



# North Dakota<sup>®</sup>

## LEGENDARY

### **Create Your Own Corps of Discovery**

#### **Follow in the Footsteps of Lewis and Clark**

Legends are often described as “an extremely famous or notorious person, especially in a particular field.” Lewis and Clark and the Corps of Discovery are true legends. Sent off to claim uncharted territories and collect specimens and make friends with whomever they meet, the explorers hit the jackpot in North Dakota!

The real adventure for Meriwether Lewis and William Clark began here, in what is now North Dakota. The explorers spent more consecutive days in North Dakota than any other state on the expedition, wintering near present-day Washburn at Fort Mandan. Two centuries later, you can see the same landscape at 28 locations recognized by the State Historical Society as significant to the Lewis and Clark Expedition.

To experience this adventure for yourself, contact North Dakota Tourism at 1-800-435-5663 or visit [www.ndtourism.com](http://www.ndtourism.com). Ask for a copy of Tourism's Lewis & Clark Trail Guide, which highlights attractions and activities found along the trail in North Dakota.

## **SITES TO SEE**

### **On-A-Slant Indian Village/Fort Abraham Lincoln State Park**

On-A-Slant Indian Village was occupied by Mandan Indians between 1650 and 1750. About 1,000 people lived in the village, but by the time of Lewis and Clark, most had been wiped out by smallpox. Today, reconstructed earthlodges overlook the Heart and Missouri rivers, giving a sense of scale and lifestyle. Each lodge is 30 to 40 feet in diameter and stands 10 to 12 feet high. A small museum offers a wonderful interpretive exhibit. Both the park and the Indian village are listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Fort Abraham Lincoln State Park began as a fur trade post and later became a military post, renamed in 1872 for the late president. It also became home for the 7th Cavalry and Gen. George Custer. The house Custer shared with his wife, Libby, has been reconstructed to its 1876 appearance, the year the general led the infamous expedition to the Little Big Horn. The 75-acre park also has reconstructed barracks, a commissary store with gift shop, infantry blockhouses and soldiers' cemetery.

[www.ndtourism.com/mandan/local-legends/fort-abraham-lincoln-custer-house-commissary-bookstore](http://www.ndtourism.com/mandan/local-legends/fort-abraham-lincoln-custer-house-commissary-bookstore)

[www.ndtourism.com/mandan/attractions/slant-indian-village](http://www.ndtourism.com/mandan/attractions/slant-indian-village)

[www.ndtourism.com/mandan/cabins/fort-abraham-lincoln-state-park](http://www.ndtourism.com/mandan/cabins/fort-abraham-lincoln-state-park)

### **Lewis and Clark Riverboat**

Further down the river, the Bismarck-Mandan area is flush with historically significant sites. Step back in time to the steamboat days and take a ride on the Lewis and Clark Riverboat at Bismarck. Excursions include an afternoon cruise, dinner cruise or sunset cruise.

[www.ndtourism.com/bismarck/family-fun/lewis-and-clark-riverboat](http://www.ndtourism.com/bismarck/family-fun/lewis-and-clark-riverboat)

### **Five Nations Arts**

Located in downtown Mandan, this art center showcases some of the country's finest American Indian arts, crafts and beadwork from 200 regional artists. The shop in the restored Great Northern Railroad Depot features authentic paintings, jewelry, sculpture and baskets handcrafted by local Native American artists.

[www.ndtourism.com/mandan/attractions/five-nations-gallery-and-gifts](http://www.ndtourism.com/mandan/attractions/five-nations-gallery-and-gifts)

### **Lewis & Clark Interpretive Center**

The Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center at Washburn is a world-class facility focusing on Lewis and Clark's voyage of discovery from 1804-1806. More than 100 items used by Lewis and Clark on the expedition are exhibited. A gallery displays a complete set of reproduction prints by Karl Bodmer, the artist/explorer who followed the explorers' trail a quarter-century later.

[www.ndtourism.com/washburn/museums/lewis-and-clark-interpretive-center](http://www.ndtourism.com/washburn/museums/lewis-and-clark-interpretive-center)

### **Fort Mandan**

Lewis and Clark slept here – many times. The winter headquarters for the Corps of Discovery was constructed by the expedition and named after its Native American hosts. A full-sized replica of Fort Mandan stands along the Missouri River near Washburn.

[www.ndtourism.com/washburn/attractions/fort-mandan](http://www.ndtourism.com/washburn/attractions/fort-mandan)

### **Knife River Indian Villages National Historic Site**

Knife River Indian Villages at Stanton is where Lewis and Clark met Sakakawea, who helped guide and translate during their expedition. Mandan, Hidatsa and Arikara Indians inhabited this area between the Knife and Heart rivers until the 19th century when disease began wiping out the people and culture. This national historic site has artifacts from the era exhibited at the modern interpretive center. There also is a reconstructed earthlodge at the 1,758-acre site.

[www.ndtourism.com/search/site/knife-river-indian](http://www.ndtourism.com/search/site/knife-river-indian)

### **Garrison Dam/Lake Sakakawea**

A section of the great Missouri River has been damned, creating magnificent Lake Sakakawea. With more miles of shoreline than California, the big lake is an angler's paradise with walleye, salmon and northern pike. State parks and boat access points are found around the 180-mile-long lake.

[www.ndtourism.com/riverdale/family-fun/garrison-dam-and-power-plant-tours](http://www.ndtourism.com/riverdale/family-fun/garrison-dam-and-power-plant-tours)

### **Three Affiliated Tribes Museum**

The museum near New Town on the Fort Berthold Reservation is home to displays of artifacts and artwork relating to early settlements of the Mandan, Hidatsa and Arikara tribes. American Indian arts and crafts are sold in the museum shop. It stands as a heritage center for displaying arts and crafts, artifacts, historical data and objects for the three tribes.

Present-day explorers can hear the stories and visit the reconstructed earthlodge village on the shores of Lake Sakakawea. Smaller lodges surround the main lodge, which is used for ceremonies and meetings. The garden is planted each year and a tribal member will share the stories of the garden and their tribe. Bike and canoe rentals are also available.

Nearby Crows Flies High Butte was the lookout point used by William Clark while waiting to be reunited with Meriwether Lewis. This breathtaking view of Lake Sakakawea also provides a look at the beautiful Badlands bluffs and the foundations of the underwater town of Sanish.

[www.ndtourism.com/new-town/attractions/three-affiliated-tribes-museum](http://www.ndtourism.com/new-town/attractions/three-affiliated-tribes-museum)

[www.ndtourism.com/new-town/archaeology-paleontology/crow-flies-high-butte](http://www.ndtourism.com/new-town/archaeology-paleontology/crow-flies-high-butte)

### **Fort Union National Historic Site**

In April 1805, Lewis and Clark's expedition arrived at the confluence of the Yellowstone and Missouri rivers near Williston at the North Dakota-Montana border. Twenty-four years later, Fort Union was built, becoming the largest trading post on the Missouri in the mid-1800s. Today, it features a reconstruction of the Bourgeois House, museum, book store and reconstructed Indian Trade House, where you can purchase replicas of actual trade items that were bartered with Native Americans. Tours, a living history program and special interpretive events are featured each summer. A spectacular fur trade rendezvous takes place annually the third week in June.

## **THINGS TO DO**

### **Watersports**

Travelers can rent canoes at various places along the Missouri River.

[www.ndtourism.com](http://www.ndtourism.com)

### **Lewis & Clark Golf Trail**

For a unique twist, golfers can follow the Lewis & Clark Trail through North Dakota. Golfers can pay homage through 226 holes of golf on 21 courses near the Missouri River, including two

world-class courses, HawkTree Golf Club at Bismarck and the Links of North Dakota near Ray. North Dakota has 105 nine- and 18-hole golf courses, more per capita than any other state.

[www.ndtourism.com/best-places/19-must-play-courses-lewis-and-clark-golf-trail](http://www.ndtourism.com/best-places/19-must-play-courses-lewis-and-clark-golf-trail)

### **Treasure Hunting on the Trail**

Geocaches have been placed along the Lewis and Clark Trail at Fort Mandan, Cross Ranch State Park and Cross Ranch Nature Conservancy. More sites are planned. Geocaching is a high-tech treasure hunt, where players use the Global Positioning System to find caches of trinkets hidden anywhere on the planet. The Corps of Discovery left supply caches along the Lewis and Clark Trail more than 200 years ago for survival. Modern-day adventure-seekers can participate in the same type of activity for fun.

[www.geocaching.com](http://www.geocaching.com)