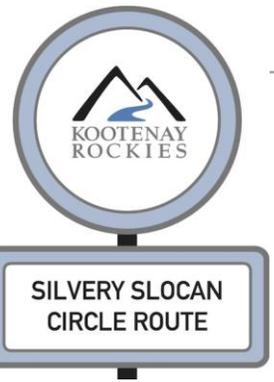


SILVERY SLOCAN

NELSON – KASLO - NEW DENVER – SILVERTON – VALHALLA PARK
APPROX. 215 KM/135 MI



Kaslo's SS Moyie



Ainsworth Hot Springs



Historic Downtown Nelson & Touchstones Nelson:
Museum of Art and History

HIGHLIGHTS:

- World's oldest intact passenger stern-wheeler – SS Moyie
- Nikkei Internment Memorial Centre, New Denver
- Ghost Town of Sandon & Idaho Peak
- City of Nelson
- Ainsworth Hot Springs
- Goat Range, Valhalla & Kokanee Glacier Provincial Parks

The Slocan Valley comprises one of the most exhilarating places to explore in the Kootenay Rockies. Here you can discover pristine lakes and rivers, historic trails, mine ruins and unforgettable ghost towns.

Let's begin this tour in Nelson. This historic city is regarded as one of the jewels in the Kootenay Rockies. While the town got its start in silver mining, its claim to fame as one of the 'Best Small Arts Communities in North America' has been well documented. Explore Nelson through the Heritage Walking Tour – you can pick up a map at the Visitor Centre. Nelson is home to many fine heritage structures and offers more than just its great heritage. The

community's annual Art Walk (July & August) showcases the local artisans' incredible work. And, Touchstones Nelson: Museum of Art and History celebrates the creativity, the history, the vibe that is Nelson.

Carry-on in a northerly direction on Hwy #3A, along the west arm of Kootenay Lake to Ainsworth Hot Springs where you'll want to rejuvenate in the hot natural mineral springs water. The resort also offers dining options, a lounge, overnight accommodation and massage therapy.

The village of Kaslo is set at the highway junction of #31/#31A. The restored SS Moyie, the world's oldest intact

passenger sternwheeler and proud symbol of Kaslo's heritage, sits on the shores of Kootenay Lake. Kaslo's 19th-century buildings have also benefitted from the community's commitment to its heritage. If you like music, visit during the Jazz Festival that showcases the world's best on a floating stage each August holiday weekend.

If a side trip interests you, follow Highway #31 north along Kootenay Lake. Davis Creek and Lost Ledge Parks are lovely provincial campgrounds. Past the village of Howser, and along Trout Lake and the Goat Range Park, Hwy #31 turns into a gravel road. In the early 1900s, Trout Lake City was a mining boomtown. Today, Trout Lake is primarily known for its fishing.

Heading west on Hwy #31A, you'll discover Sandon, British Columbia's legendary ghost city, and experience the silver rush of the 1800s. Historical treasures include the City Hall and Interpretive Centre, Generating Station, Prospector's Pick gift shop, Museum and much more.

The road to the Idaho Peak hiking trail also begins at Sandon, as does the Kaslo & Slocan Railway Historic Trail – a 5km (3mi) trail that takes you by historic mine shafts and artifacts of the past.

Across from the magnificent Valhalla mountain range and New Denver glacier, the small towns of New Denver and Silverton sit on the unspoiled shore of Slocan Lake. Visit the Nikkei Internment Memorial Centre in New Denver to learn the story of the internment of thousands of Canadians of Japanese descent during World War II.

The Silvery Slocan Museum in New Denver and the Silverton Historical Society Interpretive Centre, Silverton's outdoor mining museum, display an interesting selection of memorabilia.

Enjoy exploring the rest of the spectacularly beautiful Slocan Valley. Alongside Valhalla Provincial Park and Slocan Lake, boat launches are situated. And, at the village of Slocan, Hwy #6 gives access to Valhalla Park. This area was once a magnet for thousands of hopeful prospectors and miners. Today, the charming towns and villages nestled in this valley enjoy a quiet serenity.

KOOTENAY ROCKIES TOURISM

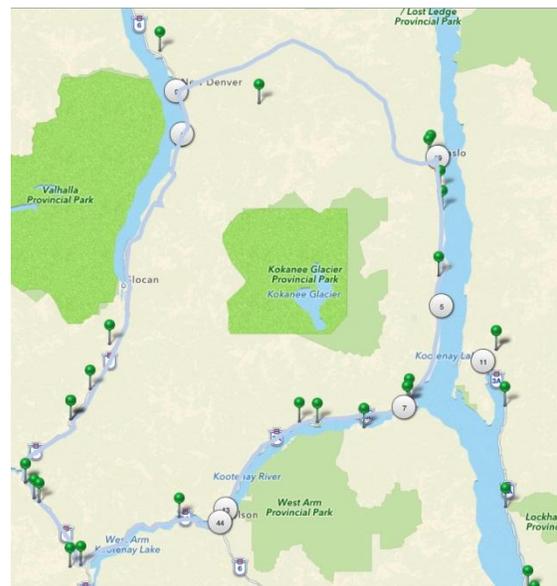
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