

NATIONAL PARK · CANADA · SASKATCHEWAN

Grasslands

at a glance

The only park in Canada that protects the mixed-grass prairie, and one of the darkest night skies in the country.

about **900** km²
PLANNED AREA
(347 sq mi) in two blocks

about **80**
ACQUIRED SO FAR
per cent

over **729** km²
PROTECTED AREA
(281 sq mi)

166 km
DISTANCE BETWEEN
BLOCKS
(103 mi), about 2 hours

BEFORE YOU GO



West Block and East Block

The West Block lies on the Frenchman River and is reached via Val Marie on Highways 4 and 18; Val Marie is an hour and a half's drive south ...



Gravel only

All access roads to both blocks are gravel. When wet, roads in the park can become impassable, including those to the campgrounds.



Airports

Regina, Saskatoon and Calgary have international airports. Rental cars are available in Swift Current, Regina and Saskatoon.



Spring and autumn are more pleasant

The park authority recommends spring and autumn for hiking: milder temperatures and migrating wildlife.



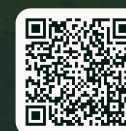
A hundred metres from bison

The park authority uses the length of a football field as the measure.



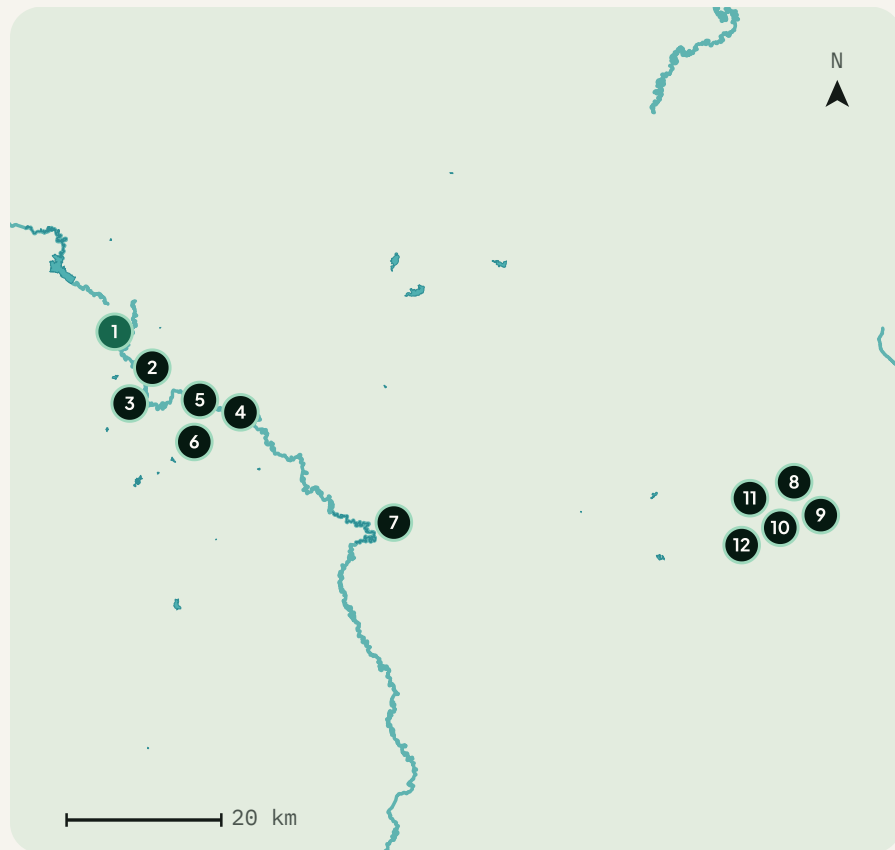
Rattlesnakes

Do not wear headphones, so you can hear the rattle. Wear ankle-high boots and long, loose trousers.



Fees and opening hours, up to date

Fees and times change. The park page lists them with source and date:
nationalparksatlas.com/en/canada/grasslands



- | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 Val Marie Visitor Centre | 7 Borderlands Lookout |
| 2 70 Mile / Eagle Butte | 8 Rock Creek Campground |
| 3 Two Trees | 9 Badlands Parkway |
| 4 Frenchman Valley Campground | 10 Zahurksy Point |
| 5 Belza Day Use Area | 11 Valley of 1000 Devils |
| 6 Broken Hills Trail | 12 Ta Sunka Watóglá |

Green: entrances. Map data © OpenStreetMap contributors (ODbL).



70 MILE BUTTE



THE PRAIRIE DOGS



BORDERLANDS LOOKOUT

THINGS TO DO

Ecotour Scenic Drive

Twenty kilometres (12 mi) of self-guided driving through the Frenchman River valley in the West Block, with ...

Hiking

Ten trails in the West Block and four in the East Block, from 750 metres to 16 kilometres.

Bison back since 2005

In December 2005, 71 plains bison arrived from Elk Island National Park, after an absence of 120 years.

Priority site for species at risk

Because of the large number of species at risk, Parks Canada has made Grasslands one of three priority sites.

[More on the park page](#)

Badlands Parkway

Eleven kilometres of pavement in the East Block, single-lane with two-way traffic and 20 pull-outs, along the ...

Night sky

Since 2009 the park has been recognised by the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada as a Dark Sky Preserve ...

The only place for prairie dogs

In and around the West Block lives Canada's only wild population of black-tailed prairie dogs.

Fossils and the K-T boundary

The East Block is one of the few places in the world where the Cretaceous-Tertiary boundary is exposed: a ...

TOURS AND GETTING THERE



PARK AUTHORITY • NO
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AUTHORITY PROGRAMME •
STARRY NIGHT

**Beyond the Big Dipper: a
night of telescopes in the
Dark Sky Preserve**

ON [PARKS.CANADA.CA](#) ➤



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BISON IN THE
BACKCOUNTRY

**Bison Backcountry Tour:
by all-terrain vehicle with
park staff to the plains
bison**

ON [PARKS.CANADA.CA](#) ➤



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