

TOP 10

MERRITT FISHING HOLES

1 COURTNEY LAKE

Directly off Hwy 5A, with well-maintained boat launch and campsite. During the summer months, blackwater rainbows are known to grow up to 15lbs! Fish the deep holes on the north and south ends.

2 DOUGLAS LAKE

Richard Jollimore from **Wholesale Sports Kamloops** says to head toward the shallows on the west side of the lake during the fall.

3 HARMON LAKE

Fly fishing burgandy, brown, or olive micro leeches has proven to work well for rainbow trout. There is a small forestry site for camping and launching car-top boats.

4 KENTUCKY & ALLEYNE LAKES

Located in Kentucky Alleyne Provincial Park, and easily accessible. These lakes are a great place for young or novice anglers looking for rainbow trout.

5 LAC LE JEUNE

A great family fishing lake with concrete boat launch, vehicle campsites, a picnic area, a playground, and tons of rainbows.

6 LUNDBOM LAKE

The Lundbom Recreation Site is a great spot for fishing, horseback riding, and camping. Conveniently located close to Merritt you can head out for the afternoon or stay all weekend.

7 MAMIT LAKE

Burbot and rainbow trout are very popular here. Jigging and trolling are popular here. Anglers may use the public boat launch, however parking is limited.

8 NICOLA LAKE

Kokanee, rainbow trout, and burbot can all be found in this deep, cold waterbody. Look for natural structures in which the fish can hide.

9 PETER HOPE LAKE

With numerous shoals, sunken islands, and insects, this is a great place for fly fishing. Stocked with pennask rainbow trout, these fish are known for being aggressive.

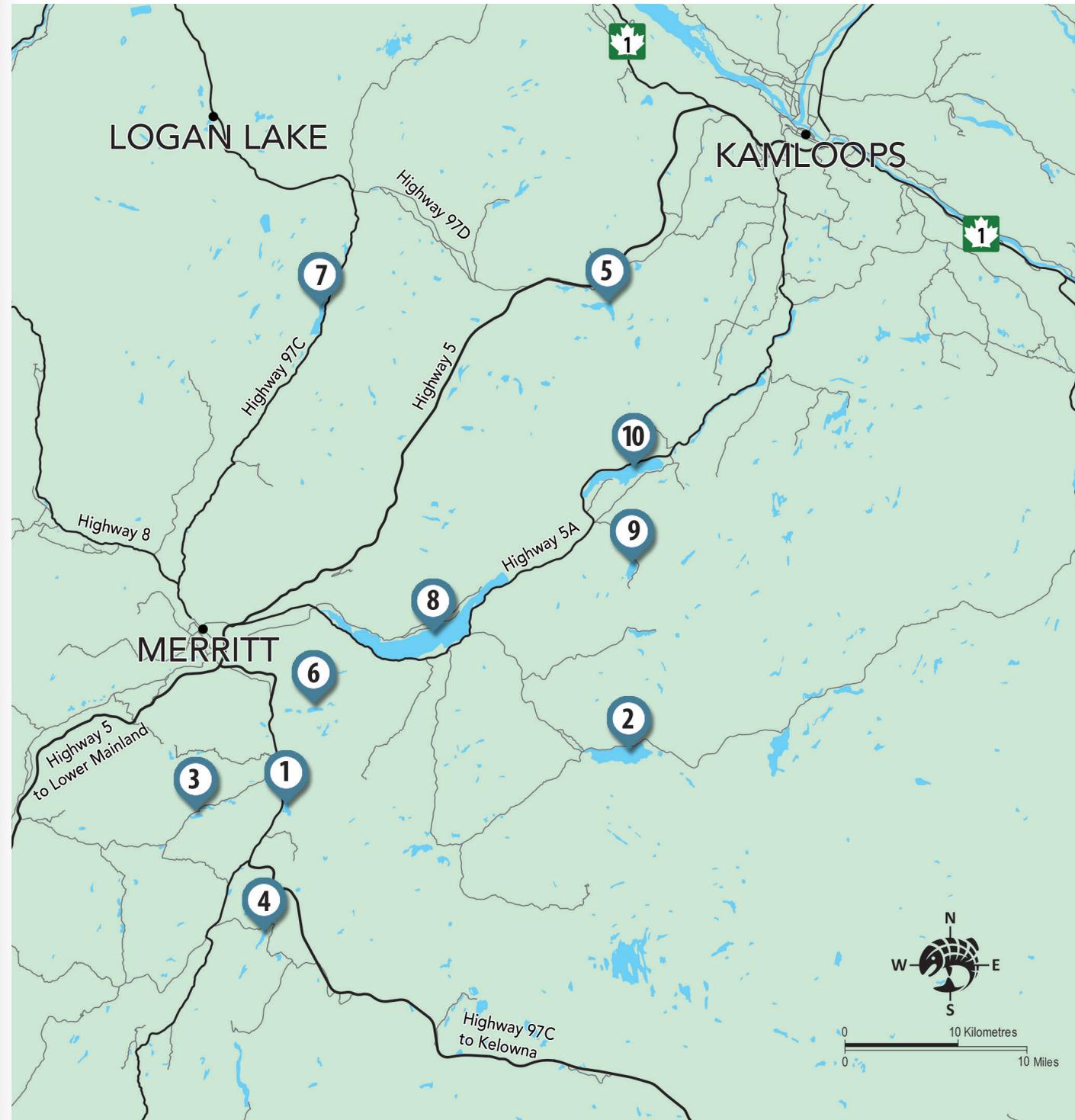
10 STUMP LAKE

Known for kokanee, rainbows and strong winds, the northeast end of the lake where the water drops off is a great place for rainbow trout.

"A LAKE A DAY AS LONG AS YOU STAY"

The Nicola Valley is packed full of lakes, rivers, and fish! With most lakes within 100 km of the City of Merritt, the city acts as a hub for anglers and visitors alike. Knowledgeable fishing guides, resorts, campgrounds, and accommodations await those traveling to the area. With over 100 lakes just a short distance away, there is so much adventure to be had. Make Merritt, BC your next fishing destination!

Tourism Merritt is happy to invite anglers to take part in the **Rod Loan Program**. Head down to the Information Booth at the Baillie House to pick up your fishing rod, tackle box, and auger. Families and novice anglers are encouraged to learn how to fish. Keep it for the day, or stay all weekend!



LOCAL RESOURCES

Looking to connect with the locals? The below listing is full of local businesses that are keen on making each trip to Merritt and the Nicola Valley remarkable!

They will answer your questions, give you some free advice, and maybe even give away a few great fishing spots. Make sure to pick up your BC fishing license before setting out on your next adventure in Merritt.

NAME	PHONE	WEBSITE
Ponderosa Sports	250-378-9553	ponderosasports.ca
Gun Fishin'	250-378-9046	N/A
Canadian Tire	250-378-1818	canadiantire.ca
Baillie House Info Booth	250-378-0349	bailliehouse.com
Nicola Valley Fish and Game Club	250-280-0304	nvfishandgameclub.ca
Local Camping	N/A	sitesandtrailsbc.ca
Spuis Creek Hatchery	250-378-2992	www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca

If you are looking for a great place to eat during your next visit to Merritt, check out one of the over 35 restaurants within the City of Merritt.

Need a place to rest your head? Merritt has over 31 accommodation businesses to help you have a great night sleep.

Find out Where to Stay and Places to Eat online at www.TourismMerritt.com



“ Easily accessible by major highways as a perfect weekend getaway ”

RAINBOW TROUT



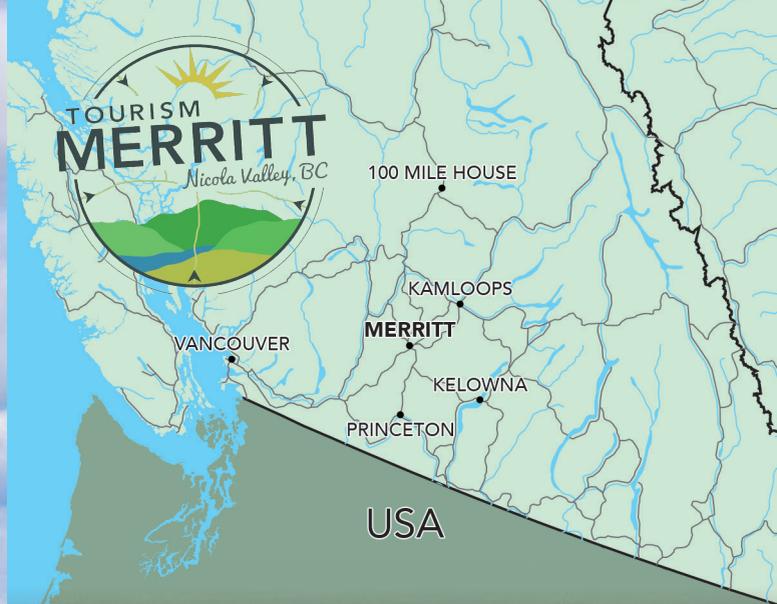
RAINBOW TROUT – The most popular fish in the area, rainbows can be found in most of the lakes on this list, and can be caught year-round. They often feed in 46-56 degree water, so will move into deeper, colder water in the summer months. Look for drop off points, as rainbow trout can often be found there. Popular during hard water season, they are usually found close to the bottom of the lake. Be sure to use brightly coloured spoons, chartreuse is a great choice. When using a fly rod try out a half-back nymph, doc spratley, and small leech patterns. **Bruce** from **Gun Fishin'** recommends chironomids and pumpkin heads. When fishing in the spring or fall trolling flatfish or lucky bugs works well.

BROOK TROUT



BROOK TROUT – Can be fished year-round, brook trout are most popular during fall and winter. During the summer, they become much more aggressive and are harder to locate. Moreover, when compared to rainbow trout, **Ed** from **Ponderosa Sports** says they are much more of a challenge and do not often bite easily. Small spinners work well with worms or natural occurring bugs. Try grasshoppers or mayflies.

Brook Trout: Duane Raver
Rainbow Trout: US Fish and Wildlife Service



HOW TO GET HERE

Known for mild winters and warm, sunny summers, Merritt is the intersection of southern British Columbia. Highways 5, 5A, 8, and 97C all run through Merritt making it easily accessible from the Thompson Nicola, Okanagan, Cariboo, and Lower Mainland regions of the province.

The City of Merritt is less than a two hour drive on Highway 97C from Kelowna International Airport. Less than 45 minutes from Kamloops, and along Highway 5 it is less than three hours from Vancouver International Airport.

Tourism Merritt



250-378-0349

info@tourismmerritt.com

www.TourismMerritt.com

#ExploreMerritt

Produced in partnership with
AnglersAtlas.com
Angler's Atlas



Photo By: John Toikka

MERRITT FISHING HOLES



Where locals often say, there is...

*A lake a day
as long as you stay.*

MERRITT SPECIES

BURBOT



BURBOT (LING COD)– Burbot tend to move around quite a bit throughout the day, making locating them an issue. Generally, they move closer to shore in the early morning and late evenings to feed, so this is the best time to fish for them. Keep in mind that many lakes in the area have a strict catch and release policy, so be sure to check the regulations before heading out on the water. Trolling along bays works well. **Richard Jollimore** from **Wholesale Sports Kamloops** recommends gang trolls with wedding bands, flat fish, and flashers or even squid and cod jigs. Fly fishing is a popular choice as well.

KOKANEE



KOKANEE – These fish are often the prey of rainbow trout and burbot, so they are generally found along the weeds or shoals, where they can hide. They are more active during heavy winds, as the waves act as camouflage. Reds and pinks are known to work well for kokanee as well as silver and green when paired with a wedding band. The best time to target kokanee is right after ice off, before the lake has turned over. These are a great fish to use a fly rod, as they often jump into the air while hooked. **Bruce** of **Gun Fishin'** recommends small nymph or chironomid patterns.