

N.D.-S.D.-WY. 10-Day Tour



Multi-State Sample Itinerary – North Dakota, South Dakota, Wyoming Minneapolis St. Paul – Salt Lake City

DAY 1

From Minneapolis St Paul International Airport – 3 ½ hour drive

Fargo-West Fargo-Moorhead Area

HERITAGE-HJEMKOMST CENTER - The Heritage-Hjemkomst Center displays an authentic handmade Viking longship that was sailed to Norway in 1982. The ship is on display at the Center, along with other national traveling exhibits. www.hjemkomst-center.com

SCHEELS ALL SPORTS: The store features over 4 acres of retail space on two levels. It features over 85 Specialty Shops under one roof, making it the ultimate destination for athletes, fans and outdoor sport enthusiasts. The focal point of the new Fargo store is the “Scheels Wheel”, the 45-foot, 12-car 1953 park-style Ferris wheel. Scheels unique store-within-a-store design offers the largest, most complete selection of all sports gear and fashion found anywhere.

FARGO AIR MUSEUM: Come and visit the Fargo Air Museum and see these beautiful Aircraft on display. We have aircraft including the Goodyear F2G-1D Super Corsair, the World’s only flying Super Corsair; a P-51D Mustang, the best-known fighter of WWII; Grumman TBM Avenger, the Navy’s primary torpedo/ bomber aircraft; the Mitsubishi A6M Reisen Zero Fighter, the symbol of Japanese air power during World War II and the Douglas DC-3 / C-47 Skytrain, best-known as the “Gooney Bird.”

BONANZAVILLE - Fifteen fascinating acres of historic buildings, ranging from a sod house to a church, court house and country store. Specialty museums house antique cars, airplanes, farm equipment and other memorabilia. www.bonanzaville.org

Fargo to Valley City

Driving Time: 1 hour
Distance: 96 km (60 miles)

SHEYENNE RIVER VALLEY NATIONAL SCENIC BYWAY - The sixty-three miles byway, beginning at Lake Astabula north of Valley City, will wind you through the tree-speckled valley of the Sheyenne, with snaking river and winding roadway, is a welcome variation. Quaint towns and farmsteads lend an Americana charm.

HISTORIC BRIDGES TOUR - Involves eight unique bridges. Valley City was founded in 1872 and is built around the winding Sheyenne River. The Hi-Line Bridge is the longest, also one of the highest bridges, 126 feet high; and is on the former Northern Pacific Railway.

Valley City to Jamestown

Driving Time: 34 minutes
Distance: 55 km (34 miles)

FRONTIER VILLAGE & WORLD'S LARGEST BUFFALO - The Frontier Village is home to a 60-ton concrete buffalo, buffalo herd and a pioneer village.

NATIONAL BUFFALO MUSEUM & WHITE CLOUD & BUFFALO HERD - This museum houses artifacts, many original art works and has an observation point for the live buffalo herd, which includes "White Cloud," a rare albino buffalo.

Jamestown to Bismarck

Driving Time: 1 hour 40 minutes
Distance: 148 km (92 miles)

Overnight in Bismarck-Mandan

DAY 2

Bismarck-Mandan Area

NORTH DAKOTA HERITAGE CENTER AND SAKAKAWEA STATUE - State's largest museum has an outstanding collection of Plains Indian artifacts and interpretive exhibits that feature North Dakota's varied American Indian, military and agricultural history and prehistory. www.nd.gov/hist

FORT ABRAHAM LINCOLN STATE PARK - (7 miles south of Mandan on Highway 1806 or take the Fort Lincoln Trolley to the park) 977-acre park located on the Missouri River's banks south of Mandan. The history goes back over 300 years when it was home to the Mandan Indians. Site of a military garrison in the mid-to late 1800s. Exhibits relate to the life of the Mandan Indians and the military history of the fort. www.parkrec.nd.gov/parks/FLSP.htm

ON-A-SLANT INDIAN VILLAGE - (Located in the Fort Lincoln State Park) This village was once home to a thriving Mandan Indian population. Reconstructed earthlodges of the Mandan Indians at On-A-Slant Indian Village. www.fortlincoln.com

THE CUSTER HOUSE - (Located in the Fort Lincoln State Park) Tour the home of General George & Libbie Custer Reconstructed commissary storehouse, granary, barracks and stables. This was the last home and command of General George Armstrong Custer. It was from here that Custer and his 7th Cavalry rode to meet their fate at the Battle of the Little Bighorn.

FORT MCKEEN BLOCKHOUSES - (Located in the Fort Lincoln State Park) Infantry blockhouses set high on the bluffs over-looking the Missouri River. Same vantage point early cavalry soldiers had as they viewed the wide expanse of the Missouri River.

FIVE NATIONS ARTS DEPOT - Housed in a restored Great Northern Railroad Depot. Authentic American Indian paintings, jewelry, sculptures and baskets, hand-crafted by local artists. www.fortlincoln.com

LEWIS & CLARK RIVERBOAT - 100-foot paddle-wheeler features twin decks and a 70 foot cabin that can carry more than 150 people. Departs in the afternoon, also dinner and sunset cruises on the Missouri River. www.lewisandclarkriverboat.com

Bismarck to Dickinson

Driving Time: 1 hour 16 minutes
Distance: 117 km (73 miles)

DAKOTA DINOSAUR MUSEUM - Life-size Triceratops and Pachycephalosaurus outside the entrance. 10 full-scale dinosaurs in a central display. www.dakotadino.com

Dickinson to Medora

Driving Time: 1 hour 33 minutes
Distance: 149 km (93 miles)

Overnight in Medora

DAY 3

Medora Area

Medora is the gateway to the South Unit of Theodore Roosevelt National Park. This authentic Old West cow-town was founded in 1883 by the Marquis de Mores and named for his wife.

PITCHFORK FONDUE - A unique western steak meal served at the Tjaden Center on the bluffs overlooking Medora.

MEDORA MUSICAL - Colorful production at the spectacular Burning Hills Amphitheater. Western entertainment and a patriotic salute are part of each show. Broadway-style variety show. A MUST-SEE!

SOUTH UNIT THEODORE ROOSEVELT NATIONAL PARK - North Dakota Badlands provide the scenic backdrop to this park. Named for the 26th President, it memorializes his contribution to conservation. Visitor's center and Theodore Roosevelt's cabin from the Maltese Cross Ranch. The loop drive could provide a view of buffalo, deer, elk, big-horn sheep, wild horses, mule deer and prairie dog towns. Canoe through the Park on the Little Missouri River.

NORTH DAKOTA COWBOY HALL OF FAME - North Dakota's newest Museum!! Center for Western Heritage and Cultures: Native American, Ranching and Rodeo. Trail drivers, homesteaders and the sport of rodeo and the impact of the horse on the development of life on the plains of North Dakota. See Sitting Bulls Headdress!! www.northdakotacowboy.com

CHATEAU DEMORES STATE HISTORIC SITE - Elegant 26-room home of the famous French nobleman who founded Medora. Built in 1883. It is one of the three mansions on the prairie.

BULLY PULPIT GOLF COURSE - Ranked America's Best New Affordable Public Course by Golf Digest in January 2006. Located just 3 miles south of Historic Medora, this 18-hole course is set in the beautiful North Dakota Badlands. www.medora.com/attractions/golf/index.html

OTHER OPTIONS:

- Trail rides through the Badlands on the marked trails or the Maah Daah Hey Trail
- Mountain biking through the Badlands on Maah Daah Hey Trail
- Hiking along trails through the Badlands to see nature and wildlife
- Canoeing through the Theodore Roosevelt National Park on the Little Missouri River.

DAY 4

Travel from Medora to Spearfish, South Dakota via Belle Fourche

Driving Time: 3 hours 16 minutes
Distance: 328 km (204 miles)

- 3 ½ hour drive

Spearfish Area

HIGH PLAINS WESTERN HERITAGE CENTER – Authentic displays of pioneer, ranching, mining, forestry and transportation history. www.westernheritagecenter.com

Rapid City Area

THE JOURNEY MUSEUM - Take an incredible trek through time, from the violent upheaval that formed the mystical Black Hills over 2.5 billion years ago, to the continuing saga of the Western Frontier. www.journeymuseum.org

PRAIRIE EDGE TRADING COMPANIES - An enormous mercantile of exclusive Indian-made goods, showcases the culture, crafts and arts of the Great Plains Indians. www.prairieedge.com

SIOUX POTTERY – Fine pottery made, decorated and signed by Native American artists. Meet the artists and see it made. Traditional, glazed and elaborate one-of-a-kind pieces are available. www.sioxnpottery.com

FORT HAYS CHUCKWAGON SUPPER AND COWBOY MUSIC SHOW – Visit the “Dances With Wolves” movie set. Western meal served followed by a Cowboy Music Show featuring a variety of music. www.mountrushmoretrushmore.com

DAY 5

Wall/Badlands Area

WALL DRUG STORE - Wall is home to the famous Wall Drug Store. The town survived the depression in the 1930s by offering free ice water to thirsty travelers. Located 55 miles east of Rapid City on Interstate 90, Wall has several motels, restaurants and a variety of attractions and stores. www.walldrug.com

BADLANDS NATIONAL PARK – Wide views, spires and pinnacles provide great photo opportunities. Formed in the Oligocene age, the badlands is laden with fossils and offers nine scenic overlooks for wide views of spires and pinnacles as well as many areas suitable for hiking. The Lakota were the first people to really thrive in this area. They called the Badlands “mako sica” or “land bad.” www.nps.gov/badl

Black Hills Area

CUSTER STATE PARK’S WILDLIFE LOOP – One of the largest state parks in the nation offers opportunities to watch for 1,500 bison as well as pronghorn, deer, prairie dogs, elk, mountain goats and bighorn sheep in this 71,000-acre (28,400 ha) wildlife preserve. Camera safaris in jeeps are also offered at the State Game Lodge in Custer State Park. www.custerstatepark.info

WIND CAVE NATIONAL PARK – This natural wonder is filled with incredible displays of boxwork, honeycombed-shaped calcite that adorn the walls and ceilings. On the surface, the park’s mixed grass prairie and ponderosa pine forest are home to many animals including bison, elk, pronghorn and deer. The fourth-longest cave in the world. www.nps.gov/wica

JEWEL CAVE NATIONAL MONUMENT – Jewel Cave takes its name from the jewel-like calcite crystals that line its passages. With more than 135 miles surveyed, Jewel Cave is the second longest cave system in the world. www.nps.gov/jeca

CRAZY HORSE MEMORIAL – A tribute to Native Americans, Crazy Horse Memorial is the largest mountain carving currently in progress in the world. Crazy Horse was the Lakota Sioux warrior who engineered the defeat of Lt. Col. George Armstrong Custer. When completed the Crazy Horse Monument will stand 563 feet high, 641 feet long and will be carved in the round. www.crazyhorse-memorial.org

DAY 6

MOUNT RUSHMORE NATIONAL MEMORIAL - Stands as a symbol of American democracy. Walk the Avenue of the Flags, see awe-inspiring views from the Grandview Terrace or get a closer view from the Presidential Trail. The Lincoln-Borglum Museum contains interactive interpretive exhibits. Discover why the four presidents were selected, see how the mountain was carved and learn about sculptor Gutzon Borglum and the workers who brought Mount Rushmore to life. www.nps.gov/moru

Deadwood Area

ADAMS MUSEUM - Three floors of captivating exhibits which explore the geological, natural and cultural history of Deadwood and the Black Hills. www.adamsmuseumandhouse.org

DAYS OF '76 MUSEUM - One of the nation’s most impressive collections of carriages, covered wagons and stagecoaches as well as many Native American and frontier artifacts. www.daysof76.com

TATANKA: STORY OF THE BISON - Gives an overview of the relationship between Native Americans and the bison through interactive exhibits. The centerpiece is a larger-than-life bronze sculpture featuring 14 bison being pursued by three Native Americans on horseback. (Located one mile north of Deadwood on Hwy 85.) www.storyofthebison.com

MOUNT MORIAH CEMETERY - The final resting place of notorious characters such as Wild Bill Hickok, Calamity Jane and many others that once roamed the streets of Deadwood.

OLD STYLE SALOON #10 - A living museum - maybe the only one in the world with a full bar - where you can view of historical western and mining camp artifacts spanning over 100 years. Wild Bill Hickok bit the dust here, holding the famed deadman’s hand of Aces & Eights. www.saloon10.com

DAY 7

SPEARFISH CANYON SCENIC BYWAY - Breathtaking scenery of giant Black Hills spruce, tall canyon walls and beautiful waterfalls.

Deadwood, SD to Devils Tower

Driving Time: 1 hour 16 minutes

Distance: 117 km (73 miles)

President Theodore Roosevelt proclaimed Devils Tower the first national monument in 1906. Devils Tower rises 1,267 feet above the Belle Fourche River. Once hidden, erosion has revealed this unique geological structure. The 1,347 acre park is covered with pine forests, woodlands, and grasslands. Deer, prairie dogs, and other wildlife are seen. Also known as Bears Lodge, it is a sacred site for many American Indians.

<http://www.nps.gov/deto/>

Devils Tower to Sheridan

Driving Time: 2 hours 30 minutes

Distance: 269 km (167 miles)

Sheridan provides history with a view, from its authentic Main Street lined with historic buildings to the Landmark Historic Sheridan Inn where Buffalo Bill once auditioned acts, to the magnificent backdrop of the Big Horn Mountains. The Historic Main Street District offers Old West appeal in a modern setting for a charming window on the past and future. It is picture perfect, with specialty shopping from antiques to cowboy memorabilia to intriguing boutiques and galleries.

www.sheridanwyoming.org

King's Saddlery & Ropes

King's Saddlery, in Sheridan, is a cowboy's candy store. Wander the shop to see the tools of the modern cowboy, and watch the King brothers hand-tool leather. There is a huge selection of Western gift items including jewelry, dishes, frames, knickknacks, many horse related instructional video tapes and books. Then step back in time to their museum, housing one of the largest collections of Indian artifacts and cowboy trappings -- including high-back saddles, chaps, Spanish bits, silver spurs, and quirts.

www.kingsropes.com

Sheridan to Cody (via Shell Canyon)

Driving Time: 2 hours 40 minutes

Distance: 241 km (150 miles)

Shell Falls, halfway into Shell Canyon, tumbles into Shell Creek, its water dropping at 3,600 gallons per second as it follows a course carved by fractures in granite. Millions of years of sedimentary erosion created this waterfall. Notice the colorful sheets of sedimentary rocks; flathead sandstone softly sits aloft the pink and gray granite. At 550 million years old, the sandstone holds fossil shells, revealing the source of the moniker for the canyon, the creek, and the waterfall. Even older than the sandstone, some granite layers date back three billion years. There is a trail that will lead you up close to the falls.

Cody Nite Rodeo

Cody is proud to host a full rodeo every night, all summer long. Any visitor to Cody must experience the original cowboy sport of rodeo. With performances every night from June 1 to August 31, there are many opportunities to see live rodeo action! Bull riding is the big event, ending each rodeo with a guaranteed thriller. Calf roping, team roping, bulldogging, and cowgirls' barrel racing are some of the other favorite events.

Dan Miller's Cowboy Music Review

Relive the days of Roy Rogers and the Sons of the Pioneers at Dan Miller's Cowboy Music Revue. A fast paced show featuring cowboy songs and poetry, the Revue is delivered with a sense of humor and a large dose of nostalgia. Everyone is sure to enjoy this toe tappin', hand clappin' evening. Open May thru September every night except Sunday.

www.cowboymusicrevue.com

Cody Gunfighters

The Cody Gunfighters perform June thru September, Monday thru Saturday, on the front porch of the Irma Hotel. They create such characters as Buffalo Bill, Wild Bill Hickok, Ike Clanton, Mad Dog Harry Tracy, Emmett Dalton, Lucky Bill, Doc Payne, Laddy Da, Crazy Cora, Miss Cassie, Fred White and Teton Jackson. These characters are all part of the Wild West history of the area.

<http://www.codygunfighters.com/about.html>

Buffalo Bill Historical Center

The Buffalo Bill Historical Center has 5 museums under one roof. They explore the American West and "Buffalo Bill" Cody himself, Western art, Plains Indians, firearms, and natural history.

www.bbhc.org

Irma Hotel

Step back in time... into the old west of today, at the Irma Hotel, – a place that Buffalo Bill Cody called “a gem” just outside of Yellowstone National Park. Stay in historic rooms that housed some of the most famous personalities the world has ever known such as Frederic Remington, Annie Oakley & Calamity Jane. You can even stay in Buffalo Bill’s private suite, or in a host of other historic or non-historic rooms, all with up-to-date amenities and air conditioning.
www.irmahotel.com

DAY 8

Cody to Yellowstone National Park

Driving Time: 1 hour 20 minutes

Distance: 84 km (52 miles)

Wapiti Valley

The Wapiti Valley (East Yellowstone Valley) connects Cody, WY to the east entrance of Yellowstone National Park. This highway (US 14-16-20, The Buffalo Bill Cody Scenic Highway) was called “the most scenic 50 miles in the world” by President Teddy Roosevelt. It passes by Buffalo Bill Dam and Reservoir, Buffalo Bill State Park, numerous interesting rock formations, and through the Shoshone National Forest (our nation’s first).

Pahaska Teepee

Nestled amongst the pines just East of Yellowstone at the foot of majestic Cody Peak is Buffalo Bill Cody’s spectacular historic Lodge Pahaska Teepee. Cody built Pahaska Teepee to accommodate tourists traveling up the Cody Road along the North Fork of the Shoshone River to visit Yellowstone. The resort has since been updated, but the original lodge is still open for tours. The property has been listed on the National Register of Historic Places since 1973.

www.pahaska.com

Yellowstone National Park

Established in 1872, Yellowstone National Park is America’s first national park. It is home to a large variety of wildlife including grizzly bears, wolves, bison, and elk. Preserved within Yellowstone National Park are Old Faithful and a collection of the world’s most extraordinary geysers and hot springs, and the Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone.

www.nps.gov/yell

Drive the upper loop of Yellowstone National Park.

Visitors will enjoy:

The Canyon Area – home to a new visitors’ center that explains such things as how the thermal features in the park came about and the benefits of forest fires in the park.

Lower Falls of Yellowstone – watch the Yellowstone River plummet 90 meters into the Grand Canyon of Yellowstone creating a beautiful site from Artist’s Point.

Upper Falls of Yellowstone – located near Canyon, Upper Falls walkway is an up-close look at where the Yellowstone River falls 33 meters. Feel the power of the river as you watch it crash below the walk.

Mammoth Hot Springs – formed by years of trickling water, these calcium deposits now show shades of green, red, orange, white and brown.

Overnight Old Faithful

Enter Yellowstone National Park. With it’s thousands of thermal features, waterfalls, wildlife, and spectacular views, Yellowstone National Park is like nowhere else on earth.

DAY 9

Yellowstone National Park

Drive the lower loop of Yellowstone seeing:

West Thumb – a variety of small geysers, fountain paint pots, and hot springs

Lake Yellowstone -

Fishing Bridge – wonderful clear water flowing where you will be able to see fish swimming in the river. There is also a chance you could see a bear in this area.

Old Faithful Geyser – one of Yellowstone National Parks most famous attractions, Old Faithful Geyser erupts 46 meters (150 ft) into the air about every hour and a half

Grand Prismatic Hot Springs – the largest hot spring in the park, featuring wondrous blue and green shades throughout the spring.

Old Faithful Inn – built in the winter of 1903-1904, largely using materials such as lodge pole pine trees and rhyolite stone from

Yellowstone National Park. The inn was a modern marvel when it originally opened in 1904 featuring luxuries of electric lights and steam heat.

Grand Teton National Park

Leave Yellowstone National Park and head south into pristine Grand Teton National Park. With its mountain peaks reaching high into the wide open Wyoming sky and its beautiful lakes and streams, the park is a paradise for hikers and sightseers alike.

Some of the must see attractions are:

The Visitors Center at Moose Junction – the visitors' center investigates the many different types of wildlife in the park, gives directions to all of the park's sites and describes the history of the park using a hands-on approach.

Jenny Lake Lodge – enjoy a wonderful meal or spend the night in one of the lodge's quaint cabins, just beneath the high mountain peaks of the park. If you are only able to stop for a short amount of time, take a boat from South Jenny Lake to the head of Hidden Falls trail.

Jackson Lake Lodge – at the northern most point of Grand Teton National Park. Make a quick stop to view the gorgeous scenery from one of the lodge's front decks. The decks offer visitors many spectacular panoramic views of the park as well as a wonderful opportunity to see wildlife.

Once in historic Jackson, enjoy a shoot out in the streets (melodrama) or enjoy the open air shopping that town square has to offer. There are numerous shops, multiple galleries, four elk antler arches, and even the world famous Million Dollar Cowboy Bar, which are all located on the main street.

Activities in Jackson could include: a float trip (scenic) down the Snake River in Grand Teton National Park, or a whitewater adventure, a visit to the National Museum of Wildlife Art, a wildlife watching trip through Grand Teton National Park, a chuck wagon dinner, or the Jackson Hole Rodeo (if available).

Chuckwagon Dinner:

Bar J Chuckwagon Supper and Western Show

www.barjchuckwagon.com

(307) 733-3370

Bar T Five Covered Wagon Cookout & Wild West Show (Covered Wagons Included)

www.bart5.com

(307) 733-5386

Float Trip Down Snake River:

Barker-Ewing Float Trips (GTNP)

www.BarkerEwing.com

Barbara Barker

(307) 733 1800

Mad River Boat Trips (Not in GTNP)

www.mad-river.com

(307) 733-6203

Wildlife Viewing:

Wildlife Expeditions of Teton Science School

www.wildlifeexpeditions.org

David Watson

(307) 733-2623

Museum:

National Museum of Wildlife Art

www.wildlifeart.org

(307) 733-5771

Rodeo:

JH Rodeo

www.jhrodeo.com

(307) 733-2187

Jackson Hole Chamber of Commerce
<http://www.jacksonholechamber.com/>
(307) 733-3316

Day 10 – Jackson to Salt Lake City

Driving Time: 4 hours 45 minutes

Distance: 442 km (275 miles)

Drive south from Jackson, WY towards Salt Lake City, UT. Along the way, visitors will travel through gorgeous Star Valley. Enjoy hand dipped chocolates and gourmet coffee at Star Valley Chocolates located in downtown Afton, WY.



