



Thaidene Nënë Indigenous Protected Area

Thaidene Nënë, which means “Land of the Ancestors” in Dënesų́łné yatié, was declared an Indigenous protected area by the Łutsël K’é Dene First Nation in 2004. An Indigenous protected area is an area where an Indigenous government is leading the protection of cultural and ecological systems.

Thaidene Nënë was established to protect Dene ch’anié (values, culture, way of life) and the ecological integrity of the area for future generations.

In August 2019, agreements were signed between Indigenous and Crown governments that established a national park reserve, territorial protected area, and wildlife conservation area within Thaidene Nënë. Thaidene Nënë is being protected and governed using both Dene and Canadian laws, knowledge systems, and governance models.

Thaidene Nënë Xá Dá Yáłti, which means “those who speak for Thaidene Nënë,” is the operational management board of the Thaidene Nënë Indigenous Protected Area. The Indigenous appointees who form Thaidene Nënë Xá Dá Yáłti are currently developing a management plan for the protected area.

Thaidene Nënë Contacts

Thaidene Nënë Indigenous Protected Area

(867) 370-3820 Ext. 1006
manager@thaidenenene.ca
<http://www.landoftheancestors.ca/>

Thaidene Nene National Park Reserve

(867) 766-8460 or for emergencies 1-877-852-3100
thaidene.nene@pc.gc.ca
<https://www.pc.gc.ca/thaidene-nene>

Thaidene Nënë Territorial Protected Area and Wildlife Conservation Area

(867) 767-9233
conservationplanning@gov.nt.ca
<https://www.enr.gov.nt.ca/en/services/conservation-network-planning/visiting-thaidene-nene-territorial-protected-area>

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Ni Hat’ni Dene Guardians

Ni Hat’ni Dene means “watchers of the land” in Dënesų́łné yatié. Since 2008, Ni Hat’ni Dene guardians have been watching the lands and waters of Thaidene Nënë, and welcoming visitors to our territory. The guardians play a critical role in:

- Monitoring environmental change
- Taking care of cultural and sacred sites
- Welcoming and assisting visitors
- Sharing cultural and scientific knowledge with younger generations
- Upholding Łutsël K’é Dene First Nation’s ʔetthën (caribou) laws

Łutsël K’é Dene First Nation respectfully requests that hunters from other communities notify the First Nation by email at manager@thaidenenene.ca or by phone (867) 370-3820 of their plans to hunt in our homeland. This information will help the First Nation be responsible stewards of the land and animals, and help ensure the safety of all hunters.

Rules and Regulations

The national park reserve and territorial protected area have different rules and regulations for visitors, though some things are the same throughout Thaidene Nënë. See below for more details. The most up-to-date rules and regulations can be found on our website, www.landoftheancestors.ca.

Within the national park reserve

- Registration is required*
- Parks Canada fishing permit is required*
- Only Indigenous peoples with harvesting rights, some leaseholders, and holders of a Special Harvester’s Licence are permitted to hunt
- Visitors are permitted to carry firearms for defense against wildlife only*
- Artisanal uses of plants and animal resources is not permitted**
- Recreational drone use is prohibited; commercial drone use requires a permit

Within the territorial protected area

- Registration is not currently required
- NWT sport fishing licence is required*
- NWT hunting licence is required*
- Visitors are permitted to carry firearms (subject to all firearms laws)
- Artisanal uses of plant and animal resources is permitted (with a valid Protected Area Permit)**
- Recreational drone use is permitted, but not for hunting (as per *Wildlife Act*)

Throughout Thaidene Nënë

- Picking berries and gathering healing plants for personal use is allowed
- Cutting and collecting wood for personal campfires or temporary shelters is allowed
- Traveling by snowmobile and motorboat is allowed
- Disturbing or collecting historic structures, resources, and artifacts is illegal

* Indigenous peoples with harvesting rights are exempt from these rules and regulations.

** Artisanal use refers to the use of local skills and knowledge to produce value-added products for individual sale, domestic use, or community purposes.

Visitor Code of Conduct

“This land is our home.
Respectful visitors
welcome.”

When travelling in Thaidene Nënë, we encourage you to visit Łutsël K’é, hire an experienced guide from the community to provide you with a rewarding and safe experience, and support the protection of Thaidene Nënë for future generations.

But most of all, we ask that when travelling in Thaidene Nënë you commit to:

- Travel with humility and respect for the land and water by being mindful of your behaviour, your attitude, and what you say when you are on the land and water
- Pay the land and water with something valuable like tobacco, spruce boughs, tea, or sugar as a sign of respect
- Respect heritage and spiritual sites by not disturbing or taking anything from them
- Safely dispose of or remove anything you brought
- Respect the inherent and treaty rights of Indigenous peoples to hunt, trap, and gather within Thaidene Nënë



Explore Like a Dene

Come explore Thaidene Nënë with a local, licensed tour operator and experience the land through the eyes of the people who have lived in the area for generations. Tour operators offer world-class fishing, wildlife viewing, camping, aurora borealis viewing, and cultural experiences.

Visitors can stay at the world-famous Frontier Lodge located near Łutsël K’é or in a private room in town.

Air Tindi offers daily, 45-minute flights from Yellowknife to Łutsël K’é, or a boat ride can be arranged with a local tour operator.

Frontier Lodge

1-877-465-6843 or (867) 370-3501
frontier.fishing@gmail.com
<http://www.frontierfishinglodge.com/>

Red Cliff Adventures

(867) 765-8225
info@redcliffadventures.com
<https://redcliffadventures.com/>

River’s East Arm Tours

(867) 688-3097
jamesmarlowe65@gmail.com

Chase East Arm Adventures

(867) 446-1954
chaseeastarmadventures@gmail.com

Joe’s Bed & Breakfast

(867) 785-0757

Co-op Store and Accomodation

(867) 370-3511

Łutsël K’é Dene First Nation Office

(867) 370-7000

Health Centre

(867) 370-3111

RCMP

(867) 370-1111

Fuel Service

(867) 370-3072

Air Tindi

1-888-545-6794 or
(867) 669-8200

THAIDENE NĒNÉ

2023 VISITOR BROCHURE



Thaidene Nënë Indigenous Protected Area

THELON WILDLIFE
SANCTUARY

- 1 Utsingi Point
- 2 Taltheilei Narrows
- 3 Red Cliff Island
- 4 The Gap
- 5 Kaché



Winter Road

Local or recreation roads

Thaidene Nënë Indigenous Protected Area

Thelon Wildlife Sanctuary

National Park Reserve, Territorial Protected Area, Wildlife Conservation Area