

Waterton/Glacier

International Peace Park
Alberta and Montana

Parks Canada
U.S. National Park Service

A Park Bridging Two Nations

This is a land of high-mountain adventure, a land that sets the senses soaring and the spirits winging. Here you'll find lofty mountain ranges with sculptured glacial valleys, ice cold lakes that mirror mountains and sky, wildflowers and wildlife flourishing in alpine meadows, and prairie grasslands. These exquisite elements make up Waterton Lakes National Park in Canada and the adjoining Glacier National Park in the United States. But there is something else here. These parks, at the urging of many people, have been united as Waterton/Glacier International Peace Park, and this land of natural splendors is dedicated to peace, one of man's highest goals, and to an international friendship that has few rivals.

Though administered by separate countries and divided by the international boundary, the parks are at the same time united in the most natural of ways. Glaciers carved the Upper Waterton Valley, which lies in both nations; the native plants and animals are similar; and the massive Rocky Mountains span the two countries. Long before European explorers and settlers began to venture into the Rockies, the peoples native to this region shared the bounties of the land and considered it one.

In the mid-18th century things began to change. The quest for furs drew trappers deep into these mountains, and artificial limits were drawn, marking the domains of the great fur-trading

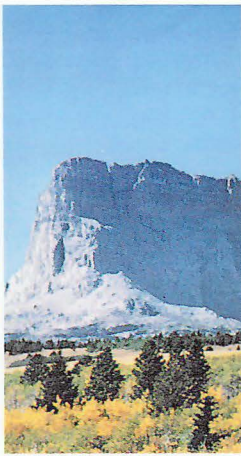
companies of the west. Then in 1818, the 49th parallel to the Continental Divide was established as the international boundary between the territory of the United States and what was then territory owned by Great Britain, arbitrarily dividing the natural land area of today's Waterton/Glacier. In the late 19th century, farsighted men such as Kootenai Brown in Canada and George Bird Grinnell in the United States labored to persuade their governments to set aside parts of the Rockies as wilderness recreational havens to be preserved for future generations. Their goals were reached in 1895 when Waterton Lakes National Park was established and in 1910 when Glacier was created. As the years went by, people in both nations recognized the

natural unity of the parks, and largely through the efforts of Rotary International of Alberta and Montana, the U.S. Congress and the Canadian Parliament in 1932 established the first international peace park in the world— Waterton/Glacier International Peace Park. The park symbolizes the bonds of peace and friendship between the people of the United States and Canada.

Waterton/Glacier has been designated the first International Biosphere Reserve. The objectives are to preserve genetic diversity and to explore the relationships between the parks and the neighboring lands and peoples.



The Garden Wall is a perfect example of a glacial arete, formed when glaciers attack a ridge on each side. Melting, the glaciers leave a high, knife-edged wall.

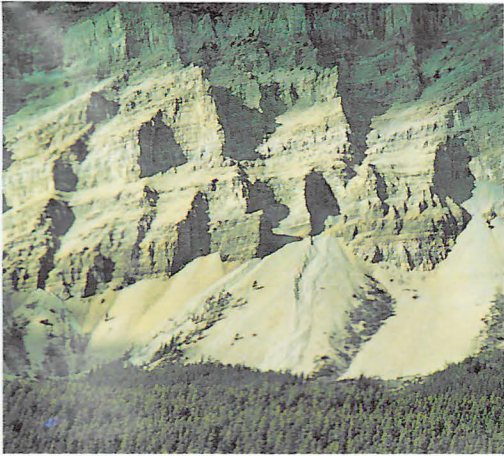


Chief Mountain was once part of a great rock mass. Erosion wore away much rock and today Chief Mountain stands isolated.



Do not confuse the bighorns, such as these two mature rams, with mountain goats. Unlike the goats, the bighorns descend into the valleys for the winter. The clash of the rams' horns

in late fall signals the onset of the mating season as they compete for the ewes.



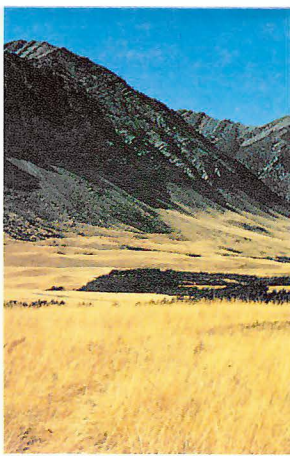
Erosion is at work constantly remaking the face of the mountains. Water, wind, and ice break down the rock into smaller fragments that fall to the foot of the mountains. These piles

of rock are called talus. Notice the trees that have taken a foothold on the slope in nature's continuing struggle.



Waterton/Glacier's many trails provide access into a land little changed by man. Here two hikers, high above Waterton township, look south across Upper Waterton Lake toward

Glacier National Park in the distance. The long valley in which Waterton Lake lies was carved by the glaciers that created so much of this landscape.



Abruptly the prairies end and mountains rise up, enabling one to see at close hand flowers, grasses, and animals that rarely would not be found so close together.

Waterton Lakes National Park, Canada

Many recreational activities are available at Waterton Lakes National Park for the benefit and education of the park visitor. The park is open all year.

Schedules and Information. A free interpretive program beginning in mid-June and extending through early September includes conducted walks, wilderness hikes, fireside talks, auto caravans, slide and film presentations, and self-guiding trails. Interpretive display centers with exhibits are located at Cameron Lake and Waterton Park townsite.

Informative publications, including the Waterton/Glacier Times newspaper and a program of events, are available at the park information center. Organized groups are welcome to use the interpretive services by making special arrangements in advance with a park naturalist at 403-859-2275.

Hiking and Camping. During summer, hiking is a popular and enjoyable way to explore the wonders of nature. More than 183 kilometers (114 miles) of backcountry trails wind through the mountains and valleys of the park. Trails are well marked on topographic maps available at several locations within the townsite. All climbers and hikers camping overnight must register at the park information center with a park warden or at the park administration building in the townsite. Camping and open fires are permitted in designated areas only. For your safety and protection, please observe all trail signs, stay on marked trails, and be prepared for weather changes.

A wide selection of facilities and services is available to the camper. Three main campgrounds that accommodate tents and trailers are accessible by paved road—Belly River, Crandell Mountain, and Townsite. Each campground offers kitchen shelters, firewood, tables, washrooms, and running water. Only Townsite has sewer, water, and electrical connections for trailers; Crandell Mountain has a disposal tank. There are no facilities for trailers at Belly River, but sites are large enough for self-contained units. Facilities for large organized groups are provided at Belly River; arrangements can be made in advance with the park superintendent.

The maximum allowable stay in campgrounds is two weeks, and a camping fee is charged.

For a real wilderness adventure, you may wish to escape into Waterton's high country where only primitive camping facilities are available. This style of camping may be enjoyed in many alpine areas including Crypt Lake, Alderson Lake, Rowe Lakes, and Twin Lakes.

Swimming and Boating. Waters from melting glaciers and winter snows maintain ice-cold temperatures in most of Waterton's lakes and streams throughout the summer. For a comfortable swim, the park

operates an outdoor heated swimming pool during the summer months in the townsite; a fee is charged.

Boating is an excellent way to enjoy the beauty and peacefulness of Waterton's lakes. Canoes and rowboats may be used on most of the larger ponds and lakes in the park. Motorboats and waterskiing are permitted only on the Upper and Middle Waterton Lakes and boaters must conform to federal government navigation regulations and carry proper safety equipment. Excursion boat cruises along Upper Waterton Lake provide a close-up view of the shores of the deepest lake (152 meters/500 feet) in the Rockies. Boats may be rented at Cameron and Emerald Bay in the townsite.

Golfing. A challenging 18-hole public golf course is open seven days a week from mid-May through September.

Horseback Riding. Horses for riding may be rented. Details can be obtained at the park information center. If you have your own horses, please contact the Warden Service or park information center for regulations and restrictions about horseback riding.

Fishing. The lakes and streams of Waterton offer some good fishing opportunities. Pike, whitefish, and several varieties of trout, including lake, rainbow, eastern brook, and cutthroat, are favorites among anglers. All fishermen over 16 years of age must obtain a National Parks fishing permit, which, together with fishing regulations and current fishing bulletins, can be obtained from the park's information outlets, park warden, or at service stations in the townsite. Popular fishing areas include the lakes of Waterton Valley, Cameron Lake, Crandell Lake, and the Waterton River.

Winter Activities. Although Waterton Lakes is primarily a summer-use park, increasing numbers of visitors are enjoying cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, and camping opportunities during winter months. Several services and facilities are available during this season, including a limited program of interpretive events and a winter edition of the newsletter, *Mountain and Prairie*. Registration is required for overnight camping or climbing; those interested should contact the park administration building or park wardens.

For additional information about the park, write to the superintendent, Waterton Lakes National Park, Waterton Park, Alberta TOK 2M0. Or phone 403-859-2262.

Enjoyment of Glacier's beauty and serenity takes many forms. The National Park Service offers a variety of interpretive services to help the visitor know the park more intimately. The park is open all year.

Schedules and Information. Guided walks, campfire programs, and evening presentations begin in late June and go through August. At ranger stations and visitor centers you can find publications about the park and schedules of events, including day hikes, backcountry hiking, fishing, boating, and horseback riding.

Visitor centers are open at St. Mary from late May to mid-October, and at Logan Pass from mid-June to mid-September. An information center with exhibits is open at Appar from late May through November; it is open on Saturday and Sunday during the winter, when naturalists lead cross-country ski trips.

Hiking and Camping. There are more than 1,200 kilometers (750 miles) of trails through Glacier, and during the summer, hiking for just an afternoon or for several days will introduce you to the park in a way that is impossible from an automobile. If you wish to camp in the backcountry overnight, you will need a backcountry camping permit, which can be obtained at Appar, St. Mary, and major ranger stations. These permits are only issued on the day before you begin your trip and on a "first come" basis.

Trails are usually passable at the lower elevations by mid-June, but many of the high country passes may not be free of snow until late July. It is important that all hikers stay on marked trails and avoid crossing steep snow banks. Self-contained stoves are required in most backcountry areas, and pets are not allowed on the trails.

Several styles of camping fun await the visitor. There are eight campgrounds accessible by paved road—Appar, Avalanche Creek, Fish Creek, Many Glacier, Rising Sun, St. Mary, Two Medicine, and Sprague Creek. Trailer space is provided at all but Sprague Creek, which is closed to towed vehicles. Fireplaces, tables, washrooms, and cold running water are offered at all of these campgrounds, but utility connections are not provided. To get closer to nature, consider camping off a graveled road where only fireplaces, tables, and pit toilets are provided. This style of camping can be found at River, Bowman Creek, Bowman Lake, Cut Bank, Kintla Lake, Logging Creek, and Quartz Creek. The roads to these areas are narrow and rough, so inquire at a ranger station before driving into the campsite with a trailer or camper.

Build fires only in fireplaces provided and make sure that your fire is out and cold before you leave the campground. A digest of camping regulations is available at park headquarters, entrance stations, ranger stations, visitor centers, and information centers.

Horseback Riding. Scheduled, guided horseback riding trips are available at Many Glacier, Lake McDonald Lodge, and Appar. Visitors with their own horses should consult the free folder, *Backcountry Glacier National Park*, for regulations and restrictions concerning horseback riding.

Boating and Fishing. Boating is permitted on some of Glacier's lakes; motor size is restricted to 10hp on most lakes. Excursion boat cruises are offered at Many Glacier, Rising Sun, Waterton Lake, Two Medicine, and Lake McDonald Lodge.

Fishing is an excellent way to enjoy Glacier's lakes and streams. A free folder on fishing regulations is available on request. A free permit is required to fish in the park. Most streams in Glacier are swift-running and very cold, even in summer. Be careful when near these streams and watch your footing at all times.

Bicycles. Bicycling in Glacier can be fun but some roads are narrow and winding with little or no shoulder. For this reason bicycling is restricted in the most hazardous sections of the Going-to-the-Sun Road during peak traffic periods. Signs are posted showing time for use. Bicycles may be used only on established roads and parking areas or on designated routes. It is best to bicycle Going-to-the-Sun Road from East to West.

Winter Activities. Visiting Glacier during the winter will show you yet another dimension of this park. It is a season when nature is in control, so approach a winter trip with respect for this time of year.

The season usually runs from late December to April. Rely on skis or snowshoes for getting around, as few roads in the park are cleared.

Wintertime offers great rewards but the potential for disaster is also great. Always check in with a ranger before setting out and check out upon your return. Wear layers of light, warm clothing, preferably of wool, and have with you a water repellent jacket or shell. The information station at Appar is open on weekends.

For additional information about the park, write to the superintendent, Glacier National Park, West Glacier, MT 59936. Or phone 406-888-5441.

To feel the magic of Waterton/Glacier International Peace Park, stop and savor its beauty. Studying this information and knowing a few rules will help you avoid any problems and give you the time you need.

How To Reach Waterton/Glacier By Automobile. In the United States, you can reach the park from U.S. 2 and 89, and in Canada, from Alta. 5, 6, and 3.

By Airline. Service is available in the United States to Great Falls, Montana, 230 kilometers (143 miles) southeast of the park, and to Kalispell, Montana, 32 kilometers (20 miles) southwest; in Canada, to Lethbridge, Alberta, 128 kilometers (80 miles) northeast of the park, to Calgary, Alberta, 254 kilometers (165 miles) north, and to Pincher Creek, Alberta, 55 kilometers (34 miles) north.

By Bus. Local buses connect with transcontinental lines at Great Falls and Kalispell, Montana, and Pincher Creek, Alberta.

By Rental Car. You can rent cars in Great Falls, Kalispell, and Whitefish, Montana, and in Lethbridge, Pincher Creek, and Calgary, Alberta.

Where To Stay Lodging is available in each park and adjacent areas. Concessioner-operated accommodations within the parks include hotels, lodges, chalets, and cabins for which reservations are advised. For information on rates, opening dates, and services in Glacier, write to (May 15 to September 15), Glacier Park, Inc., East Glacier Park, MT 59434; (September 15 to May 15), Greyhound Tower, Station 5185, Phoenix, AZ 85077. Sperry and Granite Park Chalets are open for backcountry travelers from July 1 through Labor Day. Both are accessible by trail only. For rates and reservations, contact Belton Chalets, P.O. Box 188, West Glacier, MT 59936. For accommodations in Waterton, write to the Waterton Chamber of Commerce, Waterton Park, Alberta TOK 2M0.

Wild Animals No matter what size, wild animals can be dangerous, especially if they have young. This is doubly true of bears. Remember that you are the visitor, so try to avoid conflict between yourself and the resident wild animals, some of which are bigger, stronger, and more fleet of foot than you are.

Keep your campsite clean. Store all food in sealed containers and, when not in use, keep it inside the trunk of your vehicle or in a similar container. And please remember, it is unlawful and dangerous to feed or molest any wild animal. Use a telephoto lens to photograph wildlife instead of disturbing the animal by getting too close. Do not approach any wild animal; such action may be interpreted by the animal as aggression. While hiking, regularly announce your pres-

ence; tie a small bell to your clothes or talk and sing.

Pets must be leashed at all times and are not allowed on trails.

Vehicle Regulations Vehicles are not allowed on any trails, and no offroad driving is permitted anywhere in the park. Respect fellow visitors and use scenic pull-offs if traffic is building up behind you.

In Glacier National Park, vehicle limitations are imposed on the narrow, winding Going-to-the-Sun Road. Vehicles wider than 2.5 meters (8 feet), including mirrors or extensions, or vehicles in a combination of units longer than 9 meters (30 feet) are prohibited between Avalanche Creek and Rising Sun Campgrounds July 1 through August 31. During the rest of the year, vehicles are limited to a maximum length of 10.5 meters (35 feet) and a width of 2.5 meters (8 feet) over Logan Pass. Trailers may be parked temporarily at Going-to-the-Sun Point on the east side of Glacier or in regular campgrounds on either side of the park while you drive over Logan Pass. Oversized vehicles and trailers must go via U.S. 2.

Some Safety Tips Be extra careful in foul weather. In mountainous terrain, storms can develop quickly, even in summer. Rain, sleet, and snow, with a resulting drop in temperature, can quickly produce hypothermia. This rapid progressive mental and physical collapse is caused by exposure to cold aggravated by wet clothing, wind, and exhaustion. Be prepared, therefore, to stay dry, dress warmly, and carry high energy foods. On hot days protect your head by wearing a cool but shady cap.

Never climb or hike alone in the backcountry. Register before and after every climb. Avoid steep snowfields and carry proper equipment.

Do not overestimate your own physical strength; the demands will always be greater than you imagine. Start early and turn back in adverse weather. Always use common sense.

Avoid high ridges, tall trees, and peaks during lightning. Move cautiously on steep or rocky trails. Do not allow children to run downhill. In the backcountry, carry in drinking water or boil existing water for at least 10 minutes before using.



Glacier lily



Bald eagles



Bear grass



Elk

Wildflowers, Wilderness, and Wildlife

Much of Waterton/Glacier International Peace Park is a pristine wilderness with a myriad of wildflowers and wildlife. Because of the range in elevation, a diversity of climates and plants and animals can be found here. The high mountains that bisect the park capture rainfall on the western side, promoting a Pacific-like climate. These warm moist conditions produce dense forests of larch, spruce, fir, and lodgepole pine. In the Lake McDonald Valley, the western red cedar and western hemlock reach their eastern limits. The alpine areas of Waterton/Glacier provide the setting for some of the best wildflower displays in North America. A few of the members of the cast for this short-lived summer spectacle include heather, gentian, bear grass, and glacier lily.

On the east side, where the plains roll up to the mountains, abound such prairie flora as pasqueflower, red and white geraniums, gailardia, asters, shooting star, and Indian paintbrush.

The wilderness of Waterton/Glacier provides an ideal setting for wildlife. Bighorn sheep, mountain goats, elk, moose, black bear, and whitetail and mule deer are frequent-

ly seen. Waterton Lakes National Park maintains an exhibit herd of bison in a paddock. Such diverse smaller mammals as the beaver, hoary marmot, river otter, marten, and pika also call Waterton/Glacier home. Some of the more prevalent birds include the osprey, water ouzel, ptarmigan, Clark's nutcracker, thrushes, and the endangered bald eagle. Each fall in Glacier National Park, kokanee salmon and bald eagles arrive at

lower McDonald Creek—the salmon to spawn and the eagles to feed on the salmon. Remember while you are here that you are the visitor in this land, and it is your responsibility to protect the fragile balance by staying on trails, and by neither picking the wildflowers nor feeding the wildlife.



Grizzly bear



Black bear

What about Bears?

Both grizzly and black bears live in Waterton/Glacier, and all are potentially dangerous. They are unpredictable and can inflict serious injury.

Never feed a bear. Bears that have obtained food from humans nearly always return for more and frequently become dangerous as they learn to associate humans with food. Feeding any wildlife endangers you and your family, other park visitors,

and the animal itself. And it is strictly illegal. Knowledge and alertness can help you avoid meeting a bear. Read the bear pamphlet available at all park entrances and visitor centers.

If you encounter a bear on any trail, remember. Remain calm. Give it plenty of room. Retreat slowly and leave the area.



A Story in Rocks

The mountains visible today originated as sediments deposited in an ancient sea more than a billion years ago. For millions of years, this bottom ooze slowly hardened into thick layers of limestone, mudstone, and more recently, sandstone rock. Then, about 65 million years ago—it may even have been as early as 100 million years ago—tensions building up within the earth's crust

became so massive that these rocks began to warp and fold, and finally, break. A huge slab of rock slid from the west, up and over the eastern ranges. The pressures continued for millions of years, until eventually a 500-kilometer (300-mile) long section of the earth's crust had been thrust 68 kilometers (42 miles) to the east. In its path, it covered rock a billion years younger in age. In other parts of the world, this process

has also created mountain system but few can rival the Lewis Overthrust of Waterton/Glacier.

More recently, this rugged landscape has been carved by glaciers. These bodies of ice cut U-shaped valleys with tributary hanging valleys from which streams plunge to the main valley floor. In the upper elevations, glaciers are still at work.

Waterton/Glacier

Parks Canada, Department of the Environment
National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior

Driving in The Parks

Going-to-the-Sun Road, 80 kilometers long (50 miles), skirts Lake McDonald—if you start from west to east—then climbs to the higher country along the Garden Wall, crosses the Continental Divide at Logan Pass (2,026 meters/6,646 feet), and descends to St. Mary Lake. The road, completed in 1932, is still considered a great feat of engineering. It is generally open from the second week in June until mid-October. The only road open in

U.S. 89 and Alberta 2 connect Waterton Lakes National Park and Glacier National Park via Cardston, Alberta, U.S. 89 is the main route along Glacier's eastern boundary and provides a panoramic view of the Continental Divide and of Chief Mountain.

The primary route between the two parks, **Chief Mountain International Highway**, climbs over glacial debris and through aspen groves and lodgepole pine forests,

providing magnificent views of Chief Mountain. As the road crosses the international boundary, you get a clear view of Mount Cleveland. Waterton/Glacier's highest peak—3,190 meters (10,466 feet). This road is usually closed from mid-September to mid-May.

DRIVING IN GLACIER The road to Many Glacier, which leaves U.S. 89 at Babb, Mont., 14 kilometers (9 miles) north of St. Mary, provides access to trails

leading up to Grinnell Glacier, Iceberg Lake, and Red Rock Falls.

The road to Two Medicine leaves Montana 49 (4 miles) north of East Glacier Park. It takes you to Running Eagle Falls and Two Medicine Lake.

If you're looking for a quiet, remote campground reachable by automobile, take the unpaved road leading into Cut Bank Valley. On the west side of the

park the **North Fork Road**, a narrow sometimes one-lane, unpaved road leading from Fish Creek campground to the North Fork area, offers a choice of primitive campgrounds. Grassland and meadow scenes as well as beautiful Bowman and Kintla Lakes await you here. Leading from Appar through forested land the **Camas Creek Road** is an alternative route to the area.

DRIVING IN WATERTON During the summer season, drives to Cam-

eron Lake, Red Rock Canyon, and the Bison Paddock are popular among visitors.

The **Akamina Parkway** leads from the Waterton townsite and runs for a distance of 16 kilometers (10 miles) along the historical Cameron Valley. Points of interest include the site of Western Canada's first producing oil well, Oil City—the city that never was—and picturesque Cameron Lake Picnic areas along Cameron Creek offer you ideal

locations for a rest or family luncheon.

The **Red Rock Canyon Road** enables you to enjoy a wide variety of the park's features and facilitates access to Crandell Campground and numerous backcountry trails. This narrow two-lane road crosses over rolling prairie, then meanders through Blakiston Valley before terminating at Red Rock Canyon, a distance of 14.5 kilometers (9 miles). Several pull-offs and view-

points along the route provide magnificent views of Waterton's highest peak, Mount Blakiston, 2,940 meters (9,646 feet).

A short but rewarding drive north of the park entrance on Alberta 6 will take you to Waterton's Bison Paddock. Here a small exhibition herd of bison is maintained in honor of the larger herds that once roamed freely in this area. Vehicles with trailers are prohibited in the paddock.

