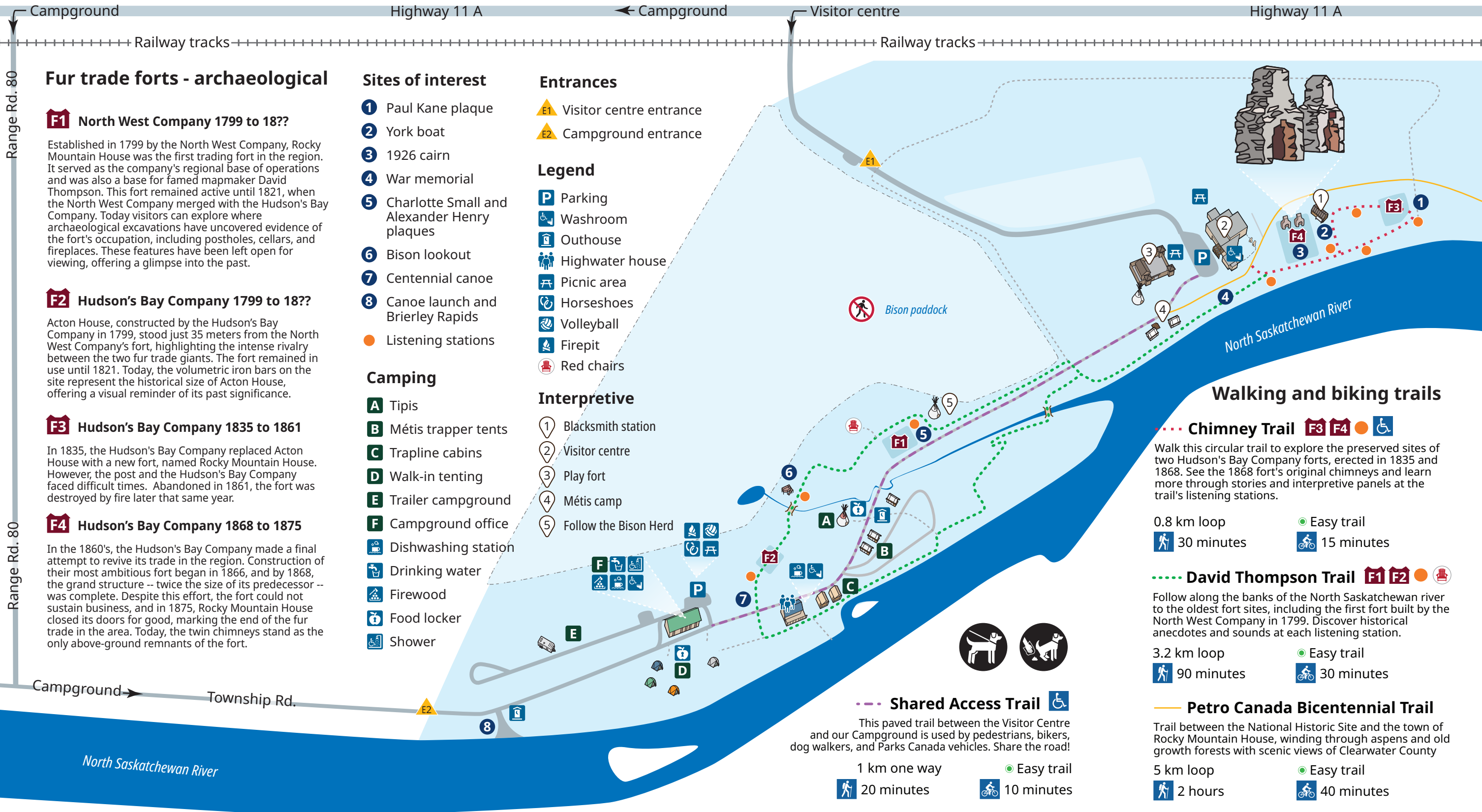


Activity Guide and Map

Stay awhile



Fur trade forts - archaeological

F1 North West Company 1799 to 18??

Established in 1799 by the North West Company, Rocky Mountain House was the first trading fort in the region. It served as the company's regional base of operations and was also a base for famed mapmaker David Thompson. This fort remained active until 1821, when the North West Company merged with the Hudson's Bay Company. Today visitors can explore where archaeological excavations have uncovered evidence of the fort's occupation, including postholes, cellars, and fireplaces. These features have been left open for viewing, offering a glimpse into the past.

F2 Hudson's Bay Company 1799 to 18??

Acton House, constructed by the Hudson's Bay Company in 1799, stood just 35 meters from the North West Company's fort, highlighting the intense rivalry between the two fur trade giants. The fort remained in use until 1821. Today, the volumetric iron bars on the site represent the historical size of Acton House, offering a visual reminder of its past significance.

F3 Hudson's Bay Company 1835 to 1861

In 1835, the Hudson's Bay Company replaced Acton House with a new fort, named Rocky Mountain House. However, the post and the Hudson's Bay Company faced difficult times. Abandoned in 1861, the fort was destroyed by fire later that same year.

F4 Hudson's Bay Company 1868 to 1875

In the 1860's, the Hudson's Bay Company made a final attempt to revive its trade in the region. Construction of their most ambitious fort began in 1866, and by 1868, the grand structure -- twice the size of its predecessor -- was complete. Despite this effort, the fort could not sustain business, and in 1875, Rocky Mountain House closed its doors for good, marking the end of the fur trade in the area. Today, the twin chimneys stand as the only above-ground remnants of the fort.

Sites of interest

- 1 Paul Kane plaque
 - 2 York boat
 - 3 1926 cairn
 - 4 War memorial
 - 5 Charlotte Small and Alexander Henry plaques
 - 6 Bison lookout
 - 7 Centennial canoe
 - 8 Canoe launch and Brierley Rapids
- Listening stations

Camping

- A Tipis
- B Métis trapper tents
- C Trapline cabins
- D Walk-in tenting
- E Trailer campground
- F Campground office
- Dishwashing station
- Drinking water
- Firewood
- Food locker
- Shower

Entrances

- E1 Visitor centre entrance
- E2 Campground entrance

Legend

- P Parking
- Washroom
- Outhouse
- Highwater house
- Picnic area
- Horseshoes
- Volleyball
- Firepit
- Red chairs

Interpretive

- 1 Blacksmith station
- 2 Visitor centre
- 3 Play fort
- 4 Métis camp
- 5 Follow the Bison Herd

Walking and biking trails

Chimney Trail F3 F4 ● ♿

Walk this circular trail to explore the preserved sites of two Hudson's Bay Company forts, erected in 1835 and 1868. See the 1868 fort's original chimneys and learn more through stories and interpretive panels at the trail's listening stations.

- 0.8 km loop
- 30 minutes
- Easy trail
- 15 minutes

David Thompson Trail F1 F2 ● ♿

Follow along the banks of the North Saskatchewan river to the oldest fort sites, including the first fort built by the North West Company in 1799. Discover historical anecdotes and sounds at each listening station.

- 3.2 km loop
- 90 minutes
- Easy trail
- 30 minutes

Shared Access Trail ♿

This paved trail between the Visitor Centre and our Campground is used by pedestrians, bikers, dog walkers, and Parks Canada vehicles. Share the road!

- 1 km one way
- 20 minutes
- Easy trail
- 10 minutes

Petro Canada Bicentennial Trail

Trail between the National Historic Site and the town of Rocky Mountain House, winding through aspens and old growth forests with scenic views of Clearwater County

- 5 km loop
- 2 hours
- Easy trail
- 40 minutes

2026 Admission fees

Adult	\$10.00
Senior	\$ 8.50
Youth (17 and under)	Free

Visitor centre

392077 Range Rd 74A, Rocky Mountain House Alberta, CANADA T4T 2A4

(403) 845-2412 | rockyinfo@pc.gc.ca

Hours of operation 2026

Visitor centre and interpretive experiences

May 10 to Sep 7..... Open daily: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Sep 8 to Sep 30 Thu to Sun: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Oct 1 to mid-May Closed

Campground

74084 Range Rd 74A, Rocky Mountain House Alberta, CANADA T4T 2A4

(403) 429-0116 | rockyinfo@pc.gc.ca

Reservations 1(877) 737-3783

Hours of operation 2026

Campground office

May 15 to Jun 17 Fri to Sat: 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Sun to Thu: 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Jun 18 to Aug 31 Open daily: 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Sep 1 to Sep 30 Fri to Sat: 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Sun to Thu: 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Oct 1 to mid-May Closed

For up-to-date information:
[parks.canada.ca/
rockymountainhouse](https://parks.canada.ca/rockymountainhouse)



We acknowledge that Rocky Mountain House National Historic Site is within the present-day territory of the Treaty 6 as well as the Métis Homeland. The lands and waters of Rocky Mountain House have been used for millennia by Indigenous Peoples for sustenance, ceremony, trade and travel. We thank them for their continuous stewardship and for sharing the land with us.



Welcome | Bienvenue miyoonakishkatoohk | oki, kiitsiksimatsimmoko | miyotôtâkewin

The forts may be gone, but their stories endure—tales of trade, exploration, rivalry, and, most importantly, of people.

In 1799, the North West Company and the Hudson's Bay Company established competing posts along the North Saskatchewan River. Nine different Indigenous groups were active and present in the region over the 76 years of trade at the site. It also served as a key base for David Thompson—explorer, fur trader, and renowned mapmaker—and his wife, Charlotte Small, as they worked to establish a North West Company route through the Rocky Mountains.

Today, Parks Canada celebrates the diverse people who have left their mark on this historic river highway. We are privileged to collaborate with Indigenous Peoples and community partners who share their stories and bring renewed vibrancy to the history of this land.

Stay awhile. Let your story become part of this place.



2026 Bookable experiences

Step back in time and experience the lifestyle of the fur trade.

Online reservations

parks.canada.ca/rmh-workshops

Dream Catcher Workshop

Learn the traditions around this Indigenous custom and create your own beautiful dream catcher. (2 hours, max 25 people, \$34.75/person)

Satchel Making Workshop

In this workshop, you will learn blanket stitching techniques and create your own beautiful satchel. (1.5 hours, max 10 people, \$28.50/person)

Advance reservations

Call 403-845-2412 or email rockyinfo@pc.gc.ca

Drum and Song

Gather around the campfire with a local Indigenous drummer, dancer or storyteller. (1.5 hours, max 25 people, \$25.00/person)

Traditional Games

Indigenous games teach essential skills like observation, intuition, and hand-eye coordination. (1.5 hours, max 25 people, \$24.75/person)

2026 Campground

Discover a historic fur trade post along the North Saskatchewan River. Stay awhile.

Front-country camping

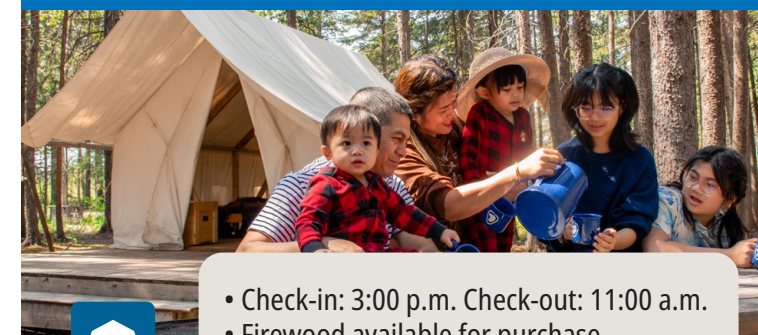
Trailer campground

- Trailers and RVs up to 8 metres (27'). Unserviced.
- Firepit and picnic table.
- Tents allowed.
- \$31.75/night, per site.



Walk-in tenting

- Firepit and picnic table.
- Community picnic shelter.
- Food Lockers
- Foot access only (50 m). Park in designated area.
- \$31.75/night, per site.



- Check-in: 3:00 p.m. Check-out: 11:00 a.m.
- Firewood available for purchase. NO outside firewood permitted.



Heritage camping

Immerse yourself in the lifestyle of the fur trade.

Métis Trapper Tent

- Sleeps up to 5: One double bed, one twin bed, and additional sleeping mats.
- Wood floor, table, and chairs.
- \$86.50/night, per trapper tent.



Tipi

- Sleeps up to 8: sleeping mats.
- Wood floor, table, and chairs.
- \$86.50/night, per tipi.



Trampoline Cabin

- Sleeps 6 people: 1 double pull out bed and 4 sleeping mats in the loft.
- Fire pit, picnic table, outdoor grill, table, chairs, cookware, utensils, mini fridge, induction burner, microwave, and lighting.
- \$147.50/night, per cabin.