



The Lakes

We encourage you to do your own research as you know best what you and your group will like, but here are some short notes about surrounding lakes. Notes are from various websites.

Alford Lake -

Rec Base Notes - kayak/canoe, fishing (pair with Phyllis Lake)

Distance from Cabin: 8 minutes east on paved highway

"Alford Lake is a lake located just 10.3 miles from Burnstick Lake, in Division 9, in the province of Alberta, Canada. Fishermen will find a variety of fish including perch, sucker and rainbow trout here. Whether you're baitcasting, fly fishing or spinning your chances of getting a bite here are good. So grab your favorite fly fishing rod and reel, and head out to Alford Lake."

Phyllis Lake -

Rec Base Notes - kayak/canoe, swimming, fishing, birdwatching (pair with Alford Lake). *It is great for kayaks and canoes and makes a rewarding bird watching spot with herons, eagles, osprey, loons and more.*

Distance from Cabin: 14 minutes east on paved/gravel roads

"Phyllis Lake Campground, in Phyllis Lake Provincial Recreation Area, is 33 km south of Rocky Mountain House on Hwy. 22 and 7 km west on Hwy. 591. This scenic little foothills lake is suited to canoeing, fishing and boating with electric powered motors. There are about 20 sites, most of which are open to each other and face the lake. They are suited for both RVs and tents."

Tay Lake -

Rec Base Notes - walk-in lake (could be wet/muddy), shoreline fishing (pair with Swan Lake)

Distance from Cabin: 12 minutes north on gravel roads

"From Caroline AB going straight to highway 591 then turn right going to Alford Lake then follow the road at about 2 mins you reached the Tay lake marker, then walk follow the ATV trail, about 10mins then you reached the lake -

<http://www.ifishalberta.com/lakeFeedback.php?id=460>"

Swan Lake -

Rec Base Notes - kayak/canoe, fishing, swimming, bird watching (pair with Tay Lake).

It is great for kayaks and canoes and we enjoy swimming off our floating island on a hot day. Immediately off the dock it is muddy/sandy and doesn't feel that great. There are plenty of birds and wildlife to enjoy. It can be windy mid-day, but early mornings and evenings are great!

Distance from Cabin: 20 kms on gravel roads.

"Swan Lake is 2.1 km long and 700 metres at its widest point. While not big, the lake can give up large trout in the range of four to six pounds, making it excellent for fly fishing.

The Alberta record for brown trout was set here in the early 1990s. Its waters also hold lake trout and northern pike.

Fishing can be a test of patience for some, though others claim that they've figured out the secrets to Swan Lake's fish. Angler's Atlas member wst_urn says, "A spoon or Flatfish or Kwikfish will work [with] a small weight ahead of it, such as on a three-way swivel. Normally these fish are not right on the bottom, but 10-15 feet down."

Swan is a naturally producing lake, but it receives a lot of fishing pressure, particularly in early spring.

Ample weed areas afford cover for trout fingerlings and forage for pike and browns. The pike are by far the most challenging.

Due to its size, the lake is best suited to smaller boats and there is a speed restriction of 12 km/h.

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South of the Rocky Mountain House, the lake is accessible via Hwy. 22. Drive 35 km to the junction with secondary Hwy. 591 on the right.

Follow this for 20 km to a side road on the right (north) and continue along this road for another 20 km until reaching Swan Lake. (make sure you stay left at the first fork).

The lake is a little longer than a three hours' drive from Calgary or Edmonton.

There are 24 campsites with picnic tables and fire pits. Several sites are located next to the lake, close enough for anglers to tie up their boats.

Facilities include dry toilets, a boat launch, dock, refuse containers, fish-cleaning stations, firewood and a community cook shelter."

Beaver Lake -

Rec Base Notes - *kayak/canoe, fishing, bird watching (pair with Burntstick Lake). It can be quite busy on weekends but it is so scenic!*

Distance from Cabin: 24 minutes east and south on paved highway

"This lake is approximately 10 km SW of Caroline. The lake is stocked annually by AEP with trout, and it is aerated (October - April) through ACA's Lake Aeration Program. Facilities include a maintained parking area, outhouse and gravel boat launch.

Restrictions: Day use only. No open fires. Foot access only. No gas-powered motors."

Burntstick Lake -

Rec Base Notes - *waterskiing, big boats, fishing, kayak/canoe, swimming (pair with Beaver Lake).*

Distance from Cabin: 43.5 kms east and south on paved highway/gravel road

"This recreation area is located 3 km west and 15 km south of Caroline. The lake is about 3 km long and has an abundance of pike, perch and walleye.

Burntstick Lake offers something for everyone, including boating, fishing, water skiing, camping and a picnic area. A small store is available for your convenience. The sandy beach, boat launch, ATV staging area, playground and horseshoe pit provide enjoyable options for visitors.

Burntstick Lake Campground is open from early May until the middle of October (weather permitting). There is always something happening...

The campground has 34 seasonal campsites, 26 regular campsites and 8 tenting sites as well as a group site (the sites are not serviced and water is considered non-potable as it is not treated with chlorine)."

Cow Lake -

Rec Base Notes - *waterskiing, big boats, fishing, kayak/canoe, swimming*

Distance from Cabin: 46 minutes north on paved highways

"Cow Lake is known to give up rainbow trout as large as 6-8 lbs. as well as plenty of perch and pike. Del Ramage, owner of Grandview Stage and Resort at Cow Lake, describes it as an excellent lake for families, the prime reason being fishing.

Perch and pike are the most plentiful. In recent years, the lake has been stocked with rainbows and northern pike. Try Jim's jigs and maggots for trout. Another option is shrimp. Worms and Powerbait are also worthwhile.

Fishing for perch is always a treat, and especially so when ice fishing. Try using a small Five of Diamonds with maggots.

Also, vary your jigging methods. Sometimes a couple of light bounces is all it will take to get the fish interested, while at other times it takes a little more work.

The resort hosts its annual fishing derby to coincide with Alberta's Family Day Free Fishing Weekend.

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Cow Lake is located 18 km southwest of Rocky Mountain House and approximately 23 km from Red Deer.

In Red Deer, drive west on Hwy. 11, the David Thompson Highway, for 78 km until reaching Rocky Mountain House.

Turn left at 50th Avenue and left again onto Hwy. 752. Take another left onto Park St., then right onto 59th St. until arriving at the lake.

Along with the resort, there is a campground with 110 sites, a boat launch and a swimming area. There is another boat launch at the north end of Cow Lake."

Crimson Lake -

Rec Base Notes - *fishing, kayak/canoe, swimming, biking, hiking (pair with a trip into Rocky Mountain House).*

Distance from Cabin: 50 minutes north on paved highways

"Only a short distance from Rocky Mountain House, Crimson Lake Provincial Park offers year-round recreation opportunities for people of all ages. With over 150 camping sites, 10km of trails, and a lake suitable for fishing and swimming, this park is a popular destination for both locals and travelers.

In the summer months, the campground store provides food, souvenirs, and toiletries, while separate laundry and shower facilities make extended stays more comfortable. Educational interpretive programs run at the amphitheatre and throughout the park, and there are ample trails and a clean and sizable beach for whatever summer activity visitors would like to enjoy.

During the winter, there are cleared powered sites available at a reduced camping rate. The groomed and packed trails are perfect for fat biking, cross-country skiing, and snowshoeing. The double skating rink gives visitors a chance to skate freely or start a game of shinny hockey with friends."

Peppers Lake -

Rec Base Notes - *fishing, kayak/canoe, swimming, short hike around the lake (pair with a hike at Ram Falls).*

Distance from Cabin: 1 hour west on windy gravel roads

"Peppers Lake Campground is located in Peppers Lake Provincial Recreation Area, 84 km southeast of Nordegg on Hwy. 734. This pretty little campground has quiet, treed sites with close lake access. Go fishing or tour the shoreline by canoe or electric powered boat. An equestrian staging area is located 2 km away. 16 unserviced campsites.

Sylvan Lake -

Rec Base Notes - waterskiing, big boats, fishing, swimming (pair with a trip to Medicine River Wildlife Station).
Distance from Cabin: 1 hour 4 minutes east and north on paved highways.

"Sylvan Lake Provincial Park Beach is on Lakeshore Drive in the Town of Sylvan Lake. This wonderful, sandy beach with clear, shallow waters has all of the amenities required for a day at the beach within walking distance. This is THE beach for Central Alberta. There are grassy areas, picnic tables, volleyball nets and great people watching opportunities. The area has been upgraded with better parking and day use facilities. The boat launch and marina are close by on the southwest end of the beach. Arrive early on weekends for best parking and beach spots. This is a summer hotspot suitable for anyone. The safe, shallow waters are ideal for swimming. The lake is popular for recreational use such as boating, water skiing, and fishing. The Sylvan Lake Stewardship Association has been very active in promoting and preserving the clear, clean waters of Sylvan Lake."

Glennifer Lake -

Rec Base Notes - waterskiing, big boats, fishing, swimming (pair with a trip to Medicine River Wildlife Station).
Distance from Cabin: 1 hour east on paved highways

"Gleniffer Lake is very clear and attractive for recreational fishing and boating, but variable water levels make the shoreline and beaches less appealing than those in natural lakes. The Alberta government operates a visitor centre on the dam, six day-use areas that provide access to the lake and two day-use areas for access to the river below the dam. Boat launches on the reservoir are available at North Dyke, South Dyke and Cottonwood day-use areas, and canoes can also be launched at Portage day-use area. There is a boat launch on the river below the dam at South Valley day-use area. Swimming is good at Dickson Point, and at South Dyke and North Dyke day-use areas. Fishing is permitted in the trout pond at Dickson Point and there is a children's fish pond at Cottonwood day-use area. Posted areas of the reservoir designate areas where no boats are permitted (Alta. For. Ld. Wild. 1988)."