

## **Day Trip to the Sprag Pole Museum (A sprag is a timber support used in mining)**

Exit the RV Park with a right turn on Dalton Avenue, then a right turn on 4<sup>th</sup> Street to I-90 East. Drive east on I-90 for 26 miles to Exit 39 - Cataldo. Exit to visit Old Mission State Park OR save this for your return trip. The mission is the oldest building in Idaho.

There is a fee to enter the park and exhibits. The State Park opens at 10am.

<https://parksandrecreation.idaho.gov/parks/coeur-d-alenes-old-mission/> (208) 682-3814

If you postpone your visit to the Mission, continue on I-90 another 4 miles to Exit 43 - Kingston. Drive north on Coeur d'Alene River Rd toward Pritchard for 1.5 miles to The Snake Pit in Enaville. For over 140 years The Snake Pit has served as a boomtown bar, railroad layover, hotel, house of ill repute and starting point for loggers and miners of yesteryear. [www.snakepitidaho.com](http://www.snakepitidaho.com) It's worth a stop to see all the stuff and "stories" from the history of mining in the Silver Valley. Not know for gourmet food, they do serve a decent breakfast.

After a stop at The Snake Pit, continue north on CdA River Rd for 22 miles along the beautiful Coeur d'Alene River. At Pritchard turn right on Pritchard Creek Rd. for 6 miles. Then a left on Alder Creek Rd and a quick right onto Pritchard Creek St into Murray, Idaho. In the late 1800's Murray was known as the "Cradle City" of the Coeur d'Alene mining district. At this point you are less than 10 miles from Thompson Pass and the border with Montana. In "downtown" Murray is the Sprag Pole Inn and Museum.

Created by Walt Almquist in 1933 when he purchased the historic Murray building, the museum started with a whiskey keg and exploded from there. There are 12 special exhibits including a 1900 kitchen and Molly B'Damn's bedroom. Admission is free through the restaurant. Stay for lunch. The Sprag Pole Inn is consistently rated to have the best hamburger in the Silver Valley.

Sprag Pole Inn and Museum, 6300 Pritchard Creek Rd. Wallace, ID (208) 682-2009

After your visit to Murray, return to I-90 - Kingston for a side trip to Kellogg, Idaho, a stop at Old Mission State Park or return to the RV Park on I-90 to Exit 13 - 4<sup>th</sup> Street north past CdA High School and left on Dalton Avenue to the park entrance.

### **Kellogg, Idaho:**

Silver Mountain Resort in Kellogg is home to North America's longest gondola – a 3.1-mile ride from downtown Kellogg high up on Silver Mountain to the Mountain House.

The gondola operates all winter and weekends during the summer. Hours, reservations and tickets: [www.silvermt.com](http://www.silvermt.com) (208) 783-1111

Tour the Crystal Gold Mine. [www.goldmine-idaho.com](http://www.goldmine-idaho.com)

Visit the excellent Shoshone County Mining and Smelting Museum, open Wednesday – Sunday 11am – 4pm Free – donations requested.

<https://miningandsmeltingmuseum.org/> (208) 786-4141