



## TOP OF THE MOUNTAINS CONFERENCE FREE TIME ACTIVITY OPTIONS

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*The spectacular beauty and solitude of the 217,000 acre Sawtooth Wilderness is experienced by people from all parts of the country. It is considered the "crown jewel" of the Gem State. The Sawtooth Wilderness is exceptional in scenic beauty and is characterized by high granite peaks and narrow glacial valleys. The Wilderness is comprised of hundreds of jagged peaks, 50 over 10,000 feet in height, with nearly 400 high alpine lakes dotting the predominantly rocky terrain. Also hidden within its boundaries are deep, secluded valleys covered with enormous stands of trees. These mountains hold the headwaters of the North Fork and Middle Fork of the Boise River, the South Fork of the Payette River and contributes significantly to the headwaters of the Salmon River. Nearly 350 miles of trails provide a wide range of routes and many of the high lake basins do not have constructed trails to reach them. The Wilderness offers opportunities for recreational, scenic, scientific, educational, conservation and historic purposes.*

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During the free time blocks, there are many enjoyable and family-friendly activities to do in the Sawtooth region. We recommend planning out your free time blocks to make sure you plan enough time to do the activities you want to. Additional research may be required to ensure you have all the information you need for the specific activity and what extra items you want to pack for that activity.

### **GENERAL RESOURCES:**

- <https://nomanbefore.com/things-to-do-sawtooth-mountains-idaho/>
- <https://adventuresofaplusk.com/2-days-in-the-sawtooth-mountains-things-to-do-in-stanley>
- <https://stanleycc.org/do/>

### **RECOMMENDED ACTIVITIES:**

- Spend the day at Alturas Lake, Petit Lake, Redfish Lake or Perkins Lake
  - There are day use parking areas (for a fee). You can bring kayaks, rafts, canoes or a canopy and camp chairs and enjoy these beautiful mountain lakes. Take a picnic lunch and spend the afternoon!

- Tour Custer Ghost Town & Dredge
  - Custer is a well-preserved ghost town in the Stanley area. On your way to the ghost town you'll pass the dredge, which offers guided tours.
  - <https://www.fs.usda.gov/recarea/scnf/recarea/?recid=76176>
  - <https://www.idahoheritagetrust.org/projects-grants/yankee-fork-gold-dredge/>
- Go on a hike
  - There are so many hiking trails in the area. Pick one that suits your ability level and desired length and experience the beautiful mountains and lakes of the area!
  - <https://www.alltrails.com/us/idaho/stanley>
  - <https://visitidaho.org/travel-tips/a-beginners-guide-to-hiking-the-sawtooth-mountains/>
- Sunbeam Dam Hot Springs
  - Beautiful, natural hot springs on the Salmon river east of Stanley, Idaho. Be sure to bring swimming suits, towels, sunscreen, water shoes and drinking water! There are vault toilets at the hot springs.
  - <https://dani-the-explorer.com/sunbeam-hot-springs-idaho/>
- Bonneville Hot Springs
  - Another natural hot spring off of Highway 21 on the way back to Boise near Grandjean, Idaho. Be sure to bring swimming suits, towels, sunscreen, water shoes and drinking water! There are vault toilets at the campground nearby.
  - <http://www.idahohotsprings.com/destinations/bonneville/index.htm>
- Bayhorse Ghost Town and Bayhorse Lake
  - Bayhorse is an incredible, preserved ghost town between Stanley, Idaho and Challis, Idaho. The ghost town is easily accessible. For an added adventure, take the dirt road up to Bayhorse Lake and spend the day! It's gorgeous!
  - [https://www.tripadvisor.com/Attraction\\_Review-g35409-d7334275-Reviews-Bayhorse\\_Ghost\\_Town\\_and\\_Trails\\_System-Challis\\_Idaho.html](https://www.tripadvisor.com/Attraction_Review-g35409-d7334275-Reviews-Bayhorse_Ghost_Town_and_Trails_System-Challis_Idaho.html)
- Shopping/Restaurants in Stanley, Idaho
  - Drive to Stanley, Idaho and walk around! There's shops and other fun places to grab coffee, explore, eat and shop!

Download the conference schedule and packing lists at [www.TopoftheMountains.info](http://www.TopoftheMountains.info)