



DAY TRIP TO MOLSON

From Oroville · Okanogan County, Washington



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MUSEUM

A quiet farming community with two free, volunteer-run museums, open as of October 2026.

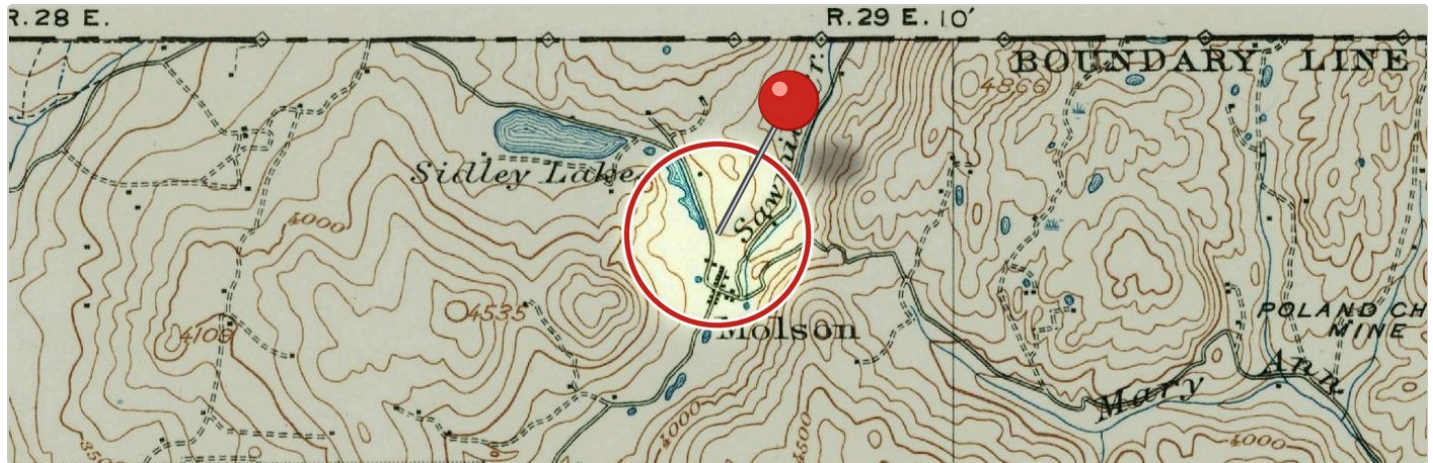
Molson is half an hour from Oroville and an easy half day. Come between Memorial Day and Labor Day to see both museums. Both are free, with donation jars.

A SAMPLE DAY

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|--------------------------------|---|
| ☐ 10:00 | Leave Oroville on Chesaw Road and climb into the hills east of the Okanogan valley. |
| ☐ 10:30 | Walk the Old Molson grounds: the bank, the cabins, the machinery. |
| ☐ 11:30 | Drive two blocks north to the Schoolhouse Museum and its classroom and library. |
| ☐ 13:00 | Back down to Oroville for lunch. |

WHAT TO PHOTOGRAPH

- **The main street.** The false fronts of the bank and the customs house, with machinery lined up in front, are the classic Old Molson picture.
- **Machinery.** Old farm and mining equipment stands in the open with the hills behind.
- **Window displays.** Shoot through the glass into the furnished rooms; use a polarizer or shade the lens against reflections.



USGS topographic map, 1902 (public domain). The ring and pin mark the town.

DAY TRIP ESSENTIALS

DRIVE	15 mi, about 29 min each way from downtown Oroville. From Wenatchee: 150 mi, about 3 h 29 min.
OPEN	Old Molson: daylight hours, seven days a week; the museums list April to November, and year-round on their Hours & Access page. Schoolhouse: Memorial Day to Labor Day, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., seven days a week.
ADMISSION	Free. Donations welcome; the museums ask you to sign the visitor log.
GUIDES	Volunteers, some of them former teachers and students, show visitors through the schoolhouse.
ACCESS	The schoolhouse has disabled parking, a ramp and a chair lift to the main floor; its upstairs and basement are by stairs only. The ghost town is flat and mostly gravel, but most buildings have a step up.
RESTROOMS	At the Schoolhouse Museum.
FOOD AND WATER	No food listed. The schoolhouse has a tea room and gift shop selling books and memorabilia. Bring food and water from Oroville.
EVENTS	Posted on the museums' Facebook page and in the Okanogan Valley Gazette-Tribune.
WEBSITE	molsonmuseums.org

BEFORE YOU GO

- Check the status with the land manager before you go; conditions change.
- Stay out of mine shafts, tunnels and unstable buildings.
- 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 48.98111, -119.20056 • 48°58'52"N
119°12'02"W

Full guide abandonedtowns.com/washington/molson/

Directions [Google Maps](#)

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