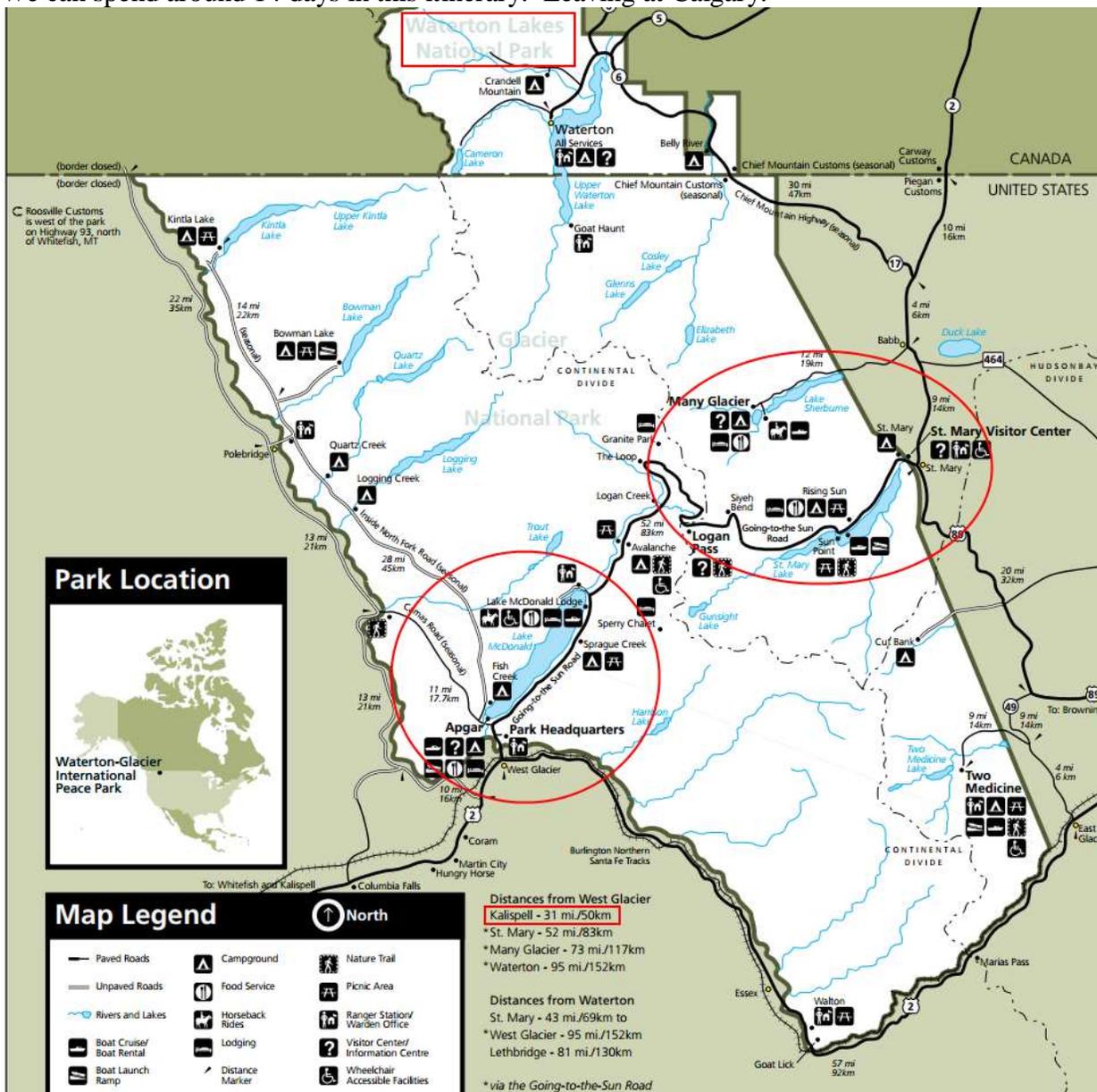


A possible route (2 weeks):

Fly to Kalispell Airport. Stay at a hotel or house rental for 2 nights. Explore scenic area around Park Headquarters / West Entrance. Then drive East towards St. Mary Visitor Center / East Entrance. Stay for 2 or 3 nights. Then drive North to Waterton National Park and Canadian Rockies. Follow the routes in <http://www.caravan.com/tour/canada-rockies> .

We can spend around 14 days in this itinerary. Leaving at Calgary.



Source:

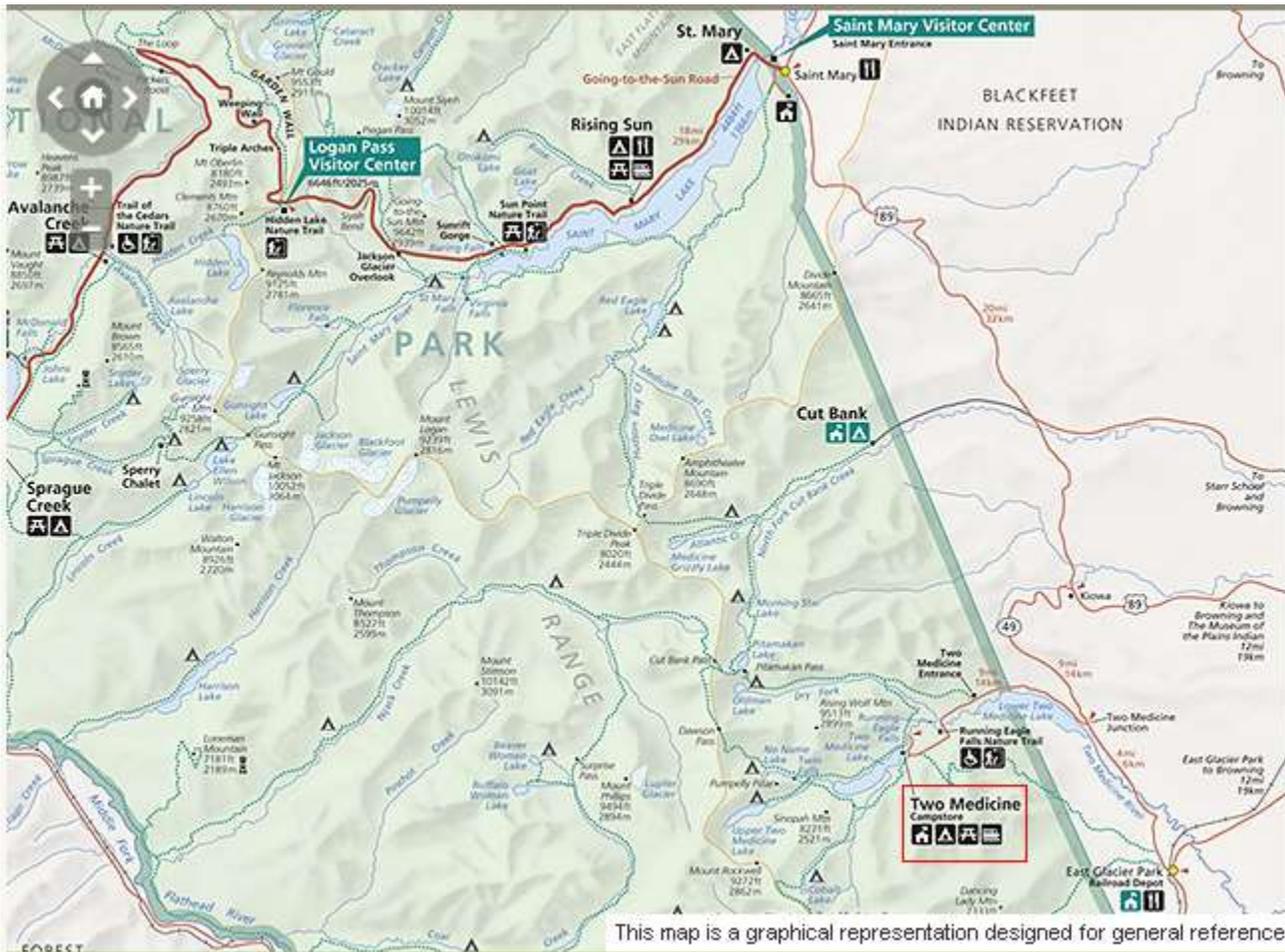
<http://www.nps.gov/glac/planyourvisit/upload/vacationplanner2013-web.pdf>

Another route (1 week):

Fly to Kalispell Airport. Stay at a hotel or house rental for 2 nights. Explore scenic area around Park Headquarters / West Entrance. For example, driving Going-to-the-Sun Road along the shore of Lake McDonald.

Then drive East towards St. Mary Visitor Center / East Entrance. On the way, stop by Logan Pass Visitor Center. Hike to Hidden Lake Overlook via Hanging Gardens Trail (or called Hidden Lake Nature Trail) [\[more\]](#). Stay for 2 or 3 nights.

Then drive South to Two Medicine Valley / Lake. Stay for 1 or 2 nights. No need to stay for night. On the way to the stay at Whitefish, just stop by.



+1 optional day to Waterton National Park and Canadian Rockies.
Leaving at Kalispell.

Details (assume 7/4 Fri – 7/11 Fri):

7/4 (Fri) - Take morning flight to Kalispell (about \$500 RT from New York). Pick up car rental. Stay at a rental house near Whitefish (\$40 / person / night) for 2 nights.

7/5 (Sat) - Explore scenic area around Park Headquarters / West Entrance, e.g., Lake McDonald.

7/6 (Sun) - Leaving Whitefish rental house. Go East. Drive towards St. Mary Visitor Center / East Entrance. On the way, stop by Logan Pass Visitor Center. Hike to Hidden Lake Overlook via Hanging Gardens Trail (or called Hidden Lake Nature Trail) [[more](#)]. Stay at a rental house near East Glacier for 4 nights.

7/7(Mon) - East Entrance

7/8(Tue) - East Entrance

7/9(Wed) – Canada

7/10(Thu) - Leaving East Glacier rental house. Drive South to Two Medicine Valley / Lake. Stay at Whitefish.

7/11(Fri) – Tour around Whitefish. Return rental car. Leaving from Kalispell.

Below is an itinerary from <http://www.nathab.com/us-national-parks-tours/glacier-national-park-tour/itinerary/> going reverse:

Day 1: Kalispell, Montana

Arrive in Kalispell and transfer to our hotel in nearby **Whitefish**, where our Glacier National Park tour begins with a welcome dinner this evening.

Days 2 & 3: Glacier National Park — **Two Medicine Valley**

This morning we drive east to Glacier National Park, commencing our retreat into one of the United States' most treasured natural landscapes, where glacially carved valleys and dramatic mountain peaks beckon. Glacier boasts the most intact natural ecosystem left in the lower 48 states, and we'll have abundant opportunity to view many of the species that call it home, including the mountain goat, the park's emblematic animal. We learn about the Lewis Overthrust fault and the region's tumultuous geological history – studied by scientists from around the world. **A boat cruise across Two Medicine Lake** reveals the grandeur that is Glacier as we glide across its sapphire waters. Later, we hike through winding Two Medicine Valley, bright with multicolored rock layers on the mountain walls and once a site for sacred Native American rituals.

Our accommodations are at remarkable Glacier Park Lodge & Resort. Built by the Great Northern Railway in 1913 to attract visitors to the park's wonders, the hotel lobby features log pillars over 40 feet high and 40 inches in diameter, crafted from Douglas fir trees hundreds of years old. The Blackfoot Indians, awed by the size of the timbers, called it "Omahkoyis," or Big Tree Lodge.

Days 4 & 5: **Many Glacier Valley**

At Many Glacier, we enter one of the park's iconic valleys. Scoured into a broad U-shape by rivers of ice that retreated some 10,000 years ago, Many Glacier features granite crags, waterfalls glissading from icy ledges high above and alpine lakes set like gems in the rocky backdrop. We readily see why the Blackfeet gave the name "Backbone of the World" to the greater Glacier Park ecosystem. Keep an eye out for black bears and grizzlies feeding among the bushes in avalanche chutes, mountain goats and bighorn sheep perched on cliffs, and elk grazing in the meadows. Our hotel, built in 1915, is a grand Swiss-style chalet meant to complement its setting in the "American Alps," in the vision of the rail barons who constructed it. It sits regally on the edge of Swiftcurrent Lake, overlooking a panorama of crenellated peaks. Walks, hikes and boat rides take us right into the natural environs and close to an active glacier, an experience that future visitors may be less likely to have as global climate change hastens the melting of the park's permanent ice features.

Day 6: Going-to-the-Sun Road / **Lake McDonald**

An engineering marvel completed in 1932, Going-to-the-Sun Road twists and climbs around Glacier's granite spine all the way to the Continental Divide. Waterfall spray creates rainbows as streams pour off rock precipices, while serrated peaks poke the blue sky. On the summit at Logan Pass, we wander trails through alpine tundra thick with white bear grass and avalanche lilies, listening for the whistle of marmots darting among the rocks. Cresting the divide, we descend to the wetter west side of the park, where thick forests of fir and cedar hug the mountain flanks, and fern and mosses grow in their shadows. At Lake McDonald Lodge, another historic hostelry evocative of Swiss alpine architecture, there's time to relax in front of the soaring stone fireplace and muse on the week's wonders.

Day 7: Kalispell / Home

To Kalispell for flights home.

A list of easy trails:

Trail Name	General Location	Trail Features	RT Miles	Elevation Gain	Difficulty Rating
<u>Running Eagle Falls</u>	Two Medicine	Waterfalls	0.6	15	0.63
<u>Baring Falls</u>	St. Mary Lake	Waterfalls	0.8	160	1.12
<u>Trail of the Cedars</u>	Lake McDonald	Forest Hike, Waterfalls	1.0	60	1.12
<u>Forest and Fire Nature Trail</u>	Lake McDonald	Scenic Views, Wildflowers	1.1	180	1.46
<u>Appistoki Falls</u>	Two Medicine	Waterfalls	1.3	175	1.65
<u>Paradise Point</u>	Two Medicine	Scenic Lake Views	1.4	220	1.84
<u>St. Mary Falls</u>	St. Mary Lake	Waterfalls	1.7	215	2.13
<u>Johns Lake Loop</u>	Lake McDonald	Waterfalls, Lake Views	1.8	225	2.25
<u>Twin Falls</u>	Two Medicine	Waterfalls	2.3	115	2.53
<u>Rocky Point Nature Trail</u>	Lake McDonald	Lake, Scenic Views	1.9	350	2.60
<u>Swiftcurrent Lake Nature Trail</u>	Many Glacier	Scenic and Lake Views, Forest	2.9	25	2.95
<u>Apikuni Falls</u>	Many Glacier	Waterfalls	1.7	625	2.95
<u>Hidden Falls</u>	Many Glacier	Waterfalls, Forest Hike	2.5	250	3.00
<u>Aster Falls</u>	Two Medicine	Waterfalls	2.8	320	3.44
<u>Grinnell Lake</u>	Many Glacier	Lake, Scenic Views	3.0	220	3.44
<u>Deadwood Falls</u>	Logan Pass	Waterfalls, Forest Hike	2.3	665	3.63
<u>Hidden Lake Overlook</u>	Logan Pass	Outstanding Views, Alpine Meadows, Wildflowers	2.7	540	3.78

<http://www.hikinginlacier.com/hiking-glacier-national-park.htm>

Two Medicine

http://www.tripadvisor.com/ShowTopic-g143026-i1168-k6383806-Lodging_for_July_2014-Glacier_National_Park_Montana.html

Stop at Running Eagle Falls (very easy trail) - it's only about a two-tenths mile easy walk to the falls. It's actually two waterfalls - one on top of the other.

hikingglacier.com/running-eagle-falls.htm

If you do decide to spend the night in Glacier Park Lodge, there two must-do hikes out of Two Medicine, Dawson Pass (or awesome pass!) and Scenic Point. Both are offered in the ranger led series.

And, if you like Mexican food, in [East Glacier Park](#) is an incredible Mexican restaurant - Serrano's. It's only open for dinner and there's always a line waiting for the doors to open, but well worth it.

~~Tsiu: it probably no place to stay near Two Medicine. We may have to either drive from East Entrance or from West Entrance.~~

Map of Glacier Park Lodging:

http://www.glacierparkinc.com/images/userfiles/files/Map_Transportation.jpg

Availability as of 1/12/2014:

Location

Room Type

May 2014							June 2014							July 2014						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				1	2	3										1	2	3	4	5
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	27	28	29	30	31		
							29	30												

Availability: Significant Limited None

<https://reserve.glacierparkinc.com/Trip-Planner/Lodging?AspxAutoDetectCookieSupport=1>

Location

Room Type

May 2014							June 2014							July 2014						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				1	2	3										1	2	3	4	5
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	27	28	29	30	31		
							29	30												

Availability: Significant Limited None

Many Info : <http://home.nps.gov/applications/glac/inforequest/inforequest3.cfm>

2013 Ranger-led Activity Schedules

2014 Schedules will be similar but not exactly the same

[July 2013 Ranger-led Activity Schedule](http://www.nps.gov/glac/planyourvisit/upload/July-Issue-RLA-Web.pdf) (ie, <http://www.nps.gov/glac/planyourvisit/upload/July-Issue-RLA-Web.pdf>)

<http://www.homeaway.co.uk/p392359vb> (from google: duck lake glacier grocery)

Photos and Description of this 3 bedroom holiday home in Babb - The Duck Lake Cabin

House, 3 Bedrooms, 2.5 Baths, (Sleeps 8)

The Duck Lake Cabin was built over a few years starting in 2006 using the latest in building techniques with the intent of having a warm, comfortable place in all kinds of weather. My wife and I have fished, hiked and biked all around the area for over 25 years and have come to love the area and all the amazing things to do here. We started out buying a small cabin in the 80s and found out that we needed to build something bigger since a lot of friends were showing up. The Duck Lake Cabin has two bedrooms both equipped with Queen -size beds and a full bath upstairs. The modern gas fireplace casts a warmth around the upstairs. The living room is an open floor plan with a giant dining table adjoining the fully operational kitchen. Downstairs has a gas fireplace also with two full beds, large shower, sauna-steam room washer-dryer and garage.

Notes

- \$300 nightly 4 night min. \$2000 weekly
- US Dollars
- Peak Season May 1 to Oct 1
- Nightly \$300 (4 night minimum) 7 nights \$2000 Off season - weekly \$1450 nightly \$225
- Sleeps 2-8
- \$150 Cleaning Fee- 7% Bed Tax- 50% deposit to hold reservation
- \$49 Non refundable Damage insurance
- Please check availability calendar
- 30 day cancellation policy-total refund within 30 days of rental period
- Balance due 30 days prior to rental

- Date of Stay: Aug 2013

Just stayed in August with my family of four. Loved the house and the incredible views. We used the house as a jumping off point for exploring Glacier National Park. We flew into Great Falls, bought a large cooler, packed it with meat and veggies at the local super Walmart. While there are a couple of nice places to eat on the east side, it was definitely worth the trouble to buy and prepare our own food (for most meals). There is an IGA in Browning but we opted for the Walmart route. The kitchen is well stocked and we enjoyed eating and watching the sun go down over Many Glacier. Cheryl and Lew are super accommodating. The house is well appointed. What more can you ask for?

Recommended for: Adventure Seekers, Sightseeing, Families with Teenagers

Owner's Response: Paul, so glad you and your family had a great time. It really is a great place to stage out of for the east side Glacier Park Experience. There is a nice new grocery store in Browning that you can stock up for the trip next time! I hope you got to use our outdoor shower with the view of Chief Mountain. Thanks, Cheryl

Kalispell Walmart Store #2259 in Kalispell, Montana

170 Hutton Ranch Rd Kalispell, Montana 59901 (10 min. from Airport)

Phone: (406) 257-7535

Mon-Sun: 10am-10pm

McDonald's / Pharmacy / Medical Clinics / Vision Center / Grocery

<http://www.mystore411.com/store/view/3739/Walmart-Kalispell>

Rental car

Dollar Rent-a-Car has pick-up and drop-off at all the major train stations, and the Kalispell airport. There's no one-way fee, if for example, you arrive by train and leave by plane. All of the Dollar Rent-a-Car locations around Kalispell, Whitefish, and Glacier Park are run by the same franchise. Some aren't fully staffed and have a key drop. If you demand full-service, Avis has several staffed locations, but it's more expensive. **Always check before taking rental cars into Canada, but most companies will allow.** Also, inquire in advance if you plan on driving on unpaved roads and what the company's towing policy is. Unlimited mileage is almost a must in a big state like Montana, so check online first. In a pinch, there are also car rental facilities in the town of Cut Bank (see *Get out* section below).

If you wish to travel one way between Montana and Canada most car companies will not rent you a car. Round trip yes, but not one way.

...

Airport Shuttle Express [8] of Calgary Canada does provide a one way charter van service between Banff/Calgary and Great Falls, Shelby, Browning, East Glacier, Essex, West Glacier and Whitefish.

[http://wikitravel.org/en/Glacier National Park](http://wikitravel.org/en/Glacier_National_Park)

Day Trips: (in the early summer, the sun doesn't set until after 9:30 pm)

- **Blackfeet Nation Indian Reservation** - The reservation is home to the Blackfeet Nation and borders Glacier National Park to the west. Its northern border is shared by Canadian province **Alberta**. The seat of government is Browning. [30]
- **Waterton Lakes National Park** (406)888-7800[31] Bring US/Canadian pasport, passport card or enhanced driver's license.
- **Whitefish** - Whitefish is a small city of 5,000 west of Glacier National Park about 27 miles southwest of West Glacier. To get there from the park, take US Hwy 2 south from West Glacier to MT-40. This will take you to US-93, which leads into Whitefish. The city draws tourists during the winter for its ski resorts, including Big Mountain Ski Area. During the summer, you can golf on five courses or catch a performance by the Alpine Theater Project (a professional Equity summer theater group)[32] .
- **Kalispell** - In case of rain (which happens frequently), Kalispell is a nice small city of about 20,000 (Metro 80,000) located 32 miles west of West Glacier on US Hwy 2. It has an indoor mall in the center of the city three blocks south of the US Hwy 2 (Idaho St.)/US Hwy 93 (Main St.) junction with a **J.C. Penny**, Montana's Herberger Department Store, plus many smaller stores. Also, there's a new shopping complex on both sides of US Hwy 93 North just before W. Reserve Dr. (2.5 to 3 miles north of the center). A **COSTCO** store (members only) with a gas station is located here, as well as a **Target** store on the other side. For getting back to Glacier Park on Hwy 2 East, turn right just after the **Home Depot** onto W. Reserve Dr. and go 2.5 miles to connect with US Hwy 2 called "La Salle Dr." (turn left toward Wendy's). Likewise, coming from Glacier turn right on to Reserve Dr. just after **Wendy's** Restaurant (about 5 mile south of the airport), go 2.5 miles, then left on US Hwy 93 at the Home Depot. Separately, **Wal-Mart** is on US Hwy 2 (Idaho St.) [tsiu: cannot locate.] about 1.5 miles east of the center, while **K-Mart** is a just little further in the NW corner of the block where US Hwy 2 turns left to the north and becomes "La Salle Dr." All shopping in Montana is **Tax Free**.

http://wikitravel.org/en/Glacier_National_Park





http://www.siung.net/bird/tmp2/2014/Glacier2014/Kalispell_store02.jpg

B: 170 Hutton Ranch Rd Kalispell, Montana 59901. Kalispell Walmart.