







## **Good Times Travel**

# Rugged Peaks to Painted Prairies - A Dakotas Adventure

Featuring Badlands, Wind Cave & Theodore Roosevelt National Parks, Mt. Rushmore, Custer State Park, Devils Tower, Medora Musical  $June\ 1 ext{-}7,\ 2024-7\ ext{Day}\ ext{Tour}$ 

## Tour Highlights

- Extensive sightseeing in the Black Hills of South Dakota with a local guide including Mount Rushmore National Memorial, Crazy Horse Memorial and a guided cave tour in Wind Cave National Park
- Enjoy a buffalo "safari" and a hayride with chuck wagon dinner in Custer State Park
- Join a local guide for extensive sightseeing in the Rapid City area including Chapel in the Hills, Bear Country U.S.A. wildlife park and the Fort Hays Chuckwagon Supper & Show
- Visit the Wild West town of Deadwood and witness the thrill of a Main Street shootout
- ◆ Tour Badlands National Park with a local guide and visit the famous Wall Drug Store
- Visit Devils Tower National Monument, the awe-inspiring natural landmark that became the first national monument in the U.S.
- Enjoy a two-night stay at the Rough Riders
  Hotel in Medora, North Dakota while touring
  Theodore Roosevelt National Park, Chateau
  de Mores and attending the Medora Musical

#### **Tour Inclusions**

- 6 Nights deluxe hotel accommodations
- ◆ 11 Meals 4 dinners, 1 lunch, 6 breakfasts
- Services of a professional GTT tour director
- Comprehensive sightseeing with a local guide
- Admissions per the itinerary
- Transportation aboard a deluxe motorcoach
- Airport-hotel transfers (with purchase of group air)
- Luggage handling throughout the tour

#### **Tour Prices**

Double Occupancy: \$2,399 per person Single Occupancy (no roommate): Add \$700 Roundtrip airfare from \$795 per person









#### **Itinerary**

Embark on a spectacular adventure featuring the national parks, natural wonders and other-worldly landscapes in North and South Dakota. From the magnificence of Mount Rushmore, Devils Tower and Wind Cave National Park, to the dramatic landscape in Theodore Roosevelt and Badlands National Parks, and the wild west atmosphere in Medora, Deadwood and Custer State Park, this unique itinerary features some of the West's most awe-inspiring sites, famous monuments and endearing experiences.

### Day 1 – Welcome to Rapid City!

Optional transfers from our departure points will have us at LAX for our morning flight to **Rapid City, South Dakota**. Those guests making their own flight arrangements can request the group's flight schedule to coordinate a flight arrival time that would allow them to be included on the complimentary transfer to the hotel. Upon arrival, we'll board a deluxe motorcoach and travel to downtown Rapid City – one of the most charming and patriotic cities in America, it features life-sized bronze statues of our nation's presidents. We'll begin a four-night stay at an upscale, full-service, centrally-located hotel.

#### Day 2 – Black Hills, Custer State Park

This morning we'll be joined by a local guide and travel into the famed **Black Hills of South Dakota** and visit **Mount Rushmore National Memorial** – where American history is alive in stone. Enjoy time at leisure here to explore the **Lincoln Borglum Visitor Center** and the **Sculptor's Studio**. A stroll along the **Presidential Trail** provides more intimate views of the 60-foot faces and perhaps some of the area's wildlife. We'll stop to admire **Crazy Horse Memorial** – considered "The Eighth Wonder of the World...in progress." This afternoon we'll arrive in **Wind Cave National Park**, where bison,

#### Reservations



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#### Accommodations

- ◆ Nights 1-4 **The Rushmore Hotel & Suites** Rapid City, South Dakota
- Nights 5-6 Rough Riders Hotel Medora, North Dakota

## **Optional Roundtrip Airfare**

Airfare is available as an optional add-on as advertised on the front of this brochure. Because airfare generally increases closer to departure, it's best to purchase airfare as soon as possible to lock in the lowest price and best schedule.

## **Optional Airport Transfers**

Roundtrip airport transfers are available from our departure points in these cities for \$99 p.p.

◆Fountain Valley ◆Laguna Hills ◆Long Beach ◆Seal Beach

## **Payment Information**

- Full payment due at time of booking
- Payment may be made by mailing a check to the above address or making a credit card payment at www.goodtimestravel.com

## Cancellation/Travel Protection

A travel protection policy (which includes cancellation protection and other benefits) is highly recommended and available through a third-party. A travel protection brochure will be provided with your payment receipt and invoice. Regardless of the reason, cancellations, credits and transfers of paid bookings require us to retain an administrative fee (ranging from \$50-\$500 depending on the date of cancellation) in addition to all non-recoverable fees paid to our tour suppliers on your behalf. Those guests who have purchased travel protection and must cancel for a covered reason, will be reimbursed by the travel protection company the balance of any non-refunded or credited monies (minus the premium itself). Visit www.goodtimestravel.com or see our tour catalog for our full cancellation policy and other terms and conditions.

## **Tour Pace & Activity Level**





Visit our website for further explanation of what each of these designations means to assist you in determining which tour is right for you based on your physical abilities and the pacing you prefer.

## Itinerary

elk and other wildlife roam the rolling prairie grasslands and forested hillsides of one of America's oldest national parks. We'll join a park ranger for a guided tour of one of the most beautiful caves in the world, featuring boxwork, cave popcorn and flowstone (depending on the tours available, this 60-75-minute walking tour has 150-300 stairs – both up and down – along a 1/2 to 2/3-mile route with accessible tours available on a limited basis). Later, we'll arrive in **Custer State Park** and the historic **State Game Lodge** – the summer White House for President Calvin Coolidge. We'll board a jeep and get an up-close view of some of the Park's 1,400 free-roaming buffalo, as well as possible sightings of elk, wild burros, and golden eagles while on a guided **buffalo "safari."** This evening we'll enter one of the Park's mountain meadow canyons for an included **chuckwagon cookout**. (Breakfast, Dinner)

## Day 3 – Black Hills, Deadwood

This morning we'll join our local guide and visit **Bear Country USA** – a unique drive-through wildlife park where we'll see black bear, elk, reindeer, cougars, bighorn sheep and buffalo up-close. Enjoy time at leisure for lunch on your own in historic **Hill City**, a walkable-shoppable little town featuring art galleries, boutique shops and a variety of restaurants. This afternoon we'll arrive in the historic mining town of **Lead, South Dakota** and visit the **Sanford Underground Research Facility Visitor Center**. We'll learn about this dedicated science facility (housed in a former gold mine) and the world-class research that is occurring nearly 5,000 feet underground! We'll continue to the Wild West town of **Deadwood** and witness the thrill of a **Main Street shoot out**, enjoy time at leisure for exploration and an included dinner at a locals' favorite. (Breakfast, Dinner)

## Day 4 - Rapid City, Wall Drug Store, Badlands National Park

This morning we'll join our local guide and visit **Chapel in the Hills**. Built in 1969, this unique chapel is an exact reproduction of the Borgund Stavkirke in Laerdal, Norway which was built in 1150. At the world-famous **Wall Drug Store** we'll enjoy time at leisure for lunch on your own and browsing this fascinating complex of shops, art galleries and restaurants that has been serving road-worn travelers since 1931 with their famous, free ice water. We continue to **Badlands National Park** – a study in contrast of nature's chaos and wild beauty. We'll make several photo stops at scenic outlooks along the Loop Road to admire the dramatic landscape here that features layered rock formations, steep canyons and towering spires. This evening we'll arrive at the **Fort Hays Chuckwagon Supper & Show** and enjoy time at leisure exploring the *Dances With Wolves* film set and the Fort Hays workshops. When the supper bell rings, grab your handmade tin plate for the best chuckwagon in the West while the Fort Hays Wranglers take the stage for the Black Hills' most popular variety show. (Breakfast, Dinner)

#### Day 5 - Devils Tower, Medora

This morning we'll travel into the northeast corner of Wyoming, where **Devils Tower National Monument** rises dramatically 1,267 feet above the surrounding plains, creating a dramatic and awe-inspiring sight. This majestic volcanic tower featured in Steven Spielberg's *Close Encounters of the Third Kind* was designated the first-ever National Monument in the U.S. in 1906 by President Theodore Roosevelt. Enjoy time at leisure to explore the visitor center, take a leisurely stroll around the tower on the paved (1.3 mile) Tower Trail and enjoy an included lunch. We continue north to **Medora**, the historic city located on the western edge of North Dakota. We'll enjoy a two-night stay at the *Rough Riders Hotel* – the premier hotel in Medora, it provides a taste of the Old West and is centrally-located in downtown Medora. Enjoy the balance of the evening at leisure with dinner on your own in this charming town known for its Old West charm and cowboy heritage. (Breakfast, Lunch)

#### Day 6 - Theodore Roosevelt National Park, Medora

This morning we'll travel the short distance to **Theodore Roosevelt National Park** where we'll stop to admire the **Maltese Cross Cabin** – Roosevelt's first ranch cabin. A driving tour with a local guide along the Park's Scenic Loop Drive will showcase the "Northern Badlands." This afternoon we'll tour **Chateau de Mores**, the fully preserved 26-room mansion that memorializes the life and activities of Antoine de Vallombrosa, the Marquis de Mores. Among the Marquis's enterprises were a beef packing plant, a stagecoach line, a freighting company, refrigerated railway cars, and a new town which he called Medora, in honor of his wife. This evening we'll enjoy the nationally-acclaimed **Pitchfork Steak Fondue** where cowboy chefs skewer steaks onto a pitchfork and then plunge them into barrels of hot oil, resulting in an unbelievably juicy steak with a light crispiness on the outside. The barbecuestyle buffet includes baked beans, baked potatoes, garlic toast, coleslaw, vegetables, cinnamon-sugar donuts and lemonade. We round out the evening with the **Medora Musical**, the iconic Country Music Revue featuring thrilling variety acts, horses on stage and a firework finale set in the outdoor splendor of the rugged North Dakota Badlands. (Breakfast, Dinner)

## Day 7 – Journey Home

This morning we'll travel to Bismarck, North Dakota for an afternoon flight to Los Angeles. *Those guests making their own flight arrangements can request the group's flight schedule to coordinate a flight departure time that would allow them to be included on the complimentary transfer to the airport.* (Breakfast)