

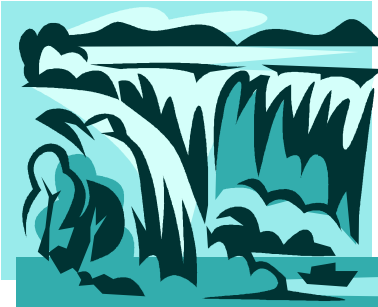
***Fort St. John &
Area
Hiking Trails***



Northwest of Fort St. John

Graham-Laurier Provincial Park & Christina Falls Trail

Christina Falls, Lady-Laurier Lake and abundant wildlife populations are just some of the spectacular features of Graham-Laurier Park. Situated west of the Continental Divide in the Rocky Mountains, the park is a remote wilderness area. Hunting is the main recreation activity in the park. Other backcountry activities include horseback riding, hiking, wildlife and scenery viewing, and fishing. Visitors are drawn to the scenic alpine vistas, the remote, wilderness characteristics and high wildlife values. Christina Falls, located along the Graham River, is a spectacular special feature and is accessed by the Christina Falls trail; this undeveloped trail is 22 km long and is open to ATV's only and non-motorized users. A number of other non-motorized routes can be found throughout the park along Emmerslund, Needham and Horn Creeks, and the Graham River.



Turn left off the Alaska Hwy on the Mile 95 Rd (just before Wonowon). While it is not a radio controlled road for civilian traffic, keep in mind that there is a lot of Oilfield traffic on this road as well as Logging activity at certain times of the year, so drive safe. Keep following south and then east on the Upper Halfway Rd, past Halfway-Graham Recreational Site onto 117 Rd/Halfway

Graham Forest Service Rd. Halfway-Graham Recreational Site is located at the confluence of the Halfway and Graham Rivers. It is a popular site with 12 campsites. The trail departs to the right of the road at Crying Girl Prairie Campsite, and follows remnants of previously used seismic lines to the actual falls.

Another option is to take a river boat and go north up the Peace River and turn right in to the Halfway River. Go up until you come to the Graham River then turn left in to it. Continue up until you get to the falls.

Information sourced from www.env.gov.bc.ca/bc_parks/ and Northern BC Backroad Mapbook.

Chowade River Trail

Follow the previous directions as if you were going to Graham-Laurier Provincial Park, but turn right (north) to the Horseshoe Road from the Halfway Graham Forest Service Road. As soon as you cross Chowade River, turn left (east) and follow the road along the river until you reach the trail.



You can also reach the Chowade River Trail by driving on the Alaska Hwy to Pink Mountain (mile 140). Turn left on to Cypress Creek Road and follow it south. At the junction, keep left continuing south past the Brady Ranch. The road will eventually turn west following the north side of Chowade River and is about 40 km (24 miles) long. The trail will start at the end of the road. The main destination is Graham Laurier Provincial Park, although, there are a number of side roads to explore.

Information sourced from Northern BC Backroad Mapbook.

Cypress Creek Trail

This trail starts about 5 km (3 miles) north of the Cypress airstrip and follows the north side of Cypress Creek for 25 km (15 miles). Sections of the trail can be very wet in the summer, making it a better horse or ATV route.

To get there, follow the directions to the Chowade River Trail, but at the junction, stay right on the Cypress Creek Road.

Information sourced from Northern BC Backroad Mapbook.



Halfway River Trail and Pink Mountain Access

From a parking lot just off the Mile 147 Road (Pink Mountain Rd/ 192 Rd), this trail runs for 30 km (18 miles) along the Halfway River. From here, hikers and horseback riders can continue along unmaintained routes. There are some wet sections in the summer.

Pink Mountain's name originated from a prolific wildflower bloom. When viewed from a distance, the mountain appears pink. It is also known as the best spot in the province to view Arctic butterflies. Caribou like hanging around in the alpine and if you are lucky, you may spot one of the resident bison.

To gain access to the top of Pink Mountain, take Road 192 west on the west side of the highway at approximately Mile 147 of the Alaska Hwy going north, between Mae's Kitchen and the Sasquatch Crossing Lodge (if you reach the Beatton River crossing bridge you've gone too far).

After travelling approximately 16.5 km on the 192 Rd, on the right hand side there is a forest access road that will take you up the mountain from the west side.

Small cars have accessed this road before, but the first 5 km of the road can be rough and muddy especially after rain. Driving very slowly and carefully is strongly advised. The drive to the top should take about 30-40 minutes.

There is a public access/ATV recreation trail for Halfway Valley leading north on the west side of Pink Mountain towards Pink Mountain Provincial Park.

For further information please refer to Northern BC Backroad Mapbook or contact Ministry of Environment: ph.250-787-3411.



Sikanni Chief Falls Provincial Park and Sikanni Chief River Trail

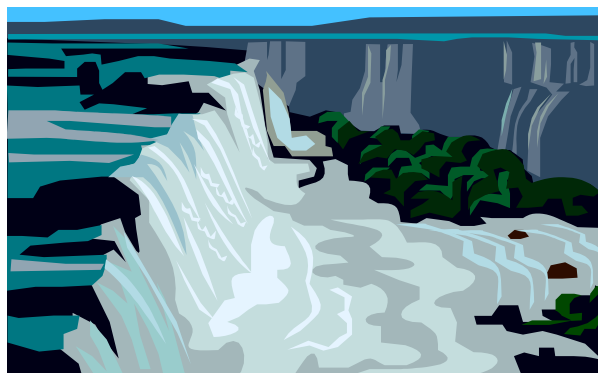
Turn west at the Alaska Hwy and Mason Creek Road junction (about Mile 167 on Alaska Hwy). The road has some large industrial traffic on it, so defensive driving is paramount. The road is also primarily dirt so it can be very slippery when raining. Watch for the three-way road junction, and then stay left.

The parking area is approximately 16.6 km from the highway and has lots of room. During dry weather the parking area would be accessible to small cars and motor homes if good judgement is used. The parking area is mostly gravel and gets lots of use during hunting season. Watch for bear warning signs posted at the trail head.

The falls view point is approximately 1.5 km from the parking area. The trail to the falls is gentle. Several viewing areas have very steep banks with no fall protection or fences.

To access Sikanni Trail, stay on Road 98 and do not turn either way at the three way junction. This route is one of two main access points into Redfern-Keily Provincial Park. ATVs are not allowed into the park via this route. The trail is 32 km (19 miles) long but can be extended along several offshoots. Keep an eye out for mountain goats, moose and raptors.

For further information please refer to Northern BC Backroad Mapbook or contact Ministry of Environment: ph.250-787-3411.



Loranger Creek/Marion Lake Trail

This is an offshoot of the Sikanni Chief River Trail. It is about 14 km (8.5 miles) to the end of the motorized section. The crossing of the Sikanni is very tough, even in low water. Hikers and riders can continue on past the end of the ATV route.

Information sourced from Northern BC Backroad Mapbook

Redfern-Keily Provincial Park and Redfern-Keily Trails



Redfern-Keily Park is located in the Muskwa-Kechika Management Area, 250 km (150 miles) northwest of Fort St. John. The azure waters of Redfern Lake are just one of the reasons to visit this stunning mountain park. The park is more popular than other remote parks, as it is possible to access the park with ATV along the Redfern Lake Trail. This trail is open to all-terrain vehicles, but a 500 kg (1100 lbs.) weight limit is in effect for this route. The park is also accessible by snowmobile, skiing and dog sledding in the winter and by horse, mountain bike, and on foot in the summer. Alternatively, it is possible to access the park by helicopter or float plane.

There are two trails in to Redfern Keily Provincial Park. Redfern Lake Trail is a two hour drive north of Fort St. John; watch for the signs just past the Buckinghorse Service Station on the Alaska Hwy. Turn left on the Pocketknife Road. The Redfern Lake Trail is 80 km (50.4 mile) long and follows Nevis Creek, then the Besa River to the lake. The second trail follows the Sikanni Chief River to Trimble Lake. Another trail links Trimble Lake to the Besa River, completing a loop. Both trails are open to snowmobiles, horses, hikers, mountain bikes, and dog sleds, however, motorized ATV vehicles can only access the park via the Redfern Lake trail. Motorized access along the Sikanni River trail does not extend into the park.

There are rustic campsites along both main trail systems. There are approximately 26 sites along the Redfern Lake trail, of which seven are located within the park.

A BC Parks cabin, located on the north east side of Redfern Lake is open to the public and free of charge. This cabin, which is maintained by the snowmobile club, has several bunk beds, a woodstove and a table. A pit toilet is conveniently located behind the cabin. The cabin can accommodate approximately 6-8 people comfortably and is open throughout the year. It is on a first come first serve basis, so be prepared to camp outside in the event that the cabin is full. Please keep this cabin clean and in good shape for the next visitor.



For further information please refer to Northern BC Backroad Mapbook, visit www.env.gov.bc.ca/bc_parks/, or contact Ministry of Environment: ph.250-787-3411.

East of Fort St. John

Beatton River Provincial Park

This small park is found at the confluence of the Beatton and Peace Rivers. The park is approximately 40 km from Fort St. John. Trail enthusiasts will find two undeveloped trails that total about 12 km (7.2 miles). There are opportunities for canoeing or kayaking in this park. The area is also a wildlife corridor that is home to moose year round, and deer and elk, mostly in the winter. Birds of prey can also be seen in the summer. Visitors to the area can best access the park by boat. Enjoy a picnic, watch wildlife or relax on the river's edge and appreciate the surrounding scenic views. There are no services available at this park.

Peace River Corridor Provincial Park

Peace River Corridor Provincial Park is located 40 km southeast of Fort St. John along a section of the Peace River 25 km upstream of the Alberta border. Road access is via Highway 97 and rural roads. One of the three sites of this park is called Wak'anaahtaah; translated, Wak'anaahtaah means a place to look at. On the north shore of the Peace River west of Alces Creek, geological formations called hoodoos have developed.

Information on this page sourced from Northern BC Backroad Mapbook.



Chetwynd

The Baldy Trail and Ghost Mountain Trail

The Baldy trail takes a scenic route up the side of Mt. Baldy. Leave from either the parking area along 45th Avenue or from the power line access along Hwy 29 and follow the trail to the summit of the mountain. A viewpoint has been constructed approximately halfway up which provides excellent views of the town and the valley. It is a good place to take a break or turn around. Once at the top of the mountain, the adventurous can continue to follow the trail to Ghost Mountain. Use caution along this part of the trail as some sections are steep.

Pine River Breaks Provincial Park

Located east of Chetwynd, just off Hwy 97, this park protects the open grass hillsides along the Pine River. There is no road access to the park. It can be visited by foot from Sundance Pit Road, or by canoe or jetboat along the Pine River.

For more information visit www.gochetwynd.com



West of Chetwynd

To access all four of the below destinations, travel southwest of Chetwynd on Hwy 97 past Lemoray. Information sourced from BC Backroads Mapbook.

Mount Le Morey (Donkey) Trail

The trailhead to the Mount Le Morey is just east of the turnoff to the Pine Le Morey Campsite at Heart Lake. This difficult trail travels over 13 km (7.9 miles), one-way, deep into the mountain wilderness of the park taking you from forested slopes to an alpine environment. Once in the alpine, a number of scenic mountain lakes can be explored.

Mount Murray Trail

From Hwy 97, about 15 km (9 miles) north of the Powder King Ski Area, this trail travels up to an alpine bowl. About 2 km (1.2 miles) along the trail, you will pass a natural lookout, before eventually breaking out of the trees. You can explore the summit of Mount Murray or continue to the rustic campsites around the alpine lakes found in a scenic bowl. This difficult trail gains about 900 m (2,953 feet) in height over 9 km (5.4 miles).



Murray Range Trail

A difficult 6 km (3.7 mile) trek starts just near Azouzetta community on Hwy 97 and leads to the top of the Murray Range. The route passes through an area populated with alder before leading to a gully. From the gully, you will traverse a steep slope to a valley, which provides access to a ridge. Once on top, you can explore the range further along the ridge or travel east to three sub-alpine lakes.

Bijoux Falls Provincial Park

Bijoux Falls is a pleasant way to break up your drive through the Pine Pass. This small day-use park just off Highway 97 offers picnic tables, pit toilets and the 40 metre (131 foot) high waterfall. In summer, this park is also home to a large population of Stellar Jays, BC's provincial bird.



Hudson's Hope

Butler Ridge Provincial Park

Found 25 km (13 miles) west of Hudson's Hope near the WAC Bennet Dam, this park provides boaters access to Williston Lake. A trail takes hikers and horseback riders up to the 15 km (9 mile) long ridge, which offers spectacular views over the lake and the Northern Rockies. This area is home to a diverse population of large mammals, such as moose, stone sheep and elk. It is also a good place to see birds and marmots.

Take Canyon Drive from Hudson's Hope and turn right on 12 Mile Rd along the shore of Williston Lake.

Information sourced from Northern BC Backroad Mapbook.

Jamieson Woods

Jamieson Woods Nature Preserve is home to ancient sand dunes and mature pine and aspen forest. Hike or ride horseback in this natural tranquil woodland setting which is home to many types of fauna and birds including seven species of woodpeckers.

From Hudson's Hope travel Hwy 29 north (towards Fort St. John) 1 km (0.63 mile), turn left on Ross Street, and about 100 metres down the street is a sign and the start of Jamieson Woods with trail loops of 1 to 3 km in total.

For more information visit www.hudsonshope.ca or call Hudson's Hope Visitor Centre: ph.250-783-9154



Dawson Creek

Radar Lake Community Forest

The Radar Lake Community Forest is home to many types of flora and fauna, ll of which are well marked along the interpretive trails in a natural setting. This trail was ranked 15th among walkers' top picks for beautiful BC walks (on www.evalu8.org). The forest is located 10 km south of Dawson Creek.

From Fort St. John, travel south on the Alaska Highway to Dawson Creek (77 km). Turn right onto the Dangerous Goods Route (also the Golf Course Road) after the weigh scales. Continue on the Dangerous Goods Route until the large bend in the road , take a right at this corner

Look for more signage at the turn-off for the by-pass route for the dangerous good route.

For more information visit www.tourismdawsoncreek.com or call the Dawson Creek Visitor Centre at 250-782-9595.

Taylor

Lone Wolf Golf Course

Lone Wolf offers approximately a one hour hike around the golf course. This trail is relaxed and offers any hiker a nice leg stretch; this trail is appropriate for all ages.

Fort St. John

Fish Creek Community Forest

These beautiful and scenic hiking trails are located just north of Fort St. John off of 100th Street, directly behind the Northern Lights Community College. The forest offers approximately 3 km of interpretive hiking trails appropriate for the whole family.

To get there, travel north on 100th Street, and turn right on the bypass road (there are signs that say 'Fish Creek Community Forest' marking the turns). Turn left at the first road, and go across the railroad tracks to the back of the ball diamonds where you will be able to park.

Beatton Provincial Park

To get to Beatton Provincial Park follow the Alaska Highway north from Fort St. John for approximately 7 km. Turn right on the 271 road (as marked by the BC Parks signs), continue straight until the 248 road, then turn left.

Beatton Provincial Park contains three trails ranging in difficulty from beginner to advanced. The beginner trail is 2 km long and offers a relatively flat terrain. The other 2 trails are each 5 km long and offer a chance to see some wildlife, these trails also contain hills of considerable size. Mountain bikers are welcome on these trails.