



South Dakota

GREAT FACES. GREAT PLACES.



Travel to South Dakota for monumental moments, hidden gems, and once-in-a-lifetime experiences at some of the nation's most breathtaking attractions. Explore the state's "Great 8" - the colossal carvings, caves, and spectacular landscapes that put South Dakota on the map - or discover the little known towns and quaint hideouts tucked off the beaten path. Step back in time and explore dinosaur fossil sites, relive Wild West history, and celebrate the Native American culture that still permeates the state today. From our national and state parks to our history and heritage, South Dakota is home of *Great Faces and Great Places*. We are thrilled to welcome you and your clients for a visit.

South Dakota Resources & Newsletter

Download South Dakota publications and SIGN UP for the TRAVEL PROFESSIONALS E-NEWSLETTER at TourSDakota.com. The e-newsletter is sent bimonthly and provides news on upcoming events, new additions and other South Dakota travel tips.

South Dakota Department of Tourism

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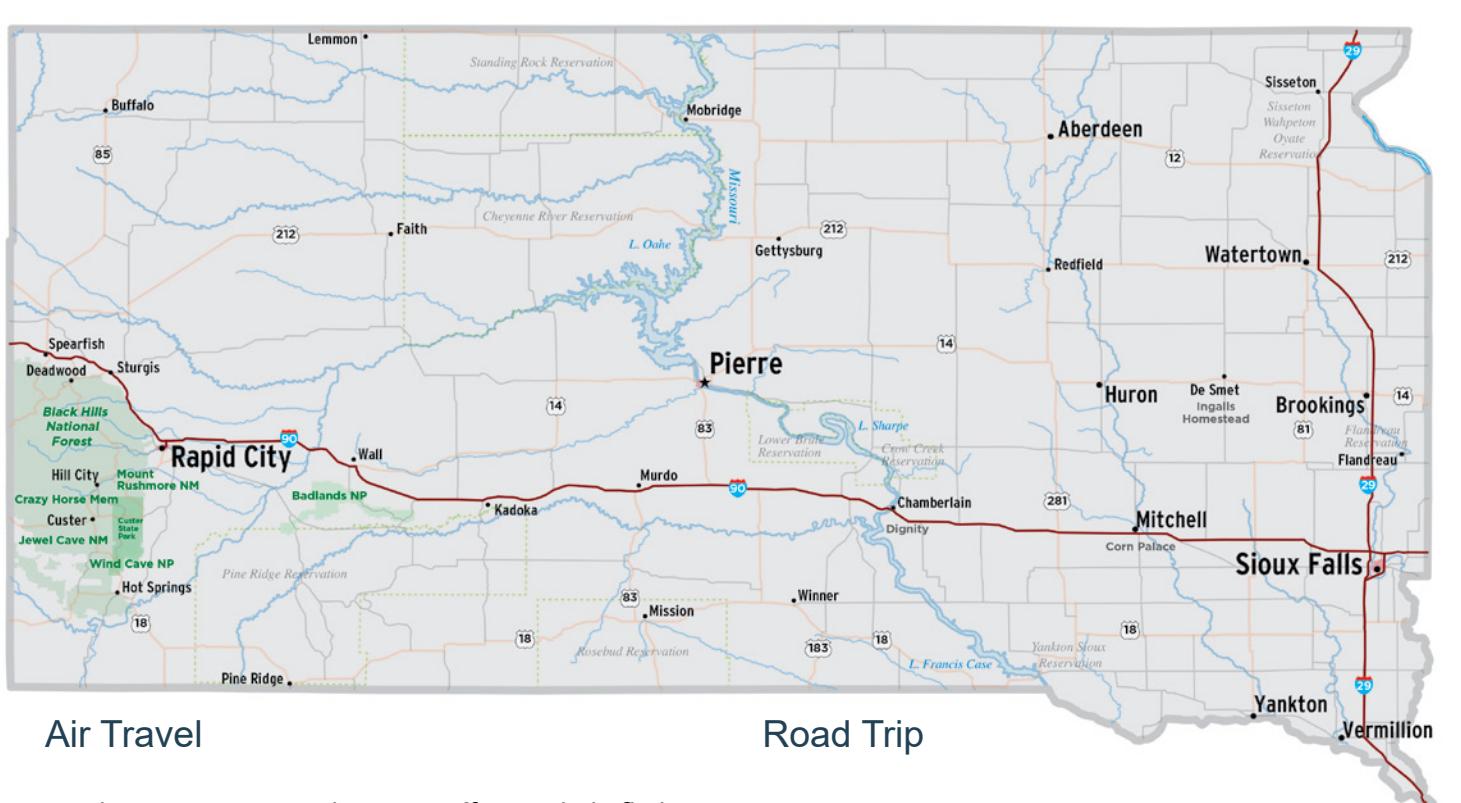
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GETTING HERE



Air Travel

With airports across the state offering daily flights to and from over a dozen gateway cities, access to South Dakota has never been easier. Enjoy our well-connected regional airports in Sioux Falls and Rapid City, which feature on-site car rentals for ease of travel. Airlines currently servicing South Dakota are: American Airlines, Allegiant, Delta, Frontier and United. Smaller airports can also be found in other cities across the state. With numerous connecting cities, you will have no issues getting to South Dakota!

If you are looking for direct flights to access South Dakota from International airports, your options would include Minneapolis/ St. Paul International Airport, Denver International Airport, Chicago O'Hare International airport or many others!

Road Trip

Explore South Dakota via interstate highways or beautiful backcountry byways by car, motorcycle, camper, or motorcoach! Two major interstate highways cut across South Dakota. Interstate 90 runs East-West through the state with access to Sioux Falls, Mitchell, Rapid City and Spearfish. Interstate 29 runs North-South through the eastern part of the state from the North Dakota border through Watertown, Brookings, Sioux Falls and North Sioux City. These interstates can help you make good time, but you can expand upon your experience by traveling scenic highways that span prairies, rolling hills, and fragrant pine forests.





THE GREAT 8 OF SOUTH DAKOTA

Mount Rushmore National Memorial



America's Shrine of Democracy features 60-foot faces of four great American presidents and offers a walking trail, museums, a gift shop and dining hall.

NPS.GOV/MORU

Missouri River



North to South, this band of shimmering water cuts the prairie in two and provides some of the best water.

TRAVELSOUTHDAKOTA.COM/MISSOURI-RIVER

Crazy Horse Memorial



Inspired by a desire to honor the Native American people, this depiction of legendary leader Crazy Horse is the largest in-progress mountain carving in the world.

CRAZYHORSEMEMORIAL.ORG

Custer State Park



Home to 1,300 free-roaming bison and other wildlife, this 71,000-acre park features the Wildlife Loop Scenic Byway and many great outdoor adventure opportunities.

CUSTERSTATEPARK.COM

Wind Cave National Park



The first cave to ever be designated a national park features 149 miles of explored passages under a national grassland where bison roam.

NPS.GOV/WICA

Jewel Cave National Monument



Spectacular views can be experienced both above and below ground at this National Monument that's home to the third longest cave in the world.

NPS.GOV/JECA

Badlands National Park



This striking landscape boasts a maze of buttes, canyons, pinnacles and spires. Abundant wildlife can also be viewed in the park's 244,000 acres.

NPS.GOV/BADL

Historic Deadwood



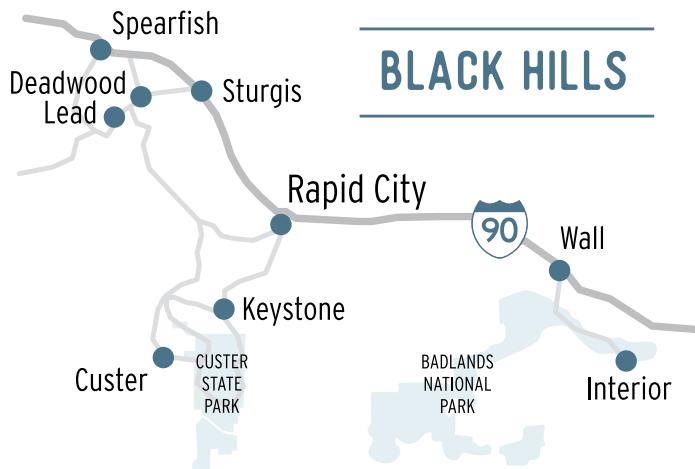
Follow in the footsteps of legends and explore this Wild West town as it buzzes with entertainment including festivals, concerts, historic sites, re-enactments and gaming.

DEADWOOD.COM

BLACKS HILLS ITINERARY

PARKS MONUMENTS AND MEMORIALS

From the presidential faces carved on Mount Rushmore, to the giant herds of wild buffalo that call Custer State Park home, the Black Hills region contains many truly monumental places. Travelers can easily enjoy a wide variety of activities and attractions all within short driving times.



BLACK HILLS



RAPID CITY

Arrive in the City of Presidents, known for the life-size bronze sculptures of former US Presidents in the downtown area. With a well serviced regional airport, Rapid City is a great place to start your Black Hills Journey.

MUST SEE STOPS:



THE JOURNEY MUSEUM & LEARNING CENTER

The Journey Museum and Learning Center brings together five major prehistoric and historical collections to tell the complete story of the wild and complex Western Great Plains.

BEAR COUNTRY USA

Drive through the conservation wildlife park viewing more than 20 species of mammals including black bears, elk, mountain lions, and more in their natural environment.

MOUNT RUSHMORE BLACK HILLS GOLD FACTORY

Take a fascinating free tour through the factory to watch and learn how regional inspired Black Hills jewelry is made by skilled artisans.



TRAVEL PLANNER TIP: Take time to enjoy one of the over 300 events that occur yearly at Main Street Square, Located in Downtown Rapid City

WALL / INTERIOR

Continue one hour east on Interstate 90 to discover the small and quirky towns of Wall and Interior. Both offer great access into the Badlands National Park and the minuteman Missile National Historic Site.

MUST SEE STOPS:

WALL DRUG STORE

Welcoming travelers since 1931, the Wall Drug Store has evolved into a 76,000 square foot wonderland. Guests can spend hours enjoying the many shops filled with authentic South Dakota souvenirs before grabbing a bite at the restaurant, which can serve up to 530 guests at one time.

BADLANDS NATIONAL PARK

Cruise the Badlands Loop Scenic Byway and enjoy spectacular views of color changing canyons, pinnacles, spires, and abundant wildlife. The park includes 15 scenic overlooks, hiking trails, and the Ben Reifel Visitors Center.

MINUTEMAN MISSILE NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

The Minuteman Missile National Historic Site consists of three sites along a 15-mile stretch of Interstate 90. Explore the visitors center and Delta-09 Missile Silo before taking an underground tour of the Delta-10 Launch Control Facility.



TRAVEL PLANNER TIP: Grab a dozen of Wall Drug Store's famous donuts to snack on while on the road.

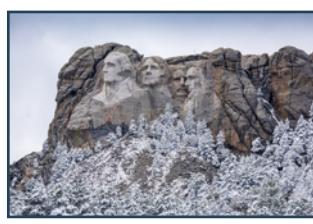
KEYSTONE

Located just minutes from Mount Rushmore, The city of Keystone offers visitors a variety of souvenir boutiques, cafes and unique lodging.

MUST SEE STOPS:

MOUNT RUSHMORE NATIONAL MEMORIAL

America's shrine to Democracy, Mount Rushmore National Memorial features the 60 foot faces of four great American Presidents who represent the birth, growth, development and preservation of this country.



NATIONAL PRESIDENTIAL WAX MUSEUM

The museum features the works of world famous wax artists Katherine Stubergh. The museum displays more than 100 life sized wax sculptures of some of the most iconic figures in American history.



RUSH MOUNTAIN ADVENTURE PARK & RUSHMORE CAVE

A Rushmore Mountain Coaster, Soaring Eagle Zipline, Ride Gunslinger 7-D Interactive Ride, stalactite-filled caverns, and more all await visitors at Rushmore Mountain Adventure Park.



TRAVEL PLANNER TIP: For the best photos of Mount Rushmore National Memorial, visit in the morning hours when the sun is shining directly on the faces.

CUSTER

For visitors that are up for an adventure, Custer is only minutes, not miles from great climbs, trails and family fun in the Southern Black Hills.

MUST SEE STOPS:

CUSTER STATE PARK

Few truly wild places remain in this country. Custer State Park is one of them. Located in the Southern Black Hills, the park spans over 71,000 acres and is home to a variety of wildlife including 1,499 wild buffalo.



BLACK HILLS AERIAL ADVENTURES

Visitors looking to get a unique view. Black Hills Aerial Adventures offers flightseeing tours over the breathtaking Black Hills and Badlands.



JEWEL CAVE NATIONAL MONUMENT

With a name derived from the crystals that line its walls, Jewel Cave National Monument is even more significant as the third-longest cave in the world.



TRAVEL PLANNER TIP: Each September Custer State Park hosts the Buffalo Roundup, where cowboys and cowgirls herd 1,400 wild buffalo by horseback across the landscape.

DEADWOOD / LEAD

Historic Deadwood is a town known for its rough and tumble past. Gamblers and gunslingers like Wild Bill Hickok and Calamity Jane made legends for themselves on the tough and dusty streets.

MUST SEE STOPS:

DAYS OF 76 MUSEUM

The museum includes over 50 authentic horse-drawn vehicles. Visit to learn more about the early days in Deadwood as well as the history of rodeo in the area.



SANFORD LAB HOMESTAKE VISITOR CENTER

Learn about Lead's amazing past, present and future through the Homestake Mine and the Sanford Underground Research Facility.



BROKEN BOOT GOLD MINE

Visitors can pan for gold and tour an authentic gold mine where miners once dug for treasure by candlelight.



TRAVEL PLANNER TIP: Check out the Deadwood Alive reenactments during the summer months on historic Main Street.

SPEARFISH

This beautiful mountain town located in the Northern Black Hills gives visitors everything they need as well as easy access to outdoor adventures.

MUST SEE STOPS:

SPEARFISH CANYON SCENIC BYWAY

Built on top of an ancient rail bed, the highway affords visitors views of towering limestone cliffs and pine trees. The Scenic Byway has several hiking spots for scenic overlooks.



ROUGHLOCK FALLS NATURE AREA

Roughlock Falls is spectacular to view and photograph. Designated walking paths and hiking trails provide the opportunity to explore the area.



TERMES SPHERE GALLERY

Dick Termes, an internationally known local artist, paints on spheres which have been published in books all over the world. These globular canvases hang from ceiling motors.



TRAVEL PLANNER TIP: During the fall season visit the Spearfish Area Chamber of Commerce website for a daily Fall Canyon Color Report to find the best time for an autumn drive.

I-90 ITINERARY

THE ROAD MOST TRAVELED

One of the most popular routes across South Dakota, Interstate 90 offers excellent sites and attractions along the way. Travelers will see the landscape of South Dakota change from open prairies to jagged and unique rock formations and towering hills and trees.



SIOUX FALLS

Start the journey in Sioux Falls, South Dakota's largest city, with the state's most connected airport. Sioux Falls has a variety of cuisine, entertainment, and recreational opportunities for visitors.

MUST SEE STOPS:

FALLS PARK

The namesake of the city, Falls Park offers a natural beauty to an urban setting. Visitors can enjoy a wide view of the triple tier waterfall from the five-story viewing tower, before grabbing a bite at the Falls Overlook Cafe.

SCULPTURE WALK

Enjoy over 55 unique and changing sculptures that make up the Sculpture Walk in downtown Sioux Falls in a unique outdoor setting among shops and restaurants.

ARC OF DREAMS

The sculpture is a tribute to the dreamers of the past, present and an inspiration to the dreamers of the future. The monumental stainless steel sculpture spans across the Big Sioux River downtown between 6th and 8th streets.



TRAVEL PLANNER TIP: Enjoy the unique Levitt at the Falls outdoor amphitheater which offers a variety of free concerts.



World's Only Corn Palace

MITCHELL

A quick hour drive West on Interstate 90 is the corny community of Mitchell, home of the World's only Corn Palace.

MUST SEE STOPS:

WORLD'S ONLY CORN PALACE

Visitors will see the Corn Palace come to life as it is redecorated annually with new corn, grain and grass to showcase a new theme. At night, three color-changing domes and a variety of lights shine in the evening sky.

PREHISTORIC INDIAN VILLAGE & ARCHEODOME

The museum showcases what it was like to live a thousand years ago in a Native American plains village. Visitors can roam through the Archedome, which is a live dig site where artifacts are still being discovered today.

DAKOTA DISCOVERY MUSEUM

Experience Native American and pioneer artifacts come to life through multiple galleries. Visitors can learn about railroading, farming and ranching, Native American culture, and more.



TRAVEL PLANNER TIP: Grab a popcorn ball at the Corn Palace gift shop for a perfect road snack.

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INTERIOR / WALL

Stop into the lively, small town of Wall, known for the famous Wall Drug Store. Visitors will also enjoy local restaurants, shops, and lodging.

MUST SEE STOPS:

BADLANDS NATIONAL PARK

Cruise the Badlands Loop Scenic Byway and enjoy spectacular views of color changing canyons, pinnacles, spires, and abundant wildlife. The park includes 15 scenic overlooks, hiking trails, and the Ben Reifel Visitors Center.



Badlands National Park

MINUTEMAN MISSILE NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

The minuteman Missile National Historic Site consists of three sites along a 15-mile stretch of Interstate 90. Explore the visitors center and Delta-09 Missile Silo before taking an underground tour of the Delta-10 Launch Control Facility.



TRAVEL PLANNER TIP: Getting its start with something as simple as free ice water, Wall Drug Store is now one of the World's most well-known roadside stops. Stop in for a delicious lunch and don't forget the donuts for the road!

RAPID CITY

Rapid City, South Dakota's second largest city, lies east of the Black Hills National Forest and is known as the city of presidents because of its series of life size bronze statues spanning several blocks of downtown.

MUST SEE STOPS:



MAIN STREET SQUARE
Located in the heart of downtown Rapid City, Main Street Square is a fun-filled public space that features special events, arts and culture, live concerts, seasonal ice skating and interactive fountains.



THE JOURNEY MUSEUM & LEARNING CENTER
The Journey Museum and Learning Center in Rapid City brings together five major prehistoric collections to tell the complete story of the wild and Western Great Plains.



REPTILE GARDENS
This family-friendly destination features some of the world's most unique creatures and holds the designation for being the World's largest reptile zoo according to the Guinness Book of World Records.



TRAVEL PLANNER TIP: In downtown Rapid City, visitors can stroll through Art Alley, a public art mural project that is always evolving thanks to local artists.

Dignity: of Earth & Sky

CHAMBERLAIN- OACOMA

Chamberlain and Oacoma are located at the crossroads on Interstate 90 and the majestic Missouri River. Chamberlain-Oacoma offers travelers a drastic change of landscapes from the eastern plains to the rolling hills of the majestic Missouri River. Both communities offer charming downtown shops, dining experiences and more.

MUST SEE STOPS:

DIGNITY: OF EARTH AND SKY

The Dignity sculpture is a stunning combination of art and history. Located on a bluff near the Missouri River, the 50-foot tall statue was specifically designed by sculptor Dale Lamphere to honor the Native Nations of the Great Plains.

AKTA LAKOTA MUSEUM & CULTURAL CENTER

The Akta Lakota Museum offers visitors an experience with a living lesson on the Native American way of life - both past and present. The collection features art, artifacts and educational displays depicting the proud heritage of the Lakota people.



TRAVEL PLANNER TIP: Enjoy the unique Levitt at the Falls outdoor amphitheater which offers a variety of free concerts.

MURDO

Travelers can experience a true small-town feel in Murdo, known as the Magic City. This charming town is located at the cross-roads of Interstate 90 and Highway 83.

MUST SEE STOPS:

PIONEER AUTO SHOW

With more than 300 vintage cars, trucks, motorcycles, and antique memorabilia this nostalgic destination is home to one of the largest, privately owned auto collections open to the public.



TRAVEL PLANNER TIP: Keep on the lookout while driving on the interstate for a funny sculpture of a skeleton walking a skeletal dinosaur.