

# Waterton/Glacier

International Peace Park

Alberta  
Montana

Canadian Park Service  
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 more! To commemorate the long history of peace and friendship between our two nations, Waterton and Glacier have been designated the Waterton/Glacier International Peace Park.

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 boundaries 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 ter-

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ritory owned by Great Britain, arbitrarily dividing the natural land area of today's Waterton/Glacier. In the late 19th century, farsighted men such as Frederick William Godsal 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—

Waterton/Glacier International Peace Park. The park symbolizes the bonds of peace and friendship between the people of the United States and Canada.

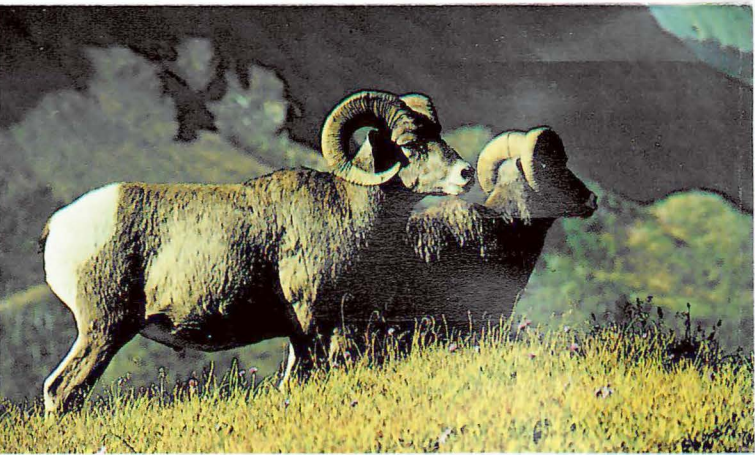
Through the United Nations Education and Scientific Organization's Man and Biosphere Program, Waterton Lakes and Glacier national parks have been designated as Biosphere Reserves. The Man and Biosphere Program explores the relationships between people and the many ecosystems of the world. Biosphere Reserves provide for scientific research, education, and the preservation of biologic and genetic diversity.



The Garden Wall is a perfect example of a glacial arete, a narrow, jagged, sharp-edged ridge resulting from glacial erosion.

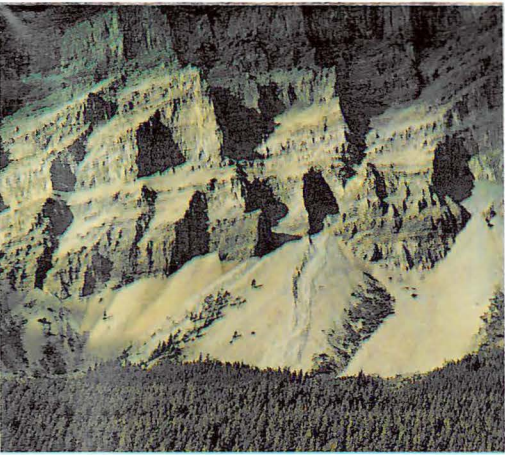


Chief Mountain was once part of the mountains to the west. Erosion wore away much rock and today Chief Mountain stands isolated.



Do not confuse the bighorns, such as these two mature rams, with mountain goats. 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.



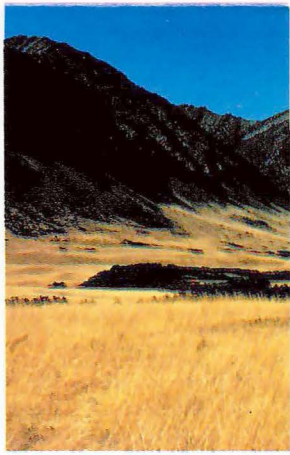
Erosion is at work constantly remaking the face of the mountains. Water, wind, and ice break down the rock into smaller fragments that fall to the foot

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 townsite, 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 normally 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.

**Schedule and Information.** A free interpretive program beginning in mid-June and extending through early September includes conducted walks, fireside talks, slide and film presentations, and self-guiding trails. Interpretive display centers with exhibits are located at Cameron Lake, Redrock Canyon, and Waterton Park townsite. Low-power radio stations are located throughout the park. Watch for signs and tune in for important local information and interpretation messages.

Informative publications are available at the park information centre. 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 backcountry users camping overnight must register with a park warden either at the park information centre 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 highcountry where only primitive camping facilities are available. This style of camping may be enjoyed in many sub-alpine areas including Crypt Lake, Alderson Lake, Rowe Meadow, 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, an outdoor heated swimming pool is open during 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. Non-motorized boats may be rented at Cameron Lake.

**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 and guided riding trips are available. Details can be obtained at the park information centre. If you have your own horses, please contact the Warden Service or park information centre for regulations and restrictions about horseback riding.

**Bicycling.** Bicycling on roads within the park is permitted; however, most roads are narrow with little shoulder. Several trails have also been designated for use by bicyclists. Check with park staff at the park information centre in the townsite for specific information.

**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 wardens, 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 crosscountry skiing, snowshoeing, and camping opportunities during winter months. Several services and facilities are available during this season, including a winter edition of the newsletter, *Mountain and Prairie*. A park use permit is required for overnight camping; those interested should contact the park administration building or park wardens.

For additional information about the park, write to: Superintendent, Waterton Lakes National Park, Waterton Park, Alberta TOK 2M0. Or phone 403-859-2224.

## Glacier National Park, United States

Enjoyment of Glacier's beauty and serenity takes many forms. The National Park Service offers a variety of interpretive services to help the visitor learn more about the park. The park is open all year; however, access and facilities are limited during winter months.

**Schedules and Information.** Guided walks, campfire programs, and evening presentations begin in June and go through Labor Day. 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, at Logan Pass from mid-June to mid-September, and at Apgar from late April through mid-November; during the winter the center is open on weekends only.

**Hiking and Camping.** There are more than 1,168 kilometers (730 miles) of trails through Glacier. 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 Apgar, St. Mary, and major ranger stations. These permits are issued a maximum of 24 hours in advance on a "first-come" basis. Backcountry sites are limited. Backcountry guide services are available.

Trails are usually passable at the lower elevations by mid-June, but many of the highcountry 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. Owners of seeing eye dogs should check in at a ranger station before using backcountry trails.

Several styles of camping fun await the visitor. There are eight campgrounds accessible by paved road—Apgar, 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 gravelled road where only fireplaces, tables, and pit toilets are provided. This style of camping can be found at 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 campground 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, and visitor centers.

**Horseback Riding.** Scheduled, guided horseback riding trips are available at Many Glacier, Lake McDonald Lodge, and Apgar. Visitors with their own horses should request the free brochure on private stock use for regulations and restrictions concerning horseback riding in the park.

**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.

Fishing is an excellent way to enjoy Glacier's lakes and streams. A free folder on fishing regulations is available on request. 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. A Montana state fishing license is not required within the park.

**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 from June 15 to Labor Day. 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. Wintertime offers great rewards but the potential for disaster is also great.

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. Always check in with a ranger before setting out and check out upon your return. Wear layers of light, warm clothing, preferably wool or synthetic undergarments, and have with you a water-repellent jacket or shell. The visitor center at Apgar is open on weekends.

For additional information about the park, write to: Superintendent, Glacier National Park, West Glacier, MT 59936. Or phone 406-888-5441. TDD service—Persons with a telecommunication device for the deaf can call 406-888-5790.

## General Information

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 enjoy your visit.

### 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, and to Calgary, Alberta, 254 kilometers (165 miles) north.

**By Bus.** Greyhound and Transcontinental bus line serves Great Falls and Kalispell, Montana.

**By Rental Car.** You can rent cars in Great Falls, East Glacier, West Glacier, Kalispell, and Whitefish, Montana, and in Lethbridge and Calgary, Alberta. It is recommended that you contact rental agencies in advance of your trip.

**By Train.** Amtrak stops at both East Glacier (Glacier Park Station) and West Glacier (Belton Station).

### 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, or call 406-226-5551; (September 15 to May 15), Greyhound Tower, Station 1210, Phoenix, AZ 85077, or call 602-248-8000. 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. Scenic tour buses are available at hotels.

### Wild Animals

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 presence by making noise. Some hikers tie bells to their clothes, talk, or sing.

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

### Vehicle Regulations

Vehicles—including bicycles—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. Observe posted speed limits.

In Glacier National Park, vehicle size 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 Sun Point July 1 to 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 Sun Point on the east side of Glacier or in regular campgrounds on either side of the park while you drive over Logan Pass. On the west side of the park inquire about parking at the West Entrance, Apgar Visitor Center, or a ranger station. Oversized vehicles and trailers must go via U.S. 2.

### For Your Safety

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. Voluntary registration for climbers is available at ranger stations and visitor centers. 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 one minute before using.

Lake and stream water is extremely cold. The rocks are very slippery along the edge of swift streams. Use caution and keep children away from fast running water.



Mountain goat



Beargrass



Wolf



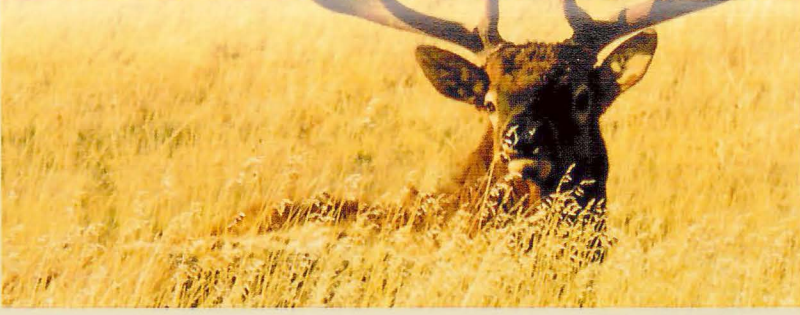
Bald eagle



Black bear



Glacier lily



Wapiti (elk)

## Mountains, Wildflowers, and Wildlife

Today's towering mountains, exquisite wildflowers, and diverse wildlife are three different aspects of Waterton/Glacier. The mountains began as sediments deposited in an ancient sea and slowly hardened into thick layers of limestone, mudstone, and sandstone. About 60 million years ago, tensions build-

ing within Earth's crust could no longer be contained, and the rock layers began to warp, fold, and finally break. A huge slab of rock moved from the west and began to slide up and over the softer rock of eastern ranges. Eventually a 300-mile-long portion of the crust had been thrust more than 50 miles to the

east. Throughout the world similar processes created other mountain systems, but few can rival the Lewis Overthrust of Waterton/Glacier.

Once the mountains were in place, wind, water, and glaciers went to work on the raw landscape. Glaciers shaped and carved the land, cutting deep

U-shaped valleys. Smaller tributary glaciers created hanging valleys. Today abundant waterfalls plunge from these hanging valleys to lower elevations. While glaciers are no longer found in Waterton Lakes National Park, glaciers are still at work in the highcountry of Glacier National Park.

Today, this landscape is a wilderness full of wildflowers and wildlife with distinct local variations. The high mountains that bisect the park from north to south capture rainfall on the western slopes. This warm, moist, Pacific-like environment produces dense forests of larch, spruce, fir, and lodgepole pine. In the

Lake McDonald valley, forests of western red cedar and hemlock are common. The alpine areas provide the setting for some of the best wildflower displays in North America. It is a short-lived spectacle made glorious by heather, gentian, beargrass, and glacier lily. East of the divide, where the plains

roll up to the mountains, pasque flower, lupine, Indian paintbrush, gailardia, asters, and shooting stars paint the prairie.

Wildlife is equally spectacular. Bighorn sheep, mountain goats, wapiti (elk), black bear, and whitetail and mule deer are frequently seen. Griz-

zly bear, moose, wolves, and mule deer also live here all year. Waterton Lakes National Park maintains an exhibit herd of bison in a paddock. Beaver, hoary marmot, river otter, marten, and pika make Waterton/Glacier their home. Locally prevalent birds include osprey, ptarmigan, golden eagle, Clark's nut-

cracker, and Harlequin duck. The endangered bald eagle also nests and fishes here.

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 not picking wildflowers; observe and pho-

tograph wildlife from a distance. **Feeding animals—any animal—is illegal and prohibited. Violators will be ticketed and fined or prosecuted.** No matter how appealing, all park animals are potentially dangerous. They often bite or scratch and can spread disease. Wild animals quickly be-

come conditioned to human food. These animals are opportunistic; once they have been fed, they seek handouts again and again. Bears, both black and grizzly, may have to be removed or destroyed if they become reliant on human foods thereby posing threats to park

visitors. Read the information about bears available at all park entrances and visitor centers. **Remember: a fed bear is a dead bear.**



# Waterton/Glacier

International Peace Park

Canadian Park Service  
Department of the Environment

National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

## Driving in the Parks

**Going-to-the-Sun Road**, 50 kilometers (30 miles) long, skirts Lake McDonald—if you start from west to east—then climbs to the highcountry 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 considered a great feat of engineering. It is generally open from early June until mid-October. The two segments of the Going-to-the-Sun Road open in winter are the 16 kilometer

(10 miles) between West Glacier and the head of Lake McDonald and the 10 kilometers (6 miles) from St. Mary to Rising Sun.

Vehicle length restrictions from July 1 to August 31 are 9 meters (30 feet) in length and 2.5 meters (8 feet) in width. Before and after those dates and when the road is open vehicles cannot exceed 10.5 meters (35 feet) in length. Please check at a visitor center before making your trip.

**U.S. 2** is a two-lane highway that winds along the southern boundary of the park for 90 kilometers (56 miles) between East Glacier Park and West Glacier. It follows the route of the Burlington Northern Railway over Marias Pass, 1,591 meters (5,220 feet) high.

**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 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 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 to Grinnell Glacier, Iceberg Lake, and Red Rock Falls.

The road to Two Medicine leaves Montana 49 about 6.5 kilometers (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 camp-

ground 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. The **Camas Creek Road** is an alternative route to the area from Apgar.

**DRIVING IN WATERTON**  
During the summer season, drives to Cameron Lake, Red Rock Canyon, and the Bison Paddock are popular.

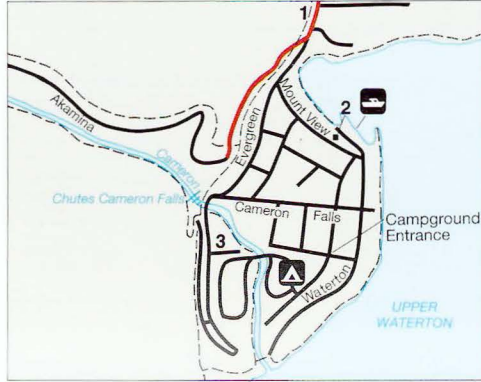
The **Akamina Parkway** leads from the Waterton townsite and runs for a distance of 16 kilometers (10 miles) along the historic Cameron Valley. Points of interest include the site of Western Canada's first producing oil well, Oil City—the city that never was—and picturesque Cameron Lake. Picnic areas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

eron Creek offer 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 provides access to Crandell Campground and numerous backcountry trails. This narrow two-lane road crosses over rolling prairie, then meanders through Blakiston Valley before ending at Red Rock Canyon, a distance of 14.5 kilometers (9 miles). Several roadside pull-offs and viewpoints 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 as a reminder of the larger herds that once roamed freely in this area. Vehicles with trailers are prohibited in the paddock.



- Ville de Waterton Park Townsite**
- 1 Centre de renseignements Information Center
  - 2 Administration du parc Park Administration
  - 3 Théâtre d'interprétation Interpretive theater
- On peut se nourrir et se loger à plusieurs endroits. Meals and lodging available at several locations.

