

Waterton Lakes National Park of Canada

Things you should know regarding Townsite Campground

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Updated April 5, 2013

Important Notices:

- **Campsites do not have fire pits.**
- **Full service sites are pull-through sites.**
- **Electrical sites are back-in only.**
- **All vehicles must fit on the gravel pad or park in a nearby parking lot, as we do not allow parking on the grass.**

General Camping Information:

Operating Season (Nights):

- May 3 to October 13, 2013 (weather permitting)

Reservable Period (Nights):

- May 10 to September 7, 2013

Reservable Percentage:

- 95% reservable

Kiosk Hours:

- 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

After Hours Registration:

- After hours, please refer to signage in kiosk window. Locate confirmation # and proceed to designated campsite. Register in the morning at the kiosk by 11:00 a.m.

Check In Time:

- Any time after 2:00 p.m.

- Visitors who would like to arrive at the campground earlier may enjoy the rest of the park while waiting for their campsite to become vacant (a valid national park entry pass is required).

Check Out Time:

- Before 11:00 a.m.

Quiet Hours:

- 10:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m.

Maximum Length of Stay:

- 14 nights

Maximum Persons per Site:

- 6 people.

Maximum Vehicles per Site:

- 2 vehicles: maximum 1 wheeled camping unit and 1 regular vehicle. We do not permit 2 wheeled camping units on the same site.
- All vehicles must fit on gravel pad or park in alternate location nearby.

Maximum Camping Units per Site:

- 2 tents or 1 RV/camper and 1 tent.

Generator Policy:

- Generator use is limited to 7:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., and 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Amperage of Electrical Service:

- A section (full service section) has 15, 30 and 50 amp service,
- B section (full service section) has 15 and 30 amp service,
- G section (electrical only section) has 15 and 30 amp service

Fire Policy:

- Campfires allowed in shared kitchen shelters only – there are no fire pits on the individual campsites.
- Firewood is available for sale in the town of Waterton.

Alcohol Policy:

- None

Pet Policy:

- Pets must be kept on a leash at all times. They must not be left unattended. Please keep all pet food stored inside. See *Bare Campsite Program* brochure upon arrival for more information.

Campground Location:

- **Townsite Campground:** Located in the Waterton Townsite at the end of Windflower Avenue. The campground is at the south end of the Townsite near Upper Waterton Lake.

Waterton Lakes National Park is located in southwest Alberta, 271 km south of Calgary and 132 km southwest of Lethbridge.

From the South: From Glacier National Park, Montana, take the Chief Mountain International Highway in summer or go north through Cardston on Montana Highway 89 to Alberta Highway 2 then west on Highway 5 any time of year. From St. Mary, Montana it is about 80 km to the park (approximately a 1 hour drive).

In summer, follow Highway 17 through Chief Mountain Customs and on Chief Mountain Highway to the park gates, then proceed south 8 km (5 miles) on Highway 5 to the Townsite. Turn left at Mountview Road. Turn right at Harebell Road (Pat's Garage) and continue on Windflower Avenue directly to the campground entrance.

From the North: From Calgary take Highway 2 south to Fort Macleod, then west on Highway 3 to Pincher Creek, then south again on Highway 6 (approximately 3 hours drive).

From Lethbridge, drive south to Cardston on Highway 2, then west to the park via Highway 5 (approximately 1 hour and 15 minutes).

From the West: From British Columbia, travel by way of the Crowsnest Pass on Highway 3 to Pincher Creek and then south on Highway 6. From Fernie, BC, it is 204 km to the park (approximately 2 hours drive).

Once in the park, proceed south 8 km (5 miles) from the entrance gate on Highway 5 to the Townsite. Turn left at Mountview Road. Turn right at Harebell Road (Pat's Garage) and continue on Windflower Avenue directly to the campground entrance.

Townsite Campground GPS Coordinates:

Latitude: 49.048746

Longitude: -113.909336

Street Address: # 200 Vimy Avenue

Campground Description:

- **Townsite Campground (223 reservable sites):**
 Electricity, water and sewer without firepit (drive-through): 90 sites
 Electrical-only, without firepit (back-in): 42 sites
 Unserviced without firepit (back-in): 53 sites
 Unserviced without firepit (tent-only): 8 sites
 Unserviced without firepit (walk-in, tent-only): 30 sites
 3 accessible full serviced sites,
 2 accessible electrical-only sites.

Sunny and open, few trees.

Fires are only allowed in common kitchen shelters.

Washrooms with hot/cold running water, showers and flush toilets.
Communal water taps and a dump station are available.
The walk-in campsites are located in the H section of the campground and are approximately a 5-20 m (16-65 ft) walk from the parking area.
Access to nearby hiking paths.

Diversified Accommodation Description:

- 5 tipis at Crandell Mountain Campground, 403-859-5133 for reservations.
- Fee is \$55.00 per night plus non-refundable reservation fee of \$10.80.

Internet/Wi-Fi Access :

- There is no Wi-Fi provided in Townsite Campground. Some restaurants and hotels in the Waterton community offer Wi-Fi access.

Fees:

For information regarding camping fees for Waterton Lakes National Park please see our [Fees page](#).

If There is No Vacancy for Your Dates:

The Townsite campground is 100% reservable.

In Waterton Lakes NP, there are 2 non-reservable campgrounds, which operate on a first-come, first-served basis:

- Crandell Mountain campground (129 sites – all unserviced) Located on Red Rock Parkway, 12 km from the Waterton Townsite.
- Belly River Campground (24 sites – primitive sites, unserviced, outhouses) Located on Chief Mountain Highway, 26 km from Waterton Townsite.

There are also 2 privately operated campgrounds near the park:

- Waterton Springs (9km before park): 1-403-859-2247
- Crooked Creek (10km before park): 1-403-653-1100

Require Additional Information?

Reservation service:

1-877-737-3783 (1-877-RESERVE) 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. local park time or www.reservation.parksCanada.gc.ca

General park information:

1-888-773-8888 (8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time, April to September, 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Eastern Time, October to March) or waterton.info@pc.gc.ca

For information and reservations specifically for Back-country camping:

1-403-859-5133

For information and reservations for Group camping:

Belly River Group Campground (2 sites – primitive sites, unserviced, outhouses, no potable water). Located on Chief Mountain Highway, 26 km from Waterton Townsite. Group = minimum 25 persons

1-403-859-2224

Terms & Definitions:

Site-specific

Guests select the specific campsite or accommodation when they make their reservation.

Operating Season (Nights)

The "Operating Season" is the nights that the campground is open. Sometimes the campgrounds are open for longer than the period for which they accept reservations. Any dates of the "Operating Season" outside of the "Reservable Period" are dates that the campground operates on a first come, first served basis only.

Reservable Period (Nights)

The "Reservable Period" is the nights for which you can make a camping or accommodation reservation. Note that many campgrounds may be open longer than this period, and operate outside of these dates on a first-come, first-served basis.

Kiosk

The administration/entrance booth of a particular campground, this is where you "check-in" and register your arrival.

Vehicle

Car, truck, motorcycle, truck-camper, motor home, or recreational vehicle. A motor home pulling another vehicle may count as two vehicles.

Camping Unit

Tent, tent-trailer, truck-camper, trailer, 5th wheel, motor home or recreational vehicle.

Serviced Site

Refers to a campsite offering electrical, water, and/or sewer hook-ups directly on the campsite. *Fully-serviced* sites offer electrical, potable water, and sewer hook-ups. *Unserviced* sites do not offer any of these hook-ups.

The terms *serviced* and *unserviced* refer to the individual campsites; they **do not** refer to the washroom facilities or other amenities available at the campground.

Drive-through Site

Campsite where the driver does not have to reverse their vehicle to exit (there is a separate entrance and exit to the individual campsite). Ideal for larger vehicles and trailers.

Walk-in Site

Campsite which requires some degree of walking to access the site, and therefore requires a tent. Vehicle will be parked a short distance away.

Overflow Site

Overflow campsites vary from park to park, and may range from a paved area to park a camping unit (not generally suitable for tents) to a more traditional, grassy site. They are unserviced and are not reservable.

Accessible Site

A campsite which is accessible to guests with limited mobility.

Fire Pit

A designated structure for campfires located on a campsite. Check availability, as not all campsites offer a fire pit. In some parks, a fire permit is required to have a fire.

In some parks, only communal fire pits are available, and access is shared with other guests.

First-come, First-served Site

Campsites that are available on a first come, first served basis only. These sites are only available to guests who are physically located at the campground. These sites *cannot* be registered over the telephone or on-line. These campsites may be available for only 1 night or for multiple nights depending on availability.

Shoulder Season

While many campgrounds remain open outside of their peak season, the services offered during this period may be limited (please check with the park for more details).

Entrance Pass

A valid National Park Entrance Pass is required for all visitors to National Parks that have entry fees.

Daily Entrance Pass

A daily entrance pass permits visitor's unlimited entry to the specified park on a per day basis for the period of time indicated.

Annual/Seasonal Entrance Pass

An annual or seasonal entrance pass permits visitor's unlimited entry to the specified park for the period of time indicated.

Parks Canada Discovery Pass

The Parks Canada Discovery Pass permits visitors unlimited entry to the participating Parks Canada national parks and national historic sites across Canada, for a period of 12 months.