

WEST EDMONTON - PRECIOUS GREEN SPACES



moderate

MacKinnon Ravine is long and wide. It borders Crestwood on one side and the Grovenor and Glenora communities on the other. It starts in the west on 149 Street near Stony Plain Road and continues east to Government House Park.

Government House Park offers places to picnic, shady trees to sit under and restful views of the river. In winter, the hill below Government House (beside the old Royal Alberta Museum building) is a popular place for tobogganing. Ramsey Ravine is a tributary to MacKinnon Ravine.

TRAILHEAD: Government House Park parking lot (at the lower end of MacKinnon Ravine) OR Go to the opposite end, starting at 148 Street and Summit Drive (at the head of the ravine).

DISTANCE/DIFFICULTY: Since there are many options to choose from, the distances covered can

vary considerably. Here are the distances for two walks in this area:

- from Government House Park trailhead west to 148 Street and Summit Drive: 2.5 km one way
- from Government House Park trailhead west to Ramsey Ravine: 0.5 km (Ramsey Ravine is 0.7 km long), one way

MacKinnon Ravine has a paved multi-use trail down its length plus a narrow unimproved trail parallel to the main path. The multi-use trail has a gradual slope. Walkers, skateboarders, strollers and many cyclists use this ravine

CONTINUED >

TO GET TO THE GOVERNMENT HOUSE PARK PARKING LOT

- Northbound on Groat Road: Cross the Groat Bridge and exit right onto River Valley Road. Continue right under the overpass and make an immediate left into the signed parking lot.
- Southbound on Groat Road: Exit right onto River Valley Road and make an immediate right into the parking lot.
- From the east on River Valley Road, go under the Groat overpass and turn left into the parking lot.



to access the university or city centre. Remember to walk on the right side of the yellow line that divides the multi-use trail.

The east fork of Ramsey Ravine has a north-south oriented multi-use trail that heads north from MacKinnon Ravine up a moderate slope to Churchill Crescent (about 131 Street) and 103 Avenue.

WALK A Starting from the Government House Park parking lot to the top of MacKinnon Ravine.

DISTANCE/DIFFICULTY: 5 km round trip; moderate, paved with gradual up hill when going west; open and pleasant

- Walk west from the Government House Park parking lot (the lower end of the ravine) to the head of the MacKinnon Ravine at 148 Street. Note the small sign (“Ramsey Ravine”) on your right about 0.5 km from Government House Park parking lot. Return same way.

WALK B From Government House Park to Government House.

DISTANCE/DIFFICULTY: 3.4 km round trip; paved, moderate

- From Government House Park, turn into Ramsey Ravine (see Walk B) and come out at Churchill Crescent (131 Street). Walk south to 102 Avenue.
- Turn left (east) to the lights at 130 Street and cross the road to Government House past the old museum building.
- Return to trailhead same way.

WALK C From Government House Park through Ramsey Ravine and then west

DISTANCE/DIFFICULTY: About 7 km round trip; moderate. This walk takes you through the lovely old Glenora neighbourhood alongside two ravines and west to the head of MacKinnon Ravine.

- From Government House Park walk through Ramsey Ravine and come out at Churchill Crescent/131 Street. (See Walk B)
- Proceed west on 103 Avenue to Alexander Circle at 133 Street. Enjoy the fountain.
- Continue west on 103 Avenue to 135 Street. Go south on 135 Street to 102 Avenue. Cross at the pedestrian crossing lights on 136 Street in front of Glenora School to St. George’s Crescent.

- Follow the crescent south, keeping the ravine on your left to a viewpoint overlooking the river. Note a set of stairs leading down to MacKinnon Ravine (about 135 Street). You can return to the trailhead here. Walk north on St. George’s Crescent and turn left to join Ravine Drive
- Continue west (left) on Ravine Drive. Watch for another set of stairs going down the bank to MacKinnon Ravine about 139 Street. You can return to the trailhead via the stairs or continue as below.
- Walk west to 142 Street. (Caution: 142 Street can be a busy road and if the traffic is too heavy, continue south on 142 Street over the bridge and turn left to go down into MacKinnon Ravine and return to the trailhead).
- Cross the street to Ravine Drive on the west side of 142 Street. Enter a tiny corner of the Grovenor neighbourhood, and walk west to a small wooden bridge over a tributary ravine on Ravine Drive and 143 Street.
- From 143 Street zigzag through this neighbourhood to access Stony Plain Road at 146 Street.
- Continue west on Stony Plain Road until you reach a wooden bridge (148 Street) on your left that crosses MacKinnon Ravine. This bridge will take you back to the head of the multi-use trail at 148 Street and Summit Drive.
- Return to the parking lot in Government House Park by going down the paved trail (see Walk A).

AMENITIES

- picnic tables, BBQ stoves and portable toilets at Government House Park
- restaurants at Jasper Gates shopping centre on Stony Plain Road and 149 Street

*“Climate is what you expect,
weather is what you get.”*

– National Service Office Tucson, Arizona

As you enjoy the River Valley, please remember to be prepared for the weather and leave only footprints. Please take out your garbage.

Our River Valley will benefit as we reduce our Climate Change inputs.