

Easy Hikes & Nature Walks in Fernie

Surrounded by the Canadian rocky mountains and spectacular views, Fernie has an abundance of easy hiking trails and nature walks for all levels of ability. From magical old-growth forests to unique geological features, Fernie's flora, fauna and geography will fascinate and delight the senses.



Explore with family and friends or join a guided tour at Island Lake Lodge, Fernie Alpine Resort or Wild Nature Tours. Scenic nature walks and riverside trails offer shady parks, picnic spots and viewpoints for picture-perfect family photos.

1 Island Lake Lodge

Open early June - October

- 100 km of hiking trails from easy walks to full day hikes
- Easy trails include the Old Growth, Lake, Fir & Rail Trails
- ½ day guided interpretive hikes available
- Dining, spa & lodging available

islandlakelodge.com | 250-423-3700

2 Fernie Alpine Resort

Open late June - early Sept

- 20+ trails (ranging from easy to difficult)
- Chairlift accessed sightseeing & interpretive centre
- Guided & specialty hikes available
- Dining & lodging available

skifernie.com | 250-423-2435

Trail Etiquette & Safety:

- Tell someone where you are going and when you expect to be back
- Be respectful of other trail users and their enjoyment of the trail
- Be aware of wildlife, make noise, keep dogs on leash where required
- Respect the environment and leave no trace. All garbage must be packed out and deposited in proper receptacles
- Check the weather forecast before you go, plan and dress accordingly
- Bring water and pack snacks for your day to keep up your energy levels
- Stay on designated trails
- Motorized vehicles are prohibited
- Consider carrying bear spray and know how to use it

Private landowners permit access to certain trail areas, please respect all noted signage while enjoying these trails.

Visit HikeFernie.com for online hiking details. For further information:

Fernie Visitor Centre

102 Commerce Road / HWY 3 | 778-519-0748

Fernie Trails Alliance

Fernietrailsalliance.com

Wild Nature Tours

891 2nd Ave | 250-423-1682

Fernie Hiking Guide Book

Fernie Area Hiking Trails & Natural Plant Compendium by Terry Nelson. Purchase locally at Polar Peek Books, Fernie Museum or Fernie Visitor Centre.



Hiking in Fernie

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Island Lake Lodge credit: Destination BC / Kari Medig

HikeFernie.com | [#ferniestoke](https://twitter.com/ferniestoke)



3 Fairy Creek Falls

Distance: 5km (return) Avg. Time: 1.5 - 2hrs
Elevation Gain: 120 m

Fairy Creek Falls trail follows Fairy Creek to a picturesque waterfall. This gently rolling singletrack trail has some rooty and short steep sections. Explore the lower slope of Mount Proctor through meadows and forest. This family friendly trail provides a great opportunity to explore nature with the kids, though this trail is not suitable for chariots or strollers. Please use caution during the spring season, as the creek water levels can be high.

Trail Location & Details

Park at the Visitor Centre located at 102 Commerce Road on Hwy #3, east of town. The trailhead is marked with a large sign in the parking lot and leads behind the Centre. Follow the signed trail markers until you reach the falls and a viewing bench.

Did you know...*The Fernie Visitor Centre is located at the base of this trailhead and offers comprehensive information about Fernie, free Wifi, indoor washrooms and locally produced gifts & artwork. Check website for hours of operation.*

4 Great Northern Trail (Town Loop)

Distance: 8km (return) Avg. Time: 1.5hrs
Elevation Gain: 15 m

This trail follows the eastern shore of the Elk River within town, connecting Annex Park, Dogwood Park and James White Park. Including portions of the Trans Canada Trail, this diverse trail includes river views, secluded forest, bird viewing, duck pond and picnic areas. This trail is suitable for chariots and there are outdoor public washrooms located in all the parks. Extend your walk to include Maiden Lake and/or the Fernie Visitor Centre.

Trail Location & Details

Park at Annex Park via the entrance at the corner of 11th St. & 12th Ave, following the road up & over the dike to access the parking lot on the left. Follow the trail over the footbridge, visible from the parking lot, which will lead towards the river. Heading downstream this portion of the trail is also known as the Emily Brydon Trail. Follow the trail along the river to Dogwood Park and the boat launch. Continue on until the road and turn onto the bridge crossing over Coal Creek. Rejoin the trail headed downstream and towards James White Park. The trail loops around James White park and then return back the way you came to Annex Park.

Did you know...*James White Park offers a variety of activities to enjoy including a disc golf course, tennis courts and baseball diamonds.*

5 Inclusive Trail to Montane Hut

Distance: 7km (return) Avg. Time: 2-3hrs
Elevation Gain: 118 m

The Inclusive Trail connects Coal Creek Road to the Montane Hut via an easy wide, gravel trail, allowing all levels of trail users to enjoy views of the spectacular Lizard Range. The trail travels through forested sections before opening up to wide valley views in all directions. The trail leads to the Montane Hut where you can relax and savour the surrounding landscape from the viewpoint bench. During cooler weather, you can warm up inside the hut.

Trail Location & Details

From downtown, drive past the Fernie Aquatic Centre on Pine Ave. and turn left onto Coal Creek Road. Stay on this road for approx. 600m until you see the parking lot on your right. The trailhead begins after crossing the bridge over Coal Creek, follow the trail sign markers for 'Montane Blue.' As you gain elevation you will cross a wide wooden bridge with the trail marker 'Uprooted to Montane Trail.' Follow this trail until you see a sign marker directing you to the right onto 'Montane Trail,' which will lead you to the Montane Hut. This trail is within private property with access granted by the Montane landowner, Parastone Developments.

Did you know...*You can stop to visit with mini horses, ponies and chickens at the Montane Barn located within a short walk from the parking lot.*

6 Sherwoody / Provincial Park Loop

Distance: 3km (loop) Avg. Time: 1-1.5hrs
Elevation Gain: 105 m

Located within the Mt Fernie Provincial Park, Sherwoody and the Provincial Park Connector Trail can be combined as a loop. The trail includes a few small bridge crossings and ascends to a viewpoint. The Lizard Creek flows through the park before forming a beautiful little waterfall. A wide variety of plant & wildlife can be found in the area, along with a variety of family friendly trails.

Trail Location & Details

Proceed to Mt Fernie Provincial Park, located 3 km's west of Fernie off Hwy 3. Upon entering the park, take your first left to the day use parking lot. The trailhead begins at the far end of the parking lot, leading down towards a small waterfall and bridge. Upon crossing the bridge, the trail will gain elevation through lush forest to a scenic viewpoint and bench, then continue down and through the forest. At the intersection, take the right branch onto Sherwoody and follow this trail all the way until it intersects with the Gorby Trail. Take this trail to the right, which will lead you to the white Gorby Bridge. After crossing the bridge, continue across the day use parking area to where the Provincial Park Connector trail begins and leads back to the campground and starting point.