



DAY TRIP TO CHESTERFIELD

From Soda Springs · Caribou County, Idaho



FARM AND
RANCH



Photo: Unknown author (Federal Highway Administration records, National Archives), Wikimedia Commons, Public domain

OPEN SEASONALLY

Foundation-owned historic townsite with free guided tours, Memorial Day to Labor Day, Monday to Saturday. Closed for the 2026 season; reopens May 31, 2027.

In season, Chesterfield is an easy half day from Soda Springs: drive through Bancroft, take the free tour from the Brick Store, and walk the grid. The foundation also points to Lava Hot Springs, less than 30 minutes away, for the rest of the day.

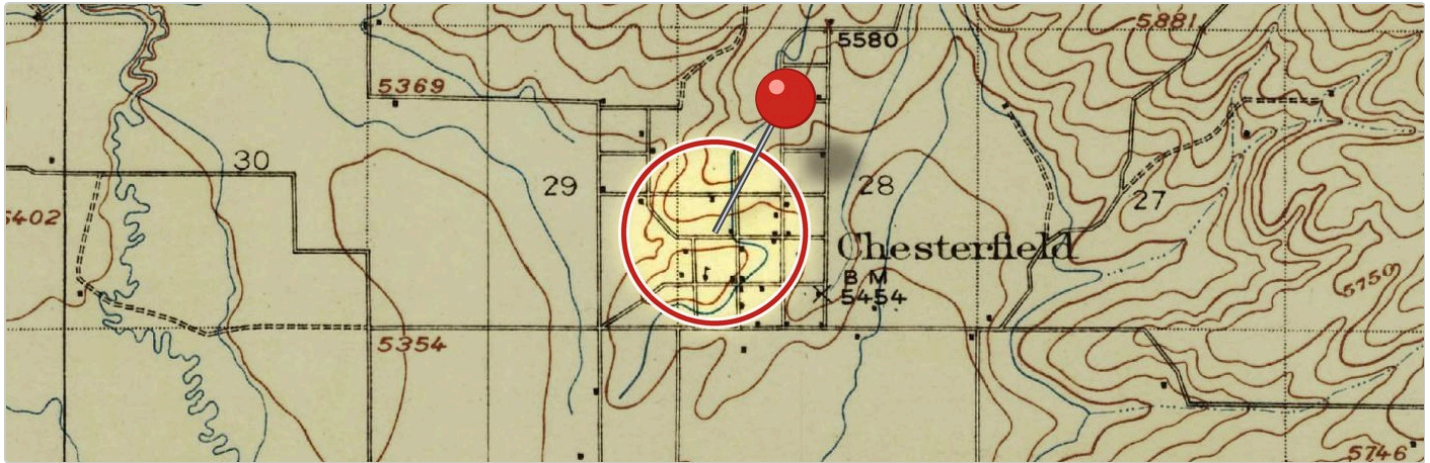
A SAMPLE DAY

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| ☐ 9:30 a.m. | Leave Soda Springs on US 30 west, through Bancroft, then north on Coffman, Hansen and Chesterfield roads. |
| ☐ 10:30 a.m. | Start the free tour at the Brick Store. |
| ☐ Noon | Walk the grid on your own: the meetinghouse, the Amusement Hall, the tithing office and the cabins. |
| ☐ 1 p.m. | Drive back toward Bancroft and US 30. |
| ☐ Afternoon | Lava Hot Springs, which the foundation lists as less than 30 minutes away. |

Coming from Pocatello? The route by I-15, US 30 and Lava Hot Springs takes about an hour and 37 minutes. Tours don't run on Sundays.

WHAT TO PHOTOGRAPH

- **The meetinghouse.** Red brick with a white porch behind a wire fence, best with the hills behind it.
- **The log cabins.** The Ira Call cabin and the Jensen house, square-hewn logs against the grass.
- **The grid.** From the higher ground on the townsite's edge, the ten-acre blocks show in the road lines.



USGS topographic map, 1917 (public domain). The ring and pin mark the town.

DAY TRIP ESSENTIALS

DRIVE	28 mi, about 1 h 01 min each way from downtown Soda Springs. From Pocatello: 59 mi, about 1 h 37 min.
OPEN	Memorial Day to Labor Day, Monday to Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sundays closed. The next season opens on Memorial Day, May 31, 2027.
ADMISSION	Free tours, starting at the Brick Store in the center of town. The last tour of the day begins by 4:30 p.m.
TIME ON SITE	The foundation gives no figure.
RESTROOMS	Not stated on the foundation's site.
FOOD AND WATER	The foundation says the Brick Store (Holbrook Mercantile) is stocked with treats and takes cash and cards. It lists no other food or water.
GROUPS	The foundation asks groups to call ahead for reservations: (208) 403-7830.
EVENTS	The Memorial Day celebration opens the season. The foundation's schedule page, which gives no year, lists a dance in the Amusement Hall on Saturday, May 23, and a 5K, flag ceremony, lunch, auction and craft demonstrations on Monday, May 25; those weekdays match 2026.
PHOTOGRAPHY	The foundation's site says nothing about photography or drones. Ask your guide.
WEBSITE	historicchesterfield.org

BEFORE YOU GO

- Check the status with the land manager before you go; conditions change.
- Keep out of unstable buildings and off fenced ruins.
- Leave artifacts where they lie. Removing them can be a crime.
- Carry water, a paper map and a charged phone; signal is often poor.

Coordinates 42.86694, -111.90194 • 42°52'01"N
111°54'07"W

Full guide abandonedtowns.com/idaho/chesterfield/

Directions [Google Maps](#)

Details checked October 2026. Hours, prices and access change: confirm before you go.