

Day Hikes in the West Chilcotin

Trails Near Anahim Lake

Would you like to enjoy some great scenery with only a moderate effort? Day hikes in the West Chilcotin offer you exactly that. Easily accessed from the Anahim Lake / Nimpo Lake area, these easy to moderate hikes have spectacular views, loads of wildflowers, alpine lakes, and unique geology.



Rainbow Range Trail

In Tweedsmuir Park about 40 minutes from Anahim Lake, the Rainbow Range Trail has a little of everything. Initially the trail winds through an old forest fire burn, slowly regenerating. Swaths of colourful wildflowers are set off by a maze of blackened tree trunks, creating a dramatic landscape. Eventually the trail climbs to a series of alpine lakes, pristine meadows, alpine wildflowers, and wonderful views of the Coast Mountains. The return trip takes about 5 hours including lunch.

Precipice Canyon & Falls

Created by primal forces of nature over eons, the volcanic Precipice Canyon is a uniquely awesome experience. No more than 1 ½ hours long, the trail is a comfortable walk along the canyon's undulating edge. Sheer walls of basalt rock drop precipitously to a serene meadow where a creek slowly meanders.

A massive hoodoo rises in the centre, somehow untouched by glacial forces that hollowed out everything around it. Hotnarko Falls tumbles down the rock face at one end.

This is part of the historic "Grease Trail" trading route from the coast to the interior plateau, and winds along the canyon edge until it bends into a wonderful viewpoint. The trail doesn't appear on official area maps, but many local businesses will happily provide you with hand-drawn maps.



Mt. Kappan Lookout Trail

Exactly 21 km along Kappan Mountain Rd. from Anahim Lake is the trailhead for Mt. Kappan Lookout Trail. This interesting moderate hike begins by traversing an old clearcut, then climbs through the forest until it opens into a vast meadow that splits Mt. Kappan from a lower ridge lookout. Three massive boulders mark the way to the top of the ridge, where 270 degree views of the Coast Mountains and the Chilcotin Plateau await. With lunch the return trip is about 4 hrs. Snow-free from July to September. Rely on local tourism operators for hand-drawn maps and directions.

There are also other short hikes and walks available throughout the area. Look for trail systems at Nimpo Lake, Tatla Lake, and the Eagle's Nest Marsh Trail at Anahim Lake.

Hiking Trails in the West Chilcotin is sponsored by:



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