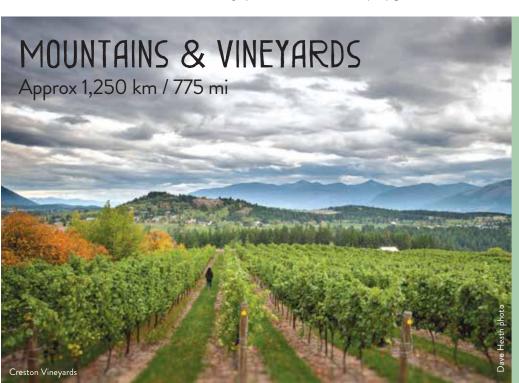
KOOTENAY ROCKIES CIRCLE ROUTES

The Driving Itineraries featured below highlight many of the area's attractions and activities but there is so much more to discover! Incomparable scenic beauty is waiting to be explored around every corner - crystal clear rivers, lakes, waterfalls, beaches, mineral hot springs, alpine meadows and snow-capped mountains. Outdoor pursuits here are epic - the area is one of Canada's preeminent destinations for hiking and mountain biking, as well as for whitewater rafting. There are also opportunities to visit restored heritage towns, thriving arts communities and gold rush boomtowns. Enjoy all this mountain playground has to offer.



teeming with diversity. Lakes, mountains, deserts, valleys and exciting urban centres are ripe for exploration. For its length and limitless opportunities, the Mountains & Vineyards route reigns supreme. Discover pristine orchards, beautiful vineyards that hug the rolling hills and family-run farms. Taste the bounty of this fertile land. In the warm evening glow, settle into a mountain resort where wine tastings and locallyinspired food will win your heart.

The interior of British Columbia

is christened with rich landscapes

Begin this tour in Creston where three wonderful wineries are located: Baillie-Brohman, Skimmerhorn and Wynnwood Cellars.

The Creston Valley is a retreat for outdoor adventurers, foodies, creative souls and lovers of the land. Enjoy a tour, pick your own fruit, taste cheese, meet the cows, browse the art studios, view the murals, sample at the wineries and brewery.

Travel west from Creston to Trail via Salmo and Hwy #3 (124 km / 77 mi). · Salmo offers a quaint downtown, museum and rock murals.

Trail, established in the 1890s, is set alongside the Columbia River. Stroll downtown Trail's 'IncrEdible' Trail and help yourself to fruits and vegetables growing in sidewalk planters.

• The Columbia Gardens Vineyard & Winery is a small winery producing

VQA quality wines that offers a quaint guest house for overnight stays. The free tour of the Teck Trail Interpretive Centre is a must-do. Trail to Castlegar is 26 km / 16 mi via Highway #22.

Trail to Rossland is 7 km / 4 mi via Highway #3B. Castlegar is the centre of adventure; the home to an impressive network of trails, where hikers and cyclists enjoy the natural setting of the city and its vicinity. World-class fishing, kayaking and golfing are also popular.

• Enjoy the Millennium Walkway & Ponds, Doukhobor Discovery Centre, Zuckerberg Island Heritage Park, Station Museum, Sculpturewalk & more.

Rossland, perched high in the Monashee Mountains, was the site of one of Canada's richest 19th century gold strikes. • During the summer, the Gold Fever Follies present a live musical theatre show and a downtown Mountain Market takes place Thursday evenings. · Rossland is also well known for its Seven Summits Trail, one of the most

sought after cross-country / all-mountain bike rides in North America. Rossland to Christina Lake is 75 km / 47 mi via Highway #3. Christina Lake is a summer family vacation destination. It offers a warm

swimming lake, sandy beaches and mountain biking on the C&W Rail Trail. **Highway #3 from Christina Lake to Osoyoos** is 144 km / 89 mi via Grand Forks. Located at the confluence of the Granby and Kettle Rivers, Grand Forks is proud of its mining and Doukhobor heritage. Osoyoos is Canada's only true desert town, offering a plethora of First

Nations culture, winery experiences and family recreation.

Travel north on Highway #97 to Kelowna (123 km / 77 mi) via Penticton. · Osoyoos to Kelowna is known as the 'wine route' and is BC's most productive area for vineyards and orchards. Be sure to stop along the way for a wine tour and fruit sampling. Penticton offers miles of beautiful beaches, wineries and orchard markets. The beautiful lake-front city of Kelowna plays host to numerous outdoo activities as well as events, entertainment and the arts.

Take Highway #97/97A north to Sicamous (127 km / 79 mi) via Vernon. • The landscape surrounding Vernon is picturesque; see the O'Keefe Historical Ranch that highlights the beginning of ranching in the area. · Armstrong is known for cheese, farmlands, produce and Farmers Markets • The town of Sicamous and the Shuswap Lake area are known as the Houseboating Capital of Canada. With over 1,000 kms of shoreline, Shuswap and Mara lakes (and vicinity) are perfect for boating, swimming, camping, fishing, hiking and biking.

TransCanada Highway #1 goes from Sicamous to Revelstoke (74 km / 46 mi). Historic Craigellachie is famous as the point where the last spike was driven, joining the western part of the Canadian Pacific Railway to the segment built from the east. Attractions along the way include Crazy Creek Waterfalls & Suspension Bridge, Enchanted Forest, Skytrek Adventure Park, Three Valley Gap

Heritage Town – all are excellent stops. Revelstoke, the gateway to Mount Revelstoke National Park situated below the Selkirk and Monashee summits, is a hot spot for backcountry adventure. The historic downtown offers Grizzly Plaza; the Revelstoke Mountain Resort offers gondola sightseeing and a mountain coaster.

Revelstoke to Golden is 148 km / 92 mi east on Highway #1.

• Drive the scenic 26 km (16 mi) Meadows in the Sky Parkway that switchbacks up the side of Mount Revelstoke. This is the only place in the national park system that you can 'summit a mountain' in a vehicle. Glacier National Park is known for 'firsts'. It was BC's first national park - here two British mountaineers introduced mountain climbing for recreational purposes in 1888. Enjoy the exceptional alpine scenery.

The mountain town of Golden is renowned for outdoor recreation and offers just about everything a traveller could want. • Set in the Purcell Mountains, Bugaboo Provincial Park draws climbers from around the world to its airy, glacier-sculpted granite spires. Radium Hot Springs and Invermere have an extensive range of visitor services. And, hundreds of kilometres of world-class trails: Old Coach, Johnson & Kloosifier near Lake Lillian, Mount Swansea & Nipika Trails. Kimberley and Cranbrook both offer world-class mountain golf and an interesting history. The Kimberley Underground Mining Railway highlights the history of the Sullivan Mine. The Cranbrook History Centre showcases the largest collection of luxury travel cars in North America, including the restored Soo-Spokane Train and TransCanada Limited.

Cranbrook to Creston is 106 km / 66 mi. Along the way, Moyie Lake Provincial Park offers a day-use area, camping, boat launch and sandy beach.



Wedged into the rocky and remote creases of these stunning mountains are untamed natural hot springs that will soothe, inspire and rejuvenate. Drive along quiet, tree-lined lakeshores where rustic resorts, historic silverush towns, natural caves and backcountry trails will leave a lasting impression. Venture into this unknown wilderness on bike, on foot, in a kayak - then at some of the most enticing natural hot springs pools in

• Climb aboard the vintage Kettle Valley Steam Railway in Summerland. GOLDEN TRIANGLE Approx 315 km / 195 mi

Travel Highway #1 through Yoho National Park and the village of Field to Golden (78 km / 48 mi). Yoho National Park is a landscape which is simply awe-inspiring. Indeed,

the word 'Yoho' is a Cree expression of awe and wonder. Spiral Tunnels is an engineering marvel that reduces the railway grade through the Kicking Horse Pass. Up to 30 trains pass through the tunnels daily. The viewpoint is 7.5 km east of Field. Established in 1880, the village of Field is a lovely town with fewer than 200 residents that offers accommodation, crafts and culinary delights. Other attractions in Yoho National Park include Takakkaw Falls, Natural Bridge, Emerald Lake, Wapta Falls & Burgess Shale fossil beds guided hikes.

Yoho Park western boundary to Golden is 27 km / 17 mi. The town of Golden is renowned for outdoor recreation. Situated at the confluence of the historic Columbia and Kicking Horse rivers, it is Activities include kayaking, whitewater rafting, sky diving, paragliding and golfing. There is a bike park, sightseeing gondola, Grizzly Bear Refuge and the Via Ferrata.

Enjoy Golden's many festivals, events and farmers markets. Golden's Kicking Horse Pedestrian Bridge is Canada's longest authentic freestanding covered timber-frame bridge.

Highway #95 takes you from Golden to Radium Hot Springs (106 km / 66 mi).

• The Columbia Valley Wetlands, alongside the Columbia River and Hwy #95, is the life support system for 216 animal species including hundreds of thousands of birds, fish, reptiles, amphibians and mammals. • Watch for the World's Largest Paddle in Parson, south of Golden.

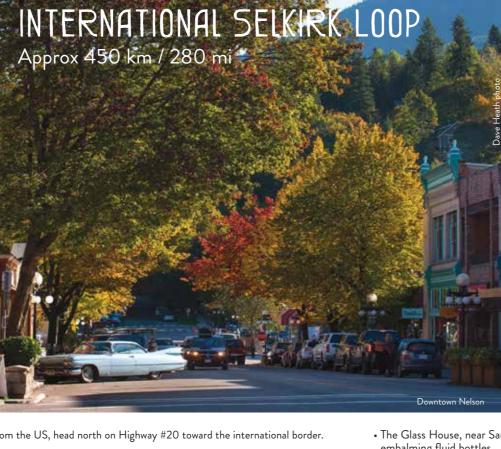
Village of Radium Hot Springs services include adventure operators, restaurants, shops and lodging from campgrounds to full-service resorts. Adjacent are Kootenay National Park and the Radium Hot Springs pools.

Highway #93 northeast from Radium Hot Springs travels through Kootenay National Park (105 km / 65 mi). Set in the Rocky Mountains, Kootenay National Park offers many viewpoints, roadside attractions and guided hikes. Sinclair Canyon is one of the most impressive gateways to a national park

offering views and trails on both sides of the highway.

• At Radium Hot Springs pools (3 km from the village), soak in the naturally heated, mineral rich water. Kootenay Valley roadside viewpoint offers views of the Mitchell and Vermilion mountain ranges, and the Kootenay River. • Enjoy a self-guided interpretive walk at the Paint Pots, Marble Canyon or

Continental Divide, or a Burgess Shale fossil bed guided hike at Stanley Glacier.



that cling to their old world charm. Hidden waterfalls. Adventures on horseback, mountain bikes, whitewater rafts. The International Selkin

From the US, head north on Highway #20 toward the international border.

Newport to the Canada/US border is 117 km / 73 mi. \bullet The town of Tiger is located at the Highway junctions #20/31 and is the gateway to the North Pend Oreille Scenic Byway. The Tiger Historical Centre & Museum began as a 1912 general store. It offers historical displays, local art and a working turn-of-the-century forge.

From Tiger, head north on Highway #31. • Metaline Falls is known as one of America's Top 100 Best Small Arts Towns. It is home to the Cutter Theatre, a 1912 restored schoolhouse. • Other Metaline attractions include the Mill Pond Historic Trail and tours

Nelway to Nelson is 55 km / 34 mi on Highway #6. • Salmo has a fascinating gold rush and logging history that is celebrated in the town's famous stone murals and historic mining museum. • Ymir is a tiny authentic mountain community with a store, bakery, two hotels and the beautiful Logden Lodge.

Nelson boasts a vivid past of Victorian architecture, cultural histories and a vibrant art scene. These qualities are complemented by world-class outdoor adventure plus great dining, shopping & lodging options. · Ride the Streetcar #23 tramway at Lakeside Park & Prestige Resort. • Wonderful farmers markets take place in summer every Wed and Sat. · Nelson-Salmo Great Northern Trail is a gentle rail bed that allows biking.

Nelson to Balfour is 34 km / 21 mi on Highway #3A. • West Arm Provincial Park is largely undeveloped and popular for activities such as fishing, hiking and swimming.

Kokanee Creek Provincial Park offers camping and hiking. On the road to Kokanee Glacier Park is where a zipline attraction is located. · Balfour has many visitor amenities and is the location of the Kootenav Lake Ferry. Take the world's longest free ferry ride from Balfour to the

Continue on Highway #3A south to Creston, alongside the east shore of Kootenav Lake (78 km / 48 mi) • Crawford Bay is home to many unique artisan shops and galleries.

• The Glass House, near Sanca, was created from over 500,000 embalming fluid bottles Upon your arrival at Creston, watch for signs to the Creston Valley

Wildlife Centre. Take a voyageur canoe tour or stroll along the wetland

Creston to Rykerts on Highway #21 south is 13 km / 8 mi. Porthill to Bonners Ferry is 44 km / 27 mi.

on a boardwalk to a multi-level viewing tower.

Bonners Ferry to Sandpoint on Highway #95 is 52 km / 32 mi. Bonners Ferry is popular for its year-round outdoor recreation and • The Kootenai National Wildlife Refuge hosts birds, mammals and fish,

and offers a 6 km / 4 mi auto tour route. Sandpoint has a lovely setting on Lake Pend Oreille. Watersport enthusiasts explore this vast playground. • Lake Pend Oreille Cruises offer tours from City Beach.

· Schweitzer Mountain Resort offers year-round activities. Biking and • The restored, historic Spanish-style Panida Theatre is a vibrant centre for performing arts.

Sandpoint back to Newport on Highway #2 is 45 km / 28 mi. • Priest River offers a museum and Timber Education Centre which displays historical artifacts from the logging industry as well as early

ioneer family furnishings. Take a side trip north on Highway #57 to the resort communities of Priest Lake to spend a day at the beach. The Priest Lake area is also known for their premier huckleberry and mushroom season – many of the restaurants offer delectable dishes. · Once back on Highway #2, continue west to Newport, a town with a

heritage rich in timber, mineral and agriculture. • Visit original structures such as the Northern Railway Depot (1908) that houses the Pend Oreille Country Historical Museum.

This completes the Selkirk Loop. Pick up a free Selkirk Loop Travel Guide at any of the visitor centres around The Loop or visit SelkirkLoop.org for information on 6 Super Side Trips.



relax in warm, mineral rich water

The Kootenay Rockies is home to numerous hot springs ranging from Canyon Hot Springs to Revelstoke is 32 km / 20 mi. wonderful resorts to wilderness backcountry pools. Visit them all and enjoy the communities along the way.

Cranbrook and Kimberley offer an array of activities, attractions and wonderful overnighting options. Cranbrook is the business centre for the area while nearby Kimberley also offers great services as well as one of Canada's largest municipal parks. • The Cranbrook History Centre is all about trains and houses the

Canadian Museum of Rail Travel, Cranbrook Archives, Royal Alexandra Hall and the Cranbrook Museum The Kimberley Underground Mining Railway offers a ride through the Mark Creek Valley. Enjoy the theatre, mining school house & powerhouse. • Great biking, walking and hiking trails include Cranbrook's Community Forest, Kimberley's Nature Park and the Rails to Trails. • St Eugene Golf Resort & Casino is located between the cities.

Head north on Highway #93/95. En route are three great hot springs: Lussier, Fairmont Hot Springs and Radium Hot Springs.

Cranbrook to Radium Hot Springs is 157 km / 98 mi. Near Canal Flats, take the Whiteswan Lake Provincial Park turnoff to Lussier Hot Springs*. It's an 18 km/11 mi drive on a gravel road. These popular wilderness hot springs are easily accessed down a gradual slope. Several pools set amongst boulders average 40°C (104°F). · Buhl Creek Hot Springs* are also accessed from a highway turnoff near Canal Flats. The small creekside hot springs are found off Skookumchuck Forest Service Road and are best to visit during the summer. Fairmont Hot Springs Resort offers a 10,000 square foot, odourless hot springs pool complex. Resort amenities include 45 holes of golf, dining outlets, spa, lodging and deluxe RV resort & adventure centre. · Radium Hot Springs natural mineral pool is set amidst the spectacular red rock walls of Sinclair Canyon in Kootenay National Park. The naturally heated mineral water is usually 39°C (102°F). The property also includes a day spa, restaurant and gift shop.

Follow Highway #95 to Golden (106 km / 66 mi). Check the Golden Triangle Itinerary for town of Golden information.

Head west on TransCanada Highway #1 (114 km / 70 mi) through spectacular Glacier National Park to Canyon Hot Springs Resort Glacier National Park is set in the Columbia Mountains. • The Rogers Pass Discovery Centre located at the summit of the pass is a National Historic Site. The site offers interpretive programs, hiking, strolling and picnicking opportunities. Canyon Hot Springs Resort offers 2 natural mineral hot pools, one at 40°C (104°F) and a swimming pool 26°C (79°F) plus cabin and campground

accommodation. It is open during summer until late September.

The city of Revelstoke is a hot spot for backcountry adventure and the gateway to Mount Revelstoke National Park. The picturesque downtown has retained many of its original early 20th century buildings. Enjoy the nightly street entertainment during the summer in the Grizzly Plaza. Experience adventure at Glacier House Resort. They offer bike and ATV side by side tours, paddleboard rentals, restaurant, lodge and cabin • Mount Revelstoke National Park attractions include the Meadows in the

Sky Parkway, Giant Cedars and Skunk Cabbage Boardwalk trails through

ush rainforests, and beautiful wetlands.

Take Highway #23 south to the Shelter / Galena Bay Ferry (50 km / 31 mi). Ferry Crossing time is 20 minutes. Halcyon Hot Springs Resort is located alongside Upper Arrow Lakes, a short drive from the ferry landing. Halcyon Resort's four mineral-rich natural hot springs pools await, each at a different temperature. This is a place of wellness and recreation with adventure activities, a spa, restaurant and accommodation options including RV sites and camping.

• Halfway River Hot Springs* are backcountry natural pools located off Halfway River Road; access is via rough roads. A camping area is Nakusp is a village with a great downtown rich in history. The town museum is packed with artifacts, and the waterfront promenade

features a Japanese Garden and the Spicer Garden. Many services are offered including playgrounds and parks, a sandy beach, marina and • Picturesque Nakusp Hot Springs, a short drive from downtown in a beautiful mountain setting, offers a small and large pool, campground and chalet lodging. A short walk from the hot springs, Kuskanax Creek

Footbridge spans the creek and has seating and glass viewing panels.

Highway #6, 31A and 31 goes to Ainsworth Hot Springs (130 km / 80 mi). You will tour through many inviting towns. New Denver, Sandon and Kaslo are all featured in the Silvery Slocan Driving Route. • Ainsworth Hot Springs Resort is a wonderful escape on the west shore of Kootenay Lake. The property includes modern accommodation, The Ktunaxa Grill, a main hot springs pool at 35°C (95°F), a cold plunge and its featured historic hot springs caves.

This wraps up the Kootenay Rockies Hot Springs Tour. The city of Nelson with its impressive array of heritage buildings is moments away, west on Highway #3A. Or, you can take the world's longest free ferry ride across Kootenay Lake at Balfour and head south along the eastshore to Creston.

* Check with local Visitor Centres for more information before venturing out to wilderness hot springs.



buffalo jumps, heritage golo rush towns, dude ranches, antique stores and westernthemed villages as you channel your inner cowboy.

Where the prairies meet the

mountains. Cowboy country

vast. Sacred, sweeping views that First Nations people have honoured and revered for centuries. The allure of

the Rockies & Ranchlands

route speaks to romantics,

ranchmen and railroading

enthusiasts. Explore sacred

These are lands wild and

Begin this tour on the Crowsnest Highway #3, at the Alberta and British Columbia border. This less travelled, southern route through the towering Rocky Mountains is a giant gateway to the great outdoors. Explore the Elk Valley's small towns built on more than a century of coal mining: Sparwood, Elkford and the largest and oldest - Fernie.

Sparwood is the gateway town to the region. The Terex Titan, the world's argest tandem axle dump truck, stands silently at the town's entrance - a monument to Sparwood's major industry. Just beyond this community is a treasure trove of adventure.

Sparwood to Elkford is $35 \, km$ / $22 \, mi$ north on Highway #43. Elkford is 'Wild at Heart' and the most remote town in the region. It is the gateway to two majestic wilderness provincial parks: Elk Lakes and Height of the Rockies. The area is a popular destination for a range of outdoor recreation including ATV touring, hiking and mountain biking.

Sparwood to Fernie is 29 km / 18 mi south on Highway #3. Fernie boasts small town charm and big mountain adventure. The brick and stone facades of the historic downtown are nestled below the jagged peaks of the Lizard Range. Fernie offers a huge network of mountain biking and hiking trails, a bike park, a zipline, fishing, whitewater rafting and more.

Fernie to Elko is 32 km / 20 mi south on Highway #3. You'll follow the pristine Elk River that is famous for fly-fishing and other watersports. The views and wildlife are just as rewarding.

Elko to Fort Steele Heritage Town is 63 km / 39 mi north on Hwy #3/93. • Take a side trip to Kikomun Creek Provincial Park and Lake Koocanusa for sandy beaches, camping and Kokanee salmon fishing. • At Wardner, watch for signs to the Kootenay Trout Hatchery that offers an interpretive area with aquaria, educational displays and fishing pond. Fort Steele Heritage Town has been a family favourite for decades. Leap back to the 1890s and experience this restored pioneer boomtown. Attractions include street drama, Wild Horse Theatre, steam train and horse drawn wagon rides, International Hotel Restaurant and gold panning.

Fort Steele to Wasa Lake Provincial Park is 25 km / 15 mi. Wasa Park is a family destination with camping, sandy beach, and a biking and walking trail that circles the lake.

Travel north on Highway #93/95 to Invermere (90 km / 56 mi).
• Skookumchuck offers lodging and access to the Kootenay River. Attractions at Canal Flats include the Tilley Memorial Park with a beautiful beach and picnic tables as well as The Source of the Columbia Trail that winds 1.5 kms through the wetlands. • A number of backcountry and resort setting hot springs are located along this route. Check the Hot Springs Itinerary for details.

Invermere is a small, friendly town situated on Lake Windermere, one of the warmest lakes in the region. Spend the day at the beach, but be sure to explore the impressive shops, galleries and restaurants downtown. • Panorama Mountain Resort, 18 km / 11 mi west of Invermere is all about play - waterpark with waterslide and hot pools, adventure camps, bike park, rafting, ATVing, restaurants, shops, and championship and mini golf.

Invermere to Radium Hot Springs, gateway to Kootenay National Park, is 13 km (8 mi) farther north on Highway #93/95.

Travel through spectacular Kootenay National Park, (104 km / 65 mi) north on Highway #93 - check out the Golden Triangle Itinerary for details on park attractions. Once through the park, connect with TransCanada Highway #1 and head east through Banff, the longest established national park in Canada. Banff to Calgary on Highway #1 is 136 km / 85 mi. En route is the picturesque mountain town of Canmore.

From Calgary, head south on Highway #2A (Macleod Trail) to Highway #22X \bullet Watch for signs to Spruce Meadows. Take a tour of this local success story, voted #1 horse show jumping facility in the world.

Head west on Highway #22X to Highway #22, known as the Cowboy Trail. Highway #22 junction to Turner Valley and Black Diamond is 30 km / 19 mi.
• Turner Valley is the birthplace of Alberta's oil and gas industry. The site of the 1914 Dingman Discovery Well that began Alberta's first oil boom is now preserved as a National Historic Site.

Black Diamond to Nanton is 94 km / 58 mi. Longview offers the Navajo Mug Café. Choose from 21 homemade pies.
Thirteen kilometres (8 mi) farther south on Highway #22 is Bar U Ranch National Historic Site, a living tribute to the ranching industry in Alberta.

Continue past Chain Lakes where you leave the Cowboy Trail to head

• Highway #785 will take you to Head-Smashed-In Buffalo Jump. This

east on Highway #533 to Nanton. • Stroll the historic main street of Nanton with antique and specialty shops. Nanton to Cardston is 142 km / 88 mi.

UNESCO World Heritage Site is one of the oldest, largest and best-preserved buffalo jumps in North America. · Visit Fort Museum of the Northwest Mounted Police in Fort MacLeod. • Cardston boasts North America's largest collection of horse drawn transportation at the Remington Carriage Museum.

Cardston to Waterton Lakes is 50 km / 31 mi via Highway #5. Take time to tour Waterton Lakes National Park. The smallest of the Canadian Rocky Mountain National Parks is described as the Jewel in the Crown of the Continent. Home to plants and wildlife unique in Western Canada, it is a paradise for nature lovers and outdoor enthusiasts. • Attractions include the Waterton Shoreline Cruise, Red Rock Canyon and Cameron Lake hiking trail.

There are several small former coal mining communities with a fascinating history to explore along this route. · At Pincher Creek is the Kootenai Brown Pioneer Village, a turn-of-the 19th century historic village.

Highway #6 and #3 lead back to the BC / Alberta border (113 km / 70 mi).

• Frank Slide Interpretive Centre explains how coal mining caused the Turtle Mountain landslide that buried the town of Frank.

After driving past Coleman, you leave Alberta, cross the Continental Divide and enter the province of British Columbia again.

EACH COMMUNITY HAS ITS OWN UNIQUE STORY TO TELL.

Along your journey, you'll discover rare, scenic vistas and meet warm friendly people.



eek. Protected places with border straddling parks in the Crown of the Continent affo untains. This is 'out there

f you are a US visitor travelling from the south, this tour begins in Columbia Falls. This pretty village has a wide array of parks and natural spaces to enjoy such as the River's Edge Park on the banks of the Flathead River. The Columbia Falls Market is one of the most popular in the valley.

Whitefish offers a quaint downtown with boutique shopping. Explore the Whitefish Trail moments from town. If you are a railroad buff, you'll love the historic Great Northern Railway Depot. It's the busiest Amtrak stop between Seattle and Minneapolis. The depot doubles as Whitefish Museum. Travel north on Highway #93 to Eureka and the Canada (Roosville) / US border (123 km /76 mi).

Columbia Falls to Whitefish is 9 km / 5 mi.

Eureka, located in the Tobacco River Valley, offers wonderful walks by the river. Stop for a delicious old-time milkshake at Café Jax. Canada / US border to Fernie is 68 km / 42 mi.

• Once in Canada, drive through Ktunaxa Nation Tobacco Plains Reserve. • You'll also cross the Elk River as it spills into Lake Koocanusa. • The tiny village of Elko is set at the Highway #3/93 junction. Continue northeast on Highway #3. Fernie is fully encircled by the majestic

Rocky Mountains, making it a bucket-list location for adventurers and sightseers. World-class fly-fishing, thrilling whitewater rafting, and a hiking and biking trail network complement its eclectic arts community. • Fernie hosts many mountain biking events during the summer and fall. The Fernie Museum offers scheduled heritage tours of the downtown's brick and stone architecture.

Sparwood is a short drive north on Hwy #3. During summer, educational and fun tours of Teck's Elkview coal mine depart three times per week. Just beyond this alpine community exists a treasure trove of adventure.

 Crowsnest Provincial Park (day-use) was a First Nations camp site. • At Summit Lake Provincial Park there is canoeing, trout fishing and swimming. Watch for mountain goats in late summer. • The area's mining heritage continues to be evident as you drive east across the Crowsnest Pass. • Once in Alberta, it's 62 km / 38 mi to Pincher Creek. From Pincher Creek take Highway #6 south to Waterton (50 km / 31 mi).

Highway #3, Sparwood to Pincher Creek is 81 km / 50 mi.

• Waterton village is in the heart of Waterton National Park. It's a vibrant centre offering activities, lodging and dining. • The park is all about beauty and adventure. Discover its lakes, hikes, boat cruise, wildlife, heritage and culture.

Waterton to Babb, south on Hwy #17 and #89 is 51 km / 32 mi. Note: Chief Mountain border crossing is closed Oct to mid-May.

Waterton to Babb, via Cardston Hwy #5 and #89 is 87 km / 54 mi. The Going-to-the-Sun Road is a spectacular 85 km / 53 mi paved two-lane highway that bisects Glacier National Park east and west. It spans the width of the park, crossing the Continental Divide at 2,000 m (6,646 ft) high Logan Pass. Scenic viewpoints line the road. It's worth travelling the road in each direction as the views are equally stunning.

• Season of operation for Going-to-the-Sun Road is mid-June to early-

fall. Vehicle size restrictions apply. · Cycling this road before and after it is closed to vehicles is popular. • The route along the perimeter of the park on Highway #2 through East and West Glacier Park is also a great way back to Columbia Falls. Halfway between these towns is Essex, known for its Goat Lick Overlook, where mountain goats come to lick the mineral-laden cliffs & Izaak Walton Inn, a popular destination for train buffs.



nd. End your day by easing into a lakeside town wher

Begin this tour in Nelson (Highway #3A). The Nelson / Kootenay Lake area brims with mountain culture. Nelson got its start in silver mining, but is now known as one of the best small arts communities in North America. Explore Nelson's many fine heritage buildings – from elegant mansions to elaborate commercial structures - through the Heritage Walking Tour. · Touchstones Nelson: Museum of Art & History celebrates the city's

Nelson offers world-class outdoor recreation and watersports such as kayaking, stand-up paddleboarding and canoeing.

Nelson to Kaslo is 70 km / 43 mi. Take Highway #3A along Kootenay Lake. Kokanee Creek Provincial Park offers a campground, sandy beach, hikes through Old Growth Cedars and nearby Kokanee Mountain Zipline. Balfour is a small but vibrant community with many visitor services. It is the location of the free ferry to Crawford Bay.

• Continue north on Highway #31 to the famous Ainsworth Hot Springs to rejuvenate in the hot, natural, mineral springs water.

Kaslo is one of British Columbia's prettiest villages. The wide tree-lined

downtown and stately old houses exude charm. It is home to the world's oldest passenger sternwheeler, the SS Moyie, an international treasure. · Heritage attractions includes the Japanese Canadian Museum, Kootenay Star Museum and Langham Cultural Centre. • The Jazz Etc. Festival takes place every August long weekend – superb

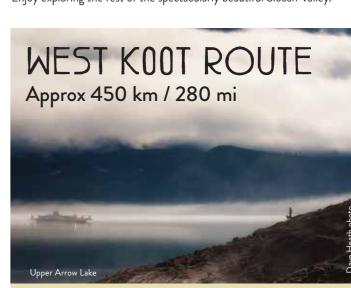
musicians perform on a unique floating stage. Kaslo to New Denver in the Slocan Valley is 46 km / 28 mi via Highway #31A. · Sandon is British Columbia's legendary ghost town. Experience the silver

rush of the 1800s. Historical treasures include the City Hall, Interpretive

Centre, Generating Station, Prospector's Pick gift shop and Museum. · Idaho Peak is a wonderful and easy hike showcasing wildflowers, an old fire lookout and mountain views - the access road starts in Sandon. New Denver has a lovely setting alongside Slocan Lake. The Silvery Slocan Museum is located in a heritage building, and the Nikkei Internment Memorial Centre tells the story of the internment of thousands of Canadians of Japanese descent during WWII.

Silverton to Crescent Valley is 79 km / 49 mi via Highway #6. · Silverton offers an outdoor mining museum, Fingland Cabin and a Blacksmith Shop at the Historical Interpretive Centre. · Various public boat launches are available in the area. • The village of Slocan gives road access to Valhalla Provincial Park. · Winlaw is a funky little town & home of the Kootenay Craft Distillery.

Enjoy exploring the rest of the spectacularly beautiful Slocan Valley.



Quiet roads that twist through the heart of the British Columbia wilderness. Dense forests that yield to rising rock and glacier-scoured summits where only the bravest mountaineers have ventured. A place to be respected and admired. Stunning backcountry beauty - around every corner on the West Koot Route - is the norm. Soak it in. Stop for a hike, paddle a perfect lake, fling a fly in a trout-filled stream and find your little patch of paradise in the West Kootenays.

The West Koot Route can be accessed by three different ferry rides: Jpper Arrow Lake, Lower Arrow Lake and Kootenay Lake at Balfour (Hwy #3A). Let's begin this tour near the village of Nakusp.

Upper Arrow Lake Ferry to Nakusp on Highway #23 is 49~km / 30~mi. Lower Arrow Lake Ferry to Nakusp on Highway #6 is 57~km / 35~mi.During the Silvery Slocan mining boom, Nakusp was a major transportation hub. Today the village offers a lovely downtown, great fishing, a range of overnighting options, a waterfront promenade and three McDonald Creek Provincial Park is a holiday destination with sandy

beach, boating and fishing; 10 km south on Hwy #6. Hot Springs include Nakusp, Halcyon (north of the village on Hwy #23) and Halfway River (backcountry access). Valkyr Adventures features lodge based alpine hiking trips. Nakusp to New Denver is 46 km / 28 mi south on Highway #6.

You've now connected with the Silvery Slocan Driving Route. Follow its

itinerary if you'd like to head south on Highway #6 through the Slocan Valley and back up through Nelson, Ainsworth Hot Springs and Kaslo. Kaslo to Meadow Creek is 40 km / 25 mi north on Highway #31. Lost Ledge and Davis Creek Provincial Parks are beautiful parks on the west shore of Kootenay Lake with beach access and camping.

 Meadow Creek offers exciting Lardeau River whitewater rafting for all ages. Lardeau Valley Historical Museum showcases local artifacts. Meadow Creek to the village of Trout Lake is 100 km / 62 mi.

Meadow Creek to Gerrard (south end of Trout Lake) is on a wide, straight Goat Range Park along the way is a large wilderness protected area.

Alongside Trout Lake from Gerrard to the village of Trout Lake, the gravel

road narrows. It is one lane in places, includes four hairpin turns, has pull out bays and may not be suitable for RVs. Watch for logging trucks. Fish for rainbow trout in Trout Lake. • Services at the village of Trout Lake include a campground, boat launch, store and gas station with vintage gas pumps.

Travelling north from Trout Lake will take you to the Upper Arrow Lake Ferry at Galena and Highway #23.



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> For more information: Kootenay Rockies Tourism 1905 Warren Avenue

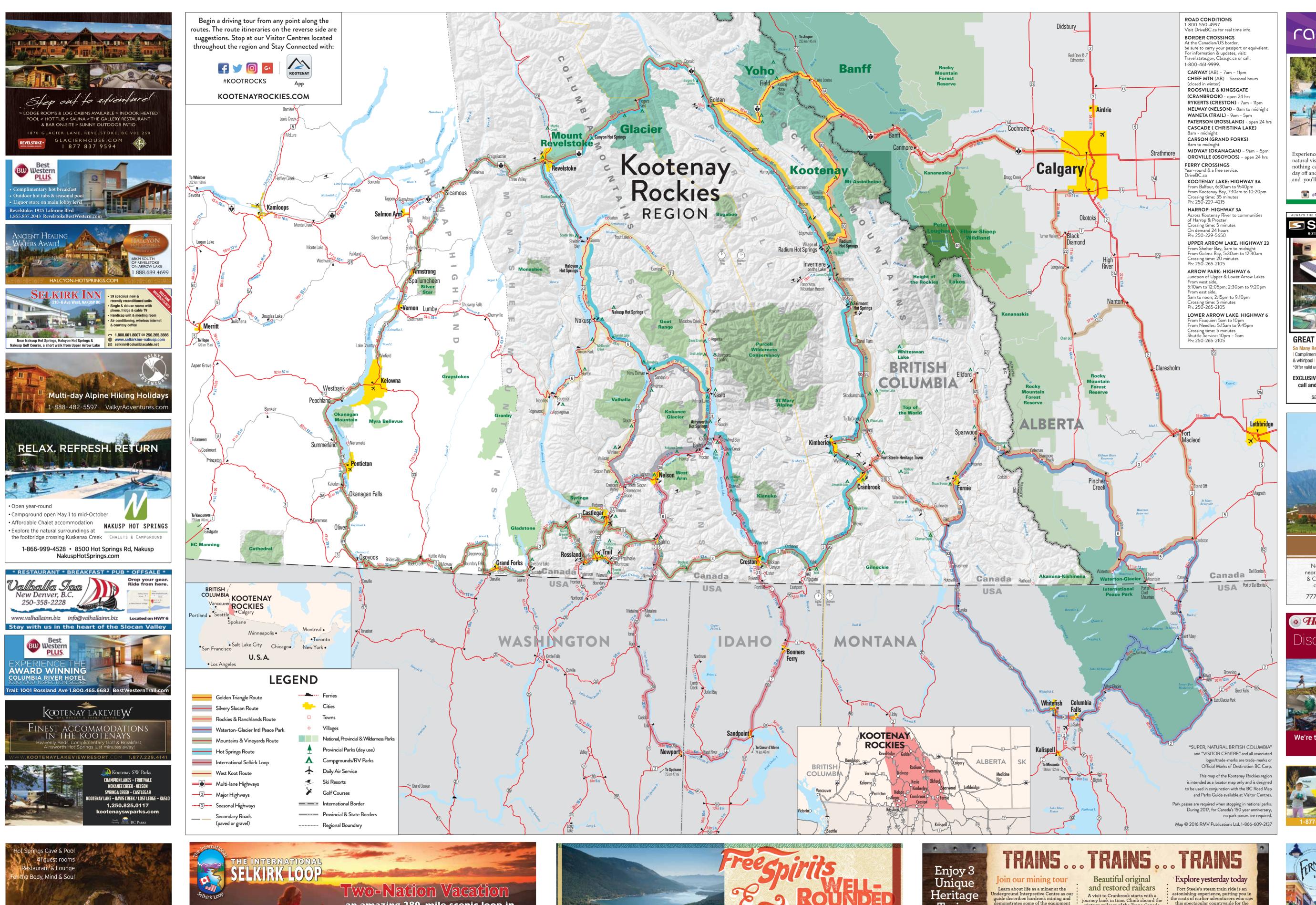
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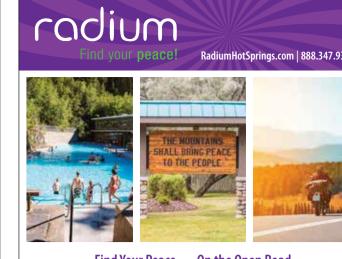


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