

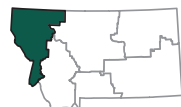


Western Montana's Glacier Country



Best of Both Worlds

In the northwest corner of the state, outdoor adventure and in-town exploration meet. Here, you'll find ample opportunities to head into the backcountry or to experience the local character of 75+ welcoming communities — or both. There's outdoor recreation to be had year-round in the region's mountains, valleys, lakes and rivers, and after you've spent a day hiking, fishing, horseback riding, skiing, snowmobiling or snowshoeing, mountain towns await with arts and culture, history, entertainment and hospitality.



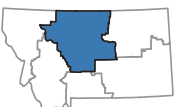
Don't Miss

- Flathead Lake:** The largest natural freshwater lake in the West.
- The Bison Range:** Spot bison from scenic drives in this conservation area.
- Travelers' Rest State Park:** Historically significant site of Native peoples and Lewis and Clark.
- Kootenai Falls Swinging Bridge and Ross Creek Cedars:** Scenic footbridge and old-growth cedar grove.
- Museum of the Plains Indian:** Arts and artifacts of Northern Plains tribal nations.



Heart of the Big Sky

History-rich Central Montana may be known figuratively as the heart of the big sky, but the region does lay claim to the actual geographic center of Montana — a marker in Lewistown notes the exact spot. Two Indian reservations are located in the region as are sites of indigenous history that date back thousands of years. Much of the early history of Montana as it's known today happened in this part of the state, too, and travelers can visit an array of historical sites in the wide-open prairie, mountain and river breaks landscapes and communities of Central Montana.



Don't Miss

- Old Fort Benton:** Historic site from the area's fur trade days.
- Charles M. Russell Museum:** The art and life of Montana's "cowboy artist."
- Havre Beneath the Streets:** An underground tour of Havre history.
- Giant Springs State Park:** Cascading springs in Great Falls.
- Blaine County Museum:** Native, dinosaur and pioneer history in Chinook.



Remote and Remarkable

Montana's Missouri River Country encompasses the vast northeast corner of the state, where the storied Missouri River cuts through the Great Plains. In this remote, wild and expansive region, travelers will find both river breaks formations and badlands, as well as enticing ways to spend time outside — wildlife watching, hunting, fishing, stargazing and even digging for dinosaur fossils. On the Fort Peck Reservation and in the 25+ communities in the region, visitors can experience local culture and history at museums and events held throughout the year.



Don't Miss

- Fort Peck Interpretive Center:** Area history from dinosaurs to dam building.
- Fort Peck Theatre:** Summer productions in a 1930s theater.
- Fairview Lift Bridge:** Historic bridge turned walking trail.
- Great Plains Dinosaur Museum:** Fascinating fossils and dino dig opportunities.
- Medicine Lake National Wildlife Refuge:** Wildlife watching, photography and hunting experiences.

Plan Your Trip

Montana is a special place, one with endless opportunities to experience something new. With over 94 million acres to consider, and more off-the-beaten-path places than most can conquer in a lifetime, these free tools are sure to help you lose yourself in Montana's wide-open landscapes:

Web

From general inspiration to specific trip ideas, visitmt.com is your source for places to go and things to do in Big Sky Country. With a wealth of information on state and national parks, outdoor activities, history, culture and more, there is something for every adventurer.

Social Media

Get inspired by real Montana travelers just like you by following Visit Montana's social channels. Be sure to check out [#MONTANAMOMENT](https://twitter.com/MONTANAMOMENT) and tag your own Montana photos.

For road conditions and updates, check out Montana Department of Transportation's traveler information service at 511mt.net, or by dialing 511 within Montana or **800-226-7623** outside Montana. You can also check MDT's social media pages.

Facebook: Follow MDT on Facebook. facebook.com/montanadot

YouTube: Follow MDT on YouTube. youtube.com/montanadot

Visit our Plan Your Trip page for more information about transportation systems, trip ideas, services and more at visitmt.com/plan-your-trip.

Call

Call **800-VISIT MT (800-847-4868)** or **406-841-2870** to request information about lodging, camping, fishing, skiing, snowmobiling or other activities. TDD **406-841-2702**.



State Parks

Montana offers some of the greatest natural and cultural treasures on Earth. From stunning scenery and glittering waters to geologic wonders and cultural history, Montana State Parks offers something for everyone. Find more details at stateparks.mt.gov.

Glacier National Park

Open year-round, Glacier National Park offers access to pristine nature. Depending on weather, the famous Going-to-the-Sun Road and other park services are available mid-May to mid-September. For more information on road plowing, trails, safety, weather conditions and park passes, call **406-888-7800** or visit nps.gov/glac.

Yellowstone National Park

Discover America's first national park year-round, with opportunities to explore every season. Most, though not all, park roads close to vehicles mid-November to mid-May. For more information on spring biking, park passes, safety and major attractions, call **307-344-7381** or visit nps.gov/yell.



MDT 511 TRAVEL INFO APP

Access roadway information with the Montana Department of Transportation mobile app. Search for MDT 511 Travel Info or download at mdt.mt.gov/travinfo.

Trails

Not all of Montana's trails are for the outdoor recreational activities you might expect.

The themed trails below appeal to culinary, historical, cosmic and cultural interests and offer unique ways to explore sites across the state.

Pie a la Road: Central Montana's Pie Trail

Flaky crust and delicious fillings are never too far away in Central Montana, as the 18 stops on this sweet trail can attest. Our tip: Try the huckleberry pie when you come across it.



Experience mouthwatering burgers that are local favorites at the small-town eateries featured on this trail, where true Montana flavor meets local hospitality.

The Montana Dinosaur Trail

Visitors to the 14 museums on this statewide trail, established in 2000, can experience Montana's rich dinosaur history up close — from viewing fossils on display to observing on-site dino digs.

Montana's Trail to the Stars

Discover 45+ ideal spots for stargazing across Eastern Montana, and come nighttime, look up to see stars, planets, the Milky Way and even the northern lights!

Montana Bookstore Trail

Fun fact: Montana has more independent bookstores per capita than any other state. The shops on this trail not only sell books but are gathering spaces for their communities, making them great places to take in local character.



Fast Facts

Below are some essential and interesting Montana facts to know as you travel through the state.



A State Apart

Montana. Our state is known the world over for its big sky, its mountain terrain and the iconic wilderness and wildlife of Glacier and Yellowstone national parks. Montana is all of that — and proudly so — but it's also so much more.

Within our 147,040 square miles are grand landscapes that shift from forested mountains in the west to rolling prairie in the center of the state to sweeping high plains and otherworldly badlands in the east. Throughout are wildflower-filled meadows, hot springs, crystal-clear lakes, rivers and streams, and millions of acres of public lands that provide unparalleled access to the outdoors and a staggering variety of opportunities for recreation. The cities, small towns, rural communities and tribal lands that Montanans call home are places to discover local history, culture and character — and to surely get a friendly nod or two.

The state's 56 counties are divided into seven tourism regions, each with unique places and experiences to discover. The 70,000 miles of open road marked on this map will lead you to and through them. So buckle up and go — Montana awaits.

VisitMT.com



Gold Rushes and Copper Kings

With 22 mountain ranges, blue-ribbon rivers and streams, hot springs and rich history, this region stretches from the Idaho border northward to encompass Helena, the state capital. Dig into Southwest Montana's mining past with visits to gold rush towns turned ghost towns, the ornate mansions of Montana's copper kings still standing in Butte and the living history museums of Nevada City and Virginia City. You can even try your hand at gem mining before driving a scenic byway, hitting a hiking trail, fly fishing a winding river, skiing or soaking under the stars in a hot spring.



Don't Miss

- Bannack State Park:** Montana's best preserved ghost town.
- Butte-Anaconda Historic District:** Thousands of historic buildings in these two communities.
- Virginia City and Nevada City:** Neighboring towns virtually unchanged since mining days.
- Lewis & Clark Caverns State Park:** Tours of highly decorated limestone caverns.
- Montana State Capitol Complex:** History at the capitol and the Montana Historical Society.

Montana's Yellowstone Country



More Than the Park

The renowned wildness of Yellowstone National Park spills north beyond park boundaries into the five counties that make up this region. Year round, travelers here enjoy a wealth of recreational opportunities amid the stunningly beautiful mountain ranges, valleys, lakes and rivers, including fly fishing, hiking, rafting, horseback riding and skiing. The small businesses, museums and lively events in the region's communities — which range from a city like Bozeman to a small town like Fishtail — are where folks will experience local history, flavors and character.



Don't Miss

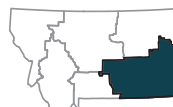
- Highway 89 Paradise Valley:** Scenic valley north of Yellowstone National Park.
- The Shane Center:** Arts and culture center in Livingston.
- Hobgen Lake:** Water recreation outside of West Yellowstone.
- Natural Bridge Falls:** Picturesque waterfall with hiking and picnic area.
- Missouri Headwaters State Park:** Where three rivers meet to form the Missouri River.

Southeast Montana



Otherworldly West

Dive into the wide open of Southeast Montana and be rewarded with incredible terrain, fascinating history and chances to experience both indigenous and Western traditions. Dramatic landscapes like the badlands in the east or the ruggedly beautiful Bighorn Canyon in the south await, as do museums, state parks and national monuments that highlight dinosaur, Native American, military and homesteading history. Tribal gatherings, historical reenactments, rodeos and horse and cattle auctions are unforgettable ways to experience the region's vibrant culture.



Don't Miss

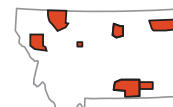
- Makoshika State Park:** Outdoor recreation among badlands formations.
- Range Riders Museum:** Eastern Montana history in Miles City.
- Carter County Museum:** Local and natural history in Białala.
- Prairie County Museum and Evelyn Cameron Gallery:** Museum complex in Terry highlighting pioneer life.
- Little Bighorn Battlefield National Monument:** Historic battlefield and interpretive exhibits.

Indian Country



Sacred Lands, Enduring Culture

Indian Country is a distinct tourism region with sites spread throughout the state. It comprises 12 federally recognized tribal nations and seven reservations, including the Little Shell Tribe of Chippewa Indians headquartered in Great Falls. These sovereign tribal nations keep their traditions alive in both the wild landscapes and communities of their homelands. Respectful travelers are welcome to visit and experience the beauty, history and culture of the Native American tribes in Montana.



Tips for a Respectful Visit

Recreation: Tribal permits are required when recreating on reservation lands and some recreational activities may also require a permit. Permits can be purchased from local area vendors or by contacting the applicable tribal headquarters for more information. Once on site, respect any posted signs.

Historic sites: Battlefields and other sites that mark significant indigenous history or culture should be treated with reverence.

Powwows: For most parts of these family-friendly events, it's appropriate to applaud, cheer and take photos of groups of dancers. However, there may be special songs, dances or ceremonies to honor tribal members where it is customary to stand, remove headgear and refrain from taking photos. When in doubt, follow the lead of the emcee and/or audience. Ask permission before photographing individual dancers, and refrain from touching their regalia.



Governor's Message

Montana leaves a mark

Whether you've lived here your whole life or you're just passing through, you know pretty quickly — Montana leaves a mark.

It's not just the mountains or the rivers or the sky that goes on forever. It's the people. The way a stranger waves on a dirt road. The way a town shows up when it matters. The way the land makes you slow down and pay attention.

If you're visiting, we're glad you made the trip. If you're local, thanks for keeping this place what it is.

Wherever the road takes you next — travel well. And don't be a stranger.

Gov. Greg Gianforte and First Lady Susan Gianforte

This map is produced by the Montana Department of Commerce and the Montana Department of Transportation. Alternative accessible formats of portions of this document will be provided to disabled individuals upon request. This document is printed at the state's expense. Information on the cost of publication can be obtained by calling the Department of Administration, Helena, Montana, 406-201-2020.

Traffic and Safety

Unless otherwise posted, Montana has the following speed limits.

Interstates	Interstates through the cities of Billings, Bozeman, Butte, Great Falls, Helena and Missoula	Public highways	Urban districts

Regardless of maximum speed limits, you should drive at a reasonable and prudent speed, taking into account traffic, visibility, weather, road and vehicle conditions.

Buckle Up It's the Law. All vehicle occupants must wear safety belts. A child must be properly restrained in a safety restraint system that has been installed, adjusted, and used according to manufacturer instructions.

Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over. Montana law prohibits open alcoholic containers in vehicles. A person commits the offense of driving under the influence if the person drives or is in actual physical control of a vehicle on roads open to the public while under the influence of alcohol, any drug, or a combination.

Motorcycles must be operated with lights on at all times. No more than two motorcycles may be operated side by side in a single traffic lane. Operators and passengers under 18 must wear approved headgear.

Watch for wildlife and domestic animals crossing the roads. If you hit an animal, contact the Montana Highway Patrol at **855-647-3777** from the scene of the crash to write a report.

Bicyclists are required to obey the motor vehicle traffic laws. There are no bicycle restrictions on state highways or interstates. For bicycling information, go to mdt.mt.gov/travinfo/bikeped or write to mdtblakep@mt.gov.

Motorcycle Safety

Protect Yourself	Be Visible
Wear a DOT-compliant helmet.	Use lane position to see and be seen.
Wear protective gear.	Use turn signal when changing lanes or turning.
Wear high-visibility gear.	Use Headlight. It's the law.