

Head-Smashed-In Buffalo Jump

UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITE

PREMIER INDIGENOUS TOURISM DESTINATION

Head-Smashed-In Buffalo Jump stands out as a premier Indigenous tourism destination in Western Canada. Designated as a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1981, it has also been previously recognized by the Canadian Tourism Commission as a Signature Experience.



HISTORY AND HERITAGE

The site occupies the traditional territory of the Blackfoot-speaking people, also known as Niitsitapiiks. This sacred location celebrates an ancient hunting technique employed by the Plains people for millennia: herding bison and driving them over a cliff, an event known as the Buffalo Jump. Head-Smashed-In Buffalo Jump stands out as one of the oldest, largest, and best-preserved jumps, with a history dating back 9000 years.

LOCATION AND ACCESSIBILITY

Situated in Southwestern Alberta, Canada, just 90 minutes south of Calgary on Highway #2, Head-Smashed-In Buffalo Jump welcomes visitors year-round. Both the Interpretive Centre and the upper trail viewpoint are wheelchair accessible, ensuring that all visitors can enjoy the remarkable cultural and natural heritage of the site.

SPECIAL EVENTS

The site hosts numerous special events throughout the year, with the most popular being the annual First Nations Drumming and Dancing on the Plaza held every Wednesday throughout July and August. Performance times are at 11 am and 1:30 pm. For a full list of Special Events and detailed Travel Trade information, please visit our website: www.headsmashedin.ca



EXPERIENCE THE INTERPRETIVE CENTRE

With decades of experience in the travel trade industry, Head-Smashed-In Buffalo Jump welcomes both Group Tours and Fully Independent Travelers (FIT). The award-winning Interpretive Centre features seven levels of exhibits, an 80-seat theatre, and a gift shop showcasing local First Nations arts and crafts. A bookable 60-seat dining space is also available for catered group meals.

Guided tours through the Interpretive Centre typically run 1–1.5 hours and include a 200-metre outdoor walk along the upper trail to a cliff-top viewpoint overlooking the expansive grasslands and the Canadian Rockies. For groups with additional time and flexibility, a 30–45 minute self-guided interpretive trail below the cliff is available year-round, including after hours.

TRAVEL TRADE INFORMATION

- Net rates for Tour Operators are available.
- We specialize in Group Tours and experiences led by one of our Indigenous Blackfoot Guides, for a fee of \$50 per guide (non-commissionable, includes GST). One guide can accommodate groups of up to 40–50 guests. Requests for additional guides are subject to availability and should be arranged in advance at the time of booking.
- Payment is due upon arrival and must be made in one transaction. We accept Visa, Mastercard, Debit, Cash, and Cheques (payable to “Government of Alberta”). Vouchers can also be accommodated.
- Cancellations fewer than 3 days prior to arrival will not be refunded.
- Contact us for food and catering arrangements.
- Public Wi-Fi | Free Parking | Large Vehicle Parking | Shuttle Service

CONTACT US

For further information or to make a reservation for your group, please contact the Interpretive Centre by phone at 403-553-2731 or by email at info.hsbj@gov.ab.ca.



COMMISSIONABLE FEES (GST INCLUDED)

FEES	Standard Rates
Adult Admission	\$18
Senior Admission	\$14
Youth Admission	\$11

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:

PO Box 1977
 Fort Macleod, Alberta Canada T0L 0Z0
 403.553.2731 | Headsmashedin.ca



Please note that our staff cannot accept gratuities. If your guests wish to show their appreciation, please encourage them to leave a note in our guest book, share a Google review, visit the gift shop, or support local businesses.

