



## Site 9

# Tribal Herds

VISITING TRIBAL HERDS IS A SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY arranged for you on the Buffalo Trails Tour.

Standing Rock Sioux Reservation, which spans the North and South Dakota border and headquartered in Fort Yates, ND, has a long history of raising buffalo. Initially the herds were privately owned, like those owned by the Dupree family from the early 1880s.

The first permanent Standing Rock tribally-owned herd arrived in 1955—one bull and four cows—a gift from Theodore Roosevelt National Park, according to Tribal Council member Mike Faith, buffalo manager for 20 years. Other buffalo came as donations from Wind Cave and Badlands National Parks in South Dakota, or were obtained with tribal funds and grants through the years.

Standing Rock now owns about 250 buffalo in two herds. The north herd can usually be seen from Highway 1806 (ND Hwy 24), on the road

---

*Sitting Bull Visitor Center is an informative first stop for travellers to Standing Rock Sioux Reservation. The center showcases exhibits, Native artwork and tourism services. Photo courtesy of LaDonna Brave Bull Allard.*