



The Glacier Explorer

The official interpretive schedule of
Glacier National Park

Issue no. 5

Join Us!

This guide lists a variety of ranger-led programs, from easy walks and evening talks, to all-day hikes and boat tours. Also, be sure to ask at visitor centers for information on recent wildlife observations and special programs that may be scheduled during September.



September Going-to-the-Sun Road Storm Damage Repairs and Rehabilitation Closures

Beginning September 16, at 10:00pm, the alpine section of the Going-to-the-Sun Road will close for the season to accommodate scheduled road rehabilitation work and to repair damage from a storm that occurred in November of 2006.

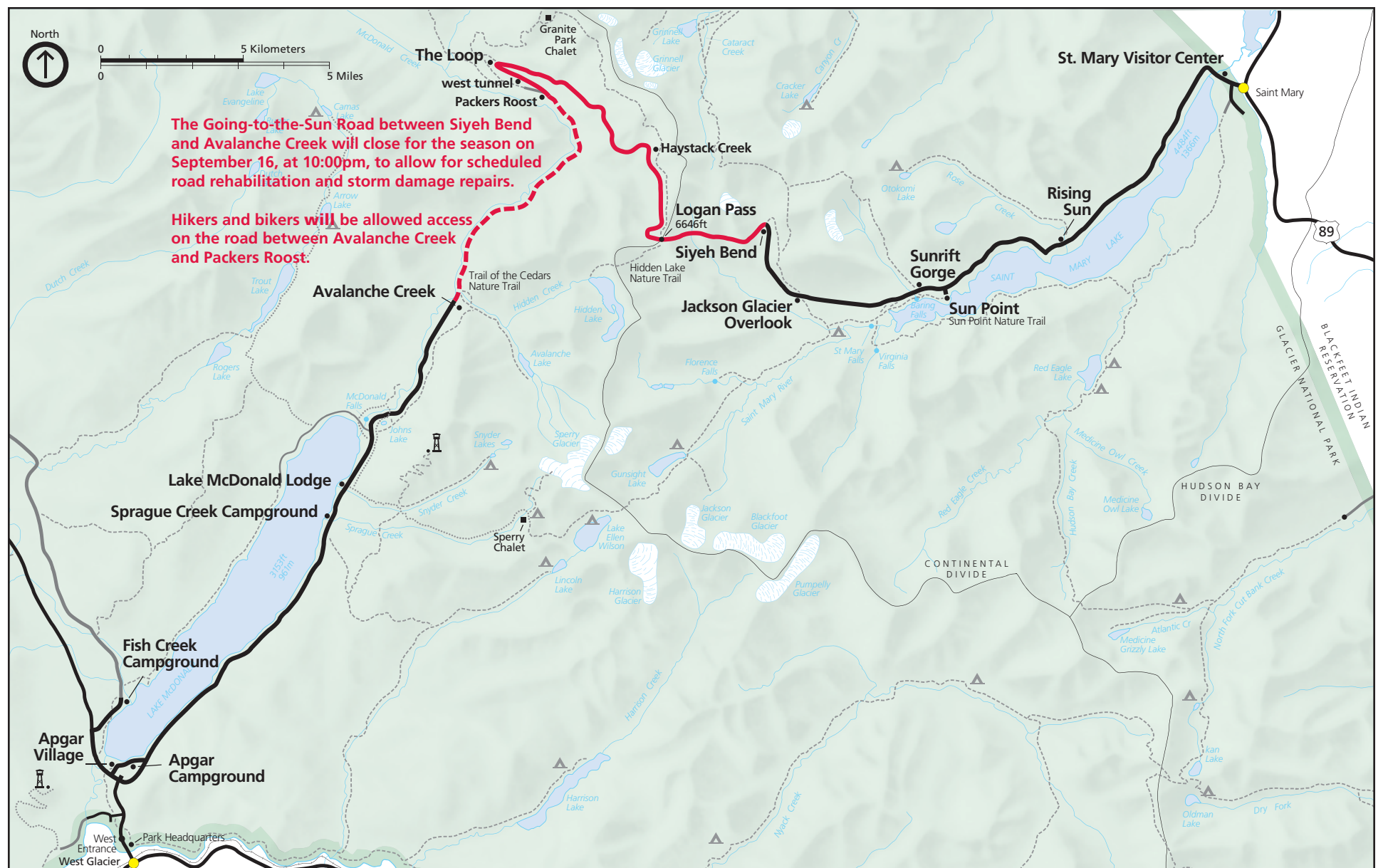
Temporary storm damage repairs, undertaken in May and June, allowed for visitor access throughout the busy summer season. These repairs included a temporary bridge east of Logan Pass that needs to be removed to allow final repairs to a large washout of the Going-to-the-Sun Road. Additionally ongoing road rehabilitation work will accelerate on the section of road between the west tunnel and Haystack Creek.

Visitor Access

West side parking will be available at Avalanche Creek and hikers and bikers will be allowed to use the Going-to-the-Sun Road as far as Packers Roost. Potential hazards from rock fall will preclude all public access through the work zone further up the road.

On the east side of the park, vehicles can be driven as far as Siyeh Bend. No access beyond this point will be allowed, including hiker/biker use.

Other parts of the park remain open as scheduled. Please check the Waterton-Glacier Guide for exact dates and hours of operation for other locations in the park.



Watch Out For Wildlife

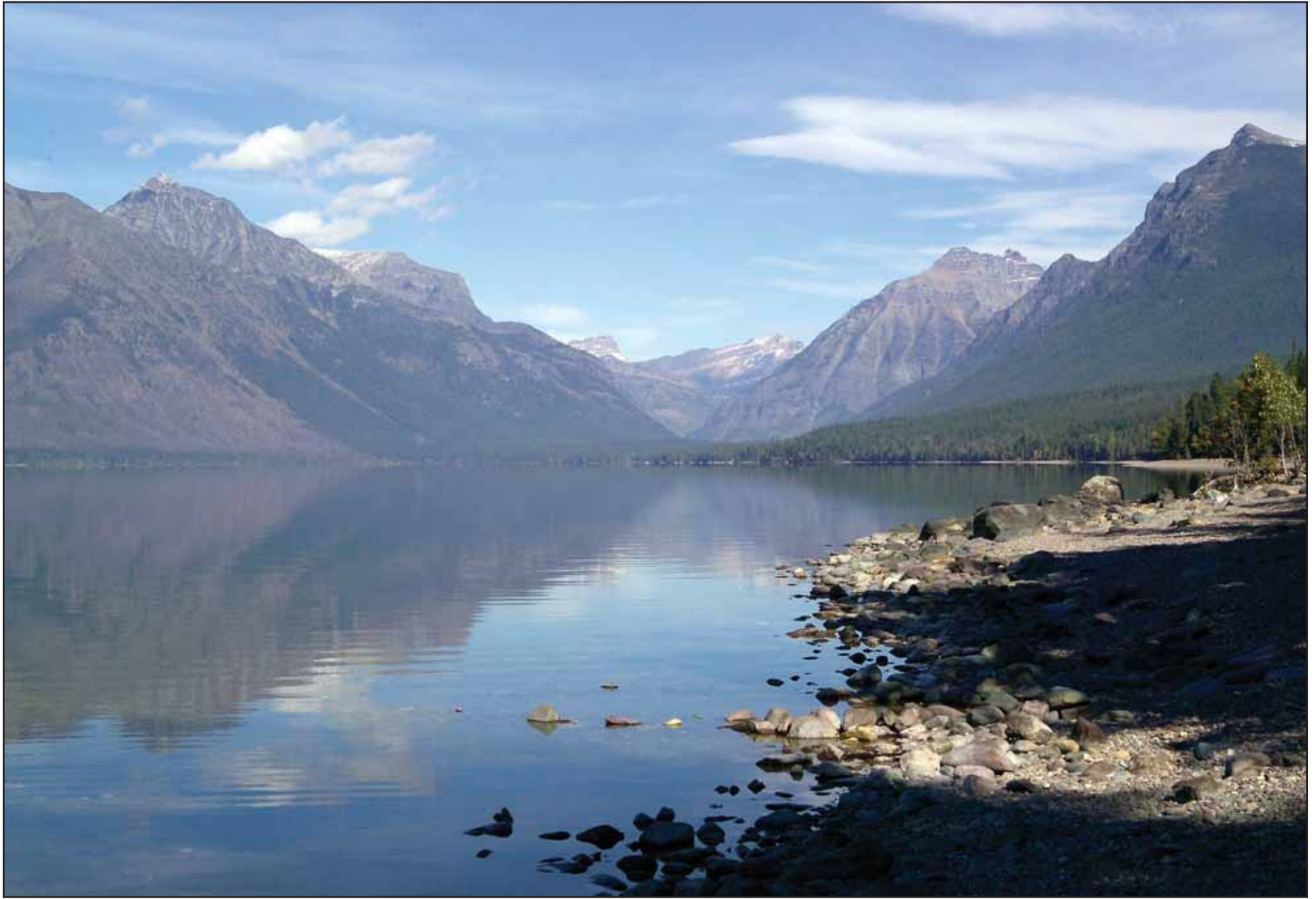
September is a great time of year to visit Glacier. The crowds have thinned out and wildlife seems to be much more visible. Areas like Many Glacier, in the northeast corner of the park, and Two Dog Flats, near Rising Sun are both good locations to watch for animals. For your safety, and the animals as well, always observe wild-

life from a safe distance. Never approach animals at close range. If the animals react to your presence you are too close. Make sure that you stop your vehicle only in a designated parking area.

Please help us to preserve these magnificent creatures!



Lake McDonald	Tuesday Sept. 4	Wednesday Sept. 5	Thursday Sept. 6	Friday Sept. 7	Saturday Sept. 8	Sunday Sept. 9	Monday Sept. 10	Tuesday Sept. 11	Wednesday Sept. 12	Thursday Sept. 13	Friday Sept. 14	Saturday Sept. 15
Avalanche Lake Hike					9:00am	9:00am						9:00am
Lake McDonald Boat Tours	1:30pm & 3:00pm	1:30pm & 3:00pm	1:30pm & 3:00pm	1:30pm & 3:00pm	1:30pm & 3:00pm	1:30pm & 3:00pm	1:30pm & 3:00pm	1:30pm & 3:00pm	1:30pm & 3:00pm	1:30pm & 3:00pm	1:30pm & 3:00pm	1:30pm & 3:00pm
Fire in Glacier Walk		2:00pm		2:00pm		2:00pm		2:00pm		2:00pm		2:00pm
Oxbow Stroll	2:00pm		2:00pm		2:00pm		2:00pm		2:00pm		2:00pm	
Apgar Campground Ranger Talk	7:00pm		7:00pm			7:00pm		7:00pm		7:00pm		
Lake McDonald Lodge Evening Program		8:00pm		8:00pm	8:00pm		8:00pm		8:00pm		8:00pm	8:00pm



Lake McDonald from the shore near Lake McDonald Lodge

Photo by David Restivo

Lake McDonald...continued	Sunday Sept. 16	Monday Sept. 17	Tuesday Sept. 18	Wednesday Sept. 19	Thursday Sept. 20	Friday Sept. 21	Saturday Sept. 22	Sunday Sept. 23	Monday Sept. 24	Tuesday Sept. 25	Wednesday Sept. 26	Thursday Sept. 27	Friday Sept. 28	Saturday Sept. 29
Avalanche Lake Hike							9:00am							
Lake McDonald Boat Tours	1:30pm & 3:00pm	1:30pm & 3:00pm	1:30pm & 3:00pm	1:30pm & 3:00pm	1:30pm & 3:00pm	1:30pm & 3:00pm	1:30pm & 3:00pm							
Fire in Glacier Walk		2:00pm		2:00pm		2:00pm		2:00pm		2:00pm		2:00pm		2:00pm
Oxbow Stroll	2:00pm		2:00pm		2:00pm		2:00pm		2:00pm		2:00pm		2:00pm	
Apgar Campground Ranger Talk	7:00pm		7:00pm		7:00pm			7:00pm		7:00pm		7:00pm		
Lake McDonald Lodge Evening Program		8:00pm		8:00pm		8:00pm	8:00pm		8:00pm		8:00pm		8:00pm	

Avalanche Lake Hike

Discover the power of water and geologic forces that have shaped this unique environment, on the way to glimmering Avalanche Lake. This hike gains 500 feet over two miles. Participants should wear hiking shoes and bring water and a snack or lunch to eat at the lake. Meet at the roadside parking lot, across from Avalanche Campground.

4 miles (6.4 km) – 3 ½ hours

Lake McDonald Boat Tours

Cruise the dancing waters of Lake McDonald and enjoy a sampling of Glacier’s stories while aboard the historic DeSmet. Meet at the dock behind Lake McDonald Lodge. Arrive 15 minutes early to pay the fee charged for the boat trip. **1 hour**

Fire in Glacier Walk

Explore the Robert Fire of 2003 and discover the vital role wildland fire plays in the Crown of the Continent Ecosystem on this easy hike. Meet at the Rocky Point trailhead 0.2 miles north of the Fish Creek Campground on the Inside North Fork Road.

2 miles (3.2 km) – 2 hours

Oxbow Stroll

Join us for a casual stroll through the forest along lower McDonald Creek and discover why Glacier National Park is world famous for its biological diversity. Meet in front of the Apgar Visitor Center.

1.5 miles (2.4 km) – 1½ - 2 hours

Apgar Campground Ranger Talk

Join us at the Apgar Campground Amphitheater for an exploration of Glacier’s natural and cultural history. Bring the family and your questions for an interesting look at this incredible place. **45 minutes**

Lake McDonald Lodge Evening Program

Meet in the Lake McDonald Lodge Auditorium for these evening slide programs on the many wonders of Glacier National Park. All park visitors are invited to attend these free programs. **45 minutes**

Many Glacier	Tuesday Sept. 4	Wednesday Sept. 5	Thursday Sept. 6	Friday Sept. 7	Saturday Sept. 8	Sunday Sept. 9	Monday Sept. 10	Tuesday Sept. 11	Wednesday Sept. 12	Thursday Sept. 13	Friday Sept. 14	Saturday Sept. 15
Grinnell Glacier Boat Trip and Hike		8:30am	8:30am		8:30am	8:30am		8:30am				
Iceberg Lake Hike	8:30am							8:30am	8:30am			
Grinnell Lake Boat Trip and Hike	9:00am	9:00am		9:00am			9:00am			9:00am	9:00am	9:00am
Nature Walk	2:00pm	2:00pm	2:00pm	2:00pm	2:00pm	2:00pm	2:00pm	2:00pm	2:00pm	2:00pm	2:00pm	2:00pm
Red Rock Falls Hike				2:00pm			2:00pm			2:00pm		
Historic Hotel Tour	4:00pm	4:00pm	4:00pm	4:00pm	4:00pm	4:00pm	4:00pm	4:00pm	4:00pm	4:00pm	4:00pm	4:00pm
Lucerne Room Evening Program	8:00pm	8:00pm	8:00pm	8:00pm	8:00pm	8:00pm	8:00pm	8:00pm	8:00pm	8:00pm	8:00pm	

Scope it Out!
Throughout the day, volunteer interpreters rove the Many Glacier Valley with binoculars and spotting scopes, assisting visitors watching wildlife. Look for them on Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays at the Swiftcurrent Motor Inn parking lot, the picnic area, around the Many Glacier Hotel, or wherever the good wildlife viewing opportunities are found.

Grinnell Glacier Boat Trip and Hike
View spectacular scenery including one of this park's largest glaciers on this strenuous all-day hike. The trail ascends 1600'. Meet at the Many Glacier Hotel boat dock. A fee is charged for the boat. Please purchase boat tickets early if possible.
8.5 miles (14km) - 8 hours

Iceberg Lake Hike
This moderately strenuous hike through flowered meadows and sub-alpine forests climbs 1200 feet to beautiful Iceberg Lake. Meet the ranger at the Swiftcurrent Motor Inn porch. **10 miles (16km) – about 6-7 hours**

Grinnell Lake Boat Trip and Hike
Meet at the Many Glacier Hotel Boat Dock for a cruise on Swiftcurrent and Josephine Lakes and an optional, easy hike to Grinnell Lake. A fee is charged for the boat. Please purchase boat tickets early if possible.
2.5 miles (4 km) – 3½ hours

Nature Walk
Learn about what makes Glacier a special place as you walk to Wilbur Falls and Fishercap Lake. Meet at the Swiftcurrent Motor Inn porch. **1 mile (1.2 km) – 1 hour**

Red Rock Falls Hike
View the changing display of wildflowers & often-present wildlife in the Swiftcurrent Valley. Meet at the Swiftcurrent Motor Inn porch for this hike to Red Rock Falls.
3.5 miles (5.6 km) – 3 hours

Historic Hotel Tour
Join a ranger for a tour of the historic Many Glacier Hotel and learn about its history and restoration. Meet in the hotel lobby. There will be some walking and stairs. **1 hour**

Lucerne Room Evening Program
Meet downstairs in the Lucerne Room of the Many Glacier Hotel for this exploration of the facets of Waterton-Glacier International Peace Park. All park visitors are welcome.
45 minutes



Mt. Wilbur and the Many Glacier Campground

Photo by David Restivo



Hiking the Highline Trail Photo by Susan Olin

What to Bring Hiking!

- Sturdy foot gear is a must for all but the very easiest of hikes. Everyone should have good boots, with strong support, to help prevent ankle injuries.
- Bring water with you! The mountains can get very hot in the summer. Surface water in the park may be unsafe to drink.
- Mosquitos and flies can be bothersome. Come prepared with repellent to meet some of Glacier's smaller wildlife species.
- A day of hiking can expose you to more sun and UV rays than normal. Wear a hat and sunscreen. It will help keep you cool and prevent a sunburn on your scalp!
- Bring something to eat while you are in the backcountry. If you are on an all-day hike or a hike over the noon hour, you'll get mighty hungry without lunch. Remember, if you pack it in, pack it out.
- Weather can change quickly. Come prepared with rain gear for summer showers.
- Children are welcome on interpretive activities, but should always be accompanied by an adult.
- Come prepared to have a great time!

St. Mary		Tuesday Sept. 4	Wednesday Sept. 5	Thursday Sept. 6	Friday Sept. 7	Saturday Sept. 8	Sunday Sept. 9	Monday Sept. 10	Tuesday Sept. 11	Wednesday Sept. 12	Thursday Sept. 13	Friday Sept. 14	Saturday Sept. 15
Orientation Film		Daily	Daily	Daily	Daily	Daily	Daily	Daily	Daily	Daily	Daily	Daily	Daily
Wonderful Waterfalls Hike		8:30am	8:30am	8:30am	8:30am	8:30am	8:30am	8:30am	8:30am	8:30am	8:30am	8:30am	8:30am

St. Mary ...continued		Sunday Sept. 16	Monday Sept. 17	Tuesday Sept. 18	Wednesday Sept. 19	Thursday Sept. 20	Friday Sept. 21	Saturday Sept. 22	Sunday Sept. 23	Monday Sept. 24	Tuesday Sept. 25	Wednesday Sept. 26	Thursday Sept. 27	Friday Sept. 28	Saturday Sept. 29
Orientation Film		Daily	Daily	Daily	Daily	Daily	Daily	Daily	Daily	Daily	Daily	Daily	Daily	Daily	Daily
Wonderful Waterfalls Hike		8:30am	8:30am	8:30am	8:30am	8:30am	8:30am	8:30am	8:30am	8:30am	8:30am	8:30am	8:30am	8:30am	8:30am

Orientation Film

“Glacier National Park – Land of Many Journeys” Film shown throughout the day at the St. Mary Visitor Center. **15 minutes**

Wonderful Waterfalls Walk

Experience the wonders of water as you walk along the shores of Saint Mary Lake to Baring Falls & continue on to Saint Mary Falls. Meet a ranger in the Sun Point parking lot (east end) at the trailhead.

4.6 miles (7.4km) - 3½ hours



St. Mary Falls, Clements Mountain at Logan Pass, and Aspen

Photos by David Restivo

Logan Pass		Tuesday Sept. 4	Wednesday Sept. 5	Thursday Sept. 6	Friday Sept. 7	Saturday Sept. 8	Sunday Sept. 9	Monday Sept. 10	Tuesday Sept. 11	Wednesday Sept. 12	Thursday Sept. 13	Friday Sept. 14	Saturday Sept. 15
Highline Stroll		8:30am	8:30am	8:30am	8:30am	8:30am	8:30am	8:30am	8:30am	8:30am	8:30am	8:30am	8:30am
Hidden Lake Overlook Hike		9:30am	9:30am	9:30am	9:30am	9:30am	9:30am	9:30am	9:30am	9:30am	9:30am	9:30am	9:30am

Highline Stroll

This stroll along the Garden Wall follows the Continental Divide and provides some of the most spectacular scenery in the park. Mountain goats, bighorn sheep, & marmots often appear along this route. Meet at the Continental Divide Sign at the entrance to the Logan Pass parking lot.

5 miles (8km) - 3½ hours

Hidden Lake Overlook Hike

Autumn is the perfect time to experience the alpine world. A light dusting of snow often highlights the surrounding landscape. Wear sturdy shoes & layer clothing for warmth including a hat. Elevation gain of 460'. Meet outside the upper level doors of the Logan Pass Visitor Center.

3 miles (5km) - 2½ hours