

**To Reach the Park** Valleyview Provincial Park is located on the crest of the North Mountain, 5 km (3 miles) north of Bridgetown. From Highway 101 take Exit 20 and follow Route 1 west. From the centre of Bridgetown, turn onto Hampton Mountain Road and proceed north to the park entrance.



#### RESERVATIONS

**1-888-544-3434**

9:00 am to 11:00 pm AT (7 days a week)

[www.novascotiaparks.ca](http://www.novascotiaparks.ca) (24 hours)

#### FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

**Parks and Recreation Division  
Department of Natural Resources**

RR # 1, Belmont,  
Colchester County,  
Nova Scotia, B0M 1C0  
(902) 662-3030  
[www.novascotiaparks.ca](http://www.novascotiaparks.ca)

**Department of  
Natural Resources**

P.O. Box 130,  
Lawrencetown,  
Nova Scotia B0S 1M0  
(902) 584-2229

**Valleyview Provincial Park**

960 Hampton Mountain Road  
(902) 665-2559  
(June–October)



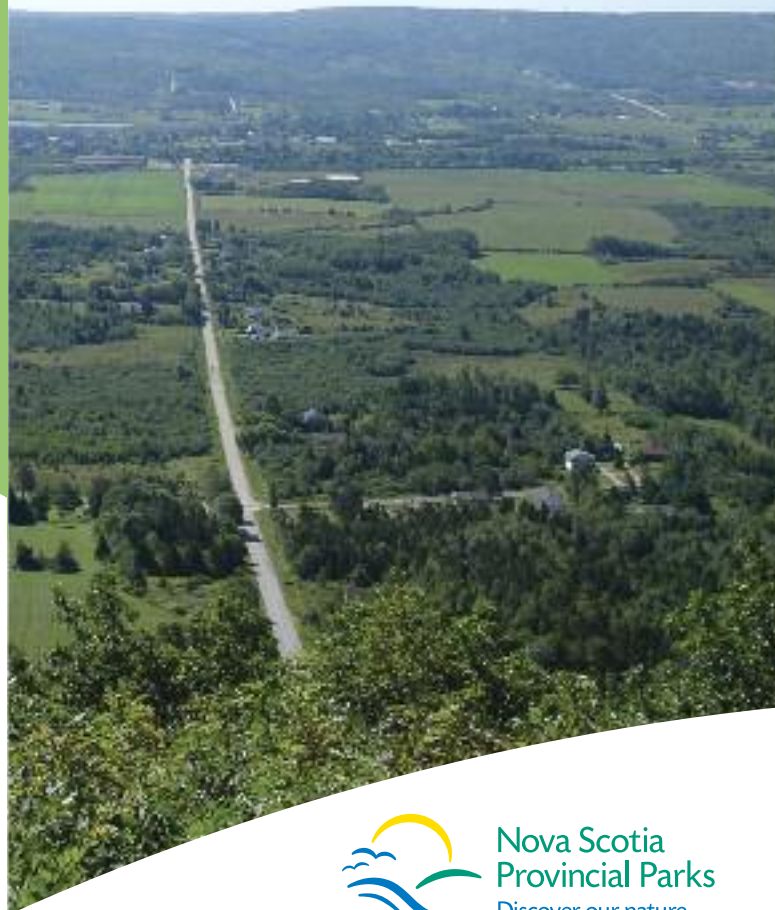
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# Valleyview Provincial Park



**Valleyview Provincial Park**, on the crest of North Mountain, boasts a view of the Annapolis Valley you'll remember for years to come. This 54-hectare park sits in the heart of the Valley near Bridgetown, making it an ideal base for day trips to historic Annapolis Royal and Port Royal, whale watching off Digby Neck, or visits to towns and villages along the Evangeline Trail. The Annapolis Valley has the warmest, driest summers in the province. And on hot summer days, campers and picnickers appreciate the park's shaded sites, and the cooler temperatures of the mountain.

#### Natural History

The reddish soils of the area come from underlying sandstone and shale some 225 million years old. Volcanic eruptions later covered the area with basaltic lava. Over millions of years, much of this hard basalt was worn away, exposing the softer stone beneath. Further erosion, and scouring by massive glaciers, shaped the floor and sides of the valley we see today. Only North Mountain was spared by these forces, leaving an escarpment rising 200 m (650 ft) from the valley below.

#### Look out below!

Bring your wide-angle lens to capture this view. The park has two lookoffs—one next to the campsite area, the other a 5-minute walk to the picnic park. Cast your eyes over the wide expanse of fertile farmland to the gentle slope of South Mountain. On a clear day you can see as far west as Annapolis Royal and the Annapolis Basin, gateway to the Bay of Fundy. In the air, look for bald eagles and turkey vultures scouting for dinner. Belleisle Marsh and the meandering Annapolis River, to the south, provide important habitat for ducks and geese.

Interpretive panels are posted at each lookoff. One describes the geology of the region; the other marks the first meeting of the African United Baptist Association, Granville Mountain, 1854—part of the Mathieu Da Costa African Heritage Trail.

#### Quiet stroll

A short walking trail, about 1 km in length, loops out into the forest from the campsite area. Visitors with children appreciate the gravel path that makes the walk easy for little feet. At a leisurely pace, it might take an hour; or about 20 minutes for a brisk walk. Your trek is through mainly hardwood—beech, sugar maple, birch, ash—with some softwood like red spruce. The forest floor is a soft carpet of leaves, mosses and lichens.

Birders take note: this forest is home to warblers, chickadees, bluejays, Canada jays (whiskey jacks), evening grosbeaks, purple finches and goldfinches. You might also see a red-tailed hawk, sharp-shinned hawk or marsh hawk, barred owl or even a great horned owl. Look for woodpeckers too. Species like the downy, hairy and the red-capped pileated woodpecker can often be seen—and heard.



Inviting campsites are the perfect place to watch forest birds.

### Nature's Quilt

Fall is a special time to visit for a spectacular view of the fall colours—oranges from the sugar maple, yellows of the beeches and birch, purpley-brown of the ash. The farmland takes part too, with its colours and patterns of harvest time. South Mountain stands in the distance, its hills a mix of evergreen and the glow of red maple.

New photo coming from parks

### Area Attractions

#### Evangeline Trail

- **Upper Clements Parks** is one of the province's best loved family fun destinations. The theme park offers a variety of family experiences including close to 30 rides, heritage displays, crafts, live entertainment, specialty shops and picnic area.
- **Cottage Cove Provincial Park**, 13 km northwest of Middleton, offers picnicking on the shores of the Bay of Fundy.
- **Port Royal National Historic Site**, Port Royal, is a reconstruction of the original Port Royal Habitation. Interpreters in costume recreate life in this French settlement in the 1600s.
- **North Hills Museum**, Granville Ferry, has an outstanding collection of Georgian furniture, ceramics, glass and silver.
- **Fort Anne National Historic Park** is built on the site of one of Nova Scotia's earliest fortifications. The museum displays artifacts from the 1600s and recounts the struggles between the French and English.
- Visitors to **Annapolis Royal Historic Gardens** can stroll its paths to enjoy five historic themed gardens and other agricultural displays like the 230-cultivar "Rose Collection" and the modern "Innovative Garden."
- **Delaps Cove Wilderness Trail** offers a 3-km (2 mile) route with a 13-metre (43 ft) waterfall and access to the Bay of Fundy. For a longer hike there is a 12-km (7 mile) trail.

For more information on these and other attractions, please consult the Nova Scotia Doers and Dreamers Guide, visit a Visitor Information Centre or the website at [www.novascotia.com](http://www.novascotia.com)

### Rockhound's Delight

A mere 5 km past the park is Hampton Beach on the Bay of Fundy shore. Basalt, which caps North Mountain, is a rich parent rock—full of minerals and pockets of crystals which the elements then expose and loosen.

Rocks of many shapes and colours turn up on this sandy-pebbly beach, washed there by the powerful Bay of Fundy tides, or released from the basalt cliffs. Rockhounds can find many members of the quartz family—jasper, serpentine, or even amethyst, Nova Scotia's official mineral.

The impressive 10 m (35 ft) difference between the beach's high and low tides means that at low tide you can wander far out to the water's edge. Stop and examine the tidal pools filled with sea life—crabs and mussels feeding. Watch the shore birds. A simple stroll on the beach or a coastline field trip—the choice is yours.

Visit a graveyard by candlelight. Guided tours depart from the Fort Anne National Historic Site



### A Special Message to Park Visitors

#### PARK SAFETY

- Help preserve and protect this beautiful park for the enjoyment of future generations. Plants, animals and rocks are an important part of its natural heritage. Please do not damage or remove them.
- Please keep pets on a leash at all times.
- Firearms are prohibited in the park.

#### PERSONAL SAFETY

- Comfortable hiking boots or other sturdy footwear are recommended for hiking the trails.
- Contact park staff for further information about the park. They want to make your visit as enjoyable as possible.

