

THE TRANS CANADA TRAIL IN ALBERTA: COMPLETED SECTIONS

Fish Creek Provincial Park

LOCATION: South end, City of Calgary

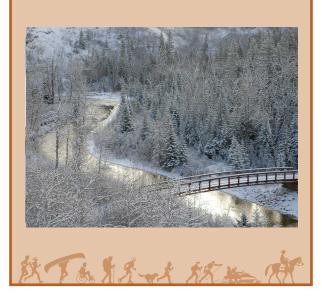
LENGTH: 9 km ($5\frac{1}{2}$ miles)

SURFACE: Ashphalt

WIDTH: 2.5 m ($8\frac{1}{4}$ feet)

PERMITTED USES: Hiking, Walking, Cycling, Cross Country Skiing, inline skating, wheelchairs

TRAIL OPERATOR: Fish Creek Provincial Park. Tel: (403) 297-5293



TYPE OF TRAIL: Asphalt regional pathway

HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE: Settlers began to arrive in the Calgary area during the mid-1800's and the bottom land around Fish Creek became the heart of western Canada's largest ranching empire. By 1900, the Bow Valley Ranch House was a mandatory stop for visitors to the young city. This historic house has been restored, and is now used as a restaurant.

TERRAIN: This urban style trail winds through natural vegetation along the Bow River, connecting to trails registered by the City of Calgary to both north and south. The registered trail is just part of the 90 km trail system within this park.

ACCESS: Fish Creek Provincial Park facilities and trails are easily accessed at entrances off major roads in Calgary including 37th street, SW 24th street SW, Elbow Drive, Macleod Trail and Bow Bottom Trail

SIGNAGE: Trans Canada Trail signage in place.

FACILITIES: Snacks are available during the summer. No Camp sites are located in the park. There are several day use areas with picnic tables, washrooms and firepits. One large shelter is available. The Environmental Learning Centre and Bow Valley Ranch visitor centre are open daily.

POINTS OF INTEREST: This extensive provincial park allows the natural world to flourish within the city. Massive cottonwood trees are prominent, but many wildflowers can be found. A heronry and nesting falcons are found here. The Bow River is famous as an excellent trout fishery. An artificial lake is used for swimming during the summer.



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