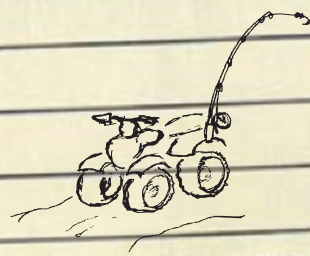


DESTINATION Kamiah, ID



sightseeing
4-wheeling
fishing & hunting
camping

KAMIAH Idaho



Activities

Opportunities abound for:

- camping
- hiking
- sightseeing
- hunting
- bird watching
- snowmobiling
- backpacking
- swimming
- rafting
- fishing
- skiing
- 4 wheeling



Attractions

Kamiah has a unique shopping district, museum, bowling alley, gun club, many civic and social organizations, and an excellent community library. School activities and sports have a strong following, as does the organized summer recreation program for youth.



© The Clearwater Progress



Events

May

- Lewis Clark Living History Heritage Days
- Kamiah-Kooskia Chambers Area-wide Yard Sale
- Mat'Alyma Root Festival and Pow Wow

June

- Idaho Fish and Game Free Fishing Day
- Kooskia National Fish Hatchery-Open House and Kids' Free Fishing Day

July

- Annual Boy Scouts Breakfast

August

- Chief Lookingglass Days

September

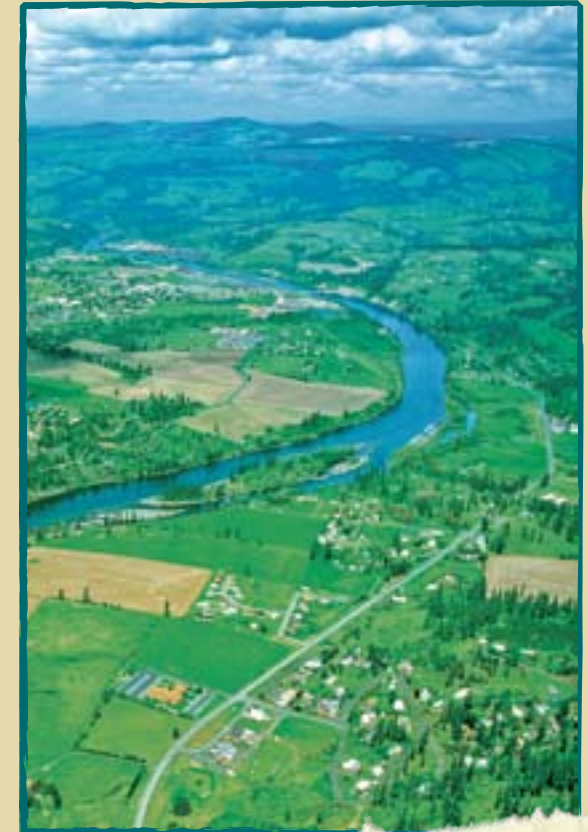
- Kamiah Free BBQ Days, Craft Fair, & Quilt Show
- CVRA Rodeo

December

- Annual Christmas Lighting Festival



© The Clearwater Progress



Contact

Kamiah Chamber of Commerce
518 Main Street
208 935-2290
www.kamiahchamber.com
info@kamiahchamber.com

For additional information
on Idaho, call 1-800-VISIT-ID



WELCOME TO KAMIAH!

Center of commerce and culture since long before recorded history, Kamiah derived its name from the Nez Perce Indians' practice of making rope from the stems of dogbane plants, which grew in abundance along the banks of the Clearwater River. In reference to unused parts of the stems, "kamiah" means the "place of rope litter." The river itself has historically offered plentiful supplies of salmon and steelhead, central to the diet of the Nez Perce. Today, Indians and Euro-Americans alike continue to celebrate and harvest the fish. When the Euro-Americans began settling in the Kamiah Valley late in the 19th century, they realized how abundant the area was in natural resources. They found, for example, plentiful stands of timber on the surrounding hillsides, wild game such as deer and elk, and a combination of mild climate and rich soil suitable for successful agricultural pursuits.



© Peg Owens

Since time immemorial, the Nez Perce, or Nimiipuu, *the people*, have lived in the Kamiah Valley. Before the time of the people, in an epic struggle, Coyote killed a monster. His remains were scattered across the known world to become various Indian tribes. In the Kamiah Valley, his drops of blood became the Nimiipuu. The heart of the monster can still be seen near Kamiah at one of the 38 sites of the Nez Perce National Historical Park. www.nps.gov/nepe/

About the Kamiah Valley

Long Standing Celebrations

Seventy years ago, the early merchants began a tradition of offering a free barbecue to thank the community for their patronage. This event continues to attract and feed thousands of locals and visitors each Labor Day Weekend. This fun-filled weekend also includes a Quilt Show, an Arts and Crafts Fair, class reunions, a Western Victorian Style Show, Kids' Sports, Street Dances, Auto Show and Shine, Parade, Kids' Games, Fun Run, Auction, Horseshoes, Arm Wrestling, and 3 on 3 Basketball. Other celebrations include a Nez Perce Root Festival and Pow Wows, a Rodeo, a Crab Feed and Show, a Christmas Lighting ceremony, and the recent addition of a Lewis Clark Living History Heritage Days.

More Kamiah Highlights

In the early 1870s, missionaries Kate and Sue McBeth came to the valley to teach Christianity and Euro-American ways to the Nez Percés. The McBeth sisters inspired the construction of the Nez Percés' First Presbyterian Church, which stands today in East Kamiah as the oldest church in Idaho still conducting weekly services. Since the late 1800s, Kamiah's story has evolved from one of the Old West to a modern rural town whose business district colorfully reflects its Western Victorian past. At the city's Riverfront Park, townfolk and tourists alike enjoy an expansive lawn, play areas for children, a picnic shelter, and an architecturally striking outdoor stage. In and beyond the town and park, people enjoy a multitude of recreational opportunities provided by the upper Clearwater area's clear, free-flowing streams; beautiful pine, fir and cedar forests, and abundant wild flora and fauna.

Lewis & Clark History

The Lewis & Clark Expedition camped here for a lengthy stay in the spring of 1806, while waiting for the snow to melt on the Bitterroots. The aid and help offered by the friendly Nez Perce prompted them to report that "the whole nation to which they belong are the most friendly, honest, and ingenious people we have seen in the course of our travels".

