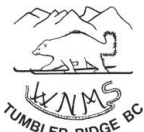


Tumbler Ridge Global Geopark



WILDERNESS WATERFALLS



These waterfalls are in remote locations, no trails exist, and GPS is required.

Not every geosite needs a hiking trail. Providing ready access to all of Tumbler Ridge's waterfalls might make enjoying our Geopark too easy. Wilderness is one of our distinguishing features, and is a priceless commodity. Some of these remote destinations are amongst our most splendid, set in pristine canyon and mountain environments. There are some visitors who don't need manicured trails, who would like to rise to the challenge of bushwhacking through thick forest, fording swollen rivers, scaling tall bluffs and bumping into our wildlife in order to view our wild waterfalls

In this guide we suggest ten such destinations, and provide you with coordinates for each waterfall, as well as a suggested start point. Coordinates are given in both latitude/longitude, and UTM (Zone 10, WGS84). We give you the approximate distance, and mention specific hazards that you might encounter. We expect you to plan your own adventure by consulting topographical maps and Google Earth, and to carry a compass, GPS and SPOT emergency beacon in case you require help. We strongly recommend that you let Visitor Centre staff or other responsible adults know where you are headed, and your latest possible return time. If you are interested in this kind of experience, but feel you lack the necessary skills and confidence, we suggest you ask at the Visitor Centre if guided trips are available. Or if you would like more detail or advice on any of these wilderness hikes, or further geological information on these destinations, please ask at the Visitor Centre to be put in touch with someone knowledgeable.

Of the ten waterfall sites

- four are north of Tumbler Ridge, accessed from the Murray River or off Hwy 52
- four are west of Tumbler Ridge, accessed via the Wolverine Forest Service Road
- two are south of Tumbler Ridge beyond Kinuseo Falls, accessed from the Bulley Creek Forest Service Road

These trips are recommended for those experienced in back-country travel. They are not recommended for beginners unless accompanied by a guide. The Wolverine Nordic and Mountain Society (WNMS), the District of Tumbler Ridge and the Tumbler Ridge Global Geopark (TRGG) have taken every effort to ensure that the information presented is accurate. These organizations take no responsibility for loss, inconvenience or injury sustained by any person using this brochure.

North of Tumbler Ridge

Salt Falls



Falls - 55° 22' 42" N, 120° 55' 09" W 6138863 631842

Start - 55° 23' 11" N, 120° 54' 07" W 6139793 632906

(start may vary depending on industrial activity and new road construction)

8 km return

To drive to the start, drive north on Hwy 52, then take the South Puggins Road and turn left onto the spur road after 1.1 km. Follow this road to the starting point. Use seismic lines to work your way into the creek above the falls, then descend beside the creek. When you reach the lip of the falls, climb up and over ridge on the left to descend to the pool at the bottom (a great place for a swim). When creek levels are low consider descending further through the slot of Salt Canyon.

Skunk Falls



Falls - 55° 23' 23" N, 120° 56' 33" W

6140087 630327

Start - 55° 23' 11" N, 120° 54' 07" W

6139793 632906

6 km return

Riverboat Access: The easier way to this spectacular waterfall and canyon is to be deposited by boat at the mouth of Salt Creek, head upstream and then north up Skunk Creek to the falls. Be very careful of falling rocks and debris in the steep canyon below the falls.

Hiking Access: Starting point is 55 23' 48" N, 120 53 38" W (start point may vary depending on industrial activity and new road construction)

11 km return

To drive to the start, drive north on Hwy 52, then take the South Puggins Road and turn left onto the spur road after 1.1 km. Follow this road to the starting point. Head west along old and new industrial roads and seismic lines to near the upper falls, then down the steep ridge on the eastern flank of the falls into the creek (the ridge on the western flank of the falls is much trickier), then up the creek to the falls. Be very careful of falling rocks and debris in the steep canyon below the falls.

Quantum Falls



Riverboat Access:

Falls - 55° 13' 01" N,
120° 55' 55" W

6120883 631566

Start-55° 13' 08" N,
120° 56' 24" W

6121085 631047

1 km return

Hiking Access:

Start-55° 12' 06" N,
120° 55' 35" W

6119195 631970

6 km return

The easy way is to get deposited at the mouth of the creek by boat, from where it is a short jaunt up the creek to the falls and canyon. Flow diminishes when conditions are dry,

so the falls are best in spring or after rain.

Drive as far as you can up the Quality Forest Service Road, then hike, run, ATV or mountain bike to the end of the last clearcut, which brings you close to the lip of the top falls. Head down steep ridges through the forest to get into the canyon below the lower falls, and walk up the creek to the base of the falls. Flow diminishes when conditions are dry – best in spring or after rain.

Quillon Falls



Falls - 55° 14' 58" N, 120° 54' 57" W

6124530 632483

Start - 55° 14' 58" N, 120° 55' 06" W

6124525 632324

1 km return

These falls are definitely best accessed from a boat trip on the river. Squeeze between enormous boulders to reach the lower falls and gaze up at the upper falls.

West of Tumbler Ridge

Perry Falls



Falls - 55° 06' 04" N, 121° 17' 48" W

6107368 608680

Start - 56° 06' 02" N, 121° 17' 42" W

6218582 606055

1 km return

From the Wolverine Forest Service Road, drive up the Perry Creek Road. Look for occasional flagging to guide you from the roadside down ridges and between steep cliffs to the base of the falls. There is only one safe way down through the cliffs.

Triple Jump Falls



Falls - 55° 01' 24" N, 121° 18' 36" W

6098693 608039

Start - 55° 02' 12" N, 121° 19' 33" W

6100153 606991

4 km return

Drive along the Wolverine Forest Service Road to the start. Proceed through very thick bush to the Wolverine River, which needs to be forded. There are a few seismic lines which may help, otherwise it is through the forest until you hit the creekbed (often dry). Ascend in the creekbed until the falls and surrounding cliffs are reached. It is worth climbing the cliffs to see the middle and upper falls and pools. It may be possible to climb down to the top falls. The falls are in conglomerate rock, which allow for the creation of unusually attractive rock overhangs and scenery. The main hazard is the Wolverine River crossing – avoid this when water levels are high.

Tunnel Falls



Falls - 54° 56' 32" N, 121° 31' 18" W

6052275 595481

Start - 54° 57' 42" N, 121° 29' 52" W (approx.)

6091559 596183

6 km return

Drive up the Wolverine Forest Service Road as far as you can towards the railway tunnels. Park beside the train tracks, then walk beside them towards the mountains. At the tunnel entrance (one of the longest in Canada) head left to the creek, and ascend the rough terrain beside the creek to the falls at the head of a box canyon.

Wolverine Waterfalls



Falls - 54° 55' 28" N, 121° 28' 53" W

6087439 597322

Start - 54° 56' 02" N, 121° 28' 01" W

6088510 598225

4 km return

Drive up the Wolverine Forest Service Road and take a left turn at km 38. This road will take you to the start. Very beautiful, but a tough 4 km. Be prepared to scramble down cliffs and use a rope hand-line if needed, to pass through thick underbrush and bog, and to wade in the river as you approach the falls. If you have the energy, consider climbing up through the cliffs to access the higher falls just upstream. If you do so, take some photos and bring them back with you and show us. Perhaps nobody has ever done this before.

South of Tumbler Ridge

Slate Falls



Falls - 54° 42' 25" N, 121° 08' 45" W

6063759 619465

Start - 54° 42' 34" N, 121° 07' 38" W

6064069 620656

3 km return

Drive up the Bulley Creek Forest Service Road to the start. Head through an old cutblock, then through forest to the east bank of the Murray River. This bank is lined by steep cliffs – exercise caution. It is possible to descend with care beside the falls if water levels are low, definitely not when levels are high.

Bulley Glacier Falls



Falls - 54° 27' 56" N, 120° 55' 28" W 6037305 634520
Start - 54° 33' 57" N, 120° 56' 55" W 6048414 632628
30 km return

Drive as far as you can go up the Bulley Creek Forest Service Road, then mountain bike or run as far as you can on old logging roads to the furthest cutblock. Bushwack through forest and swampy terrain. Be prepared for creek crossings that may be impassable in flood. You will end up at a turquoise lake filled by the creek from these falls, which come off the Bulley Glacier. The mountain above the falls is the highest in the region and is the source of the Murray River.

