

TRAVELMAG

7 Idaho Restaurants So Remote And So Good That The River Trout Alone Is Worth The Drive Out

June 3, 2026

By Eliza Thornton

Ready to discover why Idaho's most jaw-dropping meals are hiding miles from the nearest highway? Picture yourself staring out at jagged mountain peaks, carved canyons, and mirror-still lakes, and then a plate of perfectly prepared local trout lands right in front of you.

That is Idaho on its best day. The restaurants in this roundup are not easy to reach, and that is exactly the point.

Idaho rewards the curious traveler with remote dining experiences that city restaurants simply cannot replicate. Fresh spring-fed fish, wilderness lodge atmospheres, canyon-rim views that stop you mid-sentence.

These places earn every mile of the drive. Start planning, because the roads to get there are half the adventure.

7. The Narrows Steakhouse – McCall



[@ The Narrows Steakhouse](#)

McCall sits on the southern shore of Payette Lake, surrounded by national forest and backed by the Idaho wilderness. It is the kind of town that feels like a reward for making the drive north from Boise through canyon roads and timber country.

Shore Lodge anchors the waterfront, and The Narrows Steakhouse inside it raises the stakes considerably.

The dining room combines rustic lodge aesthetics with a level of refinement that surprises first-time visitors. Natural wood, stone accents, and lake-facing windows create an atmosphere that feels both grounded and genuinely special.

It earns its reputation without needing to announce itself.

Idaho trout appears on the menu alongside the steaks that give the restaurant its name. The kitchen approaches both with equal seriousness, sourcing regionally and preparing each dish with clear intention.

Guests who order the trout often describe it as one of the cleaner, more honest fish preparations they have encountered in the mountain west.

Payette Lake stretches out beyond the windows, and depending on the season, the view shifts from summer blue to autumn gold to winter white. Each version of that landscape creates a different kind of dining experience, which is part of why Shore Lodge attracts repeat visitors across all four seasons.

McCall itself offers snowmobile trails, ski terrain, hiking routes, and water recreation, making it a genuine four-season destination. The Narrows Steakhouse serves as the natural endpoint to a full day spent outdoors in one of Idaho's most beautiful mountain communities.

Reaching McCall takes effort, but the combination of lake, forest, and this kitchen makes every mile of that drive feel like a smart decision.

Address: 501 W Lake St, McCall, ID 83638