



Theodore Roosevelt National Park

WESTERN NORTH DAKOTA TOUR



Fort Union Trading Post National Historic Site

Western North Dakota provides a real taste of the Great American West with Native Americans, frontier and fur trade, national parks and historic sites, as well as a look into how the state of North Dakota developed.

There are many additional activities in every area. Groups can participate in kayaking, horseback riding, hiking, biking, swimming, golfing and more. Please check the North Dakota travel guide for these additional activities.



Earthlodge Village

Day 1 — Williston Area to Minot

Morning — Williston Area

Fort Union Trading Post National Historic Site —

The stately fort near the confluence of the Missouri and Yellowstone rivers dominated the fur trade on the Upper Missouri River between 1829 and 1867. Fur traders and Native Americans co-existed peacefully before the Indian Wars. Hugh Glass of "The Revenant" was a hunter here.

Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center — Museum at the confluence of the two great rivers tells of the area's importance during settlement era.

Fort Buford State Historic Site —

A military post established at the confluence of the Yellowstone and Missouri rivers in 1866. It was a supply depot and the site of Chief Sitting Bull's surrender in 1881. Nez Perce Chief Joseph was imprisoned here.

Fairview Bridge and Cartwright Tunnel —

Built in the early 1900s, the bridge was made for both rail and vehicle traffic. Both now closed to train and vehicle traffic, but both are open for exploration by foot.

Afternoon/Evening — New Town, Parshall and Minot

Earthlodge Village — The Three Affiliated Tribes' Living Earthlodge Village on the shore of Lake Sakakawea includes native gardens and interpreters to help with self-guided tours.



Four Bears Bridge/Lake Sakakawea



Fort Mandan

NORTH
Dakota Be Legendary.™



Three Tribes Museum — Displays of artifacts relating to Mandan, Hidatsa and Arikara tribal history. Also traditional Native American arts, crafts and books.

Four Bears Bridge — The longest bridge in North Dakota, spanning nearly a mile of Lake Sakakawea, honors 19 tribal chiefs of the Mandan, Hidatsa and Arikara tribes.

Crow Flies High State Recreation Area — This scenic overlook just west of New Town provides views of Four Bears Bridge and Lake Sakakawea. During periods of low water, glimpses can be seen of the town of Sanish, now covered by Lake Sakakawea.

Paul Broste Rock Museum — A private collector's rock exhibit features rocks from all over the world in a building made of natural granite quarried from the area.

Scandinavian Heritage Park — A tribute to Scandinavian and American heritage features typical Norwegian house, Norwegian stabbur, Danish Windmill and large Dala Horse (national symbol of Sweden).

Roosevelt Zoo — More than 200 mammals, birds and reptiles, giraffes, zebras, wolves, camels, bison, snow leopards and a white Bengal tiger are on display.

Day 2 — Minot to Bismarck/Mandan

Morning — Minot and Lake Sakakawea

Dakota Territory Air Museum — Displays showcase the rich and varied story of region's aviation history. Home to the Texas Flying Legends Museum Aircraft and military and civilian aircraft from 1903 through the present.

Lake Sakakawea And Garrison Dam — Largest man-made lake within one state, the lake is 609 square miles behind Garrison Dam and named in honor of the young Native American woman who accompanied Lewis and Clark. The mile-long earthen dam provides flood control and generates electricity. Tours of the powerhouse are conducted daily.

Afternoon — Stanton and Washburn

Knife River Indian Villages National Historic Site — The This site has the ruins of an ancient village last occupied in 1845 by the Hidatsa and Mandan. A state-of-the-art museum dedicated to preserving the culture of the Plains Indians is on site, as is a reconstructed earthlodge containing artifacts from the Plains Indian culture and more than 60 ground depressions. This is where Lewis and Clark met Sakakawea in 1804.

Lewis And Clark Interpretive Center — This interpretive site along the route Lewis and Clark traveled has exhibits and artifacts from every tribe the explorers encountered and showcases the culture of the Mandan Indians and the winter of 1804-1805. The Bergquist Gallery features a rare set of the artworks of Swiss artist Karl Bodmer.

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Fort Abraham Lincoln State Park



ND Heritage Center and State Museum



Enchanted Highway



Fort Mandan — The reconstructed site of Fort Mandan, winter home of Lewis and Clark in 1804-1805, on the banks of the Missouri River. Daily interpretative tours are given.

Evening — Bismarck/Mandan

Lewis And Clark Riverboat — See the Missouri River on a cruise aboard the 100-foot paddle-wheeler that features twin decks and a 70-foot cabin. Regular, dinner and sunset cruises depart in the afternoon.

Day 3 — Bismarck/Mandan

Morning

Fort Abraham Lincoln State Park — This 977-acre park along the Missouri River south of Mandan has a 300-year history dating back to time a when On-A-Slant was home to Mandan Indians. The site, with a number of on-site attractions, was a military garrison in the mid- to late-1800s and the final home of Lt. Col. George Custer, whose house can be toured today. Earthlodges in what was once a thriving village are open for tours. It was from this fort that Custer and the 7th Cavalry rode to the Little Bighorn. The Fort McKeen Blockhouses overlook the cavalry post at the river.

Fort Lincoln Trolley — A restored trolley car offers a round-trip ride from Mandan to Fort Abraham Lincoln State Park daily on the hour during the summer months (Memorial Day to Labor Day).

Five Nations Arts — In Mandan, find authentic Native American paintings, jewelry, sculptures and baskets, hand-crafted by local artists.

Afternoon

North Dakota Capitol Building: Tour the 19-story capitol building, built in the early 1930s, and get bird's-eye view of area from the observation deck.

North Dakota Heritage Center And State Museum — The 97,000-square-foot, \$52-million facility tells the history of North Dakota through new galleries that take guests from the Ice Age to present day. Its collections of Plains Indian artifacts is second only to the Smithsonian. Cafe on site and museum gift shop offers North Dakota arts and crafts.

Former Governor's Mansion State Historic Site — Restored to late Victorian era, housed North Dakota's governors from 1893 to 1960.

Day 4 — Bismarck/Mandan to Dickinson

Assumption Abbey — Visit this historic Catholic church built in 1904. The Abbey library, gift shop, wine cellar and shop are open by request.

Enchanted Highway — Become enchanted on the Enchanted Highway in western North Dakota. Giant metal sculptures line the highway leading from Gladstone to Regent. The Enchanted Castle in Regents awaits travelers.

Dickinson Museum Center/ Joachim Museum/Prairie Outpost Park — Three sites in one location. The museum center features a dinosaur exhibit with life-size Triceratops and Pachycephalosaurus outside the entrance and 10 full-scale dinosaurs in a central display. Joachim Museum is a tribute to regional history with artifacts and displays from southwest North Dakota. Prairie Outpost Park has several historic buildings.

Day 5 — Dickinson To Watford City

Killdeer Mountain Battlefield State Historic Site — This historic site commemorates a battle fought on July 28, 1864, between 2,200 troops and 6,000 Sioux Indians. An interpretive plaque explains the battle.

Little Missouri State Park — Enjoy a wilderness experience in the picturesque North Dakota Badlands. An extensive trail system is for hiking and horseback riding. Corrals are available for those bringing their own horses.

The Long X Visitor Center — This central location for general visitor information on the area's cultural, geological, historical and geographic attractions is home to North Dakota's largest, petrified tree stump — a 17,000-pound Bald Cypress tree. The 60 million-year-old tree stump was discovered during a paleontological excavation in the Badlands south of Watford City. Long X Visitor Center is within the Pioneer Museum of McKenzie County.

McKenzie County Heritage Park — See the original trapper's log cabin, homestead shack, one-room school and original 1915 Schafer Law Office and mammoth fossil bones discovered in the area.

Theodore Roosevelt National Park, North Unit — The unit's scenic drive is 14 miles and has turnouts with spectacular views and interpretive signs. Nature trails are self-guided through coulees and breaks. Visit the prairie dog town, Oxbow Overlook and the Edge of Glacier Pullout.

Day 6 — Watford City to Medora

Theodore Roosevelt National Park, South Unit — The North Dakota Badlands provide the scenic backdrop to the park named for the 26th President. It memorializes his contribution to conservation. Stop at the visitors center and Theodore Roosevelt's cabin from the Maltese Cross Ranch then take a drive into the park to see buffalo, deer, elk, bighorn sheep, wild horses, mule deer and prairie dog towns.

Options — Take a trail ride through the Badlands or go hiking through the Badlands on the Maah Daah Hey Trail. Bike along trails through the Badlands to see nature and wildlife.

Chateau de Mores State Historic Site — Elegant 26-room home of the famous French nobleman who founded Medora was built in 1883, one of the three mansions on the prairie.

North Dakota Cowboy Hall of Fame — Interpretive center for the history of Native Americans, ranching, rodeo and the western lifestyle of the Plains and Badlands. See Sitting Bull's headdress!

Pitchfork Fondue — A unique western steak meal cooked cowboy style and served at the Tjaden Terrace on the bluffs overlooking Medora

Medora Musical — Sit back and enjoy a colorful Broadway-style variety show in the spectacular outdoor Burning Hills Amphitheatre.



Dickinson Museum Center



Theodore Roosevelt National Park



Little Missouri State Park



Pitchfork Fondue



Chateau de Mores