



## NATIVE AMERICAN CULTURE IN NORTH DAKOTA



White Horse Hill National Game Preserve



Turtle Mountain Heritage Center



MHA Interpretive Center



Standing Rock Monument

Indigenous cultures are an essential part of North Dakota's history. All are welcome to explore the tribal lands and experience Native American culture by learning about each tribe's history, language and traditions while visiting attractions like reconstructed earthlodge villages. Attend a powwow and celebrate culture through song and dance. There are approximately 30,000 Native Americans living throughout North Dakota. Though the individual tribes have distinct and different origins, histories and languages, Plains Indians are united by core beliefs and values that emanate from respect for the earth and an understanding of humankind's relationship with nature.

The tribes with the most influence on today's North Dakota are the Mandan, Hidatsa and Arikara; the Yanktonai, Sisseton, Wahpeton, Hunkpapa and other Dakota/Lakota/Nakota (commonly known as the Sioux) tribes; and the Chippewa and Metis. Visitors are welcome to explore the tribal lands and discover the beauty of Native American culture.

### Knife River Indian Villages National Historic Site:

Tribes from across the Northern Plains journeyed to these permanent villages to trade, socialize and make war for more than 11,000 years.

### Fort Union Trading Post National Historic Site:

This was the principal fur trading post of the American Fur Company and between 1828 and 1867, the most important fur trade post on the Upper Missouri River.

## Day 1

### Morning — Fort Yates

The Standing Rock: Held sacred, the story tells of a woman and her child turned into stone.

Sitting Bull Burial Site: The original gravesite of the Hunkpapa Lakota leader. Sitting Bull played a prominent role in the shaping of the American West, notably defeating Custer in 1876.

### Afternoon — Bismarck-Mandan

Fort Abraham Lincoln State Park: Home to many historic attractions, including On-A-Slant Indian Village, a 400-year-old Mandan Village that thrived for more than 200 years. Tour reconstructed earthlodges, the Custer House, granary, commissary storehouse, barracks and stables.

## Day 2

### Bismarck-Mandan

North Dakota Heritage Center and State Museum: The Innovation Gallery: Early Peoples, uses more than 1,000 artifacts to tell the story of early life on the Northern Plains. Be sure to visit the exquisite 6-foot by 20-foot hand-painted panoramic mural of Double Ditch Indian Village in 1550.

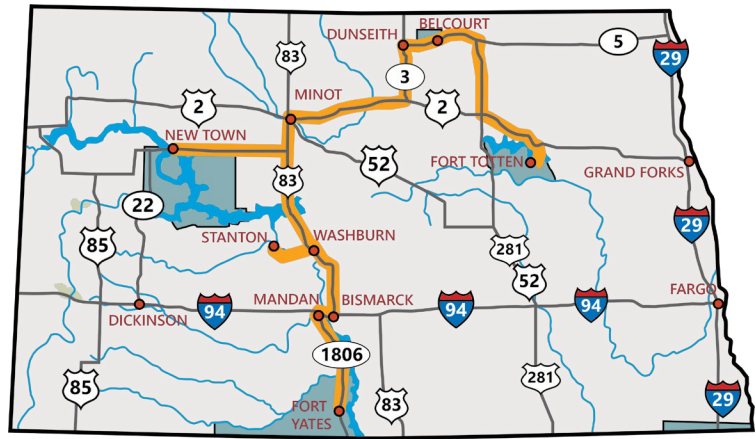
Double Ditch Indian Village State Historic Site: This site contains ruins of a large Mandan Indian earthlodge village believed to have once been inhabited for nearly 300 years until 1781.

## Day 3

### Washburn and Stanton

The Lewis And Clark Interpretive Center and Fort Mandan: The world-class interpretive center showcases the journey of the Corps of Discovery. Fort Mandan is a replica of the winter home of the expedition, located near the Mandan Villages where they traded goods for survival and knowledge in 1804-05.

Knife River Indian Villages National Historic Site: The ruins of this ancient Native American village were last occupied in 1845 by the Hidatsa and Mandan, and is the site where Lewis and Clark met Sakakawea in 1804. The site now has a modern museum, visitor center, Hidatsa earthlodge and the remains of three Hidatsa villages with 210 depressions.



## Day 4

### New Town

Four Bears Bridge: The bridge is a unique structure that bares aesthetic features selected by and representing the Mandan, Hidatsa and Arikara tribes.

Crow Flies High Observation Point: Take in the breathtaking view of Lake Sakakawea, the bluffs in the Badlands and the foundations of the underwater town of Sanish.

MHA Interpretive Center: The expansive facility is designed for conferences, meetings, educational sessions, weddings and private gatherings. The center features a museum, 500-seat amphitheater, catering services and more.

Old Scouts Cemetery: Pay tribute to Native Americans who served their country in times of war and peace, including the Arikara/Sanish warriors who served as scouts for Custer in the Battle of the Little Big Horn.

## Day 5

### Belcourt/Dunseith area

Turtle Mountain Scenic Byway: Take a hike in the wooded, rolling hills of the Turtle Mountains; play in Lake Metigoshe or take a stroll through the 2,339-acre International Peace Garden.

Turtle Mountain Heritage Center: Showcases the heritage and history of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa.

Chippewa Downs: Horse track with races on four weekends in the summer.

## Day 6

### Fort Totten

Devils Lake: This great fishing destination derives its name from the Native American word Miniwaukan. Early explorers incorrectly translated the word to mean "Bad Spirit." Add in the many legends of drowned warriors and lake monsters, the name evolved into Devils Lake.

Fort Totten State Historical Site: Constructed as a military post, it became a Native American school, and health care facility. This State Historic Site stands much as it once did, housing an interpretive center, museum and historic inn.

White Horse Hill National Game Preserve: This 1,674-acre national wildlife refuge sits on the south shores of Devils Lake.