

INTERNATIONAL SELKIRK LOOP – ALTERNATE CYCLING ROUTE TO US HWY 95
between Sandpoint and Bonners Ferry, ID – reference pg. 2-3 in cycling book.

Northbound from Sandpoint, ID – Recommended safe alternatives for cycling out of Sandpoint: A new cycling path accessed via Bridge St from N. 1st Ave, follow north under Hwy 95 to Ponderay, ID. Then follow directions starting at Dist. 5.8 below, or follow residential route below starting at 5th and Cedar. Ponderay is a fairly congested area but there are wide shoulders.

Taking this alternate route will only have you on Hwy 95 for about 12.6 miles of the 35 mile (by highway) distance. You will avoid rumble strips along this section as they stop just before you intersect back onto the highway, narrow shoulders and heavy truck traffic. (You will add 9 miles to your trip taking this route, but it is safe and a beautiful, peaceful alternate).

Dist.	Directions and Description
0.0	5 th and Cedar – cross intersection at light and stay on Cedar for 1 block
0.1	Bare Rt at “Y” onto Main
0.7	T/R onto Division Ave (there is a safe - cycling lane on Division)
1.3	T/L onto Baldy Mountain Rd
1.8	Bare Rt at “Y” onto Great Northern Rd (Sign says G N Rd)
3.1	T/R onto Woodland Ave (no street sign here – but left turn is across rr tracks)
3.7	T/L onto N. Boyer Rd
5.3	T/R onto Bronx (“T” intersection)
5.8	T/L onto US Hwy 95 (wide shoulder, can stay to outside of rumble strips)
7.8	T/R onto Selle Rd
10.4	Caution RR crossing
11.7	90 degree turn to L
13.5	T/L onto Colburn Culver Rd (this is a “T” intersection with no sign saying Colburn Culver)
16.2	90 degree turn to L
16.6	T/R onto Samuels Rd
19.6	Caution RR crossing
20.4	2 nd RR crossing – T/R after crossing tracks back onto US Hwy 95
31.0	T/L onto Deep Creek Loop Rd (There is a center left turn lane here)
31.5	Naples General Store – supplies, rest stop, snacks, restrooms (behind)
40.2	T/L onto northbound US 95 – route becomes Main St in Bonners Ferry (will ride through commercial section of Bonners Ferry)
43.5	T/R onto Ash St
43.8	T/L onto Plaza – RR crossing here
44.0	T/L onto Arizona
44.4	T/R onto Main St which you will cross going to Bonner St.
44.6	T/R onto Bonner St – go one block straight ahead to Visitor Info Center, restrooms, picnic tables, wifi. This is the historic downtown part of Bonners Ferry – restaurants, Post Office, library etc.

International Selkirk Loop – alternate route

Pg. 2

Northbound leaving Bonners Ferry – If you remain on Hwy 95 north from Bonners Ferry, there is a wide shoulder for 3.5 miles, turning to a limited to no shoulder situation for 12 miles. This can be a very busy highway until the turnoff onto Hwy 1 – which then becomes a quiet lovely highway. If possible ride this section early in the day, as truck traffic will not be as heavy.

Reference Pg. 4-5 in cycling Book - NORTH OF BONNERS FERRY ALTERNATE

An alternate route here:

- West out of Bonners Ferry on Riverside Street, follow along the south side of the Kootenai River to the Kootenai National Wildlife Refuge (5.5 miles).
- Stay right at the “Y” and follow along the West Side Road for 6.6 miles.
- PAVEMENT ENDS just after Ball Creek Ranch Nature Conservancy. There is 4.2 miles of gravel road with the first 2 mi being crushed gravel, last 2.2 is more packed dirt with very little light gravel.
- Pavement begins again on Westside Road after 4.2 of unpaved road.
- Turn right at Copeland Rd follow across the valley (east) 1.5 mi, crossing Kootenai River then a 1 mile climb back to Hwy 1 (intersecting about 2 miles north of Hwy 95/1 junction). The climb is shorter and more moderate than the highway route out of Bonners Ferry.
- Turn left (north) onto Hwy 1 to Porthill and US Border Crossing.

THIS IS A PREFERRED QUIETER - SAFER ROUTE if you are OK with some gravel. Taking this route also bypasses the 700 ft. elevation gain out of Bonners Ferry.

Creston, BC is easy to miss because it sets up on the bench above Hwy 21. Here are you access directions to take you to Canyon St (into the heart of historic downtown).

Directions into Creston:

7 mi north of the border watch for the “Welcome to Creston” large wooden sign. –
T/R onto Erickson St. (Large Hwy sign will say to Hwy 3 and Cranbrook)
Follow uphill past Columbia Brewery (stop for a tour and free sample) –
T/L onto 16th Ave. S, follow to next light –
T/L onto Canyon St. There are lodging and restaurant choices on Canyon.

INTERNATIONAL SELKIRK LOOP – ALTERNATE CYCLING ROUTE HWY 31/20

Between border and Newport, WA – reference pg. 14-15 in cycling book. Please note there are limited services on this stretch – bring water and food.

Dist.	Directions and Description
0.0	International Border at Metaline Falls/Nelway continue S on Hwy 31
10.4	L onto Sullivan Lake Rd
27.6	If staying in Ione cross river on Elizabeth Ave/Sullivan Lake Rd
27.6	If continuing on to Newport, WA turn L on LeClerc Rd
49.3	Continue on LeClerc Rd to Newport, WA/ Oldtown, ID

INTERNATIONAL SELKIRK LOOP – ALTERNATE CYCLING ROUTE WEST OF NELSON, BC TO CASTLEGAR (Hwy 3A) “Rivers, Dams & Mines” Super Side Trip

- Reference pages 40-41 in the cycling book.

Hwy 3A between Nelson and Castlegar is a busy highway. Many cyclists have found that coming from Hwy 6, which is a relatively quiet highway, and turning onto Hwy 3A east bound to Nelson can be a letdown after spending a couple days doing the “North Kootenay Lake – Silvery Slocan” Super side trip – reference pages 32-39 in the cycling book.

This route offers scenic vistas, some shade and is a cycling favorite of local cyclists.

Eastbound approach into Nelson, BC:

Dist	Directions & Description
0.0	T/L at Hwy 6 & Hwy 3A junction onto Hwy 3A
(first Rt)	T/R onto Blewett Rd (travel about 1 mi from junction)
0.3	Cross Kootenay River Bridge, bear left
2.1	Cross Kootenay Canal
3.5	Cross 49 Creek (start of short steep hill climb)
4.1	Top of 10% grade (two switch backs)
8.5	T/R at “T” intersection onto Granite Rd
11.6	Intersect Hwy 3A – cross highway onto Government Rd.
12.0	T/L onto Railroad
12.2	T/R onto Baker St (this is main downtown street – shopping, dining, lodging)

Westbound approach from Nelson to Castlegar:

Dist	Directions & Description
0.0	Baker Street – westward – cross Hwy 3A at 4-way stop
0.01	T/L onto Railroad
0.2	T/R onto Government Way
0.6	Intersect Hwy 3A – cross highway onto Granite Rd
3.7	T/L onto Blewett Rd
8.6	Steep downhill with two hairpin curves
10.1	Cross Kootenay Canal
11.8	Cross Kootenay River Bridge
12.2	T/L onto Hwy 3A
13.2	T/R onto Hwy 6 (north)
13.8	T/L crossing Slocan River onto Pass Creek Rd
13.82	T/L to follow Pass Creek Road 12 mi (approx) into Castlegar

Continued.....

Castlegar to Salmo -

Castlegar is a spread out town along Columbia Avenue, not a bad place for lunch with numerous options. From Castlegar follow the Columbia River and Highway 22 toward Trail. As you pass by one of the largest lead zinc smelters in the world you head down a hill into down town Trail, through a number of sets of lights before crossing the Columbia River once again. The route below will divert you from the highway after crossing the Columbia River Bridge and save a very steep highway grade between Trail and Montrose. (Pg. 43-45 in cycling book...identifies highway route) The route described below takes you off the highway, and has a more “stepped” gradual elevation gain leading into Fruitvale. From Fruitvale you will encounter highway traffic, however there is adequate shoulder all the way to Salmo.

32.7	Hwy 22/ to Hwy 3 overpass - REMAIN ON Hwy 22 south to Trail
47.3	Hwy 22 turns into Hwy 3B
47.8	After crossing Columbia River bridge, T/R at first light onto Columbia Ave – Columbia becomes Highway Drive, then Rosewood, then Carnation.
50.9	T/R onto Hwy 3B
52.5	T/R onto Hwy 22A (just before Hwy takes long uphill)
55.0	T/L onto Columbia Gardens Rd and follow all the way into Fruitvale – gradual uphill
64.0	Passing Fruitvale Elementary School, come to a 5-way intersection, proceed downhill to Hwy 3B (can be seen from intersection)
64.2	T/R onto Hwy 3B
78.6	Arrive at Salmo

Salmo to Intl. Border at Nelway/Metaline:

There is a nice 6 mi / 10 km highway alternate leading out of Salmo south bound:

From Salmo head two blocks toward Nelson before turning right on 4th St which is the main street of Salmo. Follow along, which after crossing the Salmo River will turn into Airport Rd (old highway). Stay on this back road for approx 6 mi/10km at which point it reconnects to Highway #3.

Turn left onto Highway #3 and follow for another 4.3 mi/7km before turning right on Highway #6 and heading toward the US/Canadian border.

The approach to the International border seems to be up a hill which lasts for approx 1.75mi/3 km.

Shipping Bikes: (Spokane Intl. is best and closest airport)

Receptor in Spokane, WA:

Two Wheel Transit
817 S Perry St, Ste C
Spokane, WA 99201
509-747-2231

Receptor in Sandpoint, ID

Sports Plus, Bruce Trejos
315 South Ella
Sandpoint, ID 83864
208-263-5174