

Travel Guide: RVing in Banff



Banff National Park is a breathtaking alpine paradise in the Canadian Rockies, renowned for its turquoise lakes, towering peaks, and abundant wildlife.

Need To Know

- Location: Banff is located in Alberta, Canada, about 80 miles (129 km) west of Calgary.
- Summer (June-August): Ideal for outdoor activities; busiest time.
- Fall (September-October): Cooler weather, fewer crowds, beautiful fall colors.
- Winter (November-March): Great for skiing; some campgrounds may be closed.

Getting There

- Routes: From Calgary, take the Trans-Canada Highway (Hwy 1) west directly to Banff. The drive takes approximately 1.5 hours.

Highlights

- Lakes: Lake Louise and Moraine Lake
- Hikes: Plain of the Six Glaciers, Ink Pots, Bow Glacier Falls
- Banff Gondola and Sulphur Mountain
- Johnston Canyon
- Icefields Parkway Scenic Drive

Essential Tips

- Book your campsite in advance through Parks Canada's reservation system
- Campfire permits are required for using fire pits; available at campgrounds.
- Bear Safety: Keep food in your RV, never leave it outside, and use bear-proof bins.

RV Friendly Campgrounds

Tunnel Mountain Village I & II

- Full hookups (Village II), fire pits, restrooms, showers, dump station.
- Reservations: Recommended, especially during peak season (May-October).

Two Jack Lakeside

- Amenities: Limited power hookups, restrooms, fire pits, lake access.
- Reservations: Required; fills up quickly.

Lake Louise Trailer Campground

- Amenities: Full hookups, showers, restrooms, dump station.
- Reservations: Highly recommended.

RV Services in Banff

- Gas Stations: Limited in the park; fill up before arriving.
- Dump Stations: Available at Tunnel Mountain and Lake Louise campgrounds.
- Groceries & Supplies: Banff has supermarkets and convenience stores; prices may be higher.

Important Regulations

- Park Pass: Required for all vehicles; available at park entrances.
- Speed Limits: Obey limits; wildlife is common near roads.
- Quiet Hours: Usually 11 PM - 7 AM; respect other campers.



Emergency Contacts

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY, call 911.

Banff Dispatch, non-emergency (24 hours): (403) 762-1470
Cell phone coverage is not reliable throughout the national park