

The Trans Canada Trail in Alberta: Completed Sections
The Waskasoo Park Trail System – Red Deer, AB.

Type of Trail: Shared use pathways. The trails follow and cross the Red Deer River, and the Piper Creek corridor, and connect to an extensive system of transportation corridor pathways that criss-cross and encircle the entire city, with connectors to neighborhood sites.

Location: Red Deer, Alberta (a regional center)

Historical Perspective: Fort Normandeau is a replica of the original fort built on the Red Deer site. It was used for possible protection during the time of the Riel Rebellion. It interprets the fur trading period of the region. The Kerry Wood Nature Centre was named after a naturalist writer who arranged for preservation of Gaetz Lakes natural area. It is home of the Nature Centre, which provides native interpretation, trails, and features an art gallery. Bower Ponds, previously turn of the century lumber company log ponds, now offers fishing, paddle boating, ice skating, and the historic Cronquist House. Equestrian facilities are located at Heritage Ranch.

Terrain: Red Deer enjoys a network of over 100 km of shared-use pathways that have been offered as part of the Trans Canada Trail. At this time an interim route of 15 km has been chosen.

Access: City of Red Deer, at most Waskasoo Park nodes.

Signage: TCT signage along entire stretch of TCT trail. TCT marker at Bower Pond.

Facilities: All services are available within central Red Deer, including a municipal campground, and the Red Deer Visitor and Convention Bureau at Heritage Ranch.

Points of Interest: Fort Normandeau, the Kerry Wood Nature Centre, Bower Ponds, Heritage Ranch (horseback riding, hay rides, gift shop and restaurant). Discovery Canyon (sand wading pool at bottom of rubber tubing rapids). McKenzie Ponds (picnic area, playground), Rotary Park (picnic area, playground), Kin Canyon (picnic area, playground). Red Deer Visitor & Convention Bureau and Alberta Sports Hall of Fame, Lion's Campground (includes tenting sites), golf courses (2), Downtown Plaza Park (at the heart of Red Deer), Westerner Park (multi-use exposition complex), Great West Adventure Park (BMX biking), C.P.R. bridge (historical river crossing), Skateboard Park, Red Deer College (natural area trails), downtown recreation and culture facilities (swimming, picnics, museum, skating oval, curling, hockey arenas, historical walking tours, Golden Circle (senior's activity center), horseshoe pits, and the Collicutt Centre (family recreation center). Abundant wildlife can be viewed throughout the trails.

Trail Operator: City of Red Deer, Recreation, Parks & Culture Department
Box 5008, Red Deer, AB T4N 3T4
Tel: (403) 342-8270; 342-8159 Web: www.city.red-deer.ab.ca

Length: 29 km (18 miles) approximately designated to date

Surface: Asphalt Pathways, with gravel and shale hiking path connectors

Width: 2.5 metres (8 feet)

Permitted Uses: Hiking, walking, cross country skiing, off leash dog area, cycling, rollerblading, wheelchair and stroller. Horse back riding is permitted at Heritage Ranch Trail.

This is an unsupervised recreational trail and is used at the personal responsibility and risk of the person using the trail. Please use respect, and obey all regulations.