

# SEASONAL ACTIVITIES

## IN SOUTHWEST IDAHO



### JANUARY

Start off the year celebrating all things snowy at the **McCall Winter Carnival**. The annual festival takes over McCall, bringing larger-than-life snow sculptures, races, music and more. Hit the slopes at **Bogus Basin**, **Brundage Mountain Resort**, **Tamarack Resort** or **Little Ski Hill**. **Snowmobile in the mountains** around McCall, Lake Cascade or the Pine-Featherville area.



### FEBRUARY

Idaho's winter beer event, **Destination: Beer** brings dozens of Idaho breweries to McCall. Have a weekend adventure in a **backcountry yurt** outside of Idaho City. **Fat bike or snowshoe** at Jug Mountain Ranch. If **ice fishing** is more your thing, Lake Cascade State Park is one of the best spots to do it.



### MARCH

**Treefort Music Fest** brings hundreds of bands to downtown Boise for five days of music, art and cultural events. It's the best time to venture out into the otherworldly **Owyhee Canyonlands** before the summer heat.



### APRIL

April is **Idaho Craft Beer Month** — a great time to explore the 25+ breweries in Southwest Idaho. Spring brings **wildflower blooms** to the Boise foothills and the mountains of McCall. It's a beautiful time to go on a zipline tour at **Cascade Rope Challenge and Ziplines** or **Tamarack Resort**.



### MAY

Hop on a **mountain bike** and cruise more than 2,000 miles of singletrack, or stick to the pavement and cruise the 46-mile **Boise Greenbelt** or the 84-mile **Weiser River Trail**. **Idaho Shakespeare Festival** kicks off mid-May, hosting five world-class plays in its stunning state-of-the-art outdoor amphitheater.



### JUNE

June is **Idaho Wine Month**. Visit the **Sunnyslope Wine Trail** in Caldwell or do an **urban tasting tour through Garden City or Downtown Boise**. Attend the annual **Emmett Cherry Festival**, which celebrates one of the first fruits to ripen in Idaho.

The **North Fork Championships**, an annual whitewater kayaking extreme race, takes place on the North Fork of the Payette River just north of Banks, Idaho. In Weiser, **The National Oldtime Fiddlers' Contest & Festival** begins — a week-long event that has been taking place since 1953.



## JULY

With more miles of raftable whitewater than any other state in the lower 48, experiencing the thrill of clean, rushing rivers is just part of summer in Southwest Idaho.

**Raft down world-class whitewater,** take a **jet boat tour** through Hells Canyon or spend a few leisurely hours floating the Boise River.

In Nampa, the **Snake River Stampede** takes place as it has for more than a century. It's one of the top ten regular season professional rodeos in the nation. Every five years, thousands descend on Boise's **Basque Block** for **Jaialdi**, a celebration of all things Basque with traditional food, drink, dancing and games.



## OCTOBER

**Cruise one of the nine scenic byways** that cross the region or **get out and hike** through the fall colors. See the City of Trees from the foothills or step back in time **visiting ghost towns** like Silver City, Atlanta and Idaho City. Relive daring escapes (and possibly see an apparition) at the historic **Old Idaho State Penitentiary**. Fall is the best time to catch a **Boise State University Football** game on the blue turf.



## AUGUST

Huckleberries have been sweetening under the summer sun and are finally ready to pick by late summer, which means berry picking and the **Donnelly Huckleberry Festival**. The tiny mountain town of Yellow Pine comes alive during the annual **Yellow Pine Harmonica Festival**. Hundreds of professional cowboys and cowgirls convene at the annual **Caldwell Night Rodeo**. Late summer is also one of the best months to camp out in Southwest Idaho.



## NOVEMBER

As the temperatures cool off, the many **natural hot springs** in Southwest Idaho are the place to be. Soak in a natural pool like Pine Flats or Kirkham, or take the family to a developed spring like The Springs at Idaho City and Gold Fork. Just after Thanksgiving, holiday lights dazzle at **Winter Garden aGlow** in the Idaho Botanical Garden and **Caldwell Holiday Lights** at Indian Creek Plaza.



## SEPTEMBER

For three magical days, the skies of Boise are filled with hot air balloons during the **Spirit of Boise Balloon Classic**. The **Peregrine Fund's World Center for Birds of Prey** hosts Fall Flights, a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to see birds like eagles, hawks, falcons and owls show off their aerial skills up close.



## DECEMBER

Ring in a New Year like you never have before at the **Idaho Potato Drop** in Boise or the **Cherry Rise** in Emmett. Dash through the snow on a **horse-drawn sleigh ride**. Glide and slide on ice skates at The Village in Meridian or Indian Creek Plaza in Caldwell.

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