



Canadian Rockies Hiking Experience Since 1933

For general dissemination

Summer 2012 Camp & Hikes Sunset Pass (Banff National Park)

For 79 years the **Skyline Hikers of the Canadian Rockies** (SHCR) has offered a unique experience of hiking and camping in the wilderness areas of the Canadian Rockies as a group activity.

The 80th edition – **2012** – of the **hike and camp program** will be situated in **Sunset Pass**, Banff National Park. This premier location is one of the more picturesque settings for a camp in the Canadian Rockies, offering a relaxing atmosphere with splendid panoramic views in all directions from the door of your tent. Stunning sunsets will cap off your day.

The Sunset Pass Trail – the route into camp – travels through extensive flower-covered alpine meadows beneath the cliffs of Mount Coleman, which dominates the northern skyline. The glacier festooned peaks of the Mount Wilson mass form the southern perimeter of the broad valley. A warm, shallow sea once covered the Sunset Pass area leaving a legacy of abundant limestone fossil beds, karst sinkholes, waterfalls and canyons.

Day hikes (from relatively easy to strenuous) will radiate in four directions right out of camp to such destinations as Goat Ridge, Wilson Shoulder, Coleman Saddle, Norman Lake, East and West Coleman, Sunset Pass and Pinto Lake.

History note. Professor A.P. Coleman (Geology, University of Toronto), after whom the mountain is named, was the first white man in 1893 to visit the area. Pinto Lake was named by Coleman after a troublesome pack horse.

Intrigued! ... Join Us

Picture yourself hiking in a remote setting catching glimpses of glaciers, waterfalls and clear mountain streams. Think of the wonderful vistas available in the back country,



Sunset Pass – location of camp

2012 Skyline Camp Dates Sunset Pass

Camp 1	9 - 14 July
Camp 2	16 - 21 July
Camp 3	23 - 28 July
Camp 4	30 July - 4 August
Camp 5	6 - 11 August

Check-in & orientation briefing held on day (Sunday) before start of camp.



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the spectacular lookouts, the wildlife and the mountain wildflowers. Hiking on ground where early explorers ventured over a hundred years ago.

As you return to base camp, a hearty meal awaits you prepared by skilled cooks in a covered dining tent. Sit around with fellow hikers reminiscing about the day's adventures.

Following dinner, gather around a campfire in the "Donut" tent for an evening of singing, story telling or just good companionship. As well, reports of the day's sights and happenings on the trail and a briefing on the next day's hike destinations will be provided.

What We Offer : It has been described as "backpacking without the backpack." We offer



Sunset Pass meadow – location of camp

weekly camps during July and August, departing from Banff on a Monday and returning the following Saturday. We manage the camp, transport in your gear, and provide all meals. Wilderness accommodation is provided for up to 50 hikers and four staff in each camp. Each tent holds from two to four hikers, and has foam sleeping pads and a wood burning stove for those rare inclement days. You do the hiking!

On the Trail : On the first day we leave Banff by bus and hike into the base camp, while our outfitter takes care of the gear.

The Hike into camp will follow a 8.0 kilometre route, the first four of which is a steady upward climb of some 500 metres in elevation gain. The last 4 kilometres into

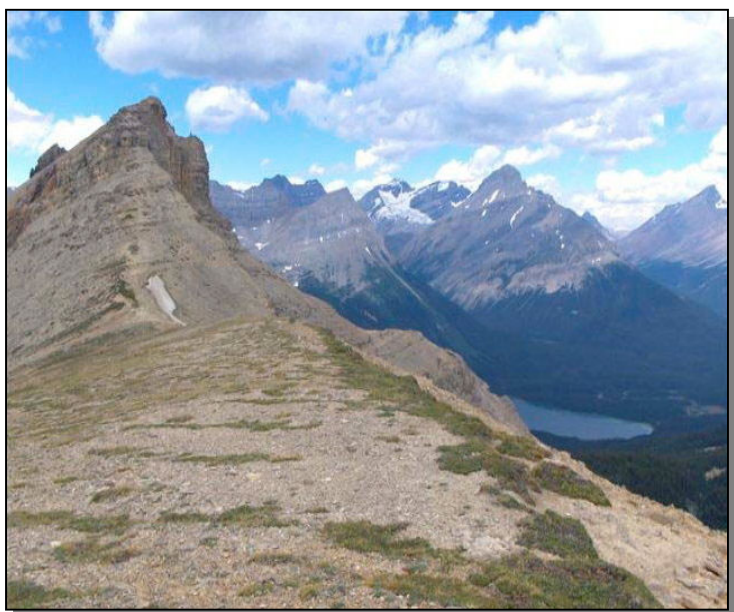


Pinto Lake seen from Summit of Sunset Pass

camp is a moderate traverse rolling gently across flower-carpeted alpine meadows and through narrow forest bands to the campsite situated at an altitude of 2,042 meters.

Once in camp, each hiker participates in daily hikes suited to his or her particular abilities. Day hikes range from easy jaunts to a nearby waterfall or alpine meadow, to a strenuous climb to a mountain lookout for panoramic views. Distances range from 5 to 25 kilometres with up to 1,500 metre elevation gain.

Camp Life : Camp life allows time to gather and chat. Remember that this is a back-country camp, not a resort hotel. We can't provide flush toilets or showers, but we can promise everything you need for a great wilderness experience. The camp staff



Goat Ridge

ensures that hot wash water is available morning and afternoon, serves two great meals a day in camp and packs a lunch that will keep you going on the trail. For those of you who have been to previous Skyline Hikers camps will note some enhancements to the meal offering for 2012.

You and your fellow hikers will have time to get together to swap stories at the end of the day and everyone will enjoy an evening get-together to review the days' events and plan tomorrow's hike.

The Skyline Hikers organization strives to offer participants a quality experience in the wilderness of the Canadian Rockies.

Camp security : For your peace of mind and camp-life enjoyment, the perimeter of the campsite is enclosed by an electric fence to keep at bay wayward intruders of the wildlife kind.

Cost : For six days in a self-contained camp at a fabulous location in the wilderness of the Canadian Rockies the cost is \$930.00 per person (\$155.00 a day) – that covers inter alia transportation, accommodation and meals.

In addition, there is a \$20.00 per person (\$30.00 maximum for family) fee for annual membership in the Skyline Hikers of the Canadian Rockies.

Camp staging location : Banff will be the staging location for all 2012 camps. All participants will be required to be present in Banff on the Sunday of the week your camp commences for check-in and pre-camp briefing (see itinerary below).

Registration : The **registration form** for the 2012 camp will be **available** on the SHCR website as of **30 January** under the Registration section.

Your registration and booking is complete only when the Registrar has received the registration form with the waiver signed and payment/deposit.

Registration complete...next steps : Once your registration and payment has been processed you will receive a letter of acknowledgement from the Registrar via e-mail or postal mail along with documentation with such details as what to pack and how, and where and when to meet the day before the commencement of your chosen camp.

Information update : You will be notified of any critical updated information after your registration has been accepted. This information will also be posted to the SHCR website on the Camp 2012 page.

Other tips and information pertinent to making your participation in a Skyline Hikers camp an enjoyable experience can be found on the SHCR website under the following sections.

- Camp 2012
- Useful Information
- Wilderness Camping
- FAQs

For more information about the 2012 camp and hike season at Sunset Pass or about the Skyline Hikers of the Canadian Rockies visit website www.skylinehikers.ca or send an e-mail to info@skylinehikers.ca .

On the website you will find reports and photographs of the 2007 and 1998 camps at Sunset Pass under the Members' Diary and Photo Gallery sections.

Hike & Camp Itinerary (notional)		
Sunday in Banff	0900 – 1200 hrs	Check-in with duffel bag
	1900 hrs	Pre-camp briefing (compulsory)
Monday	0830 hrs	Bus pick-up @ location #1 (TBA)
	0845 hrs	Bus pick-up @ location #2 (TBA)
	~1030 hrs	Commence hike to camp by groups
Monday – Saturday in camp	0730 hrs	Breakfast
	0800 hrs	Day hikes begin
	1800 hrs	Dinner
	2000 hrs	Briefings, storytelling, singing around campfire in the Donut
Saturday	1000 hrs	Commence hike out of camp by groups
	1700 hrs	Arrival in Banff at latest