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BONUS Pull-Out Guide NW Food Traveler *inside*>>

Discover Hailey, Idaho

BY KRISTEN POPE

Back in 1889, Hailey was the first city in Idaho to install electric lights. The city was flush with cash from the nearby mines, which brought in over \$60 million in gold, silver, and lead from 1881 to 1889. Even today, the town's streets reflect this bygone era with names such as "Bullion" and "Silver." You won't find miners with pickaxes these days, but you will find a thriving town of 8,000 packed with opportunities for outdoor recreation, arts, culture and good eats.

Hailey is located just 12 miles south of Ketchum (13 miles from Sun Valley Resort) and is just north of the Friedman Memorial Airport which offers direct flights from a number of major U.S. cities. The town hosts art and cultural events throughout the year including exhibitions, film festivals and more, so check the local arts calendar for the latest happenings.

Situated in the Wood River Valley and surrounded by the snow-clad peaks and serene forests of the Sawtooth Mountains, Hailey makes an ideal base for outdoor recreation. The Croy Creek Trail System offers multi-use Bureau of Land Management trails for hiking, mountain biking, horseback riding, and more with trails ranging from the easy three-quarter mile multi-use Wilson Gulch Trail to the advanced mountain bike-only Punchline Flow Trail (a one-way loop).

The 84-acre Draper Wood River Preserve follows the Big Wood River and is managed by Wood River Land Trust. Enjoy a number of trails, walk the Bow Bridge, relax at a small riverside beach, see the Heart Tree piled high with heart-shaped rocks, and enjoy the wetlands boardwalk.

If you'd rather drive than pedal or hike, head north on ID-75 through Ketchum and on towards Stanley. Crest 8,701-foot Galena Summit and stop at Galena Overlook for a sweeping Sawtooths view. Be on the lookout for bighorn sheep, elk and mountain goats on the arid foothills in the foreground.

After a day out and about, return to Hailey and cool down with a beer at Sun Valley Brewery or Sawtooth Brewery's new taproom. For dinner, Zou 75 offers an upscale sushi experience while KB's serves popular Mexican fare such as burritos, fish tacos and enchiladas. The Smokey Bone BBQ is a favorite barbecue joint with baby back ribs, pulled pork, Frito pie, cornbread and more. Power House offers a wide beer selection and eats ranging from Idaho nachos—with potatoes in lieu of chips—to steak sandwiches.

For more things to do in Hailey and upcoming events, go to haileyidaho.com. 🍷



Draper Wood River Preserve