



# Tourism Accessibility Updates

## Parking



### Accessible Parking Spaces

Offering accessible parking spaces for low mobility individuals, families with young children, and others increases business accessibility. These spaces are reserved for those with official disability parking permits and are marked by a blue sign with a white wheelchair image. Accessible parking provisions in BC follow local bylaws and regulations; check with your local office for specific requirements. Where local regulations don't apply, BC Building Code guidelines serve as best practices.

### BC Building Code Specifications

- At least one of every 100 parking spaces must be accessible when 50 or more spaces are provided.
- Each accessible parking stall should be a minimum of 2400 mm wide.
- An access aisle of at least 1500 mm must be provided on one side.
- The parking surface must be firm, slip-resistant, and level.
- Accessible spaces should be located close to an entrance.
- The spaces must be clearly marked for use by persons with physical disabilities.
- The space must be identified by a sign located at least 1500 mm above ground level, with the International Symbol of Access.

Additional considerations for universal accessibility view CAN/ASC B156.

Learn more: [travelnbc.com/accessibility](https://travelnbc.com/accessibility)



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### Parking Lot Aisle

An accessible parking lot aisle is a marked area that provides direct access to parking space(s). These parking spaces also provide extra room on the sides of the vehicle so passengers can open their door fully or extend a ramp if need be. This benefits people with a disability and helps elderly people, people who are pregnant, or who have a baby stroller. In addition to the aisle, it is important to remember that wheelchairs and persons utilizing the accessible parking spaces need barrier free access to the surrounding sidewalks. Placing speed bumps or curbs without transitions between the street / parking lot and raised sidewalk creates a barrier.

### BC Building Code Specifications

- Parking space must be adjacent to access route near each accessible entrance (especially main one used by everyone)
- Regular spaces are minimum 2400 mm wide, plus clearly marked aisle minimum 1500 mm (aisle can be shared between two accessible parking spaces)

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### Potholes

Potholes can create barriers for a person using a wheelchair, mobility aid, or stroller. Potholes can also create barriers for anyone with low mobility or who is visually impaired. A hole can make navigation difficult to impossible and render a location, business, nature area or viewpoint “no-go” simply due to the parking lot.



Surfaces should be level and even to allow direct access to pathways or buildings. Parking lot and trail conditions should be checked regularly for hazards, sink holes, potholes, etc. and repaired promptly.

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