of two four-season cabins. Each cabin comes with its own private hot tub. Sit back and relax as you take in the vistas of Meadow Lake Provincial Park.
Other stops in/near the park: Flotten Lake Adventures Resort (Flotten Lake)

St. Walburg



Sturgeon River Ranch
NEAR BIG RIVER

Catch a ride western-style and travel the trails on horseback with Sturgeon River Ranch. Visit the Wild West side of Prince Albert National Park and see one of Canada's only free-ranging herds of Plains bison within its historic habitat. The scenery along the trails is incredibly varied – from big open meadows and grassy knolls to narrow forest paths and crystal-clear rivers and lakes. Guided tours range from one-hour horseback and wagon trips to multi-day backcountry excursions.



Imhoff Museum & Art Gallery
NEAR ST. WALBURG

South of St. Walburg, the original homestead of Count Berthold Von Imhoff is now a museum and gallery (guided tours only). Imhoff's paintings graced more than 100 churches and cathedrals throughout North America. The 1916 residence reflects Bavarian architectural elements and features the artist's original ceiling frescoes.
Other stops in/near St. Walburg: Route 26 Coffee House, Brightsand Lake Regional Park, Frenchman Butte National Historic Site/Frenchman Butte Heritage Centre and Riverbend Trading Post RV Park & Sunflower U-Pick Farm

Big River

Great Blue Heron Provincial Park

PRINCE ALBERT



Flora Bora Forest Lodging
GREAT BLUE HERON PROVINCIAL PARK

Enjoy the cosy comfort of the three luxury glamping yurts at Flora Bora Forest Lodging near Emma and Christopher Lakes. The beautifully crafted and thoughtfully designed yurts – circular tents built from wood and canvas, originating from Central Asia – are the perfect place to become one with nature.

The Dickson Hardie Interpretive Centre, located in Pasquia Regional Park, is home to a permanent display of 92-million-year-old Big Bert, the world's most-complete *Terminoraris robusta* skeleton. Discovered in the area in 1991, the 5.8-m ancestor of the modern crocodile hunted its prey when Saskatchewan was an inland sea.



Big Bert/Dickson Hardie Interpretive Centre
NEAR CARROT RIVER

In Hudson Bay, The Railway Ave. Pub is an experience all on its own – with a nod to the unique railway history of the town. The restaurant/bar has a relaxed atmosphere in which to enjoy signature cocktails, extensive wine and craft beer lists, and delicious pub grub.
Other stops near Hudson Bay: Hudson Bay Regional Park



The Railway Ave. Pub
HUDSON BAY



Little Red River Park
PRINCE ALBERT

Explore Little Red River Park, located on the edge of Prince Albert. Hike or bike the more than 30 km of nature trails that wind through the 500-hectare forest park. Nestled in the spruce, the Cosmopolitan Lodge is home to The Knotty Pine Bistro, a contemporary family-style restaurant.
Other stops in Prince Albert: Rotary Trail, Alfred's Spray Ground, E.A. Rawlinson Centre for the Arts/Mann Art Gallery and Prince Albert Historical Museum

This destination restaurant offers an impressive menu of western-inspired cuisine with a contemporary flair. Its expansive outdoor deck and performance space is perfect for events. Rawhides also offers overnight accommodations with two suites and an onsite campground, an off-sale store, as well as a salon and barber shop.
Other stops near Stenen: Fort Livingstone National Historic Site and Fort Pelly National Historic Site



Rawhides Bistro & Saloon
STENEN

Hudson Bay

Stenen



FEEL the RHYTHM in SUMMER

📍 Waskesiu Lakeside Music Festival



Set against the shores of Waskesiu Lake in Prince Albert National Park, the Waskesiu Lakeside Music Festival has been a summer staple in Saskatchewan since 2015. Over three days in August, the festival attracts up to 5,000 visitors who come to enjoy performances by over 15 talented artists and take in the scenic beauty.

Spanning genres like rock and roll, reggae, country, pop, and folk, the festival offers

more than 20 hours of free live music across two platforms - the Main Stage and the beachfront Sunset Stage. The festival hosts an Indigenous talent showcase, highlighting the cultural richness of the region. Visitors can also explore a bustling street fair, admire some classics at the car show, and indulge in a variety of delicious food. Activities such as face painting and bouncy castles provide engaging entertainment for children.

Whether you're swaying to the rhythm of the music, wandering through the lively fair, or simply taking in the scenic vistas, the Waskesiu Lakeside Music Festival offers a delightful way to celebrate the warmth of summertime in Saskatchewan.

Where to Stay:
Hawood Inn, Lost Creek Resort, Elk Ridge on the Lake, Waskesiu Resorts Inc., The Suites at Waskesiu

EVENTS CALENDAR

Prince Albert Street Fair
Prince Albert • June 20, 2026

Canada Day
Waskesiu/Prince Albert National Park
July 1, 2026

Country at the Creek Music Festival
Big River • July 2-4, 2026

Tobin Lake Walleye Championship
Tobin Lake • July 9-12, 2026

Ness Creek Music Festival
Big River • July 16-19, 2026

Melfort Fair and Exhibition
Melfort • July 17-19, 2026

Onion Lake Cree Nation Annual Powwow
Onion Lake First Nation • July 17-19, 2026

Waskesiu Children's Festival
Waskesiu/Prince Albert National Park
July 18, 2026

Winter Fun Under the Sun
Duck Mountain Provincial Park • July 18, 2026

Saskatchewan's Outback KCRA Rodeo
Carrot River • July 18-19, 2026

Dog Patch Music Festival
Loon Lake • July 24-26, 2026

Lakeside Legacy Festival
Candle Lake Provincial Park • July 25, 2026

Saskatchewan Premier's Walleye Cup
Tobin Lake • August 6-8, 2026

Sask Parks Summer Cinema
Great Blue Heron Provincial Park • August 7, 2026

The Loon Jamboree
Makwa Lake Provincial Park • August 8, 2026

Thickwood Hills Studio Trail
Shell Lake • August 8-9, 2026

Frenchman Butte Museum Festival
Frenchman Butte • August 9, 2026

Northern Lights Bluegrass and Old Time Music Camp
Big River • August 10-14, 2026

Northern Lights Bluegrass and Old Time Music Festival
Big River • August 14-16, 2026

Electric Sky Electronic Music and Arts Festival 2026
Big River • August 21-24, 2026

Waskesiu Lakeside Music Festival
Waskesiu/Prince Albert National Park
August 28-30, 2026

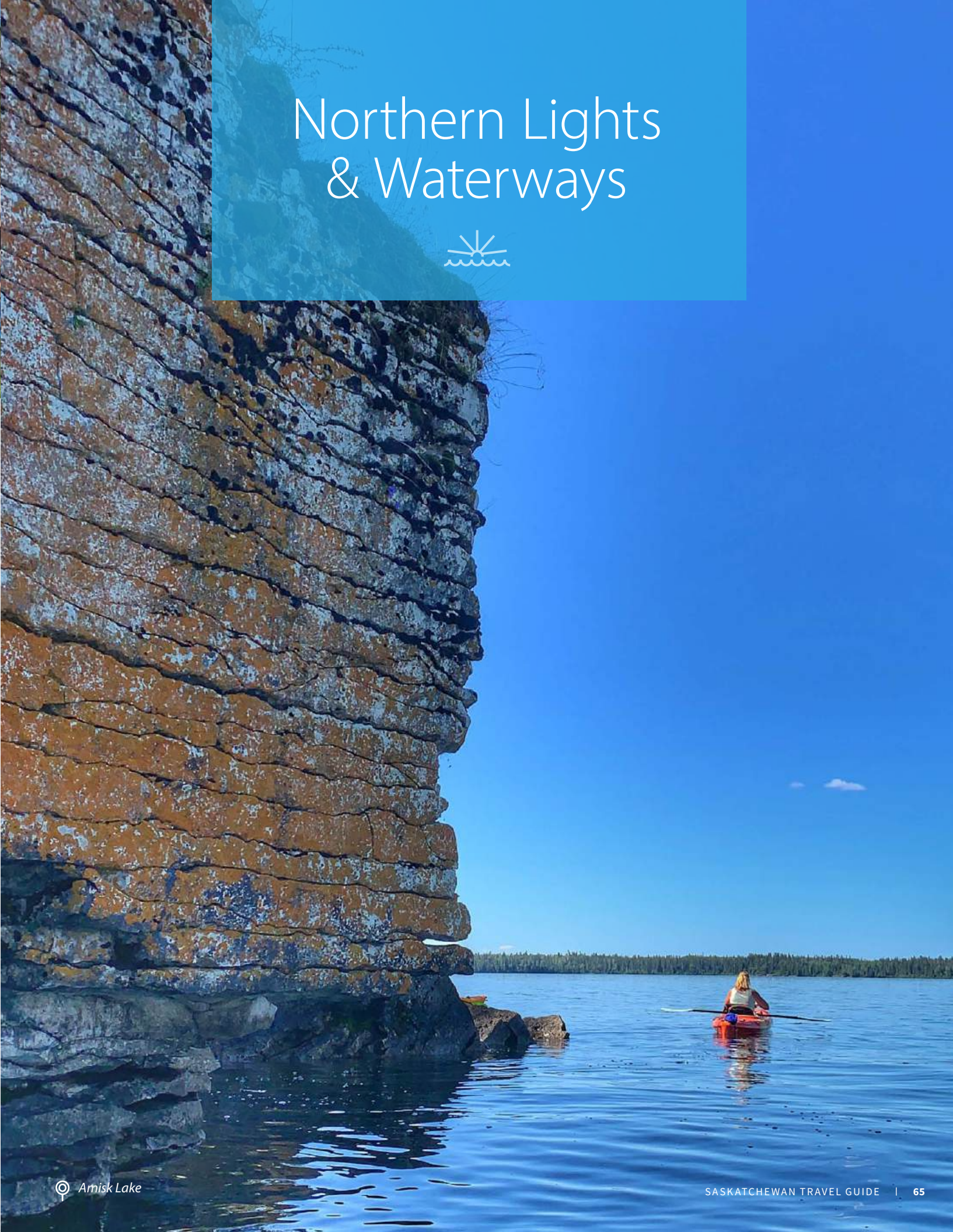
For more information about events in the province, visit tourismsaskatchewan.com/things-to-do/events.



Contact organizers for the latest event information.



Northern Lights & Waterways



📍 Amisk Lake



NORTHERN LIGHTS & WATERWAYS



LEGEND

- Town
- Highway
- 6 Highway Number
- 1 Provincial Park/Historic Park
- Park
- Water Body

PARK LIST

- 1 Athabasca Sand Dunes Provincial Park
- 9 Clearwater River Provincial Park
- 11 Cumberland House Provincial Historic Park
- 22 Holy Trinity Anglican Church Provincial Historic Site
- 24 Lac La Ronge Provincial Park





CHASING the MILKY WAY: UNFORGETTABLE ASTROPHOTOGRAPHY in NORTHERN SASKATCHEWAN



*"I've never worked
so hard for a photo
in my life."*

— SCOTT ASPINALL

📍 Nistowiak Falls

Scott Aspinall canoed across fast-moving, frigid waters in the dark of night above one of Saskatchewan's tallest waterfalls with one goal in mind: photographing the Milky Way core centered over Nistowiak Falls. He had never seen an image of Saskatchewan's northern waterways quite like this.

"This may be the only shot ever taken of the falls from that side," Aspinall said, questioning what he had gotten himself into. A renowned landscape and astrophotographer from Saskatchewan, Aspinall's work captures the beauty of western Canada, often under the night sky. Using a modified camera and tracking equipment, he shoots long exposures of light from galaxies that are so distant from us, their light waves have been stretched by the universe's expansion.

To capture this image under the right conditions, the stars needed to align. "I'm not even sure there's a possibility of getting the Milky Way core outside of this window," Aspinall said. The center of the Milky Way galaxy is densely packed with billions of stars, producing a bright band of light in the night sky. Our view of

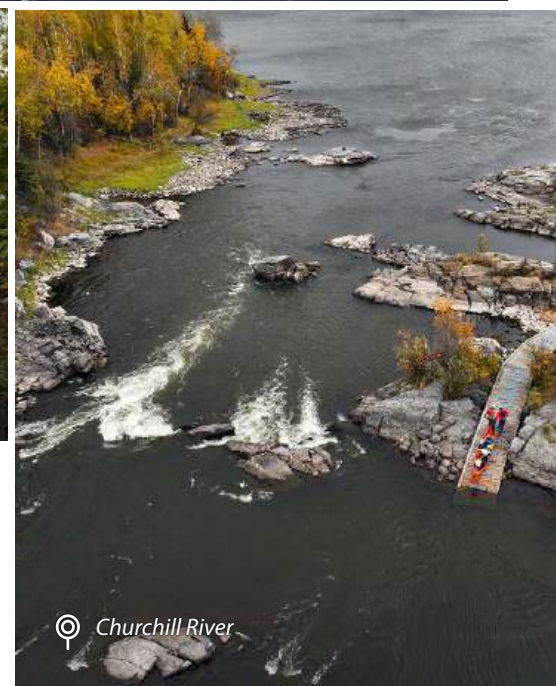
the core changes seasonally as the earth orbits the sun. In the northern hemisphere this vibrant part of the galaxy is most visible during summer months.

Northern Saskatchewan's sparse population means light pollution is minimal, making it a prime location for night sky viewing. However, the waterfall is so far north that the nights never truly become dark during the summer months. This makes spring and fall the best times to capture images of the core in the north.

The moon cycle limits opportunities further: fuller moons reflect the sun's light, brightening the night sky. The days around the new moon are optimal for astrophotography.

All these factors meant Aspinall only had a short window of time – just several hours during a select few days in an entire year – to get the shot. And that was dependent on actually making it to the falls.

It's not easy to get there, especially so late in the season. The trip involves navigating more than 30 km of cold water. When the wind gusts, the conditions can become daunting.



Adding to the complexity of this shoot, Aspinall needed to get to the east side of the falls to compose the shot – an area beyond the beaten path.

Aspinall is an experienced backcountry hiker, but he was unfamiliar with navigating lakes and rapids. He teamed up with Clint Austin, a skilled guide with Churchill River Canoe Outfitters (CRCO), to make the journey safely. They had planned a three-day trip on the water to bring Aspinall's vision to life.

Upon arrival in Missinipe to meet Austin at the CRCO office, it became clear that the weather conditions were going to pose a real threat to their goal. Their plans would have to change. They would only have small windows where views of the skies wouldn't be obstructed by thick cloud cover. Wind gusts were expected to reach 54km/h, which meant they had to postpone paddling to the falls for a couple of days. It looked like the only opportunity to capture the photo would be the last day of Aspinall's trip north - meaning he would have just one night to try and get the shot.

Austin expected the wind gusts would still be strong on open water sections along the route. There were also sections of fast-moving water and a set of rapids to navigate. "There's going to always be a chance you're going to spill over," he said. "You do not want to be downstream of a canoe...it will crush you." The dangers

associated with these risks were elevated by the frigid water temperatures.

After the safety briefing, both were feeling excited to conquer unique challenges ahead. "A lot of firsts on this trip," Austin said, "We're going to be doing something completely new tomorrow." As far as either of them could tell, no one else has ever captured a photo like this. Aspinall has never seen other astrophotography images from this location and Austin couldn't find anyone with experience paddling over to the east side of the river where Aspinall needed to go to compose his shot. The morning that they set out for the falls was dreary. Thick cloud coverage dropped snow and sleet across the landscape. It took most of the day's light to paddle and portage to their destination.

Upon approach, the sound of the falls grew from a soothing hiss to an immersive roar. "This doesn't feel like Saskatchewan," said Aspinall in awe, exploring the west side of the river. Above the falls the waters looked deceptively calm. Subtle swirling on the surface indicated the water's current moving towards the edge of the falls.

Austin expertly maneuvered their canoe across the river above the waterfall and together they hiked downstream through the forest. They moved cautiously towards the tree line, searching for a vantage point of the falls on the cliff's edge above the river. Aspinall let out an excited shout,

"This is incredible," he said, "the falls are impressive from [the other] side but from here, they're gorgeous." As the sun set, the clouds passed overhead and gave way to clear skies. The conditions were perfect.

Aspinall tethered himself to a tree and scrambled down the cliff onto a ledge. Standing in the spray of the falls, he locked his camera into position. "I've never worked so hard for a photo in my life," he said. Aspinall captured the shot he had dreamed of - an image showcasing the cascade of Nistowiak Falls against a backdrop of our galactic core. "It's an unforgettable experience," he said.



Watch Scott
Aspinall's full
experience capturing
the Milky Way.



AUTHOR: MITCH DOLL

Mitch Doll is a cautious adventurer who, knowing it would be a terrible idea, would vacation to Jurassic Park if it were real. He is a Content Creation Consultant for Tourism Saskatchewan who tells uniquely Saskatchewan stories through video.



FLY INTO AN INCREDIBLE NORTHERN SASKATCHEWAN FISHING TRIP

Picture an angling getaway, secluded deep in the wilderness – that’s what you can expect at a fly-in fishing lodge in northern Saskatchewan. Many of these lodges are renowned for their trophy-sized fish, notably northern pike, lake trout, walleye and Arctic grayling.

Here are seven fly-in fishing lodges to visit in the north.



📍 Scott Lake Lodge

2 | Twin Falls Lodge

In the boreal forest of northern Saskatchewan, between two sets of waterfalls on the Churchill River, you’ll find Twin Falls Lodge.

With northern pike and season-long walleye fishing, and access to four portage lakes located off the Churchill River, anglers are in for a great fishing experience.

When you aren’t fishing, go on a guided cultural tour of the area, featuring the breathtaking view of Nistowiak Falls, and a visit to the oldest building in Saskatchewan, Holy Trinity Anglican Church.



📍 Twin Falls Lodge

3 | Misaw Lake Lodge

This lodge provides access to 16 exclusive lakes and rivers in the northeastern corner of Saskatchewan for chances to catch northern pike, lake trout and Arctic grayling.

Misaw Lake boasts a unique landscape, located in the sub-arctic transition zone. There are also plenty of opportunities to spot local wildlife including moose, black bears, Arctic fox and more. The skies offer dazzling sunrises and sunsets, and at night, there’s a chance to see the northern lights over the lodge, especially later in the season.



📍 Misaw Lake Lodge



📍 Arctic Lodges



📍 Ena Lake Lodge

4 | Arctic Lodges

When staying at Arctic Lodges, anglers can fish Reindeer Lake – the second largest freshwater lake in Saskatchewan – for trophy northern pike, lake trout, walleye and Arctic grayling.

Relax at the end of the day in the modern or authentic log cabin of your choosing. Take advantage of the main lodge’s amenities like a large stone fireplace and a poker table. The main lodge also has a full-service tackle shop.

5 | Ena Lake Lodge

Ena Lake is located on the edge of the subarctic region and contains 22,000 acres of pristine fresh water.

With no other development on the lake, a visit to Ena Lake Lodge offers a secluded angling paradise. Visitors in the late spring and early summer will see near 24-hour sunlight, while visitors in the fall can watch the northern lights dancing through the night sky.



Take a Drive to One of these Fishing Lodges



If flying isn’t an option, don’t let that stop you from experiencing an amazing fishing trip that northern Saskatchewan has in store. Check out these drive-in fishing lodges.

T&D Amisk Camp

In the bay of the south shore of Amisk Lake you will find this year-round drive-in fishing getaway. The lake features over 500 islands, with walleye and northern pike that keep visitors coming back each year.

Davin Lake Lodge

The lodge is 263 km north of La Ronge and has exclusive access to Davin and Wathaman lakes, which are full of trophy-sized northern pike, lake trout and walleye. Boat rentals are available, or guests are welcome to bring their own.

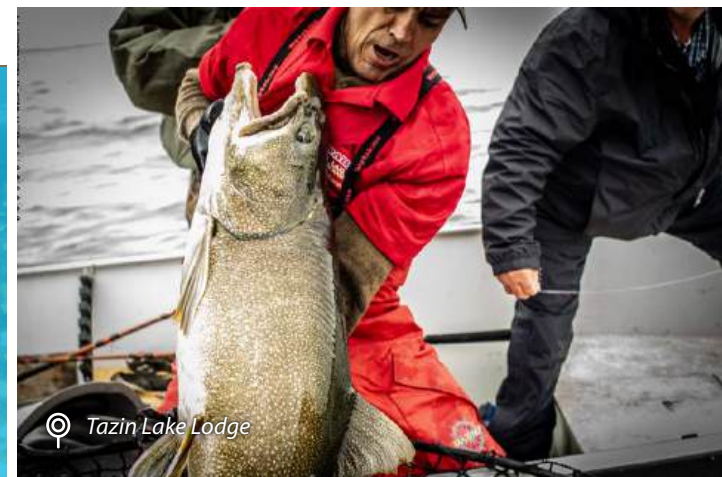
Davin Lake Lodge has cabins that sleep up to five people. Amenities include a full-sized fridge, stove and all cabins are fully stocked with kitchen supplies.



📍 Milton Lake Lodge

6 | Milton Lake Lodge

Milton Lake provides great fishing while the lodge is open June to September. The wide-open lake has sandy beaches, rocky areas with underwater structures and many sheltered bays. The lake is home to some of the oldest rocks in the world, dating back more than four billion years. Milton Lake Lodge is a premier destination for viewing the aurora borealis.



📍 Tazin Lake Lodge

7 | Tazin Lake Lodge

Tazin Lake has a rich history. Located in the northwest corner of the province, through the years the area has seen fur trapping, energy development and mineral exploration.

Located in the middle of Tazin Lake, the lodge sits on a large island. The lake surrounding the island is divided into four quadrants, providing a great day of fishing no matter the direction of the wind.





Churchill River

GUIDED BEYOND EXPECTATIONS On SASKATCHEWAN'S NORTHERN WATERWAYS



As you're driving the scenic gravel roads up to northern Saskatchewan, there is a point when rock, the ancient core of the continent, begins to reveal itself in the forest landscape. It's a sign that adventure is just around the corner. The anticipation builds for the tall cliffs, whitewater rapids and wildlife found in the boreal shield. The area is one of Saskatchewan's best kept secrets and home to most of the province's 100,000 lakes and rivers. It offers endless possibilities for paddling expeditions and thrilling experiences.

The wilderness changes people. This is what my veteran guide said to me the night before I went on my first trip on the Churchill River, guided by Churchill River Canoe Outfitters (CRCO). His insight into the landscape and the connections forged while travelling across it stayed with me long after the trip.

Early the next morning, our group of six helped strap three canoes to the outside of a floatplane: our ride to Black Bear Island Lake. The lake would be the starting point for our five-day trip paddling 100 km back to Missinipe.

The Churchill River is a series of lakes connected by rapids. This gives paddlers a choice to navigate the open waters or challenge themselves in the faster moving sections. We were planning to try both. Lucky for us, our small group had two skilled CRCO guides leading the way. They taught us how to navigate the water, but also made sure we didn't miss out on hidden gems along the route.



We arrived at a collection of red ochre pictographs after only a few hours of paddling. The colour of the ancient images appeared vivid on the rock face. From local stories shared we learned that during the 1700s, the Indigenous People told others they were unsure of who created the images, meaning they were already many generations old by that time.

We took risks and revelled in the environment with new adventures every day: floating in warm lakes, plunging off rock cliffs into deep waters, playing in whitewater rapids and counting the eagles soaring overhead. We stopped at a majestic waterfall; a little oasis hidden behind trees on the shoreline.

The group took turns standing under the falls, astonished by the raw power of nature.

As each day came to a close, our guides would locate our campsite for the night. The fire was roaring and food was cooking before the rest of us had even set up our tents and sleeping bags. The service was phenomenal.

Our hosts crafted a banquet table by rigging one of our canoes upside-down between two trees. The menu was a wonderful surprise; each meal carefully planned to ensure maximum nourishment, freshness and delight for the duration of the trip. We learned to forage for berries and herbs, spicing up the meals.

After five days of paddling, and with some instruction from our guides along the way, we were gaining confidence running rapids.



Churchill River



We felt ready to take on our biggest challenge yet: Otter Rapids. The rushing water stretches about 500 metres long.

Our new skills as new paddlers were assessed, and we were given a 50/50 chance of making it through the rapids without tipping. Our guides helped us read the water and pointed out the safest route.

We took a course through the centre of the rapids known as "The Party Line." The waves here were the biggest we'd seen all trip, growing so tall that you completely lost sight of the other canoes and their paddlers.

I was hesitant, but my colleague Andrew Hiltz, The Saskatchewanderer, insisted we party on and go for the big waves down the middle. I steered from the back of the canoe, laughing with excitement and watching him bounce up toward the sky as we hit massive wave after massive wave.

It was thrilling.

It was also exhausting, but somehow, we worked hard enough to keep the canoe afloat and on course. We paddled with all of our might. To the surprise of everyone, including ourselves, we ran all of Otter Rapids through "The Party Line."

It was the perfect conclusion to the trip of a lifetime. As we started packing up the gear, I couldn't help but reflect on the conversation we had before setting out. We were told by our guide that the wilderness changes people. He was right.

Feeling the energy and grace of nature. Disconnecting from the rest of the world.



Bald eagle



Churchill River

Making memories with a great group of people – strangers turned friends. All of it renewed a sense of wonder in me and by the end, I did feel different.

How will this wilderness change you?

PLAN YOUR TRIP

- » **Rendezvous Point:** Missinipe – 80 km N of La Ronge on Hwy 102
- » **Accommodations in Missinipe:**
 - Churchill River Canoe Outfitters
 - Thompson's Resort
 - Campgrounds:
 - Missinipe Campground
 - Churchill River Campground
 - Devil Lake Campground
- » **Amenities:** Churchill River Trading Post
- » **Area Attractions:**
 - Lac La Ronge Provincial Park
 - Holy Trinity Anglican Church, Stanley Mission
 - Nistowiak Falls
 - Indigenous Rock Art (Pictographs)



AUTHOR: MITCH DOLL

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5 AMAZING CRCO GUIDED TRIPS



Nistowiak Falls

There are enough canoe routes in northern Saskatchewan for a lifetime of paddling. All you need is a sense of adventure. Churchill River Canoe Outfitters can handle the rest. It offers rental gear, expert guides and custom itineraries to help you experience the expedition of your dreams. Check out these 2026 adventures:

NOVICE PADDLERS

Churchill River - The Signature Expedition
This family-friendly 9-day adventure highlights the finest offerings of the Churchill. Paddle along this Canadian Heritage River and explore the historic route long travelled by voyageurs and Indigenous Peoples for centuries.

Churchill River - Nistowiak Falls
Canoe by Saskatchewan's oldest building, the historic Holy Trinity Anglican Church, on the way to one of the province's tallest waterfalls, Nistowiak Falls. View ancient pictographs along the route as you take in the beautiful boreal landscape.

Churchill River - Boreal Escape
This condensed version of the Churchill River - The Signature Expedition trip offers a beginner-friendly canoeing experience. The journey begins with a scenic floatplane ride, followed by breathtaking landscapes, abundant wildlife, and exciting warm-water rapids.

EXPERIENCED PADDLERS

Fond Du Lac River Expedition
Listed as a "Guide Favourite", the Fond du Lac River is a remote gem, renowned for its exceptional camping, thrilling rapids, abundant wildlife, and stunning waterfalls.

Porcupine River Expedition
This 12-day advanced trip along the Porcupine River offers an all-encompassing adventure. Paddle 150 km through clear, fast water punctuated by waterfalls, deep canyons and thrilling whitewater runs.

Saskatchewandering with Andrew Hiltz

Saskatchewanderer Andrew Hiltz has travelled across the province. Here are some of his top stops and favourite hidden gems, as well as a few locations that are still on his Saskatchewan bucket list.



Grease River

Some additional stops/events:

- Hunt Falls Grease River
- Boreal Heartland Food Products Air Ronge
- Pemmican Lodge Ile-à-la-Crosse
- Whitewater Festival 2026
- June 26-28 near Missinipe

Lake Athabasca



Athabasca Sand Dunes Provincial Park
LAKE ATHABASCA

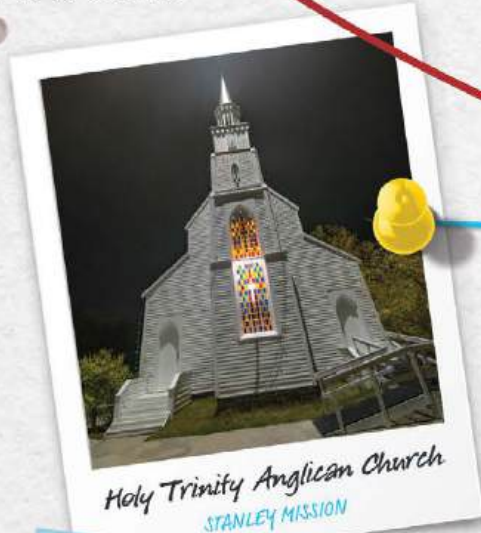
Covering 2,000 sq.km. and stretching 100 km along the south shore of Lake Athabasca, the Athabasca Sand Dunes is the largest active sand surface in Canada. With dunes as high as 30 meters, and a unique ecosystem, scientists consider the dunes an evolutionary puzzle. Accessible only by float plane and recommended for experienced wilderness adventurers.

Join local historian Les Oystryk for a three-hour guided tour of Beaver City, Saskatchewan's abandoned 1913 gold rush community on Amisk Lake. Discover its rich history and explore the remnants of this once-thriving settlement.
Other stops nearby:
Limestone Crevices, T&D Amisk Camp



Beaver City Tours
AMISK LAKE

Ile-à-la-Crosse



Holy Trinity Anglican Church
STANLEY MISSION

Missinipe

Stanley Mission

Air Ronge

Reindeer Lake

Cumberland House

Amisk Lake



Aski Holistic Adventures
CUMBERLAND HOUSE

Just 60 km from Cumberland House, Aski Holistic Adventures connects people with nature through guided wilderness adventures. Learn about Indigenous culture, survival skills and holistic wellness while staying in their rustic wilderness cabins.

Winter in Saskatchewan





📍 Elk Ridge Resort

WHEN THE SNOW FALLS:

TOP SASKATCHEWAN WINTER DESTINATIONS

While Saskatchewan is blanketed in white, strap on some cross-country skis or skates, hit the trails on your snowmobile or stay cosy by the fire with some hot chocolate. Embrace the snowy season at some of the province's most popular parks and four-season family-friendly destinations.



📍 Prince Albert National Park

Cypress Hills Interprovincial Park

As the snow settles in the lush lodgepole pine and white spruce forests of the Cypress Hills, pull out your cross-country skis or snowshoes and explore the groomed trails in the Centre Block. Winter fun in Cypress Hills Interprovincial Park also includes tobogganing, skating, and snowmobiling (only in the designated area in the Centre Block). Open year round, The Resort at Cypress Hills has hotel rooms, townhouses and rustic cabins, as well as onsite dining.

WHERE TO STAY:
The Resort at Cypress Hills



Prince Albert National Park

Enjoy the comforts of the resort village of Waskesiu while experiencing northern wilderness encounters in the heart of Prince Albert National Park. From the townsite, you can explore winding, scenic trails on cross-country skis or by snowshoe. Hit the ice for some indoor skating at the Paul G. Horne Memorial Arena or venture out for some ice fishing on Waskesiu Lake. After a day of outdoor recreation, get cosy at the warming shelter in Waskesiu, across the street from the Visitor Centre.

WHERE TO STAY:
Hawood Inn, Lost Creek Resort, Kapasiwin Bungalows, The Suites at Waskesiu, Waskesiu Resorts



📍 Cypress Hills Interprovincial Park

Blackstrap Provincial Park

Begin a whimsical winter journey just a 35-minute drive south of Saskatoon at Blackstrap Provincial Park, where the snow-kissed landscape transforms into a wonderland. For those seeking more traditional winter pursuits, the Blackstrap Provincial Park Trail system offers trails catered to beginner to advanced hikers, and cross-country skiers. You can also strap on snowshoes and head out for a beautiful day in the winter snow. After a day of snowy exploration, retreat to the cosy cottage of Blackstrap Glamping Resort, where rustic charm meets modern comfort. Nestled amidst the snowy vistas, it offers the perfect sanctuary for unwinding and relishing the magic of the season.

WHERE TO STAY:
Blackstrap Glamping Resort

Elk Ridge Resort

Breathe in the fresh northern air as you head out for a cross-country ski or snowshoe at Elk Ridge Resort. Experience the boreal forest in all of its winter glory as you glide through or hike the resort's more than 15-km groomed trail system. Lace up some skates or grab a broom and rocks and curl (or crokicurl) a few ends. The lodge overlooks a frozen pond with a skating loop and hockey rinks, as well as a curling sheet. Before the day is done, hit the toboggan hill where you can jump on a tire tube and race to the bottom. This premier all-season resort has a variety of accommodation options, including the lodge, log cabins, townhouses or cottages. Enhancing your stay are a restaurant, a spa, indoor saltwater pool, hot tub and a waterslide for the little ones.

WHERE TO STAY:
Elk Ridge Resort, Elk Ridge on the Lake (Waskesiu)



📍 Moose Mountain Provincial Park



📍 Buffalo Pound Provincial Park

Buffalo Pound Provincial Park

Step into a majestic winter wonderland just a short drive from Regina or Moose Jaw at Buffalo Pound Provincial Park. Immerse yourself in the serenity of the snowy landscape as you ride through trails, such as the Nicolle Flats Trail and the Valley Trail, on a thrilling fat biking adventure, or explore the pristine surroundings on snowshoes. For cross-country skiers, the park offers groomed trails that wind through breathtaking vistas.

WHERE TO STAY:
Life's a Beach Rentals





Wapiti Valley Ski & Board Resort

Moose Mountain Provincial Park

Bordering small lakes and scenic viewpoints, Moose Mountain Provincial Park has an extensive trail system that allows winter enthusiasts to enjoy the beauty of the park. Travel through this unique southern Saskatchewan forest on over 100 km of groomed snowmobile trails, 50 km of ski trails groomed for both classic and skate skiing and 10 km of snowshoe trails. Located in the park overlooking the lake, Kenosee Inn and Cabins offers both hotel rooms and cabins. Cross-country ski and snowshoe rentals are available at the inn, provided on behalf of the Moose Mountain Lions Club.

WHERE TO STAY:

Kenosee Inn and Cabins, Bear Claw Casino and Hotel, Living Skies Lodge

Ness Creek Site

The Ness Creek site, home to music festivals and cultural events in the summer, transforms into a winter oasis hidden in the boreal forest. Enjoy a stay at Discover Ness Creek's cosy, winterized cabins, which are thoughtfully designed and furnished to keep visitors comfortable through all seasons. Glide along the 30 km of professionally groomed trails on cross-country skis or snowshoes or try skate skiing on the 3.6-km skate ski loop. At nearby Ski Timber Ridge, hit the slopes for some downhill skiing and snowboarding. The hill has six runs and a snowboard park.

WHERE TO STAY:

Discover Ness Creek



Nipawin/Carrot River/Tobin Lake

With a three-month season (mid-December to mid-March), opportunities for winter anglers to get out on the ice are plentiful. There is an abundance of great fishing lakes across central Saskatchewan. With a world-record ice fishing catch in the books, Tobin Lake, near Nipawin and Carrot River, should be one of your go-to spots for that trophy walleye. This area is also a part of the 1,000 Miles of Snow network and home to some of the province's most popular snowmobile trails. Downhill skiing and snowboarding fun await at nearby Wapiti Valley Ski & Board Resort. Campbell's Racing Sled Dogs in Melfort offer dogsledding adventures in the area.

WHERE TO STAY:

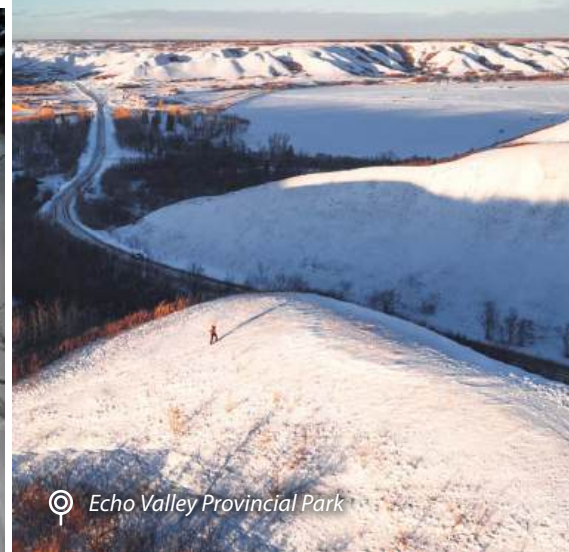
Carrot River Inn, The Outerbanks (near Wapiti Valley Ski & Board Resort)

Meadow Lake Provincial Park

In the province's northwest, Meadow Lake Provincial Park is the ideal location for winter adventure. With more than 20 lakes, rivers and streams within its boundaries, the park has no shortage of ice. Set up a hut, drill some holes and spend the afternoon ice fishing. Explore the expansive park by snowmobile on more than 175 km of trails.

WHERE TO STAY:

Water's Edge Eco Lodge, Lake Time Rentals, Flotten Lake Adventures Resort, Tawaw Cabins 2004, Miywâsin Ôta Resort



Echo Valley Provincial Park



Water's Edge Eco Lodge

Duck Mountain Provincial Park

Book a four-season condo or cabin rental at Madge Lake Development for a relaxing stay at Duck Mountain Provincial Park. Bring your snowmobile and ride the vast network of snowmobile trails with varied terrain or pull out the downhill skis or snowboard and hit the slopes at Duck Mountain Ski Area. Cosy warm-up shelters greet cross-country skiers along the trails.

WHERE TO STAY:

Madge Lake Development

Echo Valley Provincial Park/ Katepwa Point Provincial Park/ Qu'Appelle Valley

New to the Echo Valley Provincial Park is a Ninja Warrior-style course with a slackline, bouldering wall and zipline. At Mission Ridge Winter Park, near Fort Qu'Appelle, strap on your snowboard and clear the frost from your goggles as you take to one of the 15 runs. The ski hill also has two terrain parks, a tube park, three conveyor lifts and a triple chair lift. Get your winter jacket, ski pants and helmet and ride 340 km of snowmobile trails in the area outside of the park. The Qu'Appelle Valley lakes are also favourite ice fishing spots in southern Saskatchewan.

WHERE TO STAY:

Sundays Log Cabins, Katepwa Beach Hotel

Winter in the City



Little Red River Park

Bundle up and experience Saskatchewan's cities in the snowy season. With countless outdoor skating rinks, cross-country ski trails, and opportunities for downhill skiing and snowboarding, the province's urban centres have all you need to warm up to winter.

Saskatoon and Area

Lace up some skates and take to the ice at the Cameco Meewasin Skating Rink @Nutrien Plaza, located in Kiwanis Park next to the historic Delta Hotels by Marriott Bessborough. The outdoor skating rink has a cosy warm-up shelter, fire pit, and washrooms.

Optimist Hill, Saskatoon's premier winter recreation facility, has tubing lanes and areas for tobogganing, downhill skiing and snowboarding. There is also a terrain park with rails, boxes and jumps, and a magic carpet conveyor to carry people to the top of the hill.

The Meewasin Valley trails become a winter wonderland once the snow flies. Pull out your cross-country skis or snowshoes and explore the city in all seasons. Glide along the groomed trails at Holiday Park and Wildwood golf courses, or venture outside of city limits to Wanuskewin Heritage Park, Beaver Creek Conservation Area, or Eb's Cross-Country Ski Trail (near Duck Lake). Located just 30 km from downtown Saskatoon, Dakota Dunes Resort & Casino invites guests to embrace winter with activities like snowshoeing and kick sledding, complete with convenient on-site rental options.

WHERE TO STAY:

Delta Hotels Bessborough, Alt Hotel Saskatoon, The James Hotel, Dakota Dunes Resort & Casino

Regina and Area

Snowshoe through Wascana Centre or strap on skis and travel the park's many pathways in cross-country style. The city of Regina boasts 16 km of groomed ski trails for people of all ages and skill levels. The trails are located at various sites, including Douglas Park, Kinsmen Park, Les Sherman Park and the Saskatchewan Science Centre. Outside of the city, White Butte Trails Recreation Site has over 16 km of trails in treed sections of gently rolling hills, while the Wascana Valley Natural Area Recreation Site has 15 km of trails for skiing and snowshoeing.

With spectacular views of Wascana Centre and the Saskatchewan Legislative Building, the Rink on Wascana is one of Regina's most scenic public outdoor skating rinks. Designed with a focus on accessibility, it has ramps, fixed and mobile lighting, professional boards, rubber matting and warming and washroom facilities. BYOS – bring your own skates, as rentals and loaners are not offered at Wascana Lake.

WHERE TO STAY:

The Hotel Saskatchewan, Autograph Collection, The Atlas[®] Hotel



WINTER HIGHLIGHTS IN SASKATCHEWAN'S SMALLER CITIES

Moose Jaw and Area

Following a snowshoe or cross-country ski through the Wakamow Valley, soak in the soothing water at Temple Gardens Hotel & Spa. For more outdoor adventure, go fat biking on the trails at Buffalo Pound Provincial Park.

Prince Albert and Area

Little Red River Park boasts more than 45 km of forest trails and is a cross-country skier's dream with multiple groomed tracks of varying difficulty. Other popular winter activities in the park include tobogganing, snowshoeing, and downhill skiing and snowboarding at the Kinsmen Ski and Snowboard Centre, which has two beginner hills and one intermediate run.

Yorkton

Throw some rocks during a game of crokicurl or strap on some skates and explore the town's outdoor rinks.

North Battleford and Area

Put on some cross-country skis and hit the trails at Finlayson Island Nature Park, or go downhill skiing or snowboarding at the popular Table Mountain Regional Park.





ICE FISHING at CREE LAKE LODGE: a WINTER ADVENTURE in NORTHERN SASKATCHEWAN

“Get your camera!” The words jolted me out of a slumber in the backseat of our pickup truck. My buddy Andrew, sitting shotgun, points into the thick forest undergrowth beside the road. A lynx, its head roughly waist-high, stares back as I fumble with a telephoto lens. I snap a few frames and marvel at its huge paws as it glides effortlessly across the thick snow and into the trees.

We’re nearly 200 km from the last fuel stop, the Village of Pinehouse, heading straight north on Saskatchewan Highway 914. The road, seemingly the only sign of humanity, exists to serve a remote northern mine site. As we near the end of the road, we pull into a small clearing, unload our snowmobiles, and pack our gear onto sleds.

Our destination is still two hours away, accessible only by a winding snowmobile trail through the northern boreal forest. Eventually the rolling hills give way to a clearing - a bay on the frozen surface of Saskatchewan’s fourth-largest lake, Cree Lake.

Situated on the traditional homeland of the Dene People, the lake has remained largely untouched by human development. Fewer than a handful of fishing camps operate on the 1,400 sq. km expanse, and only one takes guests during the frigid winter ice fishing months. As we pull around the tip of a peninsula, we finally see our destination - Cree Lake Lodge.



Nestled in the remote wilderness of northern Saskatchewan, Cree Lake Lodge offers an unforgettable ice fishing experience on one of the province’s most pristine lakes. This fishing haven is known for its world-class trophy catches for lake trout and northern pike.

Owned by the Schreiber family, brothers Brandon and Adam offer visitors the chance to catch once-in-a-lifetime-sized fish. The lake is an angler’s dream; great underwater habitat and geological structure, combined with strong fish genetics, produce what the brothers affectionately call ‘Fat Sows’. During our trip, even the most stoic anglers turned giddy with excitement as they reeled in a lake trout weighing over 27 pounds and measuring over 40 inches. The fish were so big that we had to drill a second 10-inch hole next to the original, just to be able to pull them out.

The ice fishing experience is a mixture of quiet solitude and intense excitement. We sit tucked in behind our snowmobiles, perched over ice holes, patiently watching fish finder screens for monsters in the deep. When the fish finally decide to bite, it becomes a flurry of action - anglers



fighting to keep them on the line as they yell, “Fish on!” We all gather around and assume a responsibility - someone to scoop ice from the mouth of the hole and grab the fish as it surfaces, another ready with the weigh bag, scale and bump board (a collapsible measuring stick used to record the fish’s length).

I’ve become the official “fish photographer”. Our crew, farmers from the Humboldt area, are dedicated trophy ice fishermen and have perfected the routine into a carefully choreographed dance. The fish are caught, weighed, measured, photographed and released in under a minute. While we keep some of the smaller fish we catch for cooking, referred to as “eaters”, the large trophy fish are released back into the lake after documentation, hopefully to reproduce and create even larger fish. The photos become the only solid evidence to back up the often embellished “I caught a fish this big” story.

After a long day of fishing, the cosy warmth of the lodge offers a welcome contrast to the frigid outdoor temperatures, featuring comfortable accommodations with multiple cabin options. The shared main lodge comes



complete with all the touches of home; a poker table for cards, comfy couches and satellite TV for catching the big game, even in the remote wilderness.

While fishing is what draws people to the lodge, Mother Nature often throws in another show for free. Being so far north, the lodge experiences stunning evening displays of the northern lights on a regular basis. The quiet and serene setting provides an incredible venue for the atmospheric phenomenon - there is nothing quite like watching the green and red ribbons dance across the sky from the comfort of a deck chair, warm drink in hand.



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Matt Duguid is a Content Creator for Tourism Saskatchewan. He experiences Saskatchewan every way he can - whether it’s on-road, off-road or via bike path, hiking trail or on a stand-up paddleboard. Favourite campsite: Deer Hollow #17 in Cypress Hills Interprovincial Park. Want to know more about a place he’s been? Ask him at [@duguidoutdoors](#).





A WINTER'S STORY

The stunning images featured on this page are all entries from Tourism Saskatchewan's ExploreSask Photo Contest. Each year, amateur and professional photographers and videographers are invited to submit their most striking content that captures the natural wonders of Saskatchewan and tells stories about its people and communities. The contest opens in June and closes in September. There are six categories: Prairie, People & Places, Wildlife, Winter, Woods & Water and Video. Contest winners and honourable mentions are selected by an external panel of judges. Visit tourismsaskatchewan.com/photo-contest for more information or to submit your entries for a chance to win great prizes.

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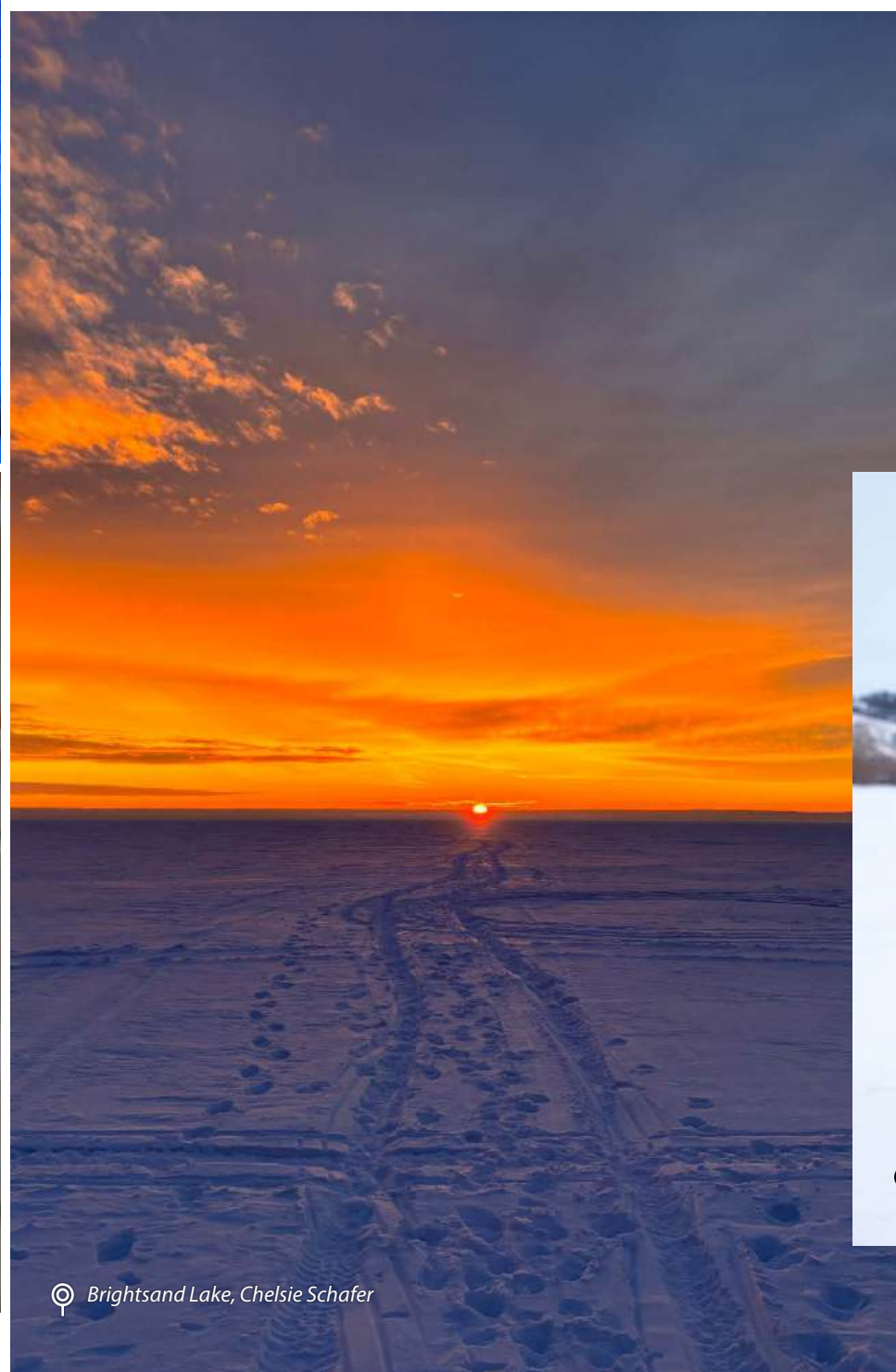
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CHASING THE COLD: SASKATCHEWAN'S BEST SNOWMOBILE TRAILS

Saskatchewan’s northeast snowmobile trails offer more than just a thrilling ride - they take you deep into the heart of untouched winter wilderness. Winding through dense forests or over frozen rivers, these trails reveal breathtaking scenery and hidden gems along the way. On a recent adventure, my friends and I set out to explore north of Hudson Bay, where crisp air, fresh powder and cosy warm-up shelters made for an unforgettable ride.



Hudson Bay area

As we crest a ridge on our snowmobiles, we finally get a look down into the Fir River Valley. It’s a beautiful sight, the snow-covered conifers towering over a snow-white landscape. The only break in the dense forest is a winding path of freshly groomed trail. It’s near perfect, even with the biting minus 30-degree Celsius temperatures.

The good news is that the next warm-up shelter is only five minutes ahead. Knowing that, we press on, weaving down the slope. For the past 20 minutes, we’ve been heading west on the trail, our last stop being “Larry’s Place”. Now, we’re nearly at the next stop, the Dahl Lake shelter, one of several warm-up shelters on the trail.



The unassuming name, Trail 210F, doesn’t do this stretch of forest justice. As we reach the valley floor, the trail crosses over the river before hugging its western bank. Light snow falls and I can’t help but think we’re riding through a giant snow globe. Eventually, the trail switches back on itself and we climb out of the valley, up towards our destination, the Dahl Lake shelter.

Saskatchewan has over 11,000 kms of groomed snowmobile trails and in a good snow year, riders can traverse the province from the U.S. border in the south, to the Manitoba border in the east, and all the way to Cold Lake on the Alberta border in the west. One of the hotspots is the “1000 Miles of Snow” trail system in northeast Saskatchewan. We’re riding a section north of Hudson Bay, maintained by the Hudson Bay Trail Riders Snowmobile Club.



The club keeps the trail in top shape, with clear signage marking towns, shelters, turns, warnings and hazards. Regular grooming of the runs ensures smooth riding conditions. Riders can check the Saskatchewan Snowmobile Association’s interactive map (sasksnow.com) or use their app to find the latest trail conditions.

We’re touring the area with club member Marcel Dalpe, who also owns Jackpine Cabins. A “sled-head” himself, Dalpe and his family have cabins



designed perfectly for snowmobilers. Guests can ride directly from the fully equipped cabins to the trail system with stops at the gas station, Lewellin’s snowmobile dealership and restaurants in town. There’s also access to a heated shop. Dalpe is a wealth of knowledge when it comes to the surrounding trails, logging hundreds of kilometers a year on them.

As we pull up to the Dahl Lake shelter, Dalpe hops off his sled and walks over to the firewood pile, chopping a few logs before heading inside to fire up the stove. The shelters are equipped with wood stoves for heating and cooking, drying hooks and racks for gear, firewood, an axe, a trail system map, and outhouse facilities. Garbage and recycling are on a pack-in pack-out basis.

After warming up in the shelter for a couple of minutes, we talk about backtracking through the same section of trail to capture some photos before heading back to “Larry’s Place.” From



there, we’ll head north to a unique Saskatchewan destination, Wildcat Hill Provincial Park.

The park is nearly inaccessible in the summer, with no road access or trails, making it suitable for only the heartiest backcountry hikers. However, in winter, the swampy bogs and muskegs freeze over, and snowmobile trails provide much easier access. The ride takes sledders through what locals call the “bonsai swamp” where the wet conditions stunt tree growth. Even the tallest trees here barely reach head height.

The swamp eventually gives way to the rising landscape of Wildcat Hill. After ascending the hillside, we arrived at Bankside Lake and the T.Q. shelter. In front of the shelter is a hill covered in fresh powder, and we just can’t resist, it’s a perfect spot to catwalk our sleds for some photos.



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KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

Here are some tips as you prepare for a snowmobiling adventure in Saskatchewan.

PLAN YOUR TRIP

Choose the route for your adventure, deciding which trails you’d like to visit. Check out the restaurants and accommodations available along the way or plan to pack a lunch for a stop at one of many warm-up shelters along the trail system.

DRESS IN LAYERS

When you’re out on the trail, it’s important to dress for the weather. Winter temperatures in Saskatchewan can drop below -30 C. Choose gear specifically designed for snowmobiling, and dress with warm layers underneath.

BE PREPARED

Carry a route map with you or download one to your phone in advance. Locations to fuel up are limited, so bring a jerry can of gas. You’ll also want to pack some extra snowmobile parts and tools in case of a breakdown on the trail.





DISCOVER DOG SLEDDING WITH CAMPBELL'S RACING SLED DOGS

Picture this: a group of excited Alaskan huskies, harnessed to a dog sled. The dogs are jumping and barking, ready to go. You pull the snow hook, and the dogs go silent as they lock their focus onto their job, pulling you down the trail. Sounds become limited to the dogs breathing, the sled as it glides on the snow, and the sounds of nature, like the blowing of the wind.

With Campbell's Racing Sled Dog Tours, located near Melfort, visitors can witness this scene for themselves and take part in a family-friendly experience, traveling through some of Saskatchewan's most beautiful winter trails.

Campbell's offers both guided sled dog tours, and self-guided experiences where guests can drive their own team through

the Saskatchewan wilderness. Guests are immersed in an authentic, high-energy dog sledding experience rooted in real racing and training.

Campbell's tours are run with Alaskan huskies, the same dogs they breed, train and compete with in dog sled races each winter. These are working dogs, but there is still opportunity to reward them with love and cuddles for a job well done.

Owners Aaron and Charlene Campbell operate Campbell's Racing Sled Dogs, along with their three children. Aaron regularly competes and loves sharing this unique experience with guests. Each tour includes the opportunity to learn about the dogs and their care, the sport of mushing, the equipment and how to properly harness the dogs to the sled.



Campbell's Racing Sled Dogs also offers school programs that bring dog sledding, the history of the sport and hands-on learning directly to schools across Saskatchewan. Schools can choose to bring Campbell's Racing Sled Dogs to them or visit their private trail system.

Dress Appropriately
Dog sledding is an outdoor sport, and Saskatchewan winters can be cold. As guests will be outdoors for the duration of the tour, it's important to dress for the weather, and dress in layers. Make sure to protect exposed skin from wind, snow and cold temperatures. Some recommended layers include warm socks and winter boots, a neck warmer, and an insulated winter jacket and ski pants.

Visit campbellsracingsleddogs.com for more tips on how to prepare for a tour.

NEARBY IN MELFORT
Extend your adventure and explore Melfort before or after your dog sled tour.

Accommodations: The Outerbanks

Food and Drink: Golden Grain Bakery

Indoor Activities: Northern Lights Palace Arena and Pool, Melfort & District Museum, Northern Lights Gallery

Outdoor Activities: snowmobile and cross-country ski trails, outdoor skating

CHOOSE YOUR ADVENTURE

Ready to go on your own dog sled tour? Whether you're looking for family-friendly fun, a solo trip or to travel the trails after sunset, Campbell's Racing Sled Dogs offer a variety of different tour options. Custom tours are also available.

WILDERNESS ADVENTURE TOUR
Trail length: 10 km
Duration (including pre- and post-ride): 1.5 hours
This tour is suitable for the whole family. Groups that require more than one sled can take advantage of the heated winter canvas tent and outdoor fire pit.

PARKLAND EXPEDITION TOUR
Trail length: 7.4 km
Duration (including pre- and post-ride): 1 hour
This tour is ideal for group gatherings, corporate outings, family get togethers, or for anyone looking for a shorter taste of the dog sledding experience.

SOLO MISSION
Trail length: 10 km
Duration (including pre- and post-ride): 1.5-2 hours
This tour is perfect for thrill-seekers looking to drive their own dog team through a beautiful Saskatchewan winter landscape.

HALF DAY TOUR
Trail length: 22.4 km
Duration (including pre- and post-ride): 3-3.5 hours
The half day dog sled tour is tailored for two adults. Take a break mid-ride to eat lunch and warm up inside a cosy cabin.

MOONLIGHT RUN TOUR
Trail length: 10 km
Duration (including pre- and post-ride): 1.5 hours
Traverse the trails under the light of the full moon. If you're lucky, the Northern Lights will light up the sky while you and the sled dogs travel through the quiet of the night with just the sounds of nature and the team in motion.



WINTER ANGLING: A Guide to Ice Fishing

Winter in Saskatchewan offers outdoor enthusiasts countless adventures, including incredible ice fishing. Once the lakes and rivers across the province freeze, communities of ice fishing shacks pop up.



Lake Diefenbaker

By mid- to late-December, ice on Saskatchewan’s pristine lakes is most often solid enough for fishing (but always check conditions before crossing frozen bodies of water). With the right bait, you can catch walleye aplenty. Northern pike, perch, whitefish, lake trout and burbot can also be caught in winter. Thawing is rare before mid-March. The three-month season gives winter anglers ample time and opportunity to get out on the ice.

Where to Go and What You’ll Catch

Saskatchewan boasts an abundance of healthy, record-sized fish. Here are some of the top ice fishing locations throughout the province:

Tobin Lake

With a world-record ice fishing catch in the books, Tobin Lake, near Nipawin, should be one of your go-to spots for that trophy walleye. The lake is home to many other species, including yellow perch, northern pike, burbot, whitefish and goldeye. It has been named one of the top ice fishing destinations in Canada.

Last Mountain Lake

In the south, Last Mountain Lake is a favourite ice fishing spot. At more than 90 km long, the size of the lake means that there is plenty of room for all winter anglers wanting to drill some holes and drop a line. This lake has healthy populations of northern pike, walleye, yellow perch, whitefish, burbot and common carp.

Lake Diefenbaker

Lake Diefenbaker, in the southwest, is another prime ice fishing location renowned for its trophy-sized rainbow trout. With its vast 800-km shoreline, the lake is also known for the diversity of species found in its waters, including walleye, northern pike, burbot, yellow perch, whitefish and lake trout.

Qu’Appelle Lakes (Pasqua, Echo, Mission and Katepwa)

A series of four small lakes in the southeast, the Qu’Appelle Lakes are favourite drive-to spots. Also known as the Fishing Lakes, they are very accessible and home to a fish hatchery. Here, you can catch an impressive number of species, including walleye, northern pike, yellow perch, whitefish, burbot, sauger, channel catfish, rock bass, black bullhead, big mouth buffalo, dog fish and common carp, among others.



Boundary Dam/ Rafferty Dam

For a unique catch, Boundary Dam near Estevan is the go-to spot for largemouth bass. In fact, it’s the only place to go. Due to the nearby power plant, the water is much warmer, which makes it possible for the species to thrive. Other species found in the reservoir and neighbouring Rafferty Dam include walleye, northern pike and yellow perch.

Northern Saskatchewan Lakes

Saskatchewan has world-class freshwater fishing, and many of the province’s nearly 100,000 lakes and rivers can be found in the north. Opportunities for ice fishing are endless. A few drive-to/road-accessible lakes include Amisk Lake, Deschambault Lake, Otter Lake and Dore Lake. In the far north, experience a remote winter angling adventure like no other at Cree Lake. Northern pike, walleye, lake trout and arctic grayling are some of the species that inhabit the waters of northern Saskatchewan.



Last Mountain Lake

WHAT TO KNOW

- » Canadian residents and non-residents 16 and over, must have a valid Saskatchewan Angling License to ice fish (except for Free Fishing Weekend). Purchase one online (saskatchewanhal.ca/licensing.page), at any Saskatchewan angling licence issuer, at select provincial park offices or the Ministry of Environment, or by phone at 1-855-848-4773.
- » Ice fishing requires relatively little equipment: ice auger (manual or power), ice fishing rod and reel, tackle box and bait. Ice fishing shacks or shelters are optional and can range from pop-ups to ice castles. A seat (sturdy bucket), sled and heater are nice, too.
- » Wear naturally warm clothing, head and footwear. Dressing in layers is recommended.
- » Always check weather and ice conditions beforehand, pack winter survival gear, and tell someone when and where you are fishing, as well as your estimated return time.



