

Jasper National Park: Skyline Trail

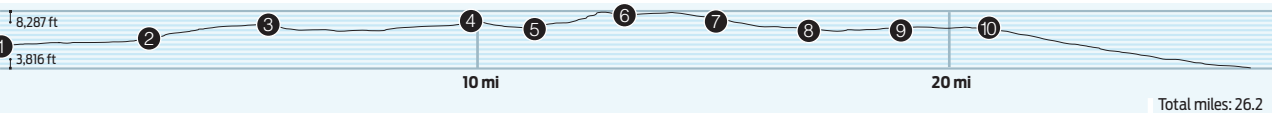


Do it

The ridgeline climbs aren't the only thing that will leave you breathless on this 26.2-mile, life-list hike. You'll spend three days traversing Canada's signature mountain range, linking alpine meadows and scoring breathtaking views of jagged peaks.

	MILE	DIRECTIONS	UTM (ZONE 11U)
1	0	Start from the trailhead at the north end of Maligne Lake, and hike northwest.	0456449E 5842191N
2	2.6	Continue straight ahead at this 3-way junction, crossing Evelyn Creek.	0452639E 5843216N
3	5.6	Crest 7,347-foot Little Shovel Pass, then descend 1.5 miles into the Snowbowl.	0448417E 5843302N
4	9.9	From Big Shovel Pass, fork left and descend northwest toward Curator Lake.	0449372E 5848055N
5	11.2	Turn right at the T-junction, rounding the east side of Curator Lake. Bear left for campsites.	0442220E 5848971N
6	13.4	Soak up jaw-dropping, 360-degree views along Amber Mountain's ridgeline.	0439587E 5850920N
7	15.1	Descend switchbacks to a small lake below Centre Mountain.	0437818E 5852864N
8	17	Skirt the east side of Tekarra Lake; you'll find campsites .4 mile ahead.	0438039E 5854776N
9	19.7	Cross creek and contour through meadows below Mt. Tekarra and Signal Mountain.	0435838E 5857550N
10	21.1	Veer right on old Signal Mountain fire road, then descend 5.2 miles to Maligne Lake Road.	0433993E 5858284N

Elevation Profile



BACKPACKER Jasper National Park: Skyline Trail

Plan it

MAPS Gem Trek Hiking: Jasper & Maligne Lake (\$10CAN, omnimap.com). Or custom make your own—see GPS Data below.

GUIDEBOOK *Don't Waste Your Time in the Canadian Rockies*, by Kathy & Craig Copeland (\$30CAN, hikingcamping.com)

PERMITS Required. \$9.80CAN/person per day park entry, plus \$9.80CAN/person per night wilderness permit. Camp locations must be selected at registration. Go to: pc.gc.ca/pn-np/ab/jasper/visit/tarifs_fees_E.asp?park=3

SEASON Most backcountry trails are accessible July through September. For current conditions contact the Jasper National Park Trail Office at (780) 852-6177.

WEATHER Get the forecast by calling the Jasper National Park Information Centre at (780) 852-6176 or visit weatheroffice.gc.ca/city/pages/ab-70_metric_e.html

GPS DATA Download GPS tracks and waypoints, order waterproof topos, get detailed route information, and view photos of this hike at backpacker.com/hikes/1219461.

Multi-day gear list

Wear

- ☐ Synthetic pants
- ☐ Synthetic T-shirt
- ☐ Synthetic undies
- ☐ Wool/synthetic socks
- ☐ Hiking boots
- ☐ Sunglasses
- ☐ Wide-brim hat
- ☐ Sunscreen (SPF 15+)

Pack

- ☐ Backpack
- ☐ Three-season tent
- ☐ Down bag, sleeping pad
- ☐ Gas stove and fuel
- ☐ Cookset, bowl, insulated mug, eating utensils
- ☐ 32 oz. water bottle (2)

- ☐ Water treatment
- ☐ Compass, map, GPS unit
- ☐ Lighter and matches
- ☐ Multitool/knife
- ☐ Headlamp, batteries
- ☐ Trekking poles
- ☐ Fleece and down jackets
- ☐ Waterproof/breathable jacket and pants
- ☐ Midweight baselayers
- ☐ Extra T-shirt
- ☐ Extra socks & undies
- ☐ Hat and gloves
- ☐ Camp footwear
- ☐ TP and trowel
- ☐ First-aid kit
- ☐ Bandana
- ☐ Stuffsacks/zip-top bags



- Restaurant/bar
- Gear Shop
- Gas station
- Grocery store
- Trailhead
- Start drive

Driving Directions from Banff, Alberta (336 km; 5 hours)

- 1) Drive northwest on Trans-Canada Hwy./AB 1 for 58 km.
- 2) Merge right onto Icefields Pkwy./AB 93 N. Go 227 km. to Jasper.
- 3) Turn right onto Yellowhead Hwy./AB 16 E. Drive 6 km.
- 4) Turn right on Maligne Rd. and go 5.4 km.
- 5) Turn right and park shuttle car in Signal Mountain trailhead lot.

- 6) Continue on Maligne Rd. for another 10.7 km.
- 7) Continue straight on Township Rd. 453A, Township Rd. 452A, Township Rd. 450A, Range Rd. 263A, Range Rd. 262A, Range Rd. 260A, Township Rd. 433A, Range Rd. 262A.
- 8) Park at the trailhead just beyond Maligne Lake Lodge.