

Five Day Itinerary for Challenging Hikes in the Tumbler Ridge UNESCO Global Geopark

Please note: all hiking distances are return distances. Trail numbers refer to the District of Tumbler Ridge tourism map.

Day 1 – Holzworth Meadows (#21). Drive north on Hwy 29 towards Chetwynd, and turn off on the Bullmoose Mine Rd. Holzworth Meadows is an excellent half day or full day hike in the alpine with a variable distance of 4 to 12 km. A cutline trail leads quickly to open meadows that head up to an interconnected series of alpine ridges. You will pass through fields of alpine flowers in July and early August. Four alpine peaks surround Holzworth Meadows, all with accessible summits. The return route on this circular hike meanders beside a subalpine creek, which passes through a small canyon with picturesque cascades.

One-way Driving Distance: 55.5 km, including 13.5 km gravel.



Day 2 – Bootsiki Lake (#46). Drive south-east on Hwy 52 E to the Ojay Main Rd. This very rewarding 10 km hike leads to a high alpine lake nestled at the foot of a spectacular rock wall with impressive folding in its limestone layers. The route crosses a creek, climbs through a small cutblock, and then passes through an old burn. When the trail reaches the top of a ridge above treeline, the dramatic wall of Wapitik Mountain dominates the view to the west. Following the ridgeline leads you to the lake, which is covered in ice and ringed by snow until late June. An optional, rewarding side trip climbs the ridge east of the lake onto a minor summit, which ends in spectacular views of the lake and surrounding mountains.

One-way Driving Distance: 85 km, including 37 km gravel.



Day 3 – Mount Reesor (#17). Drive north on Hwy 29, and turn onto the Wolverine Forest Service Rd. It is relatively easy to get to the alpine on this 10 km hike by following the flagged route up to a ridge-top. This leads to a long, bare stretch of shale known as the Caribou Highway. The route follows the ridge to the base of Mt. Reesor, then climbs the talus slopes to the summit. From the summit there are expansive views of the high peaks of the Rockies, including the glaciated summit of Sentinel Peak to the west.

One-way Driving Distance: 38 km, including 29 km gravel.



Day 4 – Windfall Lake (#23). Drive north on Hwy 29 towards Chetwynd, and turn off on the Bullmoose Mine Rd. The Windfall Lake area offers some of the finest subalpine hiking in the region, with options of heading up to wilderness alpine destinations for experienced hikers with good route-finding skills. The lake is nestled in a bowl below high cliffs. Six tent pads, a bear cache and outhouse were installed by volunteers in 2016. Hiking the 10 km loop in a counter-clockwise direction and returning on the Circular Route is recommended.
One-way Driving Distance: 50 km, including 25.5 km gravel.



Day 5 – Mount Kostuik (#37) Drive south-east on Hwy 52 E to the Core Lodge Rd. This 8 km route ascends old coal exploration trails into the alpine, then climbs the ridge to the summit of Mt. Kostuik. From the summit there are panoramic views of the Rockies. Anglo American's Trend Mine is visible to the east. Roman Mountain, the highest summit in the area, can be seen nearby.
One-way Driving Distance: 34 km, including 14.5 km gravel.

