



2026 camping fees information sheet

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Overview of camping fee changes for 2026

Parks, recreation sites, and trails across British Columbia are experiencing record levels of use. This comes alongside increasing pressures from climate impacts like wildfires, flooding, and extreme weather.

To continue caring for these places and keeping them safe, accessible, and healthy over the long term, changes are needed in how they are supported and funded.

This longer-term effort is referred to as renewal. Renewal will take place in phases, starting with a revised fee model that supports more stable planning, better reinvestment, and stronger care for land and waters.

What this does is apply changes to fees in parks with the highest use, to better reflect the higher operating costs of managing busy seasons and caring for land and waters. This supports fairness across the parks system and helps keep camping affordable and accessible across British Columbia over time.

What is changing:

- Expanded frontcountry camping and backcountry camping fee ranges
- A new non-resident fee

Camping fee ranges for 2026

Fee	Old range	New range
Frontcountry camping	\$5-35 per party per night	\$5-51 per party per night
Backcountry camping	\$5-10 per person per night	\$5-25 per person per night
Non-resident	Not applicable	\$20

Changes to frontcountry camping fees

Frontcountry camping fees are increasing at 59 high-use frontcountry parks. We use the term 'high-use' to describe parks with particularly popular campgrounds. 'Frontcountry' means any area within 1 km of a highway or park road. For more detailed definitions, see the [glossary](#).

Increased fees are in effect from June 15 to Labour Day, 2026. Off season fees are in effect through shoulder season and winter, until June 14, 2027.

The revised fee model means that prices vary between parks and seasons. Parks that provide more services and facilities have higher fees, especially in peak season when more is on offer. This model also reflects the fact that maintaining facilities at popular parks is more expensive.

Fees in this model reflect the actual costs needed — what goes into keeping parks safe, healthy and accessible through the increasing impacts — and allow for the right level of care and support.

Changes to backcountry camping fees

In 2026, backcountry camping fees are increasing at four iconic backcountry parks. ‘Backcountry’ means any area more than 1 km from any highway or park road. We use the term ‘iconic’ to reflect the unique beauty and cultural significance of these areas. The four affected iconic backcountry parks are:

- Garibaldi
- Golden Ears
- Joffre Lakes
- Mount Assiniboine

All the iconic backcountry parks offer camping reservations, apart from Golden Ears Park, which offers advance backcountry permit registration. For information on the difference between booking a reservation and registering for a permit, see our [backcountry permit registration](#) webpage.

Fees for the Berg Lake Trail in Mount Robson Park are not increasing for the 2026 season.

Camping fees at iconic backcountry parks in 2026

Park	Adult fee per person per night	Youth fee per person per night
Garibaldi	\$25	\$5
Golden Ears	\$17 (\$5 in some areas)	\$5
Joffre Lakes	\$25	\$5
Mount Assiniboine	\$25	\$5

Backcountry cabins

To align with backcountry camping fee increases, cabin fees will also increase at Garibaldi Park and Mount Assiniboine Park. Cabin fees at Mount Assiniboine Park will align with the current practice of per cabin booking based on per person rates.

Camping fees for backcountry cabins in 2026

Park	Adult fee per person per night	Youth and family fees
Garibaldi	\$30	\$10 per person per night
Mount Assiniboine	\$30	\$50 per family per night (Naiset Huts)

The non-resident fee

Starting in 2026, a \$20 non-resident fee is added for visitors who do not live in British Columbia. This applies to frontcountry and backcountry camping, cabin rentals, mooring buoys, and dock use.

How the non-resident fee is implemented

Non-resident fees will be applied to frontcountry camping per party per campground, backcountry camping per trip within a park (multiple nights in one park are considered part of the same trip), cabins per rental, and per vessel for use of mooring buoys and docks.

The non-resident fee does not apply to children or youth. It does not apply in 2026 to group campsites or picnic shelter rentals, the Bowron Lake Canoe Circuit, or the Berg Lake Trail at Mount Robson Park.

Appendix 1: Glossary

Frontcountry and backcountry

- The **frontcountry** is any area within 1 km of a highway or park road
- The **backcountry** is any area outside the frontcountry

Camping fees and transaction fees

- **Camping fees** pay for your campsite and other facilities. Camping fees help us maintain park facilities. They include the base camping fee and additional fees like the electrical hook-up fee and the non-resident fee. Camping fees may be refundable and tax is included in the price.
- **Transaction fees** are added to your camping fees when you make a reservation. They pay for use of the BC Parks reservation service. They include booking, change, and cancellation fees, and the call centre surcharge. They are non-refundable and tax is added.

High-use park

A **high-use park** has more services and greater than 80 percent average occupancy in peak season, and over 95 percent average occupancy on weekends. For a full list of high-use parks, see [appendix 2](#).

Named occupant

When booking your reservation, you specify the **named occupant** who will be your official reservation holder. The occupant can be yourself or another person but must be present when your party arrives and throughout your stay.

Peak season and off-season

- **Peak season** is June 15 to Labour Day
- The **off season** is the day after Labour Day until June 14

We sometimes refer to peak season as the 'summer camping season'. You may also see us refer to the 'winter camping season'. This varies between parks and refers to a period within the off season when winter fees are in effect.

We may also use 'shoulder season' to refer to the period within the off season that occurs between the summer and winter camping seasons (fall shoulder season) or the winter and summer camping seasons (the spring shoulder season).

Appendix 2: List of iconic backcountry and high-use frontcountry parks

Iconic backcountry parks

1. Garibaldi
2. Golden Ears
3. Joffre Lakes
4. Mount Assiniboine

High-use frontcountry parks

1. Alice Lake Park
2. Bamberton Park
3. Bear Creek Park
4. Blanket Creek Park
5. Bromley Rock Park
6. Cowichan River Park
7. Cultus Lake Park
8. Dry Gulch Park
9. E.C. Manning Park
10. Elk Falls Park
11. Ellison Park
12. Emory Creek Park
13. Englishman River Falls Park
14. Fillongley Park
15. Fintry Park

16. French Beach Park
17. Gladstone Park
18. Golden Ears Park
19. Goldstream Park
20. Gordon Bay Park
21. Herald Park
22. Juan De Fuca Park
23. Juniper Beach Park
24. Kekuli Bay Park
25. Kettle River Recreation Area
26. Kikomun Creek Park
27. Kokanee Creek Park
28. Kootenay Lake Park
29. Little Qualicum Falls Park
30. Loveland Bay Park
31. Mabel Lake Park
32. Martha Creek Park
33. McDonald Creek Park
34. Miracle Beach Park
35. Mount Fernie Park
36. Mount Robson Park
37. Moyie Lake Park
38. Muncho Lake Park
39. Nairn Falls Park
40. North Thompson River Park
41. Okanagan Lake Park
42. Otter Lake Park
43. Porpoise Bay Park
44. Porteau Cove Park

- 45. Rathtrevor Beach Park
- 46. Rolley Lake Park
- 47. Sasquatch Park
- 48. Shuswap Lake Park
- 49. Smelt Bay Park
- 50. Sproat Lake Park
- 51. Strathcona Park
- 52. Summit Lake Park
- 53. S̓wìw̓s Park
- 54. S̓xótsaqel/Chilliwack Lake Park
- 55. S̓x̓wə̓x̓wnitk̓w (Formerly Okanagan Falls) Park
- 56. Syringa Park
- 57. Tā Ch'ilā
- 58. Tribune Bay Park
- 59. Wells Gray Park