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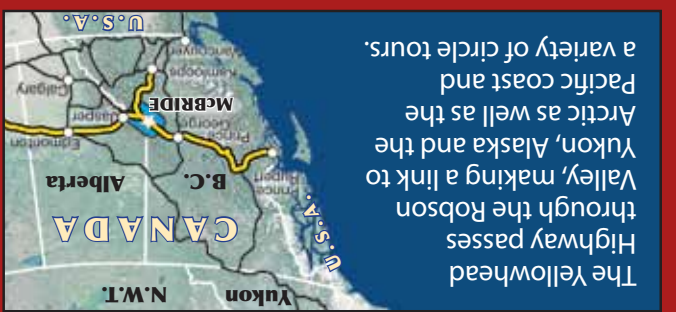
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START YOUR ADVENTURE IN McBRIDE, BRITISH COLUMBIA
 On one side, the majestic Rocky Mountains on the other, with the mighty Fraser River winding through forests and farmlands, fed by numerous rivers and streams. Explore forest-covered sand dunes near Tete Jaune, alpine meadows and glaciers in the Rocky Mountains and visit Mount Robson, the highest mountain in the Canadian Rockies. The Village of McBride, in the midst of this natural beauty, is the hub for many outdoor recreation opportunities in the Robson Valley, and is an ideal place to stay, relax and explore year-round. McBride Visitor Centre
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McBride Up Close
 visitmcbride.ca/maps

McBride F A Q
 Elevation: 722m / 2350'
 Population: Village of McBride: 616 surrounding area: 1,586
 Av. annual rainfall: 533mm / 21"
 Av. annual snowfall: 170cm / 67"

McBride Area
 visitmcbride.ca/maps

	Km	Miles
Goat River	40	24
Crescent Spur	50	30
Loos	53	32
Dome Creek	55	33
Ancient Forest	55	33
Prince George	212	132
Prince Rupert	934	580
Vancouver	988	620
Dawson Creek	693	431
Tuktoyaktuk	3337	2074

GETTING HERE
 By TRAINS, PLANES AND AUTOMOBILES

Rail: VIA Rail's daytime passenger trains serve many stops along the valley year round, arriving three days a week each way from Jasper and Prince Rupert/Prince George. Provides the option to bring your bicycles and caged pets along. See visitmcbride.ca/rail, viarail.ca, phone 1-888-VIARAIL, or drop by the railway station in McBride for more details.
Air: International airports serving the area include: Prince George, Calgary, Edmonton and Vancouver, with daily connections to other nearby cities. Flying yourself? McBride has an 2700 ft air strip to accommodate small aircraft. See info on McBride map at left. visitmcbride.ca/air
Road: The Yellowhead, our northern Trans-Canada Highway (16), connects the valley with Jasper to the east and Prince George to the west. Highway 16 branches at Tete Jaune with Highway 5, which connects south to Kamloops and beyond. The lonely highway attracts many long-distance cyclists and motorcyclists. This is also a popular route to Alaska. For some distances across Canada to Pacific, Arctic and Atlantic oceans, see the green panels on the map at left. For latest bus schedules in the region, see visitmcbride.ca/road

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Emergencies: 911
Non-emergency police RCMP 250-569-2255
McBride & District Hospital 250-569-2251
Village of McBride mcbride.ca 250-569-2229
Regional District rdif.bc.ca 1-800-667-1959
BC Government gov.bc.ca 1-800-663-7867
Government of Canada canada.ca
Post Offices Dome Creek, McBride, Dunster
Crecent Spur-Loos Community Association
Dome Creek Reading Room 250-553-2388
Dunster Community Hall 250-968-4333
Elks and Royal Purple, McBride
McBride Community Forest Corp 250-569-0262
McBride & District Public Library 250-569-2411
Robson Valley Support Centre 250-569-2266
Robson Valley Rec Centre 250-569-3360
Royal Canadian Legion Branch 75, McBride
Tete Jaune Community Club

CHURCHES

Anglican United - 441 Dominion St
Evangelical Free - First Ave & Lonsdale
Mennonite - Mountainview Road
Mountain Chapel (PAOC) - Main St & 3rd Ave
Robson Valley Christian Centre - Dunster St
St. Patrick's Catholic - 197 Dominion St
Seventh Day Adventist - 1075 Lamming Pit Rd

EVENTS & FESTIVALS

visitmcbride.ca/events
 Eat as much as you like at the famous Dunster Ice Cream Social. Try your hand at horseshoes or throwing an axe after the parade on Pioneer Days. Enjoy music amid beautiful scenery at the family-oriented Robson Valley Music Festival. There is always something being planned in the valley. The annual Fraser Heritage Festival in late summer celebrates the arts and music at venues such

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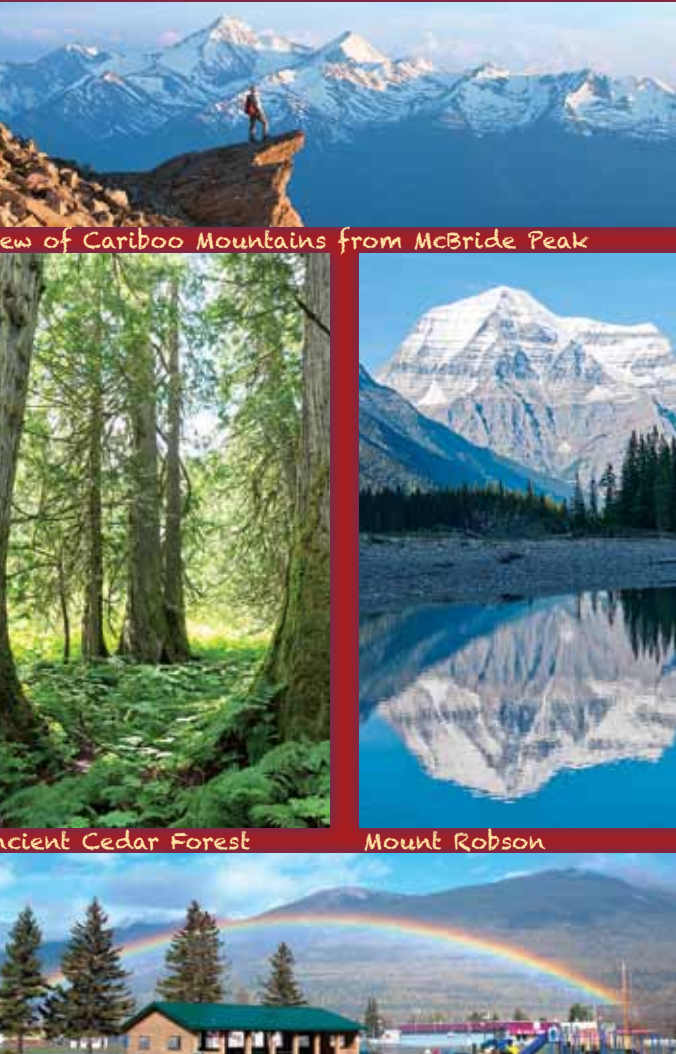
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Irene Berndsen mountainviewrealty.ca
McTech Computer Services Ph: 250-569-7870
Mike Moseley Real Estate 778-258-0064
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McBride & Robson Valley VISITOR GUIDE
 British Columbia, Canada



Explore with us!
 Dome Creek Loos Crescent Spur
 McBride Dunster Tete Jaune Mount Robson

McBride's Heritage Railway Station

The Grand Trunk Pacific Railway company laid out the townsite in a standard GTP design with the station as the focus of Main Street, flanked by two parks, and it remains the same to this day. The present station was completed in 1919 on the sturdy foundations of the original, which was lost to fire in 1918. Meeting the passenger train was major entertainment for villagers. With rail as the only viable way in and out for many years, the station was where one went to wait for the mail, ship milk and cream, pick up supplies, send a telegram, have a good feed at the 24-hour Beanyer Restaurant, or just catch up on gossip. Canadian National, owner of the railway, moved the last of its operations out of the building in 1989. The Canadian government designated the station a heritage building, and the Village of McBride purchased it in the early 1990s. Much of the ground floor of the station has been renovated along 1920 lines with locally grown and milled wood. The station is again a gathering place, the home of the Visitor Information Centre and a new beanyer. The art gallery is an attraction with work by local artists and artisans, and VIA Rail's year-round passenger trains continue a century of service to McBride.

Whistle Stop Gallery

Located inside the historic McBride train station at First and Main, visitors can see an amazing variety of original, local artwork created by more than 100 members of the non-profit Whistle Stop Gallery Society. Members have also worked hard to bring arts and culture into the Robson Valley as evidenced by various public art projects including murals, artistic fire hydrants and participation in various cultural festivals and events. The station is also home to mementos and photos tracing McBride's pioneer past, and the gallery stocks many books about the history of the region by local authors.

EXPLORE McBRIDE

Breathtaking mountain beauty, clean air. Fine dining or home-made style takeouts. Friendly streets, good conversation. Explore the historic village and forested trail. With full services, relaxing green spaces, playground, skate park and rec centre, McBride is your year-round stopping place.



Museum and Library

Head down Main Street to visit the beautiful new library and museum by the locomotive gateway. Browse books and meet local people, connect with a computer or free wifi. Use your BC library card to borrow or return library materials here. Both organizations offer fun, interesting programs for all ages including music, speakers, movies, history, arts and crafts. Travellers are welcome to take part! Browse digital archives at the museum and tour the latest exhibitions. Be sure to see the casts of dinosaur footprints from the Monroe Trackway discovered just 70 km north of town. Pick up a travel guide to the many history plaques around McBride. Visit mcbride.bc.libraries.coop & valleymuseumarchives.ca

McBride's Scale Model Solar System

You can have fun with astronomy in McBride even on a rainy day! Starting from the sun (a street lamp near the railway station) travel down Main Street and find each planet's orbit as you head to the outer solar system. At approx. 3 billion-to-one scale, the walk from the Sun to Neptune is 1.5 km, 3 km return. Pick up a free brochure for more astronomy facts to enjoy during your "space flight." visitmcbride.ca/solar

Dominion Creek Trail

Retrace some of the steps of the builders of the railway and early McBride in a forested trail just a few blocks from Main Street. In 1912-13 supplies were carted from ships and scows at the river up to the future railway yard. For a longer nature walk through town, follow the suggested route to Horseshoe Lake. Orange path on McBride map.

Horseshoe Lake Gazebo

Horseshoe Lake, formed from an oxbow channel of the Fraser River, boasts a variety of bird species. A mobility friendly walkway takes you over water to the covered gazebo where you can enjoy the peaceful surroundings. From the Visitor Centre to the gazebo is 1.3 km. Ask at the Visitor Centre for the complete Robson Valley bird list or check us out online at visitmcbride.ca

RELAX BY RAIL

Another way to come to McBride is on VIA Rail's daytime passenger train, the Skeena. It runs year round and travels quite a different route from the highway, serving many communities between Jasper, Prince George and Prince Rupert. From Tete Jaune to Dome Creek it gives views of the meandering Fraser. To the east it runs along the mountainside, giving panoramic views across to Mount Robson. A dome observation/bar car is usually included with economy class. It gives a cosy way to relax with family or friends while VIA does the driving—even bizzards are fun! (Note: on some trains in summer the dome car is reserved for touring class only.) Beverages and snacks can be bought on board, or take a picnic. Bicycles, kayaks, small canoes and caged pets can usually be taken along for extra fees—check what is available before travel. For current fares, schedules and on-line booking see viarail.ca. The waiting room in McBride station is open every afternoon for the train, and has more information. visitmcbride.ca/rail

McBride Mountain Trails

A great way to have fun near McBride is walking or cycling our new trail system just 4 km from town. Built by local volunteer effort in partnership with several agencies, the McBride Mountain Trails are for hiking, cycling and horse riding, and are great in snowshoeing season too. The 24 km network branches off and crosses the forest service road in several places, providing a great variety of trips. The routes take you through an amazing variety of natural settings, from the cool shade of a cedar forest, aspen groves, and fern-fringed wetland, to drier pine and spruce habitat where you can see stumps drilled by large pillared woodpeckers. Start from downtown, from the forest road, or part way between at Koeneman Park. New paths under the highway bridge near Koeneman Park make a fun connection to the river beach at low water. See map above for directions to the trail head. Trail etiquette: non-motorized use only. Cyclists yield to equestrians, hikers yield to both. See the kiosk at the horseback staging area by Koeneman House for details on trail use, or visitmcbride.ca/parks.

McBride Peak

McBride Peak offers a panoramic view of the Robson Valley and the village of McBride. A fire lookout, built in 1930, is located near the peak. Building materials for it were hauled up by packhorses on the steep mountain trail. A second building at the Halfway Viewpoint provided an overnight stop for staff going to the top, and served as a lookout during spring before snow melted at higher elevations. Built by the industrious Fred Koeneman, this historic cabin still overlooks McBride and Fred's homestead (now Koeneman Park). The site, maintained by Rec Sites and Trails BC and the McBride Community Forest, offers picnic tables, fire rings and a pit toilet. The road is steep with several switchbacks, so 4WD is recommended. Visitors are reminded to use their gears when descending, to avoid burning out the brakes. A further 5.5 km rough, steep 4WD road zig-zags to a parking lot below the tree line. From there, travel in the alpine is strictly non-motorized.

HOW WE BEGAN

FOR CENTURIES the Yellowhead Pass was a First Nations trading route. At the west end of the pass, the Shuswap people had seasonal salmon fishing camps and a village which became known as Tete Jaune Cache in the 1800s. Further west the Rausch River valley, where they were as well before the railway came, was noted on a map in 1871 as Riviere au Shuswap, later shortened to Rausch. The nineteenth century brought explorers, goldseekers and railway surveyors. Early in the 1900s the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway Company planned an extension of their line from the prairies to a port on the west coast through the Yellowhead Pass. Railway construction took place in what is now the Robson Valley from 1911 to 1914. At that time the only route through thick forests was the Fraser River. Thousands of workers plus food, horses, lumber, and concrete and steel for railway bridges went down the river on scows. Graceful ships called sternwheelers steamed right up the river to Tete Jaune until summer 1913 when a railway bridge was "accidentally" built too low for them to pass. Huge camps made of logs and tents were set up for the workers—they along with horses and mules provided most of the labour. The railway contractors enforced prohibition within 3 miles of their camps, so just beyond, another camp would appear with belles, booze and card rooms. As construction passed through, these camps vanished, but some of the railway settlements grew and flourished. The railway had maintenance sections about 8 miles apart. Stations were built at many of them. Most were identical to the only one now preserved in the valley, at Dunster. Some names of past and present communities are Red Pass, Mount Robson, Rearguard, Tete Jaune, Shere, Croydon, Dunster, Rausch, Eddy, McBride, Craibreen, Legrand, Rider, Goat River, Crescent Spur, Loos, Snowshoe, Urling, Kidd, Dome Creek, Penny, and on down the line. A century after railway construction, the only other station left is at McBride. The railway, owned for the past century by Canadian National, (CN Rail) is busy and much more automated, with trains more than 4.5 km (2.8 miles) long serving an expanding port and realizing the builders' dreams all those years ago. THE SITE OF McBRIDE was surveyed and established as a divisional point on the railway in 1912, and its first station was claimed, for a while, to be the largest between Winnipeg and Prince Rupert. The yards had eight miles of track in addition to a roundhouse, turntable, bunkhouse, two water towers, a dam and an ice house. As a newly constructed railway town, the community was known as Mile 90, its distance from the Alberta border. On July 1st, 1913 it was officially named McBride after Sir Richard McBride, the Premier of British Columbia. For over 50 years there was no road through the valley so McBride developed as a self-sufficient community with almost all services needed including schools, a hospital and drug store, clothing, grocery and variety stores, car and farm machinery dealerships, a drive-in and theatre, real estate office and airfield. In 1932 the village was incorporated and over time the boundaries extended. Highway 16 was officially opened in 1970, bringing to an end the isolation of the village. Today McBride is supported by a diverse economy, including railway, agriculture, forestry, tourism, arts, culture, and community services.

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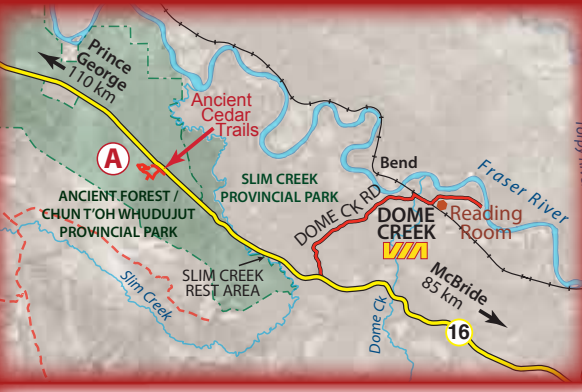
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ANCIENT FOREST / CHUN T'OH WHUDUJUJ PROVINCIAL PARK

As Pacific storm systems sweep over the interior mountain ranges of British Columbia they leave heavy rain in the valleys. In the watershed of the upper Fraser River this has given rise to a unique inland temperate rainforest. A significant example this is the Ancient Forest which has western red cedar trees that are likely 1,000+ years old, and greater than 2.5 to 3 meters (8-10 feet) in diameter. Home to over 1300 species of plants, mosses and lichens this ecologically unique area hosts a variety of animal and bird species and is a popular year-round destination for hiking or snowshoeing. Thanks largely to grass roots community efforts, the forest has several kilometers of marked trails and walkways, and includes a 450 metre long universal access boardwalk.

Parking at the trail head is 95 km west of McBride on Highway 16. Day-use/picnic area only. Universal access pit toilets. For more details, see bcparcs.ca

PARKS AND TRAILS
visitmcbride.ca/parks

B Boulder Mountain Trail
Offers a steep 6 km trail through an old growth forest to open alpine, with excellent views of the Rocky Mountain Trench. Access: Off the Goat River Forest Service Road, 34 km west of McBride. Further up the FSR is the start of the historic Goat River Trail to Bowron Lakes and Barkerville. A week's hike over the Caribos.

C Bell Mountain
Provides excellent views of the McBride area, as well as open alpine hiking. Access: Bell Mountain Road, 9.3 km west of McBride on Hwy 16, with vehicle access (rough) to start of alpine (16 km). A multi-season recreation area used by skiers, snowshoers, and sledders in winter, and equestrians and hikers in summer. The equestrian and hiking trail networks extend from the Dore River, connect with the ski trails mid mountain, and up to the sled trails and alpine meadows on top of Bell Mtn. Many loops in the network offer short or long trail options. Trail heads are located at km 0 on the Dore River FSR, and at 3 km and 5 km on Bell Mountain FSR. Rustic equine campgrounds with two corals at each site are planned for the mountain close to McIntosh Falls.



D Ozalenka Trail
A 6.9 km trail ascending gradually to an open alpine features wildflowers, small lakes and waterfalls in summer, and fun snowfields in winter. A public hut is available for overnight use. **Pre-registration is required** by calling the Ozalenka Alpine Club at 250-569-2596. Access: km 19 on the West Dore Forest Road via Dore River Road, 5 km west of McBride.

E Kristi Glacier Trail
A 10.9 km trail leading to a high elevation alpine pass area in the Cariboo Mountains. A small backcountry campsite is located at the end of the trail. Access: From the middle fork of the Dore River drainage, access via Dore River road, 5 km west of McBride.

F Avalanche Valley Trail
Starting on Dore R. road, 5 km west of McBride, go 8.4 km left onto South Dore FSR, then 18 km to trail head. 13 km one way with steep sections. Provides spectacular views of the Cariboo Mountains. A backcountry campsite is on the edge of Cariboo Lake just below Roberts Glacier.

G Eagle Valley Trail
Trail head at km 13.1 on South Dore FSR. Offers a moderate 9 km trail to access a spectacular moraine and glacier environment. Public hut available for overnight use. **Pre-registration is required** by calling the Ozalenka Alpine Club at 250-569-2596.

H Mount Lucille Alpine
Open alpine hiking offering splendid viewing, lakes and wildflowers. Access: From Lucille Forest Road, which starts just 5 minutes from downtown McBride. At the 4.5 km mark take the right fork. Rough vehicle access to parking, with up to 5 km hike to the sub-alpine, depending on parking location.

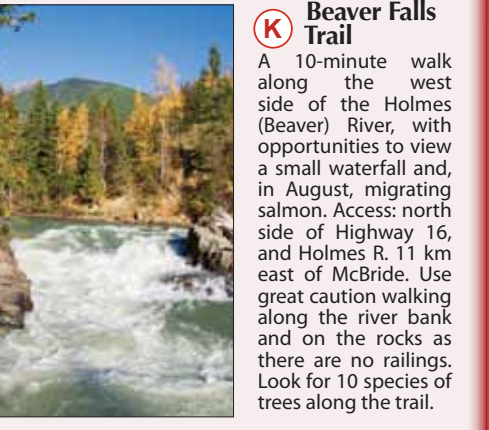


- ON ROAD & TRAIL**
Be alert for wildlife running out in front of you on highways and back roads, night and day.
- When travelling forest roads, watch for trucks especially when active logging is in progress. Watch for signs indicating road restrictions.
 - Gear down when descending steep mountain roads to avoid burning out brakes.
 - Protect the fragile ecosystem—please do not use motorized vehicles in the alpine and stay on trails.
 - Before setting out, educate yourself about local conditions and wildlife!
 - Never feed wild animals, or leave food items or packaging where they might find them, and pack out what you pack in.
 - Enjoy watching wildlife at a safe distance or from a vehicle.
 - For more details and tips, see wildsafebc.com



I Paradise Trail Difficult
7.9 km trail leading to an alpine ridge which offers spectacular views of the Cariboo Mountains as well as the Rocky Mountain Trench. Access: 12 km on Mountainview Rd. east of McBride.

J McBride Peak
Open alpine hiking with excellent views and wildflowers. For map and details, see overleaf.



K Beaver Falls Trail
A 10-minute walk along the west side of the Holmes (Beaver) River, with opportunities to view a small waterfall and, in August, migrating salmon. Access: north side of Highway 16, and Holmes R. 11 km east of McBride. Use great caution walking along the river bank and on the rocks as there are no railings. Look for 10 species of trees along the trail.

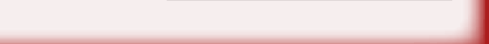
L Holmes (Beaver) River Forest Service Road and campsite
About 11 km east of McBride, turning just east of the Holmes River bridge. Maintained by the McBride Community Forest, the Beaver (Holmes) River Recreation Site offers 8-10 campsites 1 km up the Holmes Forest Service Road. The 2WD gravel forest road continues up to 48 km towards Alberta.

M Blueberry Trail
Primarily a horse trail, but provides hiking access to the extensive Blueberry Alpine and Boundary area along the Continental Divide. Access: Trailhead is at km 44 of the Holmes (Beaver) Forest Road.

N Natural Arch Trail Difficult/steep Access: Off Highway 16, 23 km east of McBride/opposite the rest area, just west of Baker (Holliday) Creek. Recommended for experienced hikers only. Another difficult route up the other side of Baker Creek valley is the Greenveiled Trail, 8.7 km to Greenveiled Peak with a view of the stone arch across the valley. Access: Highway 16 via McNaughton Road.

O Dunster Trail (Tom's Cabin) Difficult/steep Provides access to a small lake and alpine ridge via a steep 6 km trail. Access: From Pepper Gravel Pit in Dunster. Check in at the Dunster General Store to use the cabin. 250-968-4488.

P Jackman Flats Provincial Park
Houses-sized sand dunes, partially covered by forest. Rare lichen and other communities. Trails for walking and skiing. Please stay only on the marked trails as the plants and ground are very fragile. bcparcs.ca



Robson Valley

Display ad key
Yellowhead Hwy paved/sealcoat
gravel all-season
4WD or 2WD seasonal
trail
railway

Groomed snowmobile trails & endorsed areas
Track skiing
Backcountry skiing
1 cm = 3.5 km

WILLMORE WILDERNESS PROVINCIAL PARK

Robson Valley

Visit the path less travelled in Crescent Spur-Loos. Made up of several communities which grew and faded as sawmills came and went, it now attracts back country enthusiasts from all over the world. From grizzly bear watching in the Morkill to hiking the historic Goat River Trail, the unspoiled wilderness offers a true challenge to the adventurous at heart. For a more relaxed trip, take a guided tour through the many old growth forests, or visit La Salle Lakes. Little La Salle is a popular fishing destination and La Salle Lake campground offers rustic camping with a swimming dock, non-motorized boat launch and beach.

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Rufous hummingbirds winter as far as Mexico but fly back to the Robson Valley every spring.

DUNSTER
Named after a town in England by the railway during construction in 1913. Dunster remained settled after the building boom, and has flourished as a farming area ever since. It once had many dairy farms which sent cream out in cans by passenger train, until the highway and tanker trucks replaced that in the late 1960s. In recent decades most have changed over to beef farming.

The Dunster Community Hall, located on the uphill side of the highway, hosts a community market on Saturdays 11am-1pm, July to September, where one can find home baking, garden produce, crafts, flea market items and barbecued lunches. The community also hosts the world famous Ice Cream Social and dance on the Saturday evening closest to July 1—an annual event not to be missed.

For a scenic drive to downtown Dunster turn west onto the paved Dunster Station Road, down to the picturesque Flower Bridge across the Fraser River. Whenever the highways department paint the bridge white, local women decorate it with flower paintings. Nearby is the home of the annual Robson Valley Music Festival, held in August.

At the "T" intersection turn left and follow the road until you come to Dunster's quaint country general store and post office open daily, and the 1913 railway station at the VIA Rail flag stop.



Mile 52, part of Tete Jaune in about 1912. Two sternwheelers were assembled here as well as countless barges of supplies called scows. Tete Jaune was later famous for its mica mine on the mountain named for it just to the south, which produced the largest sheets of high quality mica in the world at that time.

now restored and open in summer as a must-see museum. The Dunster School of Fine Arts building is being maintained for community education and arts events, including touring concerts. For local information visit dunsterbc.net

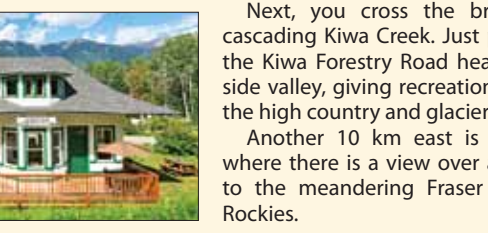
The Dunster-Croydon-Tete Jaune Loop
To further explore the communities of Dunster, Croydon and Tete Jaune Cache on the century-old route of sternwheelers and railway builders, continue east past the store. From here on, there is sometimes logging activity and you could encounter fast-moving trucks. Also, be careful to stop, look and listen at the five busy level railway crossings—there are no gates or signals.

As you leave both pavement and Dunster behind, you carry on through the farming countryside to the pioneer community of South Croydon. Further along the road you can see a small cemetery, a reminder of local pioneers.

A few minutes further east brings you to the turnoff to Shere Lake. This small lake is suitable for picnic and day use.

Next, you cross the bridge over the cascading Kiwa Creek. Just past the bridge the Kiwa Forestry Road heads up into this side valley, giving recreationalists access to the high country and glaciers.

Another 10 km east is Watertank Hill, where there is a view over a steep dropoff to the meandering Fraser River and the Rockies.

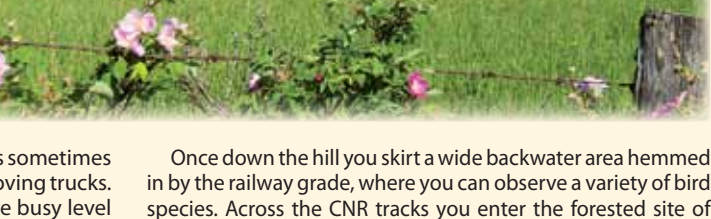


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TETE JAUNE
Tete Jaune Cache was briefly a major centre with a shipyard during construction of the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway and while flooding erased most of the signs of early activity, local history books are alive with the tales of its existence.

Pronounced "tee jon cash", it is named after a yellow-headed trapper thought to be Pierre Bostonski, who caded his furs near Mt. Robson. The pass and the highway received the English version of his nickname.

Tete Jaune has evolved as an attractive residential community and a stopping place for tourists. See the history kiosk at the Tete Jaune Community Hall, visit Jackman Flats and walk the trails along the jackpine covered sand dunes. Go mushing with a dogged team, take a guided horseback ride, go whitewater rafting down the Fraser River, or relax in a spa and enjoy the wilderness beauty around you.



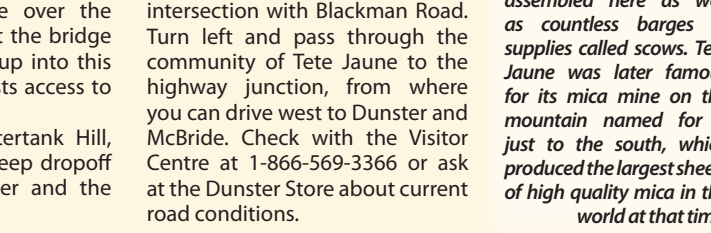
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MOUNT ROBSON PROVINCIAL PARK
Mount Robson Provincial Park starts just 76 km from McBride. Named after the highest peak in the Canadian Rockies (3954 m, 12,972 ft) the park features world famous hiking experiences such as the Berg Lake trail. Consult the Mount Robson Visitor Information Centre (seasonal) to plan your wilderness adventure. bcparcs.ca



Kinney Lake at the base of Mt. Robson, right, and Mt. Whitehorn.

Air Tours
Get a bird's-eye view of some of the most spectacular sights our area has to offer. Towering mountain peaks, magnificent glaciers, cascading waterfalls and secluded alpine meadows are some of the scenic treasures to be seen from above.

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Canoeing & Kayaking
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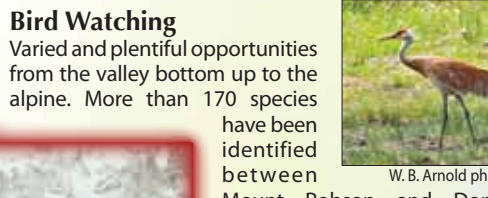
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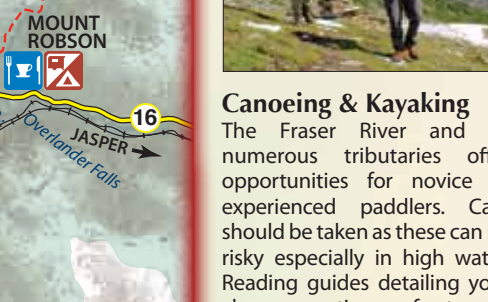
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Robson Valley Recreation Centre & Community Centre
Skating • Curling
Roller skating
Fitness centre
Convertacourt
Social events
Weddings • Banquets
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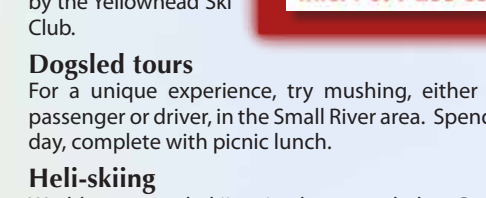
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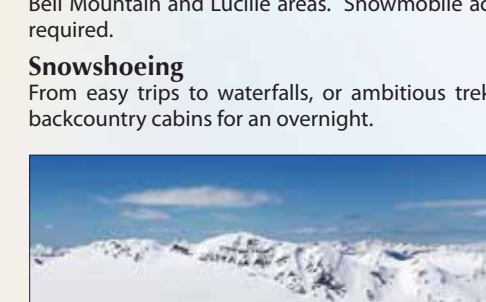
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