

# YOUTH GROUP INFORMATION PACKAGE FOR GARIBALDI PARK

## NEW AS OF January 2, 2018:

Reservations will be required in all campgrounds in Garibaldi Provincial Park year-round and at Red Heather for on snow winter camping (December 1 to April 30). Please visit the Garibaldi Park website for a list of reservable campgrounds. Starting January 2, 2018 reservations can now be made up to 4 months in advance of your arrival date.

To make a reservation for reservable areas during the reservable dates:

[MAKE A RESERVATION NOW ▶](#)

### **Important changes to fee payment:**

There is no option to pay with cash – all payments must be pre-paid online or by call centre by credit card. All reservations and backcountry camping permits must be purchased before 5pm the day of arrival.

## MAKING AN ONLINE RESERVATION FOR A GROUP

### **You must reserve a camping spot for each member of the group.**

There are some special considerations for making a reservation for a large group:

Flexibility comes from reserving tent pad which can hold between 1-4 campers.

For example, if you have a group of 16, and you know this is your final number, you could reserve 4 tent pads for 16 people and sleep 4 people on each.

4 campers on 4 tent pads = 16 total campers

However if you wanted flexibility in group numbers, you could reserve 8 tent pads for 16 people (2 per tent pad), and then you would have the ability to increase your group size up to 32 people with the same tent pad allotment, and have 4 people on each of the 8 tent pads. This should be done a day in advance by going online and making the adjustment to your reservation.

2 campers on 8 tent pads = 16 campers OR 4 campers on 8 tent pads = 32 campers

Need to keep in mind:

- The pads are 10 x 10 and only have room for 2 small tents or one large one.
- Reservation changes incur transaction charges of \$6. For more information on fees for changes and cancellations, please consult the BC Parks Garibaldi reservation webpage: <http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/bcparks/reserve/garibaldi/>
- Even though you must select 'tent pad' for the elfin shelter, this does not apply as shelter does not have tent pads even though you must select tent pads in order to make a reservation

## **NOTIFYING US ABOUT YOUTH GROUPS:**

In addition to your camping reservation, all youth groups planning a trip into Garibaldi Park are required to notify Garibaldi Senior Park Rangers by [registering online](#) well in advance of their trip. Large groups must ensure the appropriate number of tentpads are booked for the group.

This process has been implemented to

- prevent multiple large groups booking whole campgrounds,
- will allow BC Parks to ensure the best possible wilderness experience for all visitors, and
- prevent excessive impact on the park.

Notifying us about your trip is not for safety purposes. Groups are not monitored for a punctual and safe return, so organisers should have appropriate safety measures in place. There are no designated group sites and groups are not provided sole use of the camping and shelter facilities.

## **CAMPING INFORMATION:**

- Camping is permitted at designated campgrounds only.
- A camping permit is required in all areas of Garibaldi Park year round.
- All campgrounds in Garibaldi require a reservation. When you make a reservation, you pay the camping fees and reservation charges at time of booking.
- Every camper staying overnight must have a camping reservation.
- Reservations and the purchase of permits must be made prior to 5pm the day of arrival and within 4 months in advance.
- Designated campgrounds are located at Elfin Lakes, Rampart Ponds, Garibaldi Lake, Taylor Meadows, Helm Creek, Cheakamus Lake, Russet Lake, and Wedgemount Lake. Visit the BC Parks website for detailed information regarding campground size and facility information.
- All campers will be asked to show proof of possessing a backcountry camping permit to BC Parks staff – failure to do so can result in an eviction and fines.
- Camping fees apply to all park users 6 years of age and older.

## **CAMPING FEES IN GARIBALDI PARK**

Backcountry Camping Permit Fee: \$10.00 per person / night (persons 16 years of age and older)

Backcountry Camping Permit Fee: \$5.00 per child / night (persons 6 - 15 years of age)

Elfin Shelter Fee (includes permit): \$15.00 per adult / night (16 years of age and older)

Elfin Shelter Fee (includes permit): \$10.00 per child / night (age 6 to 15)

Children under 6 are free

## **RESERVATION SERVICE CHARGES:**

\$6 per tent pad/night or per party/night for the Elfin Shelter (up to 4 people) to a maximum of \$18 (plus tax). This is in addition to backcountry camping permit fees.

If paying by Call Centre, an additional \$5 surcharge applies

## **CONTACT INFORMATON:**

Online: [www.discovercamping.ca](http://www.discovercamping.ca) (for mobile devices, scroll down and click “Switch to Full Site”)

Call Centre:

Toll free (CAN/USA):1-800-689-9025

International: 1-519-826-6850

Weekdays: 7:00 am to 7:00 pm (PT)

Saturday, Sunday and holidays: 9:00 am to 5:00 pm (PT)

For additional information, please refer to the “[Questions and Answers about Reservations in Garibaldi Park](#)”

# **IMPORTANT INFORMATION TO KNOW ABOUT BRINGING YOUTH GROUPS TO GARIBALDI PROVINCIAL PARK**

The following information is designed as a general aid for both leaders and youths, in preparing for a fun, educational and safe wilderness experience in Garibaldi Park. Youth Groups include any group undertaking a hiking or camping trip organized and/or supervised by a school or non-profit organization.

## **TRIP PLANS/ITINERARY:**

This is a critical stage in the preparation of your trip into Garibaldi Park. One must be prepared for unforeseen circumstances at all times while travelling in a wilderness setting. It is the leader's responsibility to ensure that the group and all its members are adequately prepared for such a situation. Information detailed in AdventureSmart's "[Hug a Tree and Survive](#)" program is valuable for all groups preparing to enter a wilderness setting.

For safety purposes, the school administration should be provided with a clear and precise trip plan indicating your location and time of departure, route plan, camping plan, and the expected time of return. Have an emergency plan, including the phone numbers of local emergency services, and an adequate means of communication prepared in case of an emergency situation. To alleviate any concerns, make contact with the school if late arrival is expected.

Groups travelling in Garibaldi Park must not rely on the presence of BC Parks Rangers in an emergency situation, as most locations in the park are patrolled on an infrequent basis. Emergency response for groups is the responsibility of the group leader.

## **COMMUNICATION:**

It is recommended that a satellite phone be rented in case of an emergency situation. Many areas within Garibaldi Park do not provide adequate cellular coverage in which case, the satellite service may substitute. Good working knowledge of the phone equipment and its limitations is essential to its performance.

## **GROUP LEADERS RESPONSIBILITY:**

Group leaders traveling into the backcountry with youth should be familiar with all related risks. In order to alleviate such risk, Group Leaders must be able to demonstrate competence in the following areas:

1. The ability to assess the level of risk likely to be encountered, with sound judgments regarding the acceptability of those risks.
2. The ability to navigate through varying terrain using map and compass, while offering appropriate guidance to the youth in their care.
3. The ability to teach the skills necessary to ensure the safety of each participant.
4. The ability to demonstrate knowledge and experience in first aid and rescue techniques within the wilderness setting.

5. The ability to provide competent supervision of the participants during both instructional and non-instructional time.

### **GROUP LEADERS LEGAL RESPONSIBILITY:**

When leading a group of youths into Garibaldi Park, the leader is legally obligated to serve as the representative responsible for the actions and conduct of each person in the group. **This includes the group's registration and payment of fees.** As stated in the Park and Recreation Area Regulations, the leader shall not permit the minor to partake in any activity that is prohibited under the Regulations. As a result, the leader may be charged, fined and/or evicted as a group from the park for any prohibited activity undertaken by a group member.

Be sure to read and obey all signs!

### **WEATHER:**

Be prepared for extreme weather conditions in Garibaldi Park. Trail reports are updated on a regular basis, detailing information pertaining to snow, trail conditions, creek and bridge crossings, and wildlife activity. Please check the weather conditions and Garibaldi Park [trail report](#) prior to departing.

### **MAPS:**

[Maps](#) of Garibaldi Park, provided on the BC Parks website are for informational use only. They should not be used for navigational purposes. National Topographic Series (NTS) maps, 1:50000 scale, are an excellent source for navigational information. NTS maps can be purchased at many outdoor equipment retailers. Leaders should be properly equipped and have an appropriate level of map and compass knowledge.

Diamond Head Area Garibaldi Lake Area Helm Creek Area Cheakamus Lake Area Singing Pass Area  
Wedgemount Lake Area  
92-G-14 & 15 92-G-14 & 15 92-J-2 & 92-G-14 92-J-2  
92-J-2 92-J-2

Land and Resource topographic information may also be obtained through the [Natural Resources Canada website](#)

A Garibaldi Park specific map is available through [Clark Geomatics](#) in both paper and digital formats.

### **BACKCOUNTRY GROUP SIZE:**

BC Parks recommends that youth groups should not exceed 30 people with an absolute minimum leader to participant ratio of 1:8. In order to reduce the impact on other park users, sub-groups should not exceed 10 people. While travelling in Garibaldi Park, a leader should be located at the front and back of each group.

## **TRAIL ETIQUETTE:**

Leaders should keep the groups well controlled; restricting noise levels, as students and other park users should be able to experience all facets of the wilderness environment. The speed at which each group travels should be dictated by its slowest member. This is easily accomplished by placing this member at the front of the group. Good communication between the group is necessary to prevent it from becoming separated. Frequent food and water breaks are necessary in order to keep the group keen and energetic. Lead by example and drink at every break. Never wander off the trail, short-cut switchbacks, or throw rocks as such activities are extremely detrimental to the park environment and may create hazards to hikers below. Additional information on backcountry camping ethics for Garibaldi Park can be found in Appendix 1 below.

## **CAMPFIRES AND DOMESTIC ANIMALS:**

Fires and domestic animals are **NOT** permitted in Garibaldi Park.

## **WATER:**

Wilderness lakes and streams are the main source of water for all park visitors. Please help keep them pure by using the sinks provided or where these are not provided, washing a minimum of 30 meters away from any water source. All drinking water should be treated prior to its consumption. This can be done through the process of boiling, filtering, and/or chemical additives.

## **FOOD STORAGE:**

Food storage facilities are located at Elfin Lakes, Garibaldi Lake, Taylor Meadows, Helm Creek and Cheakamus Lake: All food and garbage must be sealed in a plastic bag and stored appropriately at the provided facility. In order to prevent the attraction of animals, cooking should take place a minimum of 30 meters away from any campsite or in the cooking shelters provided. **Food should never be stored in one's tent or campsite.** Remember "A fed bear is a dead bear".

## **GARBAGE:**

"Pack it in, pack it out" All garbage must be packed out of the park. Garbage can be greatly reduced with careful planning and packing. Fruit peels, cores and nut shells are all considered to be garbage. Campsites and rest areas must be thoroughly swept for garbage, prior to the group's departure. In no instance should garbage ever be placed in the toilet facilities!

## **TOILET FACILITIES:**

Toilet facilities are located at all campgrounds and must be used for human waste only. Where toilet facilities are not available, shallow holes of approximately 6 inches must be used. Such holes should be a minimum of 50 meters away from any water source, campsite, or trail, and appropriately covered following its use. Toilet paper should then be placed in a sealed plastic bag and treated as garbage. Hands should be washed a minimum of 30 meters away from any water source. Hand sanitizers are a useful alternative.

## **WILDLIFE:**

Wildlife, such as mice, birds, chipmunks, squirrels, marmots, deer, [bears and cougars](#) may be observed during your visit to Garibaldi Park. Appropriate measures must be taken to prevent any negative encounters with wildlife. Never feed the wildlife. During times of increased bear activity, regular monitoring occurs with updates to the website trail reports.

## **ACTIVITIES:**

Garibaldi Park offers an ideal setting for activities such as hiking, mountain biking, swimming and fishing. Hikers must remain on the trails at all times. Mountain bikes are restricted to the main access trails to Elfin Lakes and Cheakamus Lake. Mountain biking is prohibited in all other areas of the park. Swimming is possible in all wilderness lakes, yet the water temperature is extremely cold.

All swimmers must be supervised by a qualified leader. Fishing is permitted within Garibaldi Park. Those wishing to fish must be in possession of a BC freshwater angling licence and be aware of the appropriate [fishing regulations](#).

Absolutely no harvesting of plants, mushrooms, animals, and/or geological material while in the park.

## **EQUIPMENT:**

All park users should be prepared for extreme weather conditions when entering Garibaldi Park. Therefore, when trip planning, leaders must ensure that all participants are able to provide or be provided with the necessary equipment.

## **READING MATERIAL:**

The following reading material may be used as a resource prior to one's visit into the Garibaldi Area.

- "103 Hikes in Southwestern British Columbia" - Jack Bryceland, Mary and David Macaree
- "Geology of Garibaldi Park" - Geological Survey of Canada
- "How to Shit in the Woods: An Environmentally Sound Approach to a Lost Art" - Kathleen Meyer
- "Soft Paths: How to Enjoy the Wilderness Without Harming It" – NOLS

## **WEB-SITES:**

The following web sites may be used as a resource prior to one's visit into the Garibaldi Area.

- [Conservation Officer Service "Get Bear Aware"](#)
- [Provincial Emergency Program](#)
- [Geological Association of Canada](#)
- ["Get Bear Smart" Society](#)

## Appendix 1 - Backcountry Camping Ethics for Garibaldi Provincial Park

Everyone that visits Garibaldi Provincial Park can do their part to protect the natural environment and wilderness experience. While you are here, please follow these backcountry ethics:

### Leave No Trace

Plan ahead and prepare so that when you leave the park there is no evidence you camped in this wilderness setting. Here are some tips to help you “Leave No Trace”:

- Leave what you find (unless it is garbage)
- Respect wildlife (do not feed or harass any of the animals that make this park their home)
- Be considerate of other visitors. Quiet time is 10pm – 7am
- Use the Leave No Trace practices below to minimize your impact

### Travel and Camp on Durable Surfaces

Hike on designated trails, put up your tent on the tent pads provided. Pay particular attention to what you do in and around your campsite; you are camping in and amongst sensitive plants such as heather meadows. These are among the most fragile ecosystems because of the severe conditions and the short growing season. What may seem like a harmless activity can cause long-term damage.

### Cooking and Cleaning

- Fires are not permitted anywhere in Garibaldi provincial Park. Use a backpacking stove for cooking and for sterilizing your drinking water if you don't have a filter.
- Soap should be phosphate free and biodegradable. Lakes and streams may be a source of drinking water so ensure you use the facilities provided (outhouses or sinks in cooking shelters) to dispose of your greywater.
- Ensure you store your food and toiletries in the bear hangs provided or hang food in the day use shelters.
- Minimize tooth brushing impact by using salt or baking soda instead of toothpaste.

### Disposing of waste

- Please use the outhouse provided for all human waste.
- Greywater (i.e. dishwater) should be disposed of in the cooking shelters (or outhouses) provided.
- Pack out what you pack in, and dispose of waste properly. Pack out any garbage that you have brought with you or found along the way, including biodegradable scraps such as apple cores and orange peels. These take a very long time to decompose in the alpine environment and reduce the wilderness experience. Remember, “If it doesn't grow here, it doesn't go here.” Take along a garbage bag and carry out all trash that you generate.

### Park Rules:

- Damage to, collection or removal of any natural resources is prohibited.
- Fires are not permitted anywhere in Garibaldi Provincial Park
- Motor vehicles, including motorcycles, ATV's and similar vehicles, are restricted to the vehicle roads and parking lots.
- Dogs and other domestic animals are not permitted in Garibaldi Provincial Park.
- Bicycles are only permitted on designated roads, Cheakamus Lake trail and Elfin Lakes trail.