

435-mile

**ROAD  
TRIP**

# Alberta's Cowboy Trail



Near the end of the Cowboy Trail is the Western

frontier burg Em-Te Town (emtetown.com). The Guns of the Golden West perform entertaining fast draws and gun spinning demonstrations here. The restaurant and saloon offer a full Western menu, while the rustic cabin feature porches and fire pits.



Canada's Northwest Company built Rocky Mountain House in 1799 (rockymuseum.com), which served as the Western-most base for explorers such as David Thompson, who mapped a route from the Columbia River to the Pacific. Hike, fish, and heli-horseback tour throughout the Canadian Rockies with Icefield Helicopter Tours (icefieldheli.com).



Using the Charlie Russell painting "A Serious Predicament," American Wild West performer Guy Weadick promoted Calgary's first "Stampede" in 1912 with \$20,000 in prize money. Today, cowboys compete for a \$2-million purse. This year's Calgary Stampede takes place July 9-18 (calgarystampede.com).



Cowboys, outlaws, and royalty all made stops at Canada's Bar U Ranch in Longview (pc.gc.ca), which once spread across 160,000 acres of grassland and was home to 30,000 head of cattle and 1,000 purebred Percherons. Now it's a National Historic Park that offers horse-drawn wagon tours to the 35 outbuildings. Feast on cow camp stew and sourdough biscuits down at the Roadhouse Restaurant.



Alberta's Highway 22, a.k.a. the Cowboy Trail, treks for 435 miles along the eastern slopes of the Canadian Rockies. Start at Cardston, home of the Remington Carriage Museum (remingtoncarriagemuseum.com), which has the largest collection of horse-drawn transportation in North America. At Hillspring, Alberta, enjoy two generations of Kunkel-family cowboy music at the Great Canadian Barn Dance (gcdb.ca).



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