>> Hanson Lake Highway

In 1963, the Hanson Lake Highway opened a portion of Saskatchewan's vast, wild north to mining and forestry. Today it is your road to adventure!

he 330 km Hanson Lake Highway takes you through some of the most dramatic boreal forest landscapes in the province. **Day #1** of your adventure begins in the city of Prince Albert. Known for its beautiful parkland setting on the banks of the North Saskatchewan River, its thriving arts community and independent spirit, Prince Albert offers intriguing attractions.



Narrow Hills Provincial Park

Discover works by leading regional and national artists in the Art Gallery of Prince Albert, located in the E.A. Rawlinson Centre for the Arts, or stop in the public library and view the exhibits in the intimate Grace Campbell Gallery. The Prince Albert Arts Centre, a National Historic Landmark that was originally the Town Hall and Opera House, has found new life as a showcase for superb local arts & crafts.

Continue your artistic explorations over lunch at the Bison Café, which houses the Red Door Gallery onsite. Spend your afternoon delving into the past. The Prince Albert Historical Museum in the old Fire Hall uses artifacts and old photos to bring alive fur trade and settler histories. Enjoy a cuppa in the tearoom with its stunning river valley view.

For Canadian history buffs, Diefenbaker House is a must-see. The last home of Canada's 13th prime minister, John G. Diefenbaker, it features a guided tour of beautifully furnished rooms. Machinery enthusiasts will enjoy the farm-related museum and restored equipment on display at Vintage Power Machines, a short drive southwest on Hwy 11, at the corner of West Central Road.

Top off your day at Amy's on Second, an elegant dining room that boasts Northern cuisine on the menu and local artwork on the walls. If you're in the mood for excitement, check out the live entertainment and gaming at the Northern Lights Hillcrest Inn Bed & Breakfast. Great camping and RV facilities are also available.

Day #2 officially begins when you head out on Hwy 55. Remember to pack a lunch – you'll be spending a good part of your day outdoors and there's nothing like fresh air to work up an appetite.

LENGTH	DISTANCES (approximate)	
3–5 days		 Prince Albert 150 km (Prince Albert - Narrow Hills Provincial Park)
	Day #3	 – 250 km (Narrow Hills Provincial Park - Creighton)

Drive northeast to Smeaton, then turn north onto Hanson Lake Highway Hwy 106. Your destination is Narrow Hills Provincial Park, a sprawling area of dramatic landscapes carved by glacial ice sheets some 10,000 years ago.

> The park is known for superb canoeing, camping, fishing and hiking as well as winter snowmobiling and dogsledding. The main campground is at Lower Fishing Lake. Here you'll find the Park Administration Office, resort amenities and a great sandy beach. But you'll also come across remarkable natural attractions.

Fishing Administ and a grea come across r

Casino. Prince Albert has a choice of accommodations for your first overnight. For something unique, try the Serenity Spa Bed & Breakfast or the award-winning The Narrow Hills Esker is a dramatic ridge of sand and gravel formed by a stream flowing under melting

continues on reverse...

SASKATCHEWAN <u>I</u>and of <u>I</u>iving Skies

ice sheets. The Gem Lakes Hiking Trail offers a spectacular view of a cluster of deep, sand-bottomed lakes that reflect a stunning spectrum of aqua blue, jade and emerald colours. The Island Lake Hiking Trail takes your through a mature forest of jack pine and black spruce, and Narrow Hills Scenic Drive offers stunning vistas, though it's only wide enough for cars.

After an overnight in one of the park's pristine campgrounds, Day #3 offers you a choice - spend another day fishing, canoeing and hiking in the park or continue on your journey. The Hanson Lake Highway provides evidence of two billion years of geological history, from limestone outcrops from an ancient sea bed (bring your fossil book), to glacial remains of volcanic material, this route is rich in history, both natural and man made. Take the time to stop at some of the amazing lakes and rivers along the route, like the Sturgeon-wier River, named after the sturgeon traps aboriginal people use to catch this prehistoric fish. This river was followed by historic greats like David Thompson and Peter Fiddler. Most of the lakes, rivers and creeks in the area have been named after colourful characters that influenced the development of the north.

You will find excellent wilderness resorts at Deschambault Lake and Jan Lake, or at Hanson Lake or Mirond Lake. Most resorts along the route offer both lodge and camping facilities.

Spend **Day #4** Travel on to Creighton, a vibrant community with the friendly ambience of a modern frontier town. Discover the area's gold rush history in Creighton Museum & Tourism Centre, and ask about scenic driving and walking tours. Explore the remains of an ancient sea at the limestone crevices.

A short drive southwest of Creighton is Denare Beach, a remote resort town on the shores of Amisk Lake. Visit the Northern Gateway Museum for Indian crafts, early mining artifacts and more. The Lakefront Gallery is worth a stop. Or, go on a tour of the Pre-Cambrian Wild Rice Plant, a processor of certified organic wild rice for world markets. If you want to get out on the water, arrange a pontoon boat tour or adventure package at Rocky View Lodge OTA, or ask about canoe rentals and sunset boat tours at Angell's Resort.

Overnight at Denare Beach or Creighton. On **Day #5** begin your journey home either along Hanson Lake Highway (to see everything you missed on the eastward leg) or drive to Flin Flon and head south along Highway #10 in Manitoba.

Sights to see...

Prince Albert

Art Gallery of Prince Albert 306-763-7080

Diefenbaker House 306-764-2992

Grace Campbell Gallery 306-763-8496

Northern Lights Casino 306-764-4777

Prince Albert Historical Museum 306-764-2992

Prince Albert Arts Centre (Town Hall & Opera House) 306-953-4811

Vintage Power Machines Inc. 306-764-4855

The Red Door Gallery 306-922-6028

Clarine Lake Demonstration Forest 306-922-8440

Rotary Museum of Police and Corrections 306-764-2992

Evolution of Education Museum 306-764-2992

Narrow Hills Provincial Park 306-426-2622 or 1-800-205-7070

Narrow Hills Esker

Gem Lakes

Scenic Drive

Little Bear Lake Resort 306-426-2244

Creighton

Creighton Museum & Tourism Centre 306-688-3538

Limestone Crevices 306-362-2054

Scenic Driving & Walking Tours 306-688-3538

Denare Beach

Pre-Cambrian Wild Rice Plant Tours 1-800-265-0291

Angell's Resort 306-362-2112

Lakefront Gallery 306-362-2322

Northern Gateway Museum 306-362-2007

Rocky View OTA Inc. 306-362-2360 or 1-888-997-6259



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