

2023

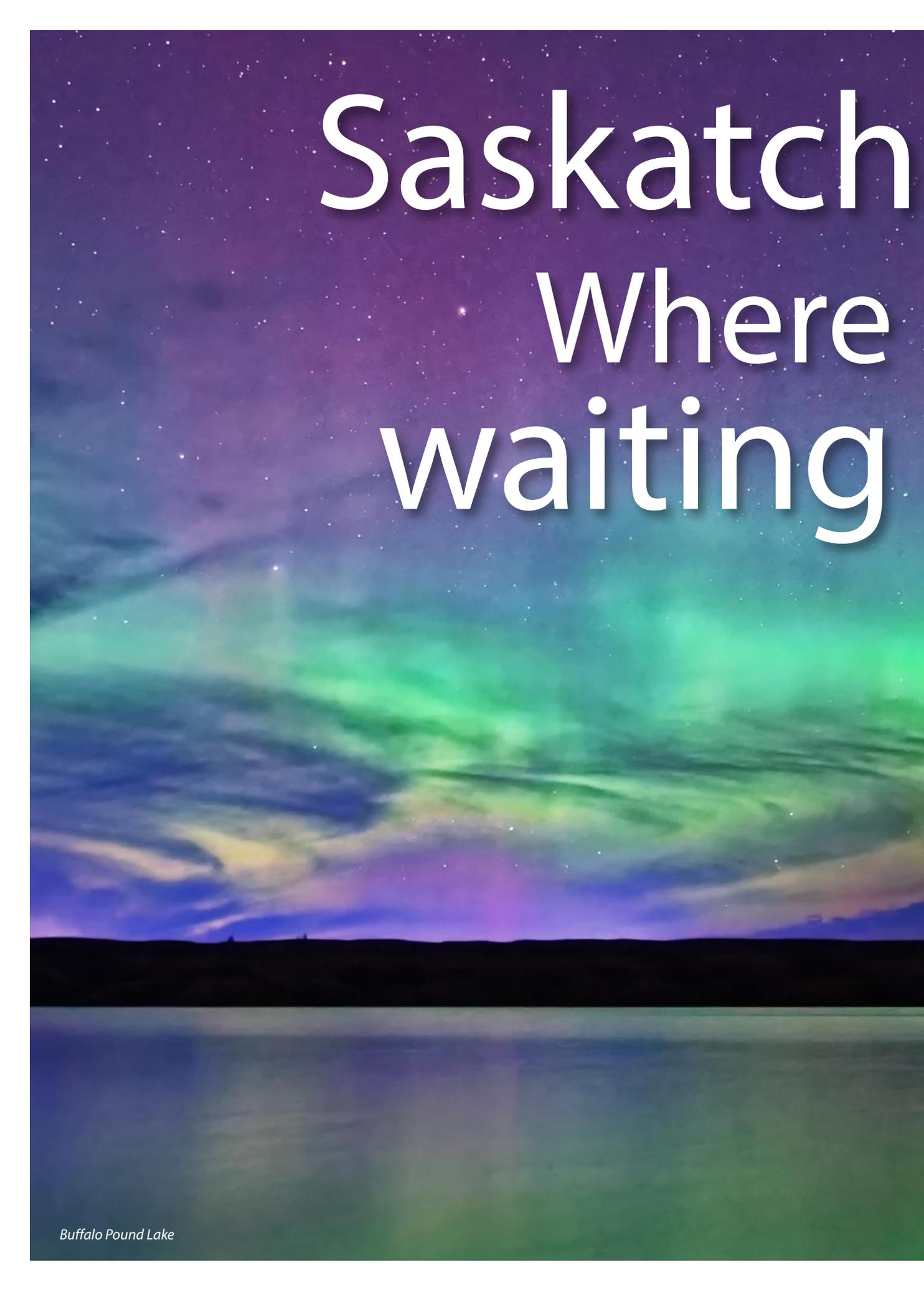
# SASKATCHEWAN

R V Travel Guide

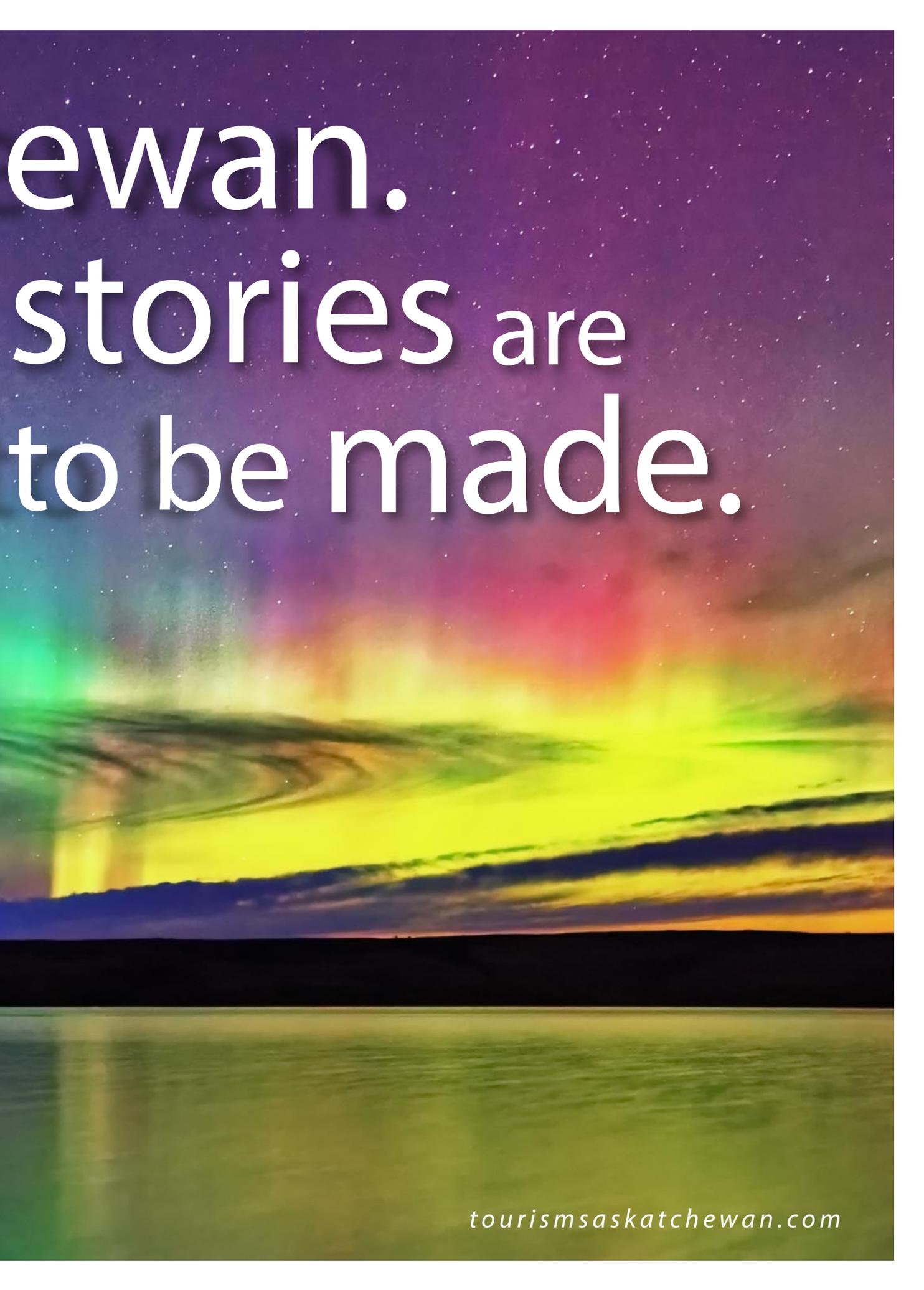


[tourismsaskatchewan.com](http://tourismsaskatchewan.com)





# Saskatch Where waiting

A vertical photograph of a night sky featuring a vibrant aurora borealis. The aurora displays a spectrum of colors including purple, blue, green, yellow, and red, with some horizontal bands of light. The aurora is reflected in the calm water of a lake in the foreground. The sky is filled with numerous small stars.

ewan.  
stories are  
to be made.



Saskatchewan comprises lands covered by Treaties 2, 4, 5, 6, 8 and 10, the traditional lands of the Cree, Dakota, Dene, Lakota, Nakota and Saulteaux peoples, and the traditional home of the Métis.

## RV Travel in Saskatchewan

Saskatchewan is one big, beautiful place – a sweeping 652,000 sq. kilometres (more than 161 million acres). The province has nearly 27,000 kilometres (16,777 miles) of highways and a total road surface of 252,458 km (156,870 mi.) – more than six times the earth's circumference.

For RV travellers, there is a tantalizing “buffet” of routes that lead to breathtaking sights, welcoming communities and memorable experiences.

Diverse landscapes counter the “flat prairie” stereotype. Southern Saskatchewan features legendary badlands, unique forested areas and some of the largest tracts of untouched grassland. Fertile farmland that stretches as far as the eye can see is a characteristic of the south and central regions. Heading north, rolling parkland transitions to boreal forest that covers half of the province and frames nearly 100,000 lakes and rivers.

This *Saskatchewan RV Travel Guide* presents major highway routes, which share stories of the province's history, traditions, cultures and people. Recommendations for side trips off the main corridors are included. Contact information for Saskatchewan national, provincial and regional parks is listed within.

Advance planning is recommended to ensure campsite availability, identify RV access and services, and make travel seamless. Contact Tourism Saskatchewan for trip-planning assistance.

Enjoy your Saskatchewan vacation.

### Information subject to change.

The *Saskatchewan RV Travel Guide* is published by:  
 Tourism Saskatchewan  
 189 – 1621 Albert Street  
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**Front cover:**

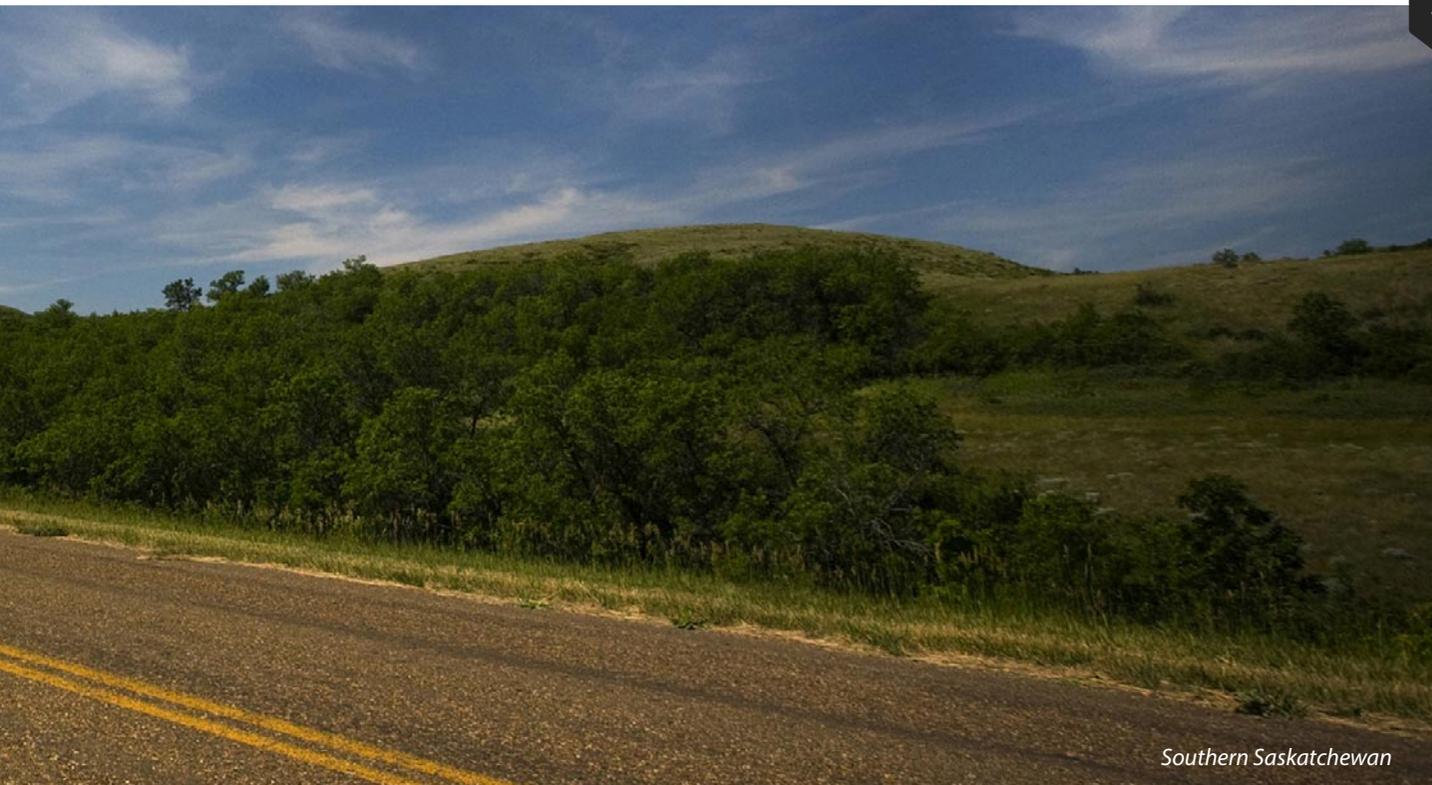
Qu'Appelle Valley

**Back cover:**

Cypress Hills Interprovincial Park

**Photography:**

Anna Altura, Chris Attrel, Paul Austring Photography, Craig Boehm, City of Prince Albert, Robert Ferguson, Rene Goertzen, Chris Hendrickson Photography, Herry Himanshu, Greg Huszar Photography, Eric Lindberg, Lee Miller, Redberry Lake Biosphere Region, Michael St Laurent, Tunnels of Moose Jaw, Wanuskewin Heritage Park, Rob Weitzel Graphic Productions



*Southern Saskatchewan*

## Call Tourism Saskatchewan toll-free at 1-877-237-2273

Let our friendly travel counsellors help you plan your Saskatchewan vacation. Call our toll-free line or chat live at [TourismSaskatchewan.com](http://TourismSaskatchewan.com).

### Websites

[TourismSaskatchewan.com](http://TourismSaskatchewan.com) – the definitive source of travel planning information. Get ideas for vacations, road trips, activities and more.

[FishHuntSask.com](http://FishHuntSask.com) – a one-stop resource for planning fishing and hunting adventures in Saskatchewan.

### Social Media

 [facebook.com/TourismSaskatchewan](https://facebook.com/TourismSaskatchewan)

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## Free Saskatchewan Travel Resources

**Saskatchewan Travel Guide** – features top travel suggestions throughout the province. Conceptual maps identify locations of national, provincial and regional parks, along with major attractions. An index lists contact information for businesses and attractions included in the guide.

**Saskatchewan Fishing & Hunting Map** – offers information about Saskatchewan fishing and hunting experiences.

**Saskatchewan Official Road Map** – fully detailed map ideal for touring the province.

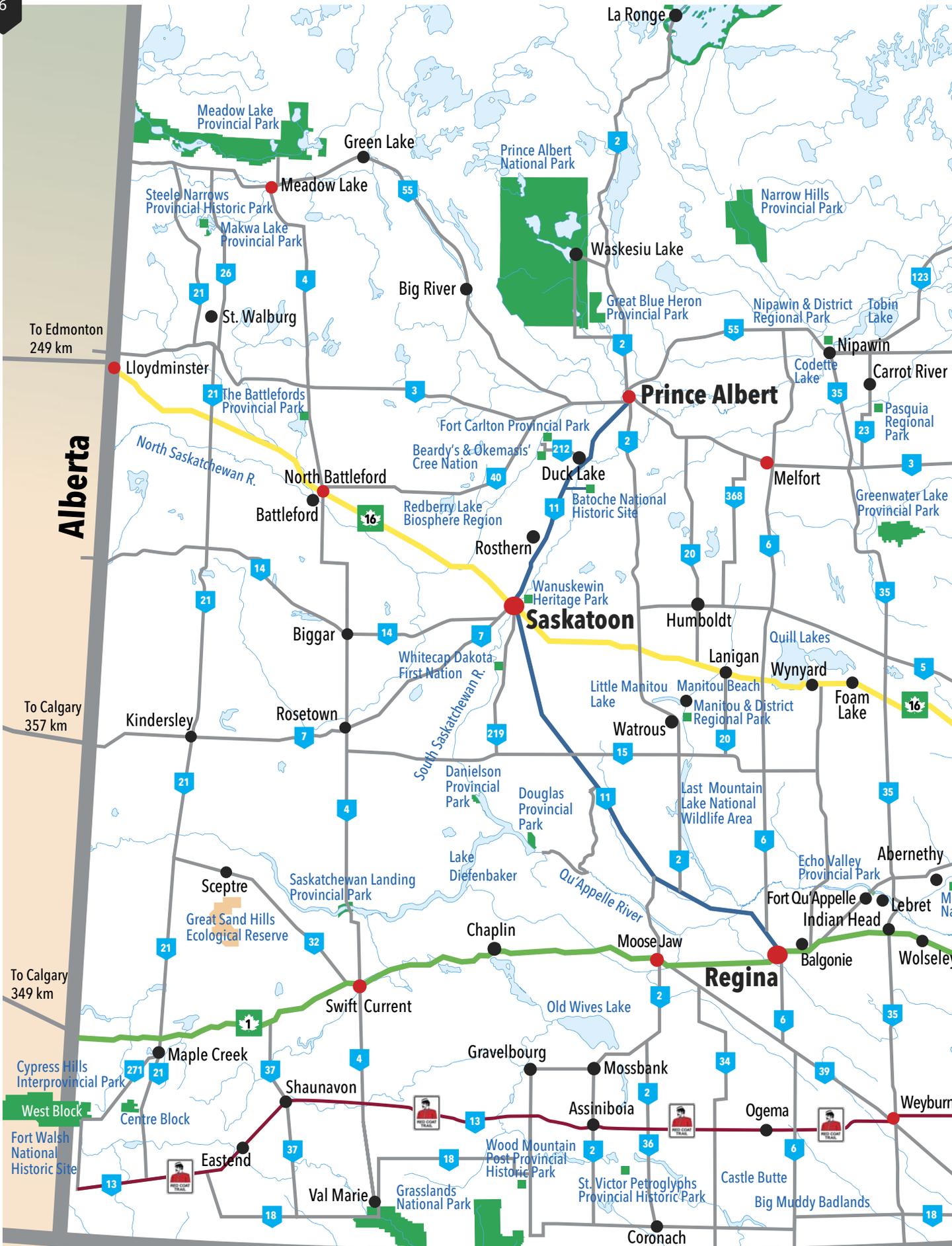
Email [travel.info@tourismsask.com](mailto:travel.info@tourismsask.com) to order these resources.

## Important numbers and contact information

- Call **911** in an emergency
- Call **811** for Saskatchewan HealthLine inquiries
- Canada Border Services Agency ([cbsa-asfc.gc.ca](http://cbsa-asfc.gc.ca)) – information about ports of entry and crossing the border into Canada

## Highway Hotline

Regina and area: 306-787-7623  
 Saskatoon and area: 306-933-8333  
 SaskTel Cellular Network: \*ROAD (\*7623)  
 Toll-free across Canada: 1-888-335-7623  
[hotline.gov.sk.ca/mobile/](http://hotline.gov.sk.ca/mobile/)



Alberta

Montana

North

To Edmonton  
249 km

To Calgary  
357 km

To Calgary  
349 km

# LEGEND

-  Trans-Canada Highway
-  Trans-Canada Yellowhead Highway
-  Red Coat Trail
-  Louis Riel Trail



Select locations are identified on this map. For more detailed information, consult the *Saskatchewan Official Road Map*. **Information subject to change.**

### National Parks

Grasslands National Park and Prince Albert National Park preserve some of the province’s most vulnerable eco-systems and species, while providing recreation and enjoyment to visitors. Grasslands National Park has 44 RV-accessible campsites with electrical hook-up, potable water and sanitation dumping stations. Prince Albert National Park offers more than 485 RV-accessible campsites with various levels of service. A valid park permit is required for entry. Call **1-877-737-3783** or visit [reservation.pc.gc.ca](http://reservation.pc.gc.ca) to book a campsite. Throughout Saskatchewan – in urban, rural and remote communities – National Historic Sites tell the stories of people and events that shaped the province. Learn more at [pc.gc.ca](http://pc.gc.ca) or visit [TourismSaskatchewan.com](http://TourismSaskatchewan.com).

### Saskatchewan Provincial Parks

Saskatchewan is home to 36 provincial parks, with hundreds of campsites available. Nine parks in southern Saskatchewan and six in the central zone accommodate RV camping, with electrical hook-up, fresh water and dumping stations available. The camping season begins in May. Camping after Labour Day and into October is offered in some locations. A valid park permit is required for entry (daily, weekly and annual permits available). Call **1-833-775-7275** to book a site. Learn more at [parks.saskatchewan.ca](http://parks.saskatchewan.ca) or [TourismSaskatchewan.com](http://TourismSaskatchewan.com).

### Saskatchewan Regional Parks

Saskatchewan has nearly 80 accredited regional parks. The summer camping season runs from May until September. A number of regional parks offer full-service RV camping, and have showers and dumping stations. Some have online booking; others require a phone call to reserve a campsite. Visit [saskregionalparks.ca](http://saskregionalparks.ca) for a list of parks and additional information.

# TRANS-CANADA HIGHWAY 1



*Saskatchewan Legislative Building, Regina*

Trans-Canada Highway 1 is the main southern route across Saskatchewan. The four-lane divided highway passes through major urban centres – Regina, Moose Jaw and Swift Current – as well as many welcoming towns and villages. In the summer, the patchwork of colourful crops in bloom is picture-worthy. The Qu'Appelle Valley, just a few miles north of the Trans-Canada, stretches halfway across the province. Its rolling terrain, tranquil lakes and meandering waterways provide a dramatic contrast to the smooth plains.

## **Maple Creek**

Get the full flavour of Saskatchewan hospitality with a stop at Maple Creek, eight kilometres south of Highway 1. It has held the titles of Canada's Greatest Western Town and Friendliest Town in Saskatchewan. Stroll the sidewalks and browse shops among the Heritage District. Maple Creek's year-round visitor centre is housed in the 1910 Union Bank of Canada Building. Guided historical walking tours can be arranged through the visitor centre. Stop by Grotto Gardens Family Fun Farm and pick up homemade baked goods and locally crafted products, or enjoy some animal therapy during an alpaca walk.

## **Swift Current**

Swift Current is an important business hub for southwest Saskatchewan and has many cultural and recreational assets. Permanent exhibits at the Swift Current Museum & Visitor Centre illustrate the connections between human activities and the environment in

southwest Saskatchewan, from the post-glacial period to present day. Kinetic Park is the site of a number of attractions and events, and has more than 65 full-service campsites. Nearby are three other campgrounds that can accommodate RV travellers.

## **Chaplin**

The Chaplin Nature Centre is a renowned interpretive facility dedicated to the protection of migratory shorebirds and their habitat. It provides visitors with an understanding of the area's importance as part of the Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network. Chaplin Lake is a major stopover and feeding area for dozens of migrating shorebird species, including the American avocet and endangered piping plover.

## **Moose Jaw**

Moose Jaw is a must-visit community for its character, shops and attractions. Its self-declared moniker, "Canada's most notorious city," conjures images of a colourful past involving bootleggers and gangsters (Al Capone allegedly spent time here). Beneath downtown streets, the Tunnels of Moose Jaw take visitors on themed tours that explore local legend and history. Temple Gardens Hotel & Spa attracts travellers from far and near for its therapeutic geothermal mineral water pool. Transportation is the theme of the Western Development Museum Moose Jaw, which dedicates part of its

aviation exhibit to the Canadian Forces Snowbirds 431 Air Demonstration Squadron.

Moose Jaw's Wakamow Valley comprises almost 500 acres of parkland and natural habitat. More than 20 km of trails navigate the lush urban park that is home to a variety of flora and fauna, including over 190 species of birds. Several campgrounds within Moose Jaw and nearby are stopovers for RV travellers.

## **Regina**

Regina is Saskatchewan's capital, as well as home of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP). All RCMP cadets are trained at Depot Division. The RCMP Heritage Centre shares the history of the force through interactive exhibits and displays of artifacts. In the summer, the weekly Sunset Retreat Ceremony is popular with visitors, and features cadets in iconic red serge performing drills and the traditional March Past.

The city's centrepiece is the Saskatchewan Legislative Building, completed in 1912 and a designated National Historic Site. View the grand staircase, rotunda, galleries and Legislative Assembly Chamber during a guided tour, offered multiple times daily. The colossal structure is a feature of Wascana Centre, a 2,300-acre urban park with more than 14 km of paved and natural pathways, along with a Habitat Conservation Area that protects a marsh ecosystem. Wascana Centre attractions include the Royal Saskatchewan

Museum, which exhibits the world's largest *Tyrannosaurus rex* skeleton (discovered in southern Saskatchewan). The museum's First Nations Gallery reflects the history and traditions of Indigenous peoples and their relationship with the land for over 10,000 years.

Government House was built in 1891 to house the Lieutenant Governor of the Northwest Territories. It now welcomes guests on tours of the museum, ballroom, conservatory and formal Edwardian Gardens.

**Indian Head**

Indian Head is a thriving agricultural community with friendly shops and restaurants. Its history and character are reflected in heritage homes and buildings that have been preserved, including the Grand Theatre, built in 1904. The Historic Bell Barn was rebuilt from fieldstone of the original round barn on the 50,000-acre Bell Farm, a massive-scale farming operation in the late 1800s. A heritage tour features 45 properties of historical significance. Indian Head Campground has large, pull-through, full hook-up RV sites.



*RCMP Sunset Retreat Ceremony, Regina*



*Historic Bell Barn, Indian Head*



*Tunnels of Moose Jaw*

**Wolseley**

Wolseley, known as "the town around a lake," has maintained and restored many historic buildings, including the Wolseley Courthouse, built in 1893-1895 – the oldest court building in Saskatchewan. A free-standing swinging suspension bridge crosses the reservoir, known as Fairly Lake, and connects the community's north residential area to downtown.

**Whitewood**

A crossroads community at the junction of Highways 1 and 9, Whitewood is a friendly place to stop, relax and learn about the area's diverse and fascinating history. In the 1880s, French and Belgian nobility set sights on replicating their familiar aristocratic lifestyle on the prairies. Two decades later, they retreated; however, their servants and workers sowed the seeds of a French-speaking presence in the area. An award-winning walking tour features 30 historical buildings and heritage sites.

**Moosomin**

Moosomin is a major stop along the Trans-Canada to refuel, stock up on supplies, browse some interesting shops and sit down for a tasty meal. The town's character is reflected in the many well-preserved original buildings and homes. An outdoor medieval-form Chartres-replica labyrinth is a recent addition to the community. Self-guided heritage walking tours include 36 historically significant public buildings, homes, churches, businesses and structures. Moosomin & District Regional Park has pull-through RV sites.



*Motherwell Homestead National Historic Site*

**SIDE TRIP**

**Fort Qu'Appelle, Lebret, Motherwell Homestead National Historic Site**

At Balgonie, take the Highway 10 turn-off for a scenic drive through the Qu'Appelle Valley. Discover friendly towns, a chain of sparkling lakes and plenty of spots to camp overnight. Fort Qu'Appelle was a Hudson Bay Company fur trading post in the 1860s and later the site of Treaty 4 negotiations. One of the fort's original buildings remains standing and now houses a museum. The scenic Tansi Trail is part of the Trans Canada Trail and loops through the town and Treaty 4 grounds.

Lebret is situated along Mission Lake and is home to the impressive fieldstone Sacred Heart Church. Overlooking the village is a near century-old wood-frame chapel and procession of the Stations of the Cross. The Lebret Museum shares stories of First Nations, Métis and early settlement, and displays items of religious and historical significance. An onsite gallery exhibits Indigenous and local artwork.

Follow Highway 22 to visit the Motherwell Homestead National Historic Site, near Abernethy. Explore the home and farm of W.R. Motherwell and learn about his influence in the development of agriculture in Western Canada. The site is open from late-May until Labour Day. Guests can stroll the property and participate in activities led by interpretive staff in period costume. A 1.5-km nature trail leads to a nearby wetland that is habitat to a variety of birds. The parking lot accommodates RVs.

# RED COAT TRAIL HIGHWAY 13



Fort Walsh National Historic Site, Cypress Hills Interprovincial Park

The Red Coat Trail approximates the journey taken by the North West Mounted Police (NWMP) on their March West in 1874. The highway stretches across southern Saskatchewan, passing through friendly communities and landscapes that echo stories and legends of the past. Side trips off the main route take visitors into the deep south, where the panorama shifts from forested areas to prairie grassland; from dinosaur country to haunting badlands. Consider circling off Highway 13 and discovering more about Saskatchewan – its history, diverse cultures, and places that surprise and captivate visitors.

## Fort Walsh National Historic Site/Cypress Hills Interprovincial Park

The Cypress Hills Massacre in 1873 accelerated the deployment of the NWMP to Canada's western frontier. Fort Walsh National Historic Site, located in Cypress Hills Interprovincial Park – West Block, is a logical place to start your Red Coat Trail journey (or end, if you are travelling east to west). Paved access to the West Block is via Highway 271, which is south of the Trans Canada and passes through Maple Creek.

Plan to spend a day or two exploring the area, which reaches an elevation of 1,392 m above sea level, marking the province's highest

geographical point. Wake up to the heady aroma of the lodgepole pine forest in one of the park's scenic campgrounds.

Access to the Centre Block requires backtracking towards Maple Creek and turning south on Highway 21. The majority of park facilities and services are in the Centre Block, including six main campgrounds and more than 27 km of nature and hiking trails, plus spectacular viewpoints. The park is a designated Dark Sky Preserve with a dome observatory and telescopes for celestial viewing. Camping is available from the May long weekend until late September. Leaving the Centre Block, follow Highway 21 south to connect to the Red Coat Trail.

## Eastend

The town of Eastend is situated along the Frenchman River. A popular destination for fossil hunters, Eastend is home to Scotty the T. rex, the world's largest *Tyrannosaurus rex* skeleton that was discovered nearby in 1991 and later excavated. Scotty is on display at the T.rex Discovery Centre, which showcases the rich geological and fossil heritage of southwest Saskatchewan.

Eastend Campground has full hook-up sites. Outside of town, Jones' Peak offers a breathtaking view of the river valley and

surrounding land, and is a popular lookout for spotting birds and wildlife. Due to the steep incline, large vehicles and RVs have limited access to the peak; however, it is worth hiking the rest of the way up to see this magnificent panorama.

## Shaunavon

You can work up a powerful appetite exploring southern Saskatchewan. Shaunavon's Harvest Eatery and The Blind Boar is an award-winning restaurant that brings an inspired dining experience to the intimate rural setting. Stroll the town and stop in at The Ole Blacksmith Shop for antiques and collectibles. The Grand Coteau Heritage & Cultural Centre houses natural history and heritage museums, an art gallery, library and tourist information centre. Shaunavon has several municipal and private campgrounds for overnight stays.

## Assiniboia

The Shurniak Gallery in Assiniboia holds the extensive and permanent collection of founder William Shurniak, amassed during a lifetime of world travel. Seven gallery rooms feature exhibitions of international and Canadian paintings, sculptures and artifacts. The onsite Fresh Start restaurant serves tasty lunches and fresh baking.



Castle Butte

**Ogema**

Ogema is another recommended food stop. Solo Italia Fine Pasta brings a taste of Italy to Saskatchewan. Though not a sit-down restaurant, it attracts people from far and near for its wood-fired Naples-style pizza that cooks in minutes. In the summer, the Southern Prairie Railway transports passengers back in time with style, elegance and old-fashioned charm. The Deep South Pioneer Museum recreates a pioneer village with 31 heritage buildings and a large collection of artifacts.

**Weyburn**

Weyburn's 180-acre Tatagwa Parkway urban conservation area consists of two sections: Signal Hill and Red Coat Nature Habitats, both protected from vehicle traffic. Ten kilometres of walking and biking trails weave through the parkway. Signage identifies native plant and wildlife species. Two islands were created on

the Souris River to protect waterfowl. River Park Campground is close to city attractions.

The Weyburn and Area Heritage Village replicates an early 1900 village community through its collection of buildings and artifacts. The Soo Line Historical Museum and Tourism Information Centre highlights stories and history of the area and includes the largest private collection of silver known to exist – 5,000 items are on display.

**Carlyle**

An important shopping and service hub in southeast Saskatchewan, Carlyle also has a number of restaurants, recreational and cultural facilities. Its Rusty Relics Museum is housed in a 1909 CN Railway station and showcases railroad and community history, as well as travelling exhibits. Full-service campsites are located in Lions Park. Nearby

Cannington Manor Provincial Historic Park, open in summer, reflects a chapter in history when eastern settlers, attracted by agricultural opportunities, tried to recreate an aristocratic English lifestyle on the prairies.

**Moose Mountain Provincial Park**

North of Carlyle on Highway 9, Moose Mountain Provincial Park is one of Saskatchewan's oldest parks. It is situated along Kenosee Lake and features beautiful stands of birch and poplar along the hilly topography. A heavily wooded area, uncommon for southern Saskatchewan, Moose Mountain is a sanctuary for birds and wildlife, and also home to rare plant species. An extensive trail system winds through the park. Camping is available from mid-May until late September.



Southern Prairie Railway, Ogema



Moose Mountain Provincial Park

## SIDE TRIP

## Grasslands National Park and south Saskatchewan badlands



Grasslands National Park

Grasslands National Park is in two sections. Travelling south on Highway 4 will take you to the West Block entrance. Take the Ecotour Scenic Drive and view Plains bison as they roam the land, grazing on native grasses. Black-tailed prairie dogs and pronghorns are just some of the species that inhabit the area. More than 12,000 tipi rings dot the landscape.

Circle around on Highway 18 to access the East Block – dinosaur country. The Rock Creek Badlands yield a treasure trove of fossils and archaeological adventures. The 11-km Badlands Parkway is a paved route with six scenic viewpoints – stop and enjoy some of the province's most spectacular vistas. At night, spread out a blanket and gaze at the stars in this designated Dark Sky Preserve.

Two campgrounds in the park accommodate RV travellers – Frenchman Valley Campground (West Block) and Rock Creek Campground (East Block). Both have dumping stations. There is limited potable water at the sites (RVers are advised to come with full water tanks).

Wood Mountain Post Provincial Historic Park conserves the site of the NWMP post established in 1874 to patrol the Canada/U.S. border and police whiskey traders, horse thieves and cattle rustlers. It rose to prominence in 1876, when Chief Sitting Bull and 5,000 members of the Sioux (Lakota) First Nation took refuge in Canada after the Battle of the Little Bighorn. The park features two

reconstructed buildings that tell the story of NWMP Major James Walsh and his negotiations with the Chief. Camping is available at nearby Wood Mountain Regional Park.

The more than 300 rock carvings in St. Victor Petroglyphs Provincial Historic Park, off of Highway 2, are among Saskatchewan's great unsolved mysteries. Carved between 500-1700 A.D., they are the only known petroglyphs on the Canadian Plains that are etched upon a horizontal surface. Early morning or near sunset are the best times to view the glyphs from the public lookout point. Although the site is fenced, pre-arranged tours are offered by the Friends of St. Victor Petroglyphs.

The Big Muddy Badlands are sprawling, intricate hills, valleys and caves that once provided refuge for Chief Sitting Bull. Later, they were a hideout for legendary outlaws Sam Kelly, Dutch Henry and the Sundance Kid. Coronach Tourism offers full- and half-day guided tours of the badlands, outlaw caves and local Indigenous sites. Pre-booking is required and visitors use their own vehicle (some areas are difficult for RVs to manoeuvre).

Castle Butte, a relic of the Ice Age, rises 60 metres above the surrounding landscape. The mammoth natural formation was a landmark for Indigenous peoples, the NWMP and early Canadian settlers. Castle Butte is on private land, but accessible to the public from June–October.

## SIDE TRIP

## Gravelbourg, Old Wives Lake Nature Area

Turn north at Highway 58 and you'll arrive at Gravelbourg in minutes. The Francophone community offers visitors "a touch of Europe on the prairies" and is known for its vibrant culture and regal architecture. Gravelbourg is home to Our Lady of the Assumption Co-Cathedral Notre Dame de l'Assomption, which was built in 1918-1919. The National Historic Site features magnificent stained-glass windows from France and an arched ceiling painted by Monsignor Charles Maillard, whose works also adorn the walls. Cathedral tours are available by appointment. The Gravelbourg & District Museum exhibits sketches and paintings by Msgr. Maillard, and offers tours of the local historic sites, including the former Convent of Jesus and Mary.

Follow Highway 2 to reach Old Wives Lake Nature Area near Mossbank. It is a designated Migratory Bird Sanctuary and part of the network of Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserves. Old Wives Lake is the second largest saline lake in Canada and one of the best bird watching spots. In spring and fall, numerous



Our Lady of the Assumption Co-Cathedral

bird species rest and feed here during migration. It is a stopping point for several at-risk species, including the piping plover and long-billed curlew. A 2.4-km walking trail winds through natural terrain. A viewing deck, gazebo and picnic areas complete the trail.

# TRANS-CANADA YELLOWHEAD HIGHWAY 16



*Wanuskewin Heritage Park, Saskatoon*

Trans-Canada Yellowhead Highway 16 is the major route across central Saskatchewan. It navigates rolling parkland, passes through areas abundant with birds and wildlife, and crosses the North and South Saskatchewan Rivers. The highway connects to historic sites and communities where cultural traditions and storytelling create memorable visitor experiences. Yorkton, Saskatoon, North Battleford and Lloydminster are cities along the corridor.

## **Lloydminster**

Straddling the border of Alberta and Saskatchewan, Lloydminster boasts a mix of homespun hospitality with big city amenities. The historic downtown is home to more than 100 retailers, restaurants and services. The new Lloydminster Museum and Archives features a permanent gallery dedicated to the history of the city and region.

## **The Battlefords**

Battleford is the oldest settlement community in Saskatchewan and was once the Territorial Capital of more than 6.47 million sq. km – two thirds of Canada. Town features include period homes and heritage properties built in the late 1800s and early 1900s. Visit Fort Battleford National Historic Site to learn about the fort's role during the 1885 Northwest Resistance and understand the perspectives of First Nations, Métis, North West Mounted Police and settlers during this tumultuous period.

Across the river, the city of North Battleford is a major centre for business and recreation. The Allen Sapp Gallery is deemed North Battleford's cultural flagship for its collection

of paintings by the renowned Cree artist Allen Sapp. At the Western Development Museum North Battleford, visitors are immersed in the story of Saskatchewan rural life. The 100-acre site includes a heritage village, restored grain elevator and working farm depicting the boom years of the 1920s. The David Laird Campground is a treed, 20-acre RV park with non-electric and full hook-up campsites.

## **Saskatoon**

Saskatoon is described as being the best of both worlds – dynamic urban energy in sync with nature. The Meewasin Valley is Canada's largest urban conservation zone and ecological corridor, covering hundreds of acres of protected habitat and more than 100 km of trails.

Wanuskewin Heritage Park, on the city's northern fringe, has long been a spiritual gathering place for Indigenous peoples.

Within the property is the juncture of the serene Ophimihaw Creek and the mighty South Saskatchewan River. Tours highlight the significance of the site, which is Canada's longest, continuously operating archaeological excavation project. Enjoy Indigenous cuisine with a contemporary twist at the onsite restaurant or shop for authentic handmade items in the gift shop.

The Western Development Museum Saskatoon features 1910 Boomtown – a life-size re-creation of a main street from yesteryear. Visitors enjoy the impressive collection of antique vehicles, and savour the hospitality and menu offered at the onsite Boomtown Café.

The Remai Modern is considered one of North America's most visionary new art museums. Its bold architecture makes a dramatic statement. Step through the doors and explore its extensive Picasso collection, as well as exhibitions of modern and contemporary art.

The Ukrainian Museum of Canada focuses on Ukrainian culture and exhibits decorative textiles, folk art, photographs and items of historical significance. At the University of Saskatchewan, stroll through the Museum of Antiquities, which features full-scale replica of Greek, Roman, Egyptian and Near Eastern sculptures, as well as original ancient coins, glass and pottery. The Museum of Natural Sciences, also on campus, features casts of dinosaur skeletons, along with fossils, minerals and displays that trace the Earth's natural history and evolution.

## **Wynyard, Foam Lake – Quill Lakes International Bird Area**

Wynyard and Foam Lake each have facilities that showcase the Quill Lakes International Bird Area, which contains Canada's largest saline lake and sees more than a million waterfowl, shorebirds and songbirds each year. It is a renowned birdwatching location.

The Quill Lakes Interpretive Centre, in Wynyard, provides visitors with information about local nature viewing sites, as well as area history and folklore.



Quill Lakes



Allen Sapp Gallery, North Battleford

The Foam Lake Visitor Centre offers interpretive displays and information about nearby nature and walking trails. The adjacent campground has 18 sites with electrical hook-up. The Foam Lake Heritage Marsh has three viewing areas with walking trails and lookout points where visitors can spot wildlife and birds – sandhill cranes, great blue herons, swans, pelicans and more.

#### Yorkton

Yorkton is a major commercial hub for east central Saskatchewan. The friendly city is rich

in heritage, cultural and agricultural traditions. Contemporary artwork enhances public spaces in the form of sculptures, murals, monuments and street installations that complement heritage properties and neighbourhoods. The Western Development Museum Yorkton tells *The Story of People* through displays that reflect cultural influences and trace the development of agriculture in the area.

Community pride and support drove an ambitious restoration of the Yorkton Brick

Flour Mill, which offers guided tours in the summer months (online booking required). Storyboards on the grounds highlight milestones in the mill's history and share insights on pre-settlement times.

The Yorkton Visitor Information Centre caters to RV travellers and offers sewage disposal and potable water. Both the city campground and nearby York Lake Regional Park have pull-through RV sites and dumping stations.

## SIDE TRIP

### St. Walburg, Steele Narrows Provincial Historic Park, Meadow Lake Provincial Park

A turn north onto Highway 21, then onto Highway 26 (via Highway 3) takes you to St. Walburg. South of town, the original homestead of Count Berthold Von Imhoff is now a museum and gallery (guided tours only). The property includes the acclaimed artist's studio, farmhouse and other buildings. Imhoff's paintings graced more than 100 churches and cathedrals throughout North America. The 1916 residence reflects Bavarian architectural elements and features the artist's original ceiling frescoes.

Further north, Steele Narrows Provincial Historic Park marks the site of the Battle of Loon Lake, the final conflict in the 1885 Northwest Resistance and the last military battle to be fought on Canadian soil. Nearby Makwa Lake Provincial Park features an expansive forest that frames five lakes. The park has three campgrounds and offers pull-through RV sites.

Meadow Lake Provincial Park has more than 20 lakes, rivers and streams within its boundaries. The epic 135-km Boreal Trail traverses wild and varied ecosystems within the northern forest. Greig Lake, Kimball Lake, Sandy Beach and Murray Doell campgrounds are recommended for RV travellers.



Imhoff Museum &amp; Art Gallery

**SIDE TRIP****Redberry Lake Biosphere Region**

Take Highway 40 for a scenic drive that leads to the Redberry Lake Biosphere Region, one of only 19 UNESCO biosphere regions in Canada. The environment includes a saline lake, fresh water lakes, natural prairies, ponds, marshes and aspen groves. It is a designated Important Bird Area and offers many birdwatching opportunities along its winding trails.

*Redberry Lake Biosphere Region***SIDE TRIP****Manitou Beach, Last Mountain Lake National Wildlife Area, Humboldt**

Venture south on Highway 2 to Watrous, then turn north on Highway 365 to get to Manitou Beach. The resort village reflects the spirit of a time when excursion trains brought vacationers to the area for relaxation and entertainment. Manitou Beach is along the shore of Little Manitou Lake, which has an intense mineral concentration and draws people from around the world for its reputed healing properties and remarkable buoyancy – it is impossible to sink in this water. Manitou Springs Resort & Mineral Spa welcomes visitors to soak in the indoor pool. Danceland is a legendary dance hall with one of the last horsehair-sprung floors in North America. Adjacent to the village, Manitou & District Regional Park is an ideal stop for RVers, with pull-through sites for same day hold available.

Head south on Highway 2, then east on Highway 15. The Last Mountain Lake National Wildlife Area is home to the oldest bird sanctuary in North America. Over 200 species migrate through the area, while others nest here. Public facilities are on the north end of Last Mountain Lake and include self-guided trails, an observation tower and picnic site.

Take Highway 20 north to Humboldt, which reflects the traditions and influence of German settlers. Climb the historic Humboldt Water Tower for one of the best 360-degree views of the area. Visit the Original Humboldt Historic Site, just west of the city, where walking trails, interpretive storyboards and art installations share accounts of early settlement, episodes in the Northwest Resistance and the story of Chief Whitecap.

*Little Manitou Lake***SIDE TRIP****Good Spirit Lake Provincial Park, Duck Mountain Provincial Park**

From Yorkton, travel north on Highway 9, then west on Highway 229 to visit Good Spirit Lake Provincial Park. The park is renowned for its shallow, white sand beach, and has its own natural sand dunes that reach up to five stories tall. They can be explored along the 3-km Dunes Discovery Trail. For a longer trek, hike the 18-km stretch of the Trans Canada Trail.

On Highway 5, travel east and then turn onto Highway 57 to get to Duck Mountain Provincial Park, popular for its boreal forest setting, 130-km trails system and lakes teeming with pike, walleye and perch. At nearby Veregin, the National Doukhobor Heritage Village Site features a number of reconstructed buildings that reflect the life and customs of Doukhobor settlers. The original 1917 Prayer Home is an area landmark. Its distinct design mirrors Doukhobor architecture in mid-1800s Russia.

*Duck Mountain Provincial Park*

# LOUIS RIEL TRAIL HIGHWAY 11



*Back to Batoche Days*

The Louis Riel Trail is a 391-km route from Regina to Saskatoon to Prince Albert. The highway is named in honour of Louis Riel, who led Métis and allied First Nations in defense of their land during the 1885 Northwest Resistance. Riel was captured by government forces and brought to Regina, where he stood trial and was executed for treason. Sites along the Louis Riel Trail mark episodes in the resistance and highlight stories of Métis and First Nations peoples.

#### **Batoche National Historic Site**

At Rosthern, turn east onto Highway 312, then onto Highway 225, to visit Batoche National Historic Site. View history through the experiences of Métis residents who farmed along the South Saskatchewan River and had their way of life disrupted in the late 1800s. Guided and self-guided summer tours pass by remaining homes, the restored St.-Antoine-de-Padoue church and rectory, and the site of the Battle of Batoche – where

residents defended their land during the 1885 Northwest Resistance. Visitors are urged to plan ahead and check the Parks Canada website, [pc.gc.ca](http://pc.gc.ca), for hours of operation.

#### **Duck Lake Regional Interpretive Centre**

Through exhibits, activities and displays of artifacts, stories are shared about the Northwest Resistance and First Nations, Métis and settler history in 1870-1905. The centre features a 24-m tower and viewing platform, sculpture court and picnic area, and has ample parking.

#### **Fort Carlton Provincial Park**

At Duck Lake, turn west on Highway 212 to reach Fort Carlton Provincial Park. An important station for the Hudson's Bay Company and negotiation site for Treaty 6, Fort Carlton caught fire and was destroyed during a hasty evacuation that took place during the Northwest Resistance. Today, the site features a reconstructed palisade, trade

store, fur and provisions storage, clerks' quarters and tipi encampment. Interpretive programming and hands-on activities are offered during the summer.

#### **Prince Albert**

Prince Albert is Saskatchewan's oldest city, and often called the Gateway to the North. It is situated along the North Saskatchewan River in an area where the picture-perfect agricultural landscape transitions to boreal forest. Recreational and leisure opportunities abound. The city is encircled by the 23-km Rotary Trail and has a 500-hectare forest park. Prince Albert has all the amenities that come with a progressive, mid-size urban centre. A treed campground within the city has full hook-up sites and is an ideal overnight stop for RV travellers. Take time to refresh, recharge and enjoy the local hospitality and cuisine before heading north on Highway 2 to Prince Albert National Park.



*Fort Carlton Provincial Historic Park*



*Prince Albert*



Prince Albert National Park

Open year round, Prince Albert National Park protects 3,875 sq. km of boreal forest and an abundance of lakes, rivers and wetlands. It is a sanctuary for wildlife, birds and rare flora and fauna. Sightings of moose and elk are common, and the park is home to a protected pelican nesting colony, as well as healthy loon populations. In summer and shoulder seasons, the park maintains an extensive network of hiking trails that wind along the lakes and through the forest. Two marinas offer boat, canoe and kayak rentals. The cabin of famed conservationist Grey Owl is on the shore of Ajawaan Lake, and accessible by canoe or kayak. On foot, it is a 20-km hike (one way).

Travelling east on Highway 55 leads to communities popular for outdoor recreation and adventure. Nipawin is nestled between Tobin and Codette Lakes. Framed by boreal forest, it is hailed a

paradise for nature lovers. Tobin Lake is one of the top walleye lakes in North America. The Nipawin & District Living Forestry Museum is a 14-acre site with heritage buildings, a steam-powered sawmill operation and other displays. Nipawin & District Regional Park has more than 180 serviced sites and RV lots, all among forests of birch, pine and tamarack.

Carrot River, named after the wild carrots that grow along the riverbanks, is officially branded *Saskatchewan's Outback* for the outdoor experiences and adventures in the Pasquia Hills and area. Pasquia Regional Park offers pull-through sites with electrical hook-up, potable water and sanitation disposal. The Dickson Hardie Interpretive Centre, located in the park, is home to a permanent display of 92 million-year-old Big Bert, the world's most complete *Terminoraris robusta* skeleton. Discovered in the area in 1991, the 5.8-m ancestor of the modern crocodile hunted its prey when Saskatchewan was an inland sea.

## SIDE TRIP

## Kichiota Indigenous Destinations

Saskatchewan's first Indigenous tourism corridor, Kichiota Indigenous Destinations is a partnership between Beardy's & Okemasis' Cree Nation, Wanuskewin Heritage Park and Whitecap Dakota First Nation (Highway 219, south of Saskatoon). The corridor offers a variety of experiences that highlight the history and traditions of Northern Plains Indigenous cultures.

Whitecap Dakota First Nation is home to Dakota Dunes Resort, which features the popular Dakota Dunes Casino and a new hotel complex that reflects Indigenous heritage in its design and décor. Resort experiences include golfing the award-winning links-style course, learning Indigenous games and setting up a tipi, Dakota style. Dine at the Moose Woods Home Fire Grill, which has a farm-to-table menu.

Wanuskewin Heritage Park is a flagship attraction and the location of Canada's longest running archaeological dig site. Traces of human history, dating back 6,400 years, have been uncovered there. The park features bison jumps, tipi rings and an ancient medicine wheel. Its resident Plains bison herd are descendants of the last 1,000 bison on the prairies before their near extinction in the 1870s.



Dakota Dunes Resort

Travel experiences at Beardy's & Okemasis' Cree Nation continue to evolve, with overnight glamping, cultural cuisine and performances among the offerings. A 30-km forested trail, part of the Trans Canada Trail, connects to Fort Carlton.

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