

The Chilliwack River Valley Trans Canada Trail Challenge - Guide

THIS IS NOT A RACE
Take the time to enjoy and above all
KNOW YOUR ABILITY LEVEL

Km	Location/Description
21	Start the Timihi Trail at Tamihi Bridge. Go right in the campground and follow signs to the shore of the Chilliwack River. (Toilets along the way)
20	Small bridge over noname creek
18.5	End of Tamihi Trail (Fishermen's Trail)
Liumchen Trail 9.5 km	
18.4	Little Tamihi Creek Bridge and start of Liumchen Trail. The first part is Little Tamihi Forest Road and climbs for about 600 feet. As you go along this road always take the road on the right at junctions along the way. Also, all but two of our markers (one near the beginning and the other at the end on Vance Road) are on the left side of the trail.
15.15	Great viewpoint of Elk and Thurston peaks as well as the valley to Chilliwack.
14.35	Left fork to Liumchen Lake – continue on main road don't take the left or right fork
14	Top of hill before reaching Liumchen Creek bridge
13	Go right at the junction.
11.7	DND gate – Area 19 CFSME (Canadian Forces School of Military Engineering)
9	Turn left after being on paved road for a short distance (Vance Road) on the Elizabeth road cul-de-sac. Go to the end of the road and follow a trail down to the Cultus Lake Area.
Cultus Lake Trail - 3.5 km	
8.8	Start of Trail on Columbia Highway. If you can resist the pub go across the road and pick-up on the trail that will take you to the shore of Cultus Lake. Please get off bikes when encountering walkers. This won't be necessary if you follow the road that parallels the beach. Stay parallel to the beach passed the end of the road.
7.6	Start of beach trail – Washrooms in campground
7	End of Beach houses
6.6	End of Beach trail. Cut across grass to a small bridge leading to a parking lot.
6.5	Pedestrian Bridge over Sweltzer Creek
6.1	Once on Cultus Lake Road, watch for the trail across the road just past the Fisheries Facilities on Sweltzer Creek. You will be treated to a forest of first growth trees.
5.3	Cultus Lake Park Entrance and back on Cultus Lake Road.
Cultus Connector - 2.3 km	
	Follow Cultus Lake Road to the bottom of the hill. Turn right on Vedder Mountain Road
3.1	Vedder Bridge – Take the north side sidewalk.
Rotary Vedder Trail	
3	Start of Rotary Vedder Trail – just past the Vedder Bridge make a sharp left.
1.7	End of DND property
1.2	Peach Rd. Staging area – Toilet
0	Km post just before the Pavilion (Pavilion actually at 0) – Toilet – If you made it this far please check-out with the volunteer at the Pavilion.

The Canadian Ski Patrol is there to help you, including administering first-aid.

The Chilliwack Amateur Radio Club will have radio communication at all the staging areas (end points along the trail).

Be prepared to meet wildlife such as bears.

The best advice we can give is to give them plenty of space, be noisy and feel fortunate that you are observing wildlife. We believe that wild cats may also be present. Don't walk alone and young children must stay with their parents. Dogs must be on a leash because of negative interaction with horses and wildlife.

Those finishing at Riverside and Foley (former forestry recreation sites)

Please proceed by vehicle to Chilliwack River Hatchery to check-out, pick-up prizes, appreciate the hatchery, and peruse the merchandise on sale.

Those finishing at Thurston and Tamihi

Please go back by vehicle to the Chilliwack River Hatchery to check-out.

Those finishing at Lickman on the Vedder – moved to Unsworth Elementary (from Lickman Road go east (turn right) on Keith Wilson and proceed to 5685 Unsworth – it's an additional 1.4 km)

Check-in at the Chilliwack River Hatchery along the way for further instructions, water, washrooms, etc. When you get to Lickman, volunteers will be there for the check-out before you proceed to your vehicle. Please ensure that we know that you have completed the course.

Draw prizes at Chilliwack River Hatchery/Slesse: Match your number with a prize

Toilets are at the Fish Hatchery, Thurston Campground, Tamihi Campground, Cultus Lake Beach, and Vedder, Peach and Lickman staging areas along the Vedder.

In General:

The wild Chilliwack River is a favorite for fishermen and kayakers and leads to approximately 25 km of fish channels, a fish hatchery, and a myriad of mountain streams. The towering mountains offer a multitude of sought after rugged trails to high lakes and ridges. There are complete rainforest ecosystems. Chilliwack Lake itself is a large body of water bordered by an array of spectacular mountain peaks. Wildlife abounds including birds of prey, the Blue Heron, many other bird species, bears, deer, and wild mountain goat to name a few. Please note that much of the trail from Chilliwack Lake to Riverside Forestry Camp and from Tamihi to the Vedder is also the Centennial Trail.

Km	Location/Description
59.24	Chilliwack Provincial Park Gate House – Chilliwack lake is at 610 m/2000 ft elevation.
58.45	Provincial Campground Kiosk (Works yard)– Start of event
3.2 km of the Radium Lake Trail	
58.3	Start of trail through a forested area paralleling Chilliwack Lake.
57.7	Bridge crossing the mouth of the Chilliwack River. This new bridge gives an excellent view point of the lake and its surrounding peaks. In the fall it is also a great place to view salmon spawning.

Km	Location/Description
	Appreciate the sound and sights of the river along with the vegetation to km 56. Along the way, k55.4, you will be crossing Radium Creek. Above the creek, at the bridge made of picnic table tops, look at the devastation that nature can produce.
56	East side of bluff (bluff trail 1.5 km). Be prepared to push your bike for the next 1 km uphill and most will need to get off your bike to go down some of the steep slopes and sharp curves during the 0.5 km of downhill. Take your time and enjoy this maturing forest. <u>Before heading up the bluff go about 50 metres to the north and experience a suspension bridge built by the military some years ago to replace a logging bridge.</u>
Centre Creek Trail –6.6 km long – magnificent example of coastal rainforest with its trees, ferns, mosses, salal, various berries, devil’s club, fungus on trees, mushrooms, etc. This section of mainly second growth forest is a timber harvest area.	
55.3	Start of Centre Creek Trail. Note that the Radium Lake Trail continues up the mountain to Radium Lake and MacDonald Peak. Follow the Centre Creek Trail.
55	Summit of bluff; Provincial Park Boundary; el 700m – change of el 90m
54.42	West side of bluff with the Chilliwack River rushing on your right.
54	Start of former logging railroad grade.
53.3	Cedar stump shelters on your left were used by shake block cutters. – Watch for a car hood on side of trail.
53	Collapsed bridge – signage on old cottonwood tree on west side of bridge – note Centennial Trail sign on the same tree. Sharp eyes will spot several other such signs along the way.
51	End of logging railroad grade. You can see it continue in the forest as you veer to the left.
50	Before k50 go up to Centre Creek Bridge by first going left and then right again at the next junction.
Nasakwatch Trail – 7.1 km long	
48.7	Start of Centennial Fish Channels – horses must follow the forest road instead of the fish channel route. Note the experimental channels to test fish growth affected by various fertilizers (UBC research).
47.5	Back on Forest road. Watch for the second section of the fish channel trail on the right after crossing a small bridge. Horses must continue on the forest road. Some cyclists might find this section too rough and may also want to choose forest road instead. Those following the forest road take a right on the road after the yellow gate.
46	End of the Centennial Fish Channels at the fisheries sign. Go right on Forest road, cross two bridges over the Chilliwack River and turn left through the former Riverside Campground.
45.6	After going through the campground stay on the left side of the road and re-enter the trail soon after. Use the shoulder of the road for about 100 metres. This section of the trail goes through a reforested area for about 2.5 km. It ends with a short section through mature second growth forest.
43	Start of Angel Wing Fish Channels Area. Go left on utility road and watch for the trail again in about .4 km. Cyclists who do not like fairly rough single track trails (worth walking your bike along these) can go right to Chilliwack Lake Road and ride on the road over the bridge crossing the Chilliwack River and watch for a sign on the left designating the start of the Larson Bench Trail.
41.6	Bridge over the Chilliwack River (also the Foley Staging Area across the road) and end of the Nasakwatch Trail
Larson Bench Trail 8 km	
41.4	Start of logging railgrade across from Ford Mountain Corrections Camp.
41	End logging rail grade and start of a water pipeline utility road
40.65	End of pipeline road for Ford Mountain Corrections
40.3	Gravel pit area servicing Ministry of Transportation roads.
40	Start of forest harvest area right after the gravel pit. It starts with a healthy stand of mature second growth trees and transitions over more recently logged areas and other second growth stands. It makes for a very

Km	Location/Description
	peaceful and beautiful section of forested trail.
38.2	Watch for a large water valve and turn left to ford Pierce Creek. This creek goes underground just upstream from here for much of July through September.
38	Cross the wilderness Pierce Creek campsite road and carefully follow the signage (especially the yellow diamonds) through the informal camping area unto Department of National Defence property. .
37.22	End of DND trail. Follow Chilliwack Lake Road for 150 metres and re-enter the trail across the road (a former forest road) at k37. This is the start of a great forest journey to the Chilliwack River Fish Hatchery at Slesse Creek.
35	Top of hill close to Chilliwack Lake Rd. – turn right downhill from here.
34	Chilliwack River Fish Hatchery. Check-in before continuing on the course. Finishers check-out
Thurston Trail - 7 km	
	Cross the bridge over Slesse Creek and immediately go through the parking area and look for a TCT sign on your right. Cyclists may choose to stay on Chilliwack Lake Road to a point just past the berm along the Chilliwack River and then re-enter the trail in the forest. Walkers will definitely enjoy walking on the berm.
33	Start of the fishermen’s trail along the Chilliwack River.
32.1	Back on Chilliwack lake road for about .6 km to Borden Creek bridge.
31.75	Turn right after crossing the bridge at Borden Creek and start following the Thurston fish channels.
29.7	Thurston Campground – keep on the trail past the camp sites to the Chilliwack River. (Toilets in Day Area)
30.1	Continuation of Thurston Trail across Chilliwack Lake Road.
29.4	Logging rail grade
29	Directly across the former Thurston Corrections Camp.
28.15	Gravel Pit junction turn left.
27.83	Back on Chilliwack Lake Road for 400 metres then turn left in front of Anderson Pond
27.4	End of trail fronting Anderson Pond and back on Chilliwack Lake Road to go over Anderson Creek Bridge
Tolmie Trail - 6 km	
27	Start of Tolmie Trail shortly after Anderson Creek bridge. This is a great trail with a lot of variety. However it has three changes of elevation and therefore can be quite a challenge for cyclists. Those not up to this challenge may want to follow Chilliwack Lake Road to Tamihi – turn left before the bridge crossing the Chilliwack River and rejoin the trail at the Tamihi Creek bridge.
26.2	Small stream
25.15	Turn left at junction
25	Start of Tolmie property by-pass trail – Great stand of first growth cottonwoods and Maple trees.
24.2	End of Tolmie by-pass trail
23.1	Small bridge
22.8	Trail turns up to the left of a large clearing
22	Start of last climb to the left.
21.2	On Tamihi Forest Service Road. Go downhill and turn left near the bottom.
Tamihi Trail – 2.5 km	