

More About Alberta's Iron Horse Trail

CN abandoned their rail service in 1999. Visionaries negotiated with CN and successfully acquired the right of way to Alberta's Iron Horse Trail. It is a 300km continuous recreation corridor running through Northeast Alberta. It passes through more than 18 communities. It starts in Abilene Junction, three trails branch south towards Heinsburg, then west to Smokey Lake and northeast to Cold Lake. Some of Alberta's most varied and beautiful terrain can be viewed along this trail.

The south-eastern section of the trail features 200 foot hills above the trail, making this area favoured by snowmobilers. After passing through St. Paul the trail winds its way into Elk Point. A snowmobile friendly community that offers everything from mechanical repairs, hearty meals to warm clothing and fuel services. And according to the Elk Point Trail Riders President, Elk Point is a hot spot visited by many using the Iron Horse Trail

This trail supports multi-users and is open year round. June of 2003, Alberta's Iron Horse Trail officially opened. It is now part of the Trans Canada Trail and the Trans Canadian Snowmobile Trail systems. The trail allows uses of ATV, Snowmobiles, Mountain Biking, Hiking, Cross Country Skiing, and Horse Back Riding. Many communities along the way have staging areas and washrooms available.

Elevation: 2,000 ft.

Annual snowfall: 4-6 ft.

Average winter temp: -5°C