

ROCKIES AND RANCLANDS

CALGARY – WATERTON – FERNIE – INVERMERE – RADIUM HOT SPRINGS

APPROX. 1,025 KM/631 MI



ROCKIES AND
RANCLANDS
CIRCLE ROUTE



HIGHLIGHTS:

- Waterton-Glacier National Park
- Open Pit Mine Tours in Elkford & Sparwood
- Mountain Biking in Fernie
- Fort Steele Heritage Town
- Fairmont, Lussier & Radium Hot Springs
- Kootenay & Banff National Parks

This tour reveals the character of both sides of the famous Canadian Rockies. Tour the cowboy country of the Alberta foothills and experience the subtle beauty of the great Canadian prairies. Cross the Great Divide and you are in a different world ... forests, towering peaks and glaciers.

Starting in Calgary, head south on Highway #22 which is known as the Cowboy Trail and is the path for western vacations and adventures as you travel through the high ranching country of the Albertan prairie.

En route to Fort Macleod (west on Highway #785) is a fascinating Native heritage site, Head-Smashed-in-Buffalo-Jump. This UNESCO World Heritage Site is one of the oldest, largest and best-preserved buffalo jumps

across the Western Plains. Then continue south to Cardston where the Remington Carriage Museum is located—North America's largest museum of horse-drawn transportation. From Cardston, it's a short 45-minute drive to Waterton Lakes National Park. This beautiful park is a nature enthusiasts' and photographer's paradise. There's a variety of activities to enjoy such as the Waterton Shoreline Cruise, Red Rock Canyon and Cameron Falls.

Highway #6 north from Waterton Lakes takes you to Pincher Creek and Crowsnest Pass. As you enter the province of British Columbia and Sparwood, it's impossible to miss the town's most famous visitor attraction. Painted in industrial green is the world's largest tandem axle dump truck, the Terex Titan. This, the ultimate in monster

trucks, was formerly used in the large open pit mine above the town. Tours of this active mine are available throughout the summer.

A quick side trip north on Highway #43 will take you to Elkford which is 'Wild at heart'. This area has one of the largest bighorn sheep populations on the continent and is also home to Teck Coal—offering free tours of the open pit mine operations on Saturdays during the summer. Close to town, enjoy the easy 45-minute hike to a lookout above Josephine Falls or a round of golf. For the more adventurous, travel further north to the Elk Lakes Provincial Park.

Fernie has a beautiful mountainous setting and Victorian architecture. Pick up a Heritage Walking Tour brochure at the Visitor Centre and take a stroll around town. Fernie is also famous for its world-class fly-fishing, mountain biking and hiking in the stunning Lizard Range. Take a side trip from the highway village of Elkoto Lake Koocanusa where sandy beaches are the hallmark of this large lake and houseboating is very popular. Along route to Fort Steele, the Bull River turnoff will lead you to the Kootenay Trout Hatchery. Take a self-guided tour of the extensive interpretive area, view trophy sized trout in the moat and watch turtles, fish and water insects in the pond. Fort Steele Heritage Town is a restored boomtown of the 1890s, where colourful characters from the past entertain visitors on the street and period tradesman present fascinating demonstrations in their shops. Tour the town by horse drawn wagon, catch a ride on the steam train, do a little gold panning and enjoy hilarious comedy shows at the Wild Horse Theatre. Spring and fall 'Gossip Tours' are also a hit, as are their many year-round special events.

Continue your travels north toward Radium Hot Springs—Highway #93/#95 will lead you by Wasa Lake where sandy beaches and warm water awaits you. You also have the option of visiting the Lussier Hot Springs in Whiteswan Lake Provincial Park and Fairmont Hot Springs.

Another perfect place to stop along the way is Invermere—browse the quaint downtown, play a round of golf, enjoy lunch by the lake and take in a concert or theatrical performance at the Pynelogs Cultural Centre. And, Panorama Mountain Village offers the ultimate in outdoor recreation, from guided nature walks to ATV tours, along with a complete selection of accommodation properties, just a short distance from Invermere.

Once you're back on Highway #93/#95, the village of Radium Hot Springs Visitor Centre offers a 'Cultures in Contact Exhibit'. It provides a historical overview of the Ktunaxa Nation people's past, present and future.

Take Highway #93 and head into Kootenay National Park and to the Radium Hot Springs pools. Watch for wildlife—bighorn sheep, deer, elk, fox and bears are often seen along this beautiful mountain highway. Stop at several roadside points of interest to learn more about the area. Once you leave the park, Connect onto Highway #1 east towards Banff and eventually back to Calgary again.



Get the free Tag Reader app at gettag.mobi

Kootenay
Rockies
REGION



KOOTENAY ROCKIES TOURISM

1905 Warren Avenue
Kimberley BC, V1A 1S2 CANADA
Ph: 250-427-4838
Email: Info@KootenayRockies.com

www.KRTourism.ca
www.KootenayRockies.com
www.KootenayRockies.mobi
www.PowderHighway.com

www.Twitter.com/KootRock
www.Twitter.com/PowderHighway

www.Facebook.com/KootRock
www.Facebook.com/PowderHighway