



Why should you pay admission to Barkerville?

People in the Cariboo often ask “I pay taxes, why do I have to pay to get into Barkerville?”

Until 1986, Barkerville, owned and run by the Province of BC, had no admission fee. In 1987, the Government introduced the concept of ‘user pay’ at several government-run attractions around the province.

Today, with the site run by a non-profit society and registered charity, raising funds is a large part of what Barkerville must do to survive. While we do still receive a major portion of our budget from government, we are also very reliant on the money we make in admissions. In fact it amounts to over 17% of our \$2.3 Million annual budget.

The money raised through admissions goes directly to projects that make Barkerville more exciting for the visitor. The costumed interpreters on the street and in the displays, the horses and wagons, the blacksmith, the tours and special demonstrations and the school programs are all paid for through admissions.

The admission price to Barkerville, at \$13 for adults, is well below that of many similar sites around the globe of similar size and scope. The Fortress of Louisburg in Nova Scotia is \$16.35 for an adult. In 1996, I paid the equivalent of \$25 dollars to visit Sovereign Hill near Ballarat Australia.

Barkerville is very cognizant of the incredible support that it receives from the residents of the Cariboo and tries to balance accessibility for residents with revenue generation. Seasons passes are very reasonably priced at \$16 for adults and \$32 for a family pass. Regular admission includes reduced rates for seniors, children and youth. In September, the Cariboo by the Carload program encourages family visits. Car loads of up to six people pay \$27.50 and van loads of up to 16 passengers pay \$55. These reduced rates ensure that everyone can afford to visit Barkerville.

During Victorian Christmas in December there is no charge to come and enjoy old-fashioned Christmas cheer.

And of course, Barkerville provides significant economic spin-off for Quesnel and the region. I estimate that at least 75 cents of every dollar earned in Barkerville ends up in Quesnel!

Judy Campbell, Chief Executive Officer.

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