



# Mount Assiniboine Provincial Park

Trail Conditions Report  
Updated: **June 21<sup>st</sup>, 2017**

Check out the [webcam at Mount Assiniboine Lodge](#).

Mount Assiniboine Provincial Park is a UNESCO world heritage site that is world renowned for its magnificent beauty and numerous hiking opportunities. No roads penetrate this unspoiled wilderness, and trails provide the only land access. Camping, hiking, mountain climbing and viewing the spectacular mountain scenery are the main activities here, as well as fishing, horseback riding, and ski touring.

### Trail Difficulty Definitions:

The ratings are determined based on the length of the trail section, change in elevation and trail type for the average Park Visitor.

### Trail Difficulty Rating:

E - Easy; M - Moderate; D – Difficult; S - Strenuous

**Elevations** shown are estimated for the trail section and reflect the maximum gain or loss.

**Traveling beyond the maintained trail is referred to as route finding which requires special equipment, skills, ability and knowledge. Please note all distances are measured from Mount Assiniboine Provincial Park boundaries unless otherwise stated.**

Weather in Mount Assiniboine Provincial Park can change quickly and all visitors to the park should come prepared: intense storms with hail, snow, high winds, and freezing temperatures are common throughout the summer months.

Access to the Hind Hut and other climbing routes is difficult; please don't attempt to travel on this type of terrain without adequate mountaineering knowledge and equipment. There have been numerous accidents and rescues in the past involving inexperienced and ill-equipped persons in technical terrain.

## ACCESS TRAILS

### Mitchell River Trail to Cerulean Lake

Mount Assiniboine park is a user maintained park. Garbage removal service is not available. Please help by packing out all your garbage and any garbage left behind by others. If you utilize the shelters, clean the facilities prior to your departure. Please use the outhouses and food storage bins provided.

Trail	Estimated Distance One-way (km)	Estimated Elevation Gained (m)	Trail Difficulty	Trail Information	Trail Condition
From an old landing beyond the Baymag Mine the trail follows the Mitchell River to the guide outfitter cabin, then continues on to Wedgwood Lake and then carries on to Cerulean Lake.	14 km	700 m	Difficult	Fording the Mitchell River is required. The trail is primarily used by horse users. The trail is not maintained, is quite overgrown and may be difficult to follow in some places. Route finding skills are required. During times of high water this trail may be impassable.	Wind felled trees may be encountered. Snow patches at higher elevations

## Simpson River Access to Core Area

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Trail	Estimated Distance One-way (km)	Estimated Elevation Gained (m)	Trail Difficulty	Trail Information	Trail Condition
Simpson River trail head to Surprise Creek Cabin	10 km	90 m	Easy	<p>Through Kootenay National Park there is the hazard of falling trees and there may be trees down on the trail. The trail is well defined and easy to follow the whole way.</p> <p>The Simpson River suspension bridge located near the Surprise Creek cabin <b>has been permanently dismantled</b> due to safety concerns caused by flood damage in the Spring of 2015.</p>	<p style="color: red;"><b>Fording the Simpson river is not recommended.</b></p> <p style="color: green;"><b>Check with Kootenay National Park on condition of lower trail as the 2001 forest fire is generating a lot of windfall and needs frequent clearing.</b></p>
Surprise Creek Cabin to Rock Lake Campground	9 km	610 m	Moderate	The trail leaves the cabin area, follows Surprise Creek and is uphill the whole way to Rock Lake. The trail is well defined and easy to follow the whole way.	<b>Wind felled trees may be encountered. Snow patches at higher elevations</b>
Rock Lake Campground to the Core Area	11.5 km	150 m	Moderate	This undulating trail is well defined and easy to follow the whole way.	<b>Wind felled trees may be encountered. Snow covered at higher elevations.</b>

## Simpson River to Porcupine Campground

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Trail	Estimated Distance One-way (km)	Estimated Elevation Gained (m)	Trail Difficulty	Trail Information	Trail Condition
The trail to Porcupine Campground follows the Simpson River. The trail starts on the west side of the suspension bridge 2km from the Mount Assiniboine Park Boundary.	14 km	600 m	Moderate	<p><u><b>This trail is not maintained</b></u> and route finding skills may be required. The risk of grizzly bear encounters between Scout and Porcupine Camps on the Simpson River Trail is higher than in other areas of the park. Dogs are not recommended in this area.</p>	<b>Wind felled trees</b>

## Assiniboine Pass to Mount Assiniboine Lodge

Mount Assiniboine park is a user maintained park. Garbage removal service is not available. Please help by packing out all your garbage and any garbage left behind by others. Please use the outhouses, grey water pits and food storage bins provided.

Trail	Estimated Distance One-way (km)	Estimated Elevation Gained (m)	Trail Difficulty	Trail Information	Trail Condition
Assiniboine Pass to Mount Assiniboine Lodge	2.5 km	60 m	Easy	Ensure you are using the correct trail. Horse users please follow the signs indicating the horse trail.	<b>Snow patches, wet around meadows</b>

## Sunshine Village Access to Core Area

Mount Assiniboine park is a user maintained park. Garbage removal service is not available. Please help by packing out all your garbage and any garbage left behind by others. Please use the outhouses, grey water pits and food storage bins provided.

**\*NOTICE – At times there are limited/no water resources between Howard Douglas campground and Og Lake. Water can be located at Porcupine campground, please plan accordingly.**

Trail	Estimated Distance One-way (km)	Estimated Elevation Gained (m)	Trail Difficulty	Trail Information	Trail Condition
The trail begins at Sunshine Village, and skirts in and out of BC to Porcupine Campground.	13 km	350 m	Moderate	This trail is well maintained and easy to follow. If you are using the White Mountain Tours shuttle bus be well informed of the return times. If you plan to stay at Howard Douglas Campground in Banff National Park you require a Banff National Park Wilderness Pass purchased in advance from the Banff National Park visitor information centre.	<b>Snow patches, wind felled trees may be encountered near Porcupine Camp.</b>
Porcupine Campground to Og Lake: High Trail: 1km uphill towards Citadel Pass turn Right at the top of the hill and follow signs to Og Lake.	10.5 km	250 m	Moderate	This trail has a steep 1km up hill portion. It is easy to follow and well maintained. Water is not available until Og Lake. Ensure you have an adequate amount of drinking water.	<b>Wind felled trees may be encountered. Snow patches at higher elevations</b>
Porcupine Campground to Og Lake: Low Trail: Head south east from Porcupine Campground through the valley bottom over undulating terrain. Follow signs for Og Lake.	9 km	250 m	Moderate	The High Trail and the Low Trail meet. Both are fairly strenuous, are well signed, and easy to follow with the low trail having longer uphill sections. Ensure you have plenty of water as there are no water sources along the trail until Og Lake.	<b>Wind felled trees may be encountered. Snow patches at higher elevations</b>
Og Lake to Core Area	5 km	120m	Easy	Well signed, well maintained and easy to follow. A beautiful stroll through sensitive alpine meadows.	<b>Open/Clear Snow patches</b>

## Og Pass to Mount Assiniboine Lodge

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Trail	Estimated Distance One-way (km)	Estimated Elevation Gained (m)	Trail Difficulty	Trail Information	Trail Condition
Og Pass to Mount Assiniboine Lodge	5.5 km	125 m	Moderate	This trail is well maintained and easy to follow.	<b>Open/Clear Snow patches</b>

## Wonder Pass to Mount Assiniboine Lodge

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Trail	Estimated Distance One-way (km)	Estimated Elevation Gained (m)	Trail Difficulty	Trail Information	Trail Condition
Wonder Pass to Mount Assiniboine Lodge	3 km	365 m	Moderate	The trail is well developed and well maintained.	Open/Clear Snow covered at higher elevations

## CORE AREA TRAILS

Mount Assiniboine Core Area Day Hikes					
<p>Mount Assiniboine park is a user maintained park. Garbage removal service is not available. Please help by packing out all your garbage and any garbage left behind by others. Please use the outhouses, grey water pits and food storage bins provided. Please report any and all bear sightings to the BC Parks Rangers.</p> <p>*Larches are peaking around the end of September.</p>					
Trail	Estimated Distance One-way (km)	Estimated Elevation Change(m)	Trail Difficulty	Trail Information	Trail Condition
From Cerulean Lake to Mount Assiniboine Lodge	4 km	30 m	Easy	The trail is easy to follow well maintained and well marked.	Open/Clear Snow patches
Assiniboine Lodge to Gog Lake	1.5 km	60 m	Easy	Well signed, well maintained and easy to follow.	Open/Clear Snow patches
Assiniboine Lodge to Nub Peak	5 km	550 m	Strenuous	Easy to follow to Niblet, some route finding required to Nublet, route finding essential to Nub Peak. Highly recommended. Beautiful views.	Open/Clear Snow patches at higher elevations
Assiniboine Lodge to Mount Cautley	5 km	700 m	Strenuous	Route finding skills required. No trail established. A magnificent view. Spend some time in Cautley Meadows enjoying the wide variety of colourful wildflowers.	Open/Clear Snow covered at higher elevations
Assiniboine Lodge to Wonder Pass Viewpoint	5 km	365 m	Moderate to Wonder Pass easy to the view point	Viewpoint is located in Banff National Park.	Open/Clear Snow covered at higher elevations
Assiniboine Lodge to Windy Ridge	7 km	470 m	Strenuous	Well developed trail. Highly recommended. Beautiful views.	Open/Clear Snow covered at higher elevations
Sunburst Lake to Rock Lake	13.5 km	250 m loss	Strenuous	Well developed trail. Ferro Pass is spectacular.	Snow covered at higher elevations, wind felled trees may be encountered

Sunburst Lake to Elizabeth Lake	2 km	60 m	Moderate	Well developed trail. Gorgeous blue-green lakes.	Open/Clear Snow covered at higher elevations
Sunburst Lake to Wedgwood Lake	6 km	300 m loss	Moderate	Not maintained some route finding may be required.	Areas of wind-felled trees

### Sunshine Meadows

Mount Assiniboine park is a user maintained park. Garbage removal service is not available. Please help by packing out all your garbage and any garbage left behind by others. Please use the outhouses provided. The Sunshine Meadows area offers a number of excellent day hikes. Starting at the Sunshine Ski Village in Banff National Park, various loop trails traverse representative alpine meadows and lakes in the boundary area of Mount Assiniboine Provincial Park. The meadows in this area are very sensitive! Please stay on the trails. White Mountain tours sells trail maps of the area and offers a shuttle bus service.

\*Larches are peaking around the end of September.

Trail	Estimated Distance One-way (km)	Estimated Elevation Gained (m)	Trail Difficulty	Trail Information	Trail Condition
Larix Lake and Grizzly Lake Loop	6 km	150 m	Easy	Easy to follow and well signed trail.	Open/Clear Snow patches
Rock Isle Lake	1.5 km	90 m	Easy	Very defined easy to follow trail.	Open/Clear Snow patches