



Art in the Park Ivvavik National Park June, 2012



Project Information and What to Expect

About Ivvavik National Park

Ivvavik National Park is the first national park created as the result of an aboriginal land claim in Canada. It was established in 1984 with the signing of the Inuvialuit Final Agreement. The park includes parts of the British and Richardson Mountains. Most of the park was not glaciated during the last ice age, leading to distinctive landscape features such as tors and V-shaped river valleys. People have travelled here for millennia: cultural sites as old as 8,000 years have been found in the park. The immense Porcupine caribou herd travels through the park twice a year between its winter grounds in the central Yukon and its calving grounds along the shores of the Beaufort Sea.

About *Art in the Park*

For Parks Canada, *Art in the Park* is an exciting way to help Canadians learn about places like Ivvavik National Park. The program brings together artists from the founding culture of this region – the Inuvialuit – and popular artists from the rest of Canada. Together they explore and are inspired by this magnificent place.

Please read this information carefully. It will help you to prepare, and to get the most from your experience.





About Sheep Creek, Ivvavik National Park

Sheep Creek is near the centre of Ivvavik National Park, on the North Slope of the Yukon. Before the national park was established, a placer mining operation was located at the confluence of Sheep Creek and the Firth River. Today it is Parks Canada's base of operations in Ivvavik National Park, and our base camp for Art in the Park. Parks Canada provides transportation from Inuvik, NT to Sheep Creek and back via chartered aircraft.

Weather

Mid June is early summer in Ivvavik National Park. This is a rich and busy time of year. The Porcupine caribou herd may be in the park, along with their predators, wolves and grizzly bears. Birds are breeding and calling and many wildflowers should be in bloom. Temperatures will be mild; it may even be hot some of the time. Rain or wind can make temperatures drop to near freezing however, particularly on the mountains and ridge tops above camp. There is usually enough breeze to protect us, but in sheltered warm locations insects may be fierce. The sun will be above the horizon 24 hours a day at this time of year. If you think this will make it difficult for you to sleep you may wish to consider bringing a sleeping mask.

Your Safety and Well-Being

The camp is in a remote wilderness area. In the event of an emergency, an aircraft must be called from Inuvik. Under the best possible circumstances, it will be at least four hours before anyone can be evacuated to Inuvik. Under conditions of poor flying weather or lack of aircraft availability this wait time can stretch for many more hours – or for days. Participants must be willing to accept this risk and to manage their own health and safety while in the park. Please call the Parks Canada office in Inuvik if you have additional questions (867-777-8800).

We will ask that participants:

- ***Always let staff know if they leave the camp area and where they are planning to go.***
- ***Hike with at least one other person – we are happy to provide company for hikes!***
- ***Confine all food activities to the kitchen cabin, not taking any food into tents.***
- ***Leave ALL alcoholic beverages at home. Alcohol is not permitted on Parks Canada charters.***
- ***Smoke in designated areas only.***
- ***Help out with kitchen duties such as fetching water and washing dishes.***
- ***Sign a consent form and disclose any medical conditions, medications and allergies that could affect your safety or the safety of others.***

Parks Canada staff are trained in Wilderness First Aid and will have the following safety equipment:

- First aid kits
- Bear deterrents including pepper spray and bangers
- A firearm is present at the camp, for use by trained, designated staff
- Satellite phone
- Satellite pager





Camp Amenities

- Hot showers (brief ones) are available – bring your own towel.
- All meals will be provided in camp.
- Sleeping accommodation is in tents.
- You will need to bring your own sleeping bag.
- A larger tent is available for working in the case of bad weather.
- A shop space is available.
- A generator is available on a limited basis for recharging batteries and for operating power tools.
- Kitchen and dining area are indoors and gear can be dried in the evenings as necessary.
- A pit toilet is located at Sheep Creek base camp. It is the only one in Ivvavik National Park.

Meals

All meals in camp are provided. Please let us know if you have dietary restrictions. The food will be simple but plentiful. Cooking duties will be shared by all participants. Eating utensils are provided.

Emergency Contacts

A message can be sent to us while we are in the park. If you would like to leave contact information in the event of a family emergency, please advise family and friends that they may call Parks Canada's Western Arctic 24-hour duty officer at 867-777-4893. They will page us and we can call back on the satellite phone. Please restrict this to emergencies only.

Equipment Needed

Participants need to provide their own sleeping bags and personal items, but we can lend some equipment if needed. We will provide tents and sleeping pads for participants who wish to borrow them. Please let us know if you prefer to bring your own tent or sleeping pad. A suggested list follows.

Please note that we are flying in by small aircraft that has a fixed weight limit. It is important to keep weight to a minimum, while still bringing what you need. Please consider carefully each item that you wish to bring. A rule of thumb would be about 40 lbs of personal gear (clothing, sleeping bag, etc.) plus your art equipment. If your equipment is unusually bulky or heavy let us know.



Personal Gear and clothing

- ☐ long underwear (top and bottom). Synthetic is better than cotton.
- ☐ heavy wool socks.
- ☐ thin (liner) socks.
- ☐ long-sleeve T-shirts or shirts.
- ☐ loose and comfortable pants for summer use (quick drying material is better than jeans).
- ☐ fleece or other warm pants.
- ☐ fleece jacket or heavy wool sweater.
- ☐ bug jacket or a bug head-net.
- ☐ windbreaker and/or warm jacket
- ☐ rain jacket and rain pants.
- ☐ light down jacket or down vest
- ☐ ball cap and light fleece or wool toque for summer use.
- ☐ hiking boots or comfortable shoes for hiking in
- ☐ running shoes or sport sandals for in camp (nice to have this second pair of shoes as feet may get wet during the day, sandals are useful for crossing the creek)
- ☐ light gloves for summer use.

Personal Equipment

- ☐ sleeping bag and stuff sack
- ☐ thermarest or sleeping pad (we have extras too if needed)
- ☐ backpack or duffel bag for carrying personal gear.
- ☐ day pack for hiking
- ☐ water bottle.
- ☐ toiletry items
- ☐ bath towel, face cloth
- ☐ insect repellent
- ☐ prescription medication.
- ☐ sun screen and chapstick.
- ☐ sunglasses
- ☐ tools, supplies and equipment needed for working in your chosen medium

CONTACT INFORMATION:

www.pc.gc.ca/lvvavik
Phone 867-777-8800
Email: Inuvik.Info@pc.gc.ca

