

9.25 @ 400% = 37"

Whistler is BEAR Country

6.25 @ 400% = 25"



Where are all the bears?

Look up! Black bears climb trees for safety. Cubs are left up there for hours while the mother forages for food, often wandering off for some distance. Trees are a source of food, as well. Bears enjoy newly sprouting leaves and cottonwood catkins. You can spot heavily used trees by the scratch marks on the bark.

Bears deserve RESPECT in their home

It's not unusual to see a bear in Whistler – in fact, they are an integral part of Whistler Valley life. As a community, we are committed to peaceful coexistence with bears. We understand that it's normal for bears to wander through the valley because it has been built in the midst of prime Black bear habitat. We also understand that in order to prevent human-bear conflicts, it is essential that bears not have access to human food and garbage. Please help us to protect people and keep bears wild by picking up after yourself. Bear-proof garbage containers are provided in Whistler's public areas for your convenience.

For your safety, please:

- Be alert and bear aware!
- Do not approach or crowd bears. Keep a safe distance (100 metres / 325 ft).
- Do NOT feed bears. It is against the law!

If you encounter a bear:

- Remain calm.
- Stand your ground.
- Speak in a non-threatening tone.
- Slowly back away.



How close is TOO CLOSE to a bear?

Bears defend their own "personal space". Just like us, that space varies from one bear to another, and with the situation and circumstances. It may be a few metres for one bear and a few hundred metres for another. Once you have entered a bear's personal space, you have forced the bear to act – to either run away or defend its space.



Although bears are classed as carnivores, most of their diet consists of plants like these. They forage constantly during the spring, summer, and fall to gain the weight they need to survive winter hibernation.

For more information, pick up our BEAR SMART Whistler Visitor's Guide at your hotel or the Visitor Info Centre.

Call 604-905-BEAR (2327) to report any human-bear conflicts.

getbearsmart.com

