

Whiteshell Provincial Park

Campground Tips

- Be Wildlife Smart. Do not feed any wildlife, including birds or squirrels. You are in black bear country - secure all attractants such as food, cooking equipment and trash in a locked vehicle. Do not store food or attractants in your tent.
- Practice Leave No Trace. Pack out all gear and trash to keep the campsites clean for others.
- Keep dogs on leash and clean up after your pet.
- Learn to recognize and avoid poisonous plants such as poison ivy.
- Open fires are prohibited. Use portable stoves or fire pits provided.
- Don't Move Firewood -Moving firewood can spread harmful invasive species and destroy our forests.
- Prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species. Always clean, drain, dry watercraft and water related equipment. Visit *manitoba.ca/stopais* for full regulations.
- In case of injury or illness contact a Park Attendant or Park Patrol Officer. They can assist you to reach medical help.
- Full camping regulations are available in the Campers Guide, available from park offices and online at *manitobaparks.com*.

Opapiskaw Campground

In the heart of Canadian Shield country



Opapiskaw campground is located adjacent to PR 307 in Whiteshell Provincial Park, in the heart of Canadian Shield country. From archaeological excavations along the Winnipeg River, human presence in the Whiteshell area has been traced back to at least 8000 years ago. Artifacts have been found verifying that early travellers visited to harvest resources and conduct religious ceremonies. Members of the La Vérendrye expedition arrived here in the spring of 1733 and found a Cree settlement at "La Barrière". The Cree had built a weir to trap spawning sturgeon near the site of what is today Opapiskaw campground. The Whiteshell River, known as "la rivière Pichikoka", was used by La Vérendrye as an alternative route. The French fur traders' and explorers' journey down the Winnipeg River was an important event in the development of the West.

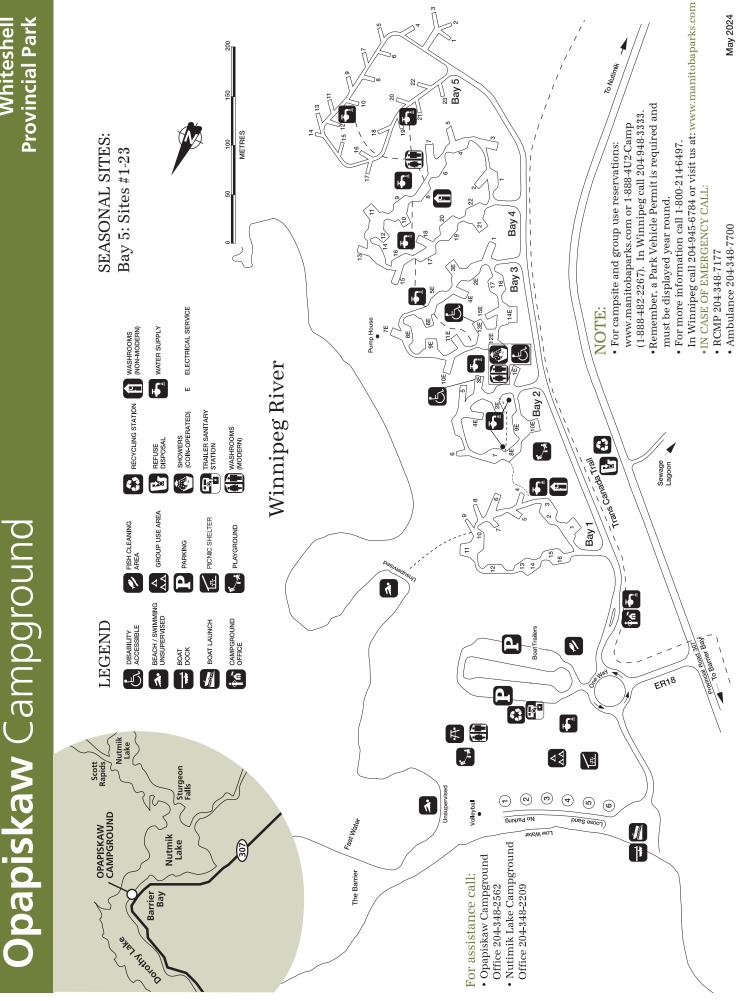
Interpretive programs are available within short driving distance from the campground. Let the interpreters take you on a guided tour of the petroforms or nearby hiking trails. They will teach you about the natural wonders of the area and later put on a nighttime performance at the amphitheatre. Campground talks, family programs, and guest speakers will entertain and inform visitors. Within the huge base of rock that covers the park and beyond, find rushing rivers, placid lakes, and lush forests full of boreal plants and wildlife.

The campground offers two beaches, beautifully surrounded by natural rock landscape, and a peninsula with a footpath leading to rushing waters. In addition to its beautiful scenic location, these waters also provide good fishing opportunities. Activities in the area include volleyball, tennis, boating, hiking, and mountain biking. A store, playground, group use area, and boat launch are located within a convenient distance from the campground.

Rock formations or petroforms, have been attributed to Algonkian-speaking natives of whom the present-day Anishinabe (Ojibwe) are descendants. Although petroforms can be found within various locations throughout the Whiteshell, there is a concentration of them close to the campground. Each summer, interpreters lead tours throughout the area and explain the petroforms' significance. If you visit the log-constructed museum at Nutimik Lake, be sure to view the displays of the Winnipeg River, First Nations peoples, petroforms, wild rice, lake sturgeon, and wildlife of the boreal forest.

More information on Opapiskaw Campground and Whiteshell Provincial Park is available on request from the park office.





Whiteshell