

Caligata Lake Hike

Location: Caligata Lake Provincial Park, British Columbia

Drive Time from Spahats Creek Resort: Approximately 30-45 minutes (12 km / 7.5 miles)

Walking Distance from Spahats Creek Resort: Not recommended due to the distance and rough terrain.

Difficulty: Moderate

Distance of Hike: 1 km (0.6 miles) round trip

Elevation Change: Minimal

Estimated Hike Time: 20 to 30 minutes round trip

Overview: The hike to Caligata Lake is a short yet rewarding walk into a serene alpine setting in Caligata Lake Provincial Park. This peaceful lake, surrounded by lush forest and towering peaks, offers an excellent destination for a quick nature escape. With new boardwalks installed in 2023, the trail is accessible and easy to navigate, making it suitable for families and casual hikers.

Drive Description: From Spahats Creek Resort, drive back to the main entrance and turn right onto Spahats Creek FSR. Continue for 4 km (2.5 miles) to a Y junction and go right. Proceed for an additional 9.4 km (5.9 miles) to the 13 km marker. Park on the side of the road at the trailhead for the Caligata Lake Trail. The parking area is limited and not suitable for larger RVs.

Hike Description:

1. **Trailhead to Caligata Lake (0.5 km / 0.3 miles):**
 - Begin at the trailhead and follow the newly renovated boardwalk through a lush wet meadow.
 - The boardwalk makes navigation easy, and the trail opens up to reveal the tranquil Caligata Lake.
2. **Enjoy the Views:**
 - Spend time at the lake's edge, taking in the serene alpine scenery and surrounding peaks.
3. **Return Journey:**
 - Head back along the same boardwalk for a total round trip of 1 km (0.6 miles).

Tips:

- **Gear:** Wear comfortable walking shoes or hiking boots.
- **Wildlife:** Be prepared to encounter local wildlife; carry bear spray as a precaution.
- **Facilities:** There are no facilities at the trailhead or lake, so plan accordingly.
- **Photography:** The lake provides excellent photo opportunities, especially during early morning or late afternoon light.

Summary: The Caligata Lake hike is an easy and accessible trail that offers a tranquil alpine experience. Whether you're looking for a short nature walk or a quiet spot to enjoy breathtaking scenery, this hike is a perfect addition to any Wells Gray Provincial Park itinerary.