

VISIT

Mackenzie

BRITISH COLUMBIA



Welcome to Mackenzie, BC

Mackenzie sits in the epic Rocky Mountain Trench, a small town in a seriously big landscape.

Our backyard holds every imaginable adventure close at hand. Scramble to the tops of high mountain ridges for panoramic views, hike along quiet trails in the company of moose and birds, shred downhill bikes through lush forest, or drift soundlessly on glassy lakes, disturbed only by the dip of your paddle or the cast of your fishing line. Come winter, punch through deep bowls and chutes on a snowmobile, glide along serene cross-country runs, or snowboard through some of the deepest powder you've ever seen. Everywhere you go, keep your eyes peeled for wildlife, spectacular sunsets, and the perfect photo-op. (Spoiler: there's plenty.) Friendly locals and access to good amenities make spending time here a breeze. Whether you come seeking solitude, perspective, connection, or adventure, Mackenzie is guaranteed to leave an impression.

Welcome!

FOR A DIGITAL VERSION OF THIS OFFICIAL VISITOR GUIDE, VISIT:



@tourismmackenziebc

Tag your photos **#mackenziebc**

Photo Credits

Front / Back Cover: The Northern Lights over Morfee Mountain,
Destination BC/Bill Campbell Photography

Below: Morfee Mountain
– Marcus Paladino Photography

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Indigenous Culture & History





Fort McLeod National Historic Site of Canada – McLeod Lake Indian Band AGA 2014

Jode Ihichightses detl'. We are gathered here together.

Mackenzie is situated on the traditional territories of the Tse'Khene peoples whose communities include the Kwadacha Nation, Tsay Keh Dene Nation, and the McLeod Lake Indian Band, as well as the Dunne-za, Nēhiyawēwin Cree, and Anishnaubemowin Saulteau peoples whose communities include the West Moberly First Nation, Halfway River First Nation, and Saulteau First Nation.

The District of Mackenzie acknowledges and gives honour to the land on which we live, work and play. The Tse'Khene are known as "people of the rocks." Traditionally a nomadic people, the Tse'Khene eventually settled along the Parsnip and Finlay Rivers, at the edge of the Rocky Mountains, and throughout the Fraser Fort-George and Peace River areas. The language of the Tse'Khene belongs to the Beaver-Sarcee-Tse'Khene branch of Athapaskan.

In 1977, the former Hudson's Hope Band split to form the West Moberly First Nation and the Halfway River First Nation. Along with the Saulteau First Nation, who arrived in the area fleeing the 1885 North-West Rebellion, these Nations are signatories of settled

Treaty 8. The Dunne-za are Athabaskan-speaking people and their name translates to "those who live among the beaver." Their traditional territory extends from the Peace River area east across to Alberta.

Since time immemorial, First Nations have stewarded the lands and waters of this area. Our experiences in present-day Mackenzie are shaped by their enduring spirit, traditions, stories, guidance, and knowledge. As you are visiting, we remind you to tread lightly. We encourage you to play and give pause to your surroundings, and in turn, you'll foster a deeper connection to the land, the experiences, the people, and yourself. Please respect the area's wildlife, sensitive ecosystems, and habitats so they can continue to thrive under the management and care of Indigenous stewards.

Be sure to stop by McLeod Lake, the closest community to Mackenzie, which has a newly established gas station and store, state-of-the-art EV charging station, and the eagerly anticipated Community Wellness Centre on the horizon, promising both convenience and community well-being for visitors and residents alike.

Mussi cho. Thank you.

MACKENZIE AT A GLANCE



Mackenzie, BC Instant Town 1966 – provided by the Mackenzie & District Museum

This northern town is at the heart of a spectacular wild landscape. Surrounded by mountains, lakes, and rivers, it's a place where connecting to nature is as simple as walking out the front door. Around town, everything is within walking distance, and countless activities are just a short drive away. Incorporated in 1966, Mackenzie is one of British Columbia's youngest towns. It's named for the 18th-century Scottish navigator and fur trader Alexander Mackenzie, who travelled here in the late 1700s looking for an overland route to the Pacific. While here, he famously canoed the Parsnip River, crossed the Continental Divide and, after navigating the Fraser River, walked 420 kilometres to the coast. The

young adventurer—he was just 25 years old when he completed his ambitious expedition—charted many of the region's rivers, including the Finlay and Parsnip, located north and south of the town, respectively.

Soon the fur trade followed. Companies moved into the area, establishing trading posts and with them, hubs of commerce and social life. The lure of gold replaced furs and, after the Cariboo Gold Rush of 1870, miners moved north seeking their fortune. These early pioneers created settlements, relying on river transport for supplies until the Hart Highway was built in the late 1940s. A decade later, construction of the W.A.C. Bennett Dam began. At the time, it was the largest project of its kind in the province—and its impact was enormous. To create the Williston Lake Reservoir, 141,639 hectares of forest were flooded, bringing an end to the Finlay and Parsnip river settlements, and displacing Tse'Khene communities from their traditional lands. Homes were lost, valuable traplines erased, food sources ruined, habitats destroyed, and more. In 1965, land was cleared to make way for a sawmill and the current-day townsite.

Today, Mackenzie has grown into a thriving community and the abundant forests that have fuelled the town's growth now provide endless exploration and recreation.

Scan the QR code to learn more about the history and displacement of the Tse'Khene people



WORLD'S LARGEST TREE CRUSHER

Weighing in around 175 tonnes, and at over 17 metres long, 6.5 metres high, and 10 metres wide, this is one serious piece of machinery. The largest of its kind in the world, Mackenzie's "G175 Tree Crusher" cleared over 1,000 hectares of forest in preparation for the flooding of Williston Reservoir in the 1960s before it became apparent that the giant machine was unsuited for the terrain (it spent as much time stuck in the mud as it did actually working). After being semi-abandoned in the bush for twenty years, the machine was finally relocated in 1984. Now on display in downtown Mackenzie, the tree crusher makes for the ultimate photo-op.



LeTourneau Tree Crusher – provided by the Mackenzie & District Museum

GETTING HERE & AROUND TOWN

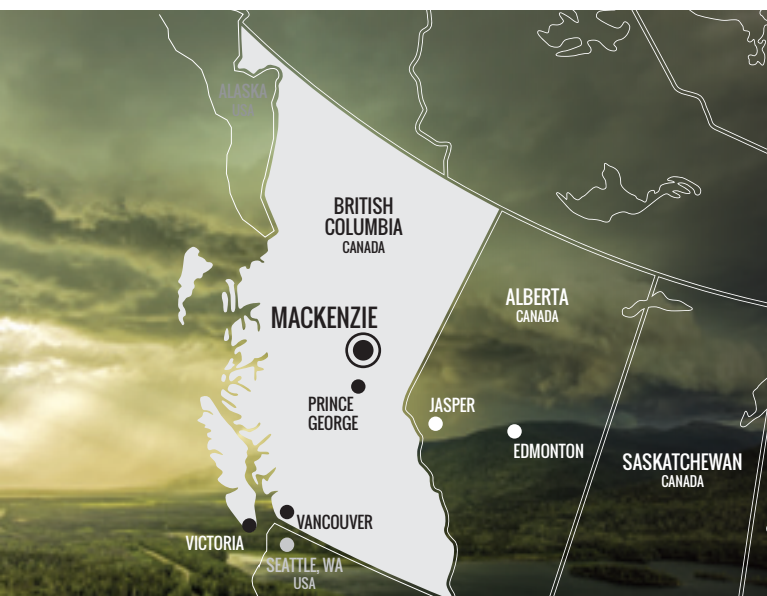
GETTING HERE BY CAR

The easiest way to explore Mackenzie is by car. Mackenzie is located on Highway 39, just 29 kilometres north of Mackenzie Junction on Highway 97. From there, you can venture to Dawson Creek, Tumbler Ridge, and Prince George.

GETTING HERE BY AIR

There are direct flights to Prince George Airport (YXS) from Vancouver, Victoria, Edmonton, and Calgary. Prince George is a two-hour drive from Mackenzie. Car rentals are available from the airport. Private and chartered flights are welcome to land at the Mackenzie Community Airport (YZY) where fuel is available. Runway is 1,585 m in length.

Mackenzie Airport (Class C- CYZY)



Morfee Lake – Grant Erb



Centennial Drive and Skeena Drive Intersection – Grant Erb

GETTING HERE BY SHUTTLE

BC Bus North operates a weekly shuttle from Prince George to Mackenzie. It departs from downtown Prince George and arrives at the Mackenzie Recreation Centre. Weekend and holiday schedules can vary. Visit BCBus.ca or call ahead to check in advance.

For more frequent service, Kimta Transportation Society offers a subsidized shuttle between Mackenzie and Prince George, making travel both affordable and convenient. The route also serves McLeod Lake, Bear Lake, and Summit Lake, ensuring reliable transportation for surrounding communities. Please email kimtamackenzie@gmail.com to reserve your seat.

Kimta also provides community bus rentals, including a 24-seat AWD bus equipped with a wheelchair lift and tie-downs for up to four wheelchairs. To book, contact the Mackenzie Recreation Centre at 250-997-5283 for details and availability.

AROUND TOWN BY FOOT OR BY PEDAL

Mackenzie is surrounded by green space and interconnecting trail networks, perfect for exploring on foot or by bike. The Azan Tunneh Trail encircles the town and links up with other walking paths, including those in John Dahl Regional Park, which you can access in spring, summer, and fall. In winter, swap your shoes for cross-country skis and try out the park's groomed trails. Bikers can go from door to dirt within 15 minutes via the Morfee Lake Trail, which connects to the Morfee Mountain biking network.

Visitor Centre Information

Our Visitor Centre staff live, work, and play in Mackenzie, so who better to help you make the most of your stay? There are two Visitor Centres in Mackenzie where you'll find a wide range of info, including travel tips, driving directions, current events, and more. We also provide free brochures, maps, and Wi-Fi. Our seasonal centre, located at the Junction of Highways 97 and 39, is open from May to September, while our downtown centre is open year-round and located a short stroll from accommodation and restaurants.

Scan the QR code to view our business directory



Highway Junction (Caboose)

Located at the Junction
of Hwy 97 & Hwy 39
Mackenzie, BC V0J 2C0
P. 250-750-4497

Chamber of Commerce
11 - 600 Mackenzie Blvd
Mackenzie, BC V0J 2C0
P. 250-997-5459



FOUR SEASONS TO EXPLORE

Mackenzie shines in every season. Winter brings deep snowfall and snowsports of every kind, from cross-country skiing to sledding to ice fishing. Spring's early warmth reveals new signs of life along every trail, path, and lakeshore, while fall sets the area's foliage ablaze in red and yellow. Summer may be fleeting, but the days are leisurely and long.

SPRING

Spring in Mackenzie typically arrives in May. Most wildlife give birth in spring, so keep your eyes peeled for moose calves, wolf pups, and bear cubs, as well as migratory birds. It's also a time for chasing waterfalls when the spring snowmelt transforms babbling brooks into powerful torrents.

SUMMER

In a northern town, long summer days are perfect for getting into the mountains and out on the lakes. It all depends on your mood. Do you want gentle strolls and lazy paddles? Or epic ridge climbs and fast and flowy downhill trails? Do one or all, but make sure to follow it up with a campfire and a good meal.

FALL

Fall announces its arrival in a blaze of colour. From early September to mid-October, the green hills surrounding Mackenzie explode into a vibrant palette of red and yellow. The late autumn sun brings spectacular sunsets, and the air is crisp, with average temperatures of 10 degrees. It's the perfect backdrop for scenic hikes, wildlife viewing, geocaching, and mushroom foraging.

WINTER

If there's something we're really good at, it's winter. Mackenzie gets an average of three metres of snowfall each winter, lasting roughly five months. Luckily, our location at the foothills of the rugged Rocky Mountain Trench—with its epic peaks and valleys—provides the blueprint for every kind of snowsport.

RESPONSIBLE TOURISM

EXPLORE WITH GRACE AND LEAVE NO TRACE

The Seven Principles of Leave No Trace

1. **Plan ahead and prepare**
2. **Travel and camp on durable surfaces**
3. **Dispose of waste properly**
4. **Leave what you find**
5. **Minimize campfire impacts**
6. **Respect wildlife**
7. **Be considerate of others**

(Taken from Leave No Trace – Canada)

BE PREPARED

Mackenzie is surrounded by wilderness. No matter what outdoor activity you're planning, be prepared. Take the essentials with you, from water to sunscreen to emergency supplies, and know how to use them. AdventureSmart and Leave No Trace Canada are two resources to help you get informed before heading outdoors.

BACKROAD SAFETY

Cell service can be limited in Mackenzie. If you plan to venture into the backcountry or onto forest service roads (FSRs), bring two-way radios with you. Road channels are posted at the start of each FSR. Familiarize yourself with the call letters, and communicate with other road users frequently. Keep extra fuel on hand in case you wander farther than you planned.

Mackenzie sits between the Rocky and Omineca Mountains, two of BC's most rugged mountain ranges. This is serious backcountry terrain, and travellers should be prepared for all conditions. Know the conditions, plan ahead, and make sure you're wearing proper gear.

WILDLIFE SAFETY

Seeing wildlife is always a thrill, but remember—wild creatures are wild for a reason. Learn about the types of wildlife you may encounter in Mackenzie and how you can reduce conflicts. Keep your distance, respect their habitat, and exercise caution.

Quick and Interesting Facts

Aerial of Mackenzie, BC – Northern BC Tourism / Six Sigma Productions

 **Incorporated: June 1966**


Population

3,281

(2021 Census Statistics Canada)


Lakes

**804 lakes within 70 kms
of Mackenzie**
The District of Mackenzie alone
has 27 lakes!


Industries:
The Top 5
largest
employment
sectors

 **Forestry**
 **Manufacturing**
 **Administration**
 **Retail**
 **Healthcare and
Social Assistance**


EV Chargers

Mackenzie

4 EV Chargers (2-Level 2, 2-Level 3)*
📍 616 Mackenzie Blvd (parking lot)
* By summer 2024

McLeod Lake

2 EV Chargers (Level 3)
📍 1 Carp Lake Rd (Parking lot
of Tse'khene Food and Fuel)


Churches

4 Places to
worship
View full list ▶





Land to Explore

Over 11,000 hectares
of public land to explore within
the district alone, and even
more beyond.

 **Recreational Equipment Rentals**

Contact the Visitor Centre for information about equipment
rentals in Mackenzie at 250-750-4497 or 250-997-5459

Morfee Lake – Agnieszka Pajor

 Temperature/Climate			
			RECORD
	January	July	
	Average	-9°C (16°F)	+16 (61°F)
	^ High	-6°C (21°F)	22°C (72°F)
	∨ Low	-13°C (8°F)	8°C (47°F)
			+35°C (95°F): July 13, 2007
			-45°C (-49°F): January 6, 1991

EAT & DRINK / SHOPPING

There's nothing better than tucking into a good meal after a day exploring the great outdoors. Mackenzie eateries deliver the grub, from breakfast spots that will power you up for the hike ahead to pubs where you can wind down post-adventure. Grab-and-go options let you hit the trails fast, while local bakeries can satisfy any sweet craving. Can't decide what to eat? Take a stroll down Mackenzie Boulevard where you'll find most of the town's restaurants, plus local boutiques, shops, and services. Stock up on supplies at the local grocery store, pharmacy, pet store, and hardware shop, but don't be surprised if you find something else along this street that catches your eye.

Scan the QR code
to learn more



▲ The Purple Bicycle – D. Rigo Media

▼ (Below) Mackenzie Community Market – Marcus Paladino Photography | (Inset) Mackenzie Community Market – Northern BC Tourism/6ix Sigma Productions

COMMUNITY MARKET

Held on Thursday evenings throughout the summer, the Mackenzie Community Market is a celebration of everything grown, made, and crafted locally. It's a lively gathering spot where vendors offer delicious food and handmade goods. Looking for fresh produce? Pick up ripe berries, crisp vegetables, or jars of jams and preserves. Hungry? Savor baked treats, oven-fresh pizza, or falafel bowls. The market also showcases the talents of local makers and artists. Explore beautifully crafted pottery, intricately carved wood items, unique jewelry, and soothing aromatherapy products. There's something for everyone, from practical items to one-of-a-kind treasures. In winter, the market moves indoors to the Purple Bicycle Event Space, held twice a month, ensuring the community can enjoy it year-round. Whether you're seeking fresh ingredients, unique keepsakes, or live entertainment, the Mackenzie Community Market is a must-visit. Find it in front of the Town Centre Mall on Mackenzie Blvd.



Arts & Culture

MUSEUM

Mackenzie has a rich history, but don't just take it from us. At the Mackenzie and District Museum, exhibits bring the town's colourful past to life. Dive into old issues of the Mackenzie Times, the town's former independent paper, or uncover the brilliant paintings of Marge McDougall, whose work documented life in the area in the mid-1900s. You'll gain a deeper appreciation for this vibrant community and the people, cultures, and history that have shaped its identity.

Prickly Rose Studio prints – Micheline Snively

Mackenzie Community Arts Centre



ARTS CENTRE

The Mackenzie Community Arts Centre (MCAC) shows off the talents of local artists with exhibits that range from fine arts to performances. It's more than just a place to take in art, too. The MCAC functions as a platform for local and visiting artists to connect, inspire each other, and contribute to the cultural fabric of the town. Add more colour to your visit by signing up for an art class, and don't forget to check out the centre's Notable Expressions gift shop which sells work by local artists.

LOCAL ARTISTS

Local artists draw inspiration from Mackenzie's stunning backyard, and it's not hard to see why. The area's spectacular scenery is a muse for all forms of creative expression, from photography to paintings to pottery. Makers and crafters also express their artistic side through live music, hand-carved jewelry, locally-made apparel, and performances. Find artwork year-round throughout the community at local coffee shops, retail shops, and the community market.

WHERE TO STAY



Royal Oak Inn & Suites – Marcus Paladino Photography

ALEXANDER MACKENZIE HOTEL & TIMBERMAN INN

71 Centennial Drive

P: 250-997-6464

Toll-free: 1-800-663-2964 (BC only)

AZOUZETTA LAKE LODGE

56290 Hwy 97, Pine Pass

Cabins, fully equipped suites, and bunkhouses

P: 250-750-0044

E: azu@powderking.com

BLUE STAIN GUEST CABIN

11210 Hwy 39

P: 250-997-5064

E: mackforservices@explornet.ca

RODGERS RETREAT CABINS

Germansen Landing, BC

P: 250-617-3776 (Shawn), 778-916-3343 (Alisa)

E: rogers.retreat.cabins@gmail.com

▲ ROYAL OAK INN & SUITES

70 Mackenzie Boulevard

P: 250-997-2000

THE GARDEN HOUSE BED & BREAKFAST

407 Stuart Drive

P: 250-997-3190

VICTORY B&B

13 Robinson Crescent

P: 250-997-7773

WILLISTON LAKE LODGE

305 Mackenzie Boulevard

P: 250-997-3131

Toll-free: 1-888-955-6343

Parks



▲ Community Park Zipline – Terry Gilmer

▼ (Images below) Little Mac Ski Hill Gazebo – D. Rigo Media



ALEXANDER MACKENZIE'S LANDING RECREATION SITE

This park includes a sandy beach, picnic area, RV site and campground, a boat launch and access to hiking, boating, fishing, and swimming.

BABINE PARK

Located on Babine Drive, a large green space provides opportunities for field sports or larger group activities.

COMMUNITY PARK

The Downtown Community Park, established in 2023, is a welcoming outdoor space for all ages and abilities. It features an accessible trail, a pump and jump track for bikers, and a zipline open from dawn to dusk. A wooden performance deck provides a venue for events, fostering a family-friendly atmosphere. This vibrant park invites recreation, relaxation, and community gatherings in the heart of Mackenzie.

COMMUNITY MARKET PARK

A small oasis featuring picnic tables, benches, and lovely foliage. While the community market no longer graces its grounds, it remains a popular rest stop.

FIRTH PARK

Kids will love the play area, which includes a slide and climbing features, as well as several ride-on toys and swings. A large green space provides space for sports and groups to gather. Located on the corner of Firth and Stuart.

GANTHAZ LAKE

Gantahaz Lake is another popular, accessible-friendly picnic spot close to town. There's a great trail that follows the shoreline of this scenic lake.

LITTLE MAC SKI HILL & MOUNTAIN BIKE TRAILS

Little Mac Ski Hill, on Laurier Avenue near town, features a beginner slope and tobogganing area. A new gazebo with a fire pit, seating, and shelter offers space to gather and celebrate. Pick up your lift ticket at the Recreation Centre's front desk. In summer, enjoy bike trails connecting the hill to Morfee Lake's beaches and trails.



Mackenzie Skate Park – Sarah Pineau

MAC 1 PARK

Located on Kerry Crescent, this park is home to a tennis/pickleball court, plus a toddler-friendly playground with colourful equipment designed for preschool children. A large greenspace is great for running and jumping or group games.

MACKENZIE BALL DIAMONDS

Features five ball diamonds, plus a children's play structure, which includes a slide and climbing features, as well as ride-on toys and swings.

▲ MACKENZIE SKATE PARK & BCAA PLAYSPACE

Our 9,000-square-foot skatepark has a five-foot deep bowl with a six-foot curved extension and plenty of ledges, rails, quarter pipes, banks, and stairs. We've also installed custom skate benches for spectators or park users who need a place to rest. The play space is equipped with swings, climbing features, and slides,

Pet-friendly Second Beach, located on Morfee Lake. It's a great place for you and your furry friend to go for a dip on a hot day!



Morfee Lake Second Beach – Agnieszka Pajor

and is centrally located to the skate park and John Dahl Regional Park trails. It's the perfect spot for the whole family! Located at 400 Skeena Drive, next to the Mackenzie Recreation Centre.

▲ MORFEE LAKE (1ST & 2ND BEACH)

Morfee Lake's sandbar divides motorized and non-motorized traffic. First Beach, reserved for canoes, kayaks, and electric motorboats, offers a family-friendly swimming area, beach volleyball, and the new Bongo Park—a floating trampoline and slide. Motorized watercraft and pets are welcome at Second Beach. Both beaches feature picnic tables, fire pits, and outdoor grills, making them perfect for gatherings.

MUNRO PARK

A children's park that includes a large green place to play, plus a slide, climbing features, ride-on toys, and swings. Located on Munro Crescent.

Hiking / Walking Trails

If your idea of the promised land looks like miles of uncrowded trails, you'll find it here. Criss-crossing Mackenzie's still-wild landscape are hiking routes, from low-elevation strolls to intensive multi-day expeditions. After all, this is the Rocky Mountains—famous for their impressive length and incredible hiking opportunities. Unbroken vistas, soaring peaks, and a vast northern wilderness await your alpine exploration.

◀ Morfee Lake Trail – Marcus Paladino Photography


▼ Morfee Mountain Road – Marcus Paladino Photography





Morfee Lake Trail – Marcus Paladino Photography

TRAIL	Distance	Rating	Elevation Gain	Route Type	Notes
Gantahaz Lake Trail	4.3km	Easy	76m	Loop	–
John Dahl Regional Park Trails	2.2km Barb Dahl Trail, 1.5km Dick Dauphinee Trail	Easy	–	Loop	Viewpoints overlooking Morfee Lake. The trail is groomed for x-country skiing in winter.
Lost Lake Trail	3.7km	Easy	87m	Out & Back	X-country and hiking trails.
Mackenzie Golf Loop	3.9km	Easy	78m	Loop	
Queen's Cup Nature Trail	1.1km	Easy	444m	Loop	Located at Whisker's Point Provincial Park.
Azan Tunneh Trail	9.2km	Easy / Moderate	–	Loop	–
The Royal Coachmen	6.7km	Easy / Moderate	170m	Out & Back	–
Tutu Bay Trail	3.2km	Easy / Moderate	60m	Out & Back	–
Bijoux Falls Trail	0.3km	Moderate	51m	Out & Back	–
Bijoux Falls Hill Hut	17.5km	Moderate	879m	Out & Back	–
Cut Thumb Falls Trail	5.1km	Moderate	192m	Out & Back	–
Morfee Lake Trail + Morfee Falls Trail	15.8km Lake Trail; an additional 1.5km to Morfee Falls	Moderate	450m	Loop, Out & Back	Morfee Lake Trail features a looped route, while the trail to Morfee Falls is an out-and-back hike.
War Falls Trail	0.8km	Moderate	39m	Out & Back	–
Murray Range Trail	4.5km	Difficult / Hard	904m	Out & Back	–
Mount Murray (Pine Pass)	8km	Difficult / Hard	1,046m	Out & Back	Views are worth the steady climb.
Baldy Trail to Baldy Mountain	80km	Hard	2,469m	Point to Point	Generally considered a challenging route, it takes an average of 23 hours to complete.

Royal Coachman is a six-kilometre epic alpine experience that boasts awe-inspiring views of the Rocky Mountains, alpine meadows, Williston Lake, and the Omineca Mountains. It also functions as the access point for the upper sections of the Morfee Mountain downhill trail network. This multi-use trail can be used in both directions. The trail ends at the start of another downhill mountain bike trail; hikers and cross-country cyclists must return on the same trail. Hiking is discouraged beyond the end of Royal Coachman. On average, it takes a cyclist an hour (one way) to complete this trail.



DONATE TO THE MACKENZIE OUTDOOR ROUTE AND TRAIL ASSOCIATION HERE:



GEOCACHING

Embark on a modern-day treasure hunt. Geocaching is a fun way to explore the local area and requires almost no experience, expertise, or equipment. You only need a GPS-enabled phone and a sense of adventure. Scattered throughout Mackenzie are more than 100 geocaches—all cleverly disguised to match the environment—stashed everywhere from the top of Morfee Mountain to Gantahaz Lake.

Biking



▲ Morfee Mountain, Royal Coachmen Trail – Northern BC Tourism/Abby Cooper | ▼ John Dahl Regional Park Trail – Marcus Paladino Photography



It's easy to hop on two wheels here. Mackenzie benefits from a location in a flat valley with mountain access mere minutes from town. Gravity-hungry riders can crush lap after lap on the newly developed trails of Morfee Mountain, while those looking for a leisurely lakeshore lap won't be disappointed. With a growing downhill scene and good access to cross-country trails and easy pedals, there's something for everyone. Not sure where to start? Mackenzie bikers are passionate about their local trails. Ask around for local intel, pick up a trail map at our Visitor Centre, or visit the Mackenzie Outdoor Route & Trail Association's website for more information.

**Scan the QR code
to learn more**



MOUNTAIN BIKING TRAILS

Point your wheels north. If Mackenzie isn't on your mountain bike radar yet, it should be. The scene here is quickly growing, thanks to the hard work and dedicated vision of the Mackenzie Outdoor Route & Trail Association (MORATA) and local riders. Morfee Mountain offers a range of trails, from fast downhill runs to cross-country routes with breathtaking vistas. Little Mac, situated in town, is great for easy after-work pedals. No matter how you ride, you'll find something for every style, skill level, and age.

MORFEE MOUNTAIN

Morfee Mountain is quickly becoming a mountain biker's mecca. A growing trail network includes everything from British Columbia's longest shuttle access downhill run to cross-country routes with brag-worthy views to smooth, park-style features to keep your adrenaline pumping. Trails cater to riders of all skill levels and abilities, with rollable features and ride-arounds for beginners and committing features like gaps, jumps, and berms for seasoned pros. Experience the thrill of the Morfee Mountain Ridgeline Trail, which spans an impressive 15 kilometres over 850 metres of descent, running from Morfee's alpine to its base. Enjoy easy access into the alpine and three convenient parking lots located along the mountain—or challenge yourself to climb to the top on Morfee Mountain Road. What you won't find? Crowded parking lots, congested trails, and expensive lift tickets.

LITTLE MAC BIKE PARK

Little Mac is home to a fun bike park with trails accessible for riders of all ages and skill levels. The park's safe and inclusive environment is ideal for little rippers, new riders, and those looking for easy, after-work laps. Practice cornering and speed on wide, flowy, green-rated trails. Challenge yourself on wooden jumps and berms throughout the park, or hone your tricks on the progressive jump line. Conveniently located within town, Little Mac promises a day of two-wheeled fun for all riders.



Skeena Drive – D. Rigo Media

AROUND TOWN

Around town, bike paths lead to lakes and connect with the trails in John Dahl Regional Park and Little Mac. The Azan Tunneh Trail is a multi-use perimeter trail with multiple access points. Wide, smooth, and relatively flat, it's ideal for a post-work cruise or a warm-up lap before you tackle the more challenging trails of Morfee Mountain. John Dahl Regional Park is adjacent to Little Mac and features green-rated trails and viewpoints of Morfee Lake. Hit the new pump track and jump line at the Community Park and work on your balance, agility, and confidence on two wheels.



Morfee Mountain – Northern BC Tourism/Andrew Strain



DONATE TO THE MACKENZIE OUTDOOR ROUTE
AND TRAIL ASSOCIATION HERE:



Waterfalls



▲ Morfee Falls – Marcus Paladino Photography | ▼ Cut Thumb Falls – Kassie Gwin



From easy strolls that take you in view of quiet creeks to strenuous scrambles that reward with powerful torrents, here's where to check out waterfalls near Mackenzie.

◀ MORFEE FALLS

55°21'20.17"N - 123° 3'27.81"W

Rating: Moderate

Distance: 700m one-way

Elevation Gain: 60m

BIJOUX FALLS

55.3098246, -122.673280

Can be viewed right from the parking lot. The following is if you do the trail beside the falls and climb up beside it:

Rating: Moderate

Distance: 320m one-way

Elevation Gain: 50.9m

◀ CUT THUMB FALLS

55.555742, -123.282755

Rating: Moderate

Distance: 5km

Elevation Gain: 191m

LOWER NATION FALLS

More of a rapid

55°27'38"N 123°35'43"W

UPPER NATION FALLS

Minor rapids

55.2801719, -123.655000

WAR FALLS

54.8679837, -123.261937

Rating: Moderate

Distance: 800m one-way

Elevation Gain: 38.7m



▲ Mackenzie Golf and Country Club – Marcus Paladino Photography

▼ (Images below) Mackenzie Golf and Country Club – Agnieszka Pajor

GOLF

Tee times in Mackenzie are easy to come by and deliver more than a round. Hit the greens at the Mackenzie Golf and Country Club, located at the south end of town. It offers a fun and scenic nine-hole course with fairways that back onto the forest and frame picturesque views of Morfee Mountain.



CLUBHOUSE

The round may be over, but it's still game on at the clubhouse's Foxhole Restaurant. Relax, unwind, and toast to your best plays over a glass of something cold and a delicious meal.

GOLF SIMULATOR

Practice your swing in winter with the club's golf simulator. This fun and immersive golfing experience keeps your game sharp, even when it's snowing outside.

WILDLIFE VIEWING RIGHT ON THE COURSE

The tree-lined fairways of the golf course hold more than just wayward balls. Keep watch for moose, deer, birds, bears, wolves, and other furry friends in between holes.





▲ Rock Climbing at Mackenzie Recreation Centre – Agnieszka Pajor | ▼ Mackenzie Recreation Aquatic Centre



RECREATION CENTRE

Find something for the whole family to do. This mega-complex is a hub for all things fitness and fun. Lace-up skates on one of two ice rinks or splash about in the aquatic centre. A beginner-friendly climbing wall lets young kids and teens test the ropes in this fun and challenging sport. Keep little ones busy at the children's play space, or squeeze in a workout at the gym or on the multi-sport court.

Summer Sports

BASEBALL

Play ball! Catch a game at the outdoor ball diamonds in town and experience summer's pastime in the north.

LACROSSE

Lacrosse is a fun activity for all ages and helps build endurance, stamina, coordination, and agility. Mackenzie is home to a minor and adult league, with drop-in (16+) available from April to mid-June.

POOL

Swim laps in the 25-metre-long deep pool or warm up in the hot tub or sauna. The warm and shallow pools are ideal for kids and families.

GYM

Work on your strength training or burn off steam with a little cardio. However you prefer to train, the recreation centre's well-stocked gym will keep you moving.

MULTI-SPORT COURT

Challenge friends and family to a game of squash, basketball or volleyball. Reserve ahead of time, or join one of the drop-in times available.

TENNIS

Serve up some fun on the outdoor tennis court located at the Mac 1 Park on Kerry Crescent. Need a racquet and some balls? Pick some up at Hagen's Home Hardware on Mackenzie Boulevard.



Mackenzie Recreation Centre Gym – Agnieszka Pajor

PICKLEBALL

It's impossible not to have fun playing pickleball. This beginner friendly and always-entertaining game is one of the fastest-growing sports in North America. Try it out in the recreation centre's Callahan Room or hit the outdoor courts at Mac 1 Park on Kerry Crescent.

ROCK CLIMBING

Budding climbers can reach new heights at the centre's kid-friendly climbing wall. Climbing harnesses and shoes are available for rent. Check the recreation centre's schedule for drop-in times.

Cicada Ball Diamonds – Agnieszka Pajor



Events

We don't like to stay still in Mackenzie, whether we're scaling peaks, paddling to new shores, or taking to the stage. Our community events take shape as dynamic, grassroots celebrations that bring together locals and visitors alike. They're all fun, no frills. From live music to art shows to sporting tournaments, find out what we've got going on.

Scan the QR code for a full list of events



The Morfee Lake Scramble – Marcus Paladino Photography



▲ The Morfee Lake Scramble – Marcus Paladino Photography

▼ The Morfee Lake Scramble – Agnieszka Pajor

THE MORFEE LAKE SCRAMBLE

The MORATA Morfee Lake Scramble is a choose-your-own adventure around the scenic, 15-kilometre Morfee Lakeshore Trail, with options to run, ride, or rock the walk. Looking to crush your Strava stats? Tackle the "Double Yolker," a combined 30-kilometre bike and run. For those more interested in a scenic stroll, let nature dictate the pace of your race as you take in the sights, or opt for the shorter four-kilometre Lakeshore loop. There are prizes for the top spots, plus the best costume and attitude. Close out the day with a foot-stompin' good time at the 19+ Scramble Dance, held at Morfee Lake's Second Beach. You can expect live music, a BBQ cookout, dancing, good times, and good vibes.

ROCKIN' THE RIDGELINE

Rockin' the Ridgeline is an annual event held in Mackenzie, BC on the last weekend of July. In partnership with Mackenzie Outdoor Route and Trail Association (MORATA), and the Mackenzie Community Arts Center (MCAC) — this outdoor family friendly festival will offer a variety of activities from mountain biking down the Morfee Mountain Ridgeline trail, hiking along the Azan Tunneh trails while viewing local artwork and enjoying live music from local and visiting artists. There will be a full lineup of music, artwork, food vendors, beer gardens and more!



▲ Rockin' the Ridgeline – Fir & Lace Photography



Rockin' the Ridgeline, Morfee Mountain, Royal Coachmen Trail
– Fir & Lace Photography



▲ Winter Quest – Julia Schellenberg

▼ Winter Quest – Mackenzie Recreation Services

WINTER QUEST

Winter Quest is an annual weekend-long extravaganza that puts the best of winter on display. Rent skates and spin around a frozen pond, or bundle up with hot chocolate in hand and gaze out over a crackling bonfire. There are ice sculptures and fireworks to take in and all-ages events and activities, including an outdoor story walk hosted by the recreation centre. Little Mac Ski Hill offers evening hours so you can ski (or toboggan) well into the night. Winter Quest is typically held in February.



Lakes

Experience lake life in Mackenzie.

Our watery landscape is a lake lover's paradise, promising stunning scenery, freshwater fun, and solitude. You'll find a handful of lakes near town, including Morfee Lake, situated a mere two kilometres from downtown and within easy walking distance. Then there's Williston Lake, the largest man-made lake in British Columbia, just west of Mackenzie, with over 1,500 kilometres of shoreline to explore. SUP, canoe, kayak, boat, swim, or lounge—however you do lake life, you'll find it here.



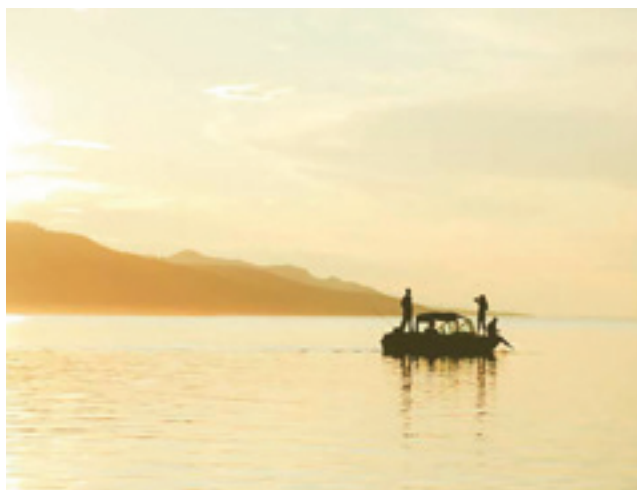
Morfee Lake First Beach – Bentley Pineau

SWIM

Pack your suit and make a splash. Our lakes have excellent beachfront, plentiful towel space, and in summer, waters that are just cool enough for dipping. Where to go? The soft sand of First Beach on Morfee Lake is perfect for lounging, sand castle building, and beach sports. You can also swim at Williston Lake, Heart Lake at Pine Le Moray Provincial Park, McLeod Lake, Tudyah Lake, and Heather and Dina lakes.

Morfee Lake – Marcus Paladino Photography





Williston Lake – Tanya Martin Photography

BOAT

Boaters will find amazing amenities and easy access to Mackenzie's waterways. Morfee Lake's Second Beach features a large boat launch and ample parking. A sandbar separates a dedicated swimming area at First Beach, which means boaters can cruise freely (and safely) along the lakeshore. There's even more room, plus a challenging maze of arms, to explore at Williston Lake. Small watercraft can launch at Gantahaz Lake, which restricts access to canoes, kayaks, and 7.5 kw motors.

Please exercise caution when boating on Williston Lake. Watch for drifting debris and strong winds which can cause high waves on open water.

PADDLE

If canoeing is what you crave, pack your paddles. Mackenzie's lake-dotted landscape delivers tranquillity, one stroke at a time. You'll experience pristine waterways framed by pine-scented forests and postcard views around every bend. The sandy shoreline of Morfee Lake is made for SUPs, and if it's fish you're after, make sure to pack a lure—or many. The Heather-Dina Lakes canoe circuit offers a one-day portage route that connects five small lakes. Whether you're a novice or an experienced paddler, Mackenzie provides the perfect backdrop for an unforgettable aquatic adventure.

Hunting & Fishing



Morfee Lake First Beach – D. Rigo Media

HUNTING

Where there's big landscape, there's big game. Mackenzie's access to the Rocky Mountain Trench makes it the perfect base camp for hunters. The vast and uninterrupted wilderness encompasses everything from high mountain ridgelines to quiet, secluded marshes, with forests, rivers, and lakes in between. Hunting in our backyard will give you moose, elk, deer, black bear, waterfowl, and upland birds, all present in abundant numbers. The lure of trophy game, plus the sheer diversity of wildlife and terrain, makes Mackenzie a prime spot for a hunting trip of epic proportions. Every skilled hunter knows the most memorable hunting trips are as much about the scenery as the chase, so remember to pack your camera.

Take off on an exhilarating hunting adventure in Mackenzie. Before packing your bags, please familiarize yourself with these important regulations for maintaining a peaceful coexistence with nature:

- 1. Know the seasons:** Mackenzie's ecosystem offers different hunting seasons. Stay informed to align your activities with ethical practices and conservation.
- 2. Get licensed:** Secure permits before venturing into the wilderness—it's a legal necessity and crucial for sustainable wildlife management.
- 3. Master the terrain:** Navigate varied landscapes with caution, whether you're traversing dense forests or high alpine ridges. Proper gear is essential for a safe and comfortable hunting experience.
- 4. Respect wildlife:** Maintain a respectful distance, and adhere to responsible hunting practices for conservation.
- 5. Follow local guidelines:** Stay up to date on hunting regulations, including firearm restrictions and bag limits, and help foster a sense of environmental responsibility.
- 6. Choose accommodations wisely:** Plan your stay thoughtfully and respect the local environment and communities.
- 7. Learn from experience:** Seek insights from seasoned hunters for a deeper understanding of Mackenzie's history, traditions, and challenges.



- 8. Emergency readiness:** Equip yourself for emergencies with a first aid kit and communication devices. Share your itinerary with someone trusted and be familiar with local emergency services.

Hunting in Mackenzie is a commitment to conservation. Respect the past, adhere to regulations, and relish the hunt while preserving the wilderness for future generations. Happy hunting!

FISHING

Fishing in Mackenzie is year-round. The cold, clear waters of our lakes and streams are well-stocked and offer rainbow trout, mountain whitefish, grayling, northern pike, longnose sucker, Kokanee, and Dolly Varden. Fishing is widely accessible, with hundreds of kilometres of shoreline and boat launches on nearly every lake. Even better? Mackenzie's remote location means our lakes are mainly left undisturbed, promising anglers secluded fishing holes, brag-worthy catches, and the solitude they crave. The best fishing here happens on the lake, but fly-fishers looking to cast a line for trout can find quiet riverbanks along the Nation and Omineca rivers, located on the other side of Williston Lake.

Lake	Stocked or Unstocked	Fish Species	Boat Launch / Access	Camping Spots
Burden Lake	Stocked with Rainbow Trout	Rainbow Trout	✓	12
Butternut Lake	Stocked with Rainbow Trout	Rainbow Trout	✓	3 Small
Carp Lake	Unstocked	Rainbow Trout, Burbot, Northern Pike, minnow, two Species of Suckers and Redside Shiner	✓ Double concrete	Vehicle-accessible sites: 102, Reservable frontcountry sites: 34, Boat-accessible sites: 17, cabins: 1
Curve Lake	Unstocked	Unknown	✓	3 Small
Cut Thumb Bay	Unstocked	Lake Trout, Arctic Graying, Bull Trout, Kokanee, Rainbow Trout, Burbot, Mountain Whitefish, and Northern Pike, minnow	✓	18
Dina Lake #1	Stocked with Rainbow Trout	Rainbow Trout, Brook Trout, Mountain Whitefish, Longnose Sucker, and Redside Shiner	✓ 7.5kw (10 horse power) or less	Vehicle-accessible sites: 5, Wilderness camping
Dina Lake #2	Stocked with Rainbow Trout	Rainbow Trout, Brook Trout, Lake Chub, and Longnose Sucker	✓ Electric motors permitted	Wilderness camping
Gataiga Lake	Unstocked	Rainbow Trout	✓	3
Gantahaz Lake	Stocked with Brook Trout	Brook Trout	✓	✗
Germansen Lake	Unstocked	Rainbow Trout	✓ Beach access suitable for launching a boat	Vehicle-accessible sites: 6, Walk-in sites: 3
Heather Lake	Unstocked	Rainbow Trout, Bull Trout, Lake Whitefish, Mountain Whitefish, Coarse Sucker, Longnose Sucker, Northern Pike, minnow, Peamouth Chub, Redside Shiner, and Slimy Sculpin	✗	Large group camping site, Wilderness camping
Kennedy Lake	Unstocked	Unknown	✓	1
Lions Lake	Unstocked	Rainbow Trout and Northern Pike, minnow	✗	✗
Lost Lake	Stocked with Eastern Brook Trout	Brook Trout & Rainbow Trout	✗	✗
Lower Nation Falls	Unstocked	Rainbow Trout, Lake Trout, and Bull Trout	✗	✗
Manson Lake	Unstocked	Lake Trout, Rainbow Trout, Bull Trout, and Whitefish	✓	6
Manson River	Unstocked	Rainbow Trout, Bull Trout, Whitefish, and possibly Arctic Graying	✗	Camping along the banks of the river
McLeod Lake	Unstocked	Rainbow Trout, Lake Trout, and Dolly Varden	✓	✗
Morfee Lake	Unstocked	Lake Trout, Rainbow Trout, Longnose Sucker, Mountain & Lake Whitefish, Northern Pike, minnow, Grayling, Dolly Varden, and Peamouth Chub	✓	16
Pack River	Unstocked	Rainbow Trout, Bull Trout, and Whitefish	✓	4
Parsnip River	Unstocked	Unknown	✗	✗
Philip Creek	Unstocked	Unknown	✗	2
Philip Lakes	Unstocked	Unknown	✓	5
Robinson Lake	Unstocked	Rainbow Trout	✓	3
Sabai Lake	Unstocked	Wild Rainbow Trout	✓	4
Six Mile Bay	Unstocked	Unknown	✓	17
Tudyah Lake	Unstocked	Burbot, Rainbow Trout, Bull Trout, and Lakers	✓	36
Windy Point Lake	Stocked with Rainbow Trout	Rainbow Trout	✓ Non-motorized boating	4
Williston Lake	Unstocked	Lake Trout, Arctic Graying, Bull Trout, Kokanee, Rainbow Trout, Burbot, Mountain Whitefish, and Northern Pike, minnow	✓	✗

Camping

Camping is all about communing with nature, and in Mackenzie you're spoiled for choice. Located in and around town are campsites and RV parks where you can sleep under the stars, gather around the campfire, and let nature be your evening entertainment. There's a range of options, including a 40-unit, municipal-run campground with both serviced and non-serviced sites. The District of Mackenzie also operates a 16-unit campground within easy walking distance of Morfee Lake. Further outside of town, provincial parks and recreation sites offer quiet refuges where you can unplug and recharge.



Azouzetta Lake Lodge & Campground – Northern BC Tourism/Andrew Strain

THE ADVENTURE EXTENDS ALL AROUND MACKENZIE

Stock up on supplies in Mackenzie before exploring provincial parks and recreation sites outside of town. Many of these have campsites and boat launches, as well as hiking trails.

MUNICIPAL RV PARK & CAMPGROUND

A 40-unit RV park that offers a variety of campsites from non-serviced to full-service sites for those wanting to hook up and remain for the summer. All sites include free firewood (when available), access to wireless internet, hot showers, and flush toilets. Sani-dump on site. Visitors may stay up to two nights for free at non-serviced sites. Please register at the Public Works office upon your arrival. Book online from mid-May to the end of October (subject to weather conditions), or call 250-997-3761.

MORFEE LAKE CAMPGROUND

Located within a three-minute walk from Morfee Lake, the Morfee Lake Campground offers 16 non-serviced, first come, first served sites surrounded by trees. Visitors may stay up to two nights for free. Please register at the Public Works office or call 250-997-3761 upon your arrival.

Scan the QR code for
campground booking for
our Municipal campsites



ROYAL OAK INN & SUITES & RV PARK (OCEANVIEW CAMPGROUND)

A 33-unit campground, including full-service and non-serviced sites. There are fire rings, picnic tables, a shower house, a park gazebo, and a sani-dump on site. To make a reservation, phone 250-997-2000.

ALEXANDER MACKENZIE'S LANDING

A 22-unit campground. Campers can only stay a maximum of 14 nights per calendar year, and no reservation of sites is permitted. Pit toilets are available; there is no water pump. Designated wheelchair-accessible sites available. There is presently no fee for camping.

Scan the QR code
to learn more



WHISKERS POINT PROVINCIAL PARK

59 private sites suitable for recreational vehicles of all sizes. Each site contains a picnic table and a fire pit. Some sites have tent pads. Flush toilets, running water, and firewood are conveniently located nearby.

TUDYAH LAKE PROVINCIAL PARK

This park offers 36 open-space, vehicle-accessible campsites on a first-come, first-served basis. Campsite reservations are not accepted. A concrete boat launch provides good access to fine fishing and waterskiing on the lake. The lake is also a convenient base for fishing on the nearby Parsnip River.

HEATHER LAKE PROVINCIAL PARK

A large, open, grassy area on the eastern side of Heather Lake is available for family or group camping activities. The site will accommodate tents as well as large trailers and motorhomes. The site contains two picnic tables with fire rings. There are two pit toilets located nearby. No water pump is available in the park. There is presently no fee for camping. Check road access before leaving and watch for industrial traffic while driving.

DINA LAKE PROVINCIAL PARK

A five-unit campground with developed gravel pads is available at Dina Lake. These sites will accommodate tents, as well as trailers and moderate-sized motorhomes. Each site contains a picnic table and a fire ring. Two pit toilets are located within the campground area. No water pump is available. There is presently no fee for camping. Check road access before leaving and watch for industrial traffic while driving.

GATAIGA LAKE

This small, popular site is located within 15 minutes of Mackenzie and offers space for three overnight or day-use parties. There is access to the lake for small boats via a rustic boat launch. Tables, fire rings, and pit toilets are provided.

SIX MILE BAY

The site features 17 campsites, along with tables, fire rings, and pit toilets. A gravel boat launch is available for trailered boats when reservoir levels are high. When low, the launch becomes unusable due to a steep drop-off. Check road access before leaving and watch for industrial traffic while driving.

KENNEDY LAKE

Located just off Highway 97, this small site features one campsite, a boat launch, a pit toilet, a fire ring, and a picnic table. This is a great place to stop for lunch and do some wildlife viewing while in the area.

CUT THUMB BAY

18 camping pads available, along with tables, fire rings, and pit toilets. The naturally sloped shore offers good boat launching areas, and this site is very popular as an access point for exploring Williston Lake. Check road access before leaving and watch for industrial traffic while driving.

CARP LAKE PROVINCIAL PARK

The park includes access to numerous lakes and streams, including Carp Lake and War Lake, along with an eight-kilometre waterway connecting the two, forming the beginning of the McLeod River. Check road access before leaving and watch for industrial traffic while driving.

- **Carp Lake Campground** offers a variety of vehicle-accessible camping options, including 17 reservable front country sites, 77 standard vehicle-accessible sites, and 4 double sites.
- **Balsam Island** provides backcountry camping experiences, featuring 6 reservable front country sites and 6 boat-accessible sites.
- **Bert's Cabin** offers a cozy retreat with cabins and huts, including 3 wilderness sites and 1 cabin.

HEART LAKE (PINE LE MORAY PARK)

This park offers vehicle-accessible campsites on a first-come, first-served basis. Campsite reservations are not accepted. Wilderness camping is allowed, but no facilities are provided. Please take your garbage with you when you leave. Only self-propelled and electric motorized boats are allowed on Heart Lake. Gas-powered boats are not permitted. There are no drinking water facilities in the park. Please bring your own water.

PHILLIPS LAKES

This small site is located directly adjacent to the Finlay-Phillip FSR en route to Mt Milligan and offers space for five campsites. Outhouses, tables, and pit toilets are provided. A small natural boat launch allows access to the lake.

AZOUZETTA LAKE LODGE & CAMPGROUND

This campground features 32+ non-serviced campsites, along with pit toilets and a boat launch to the stunning Azouzetta Lake. Call +1-250-750-0044 or email at azu@powderking.com. Please note: They do not have a 24-hour check-in. If you are arriving after 7 pm please call ahead for check-in instructions.

ALEXANDER MACKENZIE'S LANDING

Located 10 minutes from downtown on the banks of Williston Lake, this popular BC Hydro-maintained recreation site is named in honour of early explorer Alexander Mackenzie. It's easy to take inspiration from its namesake and find outdoor adventure here. The active set can stretch their legs on hiking trails that extend from the campground, while sun seekers will find ample towel space and great swimming. Spend the afternoon slowly cruising the shoreline in a boat or canoe or cast a line for fish. The grassy picnic area can accommodate large groups, perfect for family reunions, camp cookouts and celebrations of any kind. Open mid-May to mid-October.

**Scan the QR code to learn more
about the history and displacement
of the Tse'Khene people**



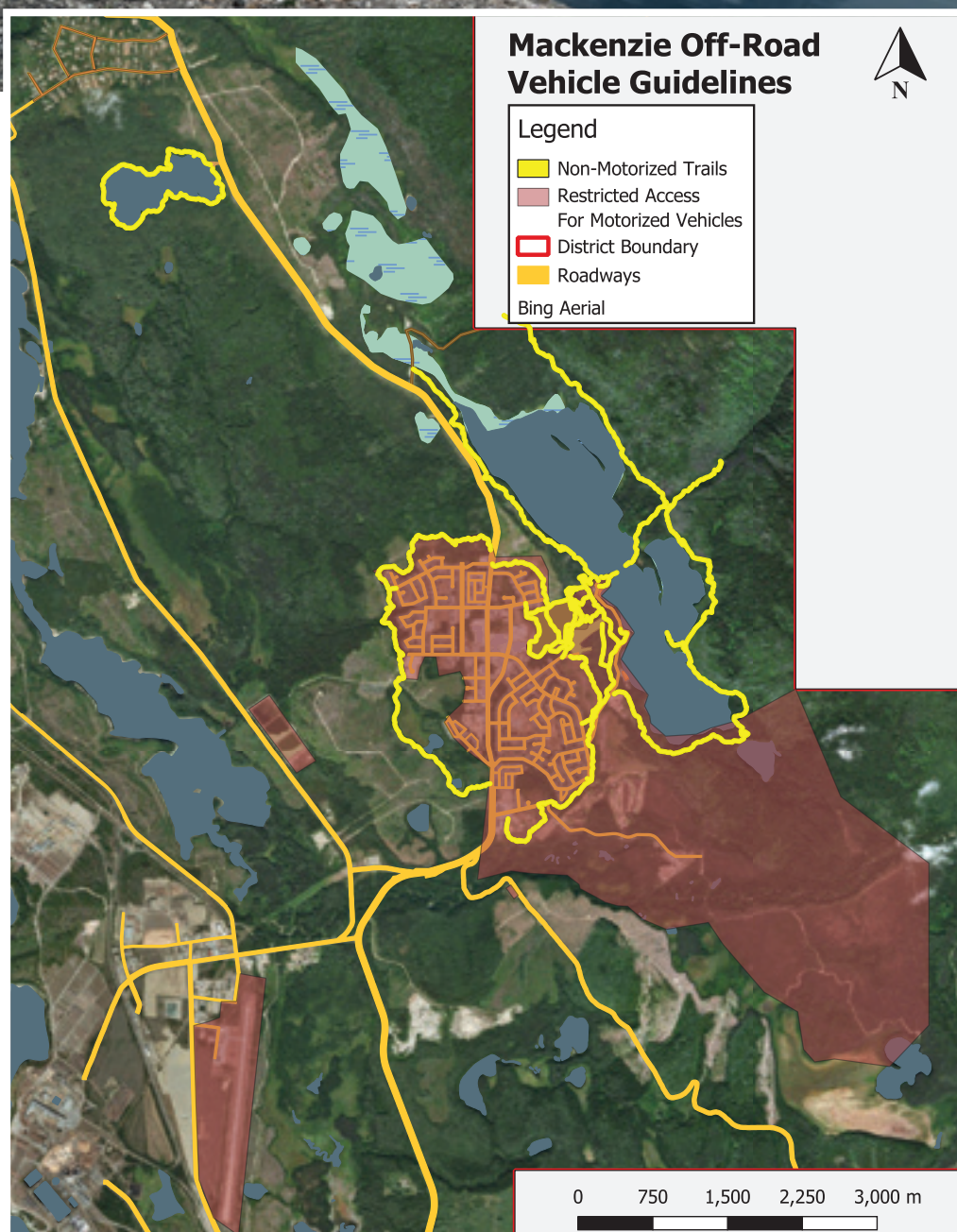
▲ Williston Lake - Alexander Mackenzie Landing

▼ Mackenzie, BC - D. Rigo Media

OFF-ROAD VEHICLE ADVENTURES

Hop on your ATV, dirt bike, or 4x4 vehicle and explore Mackenzie's vast network of trails. Off-road routes lead to viewpoints overlooking the town and the Northern Rocky Mountains, as well as stunning lakes. Around every bend is a brag-worthy photo-op and fun terrain. Whether you're a pro rider seeking new trails or a beginner looking to explore Mackenzie's backcountry, you're in for an unforgettable adventure. Connect with like-minded riders through the town's ATV & ORV Facebook page and discover tips and local intel on the area's trails.





OFF-ROAD OFF-LIMITS AREAS

Mackenzie has ample areas to ride. There are pristine mountain peaks, densely forested trails, kilometres of lakeshore and endless backroads, all accessible to ATVs and ORVs. Seasoned off-roaders will find punchy, adrenaline-inducing technical sections and challenging mud flats. Forest service roads have easy gravel and pit stops, including recreation sites, scenic vistas, and backcountry lakes. Williston Lake is popular in spring and summer when water levels on the lake drop and turn the lake's shoreline into a muddy obstacle course. Morfee Mountain's snowmobile routes are open to 4-wheelers in the off-season. Zip up the mountain's access road for a sunset ride and enjoy the spectacular views from the top. Where can't you ride? Established cross-country routes, the golf course, and in-town. Before you head out, make sure you're familiar with restricted riding areas, or stop by one of our Visitor Centres for intel on your planned route.

The 'Other' Side of Williston Lake

The largest man-made lake in BC, Williston extends more than 250 kilometres long and 155 kilometres wide covering an area of more than 1,700 square kilometres. To put it plainly, it's big. Located close to Mackenzie, it's easy to access lakefront campgrounds, fishing, boating, and paddling, but venture further afield and you're guaranteed to find all that and more. The 'Other' Side of Williston Lake, which you access from the Causeway FSR or by boat, is where locals go to get proverbially lost. There are endless tributaries, rivers, lakes, logging roads, trails, and settlements to explore. Remnants of historic trading posts and the area's current-day villages paint a picture from past to present. Cabins and campgrounds in the area serve as a home base and let you immerse yourself in everything this side of Williston has to offer. Spend a week—or longer—fly-fishing wild rivers teeming with fish, canoeing remote waterways, scaling rugged backcountry peaks, or hunting in untouched valleys.

Germansen Landing and Manson Creek, once bustling hubs during the late 1800s and early 1900s, are now quiet settlements, home to about 100 residents. Mail a postcard to a loved one from the post office at Germansen Landing, scan gold rush-era headstones, or check out a historic former Hudson's Bay Company post in Manson Creek. You'll find cabins to rent in the area, plus basic supplies at the Omineca General Store.

Further north are the First Nations communities of Tsay Keh Dene, which sits at the north end of Williston Lake, and Kwadacha which sits on the Finlay River, one of eight major tributaries that empty into Williston Lake. Discover the rich traditions and heritage of the Tsek'ene people, explore the surrounding wilderness, and connect with the land and its people on a deeper



Northern end of Williston Lake, just south of Tsay Keh Dene First Nation
– Chelsey McCarthy

level. The Tsay Keh Dene Nation provides expert guide outfitting to hunters. Track trophy-sized moose, stone's sheep, mountain goat, and black bear over 8,700 square kilometres from two basecamps and more than 10 outposts. There's excellent self-guided hunting and fishing on Kwadacha land as well. Hunters must be self-sufficient and have permission from the Nation to hunt. The Tsay Keh Dene Nation operates a campground in town.

For anglers, the Ingenika and Mesilinka rivers offer unparalleled fishing. Fed by mountain streams, these waters are clear and virtually untouched. Spend day after day angling in crystal-clear pools in pursuit of Arctic Grayling and trout. You must have a licence to fish. Make sure to carry your license and pack all the necessary supplies—this is a remote wilderness area with minimal services.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

This is a remote and rural area. There is no cell service or maintained highways, and access to supplies and infrastructure is limited. Always plan ahead and be prepared. Leave a trip plan with someone you trust and bring the essentials with you.

Williston Lake – Darren Brookhouse

Discover Your Wildside

There is more wildlife than people in Mackenzie. The area is a prime habitat for black bears, moose, cougars, coyotes, foxes, wolves, lynxes, and more. Mackenzie's lakeshores are a hive of activity, with moose, birds, and eagles, all frequently spotted cruising the shoreline in search of fish and aquatic vegetation. Grab the binoculars and look for waterfowl, owls, and migratory birds of varying species at Mugaha Marsh. The area is also home to critical caribou habitat.



Mackenzie Nature Observatory - Agnieszka Pajor

MACKENZIE NATURE OBSERVATORY

Birders, take flight! The Mackenzie Nature Observatory is a unique opportunity to participate in birdwatching and contribute to the long-term conservation of boreal bird populations. Run by a local non-profit group, the Mackenzie Nature Observatory is one of 25 stations that form a nationwide network monitoring the migratory behaviour of birds. The group operates a bird banding station at Mugaha Marsh that is open to volunteers and visitors. Here, you can get acquainted with local wildlife, learn what it takes to band birds and help with data collection. It's a hands-on and rewarding approach to a sport that celebrates feathered friends. The bird banding station is open between July and September. Check operating hours in advance. A small fee is required to participate; visitors can fill out an application on the Mackenzie Nature Observatory's website to join the fun.

KENNEDY SIDING

Located southeast of town, Kennedy Siding is one of the few places in British Columbia where you can see wild herds of Woodland Caribou roam—all from the comfort of your car. The area's lichen population is the primary food source for these endangered animals, and thanks to the conservation efforts of the Kennedy Siding Caribou Research Project, they also feast on supplemental nutritional pellets at feeding stations located throughout Kennedy Siding. In winter, watch as these majestic creatures are spotted munching on food right from the side of the road. It's a magical thing to witness and a privilege: leave them plenty of space and respect their territory.



Berry Picking & Foraging

TIPS FOR BERRY PICKING AND FORAGING

- **Don't eat what you don't know.** Always identify the plant as well as the fruit or berry.
- **Have fun!** Foraging is also about appreciating and enjoying your surroundings.
- **Go slow** and sample in small quantities first.
- **Share the bounty** and leave plenty for others. Don't overpick in the same area.
- **Be aware of wildlife**—the forest is home to many.
- **If you're not sure, DON'T EAT IT.**

TYPES OF WILD BERRIES FOUND HERE

- Thimbleberries
- Saskatoon berries
- Huckleberries
- Blueberries
- Strawberries
- Wild raspberries
- High bush cranberries



Foraging Mushrooms – Agnieszka Pajor

FORAGING

WARNING: Never handle or eat a mushroom that you cannot positively identify, or that is over-ripe, damaged, or collected from contaminated areas. Consuming poisonous mushrooms can kill you.

- Dandelions
- Fiddleheads
- Coniferous green tips, including fir, spruce, and pine
- Mushrooms, including morels, Shaggy Mane, and Saffron Milk Caps

Photo Credit: Agnieszka Pajor



WHEN IS THE BEST TIME TO FIND OR PICK YOUR FAVOURITE BERRIES?

The best time of year to search for edible berries is from summer to fall. The season starts with wild strawberries in summer, followed by raspberries and huckleberries, then move to saskatoon and blueberries in fall.

Photo Credit: Agnieszka Pajor



Accessibility for Visitors

We welcome visitors of all abilities. Mackenzie has a few accessible-friendly options to help you sleep, transit, and explore. Visitors will find welcoming locals, uncrowded streets, and easy-to-navigate buildings.

Our remote backyard extends deep into the Rocky Mountain Trench, with plenty of outdoor space to roam. In some areas, it's possible to venture outdoors and not encounter another person. Explore at your own pace and to your comfort level without the added pressure of sharing busy trails. In town, nature is well within reach. Sections of flat, smooth trails like the Azan Tunneh Trail can fit wheelchairs, strollers, and walkers. In summer, adaptive riders can hit the downhill runs on Little Mac, and in winter, adaptive skiers and boarders can use the tow to access the hill's ski runs. Gantahaz Lake is a popular lake destination and features universally accessible amenities, including a pit toilet, tables, and benches.



Gantahaz Lake

Shops and restaurants with designated accessible parking stalls are generally located downtown along Mackenzie Boulevard while accommodation properties offer varying levels of accessibility. Some provincial parks offer wheelchair-height picnic tables. The Mackenzie Recreation Centre and public library were designed to reduce barriers to access and promote inclusivity within the community.

There are transit options to help you arrive safely and comfortably. Planning to fly? Most major airlines can accommodate those with physical limitations. Make sure to call your preferred airline ahead of time to confirm. The shuttle bus from Prince George to Mackenzie is wheelchair accessible, but reservations must be made by phone at least 72 hours in advance. Most rental companies provide hand controls at no extra charge, in addition to other equipment that may be required.

As a community, we strive to be inclusive for all. While accessible travel in Mackenzie can vary, we're working hard to improve options for every traveller. Before you book a hotel, tour, or tickets to an event, we recommend calling ahead to ensure your particular needs can be met.

Azan Tunneh Accessible Trail Section



Mackenzie Recreation Aquatic Centre Pool Lift

View from the Top: Morfee Mountain

Morfee Mountain towers above the town at 1,775 metres with sweeping views of the Rocky Mountains to the east, Omineca Mountains to the west, and Williston Lake below—and it only takes 10 minutes by car to reach its base. With mountain access like this, it's no wonder we don't take it for granted. Here's how to make the most of Morfee.



Morfee Mountain – Grant Erb

DRIVE

The summit of Morfee Mountain is uniquely accessible by vehicle. The gravel road is best suited for larger vehicles with 4x4 capability and features a few steep sections. Along the way you're guaranteed fun terrain, gorgeous scenery, and sweeping valley views.

BIKE

Gear up and hit the trails for an adrenaline-fueled descent of Morfee Mountain. Let gravity be your guide as you twist and turn your way on exhilarating downhill runs, including Parachute Adams, a grin-inducing blue-rated trail known for its fast flow, tabletop features, and big berms. Royal Coachman is a six-kilometre epic alpine experience with incredible views of the Rocky Mountains and Morfee's meadows.



Morfee Mountain – Marcus Paladino Photography

HIKE

Morfee Mountain's lush forest, subalpine meadows, and stunning views of Mackenzie make it a worthy backdrop for hikers to explore. Design your own trek, whether you're looking to access the alpine from the summit of Morfee or prefer to tackle the flat 15-kilometre perimeter path around the lake.

Winter Experiences

Winter in Mackenzie comes early, stays long, and offers endless options for fun. Ski through some of BC's deepest pow at Powder King Mountain Resort, seek icy thrills in the form of ice-fishing, or sled through untouched bowls and deep chutes in the foothills of the Rocky Mountains. Fat bike or cross-country ski on snowy trails in town, chase frozen waterfalls or bundle up and take in a Northern Lights show.

There's something about playing in the snow that has the power to convert even the most winter-wary visitors. Whether you're trudging through a silent landscape on snowshoes or floating down the side of a mountain, it's hard not to feel alive. There's a reason locals embrace the cold—this is our season to shine.

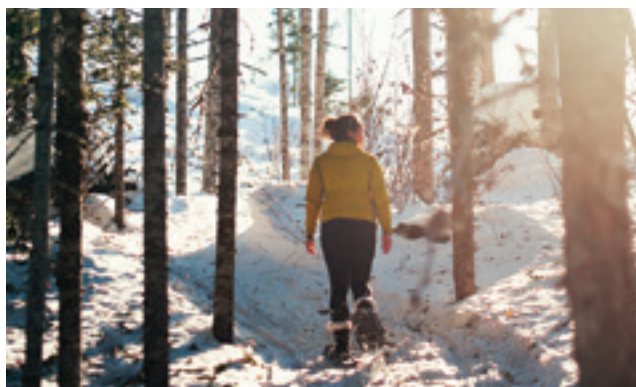
Powder King Back Country – Sarah Roper



HIT THE SLOPES

POWDER KING

The name says it all. With a massive annual snowfall of 12 metres, it's no wonder powder-hungry skiers and boarders flock to Powder King to get their fix. They just prefer to keep the snow to themselves—and who can blame them? The good news: there's more than enough terrain to share. Over 360 skiable hectares are spread over a vertical rise of 640 metres, enough to make every turn on this mountain unique. There are 38 marked runs, from gentle, groomed slopes to thrill-inducing drops, all accessed by a chairlift, two t-bars, and a tow. But if the snow doesn't hook you, then the lure of crowd-free runs, old-school ski charm, and fresh lines should. Located in the Pine Pass off Highway 97, Powder King is a quick 40-minute drive away, making Mackenzie your ideal base camp for a ski trip. Ski on-mountain, then après in-town where you can dine, shop, and sleep.



(Inset images above) John Dahl Regional Park Trail – Agnieszka Pajor

LITTLE MAC SKI HILL

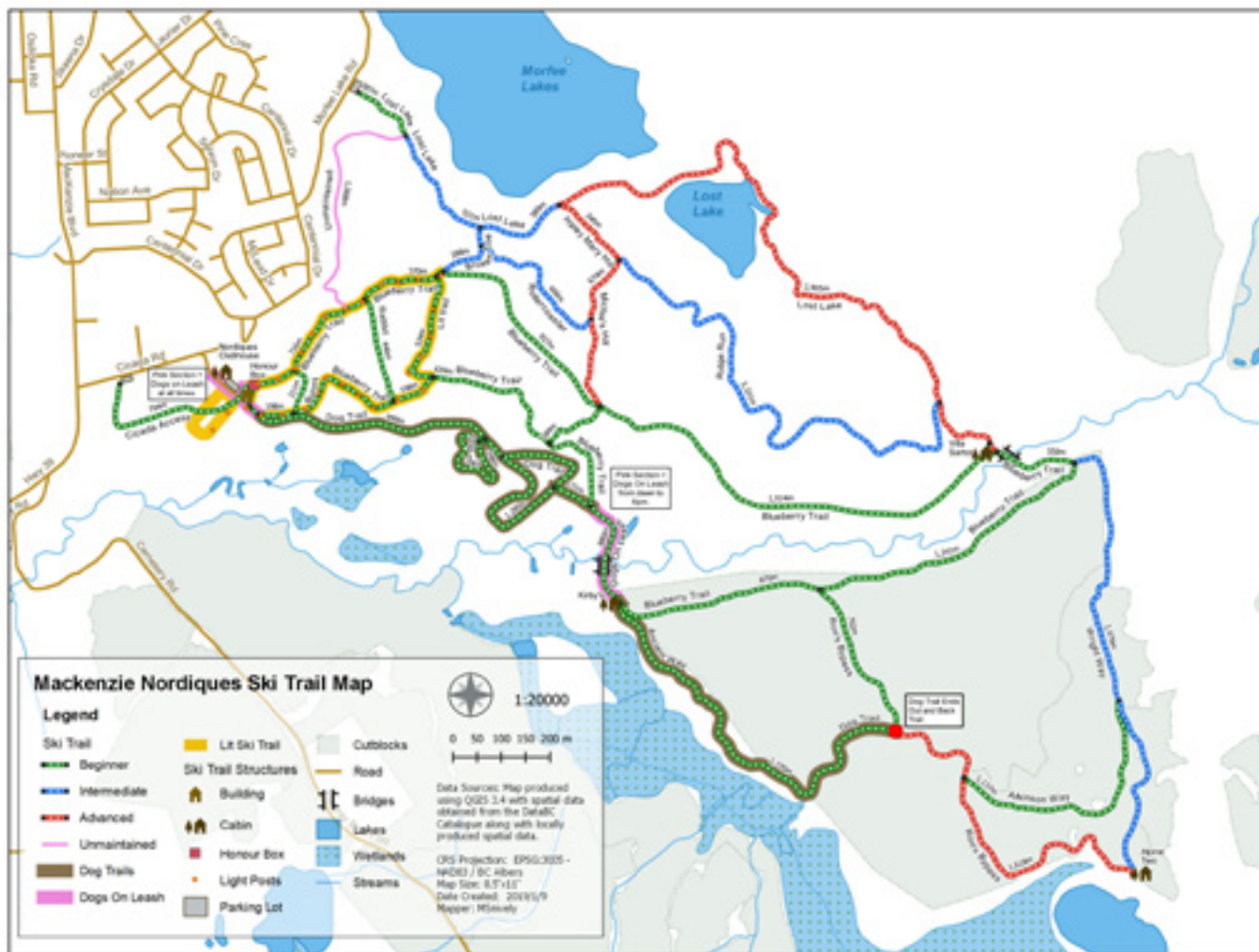
Learn to shred at Little Mac. Located within walking distance from town, this family-friendly hill includes a few easy, tow-accessible runs, a terrain park with jumps and features, and a ski chalet where you can warm up in between laps. Hit the hill for a mid-week sesh, hone your skills in the park, or race friends and family down the toboggan run adjacent to the ski area.

LITTLE MAC TOBOGGAN HILL

Unleash your inner kid. Tobogganing down Little Mac is a surefire way to beat any winter blues and elicit belly laughs from all. The mountain is lit at night so you can race until well after dark.

CROSS COUNTRY SKIING

Cross-country skiing is a magical way to embrace winter. There's nothing like gliding through a pristine forest blanketed in snow with just the sound of your skis beneath you. In winter, the forested paths that crisscross Mackenzie provide dozens of routes to ski. Over 40 kilometres of groomed trails wind past snow-laden aspen, cottonwood, spruce, pine, and fir trees, and lead to frozen lakes and creeks. Two warming huts provide places to warm up and refuel, and a nearly three-kilometre loop is lit for night skiing. The majority of these trails can be accessed from the Mackenzie Nordiques Clubhouse at the Mackenzie Golf and Country Club, with an additional 10 kilometres of trails found in John Dahl Regional Park. Need gear? Cross-country ski rentals are available in town.



DONATE TO THE MACKENZIE NORDIQUES



SNOWSHOEING

Prefer to stick to familiar movements? Mackenzie has snowshoe routes for those who like to embrace winter with every step. Take in forest views on Morfee Mountain, or loop around the quiet snow-covered shores of Gantahaz Lake. During February's Winter Quest festivities, you can snowshoe on set routes directly from the Mackenzie Recreation Centre. Beginners can access Nordic routes in town, including ones to Alpine Shelter, while the more adventurous can set their own tracks on any of the hiking trails that surround Mackenzie. Need gear? Snowshoe rentals are available in town.



FAT BIKING

With fat tires, you can bike year-round. This fun winter sport merges the best of summer cycling with winter's fluff. Fat biking is best suited for low-elevation trails, so we suggest sticking to lakeshore loops, the Azan Tunneh Trail, and the trails in John Dahl Regional Park and Little Mac. Other places you can bike? Try exploring around our beautiful town.

ICE FISHING



If your idea of winter fun looks like dropping a line into a hole carved into the ice, you're in luck. The freshwater lakes surrounding Mackenzie freeze during winter months offering anglers a chilly challenge. Cast a line for trout and char at Lost, Morfee, Carp, Windy Point, Gataiga, Azouzetta, and Dina Lakes 1 and 3. Make sure to check the latest conditions and be ice and snow-aware. Whether you're a seasoned angler or a novice seeking a winter adventure, Mackenzie's frozen waters promise an unforgettable ice-fishing experience.

LOCATION	Description
Burden Lake	Ice fishing at Burden Lake offers anglers a serene winter experience surrounded by pristine wilderness.
Carp Lake	Carp Lake is a popular spot for ice fishing. A snowmobile is needed to access the lake. The main gate is left open during the winter months. There are no services, but camping is possible under the picnic shelter. It has a large wood stove.
Heather and Dina Lakes	Heather Lake and Dina Lakes are popular with the local anglers. Snowmobiling is allowed on both lakes; access routes are for ice-fishing purposes only.
Morfee Lake	Year-round the lake is home to excellent fishing. The winter months are ideal for ice fishing but be aware of natural springs.
Williston Lake	Williston Lake is a great spot for ice fishing as some fishing holes are only accessible in winter. These hidden spots provide experienced anglers with a challenge and a good catch. Be aware of pressure ridges, gas holes, open water, and broken shorelines.
Windy Point Lake	This small site is conveniently located only 3km off of Highway 97 near the Mackenzie Junction.



▲ Morfee Mountain – Sarah Roper

▼ Morfee Mountain, First Cabin – Sarah Roper

SNOWMOBILING

Mackenzie is renowned for its porch-to-powder access. The area's deep and sustained snowpack, remote wilderness setting, and varied terrain make it a bucket list destination for sledders. Morfee Mountain is easily accessible and boasts fun fields and bowls to play in, plus views of the Northern Rockies and two cabins where you can warm up by the wood stove. Bijoux Falls offers spacious meadows and easy-riding territory, ideal for beginners and families. North of town, the Pine Pass is known for its untracked snow, deep ravines, and challenging hill climbing opportunities. Sledding is available from November to late spring. Snowmobiling in backcountry areas means severe weather and avalanches are real hazards. Ensure you are informed, prepared, and take all the essentials with you.



HOCKEY

Is there anything more quintessentially Canadian than a game of shinny in the winter? Grab your stick and hit the indoor or outdoor rink at the Mackenzie Recreation Centre. If you're lucky, you might just catch a game of pond hockey on Morfee or Gantahaz lakes where you can face off against locals and fellow visitors.

AURORA BOREALIS

The surreal dance of Aurora Borealis against a dark night sky is one of Mother Nature's most spectacular sights. Luckily, Mackenzie's northern coordinates help your chances of seeing them. Bundle up and trek safely to vantage points around town—like Morfee Lake—to watch the show.



Morfee Lake – Linda Page



Itineraries

It's easy to fill your time in Mackenzie. Whether you have a single day or a week, there are countless adventures to be found. Need help narrowing activities down? Here are three suggested itineraries to get you started:



DAY TRIP

This one-day itinerary offers a taste of what Mackenzie has to offer. Start your day picking up coffee and breakfast in town, then turn your attention to the crown jewel of Mackenzie: Morfee Mountain. Bike, hike, drive, or snowmobile to the top for a day of accessible mountain fun. Reward yourself with a post-adventure dip or ice skate at First Beach. Cap off the day with a meal at a local restaurant or eatery. Remember, no trip to Mackenzie is complete without a photo-op at the world's largest tree crusher!

(Top Right) Powder King Back Country – Sarah Roper

(Above – Left) World's Largest Tree Crusher
– Northern BC Tourism/Andrew Strain

(Above – Middle) Cut Thumb Bay – Bentley Pineau

(Above – Right) The Purple Bicycle – D. Rigo Media

WEEKEND TRIP

Tackle Mackenzie's must-dos over a weekend. Start at the museum and learn about the town's fascinating history and geography. Get your bearings on trails in John Dahl Regional Park, then gear up for a 15-kilometre walk, run, bike, or snowshoe around Morfee Lake Trail. Next, the choice is yours: hit the greens at the golf course, the downhill runs at Little Mac, or for a dose of wildlife, head to Mugaha Marsh (fall) or Kennedy Siding (winter). On day two, it's all about lake life. Take your SUP or canoe for a spin around the non-motorized First Beach. Postpaddle activities include campfires and stargazing at Morfee Lake Campground. In winter, lakes promise excellent ice fishing. Wrap up your weekend perusing local shops and grabbing a bite to eat.

WEEK +

Dig your heels in. Over a week-long trip, venture to places few others have gone. Explore the trails on Morfee Mountain, or pack your bags for an alpine trek in the Pine Pass. Endless shorelines await on Morfee, Carp, Gantahaz and Williston lakes, whether you prefer to boat, paddle, fish, or SUP. Recharge at off-grid campsites at Alexander Mackenzie's Landing, Gataiga Lake, or Germansen Landing. Winter brings fresh pow to the slopes of Powder King, plus enough snowshoe, cross-country, and snowmobile routes to keep you discovering fresh tracks. Fuel up for the day at one of our cozy cafés and bakeries, and après at restaurants or pubs post-adventure.



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