

Experience

YOUR OWN BACKYARD

THE LOST RIVER VALLEYS

SINGLE TANK OF GAS ADVENTURES

Activities

Mackay Mine Hill Tour

MACKAY'S MINE HILL is the most significant part of the Alder Creek Mining District. Ore was first discovered in 1879, meaningful production began in 1884, and ore was mined into the 1980s. Almost a million tons of ore have been removed over the years, yielding about 42,000 oz. of gold, 2,000,000 oz. of silver, 62,000,000 lbs. of copper, 15,000,000 lbs. of lead, and 5,000,000 lbs. of zinc. Geological sampling still occurs, and mining could be renewed at any time to withdraw the millions of dollars of ore remaining in the ground.

The **MACKAY MINE HILL TOUR** is a self-guided tour of mining locations on Mackay's Mine Hill. Three routes are color-marked for three different modes of touring. Various parts of the tour are accessible to all vehicles, and some only to high-clearance vehicles, all-terrain-vehicles (ATVs), motorcycles, bicycles, horses, or hikers. **The tour is not passable for motor homes or trailers.** Maps can be downloaded from the websites listed below or can be purchased at most businesses in Mackay.

The **TRESTLE Tour** goes from the main Mine Hill road to the Shay Trestle and back. This 8-mile round trip from the main road is primarily for visiting the renovated Shay Trestle. The road to the Shay Trestle is narrow and single lane without turnouts and is not suitable for vehicles larger than and ATV.

All of the routes entail a change of elevation from about 6000 feet at Mackay to about 8500 feet at the highest point, and take 2 to 8 hours depending on the route selected and mode of transportation.

The mountains determine mountain weather throughout the year. Knowledge of your planned travel with someone not touring is advised. No food, water, or toilets are available. **You travel at your own risk!**

The land you are touring is owned by private individuals, the US Bureau of Land Management, and the US Forest Service. Please treat it gently and courteously. The mining artifacts, no matter how deteriorated, are the treasures of the Mine Hill. Please leave them in place for everyone to see.

Maps and more information on the many recreational opportunities in the Lost River Valleys can be found at the following websites.

www.mackayidaho.com · www.cityarco.com

You may also contact the Lost Rivers Tourism Council at
208-588-2693 or tammy.stringham@ired.org