



International Selkirk Loop



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This Circle Tour features the Kootenay Rockies
& northern Washington and Idaho

From **Spokane**, begin heading north on Hwy #2 which connects with Hwy #20 at **Newport**, to **Metaline Falls**. This section of highway passes through several communities, including **Usk**, **Cusick**, **Tiger** and **Ione**.

The town of Metaline Falls is known as one of America's 'Top 100 Best Small Arts Towns'. It is also home to the *Cutter Theatre*, a 1912 restored schoolhouse. Popular area attractions include the *Mill Pond Historic Trail* and *Gardner Caves*.

From Metaline Falls, head north on Hwy #31 to the U.S./Canadian border at **Nelway** and along Hwy #6 to the communities of **Salmo** and **Ymir** (pronounced *Why-Mur*); then on to **Nelson**.

Nelson's brick and stone downtown core is the centrepiece of a small city that boasts over 350 heritage buildings. The city's two self-guided tour brochures can be extremely helpful, but be warned: there are many distractions including sidewalk cafes and specialty shops.

Your drive on Hwy #3A along *West Arm Provincial Park* leads you to

the **Balfour** ferry landing. You'll love the 45 minute scenic free ferry ride across beautiful Kootenay Lake. Just a short drive from the ferry terminal is **Crawford Bay**, home to many unique artisan shops and galleries.

Follow scenic Hwy #3A south along Kootenay Lake to **Creston**. Along the way, take some time to tour the *Glass House* in **Boswell**. This house is created out of over 500,000 square embalming fluid bottles.

Upon your arrival to **Creston**, watch for signs to the *Creston Wildlife Management Area*. Lush wetland habitat stretches 17,000 acres from the southeast tip of Kootenay Lake to the USA. An estimated 265 species of birds call this area home.

It's a very short drive from Creston to border at Rykerts and you'll be back in the United States again. Follow Hwy #1 until it reaches Hwy #95 and then head south to **Bonnars Ferry, Idaho**.

Continue south on Hwy #95 to the city of **Sandpoint** situated on Lake Pend Oreille. Water sports enthusiasts of all types explore this vast

aquatic playground. In the winter, *Schweitzer Mountain Resort* offers world-class skiing. Cultural activities are also plentiful; the restored, historic spanish-styled *Panida Theatre* is a vibrant centre for the performing arts.

From Sandpoint take Hwy #2 west to **Priest River**. The *Keyser House Museum & Info Centre* displays historical artifacts from the logging industry, as well as earlier pioneer family furnishings. A short drive north on Hwy #57 is the resort community of **Priest Lake** - spend a couple days stretched out on a white sand beach and swimming in crystalline water.

Once you're back on Hwy #2, continue west to **Newport** Washington. This city's heritage is rich in timber, mineral and agriculture which visitors can relive by visiting original structures, such as the 1908 *Northern Railway Depot*. From Newport and Hwy #2, you may head south towards Spokane.

Number of Days *5 Days/4 Nights*

Tour Distance *860 km/515 mi*

Day 1: Spokane, WA to Metaline Falls, WA *2 1/2 Hour Drive*

Day 2: Metaline Falls, WA to Nelson, BC *2 Hour Drive*

Day 3: Nelson, BC to Creston, BC *2 1/2 Hour Drive*

Day 4: Creston, BC to Sandpoint, ID *1 1/2 Hour Drive*

Day 5: Sandpoint, ID to Spokane, WA *3 1/2 Hour Drive*

Special Interest

Ainsworth/Kaslo— Ainsworth Hot Springs, SS Moyie, Cody Caves

Bonners Ferry— Kootenai National Wildlife Refuge

Creston— Creston Valley Wildlife Centre, Columbia Brewery, Fruit/Produce Stands

East Shore— Local Artisans, Boswell's Glass House, Sirdar's General Store

Metaline Falls—Cutter Theatre, Gardner Caves, Mill Pond Trail

Nelson— Heritage Walking Tours, Capital Theatre, Waterfront Park & Beach

Newport— Northern Railway Depot, Historical Museum

Priest Lake— Resort and Lakeside community

Priest River—Keyser House & Museum

Sandpoint—Panida Theatre, Pend Oreille Lake & Waterfront, Big Mountain

Tiger—Historical Centre & Museum

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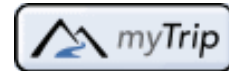
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**Itinerary Planning:
KootenayRockies.com/
itineraries**



The **myTrip** tool from the website, KootenayRockies.com, creates a travel vacation package for you by customizing your preferred activities and services in the Kootenay Rockies region.

This unique and scenic tour wanders through two countries, the U.S. and Canada, and connects the Pend Oreille Valley with the Kootenay Rockies. The route enables visitors to explore the majestic Selkirk Mountains; home to a wide variety of wildlife and outdoor adventure activities. The international airport gateway is Spokane Washington and the regional airport gateways are Castlegar and Cranbrook in Canada.



Artisans Abound



Lake Pend Oreille

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