

Winter Camping

While developed campgrounds close for the winter season, there are several options for winter camping in provincial parks.

Whether you are hunting, ice fishing or looking for a thrilling winter adventure, you should first contact the respective park office for the park you wish to camp. Staff will let you know what locations may be available and help you plan your visit. Find contact info here: https://www.gov.mb.ca/sd/parks/park-facilities-and-services/offices/index.html

In provincial parks, any overnight camping permitted only in designated sites. Any backcountry sites along trails and water routes available in summer remain available for camping in the winter. There are no fees for backcountry winter camping. Winter camping is by tent only. The use of ice-fishing shelters (both tents and structures) for the purpose of overnight accommodations on lakes and rivers is not permitted.

There are some options on maintained trails as well:

- Spruce Woods Provincial Park –the Epinette, Seton and Yellow Quill trail systems offer several hike or ski in campsites, including the Jackfish Lake cabin. Distances to sites range from 2 km to 20 km treks.
- Turtle Mountain Provincial Park you can ski on the Adam Lake trail system to the James Lake cabin for overnight use.

There is no charge for camping or use of the Jackfish or James Lake cabins, but registration is required for any overnight use in these two parks. For Spruce Woods, call our Carberry District Office at 204-834-8800; for Turtle Mountain, call our Boissevain District Office at 204-534-2028.

Organized groups may be able to use group use areas for winter camping. Organizers need to submit a Special Event Application to do so, found here: https://www.gov.mb.ca/sd/parks/park-facilities-and-services/special-parks/index.html

Most parks do not have regular staff in the winter; routes are not maintained and there are no services. You are camping and travelling at your own risk. You must practice Leave No Trace and pack out everything you packed in, including trash and gear. Cell service is limited in most backcountry areas; satellite-messaging devices are recommended.

For more information on winter camping in provincial parks, contact your local park office, call us toll-free 1-800-214- 6497 or email parks@gov.mb.ca.

