

Acadia

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Acadia National Park



Access Guide

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Welcome to Acadia!

Acadia National Park staff are constantly striving to make your visit more enjoyable by making the facilities as accessible as possible. This guide provides descriptions of the facilities, services, and opportunities for persons with sight, hearing, and mobility disabilities. We hope it helps you have an enjoyable visit to the park.

If you have accessibility questions not answered by this guide, please call the park's information center at 207-288-3338, Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Eastern Time, or send an e-mail message to: acadia_information@nps.gov

If you received this guide during your stay in the park and do not wish to keep it, consider returning it to the visitor center or entrance station.

How to Use This Guide

Information in this guide pertains to general facilities, services, and programs within Acadia National Park. It is not a complete list of programs or available services. For additional program information, including program descriptions and schedules, please see the park newspaper, the Beaver Log. The newspaper is free and available at the park entrance station and information centers from June through October. The most current park information is available on the Internet at www.nps.gov/acad.

Entrance Fees

The Access Pass is a lifetime pass for U.S. citizens or permanent residents with permanent disabilities. The pass provides lifetime access to, and use of, federal recreation sites that charge an entrance or standard amenity fee. The Access Pass also provides a 50% discount on some fees charged for facilities and services such as camping. When making a camping reservation, you must provide the number on the passport. The pass is non-transferable and generally does not cover or reduce special recreation permit fees or fees charged by concessionaires.

In Acadia, the Access Pass admits the permit holder and passengers in one private, noncommercial vehicle. Access Passes are available all year at park headquarters and seasonally at the park entrance station, visitor center, campgrounds, the Bar Harbor Village Green, and Thompson Island Information Center. For more information about fees in national parks, visit www.nps.gov.

Parking

Designated accessible spaces are marked with the international access symbol. These are reserved for vehicles displaying an accessibility placard or license plate.

Getting Around

Island Explorer fare-free shuttle buses operate daily from late June through Columbus Day (early October) connecting Acadia National Park to neighboring village centers. Buses are wheelchair accessible. Schedules are available at visitor information centers or on the Island Explorer.

For more information, visit www.exploreacadia.com.



Service Animals

Service animals must be leashed at all times. They are allowed in all park facilities and on all park trails unless closed by order of the superintendent. However, some park trails are very steep and require the use of iron rung ladders. These trails should be avoided:




















- Precipice
- Beehive
- Ladder Trail to Dorr Mountain
- Cadillac Mountain - West Face (from Bubble Pond)
- Beech Cliff (from Echo Lake)
- Perpendicular Trail (Mansell Mountain)

Air Quality

Air pollution produced in eastern states is often carried into Maine by the wind. Park staff monitor ozone levels so that they can issue ozone advisories if levels are dangerous to people with respiratory conditions. Please call ahead (207-288-3338) for more information.

Information Centers and Museums

Park rangers in any of these information centers can provide detailed information about park facilities.

Information Centers	Main Entrance	Parking	Rest Rooms	Pay Phones	Water Fountain	Special Notes
Thompson Island						Open seasonally. Park and chamber information.
Hulls Cove Visitor Center	OK				X	Follow signs to accessible parking lot. Open April 15 through October. TTY pay phone outside Visitor Center.
Nature Center (Sieur de Monts Spring)						Telephone in parking lot. Open late May to early October. (Map page 17)
Park Headquarters (Route 233, Bar Harbor)			OK			24-hour TTY pay phone outside. Open 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., M-F, from April 15 to October 31, and 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., daily, November 1 to April 14.
Islesford Historical Museum (Little Cranberry Island)	X	none		none		Boat access to island. Restrooms in adjacent building. Seven steps into museum. Audio tour available. Open seasonally.

Legend



Meets most accessibility standards

OK

Usable—does not meet all standards

?




















May be usable with assistance

X

Major barrier—not accessible

Area Museums

The museums below are not managed by the National Park Service. They provide varying levels of accessibility.

Museum	Main Entrance	Parking	Rest Rooms	Pay Phones	Water Fountain	Special Notes
Abbe Museum (Downtown Bar Harbor)				none		Parking and entrance in rear.
Abbe Museum (Sieur de Monts)	OK		none	none	X	Assistance may be needed for ascending steep paved trail to museum. Phone in parking lot.
George B. Dorr Natural History Museum (College of the Atlantic)	?			none		Assistance may be needed at entrance.
Great Harbor Museum (NE Harbor)					none	Only bottom floor is accessible. Open seasonally.
Mt. Desert Oceanarium (Bar Harbor)				none	none	Numerous hands-on exhibits.
Sound School House Museum (Mount Desert)				none	none	
Wendell Gilley Museum (SW Harbor)	X	OK	OK		none	Ramp at side entrance. May require assistance.

Legend



Meets most accessibility standards

OK

Usable—does not meet all standards

?

May be usable with assistance

X

Major barrier—not accessible

Picnic Areas

The following picnic areas are scattered throughout Acadia and provide scenic glimpses of the park's many different environments. Most are accessible.

Picnic Area	Overall Area	Parking	Rest Rooms	Water Fountain	Fire Grill	Picnic Tables	Special Notes
Bear Brook Picnic Area							Some level sites.
Fabbri Picnic Area							Paved walkway leads to accessible picnic table.
Frazer Point Picnic Area (Schoodic)							Several level, grassy sites.
Pretty Marsh Picnic Area	?			none			Rough terrain beyond picnic site.
Seawall Picnic Area							Two accessible sites. Others on uneven terrain.
Thompson Island Picnic Area							Assistance needed to reach shore.

Legend



Meets most accessibility standards

OK

Usable—does not meet all standards

?

May be usable with assistance

X

Major barrier—not accessible














Campgrounds

Blackwoods Campground

Blackwoods has 12 accessible sites drive-in sites. RV sites have a 35-foot maximum. There are hard-packed walkways to accessible restrooms and the amphitheater. Reservations are required May 1 - October 31; call 877-444-6777 or visit www.recreation.gov.

Seawall Campground

Seawall Campground is open from late May through September. This campground has the following accessible sites: three RV(35-foot maximum), five drive-in, five walk-in, and one group site. Use the paved road to the amphitheater. If staying in the group camping area, use the accessible restroom in the C loop, which is reached by a long, hard-packed ramp. Reservations are not accepted at Seawall.

Campground	Overall Entrance	Ranger Station	Rest Rooms	Pay Phones	Fire Grill	Picnic Table	Amphitheater
Blackwoods							
Seawall		?					

Legend



Meets most accessibility standards

OK

Usable—does not meet all standards


?

May be usable with assistance












X

Major barrier—not accessible

Stores and Restaurant Within Acadia National Park

Stores/ Restaurant	Main Entrance	Parking	Rest Rooms	Pay Phones	Special Notes
Eastern National Bookstore in Hulls Cove Visitor Center	OK				Follow signs to accessible parking lot. Open April 15 through October. TTY pay phone outside visitor center. An elevator is available to the lobby.
Cadillac Summit Center				none	Open seasonally.
Jordan Pond House Gift Shop/ Restaurant				OK	Open seasonally. Restroom in restaurant. Phone accessed via paved walkway behind building. Only restaurant in park.
Thunder Hole Information Station	?			none	Open seasonally. Outdoor vault toilet. No running water.

Beaches

Beach	Overall Entrance	Parking	Rest Rooms	Water Fountain	Pay Phones	Changing Rooms	Special Notes
Echo Lake							Accessible path to water.
Sand Beach	X						31 steps make the beach inaccessible for wheelchair users.
Ike's Point	OK	OK	none	none	none	none	This is a boat launch area.

Legend



Meets most accessibility standards

OK

Usable—does not meet all standards

?

May be usable with assistance

X

Major barrier—Not accessible

Carriage Roads

Carriage roads offer the best access to interior areas. The two easiest roads are listed below. Others tend to be steeper and slightly uneven, with sections of loose sand, gravel, or rocks. Extended use of the carriage roads depends on your ability and endurance. When following the carriage roads, be aware of washouts, steep grades, bicycle traffic, and horses on some sections. Assistance may be helpful. Check with park staff for specific routes.

Eagle Lake

The Eagle Lake parking area on Route 233 has accessible restrooms and parking. To the north, the carriage road leads toward Breakneck Pond, Half Moon Pond, and Witch Hole Pond (5.3 miles round trip). To the south, under the stone bridge, the carriage road leads in two directions around Eagle Lake (6 miles round trip). There is a steep hill at the southwest end of the lake.

Bubble Pond

The parking area, located off the Park Loop Road, has accessible restrooms and parking. Follow the level trail to the north end of Bubble Pond. From here you have access to the carriage roads, one of which borders the pond. Some sections are steep.

Sieur de Monts Spring Area

The Wild Gardens of Acadia is adjacent to the parking lot. Garden paths have a packed gravel surface. Assistance may be helpful. The Hemlock Road begins to the right of the parking lot entrance. The hard-packed path meanders through woodlands at the base of Dorr Mountain (1.5 miles round trip).

For the Adventurous and Hardy

Wonderland Trail

The Wonderland Trail parking area is located west of Seawall Campground on Route 102 A. Following an abandoned road, the trail has both level and hilly sections. Toward the end, the trail leaves the woods and opens onto the shoreline at the tip of the Wonderland Peninsula. Assistance may be necessary in several places, but the view is worth the effort. (1.4 miles round trip)

Ship Harbor

Park in the Ship Harbor parking lot west of Seawall Campground on Route 102 A. The first one-quarter mile is a hard-packed surface leading to the mudflats. Access to intertidal pools is over rocky, uneven terrain. Steep grades will require assistance. (1.3 miles round trip)

Man of War Brook Fire Road

Park in the small, unmarked gravel parking area on the east side of Route 102, one-eighth mile north of the Acadia Mountain parking area. Follow the abandoned road through a mixed growth woodland. The road is about one mile long. Beware of uphill and downhill grades, washouts, and exposed culverts. (2 miles round trip)

Intertidal Zone

The best access to an intertidal zone is on the gravel bar between Bar Island and Bar Harbor. Access is via Bridge Street in Bar Harbor. Automobiles may be driven onto the gravel bar, which is only exposed 1 to 1.5 hours either side of low tide. The road to the bar is steep, rocky, and uneven.

For the Adventurous and Hardy (continued)

Carroll Homestead Self-Guided Trail

Explore the Carroll Homestead grounds on a hard-packed but root-covered and uneven path. Assistance may be necessary. A self-guided trail pamphlet is available. Accessible parking is available at the end of the road adjacent to the house. (.5 miles round trip)

Jordan Pond Trails

Parking can be found in the north lower lot of the Jordan Pond area. Some paths are accessible and offer beautiful views of the pond and connections to the carriage roads. A map of this trail system is available on page 18.

Other Sites of Interest

Cadillac Mountain

Access a portion of the park's highest summit for scenic views of Frenchman Bay and the Porcupine Islands along this short accessible trail.

Thunder Hole

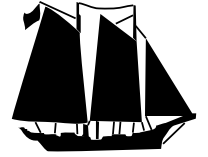
Park in the right lane of the Park Loop Road or upper parking area near the restrooms and accessible walkway. A ramp leads to the upper viewing area of Thunder Hole.

Wildwood Stables

Two wheelchair-accessible horse-drawn carriages each accommodate two passengers using wheelchairs and several additional passengers. Call 207-276-3622 in advance for reservations. Tour prices vary. Open mid-June to early October.

Ranger-Narrated Boat Cruises

Park rangers narrate four privately operated boat cruises. Accessibility and prices vary. Boarding is easiest at high tide when the slopes of the boat ramps are less steep. Participants can remain in their wheelchairs. For reservations and information about accessibility, contact the boat operators in advance.



Baker Island Cruise (4½ hours)

Cruise with a ranger for an intimate look at this ocean-sculpted island. The cruise is accessible, but disembarking on the island requires transfer to a smaller boat and is not possible for wheelchair users. 1 West Street, Bar Harbor. Reservations: 207-288-2386.

Dive-In Theater Boat Cruise (3 hours)

Cruise with a ranger in Frenchman Bay. Watch real-time video as a diver scours the ocean floor for marine life to bring aboard for exploration. College of the Atlantic Dock, Bar Harbor. Advance Ticket Sales: 800-979-3370 (U.S.); 212-209-3370 (international).

Frenchman Bay Cruise (2 hours)

Climb aboard a majestic 151-foot, four-masted schooner in search of wildlife and history. Inquire about accessibility. Bar Harbor Inn Pier. Reservations: 207-288-4585.

Islesford Historical Cruise (2½ hours)

Search for wildlife as you cruise to Little Cranberry Island for a stop at the Islesford Historical Museum. The boat cruise is accessible with assistance, but disembarking on Little Cranberry Island would be difficult for wheelchair users. There are seven steps up to the museum. Northeast Harbor Town Dock. Reservations: 207-276-5352.

Acadia National Park Interpretive Programs

Ranger-led activities are offered from mid-May to mid-October. Check with park staff regarding details of specific programs. Accessible programs are listed in the park newspaper, the *Beaver Log*, available at information centers, or on the Internet at www.nps.gov/acad.

Sign Language Interpreter

A certified sign language interpreter may be available for a ranger-led program with a two-week advance notice. Service is dependent on availability of funds and interpreters. Phone 207-288-3338 and dial “0” for operator (voice) or 207-288-8800 (TTY) for more information.

Assistive Listening Devices

To improve hearing and understanding during park programs, personal assistive listening devices are available by advance reservation for ranger-led programs. Call 207-288-3338 and dial “0” for operator (voice) or 207-288-8800 (TTY) for more information.

Park Orientation Video

Enjoy a 15-minute captioned narrative of the park at the Hulls Cove Visitor Center. Audio description and French and German translations are available. Check out audio receivers at the information desk.

Audio Tour

CDs of the 56-mile audio tour of the Park Loop Road, Cadillac Summit, and Somes Sound may be purchased at the visitor center.

Additional Medical Information

Call 911 for emergency medical or police assistance or to report accidents or injuries.

The Mount Desert Island Hospital is located in Bar Harbor. It provides 24-hour emergency care. Medical facilities are also available in Northeast Harbor, Southwest Harbor, and Ellsworth. The region's largest hospital is Eastern Maine Medical Center, located 45 miles away in Bangor, Maine.

Mount Desert Island Hospital

10 Wayman Lane

Bar Harbor, ME 04609

207-288-5081

Maine Coast Memorial Hospital

50 Union Street

Ellsworth, Maine 04605

207-664-5311

Eastern Maine Medical Center

489 State Street

Bangor, ME 04402

207-973-7000

Contact Information

Island-wide Emergency Number: 911

Acadia National Park is continually working to improve access for all visitors. If you have any comments or suggestions concerning access during your visit to Acadia or desire more information about the park, please contact:

Acadia National Park

P.O. Box 177

Bar Harbor, Maine 04609

Phone: 207-288-3338 and dial “0” for operator

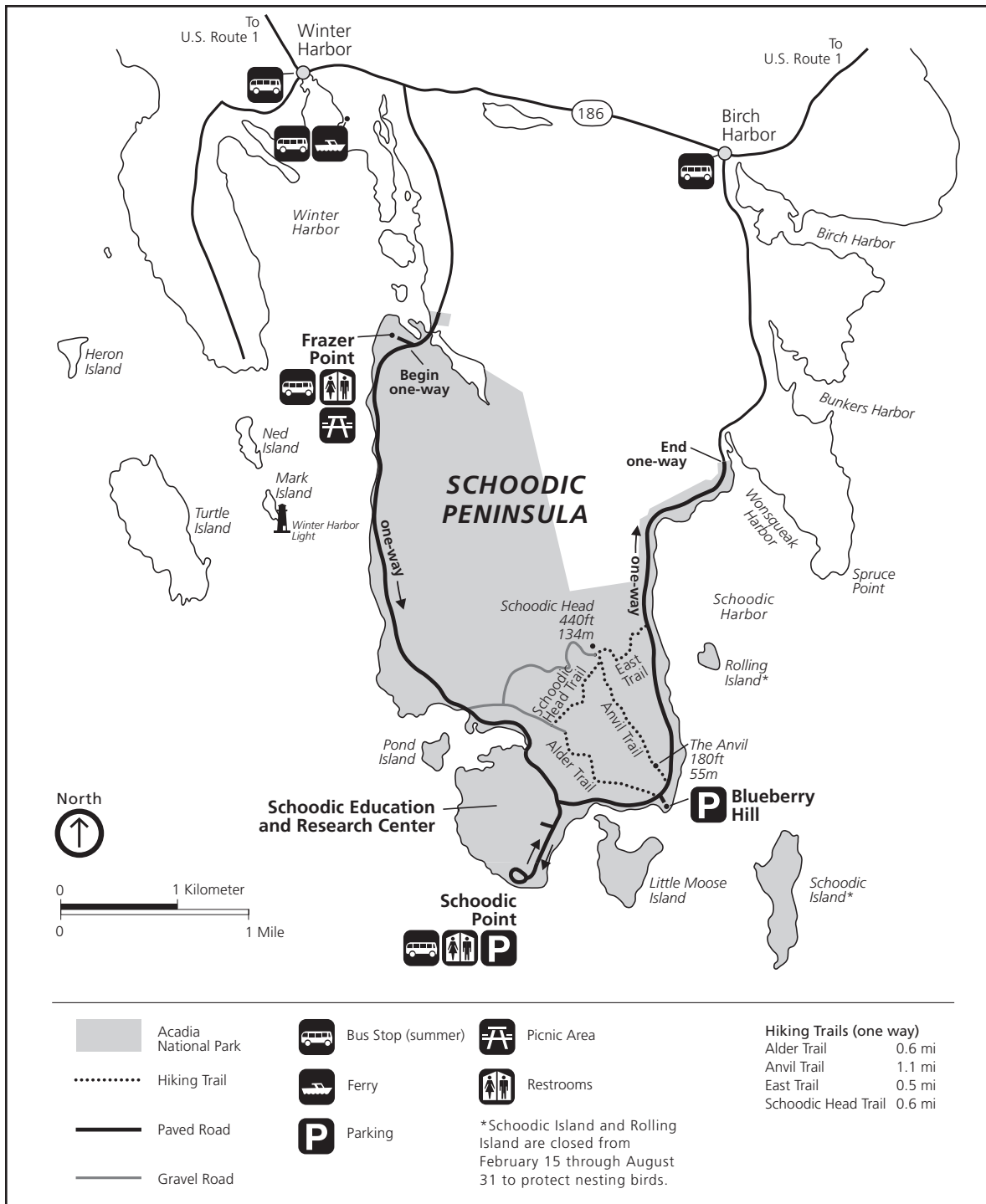
TTY: 207-288-8800

E-mail: acadia_information@nps.gov

Website: www.nps.gov/acad

Accessibility information is also available online at:

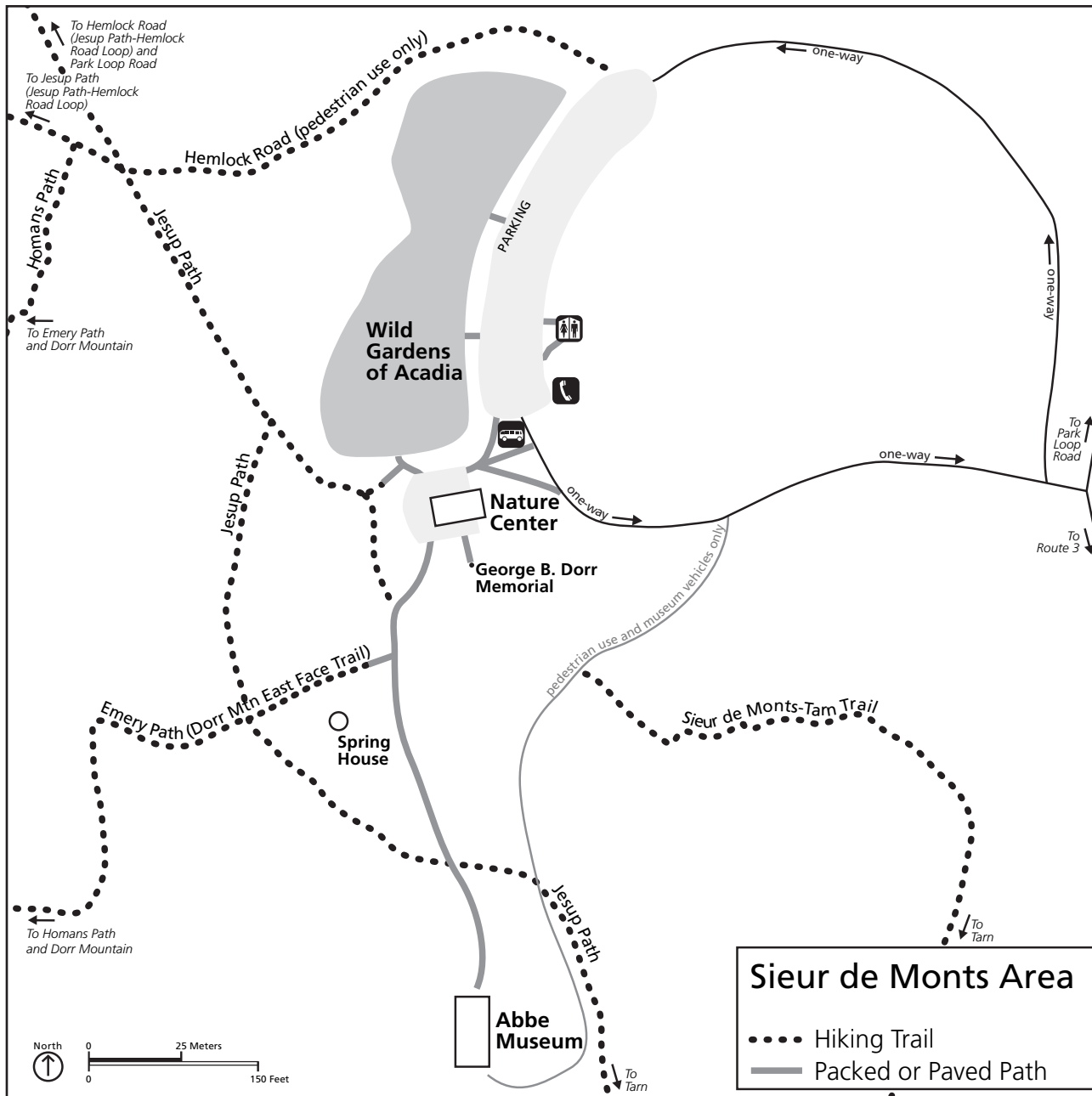
www.nps.gov/acad/planyourvisit/accessibility.htm



Schoodic Peninsula

The park protects 2,000 acres on the tip of the Schoodic Peninsula, located fifty miles from Bar Harbor by road and the only section of the park on the mainland. A one-way, six-mile loop skirts the edge of the peninsula, offering sweeping views of Mount Desert Island.

The Frazer Point Picnic Area at Schoodic has accessible tables, fire rings, comfort stations, and drinking water. Automobile turnouts along the road allow for viewing of the Mount Desert Island profile.







Sieur de Monts

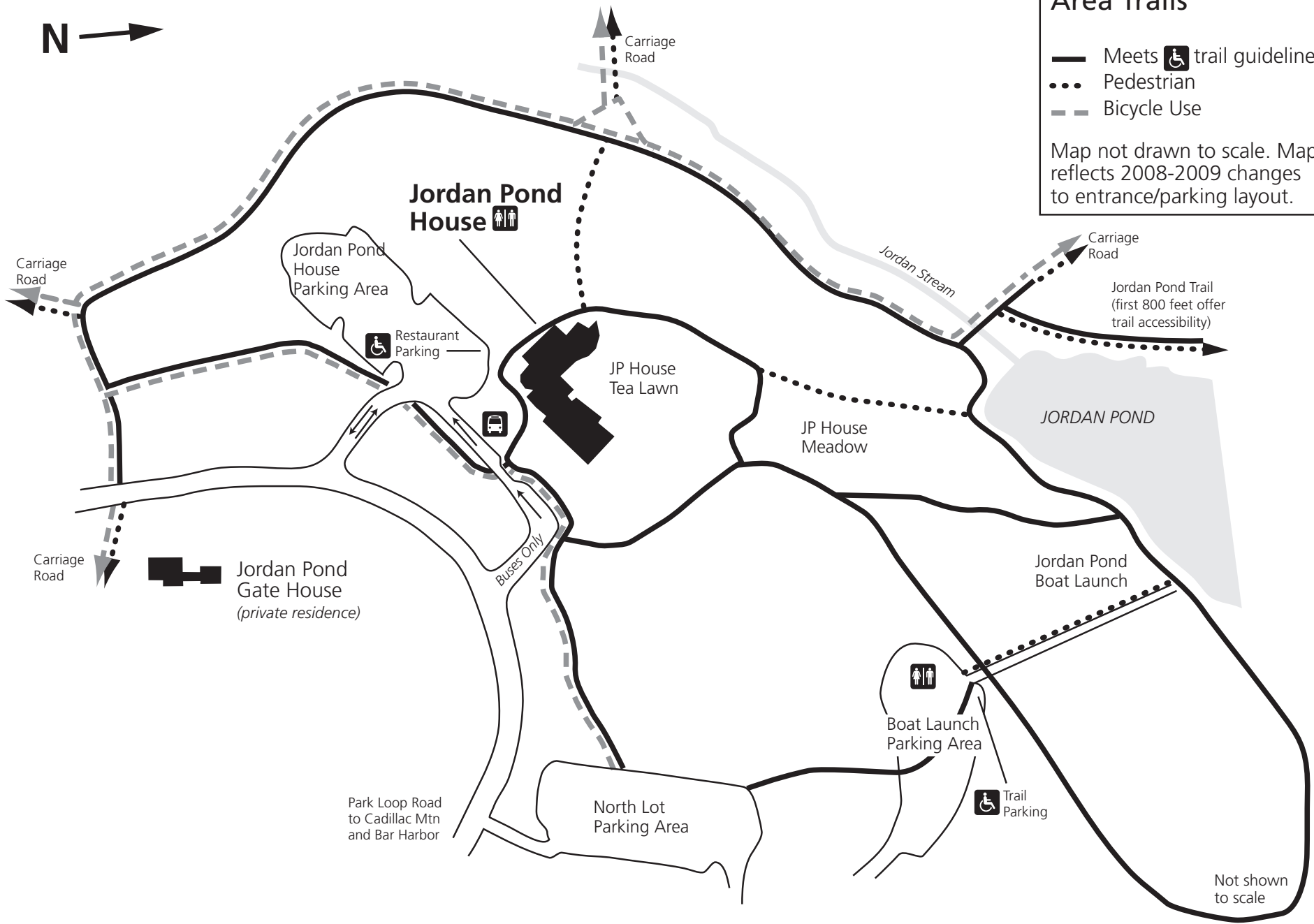
The Sieur de Monts area of Acadia has several attractions whose accessibility information is listed elsewhere in this guide.

- Sieur de Monts Nature Center (page 4)
- Abbe Museum at Sieur de Monts (page 5)
- Wild Gardens of Acadia (page 9)
- Hemlock Road (page 9)



Jordan Pond House Area Trails

-  Meets  trail guidelines
-  Pedestrian
-  Bicycle Use

Map not drawn to scale. Map reflects 2008-2009 changes to entrance/parking layout.



ACADIA NATIONAL PARK

 National Park Land
 Carriage Roads

