# Valleyspotting

## The Chilliwack River Valley Road Trip Game

**From the Vedder Bridge roundabout to Sx̱ótsaqel/Chilliwack Lake Park**

### Welcome

Valleyspotting is a free, printable road trip game for the drive up Chilliwack Lake Road. Passengers look for bridges, parks, peaks, trees, flowers, rocks and wildlife, and learn a little of the valley's story. Play together as a family or a group, at your own pace. We're a humble, community-focused platform: no ads, prizes or sign-ups, just a quiet way to enjoy the valley.

### Shop local first

Before you head up the valley, please shop local in Chilliwack's city centre and along Vedder Road through Sardis. Every dollar you spend there supports local families and businesses. From Highway 1, exit 119 takes you along Vedder Road through Sardis to the roundabout by the Vedder Bridge, where the drive begins.

### How the pages work

1 2 3 4

**Pages 1 to 4:** read before you go. On screen is fine.

5 6 7 8 9

**Pages 5 to 9: the game pages.** Print only these, single-sided, in black and white, on recycled paper if you can. Print one set for each passenger, or one to share.

### Safety note

Please play safely. Valleyspotting is a free guide for fun and learning, and you take part at your own risk. By playing, you agree to the safety recommendations on page 3 and accept full responsibility for your own safety. Road, weather and trail conditions change, so always follow posted signs, closures and the rules of the road, and use your own judgement. We do our best to keep everything accurate, but details can change, and we can't accept responsibility for any injury, loss or damage. ChilliwackRiverValley.com is a local information website that offers Valleyspotting as a free download, and isn't connected with BC Parks or any other organization named here.

### We'd love to hear from you

This is our first edition, and we'd love your feedback on Valleyspotting, our website or anything at all. Local businesses and community members in and around the valley are warmly welcome to work with us if you see a fit with what we're building: quiet enjoyment of the forest, nature and valley community. Email us with questions or feedback at **hi@chilliwackrivervalley.com**. We'll always take the time to listen.


© 2026 ChilliwackRiverValley.com. All rights reserved. 

# Your trip, step by step

1. **Read pages 1 to 4 at home.** On screen is fine.
2. **Print pages 5 to 9:** one set for each passenger, or one to share.
3. **Pack** a pencil, something firm to write on, water, snacks, warm layers, rain gear, a first aid kit and any medicine you need.
4. **Shop local first** in Chilliwack's city centre and along Vedder Road through Sardis.
5. **Head to the start.** From Highway 1, take exit 119 and follow Vedder Road south through Sardis for about 5 km, to the roundabout by the Vedder Bridge.
6. **At the roundabout, turn onto Chilliwack Lake Road.** Don't cross the bridge; it leads to Cultus Lake. This is Km 0. If it's safe, reset your trip meter.
7. **Play as you go.** Passengers tick things off on pages 5 to 8. Drivers just drive.
8. **Take breaks only in proper turnoffs.** Thompson Regional Park (about km 6.6) and the hatchery (about km 20) have washrooms.
9. **The pavement ends at the park entrance** (about km 39.4). That's the finish line.
10. **On the way back,** tick anything you missed, do the quiz on page 9, add up your scores, and shop and eat local on your way home.

## How to read the game pages

Each line on the drive pages looks like this example:

| ① Tick | ② Km | ③ What to spot | ④ Side | ⑤ Points |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| ☐ | **20.0** | Chilliwack River Hatchery, a suggested stop | **D** | **1** |

1. **Tick:** tick the box when you spot it.
2. **Km:** about how far you've driven from Km 0. No trip meter? Just follow the list in order.
3. **What to spot:** what to look for, often with a short fact.
4. **Side:** D is the driver's side (left). P is the passenger side (right). A dash (–) means on the road itself, like a bridge, or all around you.
5. **Points:** what it's worth. Add up your points at the bottom of each page.

## Words to know

**Trip meter:** the distance counter on your dashboard that can be reset to zero.

**Turnoff:** a pull-out or parking area well off the main road, where it's safe to stop.

**Shoulder:** the narrow edge of the road. Never stop here.

**Trailhead:** the place where a hiking trail starts.

**Ecological reserve:** protected land kept for nature and research.

**Halq'eméylem:** the language of the Stó:lō, the People of the River.


© 2026 ChilliwackRiverValley.com. All rights reserved. 

# Before you go

## Safety first

- **Passengers only.** Drivers don't play, and keep their eyes on the road.
- **Buckle up,** and keep heads, hands and arms inside the vehicle.
- **Follow the rules of the road,** and respect how residents and visitors use the valley.
- **Stop safely, all year.** Only stop in proper turnoffs, parking lots and spaces well off the main road. Never stop on the shoulder or the side of the road, or near banks, creeks and drop-offs.
- **Keep entrances clear.** Never block driveways, gates, trailheads or boat launches.
- **Be aware of your surroundings.** Get in and out on the side away from traffic, and keep children close.
- **Take extra care in wet and snowy months,** when shoulders get narrower and fog and rain cut visibility.
- **Watch for wildlife, cyclists and other vehicles,** especially at dawn and dusk.
- **Give wildlife space.** Watch from your vehicle or from a distance: at least 30 m from deer and elk, and 100 m from bears and cougars. Never feed wildlife.
- **Rivers and creeks here are cold and fast.** Stay back from the edge, and keep children within reach.
- **Only do what's within your control, comfort and abilities.** Stops are only suggestions, so use common sense. This game asks nothing of anyone.
- **Feeling carsick?** Look out the window at the view, and fill in your pages at a stop.

## Be prepared

- **There's no cell service** past the store about 2 km up the road. Download your maps and let someone know your plans. Using a phone or tablet? Download this PDF first. You can tap the boxes to tick them.
- **In an emergency, call 911.** Cell service returns near that store.
- **Start with a full tank,** and bring water, snacks, warm layers, rain gear, a first aid kit and any medicine or medical supplies you need.
- **Check road conditions** on DriveBC's Chilliwack Lake Road camera, near km 37, at drivebc.ca/cameras/468, and check the weather before you go.
- **Plan to drive in daylight.** The park gates are locked from 11 pm to 7 am.
- **Washrooms:** Thompson Regional Park (about km 6.6) has flush toilets and drinking water, 7 am to sunset. The hatchery (about km 20) has public washrooms, 8 am to 4 pm.
- **At stops,** keep food packed away, pets on a leash, and valuables with you or out of sight.
- **Leave no trace.** Take everything you bring back home with you, including food scraps.


© 2026 ChilliwackRiverValley.com. All rights reserved. 

# How to play

- **Spot it, then tick it.** When you see, hear or smell something on the list, tick its box. Each thing counts once, on the way up or the way back.
- **Points:** Easy 1 · Tricky 3 · Rare 5. For example, a bridge is easy, so it's worth 1 point. A black bear seen from your vehicle is rare, so it's worth 5 points.
- **Valley Legends (page 8)** are rare living things that most people never see. Spot one for 5 points, or describe one for 2 points: tell your crew what it looks like and where it lives. The last three are describe-only, because they grow past the end of the pavement.
- **Drive-home quiz (page 9):** 10 questions, 1 point each. The answers are printed upside down. On a screen, rotate the page to read them.
- **Add it up.** Write your points on the line at the bottom of each game page, then fill in the scoreboard on page 9. Scores are just for fun.
- **Play your way.** Have a set each or share one, read it aloud, take turns, help each other, ask someone to tick for you, and skip anything you like.
- **Distances are approximate** and can vary a little from vehicle to vehicle.

## Tread lightly

- **Leave what you find.** Plants, flowers and rocks stay where they are.
- **Leave it better.** If it's safe, pick up garbage, waste and recycling and take it with you. Never touch broken glass, needles or anything unsafe, and always ask a parent or guardian first.
- **This is an ancient valley.** Respecting it and treading lightly is greatly appreciated.

## Made for everyone

Valleyspotting is for people of all ages, backgrounds and abilities. It's black and white with large, clear text, for inclusivity, accessibility and easy, low-cost printing. It's in Canadian English for now. Canada has two official languages, English and French, and with enough interest, we'll make a French Canadian version and others.

## Land acknowledgement

The Chilliwack River Valley is the traditional, ancestral and unceded territory of the Ts'elxwéyeqw (Ch-ihl-kway-uhk), part of the Stó:lō, the People of the River, who have lived here for thousands of years. We're guests on their land.

## Copyright and use

© 2026 ChilliwackRiverValley.com. All rights reserved. The Valleyspotting name and all content in this guide are the property of ChilliwackRiverValley.com. The guide is free to download and print for personal, non-commercial use, and may not be sold, changed or republished without written permission. First edition, November 2026.

# The drive, part 1: km 0 to 20

**Passengers play. Drivers drive. Stop only in proper turnoffs.** By playing, you agree to the safety note on page 1 and take full responsibility for your own safety. ChilliwackRiverValley.com is a local information website only.

| | Km | What to spot | Side | Points |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| ☐ | **0** | The roundabout by the Vedder Bridge: Km 0 | **–** | **1** |
| ☐ | **2.1** | The convenience store. Cell service ends past here. | **P** | **1** |
| ☐ | **4–10** | A creek joining the river from the far side. Liumchen and Tamihi creeks flow in from Washington State. | **P** | **3** |
| ☐ | **6.6** | Thompson Regional Park: washrooms and a playground | **P** | **1** |
| ☐ | **6.8** | The fire hall | **D** | **1** |
| ☐ | **9.2** | Rafts or kayaks on the river, near the rafting access road | **P** | **3** |
| ☐ | **10.0** | Tamihi (said tamma-HI) bridge: your first crossing of the river | **–** | **1** |
| ☐ | **10.0** | Whitewater slalom gates hanging over the river, just upstream | **–** | **3** |
| ☐ | **10.1** | Tamihi Creek recreation site | **P** | **1** |
| ☐ | **13.5** | Allison Pool recreation site | **D** | **1** |
| ☐ | **14.2** | Anderson Creek bridge, on the Trans Canada Trail | **–** | **1** |
| ☐ | **16.7** | Thurston Meadows recreation site | **D** | **1** |
| ☐ | **18.0** | Borden Creek bridge | **–** | **1** |
| ☐ | **19.8** | Slesse (said suh-LEE-see) Creek bridge. Slesse Creek flows in from Washington State. | **–** | **1** |
| ☐ | **20.0** | Chilliwack River Hatchery, a suggested stop. Open 8 am to 4 pm daily, with a paved, wheelchair-accessible 30-minute loop. | **D** | **1** |
| **Peaks you may see on a clear day** | | | | |
| ☐ | **0–10** | Mount Thom, Elk Mountain or Mount Thurston | **D** | **3** |
| ☐ | **10–20** | The Cheam Range: its highest peak, Welch Peak, is 2,431 m | **D** | **3** |
| ☐ | **10–20** | Slesse Mountain, with its sharp, fang-like peak | **P** | **3** |

**Side:** D = driver's side (left) · P = passenger side (right) · – = on the road or all around

**Did you know?**

Liumchen Creek has had at least four names on maps: Layomesin, Lihumption, Lihumitson and, since 1955, Liumchen.

**Did you know?**

Slesse means "fang" in Halq'eméylem. The mountain's west face drops over 1,950 m: about 32 hockey rinks end to end.

**Part 1 points** _____


© 2026 ChilliwackRiverValley.com. All rights reserved. 

# The drive, part 2: km 20 to 39.4

🚗 **Passengers play. Drivers drive. Stop only in proper turnoffs.** By playing, you agree to the safety note on page 1 and take full responsibility for your own safety. ChilliwackRiverValley.com is a local information website only.

| | Km | What to spot | Side | Points |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| ☐ | **22.2** | Pierce Lake trailhead | **P** | **1** |
| ☐ | **23.2** | Pierce Creek bridge | **–** | **1** |
| ☐ | **25.3** | The gated road to the Chipmunk Caves. These fragile limestone caves are for learning about, not exploring on your own. | **D** | **1** |
| ☐ | **26.3** | Your second crossing of the Chilliwack River | **–** | **1** |
| ☐ | **26.4** | Foley Creek road and Camp Foley recreation site | **D** | **1** |
| ☐ | **28.4** | Ford Mountain road and trail | **D** | **1** |
| ☐ | **29.4** | Riverside recreation site | **P** | **1** |
| ☐ | **29.6** | Nesakwatch Creek road | **P** | **1** |
| ☐ | **32.2** | Williams Ridge trailhead | **D** | **1** |
| ☐ | **39.0** | Post Creek trailhead: Lindeman, Greendrop and Flora lakes | **D** | **1** |
| ☐ | **39.4** | The park entrance: the finish line! Sx̱ótsaqel (said skot-sa-qel) means “sacred lake” in Halq’eméylem. | **P** | **1** |
| **Peaks you may see on a clear day** | | | | |
| ☐ | **20–32** | Crossover Peak, Mount Rexford or the Nesakwatch Spires | **P** | **3** |
| ☐ | **20–32** | Williams Peak, Mount Laughington or Ford Mountain | **D** | **3** |
| ☐ | **39.4** | From the lake: Mount Webb, Paleface Mountain or Mount Lindeman, the park’s highest peak at 2,312 m | **–** | **3** |

**Side:** D = driver’s side (left) · P = passenger side (right) · – = on the road or all around

### Did you know?

Mount Webb rises about 1,560 m above Chilliwack Lake in only about 2 km. It’s named after Christopher Webb, who built a log cabin at the lake in 1929.

### Did you know?

Depot Creek flows into the far end of the lake from Washington State. Kokanee lay their eggs in it, and some locals once called it Kokanee Creek.

**Finish line!** The pavement ends here, and so does the game. Tick anything you missed on the way back. At the lake, the water is very cold and there are no lifeguards.

**Part 2 points** _____


© 2026 ChilliwackRiverValley.com. All rights reserved. 

# Wild things

**Passengers play. Drivers drive. Stop only in proper turnoffs.** By playing, you agree to the safety note on page 1 and take full responsibility for your own safety. ChilliwackRiverValley.com is a local information website only.

Tick each one the first time you spot it, anywhere on your trip. **Points:** 1 Easy · 3 Tricky · 5 Rare. Words in bold show the best season to look.

## Trees

- [ ] Western redcedar: lacy, drooping branches — **1**
- [ ] Douglas-fir: thick, deeply grooved bark — **1**
- [ ] Western hemlock: a droopy tip at the very top — **1**
- [ ] Red alder: smooth grey bark, often with pale patches — **1**
- [ ] Paper birch: white bark that peels — **1**
- [ ] Black cottonwood: sweet-smelling buds **spring** — **1**
- [ ] Vine maple: red and orange leaves **fall** — **1**

## Rocks and water

- [ ] Round river rocks on a gravel bar — **1**
- [ ] Snow on a mountain peak **fall to spring** — **1**
- [ ] A waterfall, best after rain — **3**
- [ ] A boulder bigger than a car — **3**

## Fish at the hatchery

- [ ] Chinook salmon **Aug to Nov** — **3**
- [ ] Coho salmon **Oct to Dec** — **3**
- [ ] Steelhead, a sea-run rainbow trout **Mar to Apr** — **5**

## Flowers and plants

- [ ] Sword fern: green all year — **1**
- [ ] Devil's club: spiny stems. Look, don't touch! — **3**
- [ ] Skunk cabbage: big yellow hoods, and a skunky smell **spring** — **3**
- [ ] Salmonberry: pink flowers, then orange-red berries **spring, summer** — **3**
- [ ] Thimbleberry: soft leaves, white flowers **summer** — **3**
- [ ] Tiger lily: orange flowers with dark spots **summer** — **3**
- [ ] Red-osier dogwood: bright red stems **winter** — **3**
- [ ] Queen's cup: a small white flower on the forest floor **summer** — **5**
- [ ] Wild ginger: heart-shaped leaves close to the ground **spring, summer** — **5**

## Animals and birds

- [ ] Chickadee: small, with a dark cap — **1**
- [ ] Black-tailed deer — **3**
- [ ] Pacific wren: a tiny brown bird with a huge song. Listen! — **3**
- [ ] Pileated woodpecker, or its big rectangular holes in trees — **3**
- [ ] Beaver signs: a lodge, a dam or a chewed stump — **3**
- [ ] Black bear, seen from your vehicle — **5**
- [ ] Porcupine — **5**

**Wild things points** _____


© 2026 ChilliwackRiverValley.com. All rights reserved. 

# Valley Legends

🚗 **Passengers play. Drivers drive. Stop only in proper turnoffs.** By playing, you agree to the safety note on page 1 and take full responsibility for your own safety. ChilliwackRiverValley.com is a local information website only.

Spot one for 5 points, or describe one to your crew for 2 points. Never search for them, lift rocks in creeks or share where you saw one. The last three grow past the pavement, so they're describe-only.

| Legend | Spotted 5 | Described 2 |
|---|---|---|
| **Coastal giant salamander.** In Canada, it lives only in the Chilliwack River Valley. Adults can even bark! | ☐ | ☐ |
| **Mountain beaver.** Not a beaver at all, but a muskrat-sized "living fossil" found in Canada only in southwestern BC. | ☐ | ☐ |
| **Rufous hummingbird.** A tiny, rust-coloured bird that winters in Mexico and flies north to nest. | ☐ | ☐ |
| **Coastal tailed frog.** A small frog of cold, fast mountain streams. Its tadpoles can take 2 to 4 years to grow up. | ☐ | ☐ |
| **Trowbridge's shrew.** A tiny shrew that's rare in the park. | ☐ | ☐ |
| **Mountain goat.** A rare visitor to the park's high cliffs. | ☐ | ☐ |
| **Roosevelt elk.** A rare visitor to the park. | ☐ | ☐ |
| **Grizzly bear.** In 2004, fewer than 25 were thought to live in BC's North Cascades. | ☐ | ☐ |
| **Bull trout.** A char that BC Parks reports in Chilliwack Lake. | ☐ | ☐ |
| **Kokanee.** A sockeye salmon that never goes to sea. | ☐ | ☐ |
| **Oregon forestsnail.** An endangered land snail about the size of a toonie, recorded near Vedder Crossing. | ☐ | ☐ |
| **Tall bugbane.** A white-flowered plant up to 180 cm tall, found in Canada only in the Abbotsford–Chilliwack area. | ☐ | ☐ |
| **Phantom orchid.** Very likely BC's rarest orchid: ghost-white, with no green leaves at all. | ☐ | ☐ |
| **Leafy mitrewort.** A rare plant along the reserve's main trail. | – | ☐ |
| **Hybrid spruce.** A natural cross of Sitka and Engelmann spruce. | – | ☐ |
| **BC's biggest grand fir.** The largest ever measured in BC. | – | ☐ |

**Legends points** _____


© 2026 ChilliwackRiverValley.com. All rights reserved. 

# Drive-home quiz

**Passengers play. Drivers drive. Stop only in proper turnoffs.** By playing, you agree to the safety note on page 1 and take full responsibility for your own safety. ChilliwackRiverValley.com is a local information website only.

Say your answer out loud, check the upside-down answers, and tick the box if you got it right. Every answer is on pages 5 to 8. 1 point each.

- ☐ **1** What does Sx̱ótsaqel mean?
- ☐ **2** Which mountain rises about 1,560 m above Chilliwack Lake?
- ☐ **3** What kind of rock are the Chipmunk Caves in?
- ☐ **4** How many times did you cross the Chilliwack River?
- ☐ **5** Which two salmon return to the hatchery in the fall?
- ☐ **6** Name a creek that flows in from Washington State.
- ☐ **7** Which tree has white bark that peels?
- ☐ **8** What hangs over the river near the Tamihi bridge?
- ☐ **9** About how far up the road does cell service end?
- ☐ **10** What does Slesse mean in Halq'eméylem?

Answers: 1 Sacred lake · 2 Mount Webb · 3 Limestone · 4 Twice · 5 Chinook and coho · 6 Liumchen, Tamihi, Slesse or Depot Creek · 7 Paper birch · 8 Whitewater slalom gates · 9 About 2 km · 10 Fang

**Quiz points** _____

## ☆ Our trip

Copy each player's points from the bottom of pages 5 to 9, then add them up. A first name or a nickname is all you need.

| Name | Part 1 | Part 2 | Wild things | Legends | Quiz | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |

**Thank you** to valley residents for sharing your home, to our local community for welcoming every trip, and to every visitor for exploring with care. On your way home, please shop and eat local in Chilliwack's city centre and Sardis.


© 2026 ChilliwackRiverValley.com. All rights reserved. 