



RANDOM CAMPING

Wild and remote, for experienced backcountry travellers to immerse themselves in pristine mountain landscapes



No maintained trails:
Route Finding Required



Dogs are **not permitted**
in certain Random
Camping areas



No fires permitted



No bikes permitted

In Jasper National Park, random camping is permitted in designated areas only and must be a full day's travel from trails or roads (approximately 5 km in non-technical terrain) and 70 metres from water bodies. Random camping is not an alternative to backcountry campgrounds that are fully booked.

Is backcountry random camping for you?

Random camping in Jasper National Park's backcountry requires a specific set of knowledge, experience and equipment. There are no trails, signs, or facilities such as privies, or food storage. Visitors must be able to route find, be prepared to travel in remote and rugged wilderness, manage their human waste and secure their animal attractants.

How to Obtain a Random Camping Permit

A backcountry camping permit is mandatory for all overnight backcountry use, including random camping. Permits for random camping can be obtained by calling Jasper Information Service at 780-852-6177 ext 2.

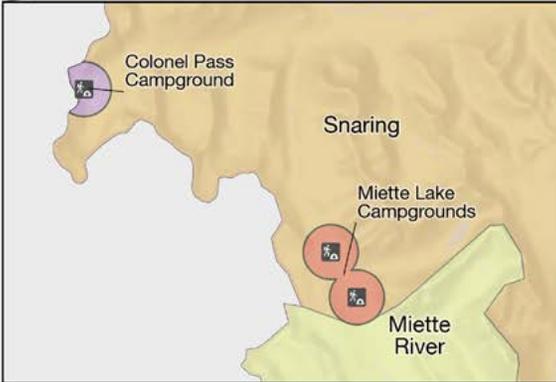
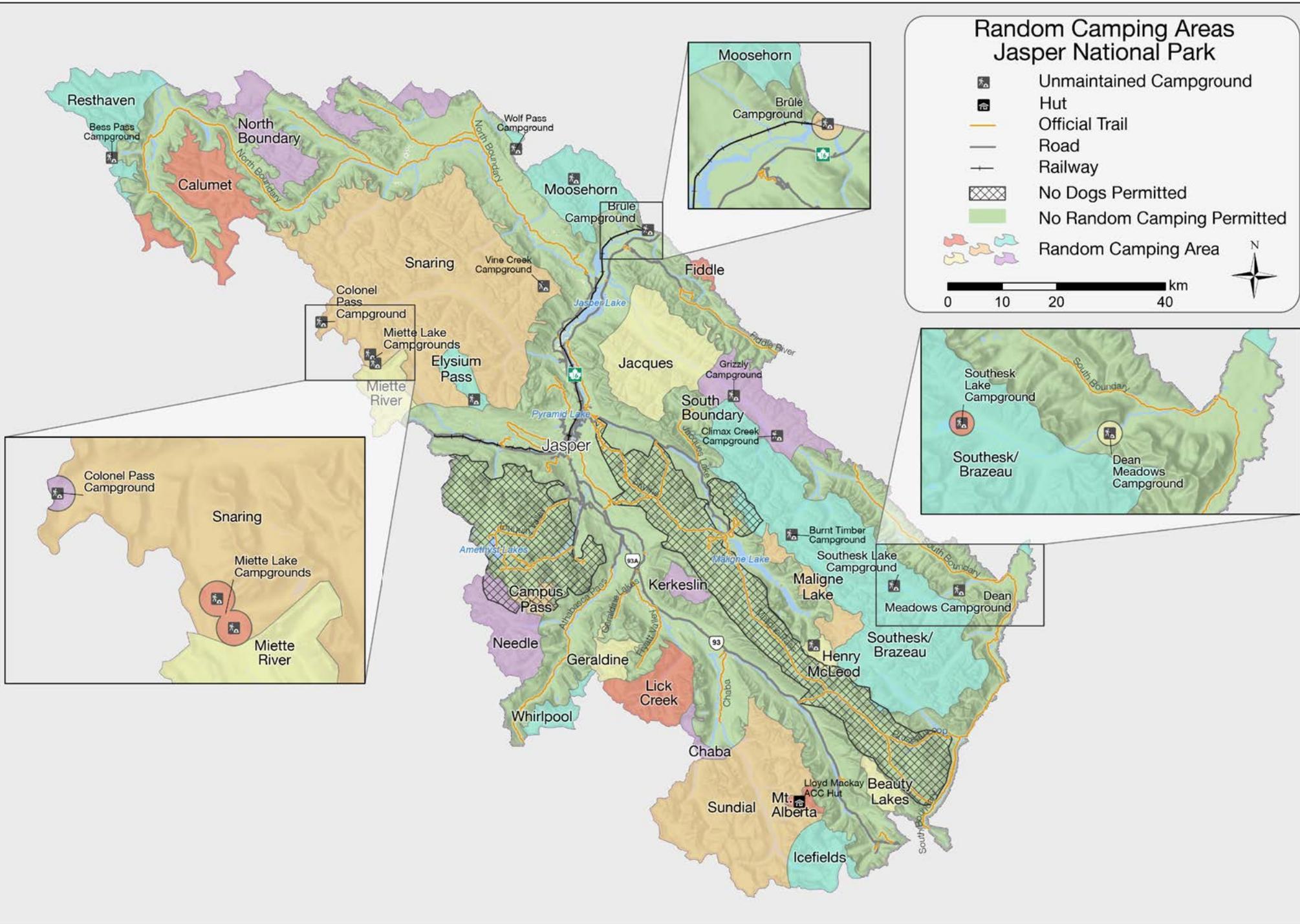
Step 1: Determine your route/itinerary

Jasper National Park has 29 distinct random camping areas in the park. Each random camping area has a daily group quota, and a maximum group size. Some random camping areas also have a monthly group quota. These quotas are in place to maintain the wilderness values visitors seek and provide for secure habitat use by large, wide-ranging carnivores (e.g. grizzly bears).

Determine which random camping area(s) you will be camping in and if you will be overnighing at one or more of the unmaintained campgrounds within the random camping areas. You may need to use maps and guide books to cross-reference your route with [Jasper National Park's Random Camping Area map](#). Some unmaintained, historic routes in the park are described in The Canadian Rockies Trail Guide by Brian Patton and Bart Robinson (trails and facilities will likely be very different than described).

Random Camping Areas Jasper National Park

-  Unmaintained Campground
 -  Hut
 -  Official Trail
 -  Road
 -  Railway
 -  No Dogs Permitted
 -  No Random Camping Permitted
 -  Random Camping Area
- 0 10 20 40 km
- 



Considerations:

Party size

Maximum group size in random camping areas is between 4 – 6 persons per group.

Length of stay

Within a random camping area, there is a maximum two-night stay at each camping location.

Make note of your dates and your party size.

Random Camping Area	Daily Quota	Monthly Quota	Group Size
North Boundary – Area north of the North Boundary main trail, between the North Boundary side trails.	4	–	6 people
Resthaven – Area between the North Boundary trail and the park boundary.	2	–	6 people
Calumet – Area between Snake Indian Pass, the Smoky river and Moose Pass.	1	–	6 people
Snaring – Snaring valley between Highway 16, the Miette river valley and the Snake Indian river.	4	–	6 people
Elysium – Elysium Pass and Monarch meadows.	1	–	6 people
Miette Lake – Miette lake abandoned campgrounds.	1	–	6 people
Miette River – Miette lakes trail up to old horse camp and Rink lake area.	2	–	6 people
Colonel Pass – Colonel pass route and abandoned campground.	1	–	6 people
Campus Pass – Area around Campus pass, between Verdant creek and the Eremite valley. <i>July 1 – September 15 inclusive.</i>	1	5 groups	4 people
Needle – Upper Simon creek and Middle Whirlpool river.	3	–	6 people
Whirlpool – Whirlpool valley south of the Athabasca pass trail.	1	–	6 people
Geraldine – Upper Geraldine valley.	1	–	6 people
Lick Creek – Lick creek watershed.	1	–	6 people
Chaba – Lower Chaba valley.	1	–	6 people
Sundial – Upper Athabasca river valley north of Habel and Prince Edward creeks, west of the Icefields Parkway.	4	–	6 people
Mt. Alberta – Area east of Mt. Alberta to Highway 93. Restricted quota to maintain grizzly bear habitat security.	1	10 groups	6 people
Icefields – Area of Columbia Icefield south of Habel and Price Edward creeks.	7	–	6 people
Beauty Lakes – Area between Tangle ridge and Jonas valley.	1	–	6 people
Kerkeslin – Area surrounding Mount Kerkeslin	1	–	6 people
Henry McLeod – Henry McLeod valley including unmaintained campground.	1	10 groups	6 people
Maligne Lake – Area surrounding the southern end of Maligne lake.	3	–	6 people
Southesk/Brazeau – Area between the South Boundary trail and the Grand Brazeau range.	4	–	6 people
Southesk Lake – Southesk lake campground.	1	–	6 people
Dean Meadows – Old horse campground.	1	–	6 people
South Boundary – Rocky river valley downstream from Rocky pass.	4	–	6 people
Jacques – Area between the Colin and Nikanassin ranges, including the lower Rocky river.	4	–	6 people
Fiddle – Area east of Ashlar ridge.	1	–	6 people
Brule – Old Brule campground.	1	–	6 people
Moosehorn – Moosehorn valley and Wolf pass.	3	–	6 people

Step 2: Book your Permit

Contact the Jasper National Park Information Service at 1-780-852-6177 ext. 2 to check availability and book your permit. Park staff will require your route and itinerary as determined in step one. If your desired area(s)/date(s) are not available due to quotas, you will be asked to call back with an alternative route and/or itinerary. Once your permit is issued, you will receive it via email.

Step 3: Carry your Permit with you on your Trip

Uniformed Parks Canada staff may ask to see your Backcountry Camping Permit.



SAFETY

You are responsible for your own safety.

Be prepared for extreme weather and mountainous terrain. Cell phone coverage is unavailable in most areas.

Visitor Safety

Information on mountaineering, ice climbing, visitor safety.

pc.gc.ca/mountainsafety

Weather Forecasts

weather.gc.ca

Avalanche Information

1-800-667-1105 pc.gc.ca/avalanche

Emergency

call 780-852-3100
or 877-852-3100

MAPS

Gemtrek

Jasper and Maligne Lake
Columbia Icefields

National Geographic

Jasper North
Jasper South

For more information on low impact travel in the backcountry contact: leavenotrace.ca

1-877-238-9343

Leave No Trace

www.leavenotrace.ca

Zero impact camping practices are mandatory for all random camps.

- Camps must be set up at least 70 metres from water bodies. Carefully choose tenting areas to minimize vegetation damage. Ensure good visibility so animals cannot approach unseen. Avoid camping, cooking or eating near running water, thick brush, animal trails or berry patches.
- Set up cooking, eating and food storage areas at least 50 metres downwind from your tent, and separate food storage and eating areas by 50 metres as well.

Food Storage

To reduce your campsite's attractiveness to bears, all food, garbage, toiletries and cooking equipment must be stored in a bear-resistant container. Use only containers approved by the [Interagency Grizzly Bear Committee](#). See list of examples below.

Hanging food from trees is not acceptable in most areas, since there are often no suitable trees to hang food from.

The Bare Boxer

Contender Model 101, Champ Model 202
www.bareboxer.com

Craftsman Tech Composites

Counter Assault

The Bear Keg
www.counterassault.com

Lighter1 Bear Bins – Backpacker Cache

Big Daddy Model (1.03 kg)
Lil' Sami Model (610 g)
www.lighter1.com

BearVault

www.bearvault.com

Garcia Machine Backpackers' Cache

Model 812
www.backpackerscache.com

UDAP Industries Inc.

"No Fed Bear" Canister
www.udap.com

Ursack

Food Storage Container
www.ursack.com



Leave No Trace ...continued

Human waste

Select a spot away from trails and campsites and at least 70 m from water sources. Dig a hole 12 to 16 cm into the dark-coloured, biologically active soil layer. Loosely fill the hole with soil and or rocks afterward. Burn your toilet paper.

Water

Giardia lamblia is a parasite carried by humans and some domestic and wild animals. These parasites can occur in any surface water in the park and may contaminate the water supply. Boil your drinking water or purify it with a water filter or iodine tablets.

Washing

Keep yourself and your campsite odour-free. Keep sleeping bags, tents, and sleeping clothes free of food, food odours or beverages. Wash and store all dishes and food utensils immediately after use. To wash yourself or your dishes, carry water 70 m away from streams or lakes and use small amounts of biodegradable soap. Strain food particles from dishwater and store with garbage. Disperse strained water on land at least 50 metres downwind from your sleeping area.

Campfires

Campfires are NOT allowed in random camping areas. Cooking stoves only; no exceptions.

Garbage

Pack it in and pack it out! You are responsible for everything you take into the backcountry and this includes garbage. Take special care to remove all micro-trash – small pieces of plastic, foil, etc.

Trails

If there is a trail, stay on it. Shortcutting between trail switchbacks damages both the soil and plant life. This not only ruins the look of an area, but makes it susceptible to further damage by erosion. In alpine areas without trails, spread out, to avoid creating a new trail.

