EXPLORE!
Winter transforms the Icefields Parkway, one of the world’s most scenic drives. Ancient glaciers glow winter white under blankets of fresh snow. Quiet descends, broken only by far off sounds of ice crevasses growling as they grow. Snow-covered trails entice drivers to pull over, don snowshoes and break trail below some of the highest mountains in the Canadian Rockies.

LOOKING FOR ADVENTURE?

LOOKING FOR A QUICK AND SCENIC STOP?

NIGEL PASS
MODERATE – SNOWSHOES OR BACKCOUNTRY SKIS
Trailhead: 96 km south of Jasper, 137 km north of Lake Louise
14 km/5-6 hrs return; 385 m elevation gain
PC.gc.ca/jaspertrails pc.gc.ca/banfftrails

VALLEY OF THE FIVE LAKES
MODERATE – SNOWSHOES OR BACKCOUNTRY SKIS
4.5 km/4-5 hrs return; 65 m elevation gain/loss
Trailhead: 9 km south of Jasper, 224 km north of Lake Louise
Five small, picturesque lakes in a sunny valley are the highlights of this outing, a local family favourite.

WANT TO STRETCH YOUR LEGS?

ATHABASCA FALLS
EASY – SNOWSHOES OR STURDY BOOTS
1 km/20 mins return; no elevation gain/loss
Trailhead: 30 km south of Jasper, 203 km north of Lake Louise
Watch the ever-changing ice formations and hear the roar of the water behind the ice. Be safe and stay back, running and designated trails, and do not venture out on the ice.

SASKATCHEWAN CROSSING VIEWPOINT
EASY – SNOWSHOES OR CROSS-COUNTRY SKIS
2 km/45 mins return to upper falls, 30 m elevation gain/loss
Trailhead: 54 km south of Jasper, 179 km north of Lake Louise
Snowshoe or ski a kilometre to this spectacular icefall and watch as it plunges into a deep canyon or continue another 2 kilometres on an easy trail to the lower falls.

TOE OF THE ATHABASCA GLACIER
EASY – SNOWSHOES OR CROSS-COUNTRY SKIS
4 km/2 hrs return to toe of glacier, 30 m elevation gain/loss
Trailhead: 103 km south of Jasper, 130 km north of Lake Louise
Explore the area below the glacier, surrounded by towering mountains.
CAUTION: Do not walk on the glacier as hidden crevasses and other hazards can be deadly, even in winter.

PEYTO LAKE
MODERATE – SNOWSHOES OR BACKCOUNTRY SKIS
2.5 km/50 mins return to Peyto Lake viewpoint; 60 m elevation gain/loss
Trailhead: 190 km south of Jasper, 43 km north of Lake Louise
A short uphill snowshoe or ski from the road leads to a panoramic view of beautiful Peyto Lake.

SNOWWAFTA FALLS
EASY – SNOWSHOES OR CROSS-COUNTRY SKIS
3.5 km/1.5 hrs return to lower falls, 87 m elevation gain/loss
Trailhead: 10 km north of Lake Louise

Cette roche est une source de Bow River. Les superbes vues incluent le Wapta Icefield, Bow Glacier, Crowfoot Mountain et le mont Thompson.

WATCH FOR WILDLIFE
Look out for bighorn sheep, mountain goats, coyotes and deer; they are commonly sighted along the Parkway in winter.
Do not feed or approach wildlife, and stay at least 30 meters from all animals. Pets must be on a leash at all times.

WANT TO STRAP ON SNOWSHOES OR SKIS?

EXPERIENCE THE ICEFIELDS PARKWAY IN WINTER

TANGLE FALLS
Trailhead: 0 km south of Jasper, 40 km north of Lake Louise
One of the most scenic lakes along the Parkway and the source of the Bow River. The stunning views take in the Wapta Icefield, Bow Glacier, Crowfoot Mountain and Mount Thompson.

CROWFOOT GLACIER
Trailhead: 197 km south of Jasper, 36 km north of Lake Louise
A gentle climb through open forest leads to the wide-open alpine scenery at the Jasper-Banff park boundary.

CAUTION: Challenging avalanche terrain.
A gentle climb through open forest leads to the toe of the Athabasca Glacier; look out for bighorn sheep, mountain goats, coyotes and deer; they are commonly sighted along the Parkway in winter.

SASKATCHEWAN CROSSING VIEWPOINT
Easy – Snowshoes or cross-country skis
2 km/45 mins return to upper falls, 30 m elevation gain/loss
Trailhead: 54 km south of Jasper, 179 km north of Lake Louise
Snowshoe or ski a kilometre to this spectacular icefall and watch as it plunges into a deep canyon or continue another 2 kilometres on an easy route to the lower falls.

TOE OF THE ATHABASCA GLACIER
Easy – Snowshoes or cross-country skis
4 km/2 hrs return to toe of glacier, 30 m elevation gain/loss
Trailhead: 103 km south of Jasper, 130 km north of Lake Louise
Explore the area below the glacier, surrounded by towering mountains.
CAUTION: Do not walk on the glacier as hidden crevasses and other hazards can be deadly, even in winter.

PEYTO LAKE
Moderate – Snowshoes or backcountry skis
2.5 km/50 mins return to Peyto Lake viewpoint; 60 m elevation gain/loss
Trailhead: 190 km south of Jasper, 43 km north of Lake Louise
A short uphill snowshoe or ski from the road leads to a panoramic view of beautiful Peyto Lake.

CAUTION: Challenging avalanche terrain.
Ski in the vies along the shore of Bow Lake or head up towards Bow Glacier Falls.

TRAIL REPORTS
PC.gc.ca/jaspertrails pc.gc.ca/banfftrails

YOU'RE PARKS PASS
When this glacier was named a century ago, it looked like a three-toed crow’s foot. Since then, one toe has melted, and the middle toe is slowly disappearing.

ATHABASCA FALLS
Easy – Snowshoes or sturdy boots
1 km/20 mins return; no elevation gain/loss
Trailhead: 30 km south of Jasper, 203 km north of Lake Louise
Watch the ever-changing ice formations and hear the roar of the water behind the ice. Be safe and stay back, running and designated trails, and do not venture out on the ice.

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Ski in the vies along the shore of Bow Lake or head up towards Bow Glacier Falls.

VALLEY OF THE FIVE LAKES
Moderate – Snowshoes
4.5 km/4-5 hrs return; 65 m elevation gain/loss
Trailhead: 9 km south of Jasper, 224 km north of Lake Louise
Five small, picturesque lakes in a sunny valley are the highlights of this outing, a local family favourite.

NIGEL PASS
Moderate – Snowshoes or backcountry skis
14 km/5-6 hrs return; 385 m elevation gain
Trailhead: 9 km south of Jasper, 224 km north of Lake Louise
Washington, D.C. • banff@ga.gc.ca • Visit an information centre.

Lake Louise Visitor Centre: 403-522-3833
Valley of the Five Lakes
Moderate – Snowshoes or backcountry skis
4.5 km/4-5 hrs return; 65 m elevation gain/loss
Trailhead: 9 km south of Jasper, 224 km north of Lake Louise
Five small, picturesque lakes in a sunny valley are the highlights of this outing, a local family favourite.

Lake Louise Visitor Centre: 403-522-3833

The Icefields Parkway was built by Parks Canada as a scenic drive to showcase the natural beauty of the Bow and Banff national parks. A valid national parks pass is required to drive the Icefields Parkway. Proceeds from pass sales support maintenance, plowing, sanding and avalanche control. If you’re a frequent visitor to Canada’s national parks and historic sites, consider purchasing a Discover Pass for unlimited access to many of Canada’s extraordinary treasures. Details and fees are listed at: pc.gc.ca/jasper fees.
WINTER SAFETY

To experience the beauty of winter on the Icefields Parkway, our recommendations include dressing warmly and being prepared for changing conditions. Wearing waterproof, warm clothing, wearing snowshoes, warm clothing, and a little preparation will help ensure a safe and enjoyable journey.

**DRIVE SAFELY PLAN AHEAD**

- **Plan to start early and complete your drive (at least 10 hours) to allow for breaks and stopovers along the way.** During daylight hours, snow clearing and maintenance can be time-consuming. If you don’t have room to stop overnight, plan your sleep and rest stops for daylight hours.

- Ensure your car has snow tires—look for the checkmark symbol. Deluxe snow tires are mandatory.

- Fill your gas tank and carry extra windshield fluid. There are no services along the Icefields Parkway in winter.

- Have a safety kit in your vehicle that includes: a cell phone, a hand warmer, heat, water, energy bars, candles, extra clothing, and blankets.

- Talk to someone who, when you are late, knows when you plan on arriving.

- Ensure you are comfortable with winter driving conditions. Drivers should drive based on comfort level and experience.

- The parkway is not salted and it can often be covered in compacted snow. Sanding periods of stable weather, even compacted snow can result in challenging driving conditions.

- Road reports are based on the worst condition that can be experienced. Use the reports to plan your trip. Weather can change quickly, often changing the road conditions.

- Don’t forget to wear your winter-worthy play gear (such as winter clothing, boots, snowshoes, etc.). You will want to stop and explore the magic of winter along the way!

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**THE ICEFIELDS PARKWAY Winter Driving Guide**

**MAP KEY**

- Single dot indicates a pullout (service area).
- Double dot indicates a viewpoint (scenic area).
- Three dots indicate a large viewpoint (for photographing).
- Solid lines indicate paved roads.
- Broken lines indicate unpaved roads.
- Dotted lines indicate ferry, walkway, or boat passage.
- Blue lines indicate a river.
- Green triangles indicate a wildlife viewing area.
- Red triangles indicate a mountain or peak.
- Yellow triangles indicate a viewpoint.
- Green circles indicate a pullout.
- Green ovals indicate a viewpoint.

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**HIGHLIGHTS**

- Explore the Athabasca Glacier viewpoint. Take note of the height and environment, weather can change very quickly.
- Allow extra time to stop and explore the landscape. You will want to stop and explore the magic of winter along the way.
- Keep an eye out for wildlife viewing opportunities along the way.

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**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

- Check the road conditions and driving restrictions before heading out.
- The parkway is not salted and can often be covered in compacted snow. Sanding periods of stable weather, even compacted snow can result in challenging driving conditions.
- Keep an eye out for wildlife viewing opportunities along the way. Be sure to stay on the designated pathways to avoid disturbing the wildlife.
- The parkway is not salted and can often be covered in compacted snow. Sanding periods of stable weather, even compacted snow can result in challenging driving conditions.

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**SAFETY TIPS**

- Wear warm clothing, boots, and snowshoes.
- Pack extra clothing, food, water, and supplies.
- Check the road conditions and driving restrictions before heading out.
- Keep an eye out for wildlife viewing opportunities along the way.
- Be prepared for changing weather conditions.