

# Get Ready for Fishing Adventure in Saskatchewan

When you're talking about big fish, breathtaking scenery, pristine waters and clean, fresh air, then you're talking about Saskatchewan. Drive or fly in, get settled at one of our many fishing lodges, and an unforgettable Canadian fishing adventure is underway.

Saskatchewan's popularity as a world-class fishing destination can be attributed to its large areas of unspoiled, natural beauty, its huge selection of close to 100,000 lakes and rivers covering almost 1/3 of the province, a large number of fishing lodges to choose from, and the province's famous living skies. From huge lakes like Athabasca - the fourth largest lake in Canada - to a host of others with equally great reputations like Cree, Reindeer, Wollaston, Hatchet, and La Ronge, expect a fishing experience that will call you back again and again. Among the species of fish commonly found in Saskatchewan waters are Northern Pike, Walleye, Lake Trout, Arctic Grayling, Rainbow Trout, Brook Trout, and Yellow Perch.





**Places to Fish**

Saskatchewan offers some of the most unique fishing environments in Canada, widely diverse from north to south. The rolling plains and parklands of the southern and central regions contrast sharply with the wilderness of Saskatchewan's spectacular north. Anywhere you go, the fishing experiences are as challenging and rewarding as they are diverse.

Some anglers are attracted to the drive-in fishing camps and opportunities offered by the southern lakes and regions, which feature easy access and a range of amenities and activities. Others are drawn to more rugged settings of driveable northern lakes.

And then there are those who really want to get away from it all — at a fly-in fishing camp in Saskatchewan's remote north. Many of these northern lakes see only a few anglers a year. Whether it's rugged or luxury accommodations you're after, there is an outfitter to meet your needs.

Northern pike, walleye, rainbow trout and perch are the most common species in southern Saskatchewan. Some of the more popular waters include Lake Diefenbaker (with nearly 800 kilometres/500 miles of shoreline), Last Mountain Lake and the Fishing Lakes of the Qu'Appelle Valley.



At Rafferty Dam Reservoir and Boundary Dam Reservoir, near Estevan and just minutes away from the US border, there's great fishing for the usual species and even a few bass. You can fish at most of Saskatchewan's provincial parks, including Cypress Hills Interprovincial Park. Southern lakes are easily accessible and a host of other recreational opportunities including trail riding, golfing and camping are often nearby.

## **Ice Fishing**

By late December, ice on most Saskatchewan lakes is usually thick enough to support vehicles and fishing equipment (but always check conditions before crossing frozen bodies of water). Fish tend to be on a feeding frenzy around this time.

Walleye are plentiful, while northern pike, perch, whitefish, trout and burbot are also common. Thawing is rare before mid-March. The three month season gives winter anglers ample time and opportunity to get out on the ice.

Ice fishing requires relatively little equipment. A good ice auger is a must, along with ice fishing line, tackle, bait and, naturally, warm clothing, head and footwear. Dressing in layers is recommended. Portable fishing shacks or tents provide shelter on the coldest days, but many ice-fishers prefer to be out in the sunshine under the bright blue sky.

## **Guided Fishing**

Saskatchewan has some of the best fishing in the world and for good reason. Some general rules and fishing limits have been put in place to protect against over fishing so that future generations will be able to enjoy the great fishing for years to come.

Many Saskatchewan outfitting camps practice catch and release, which ensures a continuous abundance of trophy size fish so that you too can look forward to that trophy picture and the bragging rights that come with it.

A fishing trip to Saskatchewan features all the adventure you can handle plus glorious shore lunches, lodges as rustic or luxurious as you please and friendly people to look after your every need. It also features some of the most beautiful, peaceful and relaxing wilderness and scenery in North America.

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