WELCOME

North Dakota’s natural beauty is everywhere, from the rugged Badlands in the west, to the forested rolling hills along the Canadian border and colorful fields and valleys in the east.

Perhaps the best way to experience the sights, sounds and smells of this great state is to tour on two (or three) wheels. North Dakota Tourism’s Scenic ByRider Program is an added incentive for motorcycle enthusiasts to explore the state’s scenic byways and backways. Riders traveling along or visiting five of 25 recognized routes and destinations in the state in one calendar year can receive a patch and rocker indicating they are North Dakota Scenic ByRiders.

To verify you were on the route, have a photo taken of you holding a copy of the current North Dakota Travel Guide or ByRider Guide in front of your bike and a recognizable scenic area, accommodation, attraction or event at one of the accepted locations. When you have five photos, email or mail them to Scooter Pursley at North Dakota Tourism (jpursley@nd.gov); 1600 E. Century Ave., PO Box 2057, Bismarck, N.D. 58502-2057

For more information about the Scenic ByRider Program, visit www.ndtourism.com/articles/north-dakota-scenic-byrider-program

Photo: Theodore Roosevelt National Park South Unit
**Scenic Byways and Backways**

You’re riding along and something amazing catches your eye. It’s something you’ve never seen before and the overlook is too inviting not to pull over. There, as a breeze blows by and the sun warms your leathers, you take a break for a snack and a cold drink, and soak it all in. This is North Dakota. Ride on.


#### 1 Chan SanSan Scenic Backway

Travelers who brave the gravel route are rewarded with panoramic views of a winding river surrounded by tall grass prairie and wildflowers. This area is rich in Native American history, earthen mounds, early settlements and scenic beauty. **Route:** 32 miles. Begins at Highway 46 and continues south through Adrian, Dickey, Grand Rapids and LaMoure to the intersection of the County Line Road. Food and fuel are available in LaMoure. **Chow Down:** Centerfield Bar and Grill, LaMoure. **Don’t Miss:** Toy Farmer Museum, Red Wing Paddleboat, LaMoure; Double Pony Truss Bridge, Dickey; Memorial Park, Grand Rapids.

#### 2 Des Lacs National Wildlife Refuge Scenic Backway

Excellent opportunities to view rolling hills and wooded draws of the Des Lacs Valley. The most striking experience is wildlife viewing opportunities at the refuge. **Route:** 14 miles. From US Highway 52, six miles south of Kenmare and to the north end of the refuge where it terminates at the intersection of Ward County Road 1. **Chow Down:** One Stop Burger Shop, White Buffalo Soda Fountain, Kenmare. **Don’t Miss:** Des Lacs Wildlife Refuge, Danish Mill, Kenmare.

The unpaved backway has excellent wildlife viewing.
3 Killdeer Mountain Four Bears Scenic Byway


4 Old Red Old Ten Scenic Byway

Originally the Old Red Trail. Highway 10 provides ample opportunity to see life as it was for settlers in North Dakota. Several museums along the way. Route: 108 miles. Begins at the Mandan Depot on Main Street in Mandan, leads west along Old Highway 10 to Dickinson. A 12-mile section of gravel road near Almont known as the Curlew Loop can be avoided via I-94. Chow Down: Taylor Made Barbecue, Powerhouse Bar and Grill, HideAway, Mandan; The Field, New Salem; Dakota Diner, Dickinson. Don’t Miss: Salem Sue, New Salem; Fort Sauerkraut, Hebron; Assumption Abbey, Richardton; Dickinson Museum Center, Dickinson.

5 Rendezvous Region Scenic Backway

Wind along the bends of the Pembina River and enjoy the panoramic view of the Pembina Gorge, along with the year-round recreation opportunities of the area. Great trails for dirt bikes. Route: 34 miles. Gravel and paved route begins on Highway 55 in Vang, east to Walhalla, turning southeast for 22 miles traveling past Icelandic State Park to Highway 5, ending in Cavalier. Chow Down: Walhalla Inn Supper Club, Walhalla; Thompson’s Cafe, Cavalier. Don’t Miss: Frost Fire Theatre, Pembina Gorge, Gingras Trading Post, Walhalla; Icelandic State Park, Cavalier.
6 Sakakawea Scenic Byway

Follow Lewis and Clark along the high ground above the winding Missouri River and discover the history and culture of the people who lived in the wooded valleys of the Missouri and Knife rivers. **Route:** 23 miles. Begins at Highway 200A from Washburn to Stanton. **Chow Down:** Captain’s Cabin, Dakota Farms, Washburn; Little Bar and Grill, Pick City; Harbor Bar, Coleharbor; Knights Bar and Grill, Iron Oar Bar and Grill, Riverdale; Rusted Rail, Underwood. **Don’t Miss:** Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center and Fort Mandan, Washburn; Knife River Indian Villages NHS, Stanton; Garrison Dam, Misty Mermaid, Riverdale.

7 Sheyenne River Valley National Scenic Byway

Rumble through quaint towns and past farms, where the scenery lends itself to classic Americana charm. In addition to nature and scenery at its best, archaeology, history, culture and recreation options are found along North Dakota’s first nationally recognized scenic byway. **Route:** 63 miles. Begins at Getchell Township on Highway 21, along highways 17 and 19, through Valley City, to Highway 21 to Highway 13 to Lisbon. **Chow Down:** Cattleman’s Club, Lisbon; Bridges Bar and Grill, Valley City. **Don’t Miss:** Fort Ransom State Park, Viking Statue, Fort Ransom; High-Line Bridge, Medicine Wheel Park, Rosebud Visitors Center, Valley City.

8 Standing Rock National Native American Scenic Byway

Ride where Lakota Chief Sitting Bull and Lt. Col. George Custer rode along the Missouri River. Great views, sweeping landscape and history, all rolled into one. **Route:** 35 miles. Begins at Cannonball River and continues south along highways 1806 and 24 to the South Dakota state line. **Chow Down:** Sickies Garage, Jack’s Steakhouse, Bismarck; Prairie Knights Casino, Fort Yates; The Tumbleweed, Lincoln. **Don’t Miss:** Sitting Bull Visitor Center and Burial Site, Prairie Knights Casino, Fort Yates; Fort Abraham Lincoln State Park, Mandan; Huff Indian Village State Historic Site, Huff.

**ABATE Tip:** Always use the SEE strategy: Search, Evaulate, Execute.
9  **Theodore Roosevelt Nat’l Park North Unit Scenic Byway**

Get up close with the colorful North Dakota Badlands, sweeping vistas of one of the last remnants of wilderness on the northern Great Plains and bison. Visitors have unique opportunities for up-close wildlife viewing. **Route:** 14 miles. Begins 15 miles south of Watford City from Highway 85 and proceeds west on the scenic drive through the North Unit of the park. **Chow Down:** Outlaws Bar and Grill, American Smoke Wagon Barbecue, Watford City; Trapper’s Kettle, Belfield; **Don’t Miss:** Sod Post Office, Grassy Butte; Long X Trading Post Visitors Center, Watford City.

10  **Turtle Mountain Scenic Byway**

Get lost within the Turtle Mountains, one of the state’s few woodlands. Ride by farmsteads, pasture land, recreational areas, beautiful lakes and tree-covered wildlife areas before descending into the foothills with a spectacular view of the prairie. **Route:** 53 miles. Begins three miles north of Rolla to St. John; proceeds west on Highway 43 to Highway 281. Continues west on Highway 43 until it terminates at Highway 14. **Chow Down:** Birchwood Steakhouse and Lounge, Pride Dairy, Marie’s, Bottineau. **Don’t Miss:** International Peace Garden, Dunseith; Lake Metigoshe State Park, Bottineau; Mystical Horizons, Carbury; Sky Dancer Casino, Belcourt.

11  **Enchanted Highway**

Don’t just ride by the giant metal sculptures. Get out of the saddle and snap a selfie with these quirky works of art scattered alongside the highway. Quirky? Yes? Unforgettable? Yep. Brush off the dust at the Enchanted Castle in Regent. **Route:** Beginning at I-94 Exit 72 at Gladstone, south 30 miles to Regent. **Chow Down:** Enchanted Castle Steakhouse, Regent. **Don’t Miss:** Enchanted Highway - “World’s Largest Tin Family,” “Teddy Rides Again,” “Pheasants on the Prairie,” “Grasshoppers in the Field,” “Geese in Flight,” “Deer Crossing” and “Fisherman’s Dream.” Assumption Abbey, Richardton.

**ABATE Tip:** Alcohol, stress and emotion impair your mental focus and riding skills.
**12  Theodore Roosevelt Nat’l Park South Unit Loop**

The best way to get up close and personal with wildlife and the landscape of the South Unit is to ride the 32-mile Scenic Loop within the park. Motorists often encounter bison and other wildlife near the road. **Route:** Off I-94 at Medora. **Chow Down:** Trapper’s Kettle, Belfield; Cowboy Cafe, Boots Bar and Grill, Little Missouri Saloon and Dining, Pitchfork Fondue, Medora. **Don’t Miss:** Maltese Cross Cabin, Painted Canyon Overlook, TR National Park visitors center, Medora Musical, North Dakota Cowboy Hall of Fame, Chateau de Mores, Medora.

**13  Devils Lake Loop**

From the small-town charm of Devils Lake, a ride around the massive lake includes scenery unlike any other in North Dakota. High, wooded hills against the backdrop of Devils Lake is a feature of Sullys Hill National Game Preserve. Wherever you go, vast Devils Lake is almost always over your shoulder. **Route:** From Devils Lake south on Highway 20 and S7 through Fort Totten to Highway 281, up to Highway 19 back to Devils Lake. **Chow Down:** Proz End of the Line, Proz Lakeside, Devils Lake; The View, Spirit Lake Casino, St. Michael. **Don’t Miss:** Spirit Lake Casino, St. Michael; Sullys Hill National Game Preserve, Fort Totten State Historic Site, Fort Totten; Grahams Island State Park, Lake Region Heritage Center Museum, Devils Lake.
Byways and Backways

1: Chan SanSan Scenic Byway
2: Des Lacs National Wildlife Refuge Scenic Backway
3: Killdeer Mountain Four Bears Scenic Byway
4: Old Red Old Ten Scenic Byway
5: Rendezvous Region Scenic Backway
6: Sakakawea Scenic Byway
7: Sheyenne River Valley National Scenic Byway
8: Standing Rock National Native American Scenic Byway
9: Theodore Roosevelt National Park North Unit Scenic Byway
10: Turtle Mountain Scenic Byway

Other Routes

11: Enchanted Highway
12: Theodore Roosevelt National Park South Unit Loop
13: Devils Lake Loop
21: Designated
20: State Parks
14: Beaver Lake State Park
15: Cross Ranch State Park
16: Fort Abraham Lincoln State Park
17: Fort Ransom State Park
18: Fort Stevenson State Park
19: Grahams Island State Park
20: Icelandic State Park
21: Lake Metigoshe State Park
22: Lake Sakakawea State Park
23: Lewis and Clark State Park
24: Little Missouri State Park
25: Turtle River State Park
26: Sully Creek State Park

Designated Scenic ByRider Locations
State Parks

North Dakota’s 13 state parks range from modern to rustic and cater to a variety of travelers. Two- and three-wheel travelers can rest in a camping cabin or pitch a tent for a relaxing evening under the stars. For a truly unique experience, go online and reserve a yurt. No need to haul a tent, just bring food, water, a bed roll and some good friends.


14 Beaver Lake State Park

The ride to Beaver Lake can include many small towns of German heritage. Try the sausage and sauerkraut and jerky. **Location:** Beaver Lake State Park is 17 miles southeast of Napoleon, with access via Highway 3. **Chow Down:** McTwist, Wishek; White Maid Diner, Napoleon; Webo’s Restaurant, Green Lantern, Linton; Hague Cafe, Hague. **Don’t Miss:** Dinosaurs on the Prairie, Nord Park, Napoleon; Prairie Bells Grotto, Linton; Lawrence Welk Homestead, Strasburg; Iron Crosses, Hague; Sandy, the World’s Largest Sandhill Crane, Steele.

15 Cross Ranch State Park

Just getting here is half the fun no matter which route you take. The rolling hills, sweeping turns and Missouri River highlight a trip to the park. **Location:** 12 miles southeast of Hensler via paved roads or six miles by gravel. For paved access roads, follow the brown park directional signs on Highway 200 or Highway 25. **Chow Down:** Captain’s Cabin, Dakota Farms, Washburn; Wolfie’s Place, Center. **Don’t Miss:** River People Visitor Center at the park; Sioux Ferry, Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center, Fort Mandan, Washburn; Knife River Indian Villages National Historic Site, Stanton; Hazel Miner Monument, Center.
**16 Fort Abraham Lincoln State Park**

You’ve watched all the movies, now see where and how Custer lived before leaving the post one time too many. There’s a campground here to let the iron horse rest for the night and Bismarck-Mandan is just a short ride away. Location: Seven miles south of Mandan on Highway 1806. Continue south to the Standing Rock National Native American Scenic Byway. Chow Down: Sickies Garage, Jack’s Steakhouse, Bismarck; Prairie Knights Casino, Fort Yates; Powerhouse Bar and Grill, Mandan. Don’t Miss: Custer House, On-A-Slant Indian Village, North Dakota Railroad Museum, Mandan; State Capitol, Lewis and Clark Riverboat, Heritage Center and State Museum, Bismarck.

**17 Fort Ransom State Park**

At the south end of the Sheyenne River Valley National Scenic Byway is the quaint hamlet of Fort Ransom and its namesake state park. You have to twist your way down into town. Location: 34 miles south of Valley City or 20 miles northwest of Lisbon or two miles north of the town of Fort Ransom. Chow Down: Thor’s and the Old Mill Grill, Fort Ransom; Cattleman’s Club, Lisbon. Don’t Miss: The town of Fort Ransom, the Fort Ransom Viking; High-Line Bridge, Medicine Wheel Park, Rosebud Visitors Center, Valley City.

**18 Fort Stevenson State Park**

Once a place protecting wagon trains from attack, Fort Stevenson is now one of North Dakota’s top outdoor playgrounds with two marinas and a guardhouse museum. Location: North of Bismarck or south of Minot just off Highway 83 and three miles south of Garrison. Chow Down: Wild Winds Grill, Fort Stevenson; Four Seasons Restaurant and Ice Cream Parlor, Ye Olde Malt Shoppe, Hunter’s Bar and Grill, Totten Trail, Stoney End Supper Club, Garrison; Harbor Bar, Coleharbor. Don’t Miss: Guardhouse Museum at fort; Wally the Walleye, Firefighters’ Museum, Garrison; Old Scouts’ Cemetery, White Shield.

**ABATE Tip: Fatigue affects your control of the motorcycle and reaction time.**
19 **Grahams Island State Park**

It’s worth a ride out to Graham’s Island State Park if for no other reason than the unique ride itself. Much of the route out to the island is on a road framed by water - lots of water - on both sides. **Location:** 10 miles west of Devils Lake on Highway 19, then five miles south on Grahams Island Road. **Chow Down:** Proz Lakeside Restaurant at Woodland Resort, the Ranch Steakhouse, Old Main Street Cafe, Cedar Inn, Devils Lake; Spirit Lake Casino, St. Michael. **Don’t Miss:** Spirit Lake Casino, St. Michael; Sullys Hill National Game Preserve, Fort Totten State Historic Site, Fort Totten; Grahams Island State Park, Lake Region Heritage Center Museum, Devils Lake.

20 **Icelandic State Park**

Get a glimpse of North Dakota’s homesteading heritage at the Pioneer Heritage Center and the Gunlogson Homestead and Nature Preserve. **Location:** Five miles west of Cavalier on Highway 5 near the U.S./Canada border, through the gorge. **Chow Down:** Walhalla Inn Supper Club, Walhalla; Thompson’s Cafe, Cavalier. **Don’t Miss:** Frost Fire Theatre, Pembina Gorge, Gingras Trading Post, Walhalla; Pioneer Heritage Center, Cavalier; Pembina State Museum, Pembina.

21 **Lake Metigoshe State Park**

The park is nestled in the scenic Turtle Mountains on the shores of Lake Metigoshe. The ride into the park, which borders Canada, includes rolling hills, marshes, farmland and lots of trees. **Location:** 14 miles northeast of Bottineau, along the U.S./Canada border. **Chow Down:** Birchwood Steakhouse and Lounge, Lake Metigoshe; Pride Dairy, Marie’s, Bottineau. **Don’t Miss:** Mystical Horizons, Carbury; International Peace Garden, Dunseith; Tommy Turtle, Bottineau; Sky Dancer Casino, Belcourt.

**ABATE Tip:** Get training on how to handle your motorcycle for all road conditions.
Lake Sakakawea State Park

The lake itself is one of the three largest man-made reservoirs in the nation. At 178 miles long, it reaches to Williston. Water access and camping await riders at the park. **Location:** One mile north of Pick City, one mile west of Garrison Dam on Highway 200. **Chow Down:** Little Bar and Grill, Pick City; Riverdale Knights Bar and Grill, Riverdale; Harbor Bar, Coleharbor; Rusted Rail, Underwood. **Don’t Miss:** Garrison Dam, Garrison Dam National Fish Hatchery, Misty the Mermaid, Riverdale; Knife River Indian Villages National Historic Site, Stanton.

Lewis and Clark State Park

Lewis and Clark State Park is on one of the upper bays of Lake Sakakawea. The rugged buttes of the North Dakota Badlands display a towering backdrop to one of the state’s best recreation areas. **Location:** 19 miles southeast of Williston on Highway 1804. **Chow Down:** Lund’s Landing, Ray; Big Willy’s Grill and Saloon, Doc Holliday’s Roadhouse, Lonnie’s Roadhouse Cafe, Williston. **Don’t Miss:** Fort Union, Fort Buford, Missouri- Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center, southwest of Williston.
**24 Little Missouri State Park**

The most rugged of all state parks. The ride to the park from any direction along the Killdeer Mountain Four Bears Scenic Byway is one of the most scenic in North Dakota. Most of this primitive park is accessible only on foot or horseback. Electrical hook-ups are available to campers. **Location:** 17 miles north of Killdeer on Highway 22. **Chow Down:** Buckskin Bar, Killdeer; Four Bears Casino, New Town. **Don’t Miss:** Four Bears Casino, Three Affiliated Tribes Museum, Earl Bunyan, Crow Flies High Buttes, New Town.

**25 Turtle River State Park**

Situated on the meandering Turtle River near Grand Forks, the park offers year-round recreational activities, including camping. Great trails for stretching the legs after a long ride. **Location:** 22 miles west of Grand Forks on Highway 2. **Chow Down:** Larsons Drive In, Larimore; Shananigans Family Restaurant, Grafton; Big Sioux Cafe, DogMahal DogHaus, Red Pepper, Rhombus Guys, Wild Hog Smokehouse, Grand Forks. **Don’t Miss:** Grand Forks Air Force Base tours with advance notice; Carl Ben Eielson Museum, Hatton; Ronald Reagan Minuteman Missile Site, Cooperstown.

**26 Sully Creek State Park**

If you want to spend time on the Maah Daah Hey Trail some afternoon, you can access it at this park. Keep in mind, however, it’s a short ride on dirt roads to the park outside Medora. **Location:** Two miles south of Medora on paved road, then a quarter-mile west on a gravel road. **Chow Down:** Trapper’s Kettle, Belfield; Cowboy Cafe, Boots Bar and Grill, Little Missouri Saloon and Dining, Pitchfork Fondue, Medora. **Don’t Miss:** Maltese Cross Cabin, Painted Canyon Overlook, National park visitors center, Medora Musical, North Dakota Cowboy Hall of Fame, Chateau de Mores, Medora.

**ABATE Tip:** Flash your brake lights when stopping or slowing down in traffic.
Riding in North Dakota

Those who have ridden four seasons in North Dakota know just how different the riding can be, not just from month to month but truly day to day. A little preparation can be the difference between the ride of your life or one you would like to forget. **Conditions:** Summers are hot and winters are cold. Spring and fall can be both. If there’s ice and snow on the road, don’t ride. If it’s raining, be extra cautious, carry the right gear and ride smoother and smarter. When the sun shines, soak it in but stay hydrated. The wind will blow, so make adjustments. Watch the weather and be ready for anything the Northern Plains throws at you.

**Got gas?** North Dakota, especially out west, isn’t like ... oh ... Minnesota, where you’ll find a town with gas every 10 miles or so. In some places, you might find yourself 30 or 40 or more miles between pumps. Plan your route ahead, or if you don’t want that much structure, at least look at a map each time you fuel up to see where the next stop might be. Most smaller towns have gas, but not all will have 91 octane.

**How are the roads?** Nobody likes chip seal and tar. Get an update on road conditions and construction at www.dot.nd.gov/travel-info-v2.

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**ABATE of North Dakota** is the proud provider of the North Dakota Motorcycle Safety Program.

We are a nonprofit, safety, educational and motorcycle rights organization. All riders, from lifestyle riders to off-road fans are welcome to become members of ABATE.

We encourage everyone with an interest in motorcycling to become a part of North Dakota’s largest and strongest state-wide motorcycle rights organization.

Collectively, we have a strong voice that helps to ensure positive legislation for all motorcyclists. We are diligent in promoting riding motorcycles in a safe, responsible manner.

We are dedicated to Freedom of the Road, and increasing Motorcycle Safety Awareness to all citizen’s of North Dakota.

[www.abatend.com](http://www.abatend.com)  [www.ndmsp.com](http://www.ndmsp.com)
North Dakota Tourism and ABATE of North Dakota encourage all riders to practice safe riding when traveling in North Dakota. Go to www.abatend.com for more information on ABATE and the North Dakota Motorcycle Safety Program.

Other helpful links
North Dakota Tourism: www.ndtourism.com
NDDOT Travel Information Map: www.dot.nd.gov/travel-info-v2/

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