

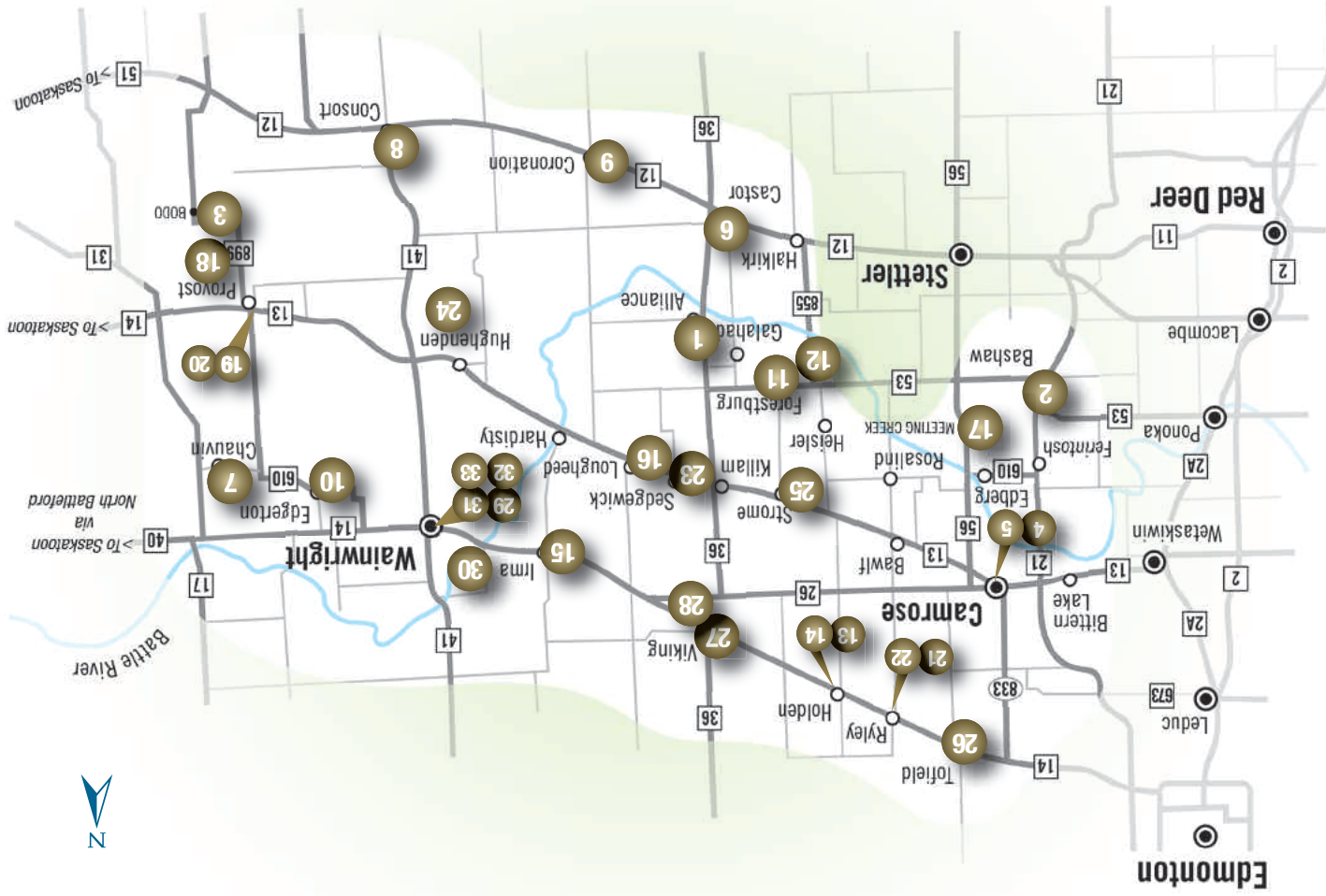
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EAST CENTRAL ALBERTA MUSEUMS & MEMORIES



Step Back in Time...

Want to get a glimpse of the past? Then plan a visit to an East Central Alberta museum where you can share memories of "days gone by" and appreciate the fashion, tools, and equipment that our Alberta pioneers depended on. And best of all, visiting a museum is a great way to spend time with family and friends.

You can experience East Central Alberta's museums on day trips or multi day tours and for those overnight trips; the region offers a good selection of accommodation choices from full service hotels to cozy Bed & Breakfasts. Please refer to the Alberta Hotel and Lodging Association web site www.ahla.com or to the East Central community websites.



Why visit a Museum?

Museums make you feel good!
Museums make you smarter! Museums inspire!

Imagine:

Looking at one-of-a-kind DaVinci gun... Standing in the office of the first woman newspaper editor in Alberta... Sitting in the same jail cell as the man who prompted an Alberta wide manhunt... Watching the traditional skills of harness and tack repair... Viewing a 3000 piece textile display with fashions dating back to the 1800s... or seeing a model train that won Best in Show at a National Model Railway Convention.

And it doesn't end there...

Picnic at the site of the Marion 260 stripping shovel... Watch a train cross the Battle River Trestle (the second largest trestle in Canada)... Listen to the chimes of the only freestanding clock tower in Canada... Participate in an archeological dig at a 5000 year-old native buffalo hunting ground... or sip tea in an historic railway station.

So you see, museums are the "real thing" and that's why you should visit them!

Dedicated volunteers staff museums and hours of operation vary, therefore it is recommended that you contact the museum directly for specific details.



Alliance Bashaw Bawlf Bittern Lake Camrose Castor Chauvin Consort Edgerton Forestburg Galahad Halkirk Hardisty Heisler Highenden Holden Irma Killam Lougheed New Norway Provost Rosalind Ryley Sedgewick Strome Tofield Viking Wainwright Alliance Bashaw Bawlf Bittern Lake Camrose Castor Chauvin Consort Coronation Edgerton Forestburg Galahad Halkirk Hardisty Heisler Highenden Holden Irma Killam Lougheed New Norway Provost Rosalind Ryley Sedgewick Strome Tofield Viking Wainwright Alliance Bashaw Bawlf Bittern Lake Camrose Castor Chauvin Consort Coronation Edgerton Forestburg Galahad Halkirk Hardisty Heisler Highenden Holden Irma Killam Lougheed New Norway Provost Rosalind Ryley Sedgewick Strome Tofield Viking Wainwright Alliance Bashaw Bawlf Bittern Lake Camrose Castor Chauvin Consort

BATTLE RIVER ALLIANCE FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (BRAED)

www.braedalberta.ca

explore!
Battle River Country

1

Alliance and District Museum Society

202 - 2nd Street E
ALLIANCE
780-879-3911

Located in the former St. Agnes Catholic Church, displays include early costumes, military uniforms, pioneer furnishings, flags, maps, native artifacts, and an old radio collection.

2

Bashaw Firehall Museum

Main Street, **BASHAW**
780-372-3911

The museum consists of the only restored fire hall in Alberta and is home to one of three of the remaining 1912 Waterous pumpers, which is still operational. The building also housed many additional town services including town council chambers, the town office, a police station, courthouse, and jailhouse, including the cell that held the infamous Robert Raymond Cook, who was the subject of a 1959 Alberta-wide manhunt.

3

Bodo Interpretive Centre

Hwy 899, **BODO**
780-753-6353

Recently discovered adjacent to the hamlet of Bodo, initial findings at the site indicate the existence of aboriginal encampments dating back 5000 years ago. Significant numbers of arrowheads, buffalo bone fragments and remnants of pottery have been excavated. Artifacts are displayed in a historic school-house that serves as an interpretive centre, and site tours are available in the summer months.

4

Camrose and District Centennial Museum

53 Street / 47 A Avenue,
CAMROSE
780-672-3298

This museum is a true storyteller – sharing the history of the settlement of Camrose and area through comprehensive displays (including a 3000 item textile collection including hats, shoes, and clothing representing over 100 years of history dating back to the 1860s) and a set of historical buildings including a Firehall, Blacksmith Shop, and Oldtimer's Hut.

5

Camrose Railway Museum, Archives and Tearoom

4407 - 47 Ave., **CAMROSE**
780-672-3099

The museum site includes a restored 1911 CNR station, several early 1900 authentic buildings, a G-scale Garden Railway and a Children's Secret Garden, with a creative play train and fun sandbox. While the children are enjoying themselves, parents can tour the heritage gardens, visit the Station Tea Room, or enjoy a healthy pioneer themed lunch – truly something for every family member.

6

Castor and District Museum & Grain Elevator

CASTOR
403-882-3271

The museum is a former CPR station and houses artifacts pertaining to early mining and agriculture, a machinery and tool exhibit (including snow-shoes for horses), early local fashions and a Washington printing press (one of only four known to exist) and several homestead room displays. The site is also home to the Castor Grain Elevator (a Provincial Historic Resource), and a true symbol of Alberta's agricultural history.

7

Chauvin Museum

4810 - 1st Avenue, **CHAUVIN**
780-858-3881

The museum society is located in the old St. Aubins School, which was built in 1951 and has been restored to reflect its historic origins – a great example of a traditional “one room country school house”.

8

Consort & Old Tyme Printing Press Museum

CONSORT 4902 - 50 Street
403-577-3550

Two special buildings form this museum. The Union Bank building from early 1900s when bank managers lived over their banks – now that's keeping an eye on things! The second is the original Enterprise Newspaper building complete with original printing press in working condition. Of note, this building is where Mabel Mattoon became the first woman editor of an Alberta newspaper (the Consort Enterprise) in 1913.

9

Coronation Museum & Heritage Park

5200 Railway Avenue
CORONATION
403-578-3679

The museum displays are located in a historic CN stationmaster's house, nestled in the idyllic Coronation Heritage Park. The site also includes the 1911 Wheatridge School House. The museum is a “must see” for royal watchers and boasts an extensive collection of British royalty commemorative items, including an 1897 teapot celebrating Queen Victoria's 60th year as sovereign.

10

Edgerton Museum

894 - 49 Ave., **EDGERTON**
780-755-3933

A fully restored windmill marks the museum site. The CN station (complete with caboose) and the 1911 Battle Valley School are two of the buildings housing various historical artifacts. The museum has a complete reproduction of the Viewager Autochrome Collection including the only known color photo of Buffalo Bills Wild West Troupe and one of the rare color photos of the North West Mounted Police.

11

Forestburg and District Museum

4707 – 50 Street, **FORESTBURG**
780-582-3668

The museum is housed in an original Masonic Temple and houses a collection of homesteading and agricultural artifacts, an authentic 1920s kitchen, memorabilia from WW I and II and in recognition of the area's mining tradition, there are examples of early mining equipment complemented by a great selection of mining photos.

12

Diplomat Mine Museum Interpretive Site

14 km southwest of
FORESTBURG on Hwy 855
780-582-3668

This open-air interpretive site is devoted to the display of the history of surface coal mining. It is the home of the Marion 260 stripping shovel; one of the first pieces of equipment to be designated as a Registered Historic Resource. The site offers a visitor friendly picnic area.

13

Holden Historical Society Museum

4928 - 50 Avenue, **HOLDEN**
780-688-3593

This museum prides itself on being child friendly with special areas and activities for children. This community museum tells the story of the founding and development of Holden through numerous displays and preserved artifacts. Of special interest is the miniature Village of Holden (with every tiny building historically correct in every detail), which depicts the community as it actually was from 1909-1911.

14

Holy Ghost Ukrainian Catholic Church

50th Ave. - east of Main Street,
HOLDEN
780-668-3840

Although located in Holden's core, this incredible Byzantine style church can be seen from the highway. The interior displays intricate artwork, and on a warm summer day, the treed exterior is home to numerous songbirds producing a chorus that would rival any choir.

15

Irma Museum

4940 - 53 Ave., **IRMA**
780-354-3808

The museum is located in the 1928 home of renowned Company's Coming cookbook author, Jean Paré. The museum gives visitors glimpses into life that early settlers of Irma enjoyed with an excellent selection of items including musical instruments, clothing, personal scrapbooks, tools and household items.

16

Iron Creek Museum

Hwy 13 at **LOUGHEED**
780-386-3970

The log hall component of the museum houses many artifacts relating to the early history of the area. The site includes a lawyer's office, a shoemaker shop, fully equipped little church, within and adjacent to a magnificent grain elevator beside Highway 13.

17

Meeting Creek Railway Station & Grain Elevator

MEETING CREEK
780-672-3099

Built in 1913, the historic Canadian Northern Railway Station Building (the museum) is furnished to reflect a CNR depot of the 1940's and is complemented by a fine collection of local historical artifacts. Also on display is a 1917 grain elevator, one of the oldest in Alberta and a designated Heritage Site.

18

St. Norbert's Church, Rosenheim

Located 11 km south of
PROVOST on Hwy 899 – then
5 km east
780-857-2340

The church was built in 1922 by mainly German-American pioneers and is the largest rural neo-Gothic church in Alberta, a designated Alberta Historic Site and renowned for its superior acoustics and unique architecture.

19

Provost & District Museum

Southwest corner of the Town of
PROVOST
780-753-6667

The museum site of seven acres features a main building with a variety of artifacts relating to the area history and numerous historic buildings including a church , a bachelor's house and an authentic Eaton catalogue home (Yes-you could order a house from the Eaton catalogue!), refurbished with period furniture.

20

Provost Museum Re-Inventors Display

Southwest corner of the Town of
PROVOST
780-753-6667

The Provost Museum Re-Inventor's Display features a unique collection of inventions from the hit TV series “The Re-Inventors”. Some of the unique items include a DaVinci gun, likely the only working life-size firing model that exists in the world today and a survival suitcase conceived by Canadian inventor John Edlund (a must have item for trans-atlantic ship passengers). In this museum, believing is seeing!

21

George's Harness and Saddlery

5020 - 50 Street, **RYLEY**
780-663-3611

This working museum contains a priceless collection of antique machines and equipment in working condition. This experience takes the visitor back in time to watch craftsmen manufacture and repair leather products such as saddles, harness, and tack.

22

Ryley Museum

5107 - 49 Street, **RYLEY**
780-663-2372

The museum contains heritage maps and artifacts, many of which are in working condition and several historic buildings. Of note is the doll collection featuring over 300 dolls on permanent display.

23

Sedgewick Archive, Gallery and Museum

4702-48 Street, **SEDEGWICK**
780-384-3741

Dedicated as a provincial Historic Site, and located in the Bank of Montreal building, the Archive and Museum hold a variety of collections from the past including maps and an extensive pictorial compilation. The gallery displays work by local artists and has an exceptional china collection. For a more personal experience, the archive is affiliated with the Salt Lake City Genealogy Library and equipped to access extensive genealogical information.

24

Prairie Panorama Museum and Machine-rama

SHORNCLIFFE LAKE Park
780-857-2435

This museum is full of objects and tools reflecting work and relaxation from pioneer times. There is a nostalgic “sitting room”, displays of kitchen, laundry, and sewing utensils, including an extensive “Salt & Pepper” shaker display and a machine-rama, highlighting equipment from the turn of the century.

25

Sodbuster's Archives and Museum

5029 - 50 Street, **STROME**
780-376-3688

This eclectic museum includes pioneer artifacts, a war display, a natural history display including aboriginal items, in addition to a varied selection of mounted birds and animals, dinosaur bones, snakes, fish and shells.

26

Beaverhill Lake Nature Centre/ Tofield Historical Museum

4020 - 48 Street, **TOFIELD**
780-662-3191

In addition to being a bird watcher's paradise, the Nature Centre/Museum combines interpretive displays reflecting the natural history of Beaverhill Lake, complimented by many fascinating objects relating to the history of the area and donated by community pioneers. For budding birders or diehard ornithologists, the “Nature's Marsh” wetland area behind the Centre provides a “bird's eye view” of the many wonders that await you at Beaverhill Lake.

27

Viking Historical Museum

5108 - 61 Avenue, **VIKING**
780-336-3066

The museum, converted from the town's first hospital, is a repository of Viking's history from the early Scandinavian settlers to today. Site exhibits include the first area store and post office, a 1938 Catholic Church, a 1907 schoolhouse, an original farmhouse and several tractors.

28

Ribstones

East of **VIKING** on Hwy 14 – follow signs south
780-336-3466

These Boulder Petroglyphs, otherwise known as “Ribstones” are quartzite

boulders transported to their locale via glacial action. The distinctive grooves carved by the Cree Natives, resemble ribs. Interpretive signage at the site provides additional insight into the phenomenon.

29

Wainwright and District Museum

1001 – 1 Avenue, **WAINWRIGHT**
780-842-3115

The museum features themes of pioneer life, agricultural development and railway history including a now extinct caboose. Items of particular interest would be the large antique radio and telephone display, the personal doll and doll furniture collection donated by Lillian Bloom, the fully restored blacksmith equipment and an eclectic assortment of household and farm related items.

30

Battle River Trestle

Approx. 6 km north on
WAINWRIGHT on Hwy 14 and 6 km west on Township Road 45-2
780-842-4910

At 2775 feet long and 195 feet high, located northwest of Wainwright is the Battle River Trestle, the second largest trestle in Canada, which overlooks the Battle River. The rest area and lookout provide an impressive view of the Battle River Valley and an opportunity to examine this structure at length.

31

Petroleum Park

425 - 14th Ave., **WAINWRIGHT**
780-842-4910

This site pays tribute to the importance of oil in the area's history and contains many examples of original oil well equipment used in the Wainwright Field.

32

The Wainwright Town Clock

Main intersection
(corner of Main St. & 2nd Ave.)
WAINWRIGHT
780-842-4910

This is the only freestanding clock tower in Canada, housed at the top of a stately cenotaph designed in 1925 by Frank Bailey. Schoolchildren and residents gathered the magnificent stones comprising the base. Be sure to be near it on the hour, as the chimes ring loud and clear.

33

Wainwright Rail Park

South **WAINWRIGHT** /
Canola Road
780-842-3138

Situated on a nine-acre site adjacent to CN's main line, Wainwright Rail Park captures a glimpse of Canada's railway tradition through the real life depiction of a working rail yard where modelers and train enthusiasts can immerse themselves in railroad memorabilia from the near and distant past. The museum is home to the Cisco Bridge Diorama, the Best In Show Winner at the 1999 National Model Railroad Convention. and the 6861 locomotive, the only one if its kind remaining in Canada.