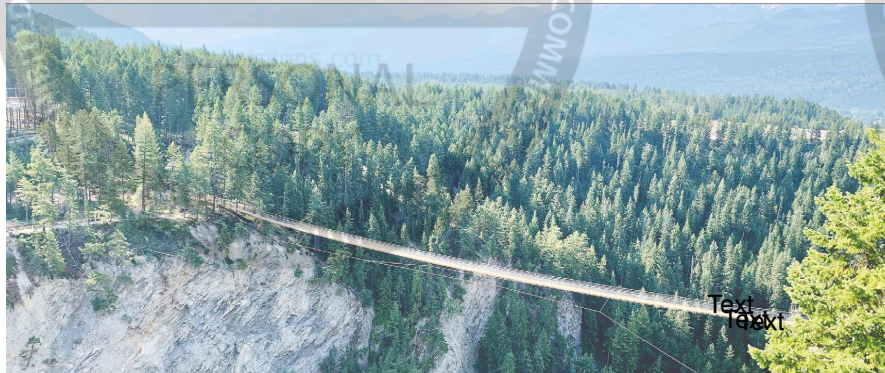


A SOPHISTICATED STAYCATION

Rosewood Hotel Georgia offers stylish escape **D5**



Hanging 130 metres above the canyon floor, the newly opened Golden Skybridge is Canada's highest suspension bridge. PHOTOS: MARK SISSONS

FAMILY FUN in the KOOTENAY ROCKIES

Hitting the road again to visit some of B.C.'s best mountain destinations

MARK SISSONS

"Faster! Go faster!" squeals my exhilarated six-year-old co-pilot as we ride a single-track roller coaster down nearly 300 metres of the mountainside, criss-crossing ski runs and blasting through forests and tunnels before braking to a full stop in Revelstoke Mountain Resort's Village Plaza.

On my last visit here, I skied off a summit run strapped to a paraglider. Now I'm back in summer with my partner, Anisha, and her son, Nayam. This time, the thrill ride is called the Pipe. North America's first Brandauer mountain coaster, the Pipe is a monorail built close to the ground, simulating the thrill of downhill mountain biking as it travels up to 42 kilometres per hour with riders controlling their own speed. The Pipe is Revelstoke's top summer sensation, along with an aerial adventure park, a newly built mountain bike trail network, and a 9-hole disc golf course. And it's the adrenalin-fueled climax to our week of family fun in the Kootenay Rockies.

ON THE ROAD AGAIN

Before ripping down Revy, we visit Nakusp on the shores of Upper Arrow Lake, Glacier National Park, Golden's new Skybridge, and Kicking Horse Mountain Resort. After over a year without travel, we're all keen to hit the road again. Nayam has never ventured this far into B.C.'s interior, and he can't wait to visit Boo the Bear, the Kicking Horse Grizzly Refuge's resident attraction.

After disembarking, we stop by Burton City Cider, a small cidery 20-minutes' drive south of Nakusp. What began as seasonal refreshments for family and friends has become a year-round way of life for cidemakers Barbara & Alan Ross, former Calgarians who now produce some of the West Kootenays' finest crisp, dry ciders with flavours like Hopped Apple Dry, Apple 'n' Rye and Ginger Apple.

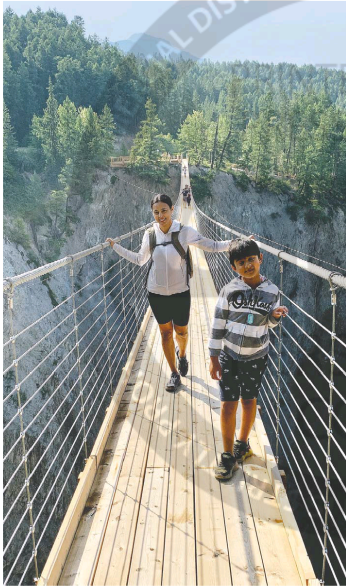
Part of a small fleet of inland ferries operated by B.C.'s transportation and highway ministry, the Needles cable ferry takes just 15 minutes to cross Lower Arrow Lake en route to Nakusp. The water views are gorgeous, and the air is refreshingly cool after the previous week's record-breaking heat wave.

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LAKESIDE LIGHTNING SHOW

Famous for its namesake hot springs, the village of Nakusp on the shores of the Upper Arrow Lake was once a port for shipping goods by water between Revelstoke and the West Kootenays' silver, lead and zinc mines. After a wine tasting at nearby Valley of the Springs Winery, where proprietors Jody and Brenda Scott have pioneered commercial grape growing in the Arrow Lakes Valley, we stroll along Nakusp's lakeshore walkway past a tranquil Japanese garden to a sandy beach.

SEE KOOTENAY ON D2



Crossing the Golden Skybridge is among many lofty thrills on this journey.

IF YOU GO

Where to stay

- In Nakusp, the Lodge at Arrow Lakes offers spacious motel-like rooms a block from the waterfront. [arrowlakeslodge.com](http://arrowlakeslodge.com)
- Halfway between Golden and Revelstoke on the outskirts of Glacier National Park, Heather Mountain Lodge offers luxury mountain view rooms and cabins with rustic-chic décor, fine dining, guided park hiking, and local Indigenous cultural programs. [heathermountainlodge.com](http://heathermountainlodge.com)
- Just a short walk from downtown Revelstoke, overlooking the Columbia River, Basecamp Revelstoke is a boutique resort offering spacious, family-friendly condo accommodations. [basecampresorts.com/revelstoke](http://basecampresorts.com/revelstoke)

Don't miss

- Golden Skybridge is open daily throughout the summer from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. [banffjasperscollection.com](http://banffjasperscollection.com)
- Revelstoke Mountain Resort's Play All Day Pass includes up to two Pipe Mountain Coaster rides, aerial park access, gondola hiking & sightseeing, axe throwing (age 10+), and disc golf. [revelstokemountainresort.com](http://revelstokemountainresort.com)
- Modelled after the snowsheds that once protected the railroad from avalanches, Rogers Pass Discovery Centre has a theatre, an exhibit hall with railway models and displays about natural history.
- Situated in the Kuskkanax Valley, 14 kilometres from town, the Nakusp Hot Springs offers soothing soaks in mineral-rich waters with on-site accommodation. [nakuspphotosprings.com](http://nakuspphotosprings.com)

More info

For more ideas on what to experience in the Kootenay Rockies online, visit [kootenayrockies.com](http://kootenayrockies.com)



