

LAKELSE LAKE PROVINCIAL PARK

Within the Skeena River watershed and surrounded by the mountains of the Kitimat Range, Lakelse Lake Provincial Park occupies 354 hectares on the northeastern shore of the lake that bears its name. The word "Lakelse" comes from the Tsimshian Indian language meaning "fresh water mussel," for the mollusc that is found in the lake.

Established in 1956, Lakelse Lake Provincial Park continues to provide recreational opportunities for local communities and travellers. The park is popular for its camping set amidst the towering old growth forest. Enjoy a relaxing afternoon picnicing, swimming or boating from the beautiful sandy beaches. The park preserves stands of impressive old growth cedar, hemlock, and Sitka spruce forests that thrive in the moist air swept in from the Pacific Ocean. A weather funnel created by the Skeena River and Kitimat Mountain Range gives this area about 1000 mm of rain annually. These conditions are ideal for western red cedar, Sitka spruce and western hemlock. Some of these trees have been here for over 300 years!

Within these forests, diverse wildlife populations and plant communities exist. The Kermodei bear, a white species of the black bear, is native to the area. Moose, wolf, and many other mammals are also in the area.

Hike the Twin Spruce trail through one of the last remaining patches of old -growth forest found between Terrace and Kitimat. Dead and decaying material are an important energy source of every forest. Stumps and fallen trees provide nutrient-rich areas for seeds to germinate and flourish.

In late summer, sockeye salmon will return from the Pacific Ocean up the Skeena and

Lakelse Rivers to Lakelse Lake. From here the salmon will spawn in some of the small creeks that flow into Lakelse Lake. A female will lay up to 4000 eggs and later she will die, her eggs left in the hands of nature. Trees play an important role in the survival of her eggs and young fry. Their root systems purify groundwater and stabilize soils; foliage shades the creek from the summer's heat and falling branches and trees create hiding places and food sources for young fry.

"Amgan" is the native Tsimshian word for western red cedar. The tree played an important role in Tsimshian life, as it was used to make totem poles, dugout canoes and houses. The soft inner bark was stripped from the tree and woven into baskets, hats and clothes. The cedar pitch was used for burns and boils.

PARK FACILITY OPERATOR

Maintenance, fee collection, and security services for the park are provided by a Park Facility Operator. The Park Facility Operator can be contacted at Furlong Bay gatehouse or at the Park Facility Operator service yard. For campsite registration, please visit the gatehouse.

RESERVATIONS

The Furlong Bay campground has 25 sites available for reservations. Reservations can be made through the Discover Camping campground reservation service at 1-800-689-9025.

CAMPGROUND HOST

Your campground host is located at the beach entrance to the Twin Spruce Trail. Visit the park host for information on local attractions, park information and maps.

GETTING THERE

Lakelse Lake Provincial Park has three different sites located between 12 and 18 km south of Terrace on Highway 37 South. From Terrace at the junction of Highway 16 and Highway 37 South, turn south to Kitimat. Watch for the BC Parks highway signs.

Gruchy's Beach

The first Lakelse Lake park sign is for the Gruchy's Beach day use area. A 2 km trail located at the end of the parking lot leads to a beautiful day use beach.

Lakelse Lake Picnic Site and Group Campsite

The second park sign is for the Lakelse Lake Picnic site and Group Campsite. The picnic site offers excellent day use picnicking opportunities. The group campsite road is accessed off the last parking lot in the picnic site area.

Furlong Bay Campground

Furlong Bay is located approximately 4 km further south of the Picnic Site turn off. Furlong Bay offers camping and day use picnicking opportunities.

GROUP CAMPING

The group campsite is available for group camping events, accommodating up to 100 people. The site offers 4 double campsites, a large field, picnic shelter, group fire pit area, pit and flush toilets, tables, and beach access. Contact the Park Facility Operator for more information on reserving the site.

For More Information

Please Contact: BC Parks
101 - 3220 Eby Street
Terrace, BC V8G 5K8



Lakelse Lake Provincial Park



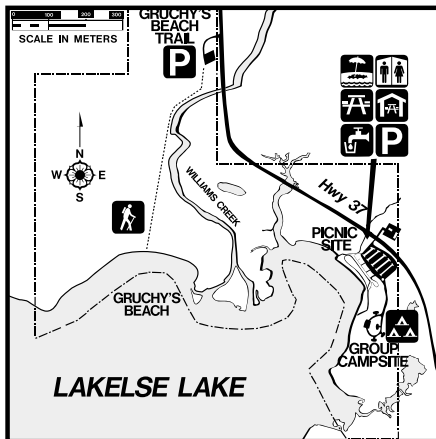
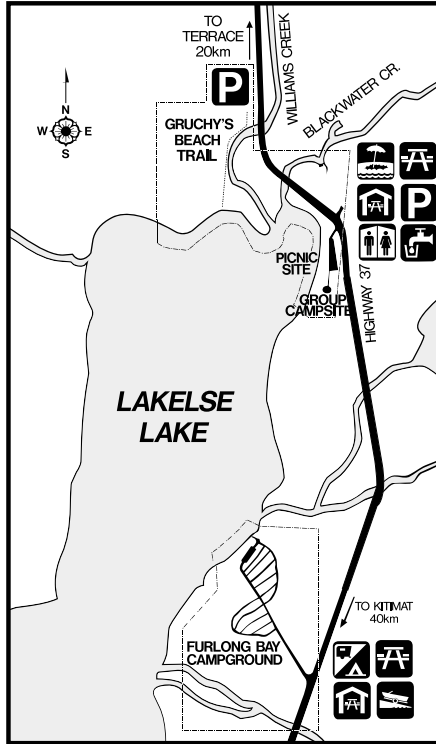
Northwestern, BC



Ministry of Water, Land
and Air Protection

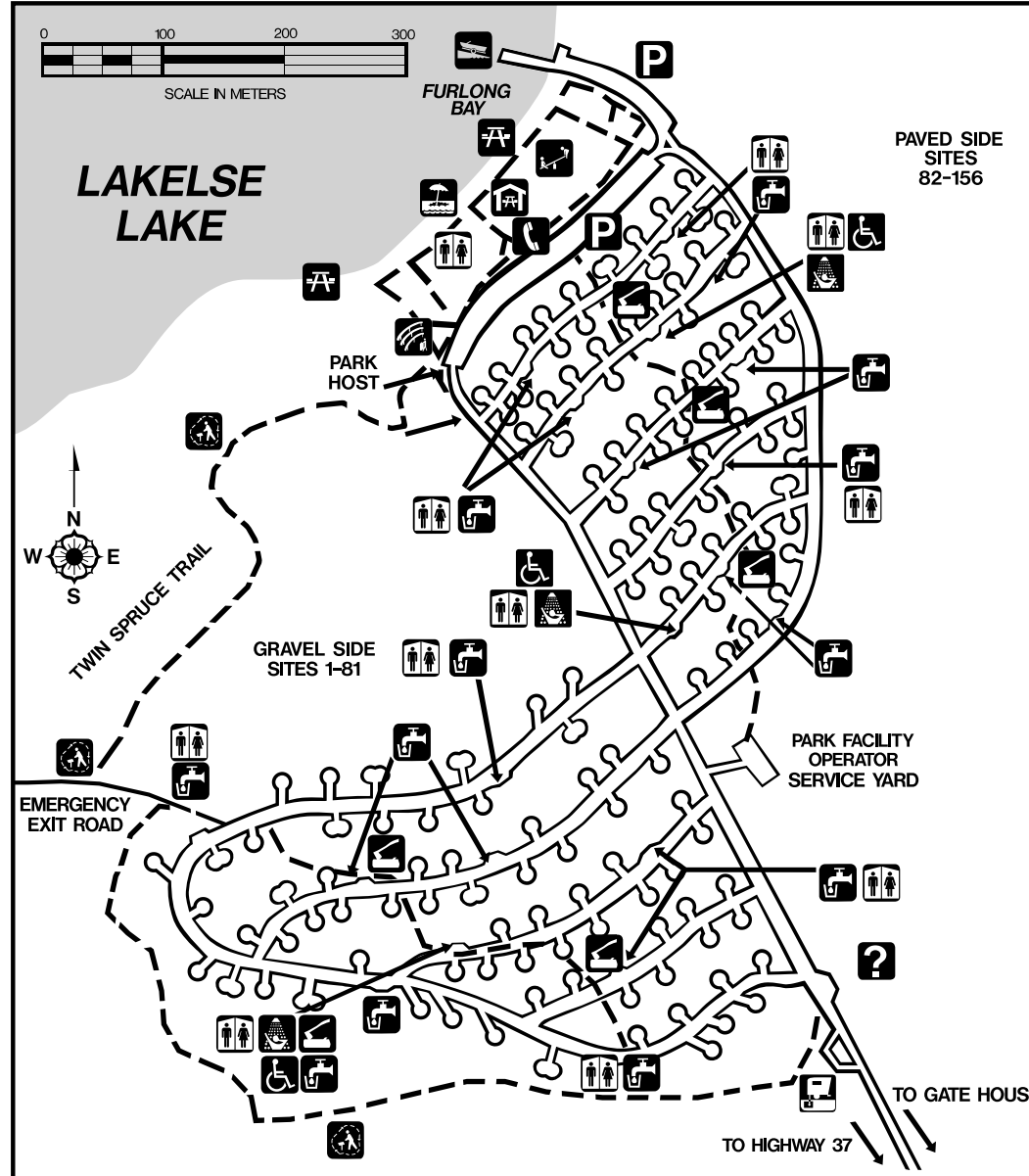


Lakelse Lake Provincial Park



Legend

- Hiking
- Playground
- Boat launch
- Beach
- Sani-station
- Picnic Area
- Toilets
- Campgrounds
- Showers
- Group Campsite
- Parking
- Water
- Firewood
- Picnic Shelter
- Information
- Telephone
- Self Guided Trail
- Amphitheatre
- Trail



PARK FACILITIES

See park map for park facility locations.

- Campers can choose from 156 campsites situated within an old growth coastal forest.
- A double paved boat ramp is located at Furlong Bay Campground.
- A coin operated Sani-Station is located near the entrance of Furlong Bay Campground.

PARK ACTIVITIES

- All the sites within the park offer excellent beaches and water for swimming. **NO LIFEGUARDS ARE ON DUTY.**
- Hike the 2 km Twin Spruce Nature Trail and explore the coastal old growth forests.
- Have the family enjoy a fun and informative interpretive program. Show times, locations and topics are posted on the information boards throughout the park.
- Canoeing, power boating, water skiing and windsurfing are popular activities at Lakelse Lake Park.
- Some excellent fishing opportunities await. Trout and Dolly Varden are common catches in the lake while the area's rivers boast world class salmon and steelhead runs.

SPECIAL REGULATIONS

Only registered campers are allowed in the campground after 11:00 pm. *Quiet time is between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m.*

- All pets must be kept on a leash and under control at all times. Pets are NOT permitted in the day use areas.
- Please be careful with fire and never leave a fire unattended. By keeping fires small you can conserve our forests.

PARK HAZARDS

- Black Bears frequent the area so please keep your campsites clean and your food stowed securely in your vehicle. If a bear is sighted, please keep a safe distance and contact the Park Facility Operator.
- Please boat and water ski with care. Areas around docking and launching facilities are not suitable for water skiing. Please avoid them.