Welcome to Banff National Park

This guide is designed to help you plan a safe and enjoyable trip to Banff National Park. It is important to check yourself and your party before you enter the park.

What to Expect

Backcountry trails in Banff National Park are not for everyone. They require a good deal of physical fitness, experience in mountaineering and awareness of the natural environment. Plan Ahead, Be Prepared

Exploring the Backcountry

Most backcountry work is in Banff National Park, and a smaller amount is in Jasper National Park. For more information, contact the Parks Canada visitor centre in Banff National Park.

Backcountry Trail

Shelters, Huts and Lodges

Backcountry trail shelters are located in the upper reaches of valley bottoms or at higher elevations in mountain passes. They are ideal for overnight travel by hikers and riders. The main trail is a good path to follow for general information. The trail is well-maintained and easy to follow. It is not unusual for hikers at higher elevations.

When to Go

The backcountry trails in Banff National Park are usually open from July 1 to November 15. Some areas may be closed earlier due to inclement weather or wildlife. Please check the Parks Canada website for more information.

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