

THE EPIC IDAHO ROADTRIP

As the 14th largest state in the country, it will take more than a long weekend to explore Idaho from top to bottom. **The Epic Idaho Road Trip** was created as a way to highlight the beautiful scenic byways, vast landscapes, and all the fun adventures, food, and history that Idaho has to offer. This 10-day route includes time to stop and enjoy attractions and activities each day before heading out to your next destination. Total mileage and estimated drive time are notated on each map for planning purposes.

The Epic Idaho Road Trip can be easily tailored to fit your specific travel style and interests. Stay an extra day or two in a place you really love. Tackle more adventures from the “Activities to Explore” listing in each section. Or just follow the scenic byways and let the beauty of Idaho speak for itself. Whatever you choose, Idaho is sure to surprise and delight with every curve of the road.

CANADA

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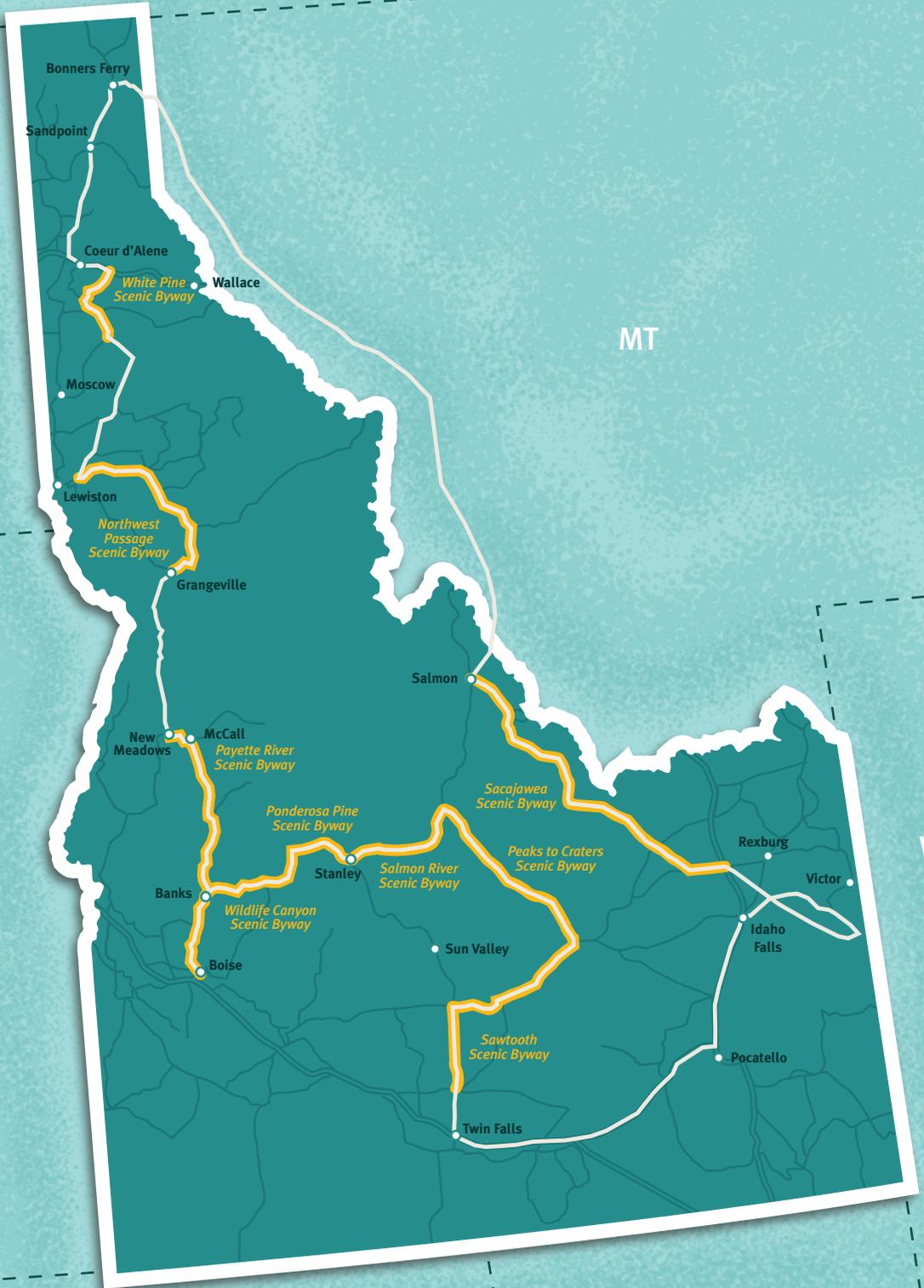
MT

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OR

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THE EPIC IDAHO ROAD TRIP

Total Drive Time: **35 Hours 20 Minutes**

Total Mileage: **1,763**

Best Time to Travel: **June-September**

Good For:

- + **Young Free Spirits**
- + **Adventure Seekers**
- + **Go For It Families**
- + **Experience Seekers**

Highway 75

We go big in Idaho: North America's deepest gorge, millions of acres of wildlands, jagged peaks, world-class trout streams, and hundreds of alpine lakes. On this epic trip, you'll play your way through the most stunning of these landscapes.

One dramatic vista after another greets you as you travel several scenic byways, stopping to raft, swim, or jet boat in Idaho's many streams, rivers, and lakes, golf the expanse of gorgeous courses, or hike to secluded springs. There are quieter experiences, too, for those who prefer the solitude of one of Ernest Hemingway's favorite streams or sipping wine in a serene vineyard.

The journey begins and ends in Boise. Most adventures offer options for varying ages and experience levels, so bring the whole family, or your best friends! Bikes, kayaks, paddleboards, and other gear are available to rent from outfitters and local shops throughout the trip.

Boise to McCall

STOP ONE

Scenic Byways:

+ Payette River Scenic Byway

Eat:

+ Big City Coffee and Café, *Boise*

+ Boise Fry Company, *Boise*

+ McCall Brewing Company, *McCall*

Activities to Explore:

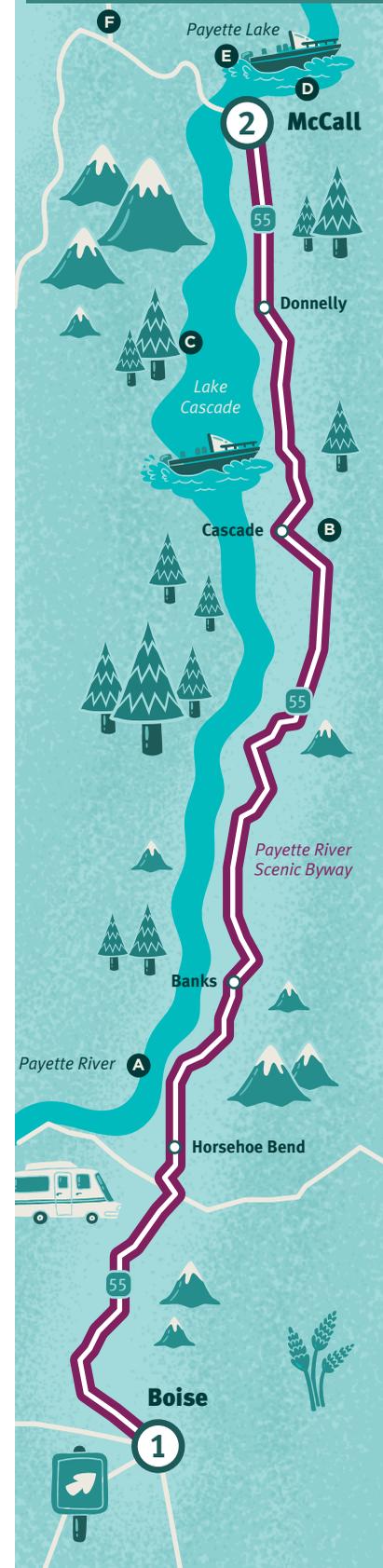
- A** Payette River - Raft & Kayak
- B** Kelly's Whitewater Park
- C** Tamarack Resort - Zip Line & Bike Park
- D** Ponderosa State Park
- E** Payette Lake
- F** Zims Hot Springs

McCall

This laid back mountain town is the perfect destination for long days on the shores of Payette Lake. You can rent anything you need within blocks of the lake, including bikes, boats, paddleboards, and inner tubes. You'll find more beach access, volleyball, and fishing at the nearby Ponderosa State Park, and trails, lakes, and secluded fishing spots throughout the surrounding Payette National Forest. At nearby Brundage Mountain Resort, you can hit up lift-served downhill mountain biking trails, or cruise the family-friendly terrain of the Triple Play Skills Park. Hit up Ice Cream Alley on your way out of town for a sweet treat!

Total Drive Time:
2 Hours 20 Minutes

Total Mileage: **109**



Salmon River Brewery, McCall



Downtown Boise

McCall to Lewiston

STOP TWO

Scenic Byways:

- + Northwest Passage Scenic Byway

Eat:

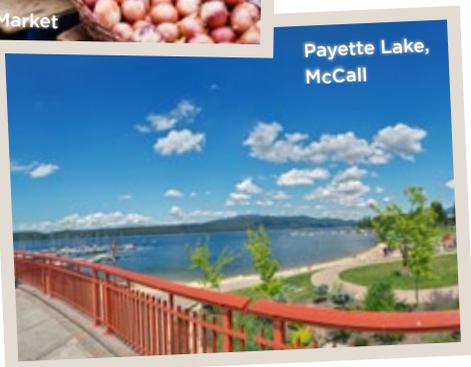
- + McCall Pancake House, *McCall*
- + Lunch Box Deli & BBQ, *Lewiston*
- + KC's Burgers & Brews, *Lewiston*

Activities to Explore:

- A** Dog Bark Park Inn
- B** Nez Perce National Historical Park Sites
- C** Wolf Education and Research Center
(by appointment only)
- D** Whitewater Rafting
- E** Hells Gate State Park—Kayaking & Jet Boat Tours
- F** Moscow Farmers Market
- F** Moscow Craft Breweries

Lewis-Clark Valley Tasting Rooms

- + Lindsay Creek Vineyards
- + Clearwater Canyon Cellars
- + Colter's Creek Winery



Lewiston to Coeur d'Alene

STOP THREE

Scenic Byways:

+ White Pine Scenic Byway

Eat:

- + Mystic Café, *Lewiston*
- + Meltz Extreme Grilled Cheeze, *Coeur d'Alene*
- + Crafted Tap House and Kitchen, *Coeur d'Alene*

Activities to Explore:

- A** Coeur d'Alene Lake Cruises
- B** Lake Coeur d'Alene
- B** Coeur d'Alene Resort Golf Course
- B** Parasailing & Sea Plane Tours
- B** Tubbs Hill Hike & Bird Watching
- C** Hike & Bike North Idaho Centennial Trail
- D** Bike Route of the Hiawatha Rail Trail
- E** Camas Prairie Winery

Route of the Hiawatha

For an adventure a short drive outside of Coeur d'Alene, this 15-mile-long biking and hiking trail utilizes what could easily be one of the most scenic former railroad routes in the country. The last train ran this route in 1980, and the first 13 miles of the trail were opened to the public in 1998 for hiking and biking. The completely downhill trail now features 10 train tunnels and seven sky-high trestles. Shuttle buses are available at the end to transport you and your bike back to the top. Trail passes, shuttle tickets and mountain bike rentals with lights are available at Lookout Pass Ski Area.

Route of the Hiawatha, Wallace



Total Drive Time:
3 Hours 3 Minutes
Total Mileage: **151**



Coeur d'Alene to Bonners Ferry

STOP FOUR

Scenic Byways:

+ Wild Horse Trail Scenic Byway

Eat:

- + The Garnet Café, *Coeur d'Alene*
- + Cedar St. Bistro & Coffee Shop, *Sandpoint*
- + The Rusty Moose Tavern, *Bonnors Ferry*

Activities to Explore:

- A** Silverwood Theme Park
- B** Explore Downtown Sandpoint
- C** Schweitzer Mountain Resort—Horseback Riding and Huckleberry Picking
- D** Lake Pend Oreille
- D** Lake Pend Oreille Cruises
- E** Kootenai National Wildlife Refuge
- F** Kootenay River
- G** Pend Oreille Winery & Small House Winery

International Selkirk Loop

America's only multi-national scenic drive, this 280-mile loop includes two of Idaho's scenic byways - Wild Horse Trail Scenic Byway and Panhandle Historic Rivers Passage - and encircles the spectacular Selkirk Mountains of Washington, Idaho, and British Columbia, Canada. Drive the entire loop if you have the time, but make sure not to forget your passport as you'll cross into Canada and back into the U.S.



Total Drive Time:
1 Hour 33 Minutes
Total Mileage: **77.5**



Bonnors Ferry to Salmon

STOP FIVE

Scenic Byways:

- + Wild Horse Trail Scenic Byway
- + Salmon River Scenic Byway
- + Pend Oreille Scenic Byway

Eat:

- + Soulshine, *Bonnors Ferry*
- + Trinity at City Beach, *Sandpoint*
- + The Junkyard Bistro, *Salmon*

Activities to Explore:

- A** Sacajawea Interpretive, Cultural & Educational Center
- B** Bertram's Salmon River Brewery
- C** Middle Fork of the Salmon River Rafting and Fishing
- D** Goldbug Hot Springs
- E** Frank Church- River of No Return Wilderness

The Middle Fork of the Salmon River

National Geographic ranks the Middle Fork of the Salmon River as one of the top three whitewater river trips in the world. It flows through the largest wilderness area in the Lower 48, the 2.4-million-acre Frank Church–River of No Return Wilderness, a majestic and varied landscape of rugged cliffs and narrow canyons, forested shores and bluffs, and 300+ named rapids. The ultimate Middle Fork experience is a five- to seven-day guided trip, which combines exhilarating whitewater with hiking, hot springs soaking, superb dining, and wine sipping on the shores of a truly wild river.

Rafting the Salmon River

These trips are popular, so book ahead! You can launch half-day, full-day, or multi-day trips with outfitters in Salmon or Stanley.

Call the Salmon or Stanley Chamber of Commerce, Raft Idaho, or Idaho Outfitters and Guides licensing for outfitters who guide these trips.

Total Drive Time:
6 Hours 44 Minutes
Total Mileage: **380**



Total Drive Time:
3 Hours 25 Minutes
Total Mileage: **210**

Salmon to Victor

STOP SIX

Scenic Byways:

- + Sacajawea Historic Byway
- + Teton Scenic Byway

Eat

- + Rise and Shine Espresso, *Salmon*
- + Pizza Pie Café, *Rexburg*
- + Big Hole BBQ, *Victor*

Activities to Explore:

- A** Backcountry Horseback Riding
- B** Headwaters Golf Course
- C** Victor to Driggs Rail Trail
- D** Trail Rides—Linn Canyon Ranch
- E** Caribou-Targhee National Forest
- F** Grand Teton Brewing Company
- G** Spud Drive-In
- H** Henry's Fork Fly Fishing
- I** Mesa Falls
- J** Teton Reserve Golf Course

Grand Teton Brewing Company

Credited as the creator of the modern growler, this brewery first began operations in Wyoming in 1988, and moved to the base of the Teton Pass in Idaho ten years later to expand production. Local barley and hops, and nearby glacier water run-off make this beer a true “taste of Idaho.” Private brewery tours are offered – just call in advance to check availability.



Total Drive Time:
3 Hours 43 Minutes
Total Mileage: **229**

Victor to Pocatello to Twin Falls

STOP SEVEN

Scenic Byways:

+ Teton Scenic Byway

Eat

+ Provisions Local Kitchen, *Driggs*

+ Portneuf Valley Brewing, *Pocatello*

+ Canyon Crest Dining and Event Center, *Twin Falls*

Activities to Explore:

- A** Fly Fishing
- B** Wildlife Viewing along the Snake River
- C** Museum of Idaho
- D** Museum of Clean
- E** Massacre Rocks State Park
- F** Shoshone Bannock Tribal Museum
- G** Shoshone Falls
- H** Idaho Potato Museum
- I** City of Rocks National Reserve

City of Rocks National Reserve

Located roughly an hour south of Burley, this national reserve and neighboring state park, Castle Rocks, were once a known stopping point along the California Trail. Large rock formations lend the area its name, and many still bear the signatures of some of the emigrants that passed through. The area is now known for its many rock climbing options, hiking, biking, and camping. Be sure to stop into the visitor center and talk to a local ranger for more information on this historic and adventurous landscape.



Twin Falls to Craters of the Moon to Challis

STOP EIGHT

Scenic Byways:

- + Sawtooth Scenic Byway
- + Peaks to Craters Scenic Byway

Eat:

- + Java, *Twin Falls*
- + Pickle's Place, *Arco*
- + River of No Return Brewing, *Challis*

Activities to Explore:

- A** Craters of the Moon National Monument and Preserve
- B** Mount Borah
- C** Salmon-Challis National Forest
- D** Sawtooth National Recreation Area

750,000+ Acres of Adventure

The Sawtooth National Recreation area consists of over 700 miles of trail, 40 peaks rising over 10,000 feet and 300 plus high mountain alpine lakes. Ideal for outdoor recreation and adventure, there's more than enough to keep any mountain enthusiast busy. Pick up maps and talk to Forest Service staff at the Sawtooth NRA Ranger Station on Route 75 just south of Stanley.

Craters of the Moon National Monument and Preserve

Craters of the Moon is a vast ocean of lava flows with scattered islands of cinder cones and sagebrush. You'll know you're close as the surrounding desert landscape changes starts to change around you into black hardened lava rock. Temperatures vary throughout the year- reaching sweltering levels in the summer and dipping below freezing in the winter. In 2017 the monument was designated an International Dark Sky Park for its outstanding night skies and low light pollution. Stop at the visitor center at the entrance to learn about the past, present, and future of the lava fields that form this otherworldly landscape.

Total Drive Time:
5 Hours 21 Minutes
Total Mileage: **237**



Challis to Stanley

STOP NINE

Scenic Byways:

+ Salmon River Scenic Byway

Eat:

+ Teacup Café and Bakery, *Challis*

+ Stanley Baking Company, *Stanley*

+ Redfish Lake Lodge, *Stanley*

Activities to Explore:

- A** Redfish Lake
- B** Hiking in the Sawtooth Mountains
- C** Bayhorse Ghost Town
- D** Land of Yankee Fork State Park

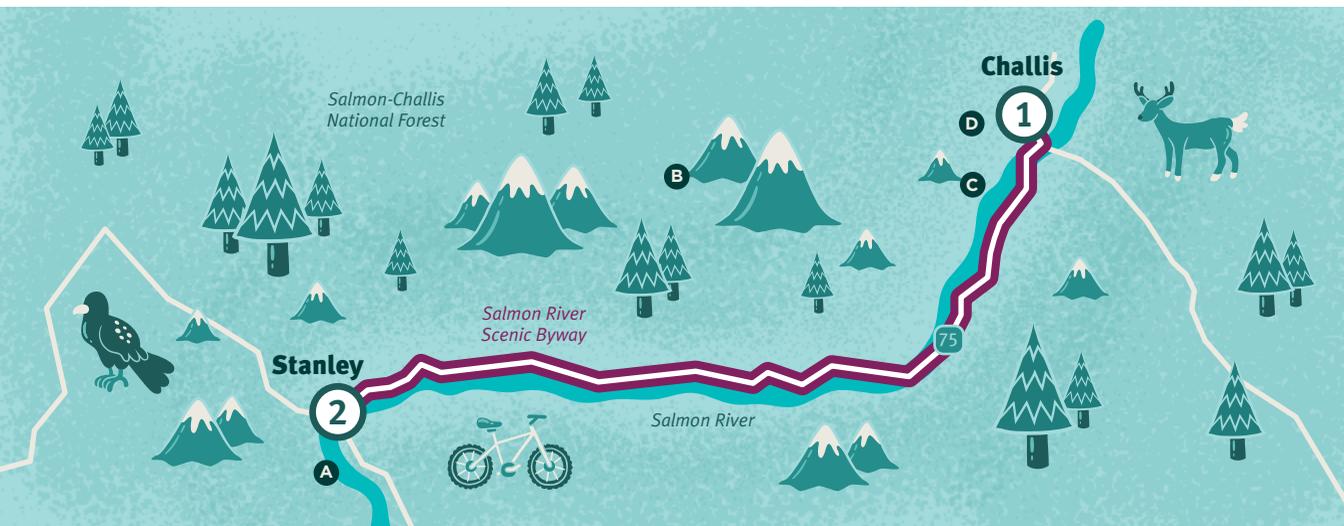
Hiking, biking, rafting, fly-fishing, and more await in the surrounding mountains. Talk to a local for the inside scoop by visiting the Stanley-Sawtooth Chamber of Commerce in town before adventuring out.

Extra Time?

If you have some extra time, make sure to take the hour drive south down the Sawtooth Scenic Byway to the towns of Ketchum and Hailey. The byway offers stunning photo ops of the Sawtooth Mountains, and the picturesque towns feature local shopping, good food, and miles of trails to hike or bike. See page 18 for trip suggestions in this area.

Total Drive Time:
1 Hour 12 Minutes

Total Mileage: **58.1**



Stanley to Boise

STOP TEN

Total Drive Time:
2 Hours 55 Minutes
Total Mileage: **157**

Scenic Byways:

- + Ponderosa Pine Scenic Byway
- + Wildlife Canyon Scenic Byway
- + Payette River Scenic Byway

Eat:

- + Mountain Village Restaurant, *Stanley*
- + Two Rivers Grill, *Crouch*
- + The Stagecoach Inn, *Garden City*

Activities to Explore:

- A** Kirkham Hot Springs
- B** Raft the South Fork or Main Payette River
- C** Zipline with Zip Idaho in Horseshoe Bend
- D** Starlight Mountain Theatre

