



Upcoming Adventures this Summer

Welcome to Summer! It promises to be a great one in many ways, including these summer Adventures from AWA!



Vicary Ridge Summit - Adventure on June 26

Hello to all Alberta Wilderness enthusiasts. The lineup of Adventures for this summer has something for everyone and it is with pleasure I invite you to come along and join the fun!

Last Saturday despite huge downpours there were three excellent Adventures, three different locations with entirely different themes, hosted by excellent coordinators and experts; plenty of sunshine and blue skies and great days out for all - enjoying wild Alberta. The stories of these recent Adventures will be [posted on the website](#) soon.

In addition to giving us the opportunity to explore Alberta's amazing wild spaces with our friends and members, this program of activities and events has become part of AWA's annual fundraising efforts. By participating in these Adventures and encouraging others to do likewise you are helping AWA to carry on its mandate to conserve Alberta's wild places and wildlife.

We want to thank everyone who has come along on one of our adventures, and especially those who have created their own adventure to show off what makes Alberta special for you. Your efforts are very much appreciated. Not only do these efforts bring in an increasingly diverse range of friends, supporters and donors, they broaden our reach across the province.

If you have an idea for an Adventure we would love to hear from you. It doesn't need to be fully developed yet – we can help fine tune the details so that it can shine the best light on one of Alberta's Wild Spaces. Please contact Sean Nichols (snichols@abwild.ca) to help set up your Adventure.

From [learning to paint over Zoom](#), to [following in the steps of famed historic outfitter Bert Riggall](#), [riding your bike on Plateau Mountain](#), or [exploring the site of a wildfire in the Ghost](#), the following upcoming Adventures described below offer a remarkable range of options. All of them will give you an even stronger appreciation for all we have to be grateful for on our beautiful Alberta landscapes.

Please have a look at ways to become involved, learn more about Alberta and support the AWA. Your help makes a difference. By registering yourself and asking others to support the Alberta Wilderness Association you are helping to ensure a healthy and vibrant environment.

Thank you and I look forward to meeting you on an upcoming adventure.
Jim Campbell, AWA President



Jun 10: Paint Night with Kat

Get ready for a fun night of pushing your artistic boundaries, having fun in the comfort and safety of your own home, and forgetting about our troubles for a while. You will be following an online instructed class as we spend 2 hours recreating an acrylic painting. This is a step-by-step process for all levels, beginners to advanced painters. Previous painting experience isn't required.

[Get your creative juices flowing!](#)

Jun 14: In the Footsteps of Bert Riggall

This Adventure is a hike with Wendy Ryan to Big Sagebrush — a largely pristine and undisturbed area in Bert Riggall's cherished Waterton Area. Bert, the legendary guide and outfitter, established his guiding business in the area and brought his many clients and friends to it in the early 1900s. As well as having considerable experience of the wild lands of SW Alberta, Wendy knows Bert's life and achievements well. She will lead us on one of Bert's favourite trails through some of Alberta's finest scenery and tell stories about Bert.



[Head out and smell the sagebrush](#)



Jun 26: Vicary Ridge, Crowsnest Pass

Longtime resident Alistair Des Moulins knows Vicary Ridge and the coal exploration activities in the area well! He will lead us on a challenging intermediate hike along a major ridge in the north part of the Crowsnest Pass which also offers a chance to see the effect of the current coal exploration in the area. There will be plenty of stops along the way to discuss items of interest.

[See for yourself what's happening in the Crowsnest!](#)

Ongoing: Calgary Birding Tours

Join AWA Board Member Nathan Schmidt and AWA volunteers Alexa

Escobar and Joel Forre as they tour some of the best birding locations in Calgary. Tours will talk about the basics of responsible birding as well as tips for species identification and other helpful birding resources.

This adventure includes several outings over the course of spring and early summer 2021, with each one highlighting a different location.

Upcoming dates include:

- Jun 15 (Inglewood)
- Jun 26 (Fish Creek)



[Be sure to bring your binoculars.](#)



Jul 8-9: 40 / 40 / 40

Lindsey Wallis is turning 40 this year! Instead of buying a sports car, she plans to spend 40 hours doing something amazing in Alberta's wild spaces. Forty kilometres by bike. Forty pitches of climbing. All in forty hours.

[Follow along and become inspired!](#)

Jul 11: Lake Minnewanka Thru Hike

Want to test your endurance and hike 33 kilometres (about 20 miles) mostly along Lake Minnewanka in Banff? Join a group of intrepid hikers who've been doing this long walk for the past 10 or 12 years, and let them

organize the logistics of this “swap-the-keys-in-the-middle” hike. You could even challenge your family or friends, who may not believe that you can hike 20 miles in a day.

[Find out what you're really made of!](#)



Jul 11: Plateau Mountain - Bike and Hike

Plateau Mountain is a prominent landmark in south western Alberta between the Livingstone Range and the prairie. It was declared an Ecological Reserve in 1991 and AWA have been stewards of this unique place for decades. This is a chance to see Plateau Mountain and its spectacular views in some detail – we will be covering some of the route by mountain bike and the rest on foot.

[Sign up for this rare opportunity!](#)

Jul 16: Dinosaurs and Badlands / Albertosaurus Bonebed of Dry Island

Sadly, the interpretive hike to Dry Island has already filled up. However there are still remaining spots in the

special Zoom presentation on the “*Albertosaurus Bonebed of Dry Island.*” This is an exclusive opportunity to virtually meet Dr. François Therrien, Curator of Dinosaur Palaeoecology at Royal Tyrrell Museum and attend his fascinating lecture.

[Sign up today to learn about the Albertosaurus!](#)



Jun 27: The Rundle Ride

The 2nd Annual Adventure for Wilderness for Bob Patterson and Jim Campbell will be to circumnavigate the iconic Mount Rundle on Saturday June 27, 2021 by cycling from Banff up the Goat Creek Trail, down the Spray Lakes Road, through the Canmore Nordic Centre, to return on the south side of the Bow River to their starting point at Bow Falls. A mountain bike marathon of 40+ KM. A few scrapes and flats are fully anticipated though all to the good of conserving Alberta’s wildlife and wild places.

[Sponsor Bob and Jim and support Alberta's wild spaces](#)

Aug 11: Ghost Wildfire Exploration

You may recall the wildfire in the Ghost last fall that almost got out of control and had the population of the valley on evacuation alert for almost a week. On this adventure we will hike through the gravel flats of the upper North Ghost Valley near Black Rock Mountain, where accompanied

by wildfire expert Edward A. Johnson Ph.D., we will check out the burned and charred areas, looking for signs of new plant growth. We will learn how such fires start, how they spread and also how to best fight them. And we will better understand the benefits and also the damages that wildfires can cause.

[Indulge your inner firefighter!](#)



The Great Alberta Parks Bike-a-Thon 2021

Follow Sean this summer as he bikes around Alberta on a 3,500+ km odyssey, visiting the 164 parks slated for delisting by the Government of Alberta in 2020. Sean will be posting regular updates, photos and videos, telling the stories from this emerald archipelago that we came so close to losing.

The trip will end at #164, the [Strathcona Science Provincial Park in Edmonton](#), where we will celebrate with a picnic luncheon. Supporters are invited to join in!

[Sponsor Sean in support of AWA's work defending Alberta's Parks.](#)

What is Adventures for Wilderness?

Adventures for Wilderness is AWA's annual program to engage Albertans in wilderness conservation. We believe an Adventure can be anything from climbing a mountain, to walking by the river, to enjoying the beauty of nature in your own backyard ([literally YOUR own backyard!](#)) Visit our website to learn about the Adventures this season and how you can support Alberta Wilderness Association.



[Learn more](#)



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