

Listings



Price: **\$5,735,000**

Payette River Estate

This 6,200-square-foot log home sits on 216 acres. With four bedrooms, two baths, and a mile of riverfront, the property lies ten miles south of town.

mountainlakesrealty.com



Price: **\$597,000**

811 Wright Road

This three-bedroom house in the country features three decks and a hot tub. The eclectic kitchen is outfitted with stainless steel appliances and copper counter-tops. A new bike path will connect the property to downtown.

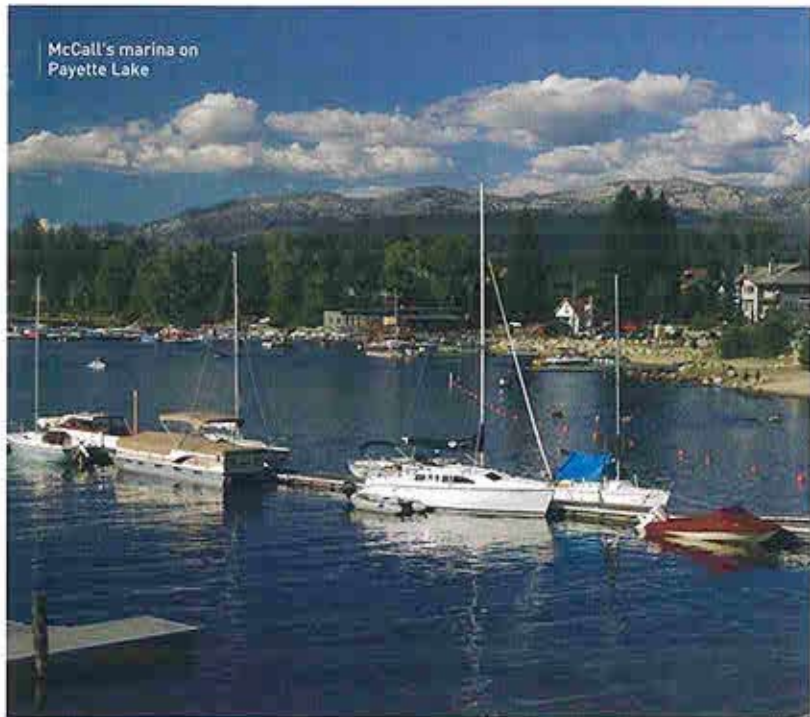
community-realestate.com



Price: **\$310,000**

Meadow Creek Golf Resort

This two-bedroom cabin in New Meadows lies in a secluded forest setting eleven miles from McCall. Hand-cut lodgepole pine woodwork, red oak floors, and a redwood deck make for a cozy feel. mccallrealestate.com



McCall's marina on Payette Lake

TOWN WATCH

McCall, Idaho

A lakeside town with great whitewater and a local ski resort, McCall is a sleepy mountain escape that refuses to go glitzy.

This hamlet of 2,500 residents straddles the state's only north-south highway, along the southern edge of glacier-formed and trout-filled Payette Lake. Brundage Mountain Resort (brundage.com), 15 minutes from downtown, is a modest five-lift, 1,800-vertical-foot operation that received a very un-modest 400 inches of snow last year. World-class Nordic trails—like Ponderosa State Park, a 1,000-acre peninsula that juts out into the lake and hosted the World Masters Championship last March—lie on its front stoop.

But it's when the snows melt that McCall really shines. The area is home to some of the country's best whitewater, including the forks of the Payette River to the south and the Salmon River to the north and east. The lake has an active marina, and sail- and motorboaters like to drop anchor in its secluded coves. The Frank Church wilderness area, with its abundant hiking and dramatic mountains, is readily accessible via backcountry air service from McCall Aviation (mccallaviation.com).

Nightlife may be hard to find here, but McCallers like it that way. ("If you have the energy to go party at night, you've wasted your day," says resident Jeff Halligan.) Low-key evening options remain plentiful—from Crusty's Pizza and McCall Brewing Company to the waterfront Yacht Club.

Houses on city plumbing still go for under \$300,000, which makes it seem much farther from Sun Valley than it really is, a 285-mile drive to the southeast. Tennis stars-turned-investors Andre Agassi and Steffi Graf recently bailed out of a hotel project at the struggling Tamarack Resort, 18 miles across the valley, but McCall will likely remain an almost-famous vacation-home destination for years to come.

—GRAYSON SCHAFFER