HERE TO HELP

Put a team of local experts to work on your big plans. The Rapid City Convention & Visitors Bureau is ready to help make your vacation, meeting, group tour or sporting event a total success. We’ll help you find affordable room rates, first-rate attractions and one-of-a-kind activities in Rapid City and the beautiful Black Hills to make your next adventure unforgettable.

DEAR EXPLORER

The Rapid City Convention & Visitors Bureau welcomes you with an encouraging charge: Do Big Things. Spending time in the Black Hills promises to affirm what you already sense — that experiencing life at its fullest is yours to pursue and this expansive place empowers your quest.

This Visitors Guide is a comprehensive tool to help you explore national treasures like Mount Rushmore National Memorial, Badlands National Park, Crazy Horse Memorial, Custer State Park and two of the longest caves in the world, Wind Cave National Park and Jewel Cave National Monument. You’ll find a wealth of free attractions, scenic drives, hands-on activities and epic adventures.

Rapid City offers the perfect setting to be entertained, to relax, reenergize, or reconnect with family and friends. Whether you’re standing with our nation’s great leaders in the City of Presidents, watching a movie under the stars in Main Street Square, or discovering the arts at the Dahl Arts Center, once you’ve felt the inspiration you’ll join the millions of visitors who can’t wait to come back.

We hope to see you soon!

Sincerely,
Your local travel experts at the Rapid City Convention & Visitors Bureau

RAPID CITY CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU
VISITOR INFORMATION CENTER

444 Mt. Rushmore Road N., Rapid City, SD 57701
800-487-3223 | 605-718-8484 | VisitRapidCity.com
Open 8am - 5pm, Monday thru Friday year-round

Rapid City Visitor Information Center specialists can assist you with making the most of your visit to Rapid City and the Black Hills, from answering questions to helping plan the perfect itinerary.
FACTS ABOUT RAPID CITY

FOUNDED 1876
POPULATION MSA 138,738
COORDINATES Latitude 44.076° N, Longitude 103.228° W
CENTRALITY The geographic center of the United States is located about 60 miles northwest near the town of Belle Fourche.
TIME ZONE Mountain Standard
ELEVATION 3,241 feet above sea level
WEATHER Less snow than Denver, more sun than Miami and Honolulu, warmer than Minneapolis.
Average temperatures: May to October, 73 degrees November to April, 42 degrees

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USE YOUR MOBILE DEVICE TO MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR VISIT.

On the streets of Rapid City and the Black Hills beyond, you’re a click away from knowing where to turn next. Just go to VisitRapidCity.com for ideas on attractions, dining, shopping and more.

While every effort has been made to ensure accuracy of the information and listings herein, the Rapid City CVB assumes no liability for errors or omissions.
It’s no coincidence that America’s favorite presidential attraction is located in the geographic center of the United States. Rapid City and the Black Hills are easy to reach by air, car or motorcoach.

Highway Travel
U.S. Interstate 90 is the main route for driving to the Black Hills, but you can also enter the area via east-west highways U.S. 16, U.S. 18, U.S. 212, S.D. 34, S.D. 40 or S.D. 44; and north-south by highways U.S. 85, U.S. 385, S.D. 79 and S.D. 89.

The South Dakota Department of Transportation keeps all highways in excellent driving condition, even during hard winters. For current driving conditions, dial 511 or visit sdot.com/travelers.

Air Travel
Rapid City Regional Airport is the only commercial airline hub for the Black Hills and is serviced by American Airlines/American Eagle, Delta/Delta Connection/SkyWest, United/United Express/SkyWest and Allegiant Air.

Car Rental
Rapid City Area Chamber of Commerce member car rental services:

- **AVIS RENT-A-CAR**
  605-393-0740
  AVIS.com

- **BLACK HILLS CAR RENTALS**
  605-342-6696
  800-733-9735
  BlackHillsCarRental.net

- **BUDGET RENT-A-CAR**
  605-393-0488
  Budget.com

- **CASEY’S AUTO RENTAL SERVICE**
  605-343-2277
  866-748-2277
  CaseysCorner.com

Ground Transportation Information

**AIRPORT EXPRESS**
605-399-9999 • 800-357-9998
RapidShuttle.com

**RAPID RIDE - RAPID CITY TRANSIT SYSTEM**
Six routes running every 30 to 45 minutes. Bus stops located throughout town.
605-394-6631
6:20 am - 4:50 pm, Monday-Friday
9:50 am - 4:40 pm, Saturday
RapidRide.org

**CITY VIEW TROLLEY**
Narrated tour of various points of interest in and around Rapid City. Runs every 60 minutes during the summer only.
605-394-6631
10 am - 5 pm, Monday-Saturday
RapidRide.org/city-view-trolley.php
### Distance to Rapid City

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### FLIGHT DURATION

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- Chicago ..................... 2:08
- Dallas/Fort Worth ............ 2:05
- Denver ........................ 1:15
- Houston ...................... 2:40
- Las Vegas .................... 2:25
- Minneapolis .................. 1:25
- Phoenix/Mesa .................. 2:30
- Salt Lake City ............... 1:43

VisitRapidCity.com
Main Street life here is irresistibly charming, with art galleries that are ahead of the trends and gift shops and fashion boutiques styling their way into your heart. The vibe is friendly and relaxed with more than a touch of refined dining and hospitality to make your experience special. Hotels and great restaurants, unique events, free attractions and exceptional places like South Dakota’s largest movie theater screen at the restored Elks Theatre set the stage for a big time in downtown Rapid City.

**The City of Presidents**
Peek over Jefferson’s shoulder and see how you measure up to Reagan’s cowboy boots. You’ll meet life-size bronze statues of 42 past U.S. Presidents on street corners throughout downtown Rapid City in a free self-guided walking tour. CityofPresidents.com

**Main Street Square**
Located in the heart of downtown Rapid City, Main Street Square is a fun-filled public space that features more than 150 events each year, from live concerts to festivals to granite sculpting. The core of the plaza is an interactive fountain and great lawn in the warmer months, and transforms to an outdoor ice rink larger than the Rockefeller Center rink in the winter. Surrounded by The City of Presidents statues, boutiques, eateries and galleries, Main Street Square is a destination the whole family can enjoy. It’s [FUN]²! For more information and event listings, visit MainStreetSquareRC.com.

**Summer Nights**
The good times that take over here during the summer months are bound to lure you into the streets for some friendly revelry. Summer Nights is a weekly festival hosted in historic downtown Rapid City every Thursday, June–August from 5:30 to 9 pm. The event features live music, a kid’s activity area, food and beverage vendors, as well as art vendors. Admission is free. RapidCitySummerNights.com

**Art Night Downtown**
Held every second Friday from June through September from 5 to 8 pm, Art Night brings businesses and artists together to create interactive experiences for everyone. You will never know what is around the next corner as you walk throughout downtown visiting local businesses and enjoying our vibrant creative community. Something new will “pop up” at each event! ArtNightDowntownRC.com

**Art Galleries & Museums**
Experience the cultural riches of Rapid City through museums and galleries that both preserve heritage and move artistic expression forward. At the Museum of the American Bison, The Journey Museum & Learning Center and the Museum of Geology, the area’s storied past is revealed through artifacts and exhibits. A thriving creative scene is on display at Rapid City galleries like the Dahl Arts Center, Rapid River Gallery, Suzie Cappa Art Center and James Van Nuys Gallery. You’ll find artistic traditions continuing to inspire at Alex Johnson Mercantile and Prairie Edge Trading Company & Gallery.

**City View Trolley**
Hop on for a narrated tour of Rapid City attractions, beginning at the Milo Barber Transportation Center, winding through downtown and continuing west to Stavkirke Chapel. There are 15 stops along the route that allow guests to get off and enjoy the attractions. Narration through GPS technology provides trolley passengers information about historic and present-day Rapid City. RapidRide.org/city-view-trolley.php
SHOPPING IN RAPID CITY

Looking for a gift that will surprise her? Filling in your travel wardrobe? Hoping to take back something to help relive the spirit of this vacation? From unique downtown shops, Native American arts and crafts outlets, Black Hills Gold jewelers and the 100+ stores of Rushmore Mall, there are plenty of ways to shop big throughout Rapid City. Get your outdoors on and roam favorite national retailers at Rushmore Crossing, Rapid City’s newest specialty mall. A hub for shopping throughout the region, Rapid City won’t disappoint.

Downtown Rapid City
Salons, clothing stores, Native American arts and crafts, jewelry, antiques, art galleries and quaint restaurants can all be found in historic downtown Rapid City. See map on page 21.

Rushmore Crossing
The newest shopping center in Rapid City offers more than 900,000 square feet of retail shopping space. Here, you can browse through stores like Scheels All Sports, Target, Furniture Row, T.J. Maxx and many others.

Rushmore Mall
Anchored by JCPenney, Sears and Herberger’s, the Rushmore Mall boasts more than 100 establishments ranging from national chains to locally owned stores. A food court and a variety of restaurants just outside of the mall provide plenty of dining opportunities for all appetites. Located north of I-90, between exits 58 and 59. Simon.com/mall/rushmore-mall

SOUTH DAKOTA MADE

Native American Arts
Marvel at authentic drums, beaded jewelry, feathers and pottery and hold in your hands a connection to tradition and legend. Rapid City offers some of the finest Native American arts, crafts, clothing, books and music in the area. Several specialty shops in town sell locally crafted items that will have you rethinking the term “souvenir.”

Gourmet Foods
Take something yummy back with you. Many Rapid City boutiques feature delicious gourmet foods made right in the Black Hills, including popcorn, wine, chocolates, honey, buffalo jerky and other local favorites.

Apparel
Wear the west, authentically. In addition to Native American clothing and beadwork, Rapid City offers an array of locally made leathers, cowboy hats, boots, bags and more.

Black Hills Gold
Don’t leave this mineral-rich region without a new treasure. There are many jewelry manufacturing outlets in Rapid City, one offering a tour to show visitors the process of making Black Hills Gold.
The cultured experience and Native American heritage you seek in Rapid City finds its expression at a variety of galleries and museums throughout town. Not only will you find Native American exhibits and fine arts displays, but interactive exhibits that tell the story of Rapid City’s historic and beautiful past.

**The Journey Museum & Learning Center**
Travel a short distance from downtown to take an incredible trek through time as interactive displays tell the story of the Black Hills. It’s a journey to understanding the legacy of this storied land and its people. JourneyMuseum.org

**Dahl Arts Center**
The Dahl Arts Center in downtown Rapid City offers a variety of cultural exhibits, as well as classes, seminars and free art adventures. It has served as the premier western South Dakota center for contemporary visual arts, arts education and performing arts since its opening in 1974. TheDahl.org

**The APEX Gallery**
The APEX Gallery on the South Dakota School of Mines & Technology campus offers educational art and science exhibits that rotate every four to six weeks. Exhibits here reflect a cross section of cultural expressions and perspectives. SDSMT.edu/ApexGallery

**The City of Presidents**
History and public art meet on the street corners of downtown Rapid City, featuring life-sized bronze statues of our nation’s past presidents in poses that reveal their stories. The City of Presidents statues are considered one of the largest publicly owned art displays in the country. CityOfPresidents.com

**Memorial Park/Berlin Wall Exhibit**
Cold War relics tell their tale in the Berlin Wall Exhibit, located in Memorial Park alongside Rapid Creek in the center of Rapid City, along with a number of sculptures and memorials, a rose garden near Memorial Lake and a band shell.

**The Black Hills Symphony Orchestra**
Enjoy the beautiful sounds of the Black Hills Symphony Orchestra. Over 90 musicians perform a variety of pieces each season. BHSymphony.org

**Black Hills Community Theatre**
Enjoy full stage productions at the Black Hills Community Theatre, which has been performing Broadway and Off-Broadway plays and musicals for more than four decades. BHCT.org
Prairie Edge Trading Co. & Galleries
Step into a world of meaning, tradition and exquisitely crafted beauty. Prairie Edge has the region’s finest selections of Native American art, crafts, jewelry, books and music on display and for purchase. PrairieEdge.com

Historic Elks Theatre
Save a seat in the balcony. The Historic Elks Theatre has the largest movie theatre screen in the state of South Dakota. ElksTheatre.com

Performing Arts Center of Rapid City
Rapid City’s Performing Arts Center, a state-of-the-art performance venue in the historic Rapid City High School building, is home to the Black Hills Community Theatre and other events and performances. PerformingArtsRC.org

The Sculpture Project: Passage of Wind & Water
As a large-scale, long-term, on-site work in granite, The Sculpture Project: Passage of Wind and Water at Main Street Square aims to connect with the region’s significant sculptural tradition. RCSculptureProject.com

Suzie Cappa Art Center
Located in downtown Rapid City, the Suzie Cappa Art Center is a non-profit studio where artists with all abilities create, exhibit and sell their work and participate in music, theatre and dance. suziecappaart.com

Rushmore Plaza Civic Center
The Rushmore Plaza Civic Center is home to the Black Hills Stock Show and Rodeo, the Rapid City Rush Professional Hockey Team as well as numerous Broadway shows and name entertainment. GotMine.com

Art Alley
Art Alley is a unique asset to Rapid City and a favorite among locals and visitors. Located between 6th and 7th streets downtown, artists’ exuberant and colorful expressions captivate from building to building. The free spirits who have offered their talents to this unique public arts project aren’t afraid to dream big.
From traditional powwows and rodeos to contemporary music and crafts festivals, Rapid City and the Black Hills area is where big things happen. Catch an event to make your visit even better.

RAPID CITY AND BLACK HILLS EVENTS
VisitRapidCity.com/eventscalendar

January-February
• Black Hills Stock Show & Rodeo

March-April
• Black Hills Horse Expo
• Black Hills Motorcycle Show
• Country Fair Spring Craft Show

May
• Custer State Park Open House
• South Dakota Air & Space Museum Open House

June
• Black Hills Art & Wine Festival
• Black Hills BBQ Festival
• Black Hills Bluegrass Festival
• Black Hills Fat Tire Festival
• Black Hills Quilters Guild
• Cavalry Days
• Crazy Horse Stampede
• Crazy Horse Volksmarch
• West Boulevard Summer Festival
• Wild Bill Days

July
• Black Hills Roundup Rodeo
• Days of ’76 Rodeo
• Hills Alive Music Festival
• Mount Rushmore Independence Day Celebration
• Native Arts Gathering
• Rapid City Independence Day Celebration

August
• Central States Fair
• Kool Deadwood Nites
• Sturgis Motorcycle Rally

September
• Crazy Horse Autumn Volksmarch
• Crazy Horse Night Blast
• Custer State Park Buffalo Roundup
• Dakota Polka Festival
• Deadwood Jam
• Mickelson Trail Trek
• Pumpkin Festival
• Wine Train into the West

October
• Bierbörse
• Black Hills Powwow
• Country Fair Fall Show
• Native American Day

November
• Country Fair Holiday Show
• Festival of Lights Parade
• Main Street Square Holiday Celebration

December
• Country Fair Christmas Show
• Main Street Square Winter Market
With the Black Hills rising in one direction and the Badlands stretching out in another, this place of extremes is just right for getting out and exploring. But you don’t need to be an extreme athlete to make the most of outdoor recreation in Rapid City – just willing to fill your lungs with the clean, fresh air of adventure.

**Skyline Drive Wilderness Area**
This 150-acre park features numerous walking, biking and hiking trails giving outdoor enthusiasts incredible views of Rapid City and the surrounding area.

**Rapid City Urban Mountain Park**
No contradiction in terms here, just uncommon access to the great outdoors. With 390 total acres, the Rapid City Urban Mountain Park includes the Hanson-Larsen Memorial Park, Chuck Lein Family Park, Founders Park and the Rapid City Dirt Jump Park.

**Hanson-Larsen Memorial Park**
Hanson-Larsen Memorial Park, formerly M Hill or Cowboy Hill, is one of the premier mountain biking parks in the region, featuring more than 20 miles of world-class trails for bikers, hikers and runners of all skill levels.

**Rapid City Bike Path**
Within the city limits, you’ll find a 13.5 mile paved bike trail that winds along the gently flowing Rapid Creek. Perfect for scenic bike rides or walks.

**Canyon Lake Park and Rapid City Public Parks**
The Rapid City Parks Division operates several public city parks offering a variety of activities for all ages including canoeing, skateboarding, disk golfing, tennis, hiking, swimming and more. One of the oldest is Canyon Lake Park, with several picnic areas, a fishing bridge, paddleboat rentals and a historic rock waterway that was constructed in the 1930s. For more information about Rapid City parks and outdoor recreation, view [rcgov.org](http://rcgov.org).
Take your big dreams out on the course for a challenging round. Golfers in Rapid City are met by tree-lined fairways, unique rock outcroppings and wildlife hazards on scenic courses that win awards for their beauty and a spot or two on Golf Digest Magazine’s “Places to Play.”

Executive Golf Course
200 12TH ST., RAPID CITY, SD 57701
605-394-4124 FOR TEE TIMES | PAR 29
Walkers will enjoy this nine-hole course with two par 4’s and seven par 3’s. Located along Rapid Creek off Omaha Street. Club rentals and snack bar available.

Fountain Springs Golf Course
1750 FOUNTAIN PLAZA DR., RAPID CITY, SD 57702
605-342-GOLF (4653) FOR TEE TIMES | PAR 35
A 3,000 yard, par 35 course that has a variety of water features, trees and landscapes. Patio and barbecue facilities are available for special events.

The Golf Club at Red Rock
6520 BIRKDALE DR., RAPID CITY, SD 57702
605-718-4710 / GOLFCLUBATREDROCK.COM FOR TEE TIMES | PAR 72
This 18-hole course offers dramatic elevation changes, spectacular fairways and an outstanding practice facility, including target greens and a short-game practice area.

Lacroix Links
830 E. MINNESOTA ST., RAPID CITY, SD 57701
605-718-9853 DOES NOT TAKE TEE TIMES | PAR 27
This nine-hole course is an easy walk, ideal for beginner and novice golfers. Clubhouse and golf course are available for family events, picnics or events!

Meadowbrook Golf Course
3625 JACKSON BLVD., RAPID CITY, SD 57702
605-394-4191 / GOLFATMEADOWBROOK.COM FOR TEE TIMES | PAR 72
This 18-hole course was rated the #4 rated golf course in South Dakota by Golf Digest in 2011. Services include a golf shop, club and cart rentals and driving range.

Rapid City Elks Golf Course
3333 E. 39TH ST., RAPID CITY, SD 57703
605-393-0522 OR RCELKS.ORG FOR TEE TIMES | PAR 72
This course presents an inviting test for golfers of every skill level. The front nine winds through creek-side vistas and wetland preserves on the back nine.

VisitRapidCity.com
Finding your way to special places in Rapid City couldn’t be easier with the self-guided City Tour. The City View Trolley, an optional means of local exploration, offers visitors a narrated tour available June through August.

**RAPID CITY TOUR & HISTORIC DISTRICTS**

**CITY TOUR AND HISTORIC DISTRICTS**

1. Black Hills Visitor Information Center
2. Memorial Park / Berlin Wall
3. The Outdoor Campus-West
4. Storybook Island
5. Cleghorn Springs State Fish Hatchery & Visitors Center
6. Chapel in the Hills
7. Canyon Lake Park
8. Formal Gardens
9. Dinosaur Park
10. Dahl Arts Center
11. Museum of Geology
12. APEX Gallery
13. The City of Presidents
14. The Journey Museum & Learning Center
15. West Boulevard and Downtown Historic Districts
16. Rapid City Visitor Information Center
Mount Rushmore National Memorial

It doesn’t get any bigger than this national treasure. More than two million visitors from across the country and world come to Mount Rushmore National Memorial every year to see this monumental sculpture of George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Theodore Roosevelt and Abraham Lincoln. The work of sculptor Gutzon Borglum began in 1927 and took 14 years and $1 million to complete. Interpretive programs and exhibits are available by rangers and an audio tour guides your route through the Memorial. A film is shown at the Lincoln Borglum Museum. From mid-May through late September, the Memorial offers an evening lighting ceremony.

Restaurant, Presidential Trail, visitor services, visitor centers, Sculptor’s Studio, audio tour building, Lincoln Borglum Museum, gift shop and book shop.
Information Center and Lincoln Borglum Visitor Center
Open daily / year-round
8 am - 10 pm Mid-May to mid August
8 am – 9 pm Mid-August to September
8 am – 5 pm October to mid May
Amphitheater, Sculptor’s Studio and evening lighting ceremony open mid-May through September.
For more information, call 605-574-2523 or go online to nps.gov/moru.

Badlands National Park

Take a short drive to another world. Badlands National Park with its crater-filled surface is one of the richest Oligocene Epoch fossil beds, dating back 37 million years. When the Lakota first discovered the moon-like landscape, they called the area “Mako Sica” or “Bad Land.” The jagged spires, eroded buttes and deep crevasses of the Badlands offer unique scenery that you can explore on foot, horseback or by car. The park is also home to a variety of wildlife, like buffalo, bighorn sheep, antelope and the black-footed ferret. The Ben Reifel Visitor Center offers exhibits and an informational video about the park.

50 miles east of Rapid City – Interstate 90 or S.D. Hwy/44.
Ben Reifel Visitor Center on Badlands Loop Road, S.D. Hwy. 240.
Open daily / mid-June to early August
8 am - 5 pm Mid-April to mid-May,
Early September to late October
8 am - 7 pm Summer
8 am - 4 pm Winter
Drive-through loop with scenic overlooks, hiking trails and camping.
For more information, call 605-433-5361 or go online to nps.gov/badl.

Wind Cave National Park

Explore a mysterious world that’s not seen the light of day. Wind Cave National Park is one of the longest caves in the world and one of the oldest national parks. Spelunkers come to see the world’s largest display of boxwork, a rare honeycomb-like calcite formation. Above ground are 28,295 acres of prairie and ponderosa pine forest, home to bison, elk, antelope, mule, prairie dogs and other wildlife. The Visitor Center offers exhibit rooms featuring cave exploration, cave formations, early cave history, the Civilian Conservation Corps, park wildlife and resource management, as well as an informational video about the park.

Visitor Center Open daily / year-round
8 am - 4:30 pm Daily with extended Summer hours
8 am to 6 pm mid-June to early August
Tour times and prices vary; see website and call to confirm. Light jacket and sturdy shoes recommended. Tours available for visitors with special needs. Hiking trails and camping available.
For more information, call 605-745-4600 or go online to nps.gov/wica.
Jewel Cave National Monument

How far will you go? Jewel Cave National Monument’s 160+ miles make it the third longest cave in the world. Airflow in the cave indicates that there is still much of the cave to be discovered and every year volunteer cave explorers uncover an average of three new miles. Jewel Cave got its name from the calcite crystals that glitter when the cave is illuminated. Exhibits on cave formation, exploration and the history and discovery of Jewel Cave are available at the Visitor Center, along with a bookstore and film about the cave.

Minuteman Missile National Historic Site

Imagine standing a decision away from unleashing the most destructive forces mankind has ever created. Rapid City and the rest of South Dakota played a strategic role in the Cold War. Ellsworth Air Force Base, located on the city’s east side, was one of the key facilities whose mission was to maintain and launch the Minuteman Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles. Two of these sites, the Delta One Launch Control Facility and the Delta Nine Launch Facility, have been preserved as a National Historic Site to provide visitors with a unique Cold War history lesson.

Crazy Horse Memorial

Witness the creation of a true world wonder. Paying tribute to the culture, tradition and living heritage of American Indians and the spirit of legendary Lakota leader, Crazy Horse, sculptor Korczak Ziolkowski began carving the world’s largest ongoing mountain carving in 1948. Today, his family and the Crazy Horse Foundation continue the work on the memorial, which will stand 641 feet long and 563 feet high when completed. Tour the sculptor’s original log home studio and workshop, museums, and the Native American cultural center, where guest artists and artisans display their work. A nightly “Legends in Light” laser light multimedia program runs Memorial Day weekend through Native American Day.

40 miles southwest of Rapid City – U.S. Hwys/16 and 385.

Open daily / year-round
8 am - 5 pm Mid-October to mid-May
8 am until dark Mid-May to mid-October

Indian Museum of North America, Native American Educational and Cultural Center, Sculptor’s Studio and Home, Laughing Water Restaurant, Gift Shop and Welcome Center.

For more information, call 605-673-4681 or go online to crazyhorsememorial.org.
Custer State Park
Custer’s expedition discovered gold here in 1874. You’ll find so much to treasure, you’ll wonder why he didn’t stay right here. At 71,000 acres, Custer State Park is one of the nation’s largest state parks and is famous for its bison herd, a variety of wildlife, scenic drives, historic sites, visitor centers, fishing lakes, resorts, campgrounds and interpretive programs. The park also offers miles of hiking trails for guests to explore, ranging in length and difficulty. Maps and other sources of information about hiking, mountain biking and horse trails may be obtained at the park’s visitor centers. Custer State Park also offers safaris, hayrides and restaurants.

Devils Tower National Monument
A national movement to preserve and conserve began right here when Devils Tower was proclaimed the first national monument in 1906 by President Theodore Roosevelt. The formation rises to 1,267 feet above the Belle Fourche River, just across the South Dakota border in Wyoming. Native American Indian legend holds that the rock sprang up just in time to save two girls from a bear. The fluted nature of the rocks formed from the bear pawing at the rock. Devils Tower, formed by the intrusion of igneous material, is a sacred site for many Native Americans and is enjoyed by hikers and climbers for the activities offered at the monument. (Please note that the National Park Service asks climbers and hikers to refrain from activity inside the Tower Trail Loop for the month of June.)

Bear Butte State Park
That sacred stillness you feel here is real to generations who have come here to offer prayers and feel close to the spirit of the mountain. Mato Paha or “Bear Mountain” is the Lakota name given to this site, formed millions of years ago. Separated from the rest of the Black Hills by more than a mile, Bear Butte, a 1,200-foot tall geological formation, offers an expansive view of its surroundings. An easy hike takes you around Bear Butte Lake. A more challenging hike takes you to the summit on a 1.8 mile-long trail. Today, the ancient ceremonies of the past still take place at the mountain. The mountain is a sacred place to the Lakota, Cheyenne and all the indigenous tribes of the Northern Plains, whose respectfully undisturbed offerings can be seen in the pieces of colorful cloth, tied bundles and pouches left behind.
Roughlock Falls Nature Area

Picture perfect doesn’t begin to describe the power of this landscape. Overflowing the limestone cliffs of Spearfish Canyon, the Roughlock Falls flow from the Little Spearfish Creek. The spectacular sight is a prime view for photographers, so much so that the cinematographers of “Dances with Wolves” decided to film final scenes here. The nature area offers bird watching, wildlife viewing, fishing and picnicking. Due to limited upper lot parking, hiking the beautiful one-mile trail from the lower trailhead is encouraged.

George S. Mickelson Trail

The adventure of your life just might be found on a friendly, well-maintained trail. Built on an abandoned railroad line, the Mickelson Trail spans 109 miles from the Northern Black Hills to the southernmost point. Hikers, bicyclists, horseback riders and runners love the low-grade trail which takes them through ponderosa forests, the granite peaks of Deadwood Gulch and the long prairie grasses and rolling foothills of the Cheyenne River Valley. Ruins of old mines, granite tunnels, towering railroad trestles and cold mountain creeks are all an integral part of the Mickelson Trail.

Angostura Recreation Area

Take a surprisingly beachy side trip – 36 miles of shoreline promise sunbathing, picnicking, dive-worthy fun at one of the few large reservoirs in western South Dakota. Angostura Reservoir is known for its crystal waters, excellent camping, sandy beaches and fine fishing. This portion of the Cheyenne River was originally set aside for irrigation but has grown into a major recreation spot. With three marina locations, recreation and concession services are easily available, including access to 155 boat slots and a beach club with rental lodges and an outdoor pool.
The Black Hills of South Dakota are full of family-friendly adventures, outdoor recreation and parks, monuments and memorials, like Mount Rushmore National Memorial and Badlands National Park. Here families can enjoy sightseeing, wildlife viewing, camping, hiking, rock climbing, horseback riding, canoeing, mountain biking or just reconnecting.

<table>
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<th>Black Hills Drives</th>
<th>ITINERARY</th>
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<th>HRS</th>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Rapid City to Belle Fourche</td>
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<td>Iron Mountain Road</td>
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There’s a lot to experience in Rapid City, so you’ll want to take advantage of every minute. Whether you’re a planner or the spontaneous type, it helps to have all the info right at your fingertips. With so many options before you, every day has big potential.

YOU’LL FIND EVERYTHING YOU NEED AT VISITRAPIDCITY.COM

THINGS TO DO
Attractions, entertainment, shopping, outdoor recreation, arts and culture—hundreds of must-do experiences with all the details you need to make sure your timing is perfect.

STAY
Historic hotels, comfortable modern suites and cozy rustic cabins are just a few of the ways to feel right at home. Find and book accommodations in a few easy steps.

DINE
Buffalo burger and sweet potato fries? Wood-fired pizza and a cold craft brew? Butter bacon truffle salad and homemade ice cream? Don’t be surprised to find world-class dining—it’s our specialty.

EVENTS
Get busy with everything from rodeos to car shows, and every type of art and performance in-between. Browse a full calendar of events or search for the special interests that bring your family together—we’ll see you there.
Filling your bucket with awesome vacation experiences is pretty easy here, but there’s no need to just wing it on your own. Here are a few suggestions to set you on your way to big things. Create your own master plan at VisitRapidCity.com.

**WILDLIFE SAFARI**

**Morning: Reptile Gardens**  
Stop at Reptile Gardens, Guiness Book of World Records holder for the world’s largest reptile zoo, to interact with an impressive collection of reptilian friends. Enjoy animal shows and a botanical garden. Open seasonally.

**Mid-Morning/Afternoon: Bear Country USA**  
Bear Country USA is a drive-through wildlife park where you can take a leisurely three-mile loop to view North American mammals including black bears, elk, cougars, bighorn sheep, buffalo and more. Open seasonally.

**Afternoon: Custer State Park Wildlife Loop**  
See the roaming buffalo and other wildlife of Custer State Park, approximately 28 miles from Rapid City. The 18-mile Wildlife Loop Road winds around the southern edge of the park and offers up close views of the park’s wildlife. Return to Rapid City along the Peter Norbeck National Scenic Byway where you’ll wind through granite needles, stone tunnels and pigtail bridges. Buffalo Jeep Safari tours are available.

**ARTS & CULTURE**

**Early Morning: City of Presidents and Art Alley, Downtown Rapid City**  
Spend the morning walking through The City of Presidents, a series of life-size bronze statues honoring our American presidential legacy. Also see Art Alley, a downtown alleyway painted with a number of eclectic murals.

**Late Morning: Dahl Arts Center**  
The Dahl Arts Center has a variety of art, from portraiture to landscape paintings. It also houses exhibits of music and film.

**Noon: Lunch and Shopping Downtown**  
After exploring the Dahl, take a stroll through historic downtown Rapid City for a cozy lunch and unique shopping at several local galleries and boutiques.

**Early Afternoon: Memorial Park**  
Enjoy a walk on the Memorial Park Promenade, a grand boulevard walkway flanked by majestic trees and illuminated by light, or discover the history on display in Memorial Park by viewing the exhibit of actual segments of the Berlin Wall and two tank traps, in addition to the Legacy Statue and Veterans Memorial.

**Late Afternoon: Apex Gallery**  
The Apex Gallery rotates both classic and contemporary exhibits from internationally recognized artists and scientists.

**Evening: Watch and Listen**  
After a busy day of the arts, listen to a performance from the Black Hills Symphony or visit the Black Hills Community Theatre or Black Hills Playhouse for their latest production.
BLACK HILLS HARD HAT TOUR

Morning: Museum of Geology
The Museum of Geology is home to more than 250,000 vertebrate fossils and 6,000 minerals with origins in the Black Hills.

Mid-Morning: Black Hills Gold Factory Tour
Learn more about the gold rush history of the area and see how Black Hills Gold jewelry is created with a free tour of the Mount Rushmore Black Hills Gold Factory.

Late Morning: Black Hills Caverns
Black Hills Caverns offer an interactive mining experience where you can learn to identify Black Hills minerals and fossils. Open seasonally.

Early Afternoon: Big Thunder Gold Mine
Located near the mining town of Keystone, visitors can tour this authentic 1890s gold mine and learn about the Gold Rush from expert guides. Open seasonally.

Late Afternoon: Spelunking Cave Tour
Complete with a hard hat and headlamp, you can conclude your Black Hills caving experience with a spelunking tour of Rushmore Cave or Jewel Cave National Monument, the third longest cave in the world. Reservations required for this tour.

NATIVE AMERICAN DISCOVERY

Early Morning: Bear Butte State Park
Located approximately 35 miles north of Rapid City, Bear Butte State Park is a geological wonder and place of worship for many Native American tribes. Visitors are asked to be respectful of worshippers and their religious practices.

Mid-Morning: The Journey Museum & Learning Center
Take a tour of The Journey Museum & Learning Center in downtown Rapid City. This unique museum will show you the history of the “Paha Sapa” (Lakota for Black Hills).

Noon: Prairie Edge Trading Co. & Galleries
Enjoy a delightful lunch in historic downtown topped off by shopping at Prairie Edge Trading Co. & Galleries, where you’ll find fine Native American arts and crafts.

Early Afternoon: Sioux Pottery
Sioux Pottery displays and sells traditionally designed and hand-crafted pottery by Native American artists. Enjoy a free factory tour.

Evening: Crazy Horse Memorial
Crazy Horse Memorial is an ongoing mountain carving that is a tribute to tribes everywhere. The Indian Museum of North America, located within the complex, showcases authentic items donated from Native Americans all over the United States and Canada. Enjoy the Legends in Light Laser Light Show (seasonally).
RAPID CITY IN ONE DAY

Early Morning
Begin your day in Rapid City by learning about the history and the culture of the area with a stop at The Journey Museum & Learning Center, where you will take an incredible trek through time. Interactive exhibits and dramatic displays present examples of rocks, fossils, artifacts and memorabilia allowing each individual to experience the history of the “Paha Sapa” through sight, sound and touch.

Mid-Morning
Make the short trip to downtown Rapid City to explore a variety of local shops, including Prairie Edge Trading Co. & Galleries, where you’ll find Native American arts and crafts, as well as a fine art gallery and gift shop. Head across the street to Main Street Square to watch the dancing fountains in the summer or ice skate in the winter. From there, venture to Art Alley between 6th and 7th streets where you’ll discover exploding colors of free-spirited artistic expression. From here, wander over to the Dahl Arts Center which features revolving exhibits, along with a cyclorama mural of the first 200 years of U.S. history.

Noon
After working up an appetite, enjoy lunch downtown where you can satisfy any craving. Once you’ve refueled and reenergized, take the self-guided tour of The City of Presidents. If time permits, take a ride on the City View Trolley for a narrated tour of Rapid City, with stops at many of our local attractions. Trolley tours are seasonal.

Mid-Afternoon
Also tour the Sioux Pottery factory, where Sioux Indian artisans design hand-crafted pottery and share their craft with visitors, or check out the new Firehouse Wine Cellar or Hay Camp Brewery.

Late Afternoon/Early Evening
Enjoy the free attractions of Rapid City including the Museum of Geology, Stavkirke Chapel in the Hills, the Outdoor Campus-West, Storybook Island and Dinosaur Park.

Evening
For evening entertainment, try downtown Rapid City, Main Street Square, Black Hills Community Theatre, Rushmore Plaza Civic Center or go to VisitRapidCity.com for additional options.