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Welcome to Waterton Lakes National Park

“One of the World’s Top Destinations for 2009”
“THE least travelled of Alberta’s Rocky Mountain Parks and quite possibly the most spectacular.”
— Frommers Travel Guides

“Where the Mountains Meet the Prairies”

Nature

Tucked away in the very southwest corner of Alberta, Waterton has been called the most stunning of the Rocky Mountain Parks. Whether you’re a backcountry enthusiast, or someone who’d rather curl up with a good book, Waterton lets you bask in the glory of the Rockies: deep blue lakes, abundant wildlife, and incredible vistas from both land and water. The meeting of rolling prairie and lofty mountains found in Waterton Lakes National Park provides a contrast unique in the Canadian National Park system. The mountain/prairie contact creates an unusual combination of habitats and species. About 55% of Alberta’s wildflower species can be found in Waterton, including many plants considered rare in Canada. Wapiti, mule deer and bighorn sheep are commonly seen and both grizzly and black bears are found in the Park.

Waterton’s 525 square kilometres (203 sq. miles) have a unique geologic history, including the oldest exposed sedimentary rock in the Rockies. Glacial landforms, abundant lakes, streams and waterfalls add variety to a landscape providing many opportunities for recreation and reflection.

Culture

Human use of the Waterton area has a long history extending back 10,000 years. Many natural resources attracted aboriginal peoples, contributed to a rich past with over 200 archaeological sites identified in the Park.

Early European explorers and settlers also left their mark on the area. Lt. Thomas Blakiston, a member of the famous Palliser Expedition and one of the area’s earliest explorers, named the lakes after 19th century naturalist Charles Waterton.

To protect this diversity of history, archaeology, wildlife and landforms, the area was set aside as a park in 1895, largely due to the efforts of local rancher Frederick Godsal. John George “Kootenai” Brown, the Park’s first European settler, became its first park official.

The discovery of oil in the Park around the turn of the 20th century led to the drilling of Western Canada’s first producing oil well, recognized as a national historic site located along the Akamina parkway. A second national historic site in the park is the dramatically-placed Prince of Wales Hotel, so designated for its unique architecture and its place in the development of national park tourism.

International Designations

Initiated by the Rotary Clubs of Alberta and Montana, Waterton Lakes and Glacier National Parks were designated in 1932 as the world’s first International Peace Park, commemorating the long friendship between the United States and Canada. The International Peace Park has evolved to represent the need for cooperation between nations, in a world where the sharing of resources and ecosystems is a reality. In 1995, UNESCO designated the Waterton-Glacier International Peace Park a World Heritage Site. Both Parks have also been designated Biosphere Reserves by the UNESCO Man and the Biosphere program. This program is designed to provide information about the intimate relationship between people and their environment.

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Parks Canada and the Waterton Park Chamber of Commerce and Visitors Association welcome you to Waterton Lakes National Park, the Canadian portion of the internationally acclaimed Waterton-Glacier International Peace Park, a World Heritage Site.
Travel Information

264 km (159 mi. or approx. 2½ hour drive) from Calgary, AB.
130 km (78 mi. or approx. 1¼ hour drive) from Lethbridge, AB.
60 km (40 mi. or approx. ¾ hour drive) from Glacier National Park
St. Mary, Montana entrance.

Airports and car rentals at Calgary and Lethbridge, Alberta; Kalispell
and Great Falls, Montana.

Post Office: All mail sent from Canada must carry Canadian postage,
document that denotes identity and citizenship when entering the U.S.
(WHTI) requires U.S. and Canadian travelers to present a passport or other

Good to go across the line...International Ports of Entry

Open Year Round

Year Round: 7:00am – 11:00pm Daily

Seasonal (Mid May – October 1)

Chief Mountain, Alberta and Montana
May 15 – 31 9:00am – 6:00pm
June 1 – Labour Day 7:00am – 11:00pm
Tuesday following Labour Day – September 30 9:00am – 6:00pm

Good to know...

Waterton Park Information: 403.859.5133
www.MyWaterton.ca
Parks Canada Campground Information: 1.877.737.3783
www.parkscanada.pc.gc.ca

Don’t Forget Your Passport

Please be advised that The Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative
(WHTI) requires U.S. and Canadian travelers to present a passport or other
document that denotes identity and citizenship when entering the U.S.

The Waterton Visitor Guide is produced by the Waterton
Chamber of Commerce and Visitors association with
assistance from the Trail of Great Bear publications.

Special thanks for contributions from Chris McKnight,
Chris Morrison, Len Grant, Allen Gibson, Inkstone Design,
Jarom Scott, Lee Weighill, Warwick Printing, Scott Ross,
David Thomas, Jackie Velcoff, S.
Lots of wildlife and easy to see. The autumn Elk mating season is considered to be Alberta’s most spectacular wildlife viewing event, a highlight at the annual September Waterton Wildlife Week.

Provided by Trail of the Great Bear Publications – photo: Douglas Leighton
Type In

www.MyWaterton.ca
for all things Waterton.

Share your video adventures in Waterton and enter to win an all inclusive trip to this spectacular Rocky Mountain destination Waterton Lakes National Park.
The Annual Waterton Experience Contest.
### Favorite Things to See and Do

- Hike the High Country
- Stroll the rim - Red Rock Canyon
- Count Bears on Red Rock Parkway
- Cross the border on the International boat cruise
- AHHH Spa!
- Tea at the Prince of Wales
- See Bison upclose
- Paddle Cameron Lake
- Play 18 on the championship golf course
- Catch a trout at Crandell Lake
- Laugh and Learn at a Parks Interpretive Show
- Gaze at the stars
- Photograph wild orchids
- Ride a beautiful horse across the grasslands
- Birding at the Maskinonge
- Enjoy an ice cream on a village stroll

### Special Events

#### Waterton Wildflower Festival  
**June**
A week-long learning adventure held mid-June, flower walks, photography, art. Magnificent diversity of flowers.

www.watertonwildflowers.com

#### Canada Day  
**July 1st**
Admission to national parks is free on Canada Day. Community events - Activities for kids!

#### Canada’s Parks Day  
**July**

Parks Day is a national day dedicated to parks and historic sites across the country.

www.pc.gc.ca/pn-np/ab/waterton

#### Pat’s Annual “Show ‘N Shine”  
**August**

Dozens of hot cars and trucks on the ballpark in the heart of the village. Prizes!

#### Waterton Wildlife Week  
**September**

Coincides with the fabulous elk rut. Thousand of animals on Blakiston flats. Photography workshops, wildlife viewing.

www.trailofthegreatbear.com

#### The Waterton Natural History Association  

Special events and programs happen summer and fall, including a mid-summer ‘Moonlight Cruise’ down the lake. www.wnha.ca
Exploring Waterton along its scenic parkways is an adventure waiting to unfold. From stunning scenic vistas to free roaming wildlife, nature is there for you at your own time and pace. Early morning and evening is a good time to see wildlife as animals are most active at these times of day.

Akamina Parkway

Begins at the village and runs 16 km (10 mi.) up the Cameron Valley to glacier formed Cameron Lake. The parkway gains elevation as it rises above the Waterton Valley and alongside the deep Cameron Creek canyon. Forested mountain views, a creekside picnic shelter and backcountry trailheads are along this route. Discovery Well National Historic Site is found here which commemorates Western Canada’s first producing oil well. The continental divide parallels the roadway and the boundaries of Alberta, British Columbia and Montana converge at Cameron Lake. Open in winter for access to Nordic skiing and snowshoeing.

Red Rock Parkway

Meanders 15 km (9 mi.) over rolling prairie through the Blakiston Valley. Best illustrates “where the mountains meet the prairie”. The roadway is access to Crandell Campground. The Parkway follows the ancient Buffalo Trail used by First Nations hunting parties for the past 10,000 years. Learn more at roadside exhibits along the way. Dramatic views of Mt. Blakiston the Park’s highest mountain 2940 m/9645 ft are complemented by strikingly colored red and green rocks. Red Rock Canyon offers a lovely day use area with self-guided loop trails, exhibits, and picnic shelters.

Chief Mountain International Highway

This route departs Highway #5 east of the park gate and travels into Glacier National Park USA, at the Chief Mountain Customs station. The seasonal road offers dramatic scenic vistas high above the Waterton Valley. Learn more at the exhibit there. The Belly River campground is located along this route. Sacred Chief Mountain dominates the skyline.

Buffalo Paddock Circle Drive

Located north of the Park entrance gate is the Bison drive-thru paddock. The road rolls across a stunning glacial landscape of moraines and eskers. Native Prairie grasslands there are home to a small herd of bison which are direct descendents from the original herds of the Great Plains.

Be Alert

Be Alert- hundreds of animals are killed on roadways as they can run in front of your car in an instant. Please stay within posted speed limits and take time to scan the landscape for the wonders that await you.
Tamarack
OUTDOOR OUTFITTERS
WATERTON LAKES NATIONAL PARK

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hiker shuttle services
Cameron Lake for Carthew-Alderson Hike
Chief Mountain Customs/Belly River trailhead
Tamarack Trail trailheads
Red Rock Canyon area
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Interpretive Walks & Outdoor Education Programs
Experienced Local Guides
cr: hikeinwaterton@mac.com

information & reservations
Email: tamarackwaterton@mac.com
Phone: 403.859.2378
Fax: 403.859.2605
www.hikewaterton.com
Some of the best hiking in the Canadian Rockies. There are 225 kilometers of established hiking trails in Waterton Lakes National Park. Some connect with trail systems in Glacier National Park, Montana and Akamina –Kishinena Provincial Park, in British Columbia. For a complete guide to hikes in Waterton, purchase a trail guide and topographical map available at many village shops.

A very special option is the guided International Peace Park Hike. Join a Canadian Park interpreter and an American Park Ranger on a day-long International Peace Park hike, Wednesday or Saturday. Reserve in advance at the Waterton Visitor Centre.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Skill Level</th>
<th>Trail Name</th>
<th>Trail Head Location</th>
<th>Distance (one way)</th>
<th>Time (one way)</th>
<th>Elevation Gain</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Easy</td>
<td>Townsite</td>
<td>Several</td>
<td>3.2 km (2 mi.)</td>
<td>1 hour</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Prince of Wales Hill Loop</td>
<td>Emerald Bay (Townsite)</td>
<td>2 km (1.2mi.)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Linnet Lake Loop</td>
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<td>1 km (0.6 mi.)</td>
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<td>Cameron Lakeshore</td>
<td>Cameron Lake</td>
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<td>Akamina Lake</td>
<td>Cameron Lake</td>
<td>0.5 km (0.3 mi.)</td>
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<td>Red Rock Canyon Loop</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Blakiston Falls</td>
<td>Red Rock Canyon</td>
<td>1 km (0.6 mi.)</td>
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<td>minimal</td>
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<td>Moderately Easy</td>
<td>Lower Bertha Falls</td>
<td>Townsite</td>
<td>2.9 km (1.8 mi.)</td>
<td>1 hour</td>
<td>150m (429´)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Crandell Lake</td>
<td>Red Rock Parkway</td>
<td>2 km (1.2 mi.)</td>
<td>1 hour</td>
<td>100m (328´)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Akamina Parkway</td>
<td>1.2 km (0.7 mi.)</td>
<td>45 min.</td>
<td>100m (328´)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Wall Lake, B.C.</td>
<td>Akamina Parkway</td>
<td>5.6 km (3.5 mi.)</td>
<td>2 hours</td>
<td>165m (512´)</td>
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<td>Lakeshore Trail</td>
<td>Townsite</td>
<td>13 km (8.1 mi.)</td>
<td>3–4 hours</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Wishbone (to Lower Waterton Lake)</td>
<td>Chief Mountain Highway</td>
<td>2.8 km (1.8 mi.)</td>
<td>45 min.</td>
<td>minimal</td>
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<tr>
<td>Moderately Strenuous</td>
<td>Bear’s Hump</td>
<td>Information Centre</td>
<td>1.4 km (0.9 mi.)</td>
<td>40 min.</td>
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<td>Rowe Meadow</td>
<td>Akamina Parkway</td>
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<td>Strenuous</td>
<td>Crypt Lake</td>
<td>Crypt Landing</td>
<td>17.4 km (round trip)</td>
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<td>Bertha Lake</td>
<td>Townsite</td>
<td>15 km return</td>
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<td>460m (1509´)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Carthew-Alderson</td>
<td>Cameron Lake/ Cameron Falls</td>
<td>20.1 km (12.5 mi.)</td>
<td>6–8 hours</td>
<td>650m (2133´)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
My Waterton...Deb Watson
“*My roots grow deep in this place. I grew up riding horses in Red Rock Canyon following my dad to the tops of mountains and over mountain passes. I have witnessed the power of the elements thru wind, fire and floods. Inspired by the beauty, I learned about the flowers and the importance of wildlife and their natural habitat. Thru the years I have raised my children and grandchildren with the same love of this place we call Waterton.*”

See It By Horseback
Whether you are inside the Park or exploring the surrounding area, take the opportunity to enjoy it all by horseback. There are qualified services for all skill levels, each with their own specialty, but all dedicated to providing a safe and enjoyable time for riders. From a few hours to a few days…you choose the length of your ride and we’ll provide the spectacular views and wildlife! Horses played an important role in the development of trails in Waterton and Glacier. Many trails were created to form transportation linkages between the great lodges including the Prince of Wales in Waterton. Horse transportation was the mode of travel. Huge pack trains, hundreds of horses packed with supplies, mail and well to do tourists, would travel through pristine Rocky Mountain wilderness overnighting in elaborate wilderness camps as they travelled from lodge to lodge.
Akamina Pass Trail
1.3 km one way
Trailhead: 14.4 km along Akamina Parkway
Advanced riders will enjoy this short, but relatively steep former roadway into British Columbia. The wide trail leads cyclists through pleasant subalpine forest and is best known for its challenging grade. From the pass, cyclists can continue into Akamina-Kishinena Provincial Park in British Columbia.

Snowshoe Trail
16.4 km return
Trailhead: Red Rock Canyon Parking Lot
This abandoned fire road is wide with uphill grade (some steep sections). The trail follows Bauerman Creek to Snowshoe Warden Cabin and offers spectacular views of the surrounding peaks.

Wishbone Trail
21 km return
Trailhead: 0.5 km along Chief Mtn. Hwy
Wide and flat best describes the first half of this old wagon train road that takes you through aspen forest and grassland. The last half of the trail is narrow and frequently overgrown. The cycling trail ends at the Wishbone boat dock.

Crandell Loop Trail
4 – 20 km for the entire loop
There are three different trailheads.
• Crandell Lake Trailhead
• 6 km along Akamina Parkway
• 6 km along Red Rock Canyon road, turn onto Canyon Camp road; cross the bridge, keep right to get to the trailhead parking lot for Crandell Lake.

Waterton Village
This paved trail circles the village and meanders along the shoreline. Wheelchairs to bikes can easily maneuver this trail.

Here’s an Idea
Use the Hikers Shuttle from Tamarack Outdoor Outfitters to take you and your bikes to Cameron Lake, and then ride downhill to town.

My Waterton...Laura Bullock
“Fast-Fun-Single track……says it all.
Biking here is great for seeing wildlife.
And the flowers on the Red Rock Canyon route are exceptional. It’s comparable to Europe, Epic road riding”
Waterton Lake

“The North Big Inside Lake” is what the Blackfeet call it.
“The Lake that talks too much”, another handle. By any name Upper Waterton Lake is a Rocky Mountain classic. Deeply carved by glaciers from overthrust sedimentary strata, it is the deepest lake in the Canadian Rockies. Pure and clean, its waters originate from the very top of the watershed. Born from melting snowfields and mountain springs, Upper Waterton Lake feeds the Saskatchewan river system that empties into Hudson Bay.

Fishing - The Reel Thing
Fishing opportunities abound in the southwest corner of Alberta. Waterton offers many species of fish including cutthroat trout, lake trout, rainbow trout and northern pike. Fishing seasons and lake information are available at the Visitors Centre. Remember to purchase a National Park fishing license and read the regulations before putting up your ‘gone fishing’ sign (provincial licenses are not valid).

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“At Bel Lago, we endeavor to provide every customer with a pleasing dining experience—one that they will remember for years to come. Our dedicated culinary team works to bring the freshest local ingredients possible to our menu. This commitment reflects the hard work and enthusiasm we put into the creation of all our dishes.”

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Cameron Lake Boat Rentals
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www.mywaterton.ca
Whether it’s scuba diving, windsurfing, canoeing, kayaking, rowboating, paddle boating, power boating or water skiing, we’ve got the perfect place for you to play in Waterton. Bring your powerboats to Upper and Middle Waterton lakes, where it’s also ideal for windsurfing. Cameron Lake, where you can rent paddle boats and canoes, is a haven for paddlers while divers are most often found exploring either Emerald or Cameron Bays. Whichever your sport – the water’s waiting!
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Located centrally on Clematis Avenue

Recreation centre with large indoor pool, whirlpool, steam room, sauna & fitness centre

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**Aspen Village Inn**

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Comfortable accommodations
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**Crandell Mountain Lodge**

Located on Mountain View Road

Quaint rooms with fireplaces, country decor & lots of character

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**Pearl’s Cafe** 403-859-2498
On Windflower Avenue
Open Daily 7am-7pm
Hike In~Have Fun~Eat Well

---

**Vimy’s Lounge & Grill** 403-859-2150
at Waterton Lakes Resort
Breakfast Lunch Dinner
**Why Waterton**

Why are there so many different species of plants and animals in Waterton? It's all about habitat.

- In Waterton, the Rocky Mountains meet the Great Plains head-on. There are no foothills. Mountain and prairie species are found side-by-side.
- Waterton is located near the narrowest point along the Rocky Mountain range and several different natural regions meet as the result.
- Waterton is on the Pacific storm track. Warm winds from the southwest affect the climate so that species typically found farther south are at home here. Winds also deliver airborne seeds.
- This spectacular landscape has been protected since 1895 as a Canadian National Park. Today, the Park and adjacent landowners work together to maintain the natural integrity of the area.

**For The Birds**

Over 250 bird species have been recorded nesting or travelling through Waterton Lakes National Park! This richness is due to the proximity of high-elevation alpine and subalpine habitats with lower elevation montane and parkland areas, and the Park's location along key migratory routes. Some species considered rare in Alberta are relatively common here, such as the striking black-headed grosbeak and Cassin's finch. These and other species don't need to be seen to be enjoyed - keep your ears out for many a beautiful bird song as you enjoy a hike, picnic, or a round of golf. The Park's wetland and creek areas are birding hot spots. Most species breed in spring, but there are interesting birds to watch through all seasons. The Lethbridge Naturalists Society organizes spring and Christmas bird counts – if you're in the park at those times and are keen on birds, you're invited to get involved! In September, come birding during Waterton Wildlife Week!

**Visit Our Licensed Clubhouse!**

- Daily Specials
- Monday is Wing Night
- Amazing Patio with magnificent views!
- Friendly, relaxed atmosphere
- We cater events and weddings for up to 180 people

**Our Annual Events**

- Waterton Mixed Scramble every June
- Waterton Open each August (call for dates and details)
- 55+ Tuesday - Two golf for the price of one every Tuesday

18 Hole Championship Golf Course • Monday - Cheapo Golf and Wing Night after 6 pm

For tee times, call 403-859-2114 • www.golfwaterton.com • wlgcbear@jrtwave.com

**Come Play Around With Us!**
Tiny Little Town in a Very Special Place

Time here is measured in seasons. Change does come to Waterton, but it comes slowly. And that’s what many people love about the place.

Visitors who return season after season find many of the same shop, and inn keepers. Friendships are built over years, and across continents. The mountains, of course, seem the same. The water flows over Cameron Falls as it always has. Sometimes, you’d even swear you’ve met that sheep before.

And the beauty is forever.

Part of what keeps Waterton looking and feeling the same year to year is the long rest period the park gets to experience every winter. From late fall through to late spring, almost all of the shops and houses are shuttered against the snow and wind, their inhabitants headed for warmer climes.

Which isn’t to say that winter isn’t a great time to visit! If you love solitude, and the company of nature, by all means come in the winter! The cross-country skiing and snowshoeing is great. A couple of hotels stay open all winter, providing cozy rooms and fireplaces to curl up around. But whether you come in the winter, or any other season, you’re sure to notice the timeless quality of the park and the village. Many of the residents and businesses here have a multi-generational history in Waterton. And of course the nearby native groups of the Blackfoot Confederacy have lived here for thousands of years.
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The Waterton Lakes Opera House
Waterton’s historic theatre shows current movies nightly May to October. Info: 403-859-2466

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Waterton Lakes Park, AB
The area that became Waterton Lakes National Park has long been a natural and historic treasure, a beauty spot of note. Word got out beginning with the arrival of the Thomas Wright Blakiston party in 1858, a delegation of the Palliser Expedition charged with exploring and learning about opportunities for future settlement and development. It was Blakiston who suggested the name “Waterton” upon his arrival here to honor an acquaintance of his, Charles Waterton, an English naturalist and ornithologist. Eventually the Park’s tallest mountain was named for Blakiston and stands as a 2940 metre (9,645 feet) sentinel rising above the Red Rock Parkway.

The area’s first permanent settlers made their home near the lakes in the 1870’s. John George “Kootenai” Brown, with his Métis wife Olive, scratched out a living together in this isolated, rugged land. Olive died in 1884 and was buried along the shore of Lower Waterton Lake. Brown and his second wife, Isabella, would later be buried there also. The graves are available for viewing and are marked with a roadside pull off.

In 1895, the Government of Canada set aside an initial 140 square kilometres (54 square miles) as a protected reserve and created this national park, Canada’s fourth, in 1911. Brown was so knowledgeable he was later appointed the park’s first official and eventually its first manager. His memory is a tribute to the rugged pioneer spirit that helped protect the area.

The townsite was surveyed in 1910 and buildings, both commercial and residential, began to be erected within a few years. Most notable among them is the Park’s oldest and most prominent accommodation, the Prince of Wales Hotel which opened in 1927. Built by Canadians for the American-owned Great Northern Railway, the hotel is the Park’s only building designated as a National Historic Site. The Park’s only other National Historic Site is located along the Akamina Parkway. It is the site of western Canada’s first producing oil well.
My Waterton...

“Our park is brimming with stories of continuing human endeavor.”

— Chris Morrison, Historian/Author

This log cabin was one of several owned by John George “Kootenai” Brown in the Waterton area. Photo courtesy of Galt Museum and Archives, P19770175000
My Waterton…Mary-Anne Reeves

“Waterton works on the visitor like a powerful magnet. Once you have visited this drop dead beautiful Park of mountain majesty, endless blue skies, quaint friendly village, and experienced a bundle of emotions from an awe-inspiring adrenaline rush to peace and tranquility that it’s beauty bestows on you - you are ever drawn back to wonderful Waterton for more. It’s a place you will feel compelled to return to, again and again.”
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Walk-Ins Welcome!
Located in
Waterton, AB.
Most visitors to Waterton find the beauty of this place touches and moves them. For artists, the experience can turn into a lifelong passion. The Waterton area is home to many artists, from painters and sculptors to cowboy poets, and draws many more from all over the world to try to capture its beauty and majesty, and the amazing diversity of its plant and animal kingdoms.

Photographers have always loved this place, and many came during the early part of the 20th century as the advent of the motorcar helped open up the region to exploration.

The centerpiece in our guide this year is a photographic montage created much more recently by Krzysztof Ratynski, an avid hiker and photographer from Calgary. The image: “Waterton at Dawn;” won first prize in the Capture Canada category at the WOW photo competition.

The montage, shot from the Bear’s Hump, consists of 14 different views, each of which can have up to six different exposures layered on top of each other. This layering process brings the image closer to what the eye can see. A jpeg image shows 256 steps between black and white. A good camera captures perhaps 400. But our eyes see over 10 thousand! “It’s like being a painter, because I can make it look like what I saw in my own mind and imagination,” says Krzysztof. To see more of his panoramas, visit: www.pbase.com/super_photo

Capturing what they see in their mind’s eye is what landscape painters are all about. Linda Anderson Stewart spent 17 years developing her skills, but it was her move to a small ranch just north of Waterton that really catalyzed her.

“By immersing myself in this unique environment, I came to recognize and embrace my strong need for a sense of place,” says Linda. “My paintings, like “Waterton In Bronze,” are a reflection of the beauty I now encounter on a daily basis. And, occasionally, when I least expect it, doing a painting gives me the briefest glimpse of true peace.”

Jean Sheppard would probably agree. Her floral paintings, with their rich colors and beautiful symmetry, often capture a sense of peace in the midst of dynamic life.

My Waterton...Jean Sheppard

“Waterton is such a wonderful inspiration because of the tremendous variety of landscapes available in such a small area. Colour is probably my greatest motivator and Waterton supplies that in great abundance – from the blues, greens and purples of spring through the yellows, ochres and oranges of fall. Throw in Red Rock Canyon and you have a never ending supply of images demanding to be captured on paper!”
Louis Brandsma, shares his techniques during a seminar at the Waterton Wildflower Weekend.

During the Waterton Wildflower Festival noted artists such as Brent Laycock share their creative passion during studio workshops and plein-air excursions.
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Discover the authentic character of the Crown of the Continent region. National Geographic Society and 50 regional groups created a unique map that tells what’s special about this place and what people are doing to keep it that way. Flowers are a popular theme. And there are more, many more. Go to www.crownofthecontinent.net and see!

1. Waterton Wildflower Festival
   Western North America’s major climatic zones converge and plants merge in the Crown of the Continent from the Pacific Northwest, Great Plains, and boreal forests. Waterton Lakes National Park, for example, is home to more than 50 of Canada’s rare flowers, 30 of which are found only in this park. The Waterton Wildflower Festival, in June, disperses flower sniffers across 70 separate workshops and field studies led by about 150 guides.

2. Orchids
   Naturalist Steve Wirt calls Montana’s wild orchids “belly flowers,” because you have to get down low to appreciate them. Roughly 40 native species of orchidaceae – the Earth’s largest family of flowering plants – may be found in the Crown of the Continent. Learn more at field courses in Glacier National Park, through the Glacier Institute.

3. Dames on the Range
   Sweet and nutritious, the bulbs of the blue camas provided a summertime treat for native peoples throughout the Rocky Mountains. Awareness of that and other delicacies is being revived by Dames on the Range. The Dames’ expertly guided field workshops along Alberta’s prairie foothills show you how to make food, teas, and ornamental gardens with native plants.

4. Kimberley Nature Park
   Three square miles in size, this is one of Canada’s largest municipal parks. Perched in the foothills of the Purcell Mountains, the view across the Rocky Mountain Trench toward the Rockies is spectacular. So are the park’s wildflowers. Join guided hikes led by local volunteers.

5. Arrowleaf Balsamroot
   Look for yellow waves of arrowleaf balsamroot on the Rocky Mountain Front in June. Swaying in the westerly breeze against the backdrop of green prairie, these big, showy flowers signal summer is just around the corner. From Highway 89 in Montana or Highway 22 in Alberta, check their preferred habitat on south-facing slopes and coolies.

6. Wildflower Herbarium
   Don’t know wildflower names as well as you’d like? Self-tutorials are available at the Whitefish Library where local volunteers Mary and Gary Sloan have pressed more than 100 native flowers in a handsome, homemade herbarium. Join the Sloans and other amateur botanists at the annual meeting of the Montana Native Plant Society.
Waterton Village at a Glance

STAY
Motels/Hotels/Inns/Lodges
35 Aspen Village Inn
3 Crandell Mountain Lodge
4 Bear Mountain Motel
7 Bayshore Inn
37 Waterton Glacier Suites
36 Waterton Lakes Resort
38 Northland Lodge
51 Prince of Wales Hotel

Campground
52 Parks Canada Townsite Campground
Campground Reservations 1.877.737.3783

EAT/DRINK
Restaurant/Cafe
10 Glacier Bistro
11 Bayshore Lakeside Chop House
16 Zum’s Eatery
22 Bel Lago
26 Subway
28 Pizza of Waterton
29 Pearl’s Internet Cafe
31 Waterton Bagel and Coffee
49 Vimy’s Lounge and Grill
9 Fireside Lounge
24 Trappers Mountain Grill & Trading Post
50 Golf Course Restaurant
51 Prince of Wales Restaurant and Lounge

Sweeties
17 Big Scoop Ice Cream
31 Ye Olde Lick and Nibble Ice Cream Shoppe
29 Welch’s Chocolates Coffee & Pie Co.

Pubs/Lounges/Spirits
9 Fireside Lounge
14 Thirsty Bear Saloon
49 Vimy’s Lounge and Grill
33 Mountain Spirits Liquor Store
51 Prince of Wales Lounge

Groceries
30 Rocky Mountain Food Mart
6 Pat’s

PUBLIC WASHROOMS
Lakeshore Camp Kitchen
Cameron Bay
Emerald Bay
40 Parks Canada Visitor Centre
56 Falls Interpretive Theatre
2 Marina
15 Waterton Heritage Centre

SHOP
27 Lost Art Jewelry
21 Gust Gallery
15 Waterton Heritage Centre
6 Pat’s
8 Village Gift Shop
18 Caribou Clothes
19 Worth the Splurge
5 Tamarack Outdoor Outfitters
20 Evergreen Gifts
23 Akamina Gifts and Book Nook
24 Trappers Mountain Grill & Trading Post
34 Zum’s Gift Shop
51 Prince of Wales Gift Shop

ACTIVITIES
Boat Cruise
2 Waterton Shoreline Cruise

Bikes/Scooters/Moped Rentals
6 Pat’s

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5 Waterton Outdoor Adventures
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Boat/Kayak Rentals
54 Cameron Lake Boat Rentals

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50 Waterton Lakes Golf Course

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55 Alpine Stables

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31 Waterton Lakes Opera House

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15 Waterton Heritage Centre
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12 Serenity Spa
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Fishing, Tackle
6 Pat’s
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29 Pearl’s Internet Cafe
9 Fireside Lounge

Gas/Fuel
6 Pat’s

INFORMATION
Parks Canada: 403.859.5133 (May–Oct.)
Parks Canada: 403.859.2224 (Year Round)

40 Parks Canada Visitor Centre
15 Waterton Natural History Association Museum and Bookstore

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