

Facilities

The main access at Marks Lake provides parking, three vehicle campsites, a canoe launch and a pit toilet. There is a cabin on the northwest shore of Maitland Lake and undeveloped camping areas on the shores of Long and Canoe lakes. Use established sites to reduce your impact on the vegetation and soil.

Moose Valley Canoe Chain

Day and overnight canoe trips are popular on this chain of 12 small lakes with short, well-marked portages. The portages do not accommodate canoe carts.

The main launch is on Marks Lake, a jewel-green lake dotted with small islands. From here you have the option of heading east to the rest of the chain, or west to Maitland Lake.

Maitland Lake is the largest lake in the park, with an abundant loon population. While it is an optional part of the canoe chain, it is well worth exploring.

As you head east onto the chain you will encounter the two small Crane lakes, then Kirkland Lake, which is one of the larger lakes, and is home to a wide variety of bird life. The Boulder portage lives up to its name; watch your footing.

The next part of the chain is not passable at low water. Aquatic sphagnum mosses and reeds form dense mats. Narrow waterways lead through them connecting the two Beaverlodge lakes to Long Lake. The longest of these is appropriately named the African Queen. Please do not attempt to push your canoe through at low water.

Once you reach Long Lake, you can go in either direction around Moose Lake, Grebe Lake and Canoe Lake.

Access

Moose Valley Park is located 31 kilometres west of 100 Mile House. Turn on Exeter Road, cross the railroad tracks and continue down the 1100 Forest Service Road. A park sign marks the turnoff at 1,117 kilometre. Turn right and travel 8.5 kilometres to the main access at Marks Lake. This road is rough; high clearance 4 x 4 vehicles are recommended, especially following wet weather.

Maps

Please refer to these topographic maps:
1:50,000 Gustafson Lake 92P/12
1:250,000 Bonaparte River 92P

Wilderness Ethics

Moose Valley is a wilderness park with few facilities; it is not regularly serviced or patrolled. Leave no trace of your visit.

- ▶ This is a user-maintained park. If you pack it in, pack it out.
- ▶ Toilet facilities exist only at the Maitland and Marks lakes sites. When using the other campsites, reduce your impact by digging a shallow cat-hole at least 100 metres from water sources.
- ▶ To avoid habituating bears and other wildlife to human food, store food out of their reach. Keep a clean campsite.
- ▶ Portable gas stoves are recommended for cooking.
- ▶ If you must have a campfire, use existing fire rings, and keep fires small. Firewood is not provided. Burn only wood that is dead and down.
- ▶ Do not cut small trees for wiener sticks. These are your future shade trees.
- ▶ Filter or boil your water to protect against waterborne parasites.
- ▶ Leave pets at home. Dogs can disturb wildlife, cause water contamination and may lead to bear problems.
- ▶ Fishing is not permitted in the park.

Safety

- ▶ Lakes are small but still subject to strong winds. Wear your lifejacket.
- ▶ Never feed or approach bears or other wildlife.

For More Information

BC Parks

<http://wlapwww.gov.bc.ca/bcparks>



Ministry of Water, Land
and Air Protection



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PROVINCIAL PARK



Welcome to Moose Valley Provincial Park. This park protects rich wildlife habitat and a short canoe route. The landscape is a maze of lakes, ponds and wetlands with surrounding pine and fir forests. Back in the 1970s Stuart Maitland, a local guide, led a crew that cleared and named portages. The area remained a locally-popular canoeing destination. In 1995 Moose Valley became a park under the Cariboo-Chilcotin Land Use Plan.

The numerous wetlands and small lakes found in the park provide habitat for beaver, muskrat, black bear, mule deer and, of course, moose. Birders will appreciate the wide variety of waterfowl and songbirds. Sandhill cranes nest in the park and Bonaparte's gulls are often seen.

In winter, the park is a good destination for snowshoeing and easy backcountry skiing.

Cariboo/Chilcotin/Coast