

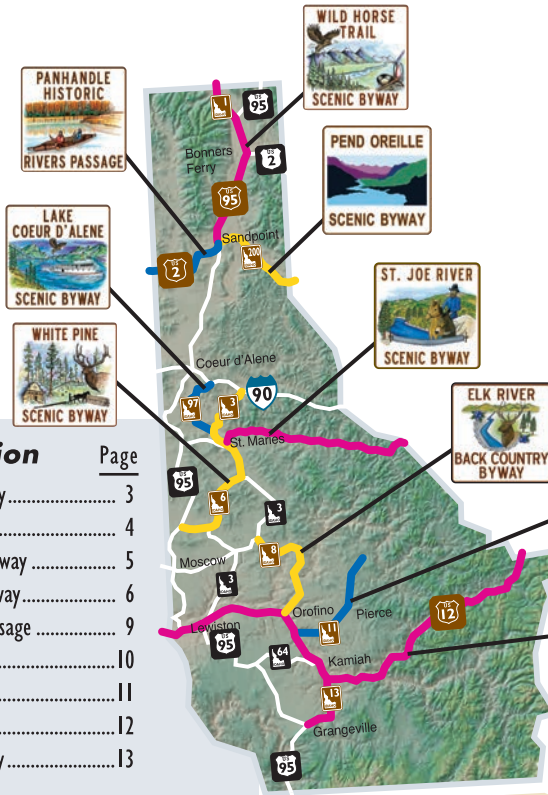
# IDAHO

## Scenic, Historic and Back Country Byways

Byways are grouped into three regions and then listed in alphabetical order. As you flip through this brochure, use the region's background color shown here to quickly identify the region of Idaho. The matching region color appears on the right side of each byway's page.

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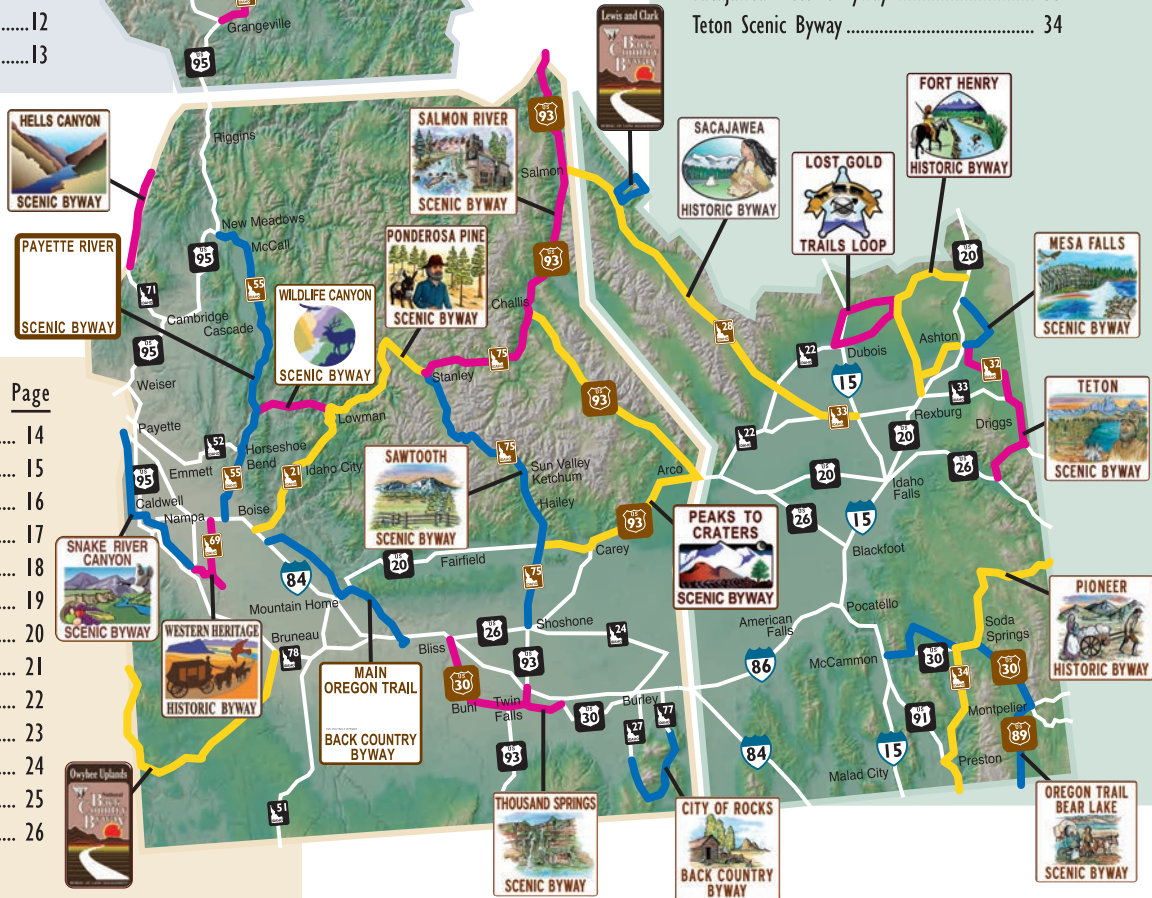


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# IDAHO

## Taking the Scenic Route

This publication is a glovebox guide to Idaho's scenic, historic and back country byways and the natural attractions through which they pass. Each byway is referred to by name and location, with the number of miles and amount of time needed to travel it listed for your reference. A description of the byway's surface and grade, and the availability of roadside services including rest stops, campgrounds, and special attractions, are also provided. Services are listed as "full" when gas, food, and lodging are available. "Partial" services include gas and a few other facilities. Rest areas generally offer only restrooms, telephones, vending machines, and a place to relax.

**Please remember to always buckle up and observe posted speed limits.**



The America's Byway symbol signifies the byway has received special designation as a "National" scenic byway or an "All-American Road."

### **For Idaho's recreation opportunities go to:**

[www.visitid.org](http://www.visitid.org) or call 1-800 VISIT-ID

### **For Idaho Park and Recreation information go to:**

[www.parksandrecreation.idaho.gov/parks](http://www.parksandrecreation.idaho.gov/parks)

### **For Biking information go to:**

[www.itd.idaho.gov/bike\\_ped/bikeTouring.html](http://www.itd.idaho.gov/bike_ped/bikeTouring.html)

### **For Idaho Scenic Byways Program information go to:**

[www.idahobyways.gov](http://www.idahobyways.gov) or contact the Idaho Transportation Department (ITD) Scenic Byways Program at 800-527-7985 or e-mail at [ScenicByways@itd.idaho.gov](mailto:ScenicByways@itd.idaho.gov).

### **Brochure Credits:**

Pauline Davis ..... Graphic Design, ITD Office of Communications

Tom Marks ..... Maps, ITD Geographic Information System

Cargie Aitchison ..... Maps, ITD Geographic Information System



**Location** - Begins in Orofino at Idaho 7 and junction of Wells Bench Road, crosses the North Fork of the Clearwater at Dent Bridge, then to Elk River where it joins Idaho 8 to Bovill.

**Length** - 57 miles. Allow 2 hours one way.

**Roadway** - Wells Bench is a two-lane county road paved to one mile beyond Dent Bridge; from there the road surface is gravel; at Elk River the roadway is again a paved two-lane road with slow vehicle turnouts. The route is well maintained year round but can be icy in winter.

**When to see it** - Throughout the year. Summer offers camping, boating, fishing, hiking, and touring. Winter provides snowmobiling on 300 miles and skiing on 20 miles of regularly maintained groomed trails.

**Special attractions** - City of Orofino; Dent Bridge; Scenic Viewpoint — Confluence of Elk Creek and North Fork Clearwater River (Dworshak Reservoir); Loop Road to USFS Campground & town; Mill Pond & Mill Site; Clearwater Potlatch Timber Protective Association; Elk River downtown; Elk River Historical Museum; Giant Western Redcedar & Morris Cedar Grove; Elk Creek Falls; City of Bovill.

**Camping** - Three RV Parks in Orofino; campgrounds along Dworshak Reservoir (Canyon Creek & Dent); Elk River has 64 camping sites along Elk Creek Pond, 23 improved sites at the Forest Service campground, and a RV Park with 24 sites; RV Park with 15 sites in Bovill. The forest lands along the byway are open to off road unimproved camping so visitors can choose their own spot off the beaten path.

**Services** - Full services in Orofino and Elk River; partial services in Bovill.

**Contacts** - Elk River Lodge & General Store: 208-826-3299 or [www.elkriverlodge.net](http://www.elkriverlodge.net); and Orofino Chamber of Commerce: 208-476-4335 or [www.orofino.com](http://www.orofino.com); [www.northcentralidaho.info](http://www.northcentralidaho.info), 877-DO-IDAHO.

## Elk River Back Country Byway

This is an all natural, no frills, individualistic and unpretentious pathway through rural North Central Idaho. It is a 57-mile route to adventure, fun and relaxation for travelers of all types. Travelers quickly enter a vast evergreen forested landscape that draws one deeper and forward towards the horizon of the Clearwater Mountain range. Through a series of dips and turns the route reveals the diversity of landscapes in this back country region of Idaho.

From Orofino the route begins with a climb up and along Wells Bench where ranchettes and farmsteads are scattered along the benches and between timber patches. As the forested areas get more prevalent, travelers will drop down towards Dworshak Reservoir, crossing Dent Bridge, which is a suspension bridge that provides a link to western Clearwater County and vast forest lands that built the local economy. Along the path there are opportunities to observe wildlife of many types: bear, bobcats, cougar, deer, elk, osprey, songbirds, wild turkeys, possibly wolves and a wide variety of the forest's small woodland creatures. Thirty-four miles from Orofino lies Elk River, a quaint community that has gone full circle: Established as a remote hunting and recreation camp, developed by Potlatch as a mill town (site of the first electric powered mill), only to return to a recreational community in the twenty-first century.





Photo by Cammie Ebert



**Location** - Begins at the junction of U.S. 12 and Idaho 11 on the Clearwater River at Greer.

**Length** - 42.5 miles. Allow 2.5 hours round trip.

**Roadway** - Idaho 11 is a two-lane, paved road with some passing lanes. It is well maintained with several turnouts for scenic viewing. It can be icy during winter months.

**When to see it** - Throughout the year. Summer offers camping, fishing, riding, and hiking areas. Winter provides skiing and snowmobiling on 350 miles of groomed and open trails, maintained weekly.

**Special attractions** - Lewis and Clark historical sites; Weippe Discovery Center; Idaho's first county courthouse; Bradbury Logging Museum; Pierce City Library and historic downtown area; a Chinese cemetery; Bald Mountain Ski Area; and the Clearwater National Forest.

**Camping** - Three RV parks in Pierce, two in Weippe; campgrounds in Fraser Park and both Hollywood and Campbell's Pond. There are many camping areas in the surrounding Clearwater National Forest and the North Fork of the Clearwater River recreational area.

**Services** - Full services in Weippe and Pierce; partial services in Greer. Headquarters has no services.

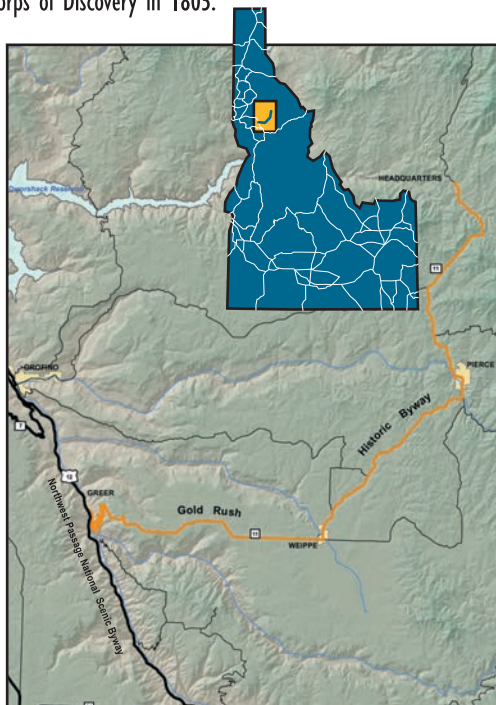
**Contacts** - Pierce-Weippe Chamber of Commerce/Weippe Discovery Center: 208-435-4406, [www.weippe.com](http://www.weippe.com); [www.northcentralidaho.info](http://www.northcentralidaho.info), 877-DO-IDAHO; City of Pierce: 208-464-2222, [www.ohwy.com/id/p/pierce.htm](http://www.ohwy.com/id/p/pierce.htm); City of Weippe: 208-435-4216 [www.weippe.com](http://www.weippe.com).

## Gold Rush Historic Byway

Rich in scenery, history, and wildlife, the route along Idaho 11 begins in Greer at the junction of U.S. 12 with an easy climb up the Greer Grade, providing a breathtaking, panoramic view of the Clearwater Valley. At the crest of the mountain lie the beautiful rolling fields of grains and grasses cultivated by local farmers. Just down the road is the historic town of Weippe, not far from where members of the Nez Perce Tribe met and fed starving members of Lewis and Clark's Corps of Discovery in 1805.

Minutes later, the scenery changes again, as the vast fields transform into a lush forest thick with wildlife. Nestled among the trees is the town of Pierce, where early pioneers discovered gold in Idaho for the first time. It also boasts the state's inaugural government building, the old Shoshone County Courthouse. Other attractions include a logging museum, the city library's artifact collection from the adventures of Chinese miners in the area, and five more historical sites featured along the byway.

Twelve miles north of Pierce is the village of Headquarters, marking the end of the Gold Rush Historic Byway and the beginning of the area's other "gold mine" — the majestic and seemingly endless Clearwater National Forest.





**Location** - Begins at the junction of Interstate 90 and Idaho 97 and follows Idaho 97 south and east along Lake Coeur d'Alene to Idaho 3.

**Length** - 35.8 miles. Allow 1.5 hours.

**Roadway** - Idaho 97 is a two-lane, paved winding road with few passing lanes.

**When to see it** - Throughout the year. Eagle watching is great in December and January between Wolf Lodge Bay and Beauty Bay.

**Special attractions** - Lake Coeur d'Alene; Mineral Ridge Trail at Beauty Bay; Historic Harrison; Thompson Lake Wildlife Refuge; Trail of the Coeur d'Alenes.

**Camping** - Beauty Creek east of Beauty Bay, Bell Bay near Harrison, city of Harrison.

**Services** - Partial services in Carlin Bay, Squaw Bay, and Harrison. Full Services in Coeur d'Alene.

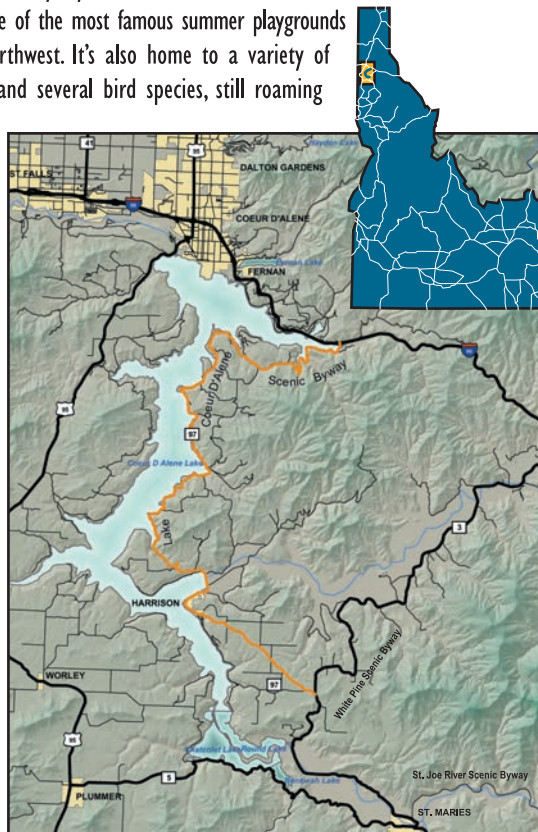
**Contacts** - Coeur d'Alene Area Chamber of Commerce: 208-664-3194 or 877-782-9232, info@coeurdalene.org, www.coeurdalene.org; St. Maries Chamber of Commerce: 208-245-3563, www.stmarieschamber.org; Harrison Chamber of Commerce: 208-689-3669, www.harrisonidaho.org; Idaho Panhandle National Forest: 208-765-7223.

## Lake Coeur d'Alene Scenic Byway

The Lake Coeur d'Alene (cör-da-lane) Scenic Byway travels an area where the lakes, mountains, and beautiful summer weather have made it one of the most famous summer playgrounds and resort destinations in the Pacific Northwest. It's also home to a variety of wildlife, including moose, deer, elk, bear and several bird species, still roaming the pristine forests of northern Idaho.

Beginning at the junction of Interstate 90 and Idaho 97, the route travels south along the eastern shoreline of Lake Coeur d'Alene, home to bald eagles and the largest population of nesting osprey in the Western states. Take a break and stretch your legs on the Mineral Ridge Trail, which offers panoramic views of the lake, as well as several learning stations describing the area's botany and animal life.

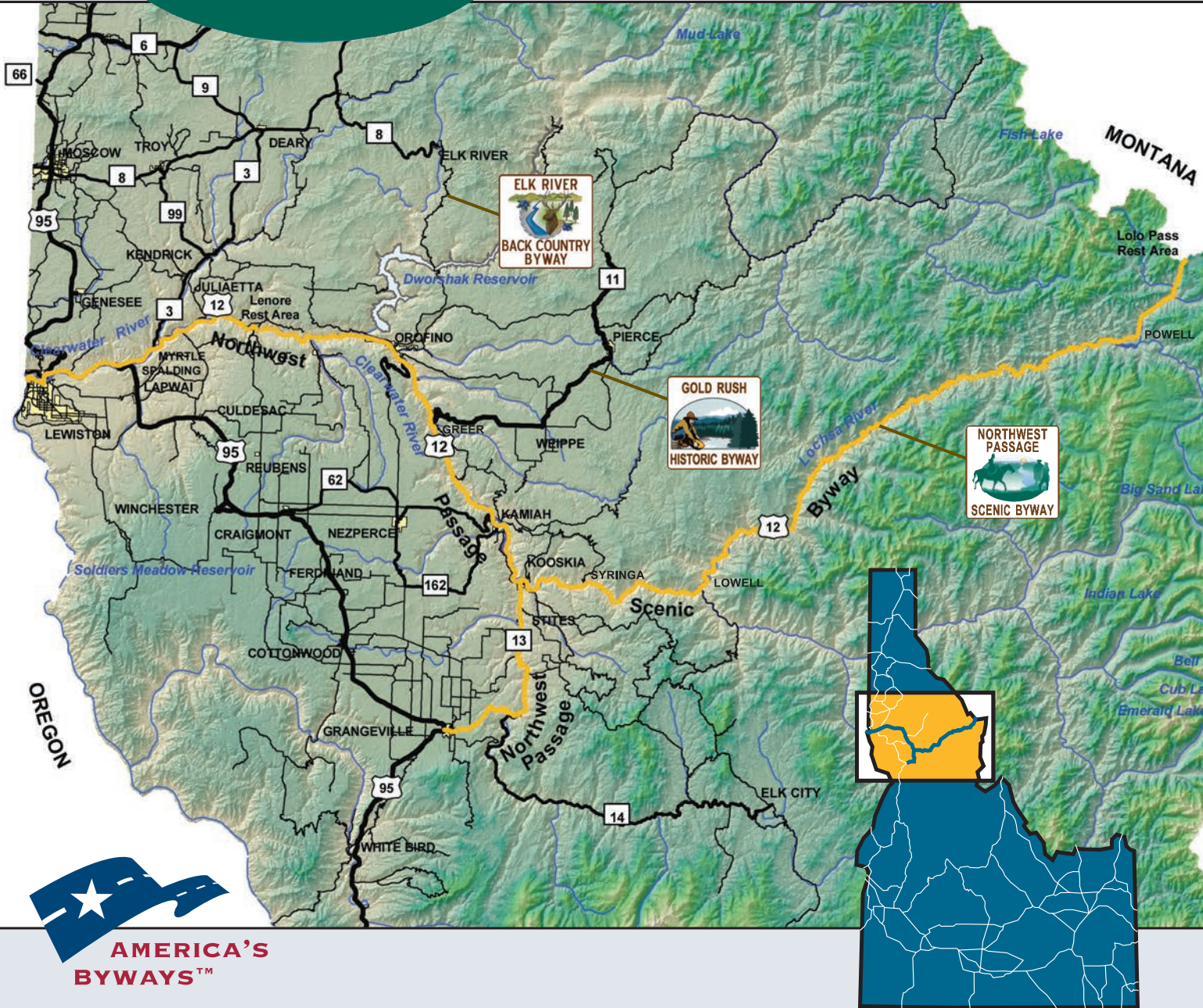
The route continues through gentle hills and dense forests to the charming town of Harrison. This byway ends at Idaho 3, where it meets the White Pine Scenic Byway and its southern route to the Palouse.





# Northwest Passage Scenic Byway

— All American Road —



AMERICA'S  
BYWAYS™



**Location** - Begins in Lewiston and follows U.S. 12 northeast to the Idaho—Montana border; also follows Idaho 13 from Kooskia to Grangeville and the junction of U.S. 95.

**Length** - 202 miles. Lewiston to Montana, 175 miles, allow 4 hours. Kooskia to Grangeville, 27 miles, allow 40 minutes.

**Roadway** - Idaho 13 and U.S. 12 are winding, two-lane, paved roads with occasional passing lanes and slow vehicle turnouts. Winter driving conditions may include black ice in the canyons and snow-covered roads at higher elevations.

**When to see it** - Boating, fishing, heritage sites, and wildlife viewing year-round. Whitewater opportunities in spring and summer.

**Special attractions** - U.S. 12 parallels the Lewis & Clark and Nez Perce national historic trails. Sites include Tscemicum sculpture, Lewiston; Nez Perce National Historical Park Visitor Center, Spalding; Canoe Camp, Orofino; Heart of the Monster, Kamiah; Kooskia Crossing; mammoth exhibit, Grangeville; Fenn & Lochsa historic ranger stations; DeVoto Grove; Lolo Pass Visitor Center; Hells Gate and Dworshak State Parks. Other attractions include summer community festivals and powwows.

**Camping** - Campgrounds at Lewiston, Myrtle, Orofino, Kamiah, Kooskia, Grangeville, and Lowell. Forest Service and BLM campsites along the Clearwater and Lochsa rivers.

**Services** - Full services in Lewiston, Orofino, Kamiah, Kooskia, Grangeville; partial services at Stites, Syringa, Lowell, and Powell. Rest areas at Lenore and Lolo Pass.

**Contacts** - North Central Idaho Travel Association 877-364-3246 or [www.northcentralidaho.info](http://www.northcentralidaho.info); Nez Perce National Historical Park 208-843-7001 or [www.nps.gov/nepe](http://www.nps.gov/nepe); Chambers of Commerce: Lewiston 208-743-3531; Orofino 208-476-4335, [orofino.com](http://orofino.com); Kamiah 208-935-2290, [kamiahchamber.com](http://kamiahchamber.com); Kooskia 208-926-4362, [kooskia.com](http://kooskia.com); Grangeville 208-983-0460; Clearwater National Forest 208-476-4541; Nez Perce National Forest 208-983-1950; Nez Perce Tribe 208-746-0723 or [www.nezperce.org](http://www.nezperce.org).

## Northwest Passage Scenic Byway

In 1803, President Jefferson commissioned Meriwether Lewis and William Clark to find the Northwest Passage, the link between the Missouri River and the Columbia River through the unexplored Rocky Mountains. This 202-mile byway, stretching across north-central Idaho, follows the explorers' route through the ancestral homeland of the Nez Perce people.

From the west, this beautiful route begins on U.S. 12 at Lewiston, and traverses the winding Clearwater River Canyon, passing through the Nez Perce National Historical Park areas of Spalding and Kamiah and the towns of Orofino and Kooskia. At Kamiah is the Heart of the Monster, a geologic formation and legendary Nez Perce site.

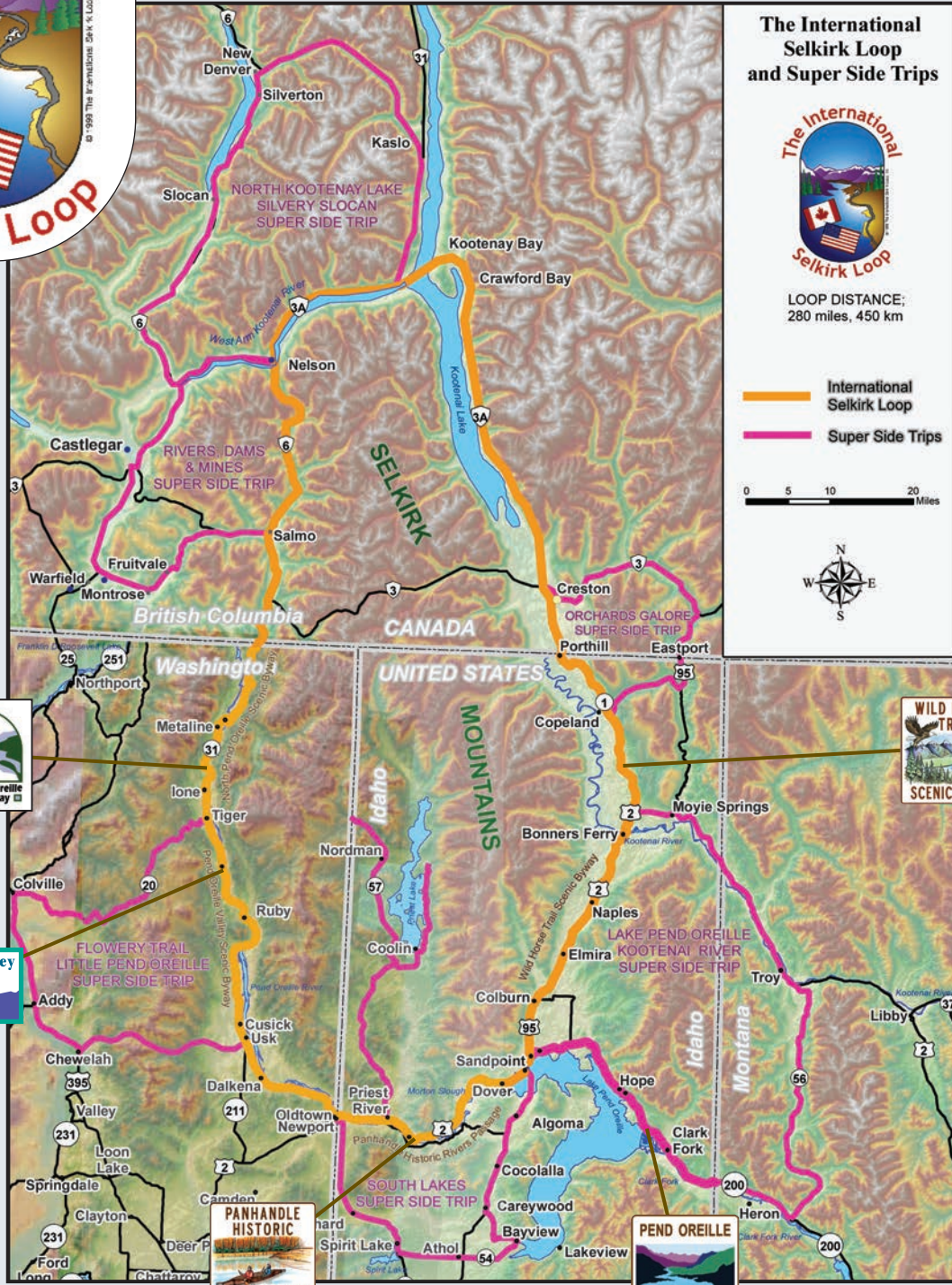
At Kooskia the byway splits. One segment turns south on Idaho Highway 13 toward the Camas Prairie and the town of Grangeville. Another segment continues east on U.S. 12 along the Middle Fork of the Clearwater River, and the Lochsa Wild and Scenic River, through a magnificent wilderness culminating at the Lolo Pass Visitor Center.



— All American Road —



A 64-page Travel Guide is available at local visitor centers or order online at [www.selkirkloop.org](http://www.selkirkloop.org) or call 888-823-2626.



**The International Selkirk Loop and Super Side Trips**



LOOP DISTANCE:  
280 miles, 450 km

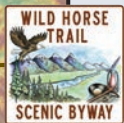
- International Selkirk Loop
- Super Side Trips



North Pend Oreille Scenic Byway



Pend Oreille Valley Scenic Byway



WILD HORSE TRAIL SCENIC BYWAY



PANHANDLE HISTORIC RIVERS PASSAGE



PEND OREILLE SCENIC BYWAY





**Location** - Begins at the Washington state line and follows U.S. 2 to Sandpoint.

**Length** - 28.5 miles. Allow 40 minutes.

**Roadway** - U.S. 2 is a two-lane, paved road with no passing lanes. It can be icy during winter months.

**When to see it** - Throughout the year. Eagles in the winter, osprey in the summer, waterfowl in the spring and fall. Nature's palette of vegetation colors are particularly abundant in spring and fall.

**Special attractions** - Pend Oreille and Priest Rivers; Panhandle National Forest; Seneacquotteen Interpretive Site; Rotary Park in Oldtown; Priest River Wildlife Area; Albeni Falls Dam Visitor Center; three historical museums; and Priest River's historic downtown.

**Camping** - "Mudhole" Recreation Area at Priest River and Riley Creek Recreation Area eight miles further west at Laclede; numerous other camping sites within area including beautiful Priest Lake.

**Services** - Full services in Priest River, Sandpoint, and Oldtown/Newport.

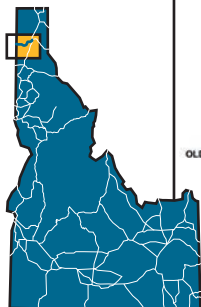
**Contacts** - Priest River Chamber of Commerce: 208-448-2721, [www.priestriver.org](http://www.priestriver.org); Sandpoint Visitors Center: 800-800-2106; Sandpoint Chamber of Commerce: 208-263-0887, [www.sandpointonline.com](http://www.sandpointonline.com), [www.sandpointchamber.com](http://www.sandpointchamber.com); Albeni Falls Dam Visitors Center: 208-437-3133; USFS Ranger Station in Sandpoint: 208-263-5111; USFS Ranger Station at Priest Lake: 208-443-2562; International Selkirk Loop: 888-823-2626, [www.selkirkloop.org](http://www.selkirkloop.org).



## Panhandle Historic Rivers Passage

The Panhandle Historic Rivers Passage begins at the Washington state line and follows the northern shore of the Pend Oreille River through Oldtown, Priest River, and ends in Sandpoint. This byway is the southern leg of the International Selkirk Loop which extends into Washington on the west and heads into British Columbia on the Wild Horse Trail Scenic Byway from Sandpoint on the east.

Enjoy driving along miles of soothing river scenery that reflects the pastoral beauty of surrounding forests and farms. Pull over and be entertained by varying seasonal wildlife, birds of prey, and waterfowl; or stop and absorb the history of northern Idaho in three different museums along the byway. This history extends back to the ice age and the Great Missoula Floods. Convenient access to the Pend Oreille River at four recreation areas provides opportunities to swim or boat along spacious, gently-flowing waters. Winter recreation includes snow sports on state and federal lands, ice fishing when it is cold enough, and downhill skiing at Schweitzer.





**Location** - Begins at U.S. 95 north of Sandpoint and follows Idaho 200 to the Montana state line.

**Length** - 33.4 miles. Allow 1.5 hours to enjoy the scenery and interpretive information.

**Roadway** - Idaho 200 is a two-lane, paved road with no passing lanes, but numerous scenic turnouts. Winter driving conditions require drivers to pay attention.

**When to see it** - Throughout the year. Winter scenes can be magnificent, spring and fall colors are dramatic.

**Special attractions** - Lake Pend Oreille; Clark Fork River and delta; roadside interpretive exhibits; Schweitzer Ski Area; Panhandle National Forests' seasonal trails and roads; and four seasons of recreational opportunities.

**Camping** - Samowen Campground on the lake, maintained and primitive spots in the Panhandle National Forest, and numerous private spots in the area.

**Services** - Full services in Clark Fork, Ponderay, and Sandpoint; partial services in Hope.

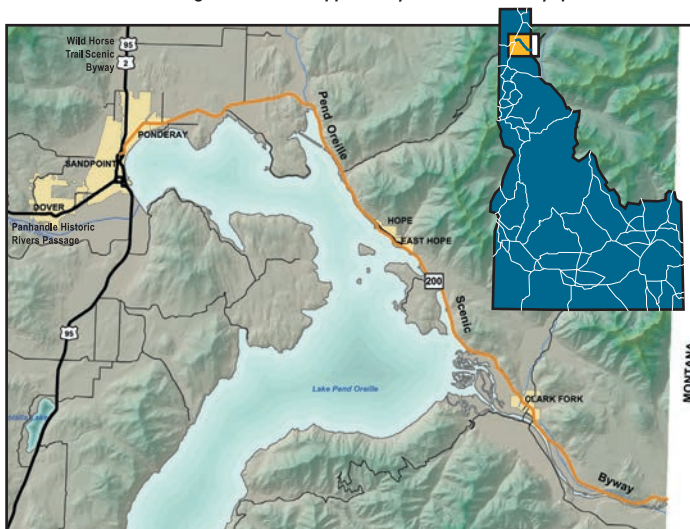
**Contacts** - Hope-Clark Fork Chamber of Commerce: 208-266-1552, [www.pobyway.org](http://www.pobyway.org), [hopechamber@verizon.net](mailto:hopechamber@verizon.net); Sandpoint Chamber of Commerce: 800-800-2106; Sandpoint Ranger District: 208-263-5111.

## Pend Oreille Scenic Byway

The Pend Oreille (pon-der-ay) Scenic Byway offers travelers some of Idaho's most spectacular water views. Beginning at the intersection with U.S. 95, Idaho 200 meanders eastward to the Montana state line across farmlands, through river deltas, and along the rocky northern shores of Lake Pend Oreille, all sculpted by the massive force of glaciers and the floodwaters of Glacial Lake Missoula. Pullouts along the byway allow visitors to stop and enjoy breathtaking vistas of mountainous horizons framing miles of open water.

Four-season recreational opportunities begin along the shores of the lake and reach across the vast regions of national forest overlooking the Pend Oreille Scenic Byway. Whether you are inclined to swim or fish, boat or golf, hunt or hike mountain trails, alpine ski or snowmobile, water ski or bird watch — each of our distinctive four seasons offers an outstanding recreational opportunity for almost every person who enjoys the outdoors.

Visitors can find varying accommodations from unimproved mountain campsites to maintained shoreline campgrounds to recreational vehicles parks along the water or choose from lakefront resorts or motels.



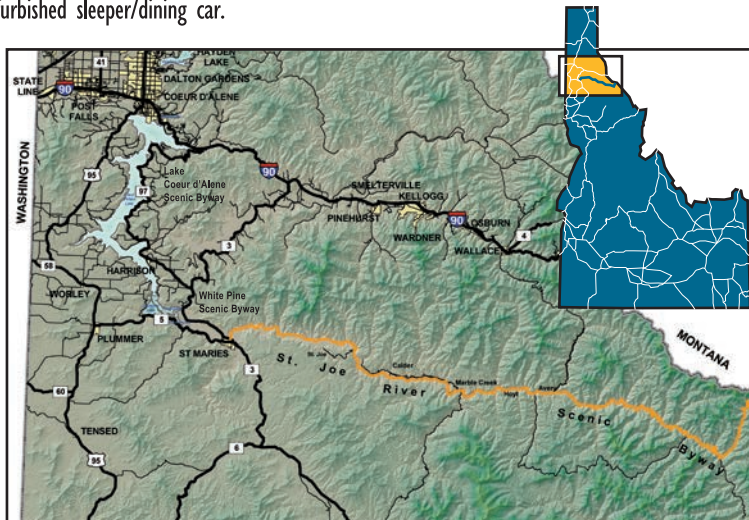


## St. Joe River Scenic Byway

Your journey begins at the town of St. Maries, the home of the Logger Memorial. You travel east along the shadowy St. Joe River so named for the towering Cottonwoods which adorn the shore lines. Among these trees are bald eagles and osprey, which use the trees as nesting sites and perches where they launch themselves to pick up dinner from the feast provided by "The Joe." As you travel the first half of the byway the river is deep and still with picturesque mountain landscapes that are captured on the watery canvas.

At St. Joe City "The Joe" becomes shallower and starts to talk to you as it flows through rapids. The water is faster here and clear, so clear that you can see the trout that call it home. "The Joe" is one of Idaho's premier blue ribbon trout fisheries where you can catch Dolly Vardens, rainbow, cutthroat and other species of trout. All along the river adventure awaits you. At Marble Creek interpretive center tour the logging display. In Avery stop in and see the trout pond where rainbow trout rise to your offerings. Visit the historic railroad depot and the refurbished sleeper/dining car.

Wildlife abounds along the river's edge, where deer, elk, moose and bear can be seen. The St. Joe River Scenic Byway is truly a recreational treasure, with something for everyone.



**Location** - From St. Maries at the junction of Idaho 3 and Forest Hwy 50 (FS 50), east along the St. Joe River for 75 miles. At the junction with Road 218, FS 50 heads north (left) and climbs 14 miles to the Idaho-Montana border.

**Length** - 89 miles. Allow 2.5 to 3 hours one way.

**Roadway** - Two-lane, paved road with numerous pull-outs and points of interest along the way.

**When to see it** - Throughout the year from St. Maries to Avery (47 miles). The 42 miles from Avery to the Idaho border is usually open from May through November. During the winter, this section is a snowmobile route.

**Special attractions** - Falls Creek waterfall; Marble Creek historic site and picnic area; Avery Ranger Station; Avery Museum; Upper Landing Picnic area; Idaho Panhandle National Forest; St. Joe Wild and Scenic River; breathtaking scenery; blue ribbon fishery; white water rafting; and the Hiawatha Rails to Trails is near by.

**Camping** - Private facilities are available in and around St. Maries and Avery; Shadowy St. Joe Campground and Huckleberry Campground are located along the lower, slower moving St. Joe River; Pack Saddle; Turner Tin Can and Conrad Crossings campgrounds are upstream from Avery along the Wild and Scenic St. Joe; and numerous undeveloped campsites along the river.

**Services** - Full services are available in St Maries and Avery, and partial services in Calder.

**Contacts** - St. Maries Chamber of Commerce: 208-245-3563, [www.stmarieschamber.org](http://www.stmarieschamber.org); St. Joe Ranger District, St. Maries Office: 208-245-2531, Avery Office: 208-245-4517, [www.fs.fed.us](http://www.fs.fed.us); Bureau of Land Management: [www.blm.gov](http://www.blm.gov).



**Location** - From the junction of Interstate 90 and Idaho 3, south on Idaho 3 to Idaho 6, then southwest to U.S. 95 at Potlatch.

**Length** - 82.8 miles. Allow 2 hours.

**Roadway** - Idaho 3 and Idaho 6 are both two-lane, paved roads with no passing lanes.

**When to see it** - Throughout the year.

**Special attractions** - Old Mission State Park; Coeur d'Alene River Wildlife Management Area; St. Joe National Forest; Palouse Divide Nordic Ski Area ("Park and Ski" cross country area); Trail of the Coeur d'Alenes; Potlatch historic walking tours; Mullan Trail Park, Steam Donkey, 1910 Fire Memorial and historical murals in St. Maries.

**Camping** - Laird Park, Giant White Pine Park north of Harvard, Pines RV and Camping in Harvard; Scenic 6 RV Park in Potlatch; Heyburn State Park, Benewah County Fairgrounds, Shady River RV Park in or near St. Maries.

**Services** - Full services in St. Maries; partial services in Potlatch.

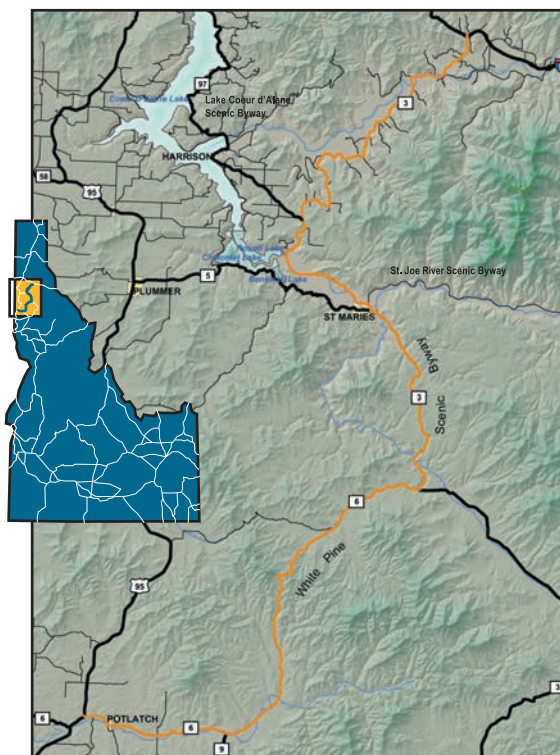
**Contacts** - St. Maries Chamber of Commerce: 208-245-3563, [www.stmarieschamber.org](http://www.stmarieschamber.org); Idaho Panhandle National Forest: 208-245-2531; Old Mission State Park: 208-682-3814; Potlatch City Hall: 208-875-0708, [potlatchidaho.org](http://potlatchidaho.org); Coeur d'Alene Area Chamber of Commerce: 208-664-3194 or 877-782-9232, [info@coeurdalene.org](mailto:info@coeurdalene.org), [www.coeurdalene.org](http://www.coeurdalene.org).

## White Pine Scenic Byway

The White Pine Scenic Byway begins on Idaho 3 at Interstate 90 near Cataldo, home to Old Mission of the Sacred Heart. Built in the mid-1800's, the mission itself is the oldest building still standing in Idaho; travelers can also visit the nearby Parish House and two historic cemeteries on the grounds, and enjoy the visitor center, walking trails, and picnic areas.

From Cataldo, the White Pine Scenic Byway passes through the lush forests of Idaho's timber country and the numerous lakes and marshlands of the lower Coeur d'Alene River to the town of St. Maries, the Hughes House Museum, and other attractions. The byway then crosses the picturesque St. Maries and St. Joe rivers, the latter of which is the highest navigable river in the world.

The route continues on Idaho 6, meandering south through the town of Emida, and the St. Joe National Forest which boasts the largest stand of White Pine in the country. The byway winds through rolling hills of the Palouse region to the historic town of Potlatch, once site of the largest white pine lumber mill in the world.





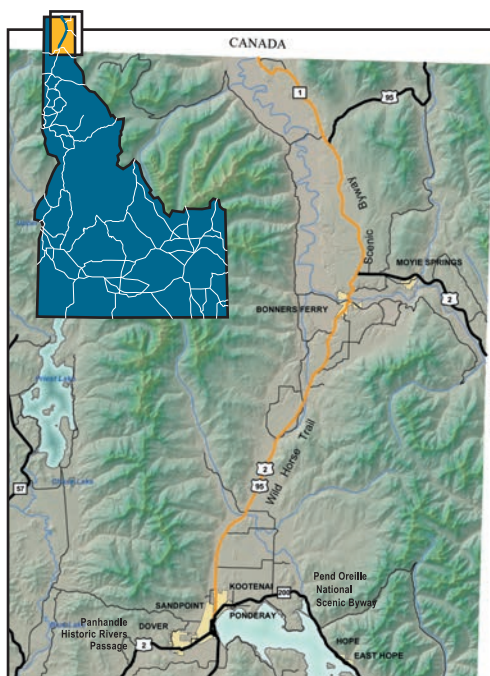
## Wild Horse Trail Scenic Byway

The Wild Horse Trail Scenic Byway is part of the International Selkirk Loop, designated North America's only International Scenic Byway. The Byway starts on the northwestern shores of Lake Pend Oreille in the resort community of Sandpoint. Heading north along the eastern side of the Selkirk Mountains the roadway follows the Kootenai Tribe's historic path to fishing grounds at Lake Pend Oreille. In 1808 the first white explorer David Thompson also utilized this trail. The "Wild Horse Trail" became more than a path in 1863 when gold was discovered in "Wild Horse Creek," 120 miles to the north of Bonners Ferry Idaho in British Columbia. There was a large movement of men and pack animals along the "Wild Horse Trail" until the gold rush ceased circa 1880.

Upon arrival of the Northern Pacific railroad to this region David Thompson's old route became a main freight line for the railroad.

Just south of Bonners Ferry a stunning wide glacial valley comes into view. The rich soil deposits left behind as the glaciers receded formed fertile lands which even today support a wide variety of agriculture throughout the Kootenai Valley.

The Kootenai National Wildlife Refuge west of Bonners Ferry and the McArthur Lake Wildlife Management area offers a wealth of recreational opportunities including wildlife viewing, bird watching and hiking trails. There are six major access roads leading into the Selkirk Mountains onto Panhandle National Forest lands where recreational opportunities for hiking, fishing, camping, Nordic skiing and snowmobiling can be enjoyed.



**Location** - Begins on U.S. 95 in downtown Sandpoint and follows U.S. 95 north through Bonners Ferry to the junction of U.S. 95 and Idaho 1, then proceeds north on Idaho 1 to the International Border at Porthill.

**Length** - 48.2 miles from Sandpoint to junction of U.S. 95/Idaho 1, 11 miles to the International Border at Porthill. Allow 1.5 hours.

**Roadway** - U.S. 95 is predominantly a two-lane, paved road with 4 lanes starting 2 miles north of Sandpoint for 5 miles. There is a half-mile passing lane north of McArthur Lake traveling north, a 1-mile passing lane northbound south of Bonners Ferry, a 2-mile southbound passing lane south of Bonners Ferry, and a 4-lane bypass at Bonners Ferry continues north for 3 miles.

**When to see it** - Throughout the year. Four full, distinct seasons with activities and events available every month. Fall colors are especially dramatic.

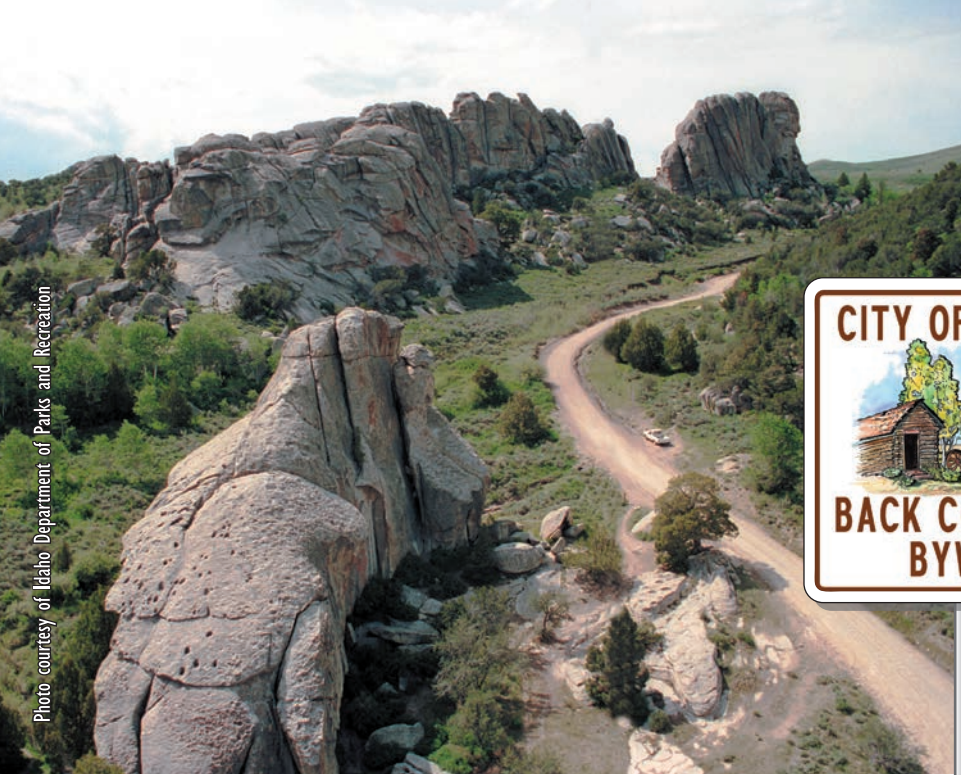
**Special attractions** - Lake Pend Oreille; Kootenai National Wildlife Refuge; Panhandle National Forest; McArthur Lake Wildlife Corridor; Kootenai Sturgeon Hatchery; Historic Bonners Ferry and Kootenai River.

**Camping** - Privately owned campgrounds in and around Sandpoint and Bonners Ferry. USFS camping at Smith Lake, 5 miles north of Bonners Ferry, seven sites, no fee. Other USFS camping near by at Meadow Creek, Robinson Lake, Copper Creek and Samowen.

**Services** - Full services in Sandpoint and Bonners Ferry.

**Contacts** - Sandpoint Visitor Center: 800-800-2106; Greater Sandpoint Chamber of Commerce: 208-263-0887, [www.sandpointchamber.org](http://www.sandpointchamber.org); Greater Bonners Ferry Chamber of Commerce & Visitor Center: 208-267-5922, [www.bonnersferrychamber.com](http://www.bonnersferrychamber.com); International Selkirk Loop: 888-823-2626, [www.selkirkloop.org](http://www.selkirkloop.org); Sandpoint Ranger District: 208-263-5111; Bonners Ferry Ranger District: 208-267-5561, [www.fs.fed.us/ipnf/](http://www.fs.fed.us/ipnf/); US Customs at Porthill: 208-267-5309; Idaho Department of Lands: 208-267-5577 or 208-263-5104.

See Selkirk Loop map on page 8.



**Location** - The route begins along Idaho 77 at Albion south to the Connor Creek Junction, and continues south through Elba and Almo and the scenic City of Rocks National Reserve. From the Reserve, the route follows Birch Creek to the City of Oakley and the Oakley Historic District where it joins Idaho 27.

**Length** - 49 miles. Allow 1.5 hours.

**Roadway** - Paved secondary highway from Albion to Connor Creek Junction. Connor Creek to Almo is a narrow winding paved road, and from Almo to Oakley the road is graveled until it joins Idaho 27 at Oakley.

**When to see it** - Best weather to travel is April to November. Call 208-824-5519 for road conditions.

**Special attractions** - The beautiful Albion Valley, including Pomerelle Ski Area and Lake Cleveland Recreation Area; Castle Rocks State Park; City of Rocks National Reserve; Oakley Historic District.

**Camping** - Howell Canyon and City of Rocks with R.V. parks in Oakley, and at the I-84 Interchange at the Snake River.

**Services** - Full services in Burley; food and lodging in Albion; partial services in Oakley and Almo.

**Contacts** - City of Rocks National Reserve: 208-824-5519; Sawtooth National Forest: 208-678-0430; Mini-Cassia Chamber of Commerce: 208-679-4793, [mcidcham@cyberhighway.net](mailto:mcidcham@cyberhighway.net) and [Wallace\\_Keck@partner.nps.gov](mailto:Wallace_Keck@partner.nps.gov), [www.minicassiachamber.org](http://www.minicassiachamber.org); [www.rideidaho.com](http://www.rideidaho.com); or [www.nps.gov/ciro](http://www.nps.gov/ciro).

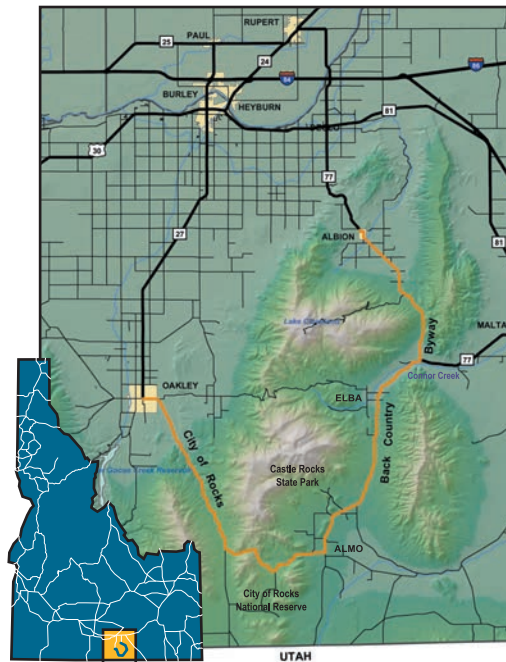
## City of Rocks Back Country Byway

Forming a 49-mile necklace around the Albion Mountain Range, the City of Rocks Back Country Byway traces a rural landscape steeped in history and geological significance.

Beginning in Albion on Idaho 77, the byway traverses the outskirts of the Pomerelle Ski Area and Lake Cleveland Recreation Area as it heads south.

At the base of the byway's necklace lies its jewel, the City of Rocks National Reserve, where more than 700 challenging climbs rival Yosemite National Park and make it a favorite spot among technical rock climbers worldwide. The visitor center in Almo provides travel information, and a series of wayside exhibits through the park interpret the historic California Trail migration from 1843 through 1869.

Heading north, the last leg of the byway ends in historic Oakley; the entire town, in fact, is on the National Register of Historic Places and features the state's largest concentration of old stone and wood-framed buildings.





**Location** - Hells Canyon Road from Oxbow Bridge near Copperfield, Oregon, north along the Idaho side of the Snake River to Hells Canyon Dam.

**Length** - 22 miles. Allow 3 hours round trip from Cambridge.

**Roadway** - Hells Canyon Road is a narrow, winding two-lane paved road with several steep grades. It is owned and maintained all year by Idaho Power Corporation.

**When to see it** - Throughout the year.

**Special attractions** - Hells Canyon National Recreation Area features the deepest gorge in North America; guided float and jet boat trips on the Snake River; guided tours of Hells Canyon Dam; Hells Canyon Creek Visitors Center.

**Camping** - Copperfield Park, Hells Canyon Park, Big Bar.

**Services** - Partial services 2.5 miles west of Copperfield. Full services in Cambridge.

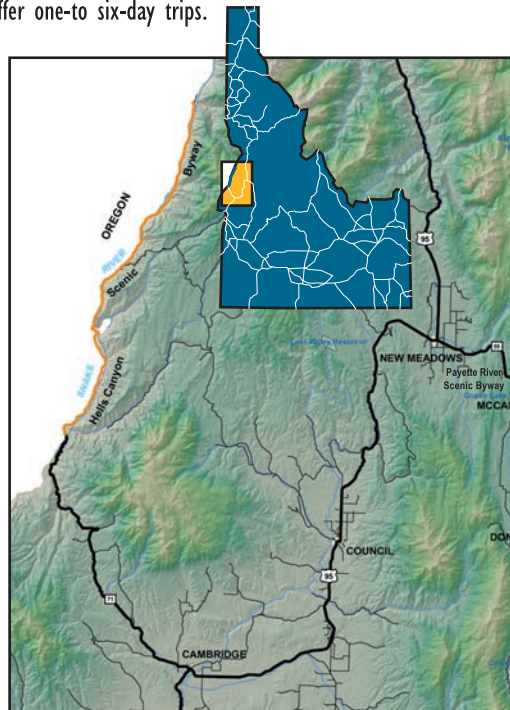
**Contacts** - Managed by the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest, 541-523-6391; Hells Canyon National Recreation Area, [www.fs.fed.us/hellscanyon](http://www.fs.fed.us/hellscanyon), Idaho office: 208-628-3916, Washington office: 509-758-0616, non-commercial float information: 509-758-1957, non-commercial powerboat information: 509-758-0270; Payette National Forest: 208-549-4200; Hells Canyon Creek Visitor Center: 541-785-3395 (Available during summer months); Idaho Power Company: 800-422-3143.

## Hells Canyon Scenic Byway

The Hells Canyon Scenic Byway winds its way along the east side of this massive rift that separates Idaho from neighboring Oregon. While the view from the road is breathtaking, a guided float trip or jet boat tour of the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area is a must. Towering cliffs of black and green basalt hang so high above the Snake River and its sandy beaches that boaters strain their necks to see these places. Outfitters offer one-to six-day trips.

Look for wildlife including mountain goats, Big Horn sheep, bald eagles and great fishing. During the summer months, visit the Hells Canyon Creek Visitors Center just below Hells Canyon Dam, the entrance to the wild and scenic part of the Snake River.

Today, walls of the canyon are like a museum, where pictographs and petroglyphs display evidence of the Indians' early settlements. The surrounding area was the home of Chief Joseph's band of Nez Perce Indians. Other tribes, including the Shoshone, Bannock, North Paiute and Cayuse Indians, were frequent visitors to the area. These tribes were drawn to the region by relatively mild winters, lush foliage and plentiful wildlife.





**Location** - The byway starts at Glenns Ferry, 75 miles southeast of Boise. It can be reached from exit 121 of I-84.

**Length** - 102 miles. It is an all-day trip from Boise.

**Roadway** - One-third of the route is paved roadways, two-thirds of the route is graveled roads.

**When to see it** - The byway is best traveled in late spring after the roads have dried out or in the fall when the weather has cooled. The route can be very hot during the summer.

**Special attractions** - Numerous historical sites can be found along the route. These include Three Island Crossing of the Snake River, the hot springs site, Canyon Creek, and Mayfield.

**Camping** - Camping is available at Three Island State Park in Glenns Ferry.

**Services** - Full services are available in Glenns Ferry and Mountain Home. No services are available along the byway.

**Contacts** - Idaho chapter Oregon-California Trails Association: [www.IdahoOCTA.org](http://www.IdahoOCTA.org); Boise District, Bureau of Land Management: 208-384-3300; Desert Mountain Visitor Center: 208-587-4464.

## Main Oregon Trail Back Country Byway

Starting at the crossing of the Snake River, you will follow the route of the pioneers as they crossed the Idaho desert in a covered wagon pulled by weary oxen. Travelers can walk in the ruts created by thousands of emigrants in search of new homes in Oregon and visit the historic sites of the emigrant diaries. Much of this route appears today as it did when the emigrants traveled this route. The main Oregon Trail from Three Island Crossing of the Snake River to the Boise River was the primary route utilized by the emigrants for the first 10 years of the Trail. Thousands of pioneers struggled across the dusty sagebrush-covered plains of Idaho with their possessions in a covered wagon. Freight and stage roads utilized much of the Oregon Trail as they developed. Travelers and freighters continued to use the route long after the building of the railroads across southern Idaho, even into the early 1900's. The Idaho desert proved to be some of the most dangerous and difficult travel the pioneers endured on their long journey.

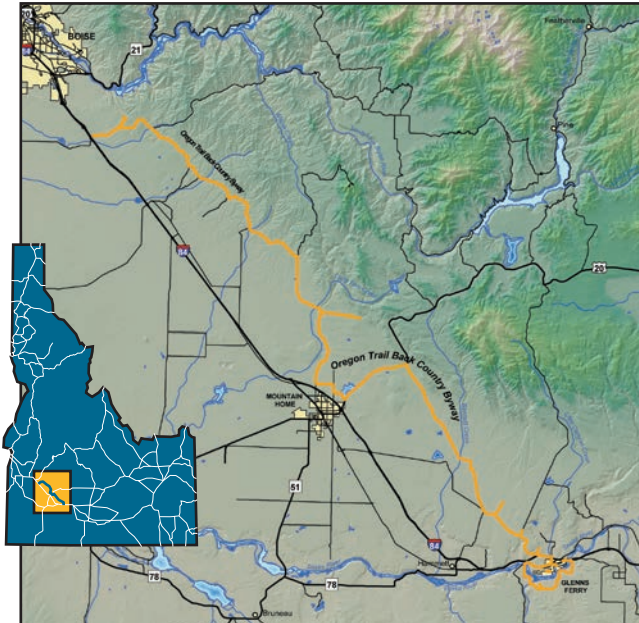
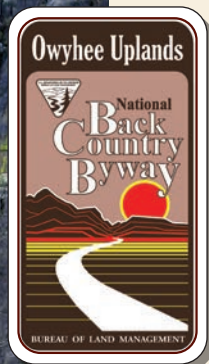




Photo courtesy of Bureau of Land Management



**Location** - The loop begins 80 miles southwest of Boise. It can be reached from the west through Jordan Valley, Oregon, and from the east, on Idaho 78 near Grand View, Idaho.

**Length** - 101 miles. From Boise, it is an all-day trip.

**Roadway** - Mostly one and one-half lanes of graveled road.

**When to see it** - The byway is usually impassable from late November through March because of snow. Also, precipitation can make the road treacherously slick. The best times of year to drive the byway are early summer and fall.

**Special attractions** - Photographers can't resist shooting from an overlook point above the North Fork gorge. The mahogany woodlands offer sweeping views, with the Owyhee Mountains as a backdrop.

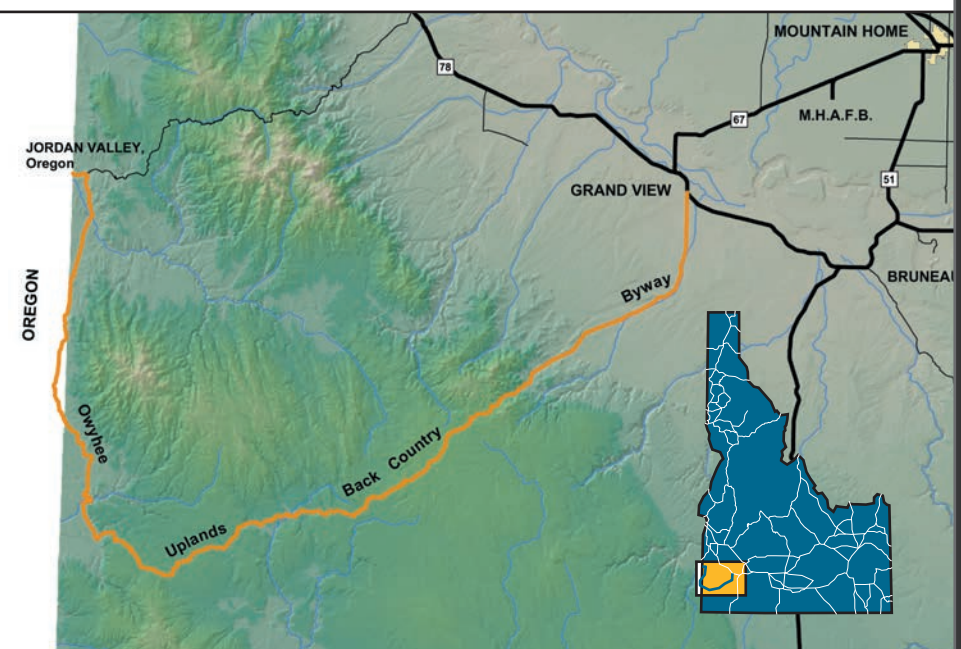
**Camping** - Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has one primitive campground, the North Fork Recreation Site, about 30 miles east of Jordan Valley.

**Services** - Limited services in Jordan Valley, Grand View and Bruneau; no services along the byway.

**Contacts** - Boise District, Bureau of Land Management: 208-384-3300.

## Owyhee Uplands Back Country Byway

Starting through hay meadows, rolling hills and the winding course of Jordan Creek, you'll soon climb into the mountains and gnarled stands of juniper woodlands. Numerous mountain ranges frame the picturesque desert, with Idaho's Owyhees rising to the north. From expanses of sagebrush and wildflowers, to rough, rock-walled rivers and streams, the Owyhee Uplands represent what many people believe the real West is all about.





**Location** - From the junction of U.S. 95 at New Meadows along Idaho 55 south to Idaho 44 west of Boise.

**Length** - 111.7 miles. Allow 2 hours, 15 minutes.

**Roadway** - Narrow, winding, two-lane, paved road with occasional passing lanes and slow vehicle turnouts.

**When to see it** - Throughout the year. The McCall Winter Carnival takes place in late January or early February.

**Special attractions** - Guided float trips on the Payette River; Cascade Reservoir; snowmobiling and cross-country skiing at Smiths Ferry; Ponderosa State Park on Payette Lake; Brundage Mountain Ski Area; Boise and Payette National Forests.

**Camping** - Ponderosa State Park, Cascade Reservoir, several campsites north of Banks area and north of McCall area.

**Services** - Full services in Boise, Cascade, Donnelly, McCall, New Meadows; partial services in Horseshoe Bend.

**Contacts** - Boise National Forest: 208-373-4007; Payette National Forest: 208-634-0700, [www.mccall.net/pnf/](http://www.mccall.net/pnf/); McCall Visitors Bureau: 208-634-7631; Ponderosa State Park: 208-634-2164. For more byway information go to: [PRSB@sageidaho.com](mailto:PRSB@sageidaho.com).

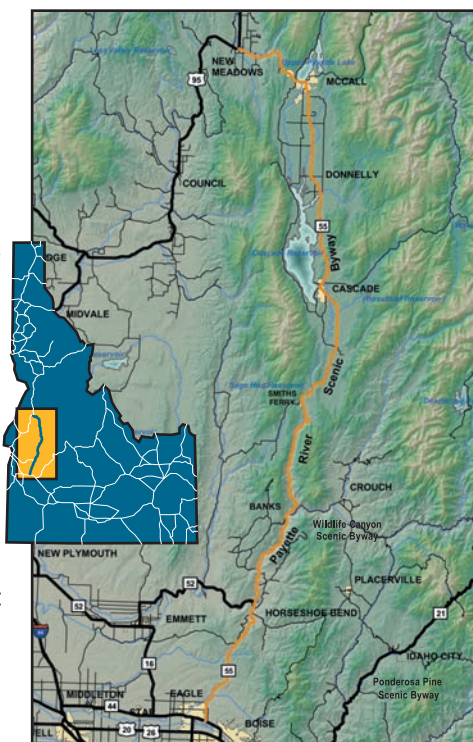
## Payette River Scenic Byway

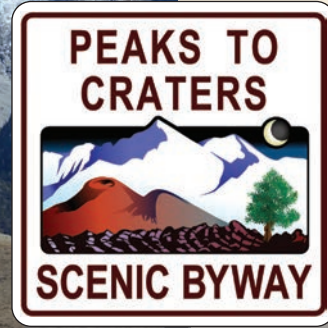
From the junction of Idaho 44 and Idaho 55 west of Idaho's capital city of Boise, this byway heads north on Idaho 55 to Horseshoe Bend where it meets the Payette River. From there, it passes through the Boise and Payette National Forests and the popular resort towns of Cascade and McCall before reaching the northern end of the byway at New Meadows.

For motorists, it can be a distracting drive as the river crashes and tumbles its way over the rocks through this narrow river valley. Depending on where you are on the river, it can be a mild ripple or a wild torrent. There are occasional pull-offs where you can view the wilder parts and treat your senses to the sight, sound, smell, and rhythm of Idaho's famous whitewater.

Along this byway are some great locations for camping, hiking, boating, fishing, and guided float trips. Outfitters offer river excursions that range from half-day to three-day outings in rafts or kayaks.

The mountain resort town of McCall sits next to Payette Lake and is a great year-round getaway. It is particularly famous for the annual Winter Carnival, when the streets are lined with ice sculptures.



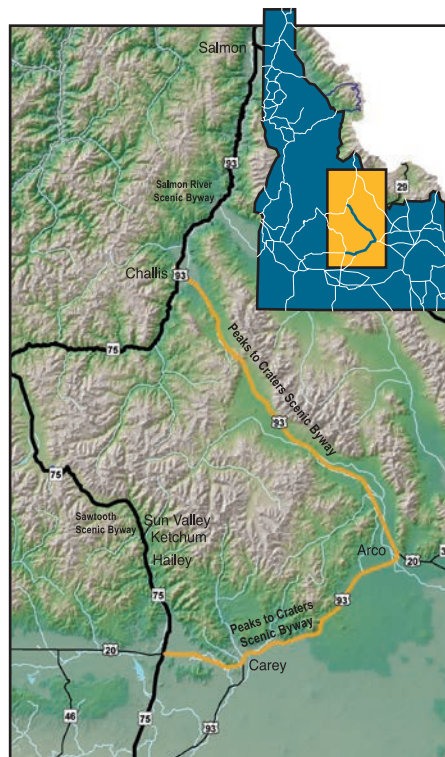


## Peaks to Craters Scenic Byway

Without a doubt this byway has the most diverse stretch of road in Idaho. You will experience wetlands, the vistas of the high mountain desert, expansive lava flows, and the Lost River Mountain Range boasting nine of Idaho's twelve highest peaks including the highest peak, Mt. Borah.

The byway features world-class fly fishing on beautiful Silver Creek, a unique rock formation known to the locals as the "Queens Crown" and the Carey Lake Wildlife Management area home to dozens of species of birds and waterfowl. There is Idaho's first national monument, Craters of the Moon National Monument and Preserve with thousands of acres of lava fields and unique rock formations. In Arco, the "First City in the World to be Lit by Atomic Energy," you can see a submarine in the desert.

In the magnificent Lost River Valley, there are peaceful miles of agricultural lands in the shadow of the Lost River Mountain Range. The valley narrows and mountains seem to increase in size as you near Mt. Borah and the rest of the "great peaks." At Spar Canyon you may see wild horses roaming the desert and are reminded of old western movies as you wind through Grandview Canyon.



**Location** - Junction of Idaho 75 and US 20 to Carey. US 93 to Arco, continuing on US 93 to Junction of US 93 and Idaho 75.

**Length** - 140 miles. Allow 3 hours.

**Roadway** - Two-lane road with some passing lanes. Winter weather can be severe. Check conditions before traveling.

**When to see it** - Throughout the year.

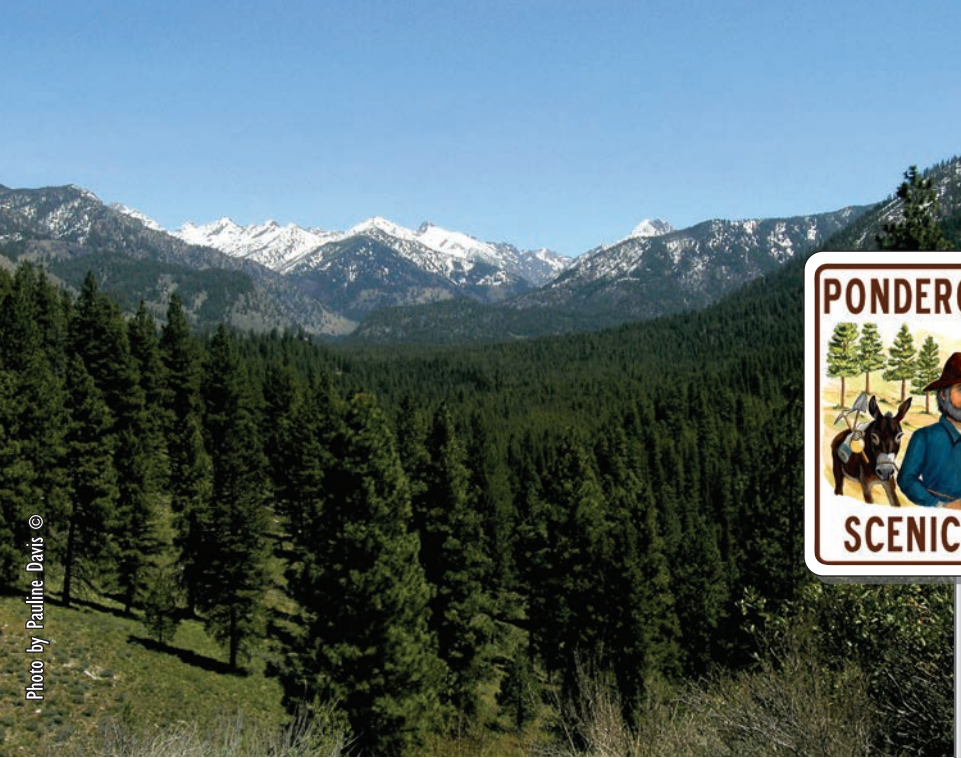
**Special attractions** -

Craters of the Moon National Monument and Preserve; Science and Technology Center in Arco; Silver Creek (world-class fly fishing); Hayspur Fish Hatchery; Carey Lake Wildlife Management Area; Goodale's Cutoff; King Mountain Hang Glider Launch site; Lost River Museum; Ghost Towns on the Mine Hill; Big Lost River Access; Mackay Dam and Reservoir; Battleground Cemetery; Mt. Borah and High Peaks of the Lost River Range; Grandview Canyon; Land of the Yankee Fork State Park.

**Camping** - Hayspur Fish Hatchery, Craters of the Moon National Monument and Preserve, Mackay Reservoir.

**Services** - Full services in Carey, Arco, Mackay and Challis. Limited services at Craters of the Moon National Monument and Preserve.

**Contacts** - Craters of the Moon National Monument and Preserve: 208-527-1300; Lost River Ranger District: 208-588-3400; Land of the Yankee Fork State Park: 208-879-5244; Arco Chamber of Commerce: 208-527-8977.



**Location** - From Boise on Idaho 21 northeast to the junction of Idaho 75 at Stanley.

**Length** - 130.9 miles. Allow 3 hours.

**Roadway** - A winding, two-lane, paved road with some steep grades and some passing lanes. There usually is a snow floor north of Lowman during winter. Severe avalanche conditions exist in the Banner Summit area and road closures can be frequent. Check conditions before traveling in winter!

**When to see it** - Throughout the year. May be closed in winter.

**Special attractions** - Lucky Peak and Arrow Rock Reservoirs; Lucky Peak State Park; Idaho City; Sawtooth Wilderness; Granite Creek Interpretive Trail; Lowman Fire Interpretive Signs; Kirkham Hot Springs; Stanley Lake; Boise, Salmon-Challis and Sawtooth National Forests; Forest Service/BLM Visitor Information Center in Boise, and the Idaho City, Lowman, and Stanley Ranger Stations.

**Camping** - There are five campgrounds between the Idaho City area and Crooked River Road turn off (Milepost 57); four campgrounds between Lowman and the Grandjean turn off (Milepost 94); and five campgrounds between Banner Summit (Milepost 105) and Stanley.

**Services** - Full services in Boise, Idaho City, Lowman and Stanley.

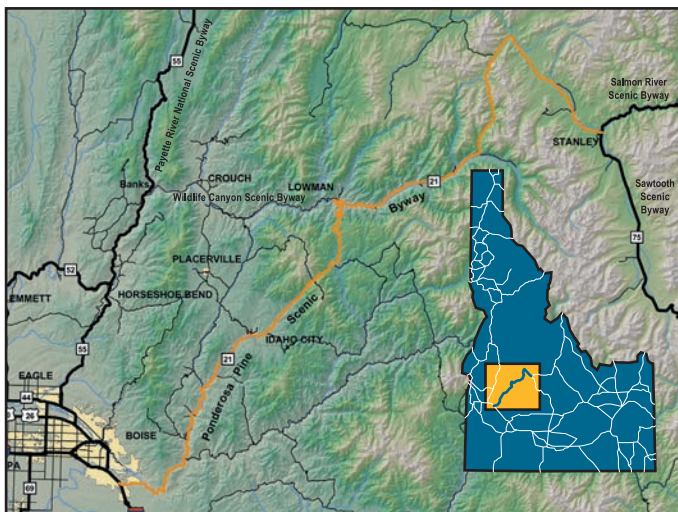
**Contacts** - Stanley-Sawtooth Chamber of Commerce: 208-774-3411, [www.stanleycc.org](http://www.stanleycc.org); Boise National Forest: 208-373-4007; [www.fs.fed.us/r4/boise](http://www.fs.fed.us/r4/boise); [info@bnf.org](mailto:info@bnf.org); Stanley Ranger Station: 208-774-3000; Sawtooth NRA: 208-727-5013; audio tape tours available from Idaho Department of Parks & Recreation: 208-334-4199.

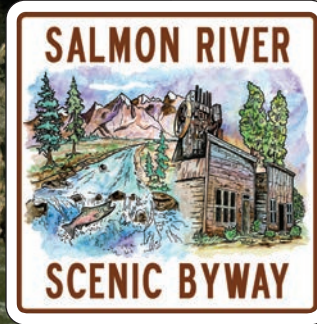
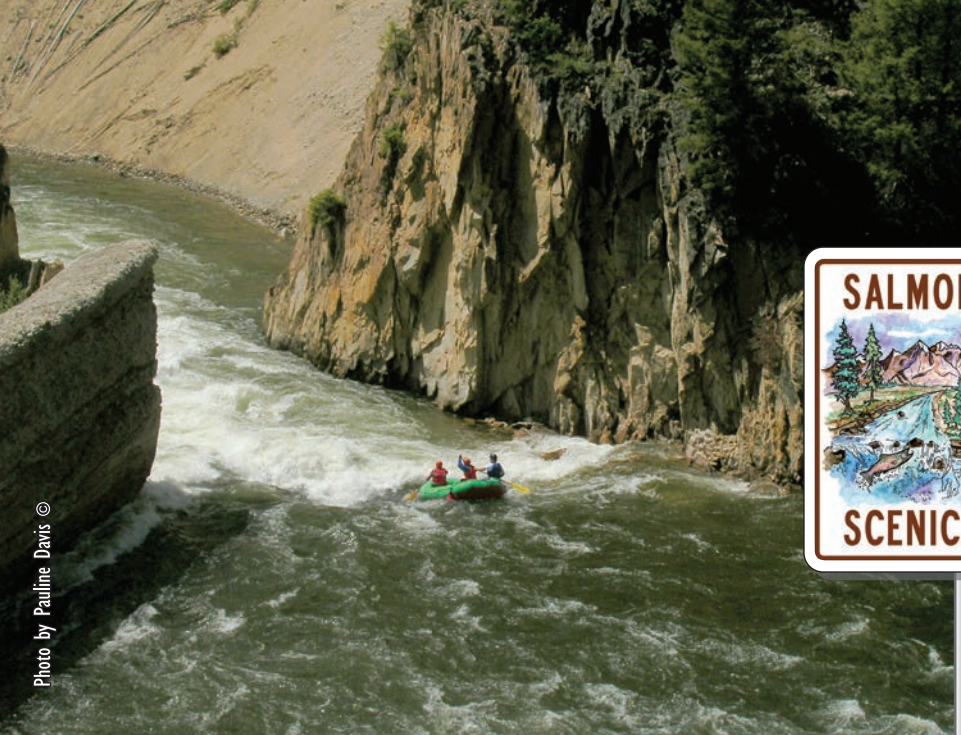
## Ponderosa Pine Scenic Byway

The Ponderosa Pine Scenic Byway starts in Boise. It follows Idaho 21 north to the historic mining town of Idaho City, where you can still pan for gold in a nearby stream bed. Campgrounds and fishing opportunities dot the route from Idaho City to Lowman and along the South Fork of the Payette River, as you slowly climb along the byway's northeasterly route.

At the cutoff road to Grandjean, the roadway leaves the Payette River and squeezes between two of Idaho's wilderness areas. On the right, the Sawtooth Wilderness and its 217,000 pristine acres of coniferous forest lands and wilderness lakes. To the left, the Salmon-Challis National Forest, entryway to the 2.3-million-acre Frank Church River of No Return Wilderness, with more contiguous acres of roadless wilderness than anywhere else in the lower 48 states.

From Banner Summit, one of Idaho's highest at 7,056 feet, you begin a descent into the town of Stanley. As the roadway grooves through the steep foothills and thick forest, you can catch glimpses of the Sawtooth Mountains ahead; finally, as you drop into Stanley, they come into full, magnificent view.





**Location** - From the Montana state line south on U.S. 93 to Challis, then west to Stanley on Idaho 75.

**Length** - 161.7 miles. Allow 3.5 hours.

**Roadway** - Two-lane, paved road with no passing lanes and some 25-mph curves.

**When to see it** - Best weather for travel is April to November, although access to the back country is best from July to October.

**Special attractions** - Sacajawea Interpretive Center; Salmon spawning beds at Indian Riffles; Land of the Yankee Fork Interpretive Center; Tower Rock; Continental Divide National Scenic Trail; Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail; Nez Perce (Nee Mee Poo) National Historic Trail; Salmon Wild and Scenic River; Middle Fork Salmon Wild and Scenic River; Frank Church River of No Return Wilderness; Salmon-Challis and Sawtooth National Forests; natural hot springs and ghost towns.

**Camping** - Salmon River, Riverside, Mormon Bend, Basin Creek, Upper and Lower O'Brien, Holman Creek, East Fork, Bayhorse, Spring Gulch, Cottonwood, Shoup Bridge, Tower Rock, Twin Creek.

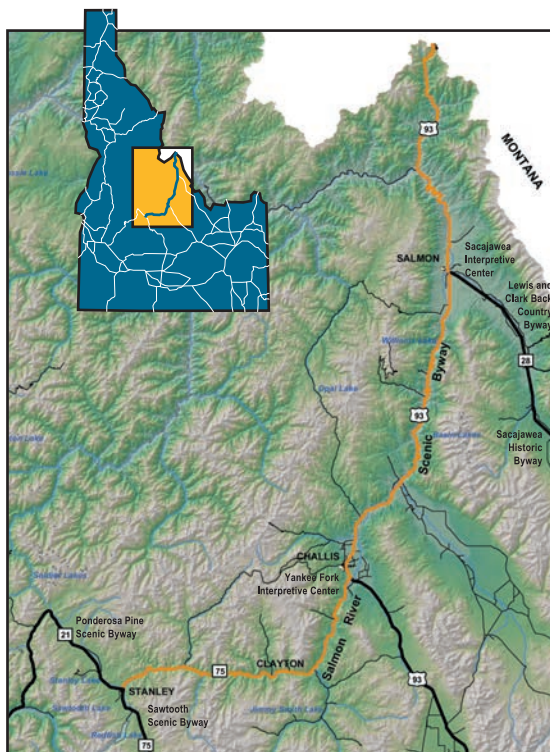
**Services** - Full services in Stanley, Challis, Salmon, North Fork; partial services in Clayton, Gibbonsville.

**Contacts** - Salmon Valley Chamber of Commerce: 800-727-2540, [info@salmonchamber.com](mailto:info@salmonchamber.com), [www.salmonchamber.com](http://www.salmonchamber.com), [www.salmonbyway.com](http://www.salmonbyway.com); Stanley-Sawtooth Chamber of Commerce: 208-774-3411, [www.stanleycc.org](http://www.stanleycc.org); Stanley Ranger Station: 208-774-3000; Sawtooth National Recreation Area: 208-727-5013; Salmon-Challis National Forests: 208-756-5100; [www.fs.fed.us/r4/sc](http://www.fs.fed.us/r4/sc); Yankee Fork Ranger District: 208-838-3300; Challis Ranger District: 208-879-4100; North Fork Ranger District: 208-865-2700; Salmon District Bureau of Land Management: 208-756-5400; Audio tape tours available for Stanley to Challis & Challis to Salmon.

## Salmon River Scenic Byway

The northern end of the Salmon River Scenic Byway begins on the Montana border at the Lost Trail Pass (elevation 6,995 feet). Lewis and Clark came this way in 1805, and the spectacular view from this vantage point has changed little since that famous exploration of the West two centuries ago. The route follows the Salmon River — also called the River of No Return — through the Salmon-Challis National Forest through the historic city of Salmon. The river and its forks serve as important natural pathways into Idaho's rugged back country. The deer, elk, and moose that often graze along the hills and meadows that line this road provide a glimpse of the wild country beyond.

Along the way, the town of Challis and the Land of the Yankee Fork Historic Area are just two points of interest, the latter being among Idaho's most famous mining areas. And as you head southwest along Idaho 75 toward Stanley, you'll begin to see glimpses of the majestic Sawtooth Mountains ahead before beholding their full splendor as you drop into town.





**Location** - Idaho 75 north to Stanley from Shoshone.

**Length** - 115.7 miles. Allow 3 hours.

**Roadway** - Two-lane, paved road with some passing lanes. The 15-mile section over Galena Summit is winding with 5 to 6 percent grades. Winter weather can be severe. Check conditions before traveling.

**When to see it** - Throughout the year.

**Special attractions** - Sawtooth National Recreation Area; Redfish Lake; world-famous Sun Valley resort.

**Camping** - Wood River, Easley Hot Springs, Alturas Lake and Redfish Lake.

**Services** - Full services in Shoshone, Hailey, Ketchum, Sun Valley, Stanley; partial services in Obsidian; rest area on U.S. 20 at the junction with Idaho 75.

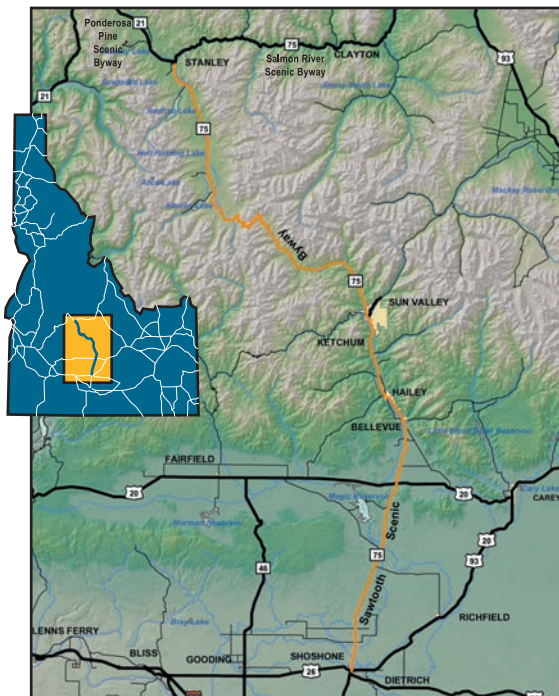
**Contacts** - Sawtooth National Recreation Area Headquarters: 208-727-5013, audio tape tour available for Stanley to Ketchum route; Stanley-Sawtooth Chamber of Commerce: 208-774-3411, [www.stanleycc.org](http://www.stanleycc.org); Sun Valley/Ketchum Chamber of Commerce: 800-634-3347, [www.visitsunvalley.com](http://www.visitsunvalley.com); Sawtooth National Forest: 208-737-3200, [www.fs.fed.us/r4/sawtooth/](http://www.fs.fed.us/r4/sawtooth/); Stanley Ranger Station: 208-774-3000; Redfish Lake Visitor Center (summer only): 208-774-3376.

## Sawtooth Scenic Byway

The Sawtooth Scenic Byway has the distinction of being the 100<sup>th</sup> National Forest Scenic Byway. Beginning in Shoshone, the southern leg of the byway features the new Black Magic Canyon geological attraction. The route then rolls north through fertile agricultural land to the resort towns of Hailey, Ketchum, and Sun Valley.

From there, the road carves its way through the Boulder Mountains to Galena Pass, showcasing the ridge of the Sawtooth Mountains. Beyond, the rocks and woodlands of the rugged Sawtooth National Recreation Area are packed with rivers, streams, and 300 alpine lakes, providing top-notch venues for a variety of year-round activities. Wildlife watchers should stay alert; the 756,000-acre recreational area is home to many species of wildlife, including pronghorn antelope, deer, elk, bear and wolves.

The northern tip of the byway terminates in Stanley, where the Sawtooth meets the Ponderosa Pine and Salmon River Scenic Byways. So no matter which way you drive in or out, you're in for a treat.





**Location** - South to north, the byway route begins on Idaho 45 at Walters Ferry, to Map Rock Road, to Chicken Dinner Road, to Lowell Road, to Plum Road, to Homedale Road, to Allendale Road, to Ustick Road, to Fargo Road, to Dixie Road, to Wamstad Road, to Apple Valley Road, to the intersection with U.S. 20/26, to Nyssa, Oregon bridge.

**Length** - Approximately 53 miles. Allow 1.5 hours for travel. Allow more time to experience the byway and super-side-trips.

**Roadway** - Idaho 45, a 2-lane road, is kept snow clear year-around. All other roadways are local roads or collectors that are paved 2-lane roads, where ice patches can occur during winter weather. The super-side-trips and overlooks onto the Canyon may not be passable in winter weather.

**When to see it** - The area is beautiful throughout the year. Vineyards and wine tasting venues are open seasonally. Orchards are best seen in the spring or the fall just before harvest. The wildlife reserve and birding islands have migratory flyways.

**Special attractions** - Wineries, vineyards, and orchards; Fort Boise; Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge; Map Rock Petroglyph; agricultural and scenic vistas along the entire route.

**Camping** - Camping is permitted in designated areas along the Snake River, with numerous "sportsman's accesses" to the river.

**Services** - Full services are available in the major cities, including Nampa and Caldwell. Partial services in Melba, Marsing, Homedale, Wilder, Greenleaf, Notus, and Parma.

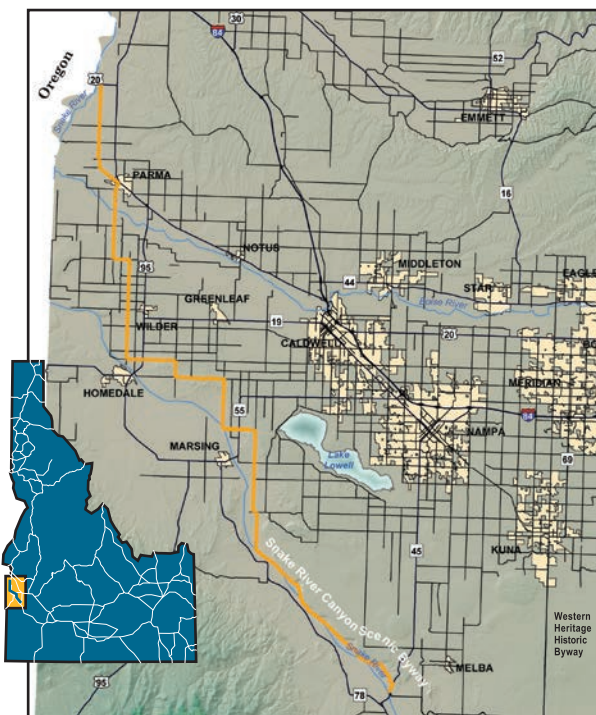
**Contacts** - Caldwell/Canyon Economic Development Council, [www.caldwellonline.org](http://www.caldwellonline.org), 208-454-0087; Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge, [www.fws.gov/deerflat](http://www.fws.gov/deerflat), 208-467-9278; Idaho Grape Growers and Wine Producers Commission, [info@idahowines.org](mailto:info@idahowines.org), 208-455-8354.

## Snake River Canyon Scenic Byway

The Snake River Canyon Scenic Byway is a rich tapestry of places, people, and scenic lands that encompasses all that is truly Idaho. Dating back nearly 4.5 million years, the rich agricultural land found today along the byway was born of fire when volcanoes dominated the land. Nearly 15,000 years ago water reshaped the land as the Bonneville Flood, one of the largest floods in geologic history, flooded the entire valley.

Over the millenniums, nature continued to define the land, creating a unique ecosystem of wildlife and plants that are found only in southwestern Idaho.

The Snake River Canyon Scenic Byway spans more than fifty miles. To drive the byway is to share the same visual experience the early pioneers observed when they arrived to create a new life in the sagebrush-covered valley. Today's rich agricultural lands and the vibrant cities found along the byway are the legacy passed down to us by those early Idaho pioneers — a living legacy for all of us to discover, enjoy, and to offer to our children as we drive a truly "southwestern" Idaho roadway.





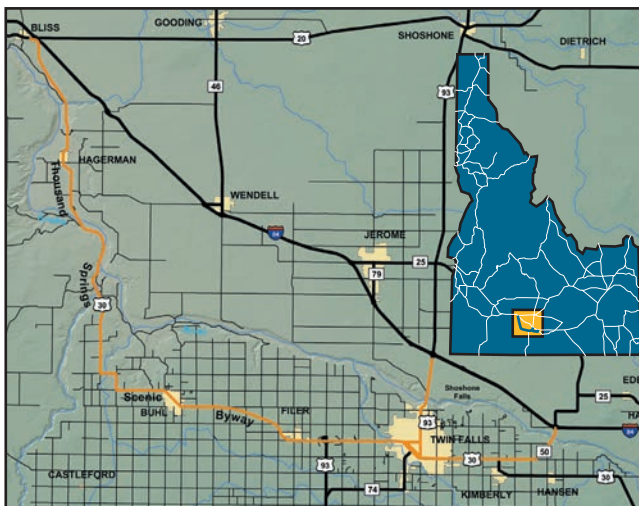
## Thousand Springs Scenic Byway

South Central Idaho geography is the result of huge prehistoric cataclysmic forces making the breathtaking Snake River Canyon. The byway provides a glimpse into this remarkable geology, history, and a nostalgic rural lifestyle. Beginning at Bliss, the byway drops into the canyon providing a grand entrance, and visitors discover country towns, historic places, fish hatcheries, wildlife habitats, and recreational opportunities.

South of Hagerman, Thousand Springs is clearly visible from the byway. This pure, clean oxygenated water maintains a constant temperature of 58 °F, ideal conditions for growing trout. The hatcheries located along the 30-mile stretch of the Snake River in the Hagerman Valley raise 70 percent of the trout produced in the United States. Boat tours and dinner cruises available in the area allow visitors to get up-close and personal with some of the Thousand Springs along this stretch of the Snake River.

Travel on and enjoy small town delights and festivals such as the Trout Festival in Buhl and Idaho's largest county fair in Filer, both in September. In Twin Falls visit Historic Downtown Twin Falls; home to unique shops and galleries. The City Park is the site of the historic band shell and home of one of the country's longest playing city bands. Take a side trip to the 212-foot Shoshone Falls. The best viewing is in the early spring of high run-off years before the water is put to work irrigating the area's fertile farmland. The Centennial Trail, starting at Shoshone Falls Park, will take you to the Evel Knievel jump site, and provide a panoramic view of the area.

In the fall, travel to the South Hills via Hansen and Kimberly for spectacular fall foliage and trails for cycling, horseback riding and hiking. This area is home to some of the best winter recreation in the region.



**Location** - Begins at Interstate 84 near Bliss and follows U.S. 30 southeast through Twin Falls to Idaho 50, then north on Idaho 50 to I-84. Also U.S. 93 from Twin Falls north to I-84.

**Length** - 67.8 miles. Allow 1.5 hours.

**Roadway** - U.S. 30 and Idaho 50 are two-lane, paved roads with some passing lanes.

**When to see it** - Throughout the year. The best time to see Shoshone Falls is in early spring.

**Special attractions** - Thousand Springs State Park Complex—a series of five parks; Hagerman Valley; the Snake River; Hagerman Fossil Beds

National Monument; Thousand Springs; National and State Fish Hatcheries; Wildlife Management Areas; Hot Springs; Historical Museums; Fish, Waterfowl and Bird viewing; Herrett Center Planetarium, Museum and Observatory in Twin Falls; Buhl's 8<sup>th</sup> Street Arts Center; Perrine Bridge and Canyon Rim Trail System; Shoshone Falls; and historic downtown Twin Falls.

**Camping** - Many private campgrounds along entire route.

**Services** - Full services in Bliss, Hagerman, Buhl, Kimberly, Twin Falls; partial services in Filer; rest areas south of Hagerman and visitor services at U.S. 93 at south end of Perrine Bridge.

**Contacts** - Southern Idaho Tourism: 800-255-8946, [www.visitsouthidaho.com](http://www.visitsouthidaho.com); Hagerman Chamber of Commerce: 208-837-9131, [www.hagermanchamber.com](http://www.hagermanchamber.com); Hagerman Fossil Beds National Monument: 208-837-4793, [www.nps.gov/hafo/home.htm](http://www.nps.gov/hafo/home.htm); Thousand Springs Parks: 208-837-4505, [www.idahoparks.org](http://www.idahoparks.org); Buhl Chamber of Commerce: 208-543-6682, [www.buhlidaho.us](http://www.buhlidaho.us); Twin Falls Chamber of Commerce: 208-733-3974, [www.twinfallschamber.com](http://www.twinfallschamber.com); Twin Falls County Parks and Recreation: 208-734-9491, [www.twinfallscounty.org](http://www.twinfallscounty.org).





**Location** - Beginning at exit 44 of I-84 follow Idaho 69 southbound for 8 miles to East Avalon Avenue in Kuna. Turn south on Swan Falls Road and continue for 21 miles through the Birds of Prey National Conservation Area (NCA) on Swan Falls Dam. To reach Celebration Park, travel west on Victory Lane, north on McDermott Road, west along Warren Spur Road, and then south on Sinker Road to the park. To continue west from Celebration Park turnoff, travel Warren Spur Road to Hill Road, head north to Ferry Road.

From Ferry Road go south on Idaho 45 to the Snake River.

**Length** - 47 miles. Allow 1.5 hour for travel.

**Roadway** - Idaho 69 is a paved 5-lane road. Swan Falls Road is a two-lane, paved road to Swan Falls Dam. The final mile is a steep grade from the Snake River canyon rim to the dam site. Ice patches occur infrequently during winter weather.

**When to see it** - Throughout the year. Birds of prey migrate in and are active March to late June.

**Special attractions** - Kuna's Visitor Center provides orientation for byway attractions including: Birds of Prey NCA; Idaho's Initial Point with a 360 degree view of the Lower Snake River Plain; Dedication Point (wheelchair accessible) offers views of the Snake River Canyon; Swan Falls Dam Historic Powerhouse and Museum\*; Celebration Park, Idaho's only archeological park offers camping and boat launch; Owyhee County Museum.

**Services** - Full traveler services are available in Kuna including gift shops, groceries, auto parts and service. A variety of restaurants offer cuisine ranging from country cooking, ethnic dishes, to fine dining.

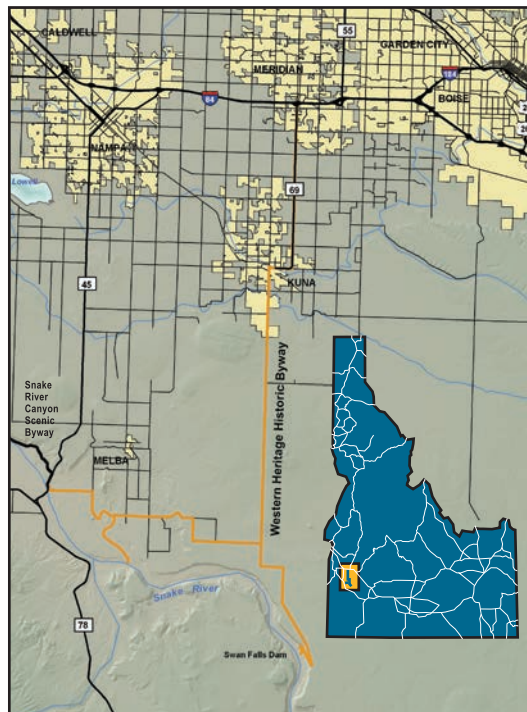
**Contacts** - Kuna Chamber of Commerce and Visitor Center: 208-922-9254, [www.kunachamber.com](http://www.kunachamber.com); Bureau of Land Management: 208-384-3300; Kuna City Hall: 208-922-5546; [www.byways.org/explore/byways/2593/](http://www.byways.org/explore/byways/2593/)

\* Due to security, schedule appointments in advance for Swan Falls Dam Historic Powerhouse. Idaho Power: 208-736-3458.

## Western Heritage Historic Byway

To drive the Western Heritage Historic Byway is to experience "Wild" Idaho. The Birds of Prey National Conservation Area is home to the largest population of nesting raptors in the world. Travel back in time as you descend into the Snake River Canyon. At the bottom of the canyon, imagine the volcano which created today's Yellowstone Park passing underneath your feet nearly 14 million years ago. Walk through a field of hundred-ton boulders that were deposited by one of the largest floods in geologic history, and discover thousand-year-old petroglyphs inscribed by early Native Americans that are still visible today.

Idaho was a vast territory when gold and silver discoveries in the Owyhee Mountains brought miners and homesteaders. At the dawn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, Swan Falls Dam, the first powerhouse on the Snake River was the birthplace of modern electricity—the same standard used throughout the world today. Experience Idaho's western heritage. Museums, birds of prey, ancient sites, and mining towns along with the rugged outdoors are your invitation to create your own unique Idaho frontier adventure.





**Location** - The route travels along the Banks-Lowman road. It can be accessed either at Banks along Idaho 55 or at Lowman along Idaho 21. Either point of access brings the traveler back to a route leading to Boise.

**Length** - 33 miles. Allow one hour. Allow 3 hours for the loop from Boise and back.

**Roadway** - This is a two-lane, paved roadway with no passing lanes, but there are several turnouts for scenic viewing. The roadway is maintained year around, but often has a snow floor during winter months.

**When to see it** - There are year-round opportunities for wildlife viewing with exceptional elk viewing in winter and spring. In summer months this stretch of river is world renowned for rafting and kayaking.

## Wildlife Canyon Scenic Byway

Herd of elk numbering near one hundred are not an unusual sight along the Wildlife Canyon Scenic Byway, especially near the Danskin river access. Along with elk are mule deer, whitetail deer, chukars, wild turkeys, eagles, ospreys, cougars, bears, and wolves. Several campgrounds along the byway have natural hot springs for visitors to enjoy, as well as several trails for hiking and biking. Fishing and rafting are also enjoyable activities afforded along the route. In winter months, summer hiking trails provide miles of snowmobile and skiing adventure. You will also find motels, bed and breakfasts, a musical theatre, and even a golf course.

Wildlife Canyon Scenic Byway joins two other scenic byways, forming a one-day drive from Boise. It can be accessed either by the Ponderosa Pine Scenic Byway on Idaho 21 or by the Payette River Scenic Byway on Idaho 55. Either route connects with this 33-mile trip through some of the most powerful canyon scenery offered in the state. A one day trip from Boise affords visitors a glimpse of the pioneering spirit of early Idaho and the awesome beauty of Idaho's wildlife and whitewater.

**Special attractions** - The winter range for elk is located within a five-mile section in the middle of the route near the Danskin river-access point. A turnout with wildlife viewing scopes is available at Gallagher Flat.

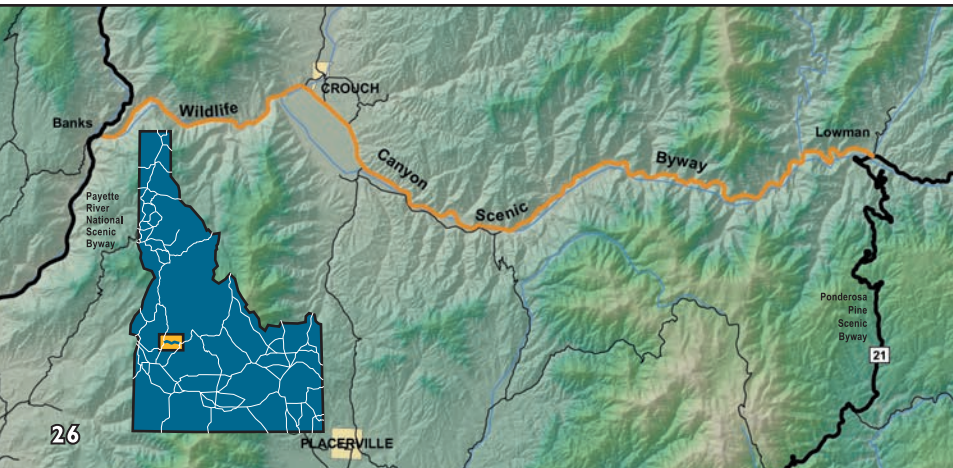


Large herds of elk and deer are found along this stretch of roadway during winter and spring months. The migratory and nesting route for Canada Geese is located here also.

The South Fork of the Payette River offers world-class rafting and kayaking. Visitors are treated to the acrobatics of kayakers in class IV conditions along several points of the river. Commercial rafting companies offer trips down the river.

**Camping** - Hot Springs Campground, Pine Flats Campground, RV parks in Crouch and Garden Valley.

**Contacts** - Boise National Forest Garden Valley Ranger Station: 208-462-3241; Garden Valley Chamber of Commerce: 208-462-5003, [www.gvchamber.org](http://www.gvchamber.org), [gvchamber@gvchamber.org](mailto:gvchamber@gvchamber.org).





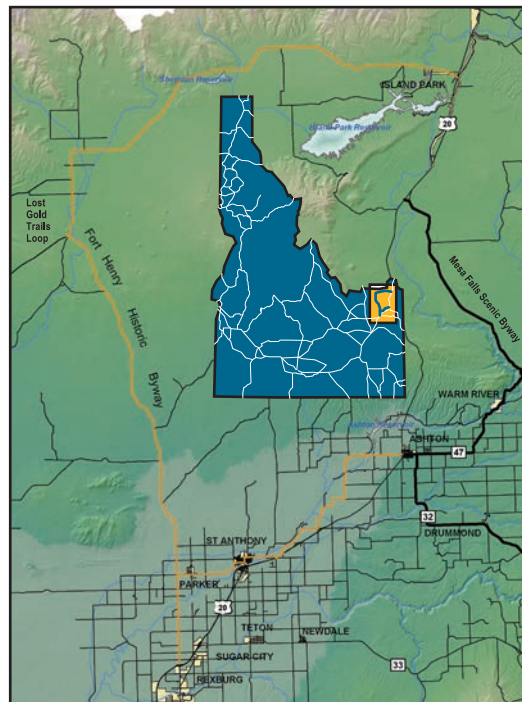
## Fort Henry Historic Byway

See the Fort Henry Monument that marks the first European settlement in Idaho, from which this byway gets its name. A new monument replaces the old one. The old monument has been moved to the original Fort Henry site in the adjoining field. It can be viewed from the new monument via telescope.

From the Monument the byway heads to the St. Anthony Sand Dunes. The dunes are part of the Sand Mountain Wilderness Study Area. This 20,000-acre area of sage and juniper is the winter range for a large number of deer and elk.

In April, Camas Meadows is host to returning Sandhill Cranes. The area is home to Sage Grouse that gather each spring for a courtship ritual at their display ground. June brings forth fields of blue Camas Lilies. The Indians dug the Camas bulbs in the fall for food. Mountain streams are enticing for fisherman and campers. The mountains of the Caribou-Targhee National Forest lure both hikers and bicyclists.

The heritage of Clark and Fremont counties is very unique and full of early history of mountain men, Indians, miners, stagecoach lines, and ranching. A destination site on this byway is the Camas Meadows Battleground where a skirmish occurred between the U.S. Calvary and the Nez Perce during their 1877 flight.



**Location** - From North Rexburg U.S. 20 exit, onto Salem Highway, to St. Anthony Sand Dunes on Red Road and on to A-2 Road Junction. Continue on A-2 north, then east to Island Park at U.S. 20. From intersection of Salem Highway and 500 North, go east to St. Anthony on U.S. 20 Business Route, turn at the Fun Farm Sportsman Access and follow old U.S. 191 past Chester to Ashton.

**Length** - 97 miles. Allow 2.5 hours for travel.

**Roadway** - Two-lane road, no mountain passes. North Rexburg exit to A-2 in Clark County to Kilgore Store exit paved. Only gravel road includes eleven miles Kilgore to Fremont County line, then paved to U.S. 20.

**When to see it** - Mid-April to Mid-November. Much of A-2 is not plowed in the winter and roads become snowmobile trails. Check with contacts below for byway access in winter.

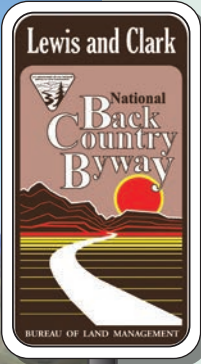
**Special attractions** - Henry's Fork of the Snake River; Fort Henry Monument; St. Anthony Sand Dunes; wild game areas; historic ranches; Camas Meadows Battle Ground; Targhee-Caribou National Forest; and Fremont County Sugar Company Site. Ask about summer/winter sports attractions in these areas.

**Camping** - McCrea Bridge and Buttermilk campgrounds in the National Forest, Egin Lake Access Recreation Site. Privately owned campsites are St. Anthony Sand Dunes, Kilgore town site, Eagle Ridge Ranch, Enchanted Forest in Shotgun.

**Services** - Full services: Rexburg, St. Anthony, and all communities on U.S. 20; partial services Kilgore Store (no gas).

**Contacts** - Ashton/Island Park Ranger District 208-652-7442; St. Anthony Visitor Center: 208-624-4870; St. Anthony City Offices: 208-624-3494; Fremont County Courthouse: 208-624-7332; Bureau of Land Management: 208-524-7500.

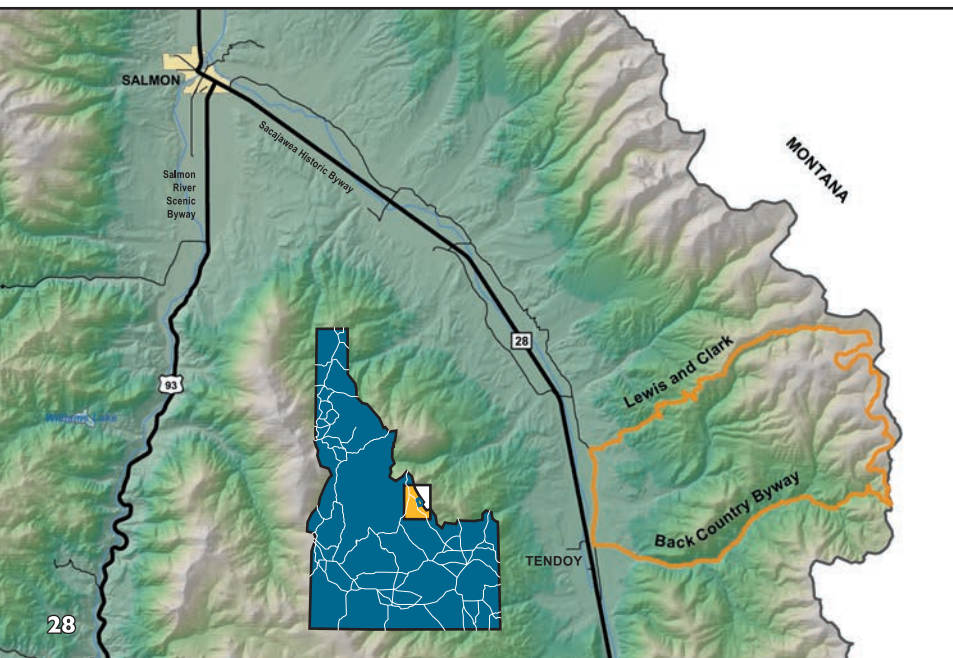
Photo by Pauline Davis ©



## Lewis and Clark Back Country Byway

About two hundred years ago, Meriwether Lewis and William Clark stood high on a ridge-line that divides continental waters, and began the discovery of the Pacific Northwest. Stands of fir and pine trees, high-mountain meadows and rolling, jade-colored hills look much the same today as when the famous explorers journeyed to the crest of Lemhi Pass in 1805.

As you travel the Lewis and Clark Back Country Byway, you'll see where the expedition unfurled the flag of the United States for the first time west of the Rocky Mountains, as well as spectacular vistas of the Lemhi Pass, Salmon River, Rocky and Lost River mountain ranges, rolling sagebrush and alpine meadows, wildlife, and carpets of wildflowers.



**Location** - The byway is located 20 miles southeast of Salmon off of Idaho 28. Turn east from Idaho 28 at the Tendoy store.

**Length** - 39 miles. Allow 3 hours.

**Roadway** - Roads are mostly single lane with gravel surface and occasional turnouts.

**When to see it** - Snow usually closes the roads from November until June. Summer and early fall are the best times of the year to make the journey. Beware of muddy roads in late spring and early summer. The route is groomed in the winter months and is popular with snowmobilers.

**Special attractions** - Back Country Interpretive Kiosk; Sharkey Hot Springs; Lemhi Pass where the Lewis and Clark expedition first crossed the Continental Divide going west; 1<sup>st</sup> Flag Unfurling Site; Continental Divide National Scenic Trail.

**Camping** - BLM Agency Creek recreation site at Milepost 33: Tent and trailer campsites, toilets, no potable water available.

**Services** - Full services in Salmon; partial services in Tendoy, Lemhi and Leadore. To the south, the nearest full-service community is Idaho Falls, 140 miles away.

**Contacts** - The Bureau of Land Management's Salmon Field Office: 208-756-5400; Salmon-Challis National Forest: 208-756-5100; Salmon Valley Chamber of Commerce: 208-756-2100.

Photo by Jacquelyn Hooper



**Location** - Begins on A-2/Red Road Junction at the “Y” east of Dubois, routing to Old Highway 91 north of Dubois to Spencer. Then east on Spencer/Idmon road connecting to Idmon/A-2 Junction and Fort Henry Historic Byway. Continue north toward Kilgore and east to Island Park, or if you choose, turn south and return to the “Y” Junction.

**Length** - 47.8 miles. Allow 1.5 hours.

**Roadway** - Two-lane roadway, no mountain passes. “Y” at A-2/Red Road Junction to Dubois, Old Highway 91 Dubois to Spencer, and 3 miles of Spencer/Idmon paved, last 11 miles of Spencer/Idmon are gravel.

**When to see it** - Dubois to Spencer open year around. Highway A-2 “Y” to Dubois and Spencer/Idmon road closed through winter. Closed roads often become snowmobile trails in winter.

**Special attractions** - Heritage Hall Museum; Historic Dubois Hotel; Dubois Visitors Center; Medicine Lodge travertine mines; Historic Wood Live Stock Rock House; Beaver Canyon; Nez Perce Trail; China Point; Idmon town site; Spencer opal shops and mines.

**Camping** - Forest Service Campgrounds at Stoddard and Steel Creeks (minimum facilities).

**Services** - Full services in Dubois. Partial services in Spencer.

**Contacts** - City of Dubois: 208-374-5241; Clark County Courthouse: 208-374-5304; Dubois Ranger District: 208-374-5422; Byway Information: 208-374-5330 or 208-374-5517.

## Lost Gold Trails Loop

The Lost Gold Trails Loop ventures southwest through desert-lava rolling hill terrain along Highway A-2 where cattle and wild game peacefully share spring and fall months grazing. Arriving at the railroad tracks, which originated the town of “Dry Creek,” later renamed Dubois, is also the historic Gateway to the Nez Perce Trail. The Trail continues west through town over I-15 overpass onto Idaho 22 to the Old Highway 91 Junction. Continue on Old Highway 91 to Spencer. This road is a favorite for hunters and fishermen. You will pass a U.S. Sheep Experiment Station historical sign and former entrance road.

This early-day Gold Trail closely followed Beaver Creek towards Montana gold mines. At Spencer the Gold Trail of yesterday becomes the Opal Trails of today because of several high grade Opal Shops within the original Wood Live Stock town site. Leaving Spencer, the Trail heads east along the foothills of the Centennial Mountains towards Idmon. Many years ago the Nez Perce used this trail to elude the U.S. Calvary. Today it is dedicated as the National Historic Nez Perce Trail and serves ranchers trailing or trucking cattle and sheep. Spurs off this main roadway trail to private opal mines, Caribou-Targhee Forest, ranches, fishing, hunting, primitive camping areas, and an old area cemetery. It is know also as the home of Sandhill Cranes, Sage Grouse, many other wild life species, and includes beautiful fields of native plants, such as the well-known Camas.

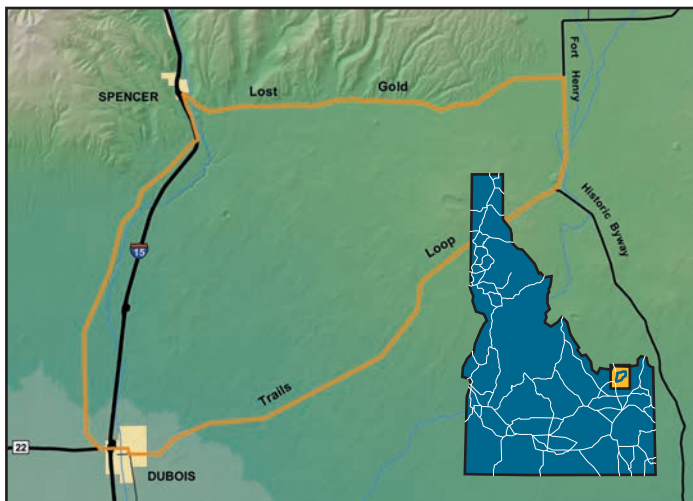


Photo by Pauline Davis ©

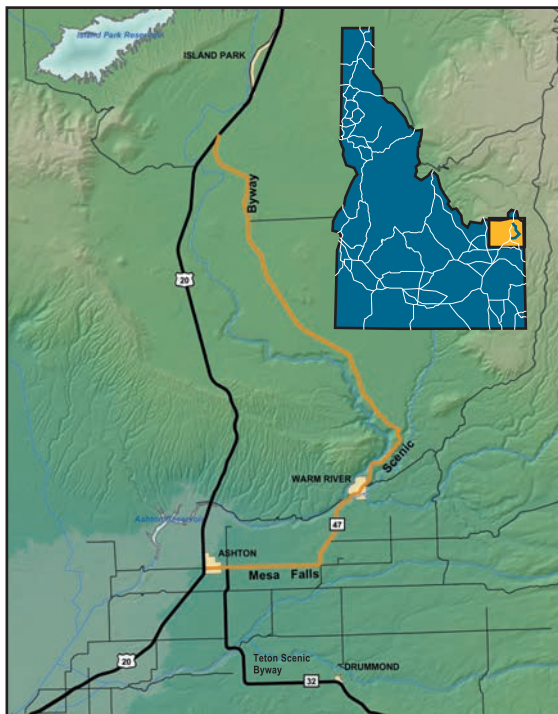


## Mesa Falls Scenic Byway

The Mesa Falls Scenic Byway begins at the junction of U.S. 20 and Idaho 47, near the northern terminus of the Teton Scenic Byway in Ashton, Idaho. From Ashton, the route travels through the Warm River area towards its main attractions, Upper and Lower Mesa Falls.

At 114 feet and 65 feet respectively, the Upper and Lower Falls offer equally spectacular views in a beautiful forest setting. Both falls can be viewed in full, Lower Falls from a quarter mile distance, Upper Falls from just a few feet away. The area near Upper Falls is enhanced with pathways, stairs and viewing platforms. These improvements lead visitors to the brink of the falls, close enough to feel the power of the cascading water. Some of the pathways and viewing platforms are universally accessible. The historic Big Falls Inn (fee site) at Upper Falls has been restored to its original splendor and it is now open seasonally (approximately May 15<sup>th</sup> thru October 1<sup>st</sup>) as an interpretive center.

Though the byway is less than an hour's driving time, viewing the falls, touring the interpretive center, enjoying a picnic lunch and making stops to view wildflowers can easily fill half a day.



**Location** - The southern end is in Ashton on Idaho 47, travel northeast 12.4 miles to the old Bear Gulch Ski Area site, then northwest along Forest Service Route 294 to the northern end at U.S. 20.

**Length** - 28.7 miles. Allow 1 hour.

**Roadway** - Both Idaho 47 and Forest Service Route 294 are two-lane, paved roads. Forest Service Route 294 is closed in winter and becomes a Forest Service snowmobile route.

**When to see it** - Spring through fall is great by car. In the winter the Forest Service road becomes one of many snowmobile trails in the area. If you have a snowmobile or cross-country skis, winter is the time to go; if you don't, there is no access.

**Special attractions** - Upper Mesa Falls; Lower Mesa Falls; Harriman State Park on U.S. 20; many trails for bikes, horses, cross-country skiing, and snowmobiles.

**Camping** - The Warm River Forest Service Campground is approximately 9 miles east of Ashton on the Warm River. The Grand View Forest Service Campground is located at the Lower Mesa Falls turnout.

**Services** - Full services in Ashton and Island Park.

**Contacts** - Ashton/Island Park Ranger District: 208-652-7442; Ashton Chamber of Commerce: 208-652-3987; Ashton Visitor Center: 208-652-7520; Targhee National Forest: [www.fs.fed.us/tnfmefalls/welcome.htm](http://www.fs.fed.us/tnfmefalls/welcome.htm).



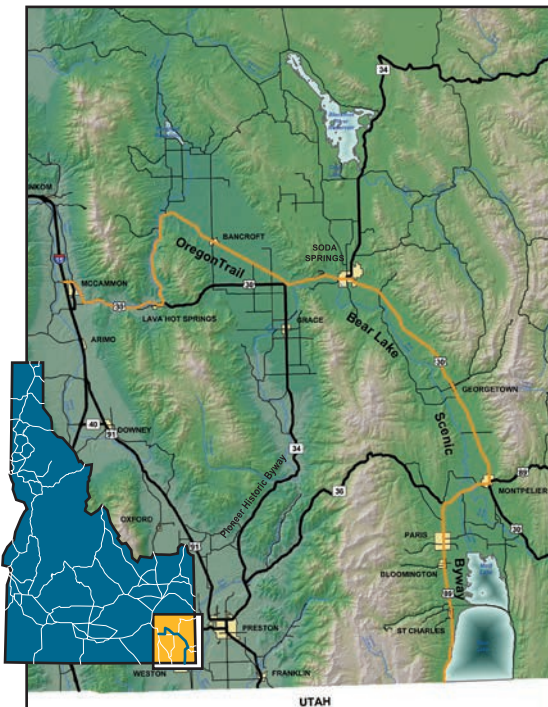
## Oregon Trail-Bear Lake Scenic Byway

Bear Lake straddles the Idaho-Utah border and boasts sandy beaches, great water sports, fishing, boating, and the famous Bear Lake State Park. This byway follows Bear Lake north on U.S. 89 to Montpelier, then north on U.S. 30, where you leave the Cache National Forest and enter the Caribou National Forest.

The intersection of U.S. 89 and U.S. 30 at Montpelier is the site of the attractive National Oregon-California Trail Center dedicated to the history and scenic wonders of the 2,000-mile Oregon-California Trail, part of the largest voluntary migration ever.

There, you can ride in computer-controlled covered wagons, journey nearby trails with experienced guides in period costume, and handle the tools and other artifacts used by the pioneers. There is also an expansive park and playground to stretch your legs, as well as a general store and gift shop to help you remember your visit.

There are 13 Oregon-California Trail sites identified in the Soda Springs area. These sites are documented in diaries of the emigrants, in military records, by early mountain men, and settlers. "Travel the Oregon Trail in Caribou County" brochure contains information and directions on each site. The Mormon ghost town of Chesterfield lies 25 miles northwest of Soda Springs and is located right on the Oregon-California Trail.



**Location** - Begins at the Utah state line and follows U.S. 89 north to U.S. 30, then north and west to Soda Springs. Then west on U.S. 30 to Blazer Highway (Old U.S. 30) through Bancroft, west and then south to Lava Hot Springs and west to I-15 at McCammon.

**Length** - 110 miles. Allow 2 hours.

**Roadway** - U.S. 89, U.S. 30, and Blazer Highway are two-lane, paved roads. They can receive heavy snowfall in winter. U.S. 30 has some passing lanes and one short, 5 to 6 percent grade at Georgetown Summit. Blazer Highway has no passing lanes.

**When to see it** - Throughout the year.

**Special attractions** - Bear Lake; Bear Lake State Park; Paris Historic Tabernacle; Minnetonka Cave; National Oregon-California Trail Center in Montpelier; Captive Geyser in Soda Springs; Alexander Dam and Power Plant; Chesterfield; Lava Hot Springs.

**Camping** - Several areas in Caribou National Forest, Bear Lake State Park, Montpelier Canyon, and Lava Hot Springs.

**Services** - Full services in Montpelier, Soda Springs, Lava Hot Springs; partial services in Paris, Georgetown, McCammon.

**Contacts** - Bear Lake State Park: 208-847-1045; Bear Lake Convention and Visitors Bureau: 800-448-2327, [www.bearlake.org](http://www.bearlake.org); Montpelier Ranger District: 208-847-0375; Soda Springs Ranger District: 208-547-4356; The National Oregon-California Trail Center (Montpelier): 866-847-3800, [www.oregontrailcenter.org](http://www.oregontrailcenter.org); Soda Springs Chamber of Commerce: 888-399-0888, [sodacoc@sodachamber.com](mailto:sodacoc@sodachamber.com); Pioneer Country Travel Council, 888-201-1063, [www.seidaho.org](http://www.seidaho.org).



**Location** - Begins at the Utah state line and follows U.S. 91, then Idaho 34, north to U.S. 30 and then east to Soda Springs where it meets the Oregon Trail-Bear Lake Scenic Byway. From there, north on Idaho 34 toward the Wyoming state line.

**Length** - 127 miles. Allow 2.5 hours.

**Roadway** - U.S. 91 is a two-lane, paved road with some passing lanes. Idaho 34 is a two-lane, paved road with one moderately steep grade between Wayan and the Wyoming border.

This is a heavy snowfall area with most winter travel being made on a snow floor. The section of Idaho 34 between Soda Springs and the Wyoming border may occasionally be closed in the winter.

**When to see it** - Throughout the year.

**Special attractions** - Bear River Massacre Site; Red Rock Pass; Niter Ice Cave; Black Canyon Gorge; Last Chance Canal; Franklin Historic District; Grays Lake National Wildlife Refuge; Oneida Stake Academy; Chesterfield town site and the world's only captive geyser in Soda Springs.

**Camping** - Several in the Caribou National Forest.

**Services** - Full services in Preston, Grace, Soda Springs; partial services in Franklin.

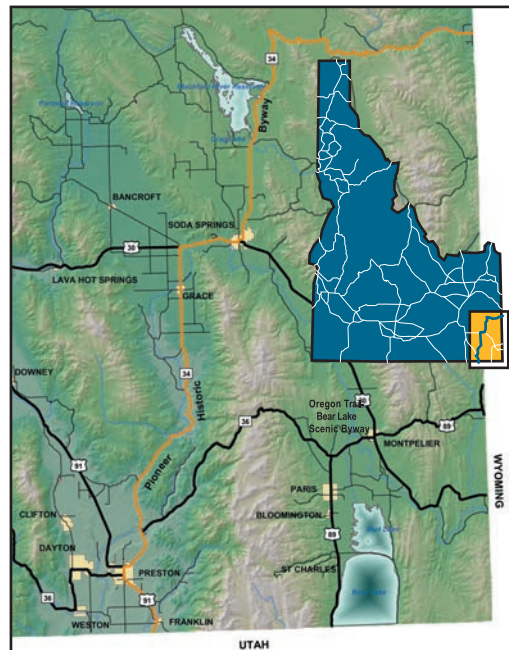
**Contacts** - Preston Area Chamber of Commerce: 208-852-2703, [www.prestonidaho.org](http://www.prestonidaho.org); Pioneer Country Travel Council: 800-423-8597 or 888-201-1063, [www.seidaho.org](http://www.seidaho.org); Soda Springs Chamber of Commerce: 208-547-2600 or 888-399-0888, [www.sodachamber.com](http://www.sodachamber.com); U.S. Forest Service-Soda Springs Ranger District: 208-547-4356; [www.pioneerhistoricbyway.org](http://www.pioneerhistoricbyway.org); [www.bywaysonline.org](http://www.bywaysonline.org).

## Pioneer Historic Byway

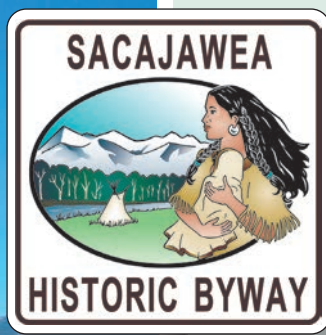
On this route, travelers can retrace some steps of Idaho's early pioneers and follow the historic path taken by early-day Yellowstone Park visitors. From Franklin, Idaho's oldest settlement, this byway heads north to Soda Springs and on to the Wyoming border. This route offers the shortest distance and time between Salt Lake City and Yellowstone Park.

Along the way you can see the remnants of the first grist mill in Idaho, one of the original Yellowstone Highway markers, the 100+ year old Mormon Oneida Academy, the site of the massacre at Bear River, Devil's Hand, the Niter Ice Cave, Last Chance Canal, cinder cones from extinct volcanoes, a section of the Oregon-California Trail, and many other historical points of interest, documenting early settlement in this portion of Idaho.

Soda Springs offers numerous opportunities for visitors. Among a variety of historic attractions, the town features the world's only captive geyser, with a plume of almost 100 feet. In addition, the nearby Formation Springs Nature Conservancy Area contains a travertine-formed cave and excellent waterfowl and wildlife viewing.







**Location** - Begins at the intersection of Interstate 15 & Idaho 33 at Exit 143, follows Idaho 33 about 12 miles west to its junction with Idaho 28, and follows Idaho 28 northwest for 120 miles to Salmon, Idaho.

**Length** - 132 miles. About 2.5 hours.

**Roadway** - Idaho 33 is a straight and flat road. Speed is limited through the towns of Terreton and Mud Lake. Idaho 28 is mostly straight, with some hills as you gradually make your way over Gilmore Summit, a low mountain pass at 7,186 feet. Watch for icy conditions and snow drifts in winter. Both are two-lane, paved roads, with areas for passing.

**When to see it** - Throughout the year. Summer months afford easier travel, while spectacular autumn colors are best viewed late September through October.

**Special attractions** - Idaho 28 parallels the Continental Divide for almost 100 miles. Other attractions: Mud Lake Wildlife Management Area; Prehistoric Man; Charcoal Kilns; Birch Creek; Gilmore Town Site; Meadow Lake; Leadore Ranger Station/Visitor Center; Sacajawea Interpretive Center; Lemhi County Historical Museum.

**Camping** - Mud Lake Wildlife Management Area (Fish & Game), Birch Creek Campground (BLM), Kaufman Campground (BLM), Lone Pine, Smokey Cubs Campground (USFS), Leadore, Meadow Lake Campground (USFS), McFarland Campground (BLM), Salmon.

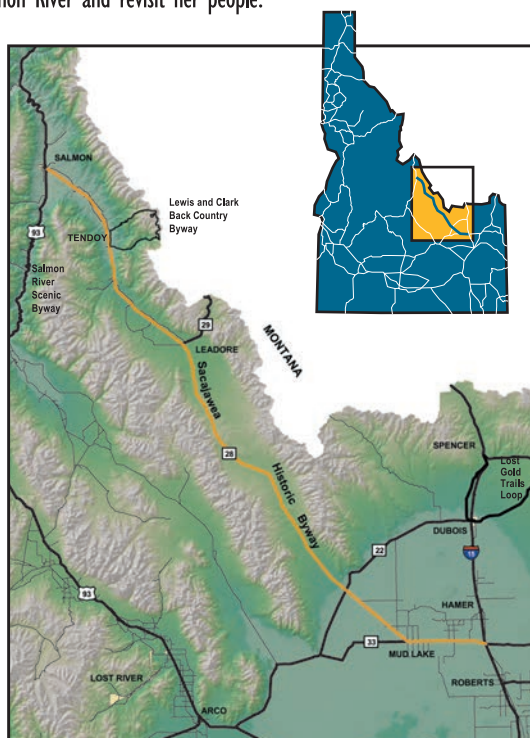
**Services** - Partial services in Terreton, Mud Lake, Lone Pine, Leadore, Lemhi and Tendoy. Full services in Salmon.

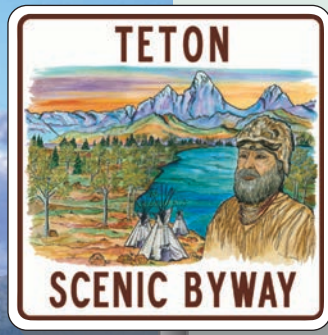
**Contacts** - Salmon Valley Chamber of Commerce: 800-727-2540, [www.salmonchamber.com](http://www.salmonchamber.com); Sacajawea Interpretive Center 208-756-1188, [www.sacajaweacenter.org](http://www.sacajaweacenter.org); USFS Leadore Ranger District: 208-768-2500; Bureau of Land Management, Public Lands Office, Salmon: 208-756-5400; Mud Lake Wildlife Management Area: 208-663-4664; Lemhi County Historical Museum: 208-756-3342; Lone Pine Café: 208-589-6507; Lemhi Mercantile: 208-768-2680; Tendoy Store: 208-756-3504.

## Sacajawea Historic Byway

Sacajawea, an “Agaidika” Shoshone woman born around 1788, is known around the world as a trusted and valuable member of the famed Lewis and Clark Corps of Discovery. A lesser-known fact, however, is her historical tie to Idaho’s Lemhi Valley where she was born and raised until the age of twelve. Captured by the Arikira Indians and forced to live among them in the Mandan Villages of North Dakota, Sacajawea would not see her home again until becoming part of the Corps of Discovery in 1805. It was during this expedition that she would help Lewis and Clark find the Salmon River and revisit her people.

This passage through the high country of eastern Idaho offers a wealth of engaging stories, many of them considered historical legacies of Idaho and beyond. Found here are fossils of the extinct North American (or Pleistocene) lion, Native American rock art, the compelling stories of the Lemhi-Shoshone people, the Lewis and Clark expedition’s passage through Sacajawea’s homeland, the flight of the Nez Perce, the Reverend Samuel Parker, Fort Lemhi, the legacy of Chief Tendoy, stage routes and rail lines that served the mining boom of the late 1800’s, and much more. Come discover for yourself what makes Sacajawea Historic Byway such a legacy.





**Location** - Begins on Idaho 31 at Swan Valley; travel northeast to Idaho 33 at Victor, then north on Idaho 33 to Idaho 32, and north on Idaho 32 to Idaho 47 at Ashton.

**Length** - 68.9 miles. Allow 2.5 hours.

**Roadway** - Pine Creek Pass has a two-lane, paved roadway with no passing lanes. It has 6-percent grades, some 35-mph curves, and often has a snow floor in winter. Idaho 33 is a two-lane, paved roadway with ample passing opportunities.

**When to see it** - Throughout the year, but fall foliage is spectacular as are the wildflowers of late spring.

**Special attractions** - Great views of the Teton Mountains; Ashton to Teton Trail and Trestles; Targhee National Forest; Greater Yellowstone Geotourism Center in Historic Driggs; unlimited recreational activities; State Historic Markers; trails and pathways; Grand Targhee Ski and Summer Resort near Driggs.

**Camping** - Numerous Forest Service and private campgrounds available throughout Teton Valley.

**Services** - Full services in Swan Valley, Victor, Driggs, Teton, Ashton.

**Contacts** - Palisades Ranger District: 208-523-1412; Ashton Chamber of Commerce: 208-652-3987; Teton Basin Ranger District: 208-354-2312; Yellowstone Teton Territory: 800-634-3246, [ifocf@ida.net](mailto:ifocf@ida.net), [www.yellowstoneteton.org](http://www.yellowstoneteton.org); Targhee National Forest: [www.fs.fed.us/tnf/](http://www.fs.fed.us/tnf/); Teton Valley Chamber of Commerce: 208-354-2500, [www.tetonvalleychamber.com](http://www.tetonvalleychamber.com); [www.visittetonvalley.com](http://www.visittetonvalley.com).

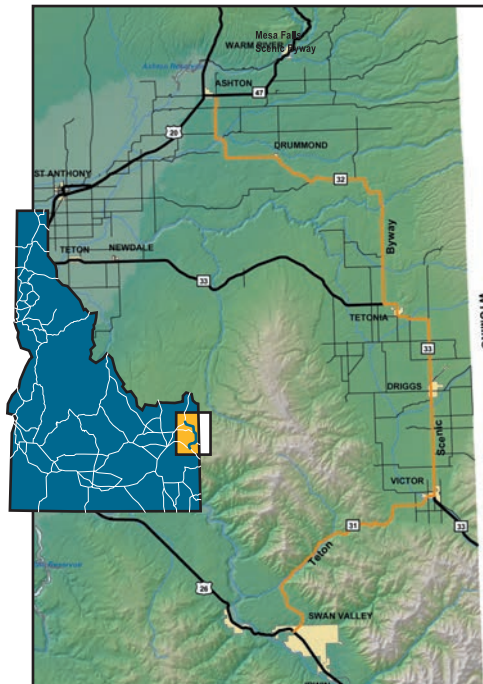
## Teton Scenic Byway

The jagged spine of the Teton Range is actually in Wyoming and visitors enjoy access to the peaks from “the quiet side” on the western slopes, along the Teton Scenic Byway.

At nearly 10 million years young, the Tetons are the newest mountains in the Rockies. In fact, they continue to grow today at the snail-like pace of about an inch every hundred years. In fact, the largest peak on the range, Grand Teton, now stands at 13,772 feet.

Beginning at Swan Valley, this byway travels east on Idaho 31 through the beautiful Pine Creek pass to the town of Victor, and then north on Idaho 33, along the western side of the Teton Range. The mountains sharply contrast with the rolling agricultural fields to the north and west. In the towns of the Teton Valley, Victor, Driggs, and Teton, travelers can enjoy small town hospitality, internationally famous resorts and festival events held throughout the year.

West of Teton, the byway turns north on Idaho 32, offering glimpses of the Tetons and the Falls River until it reaches Ashton, where the Mesa Falls Scenic Byway begins.





# Taking the **Scenic Route**



*Contributors:*

Bureau of Land Management  
Bureau of Reclamation  
Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation  
Idaho Division of Tourism  
Idaho Transportation Department  
North Central Idaho Travel Association  
North Idaho Tourism Alliance  
Pioneer Country Travel  
South Central Idaho Tourism  
Southwest Idaho Travel Association  
U.S. Forest Service  
Yellowstone Teton Territory

*A guide to Idaho's  
scenic byways*