

— 2026 — Summer ADVENTURE — GUIDE —



What's Inside

- Hiking & Trail Guides
- Camping & RV Spots
- Family-Friendly Fun
- Local Events & Festivals
- Hidden Gems & Scenic Routes
& Much More!

Biking through North Dakota State Park
REBECCA WANG PHOTO

northernsentry
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- Catch the 4 Bears Roar basketball team in action

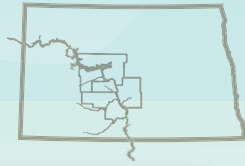


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Visit the NORTHERN PLAINS NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA

The Northern Plains National Heritage Area points visitors to the natural, cultural, recreational and historic sites along the Missouri River in central North Dakota. For a deep dive of the sites you absolutely need to visit, come to the Northern Plains National Heritage Area's Orientation Headquarters at the Landing, 1700 River Road N., in Bismarck, North Dakota.

Explore the region's heritage first hand!



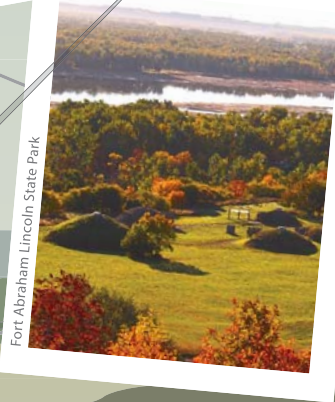
Knife River Indian Villages National Historic Site



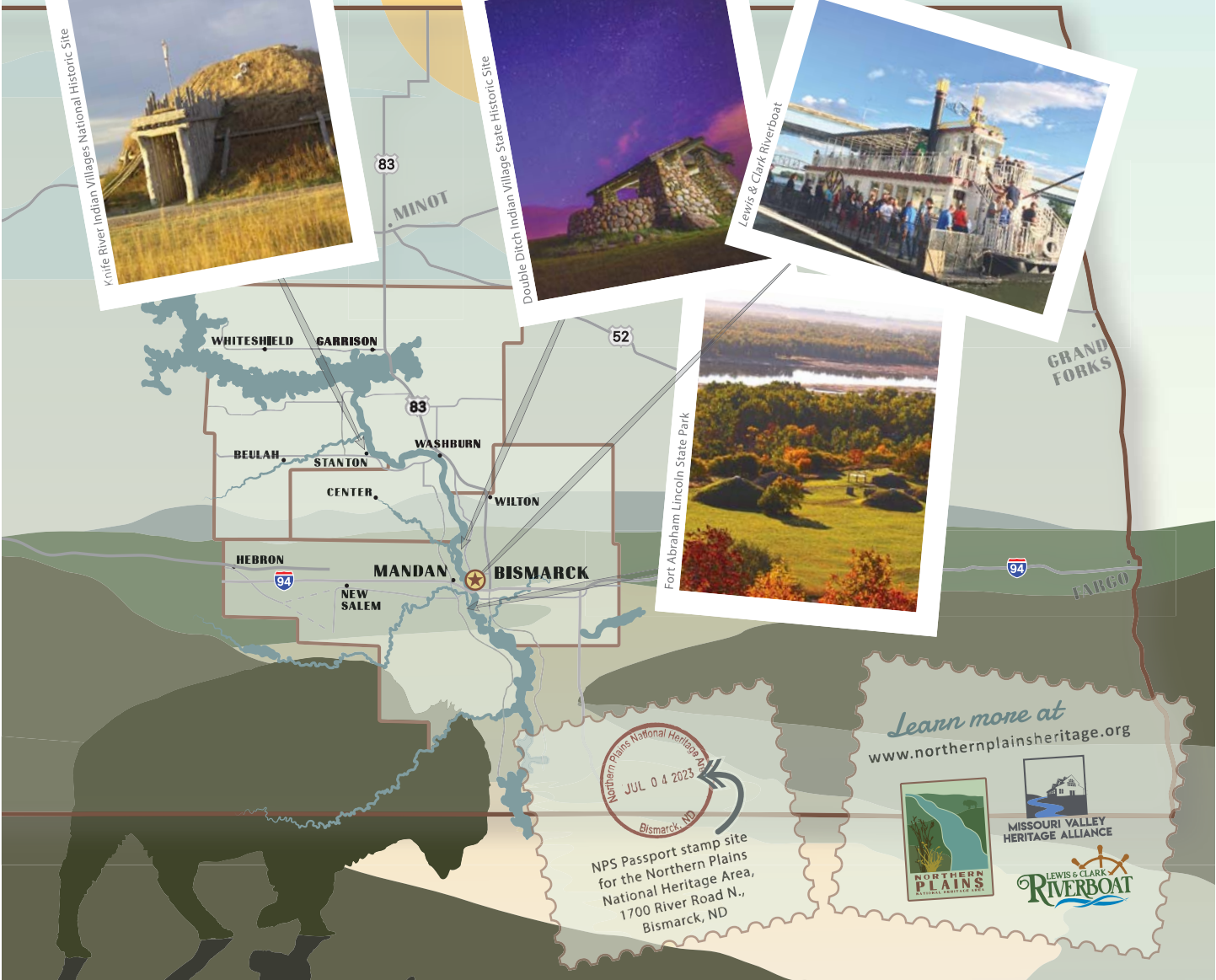
Double Ditch Indian Village State Historic Site



Lewis & Clark Riverboat



Fort Abraham Lincoln State Park



NPS Passport stamp site for the Northern Plains National Heritage Area, 1700 River Road N., Bismarck, ND



Learn more at www.northernplainsheritage.org



TABLE OF CONTENTS



Sunflower field outside Minot, ND

Ashley Vanley Photography

Welcome	5	Recreational Rentals	36
Sensational Summer Photo Contest	6	North Dakota State Parks, Camping & Lakes	37
On the Cover	7	North Dakota Day Trips	41
The Beauty is There, Just Look for It	8	North Dakota Zoos	42
Making the Most of Minot's		North Dakota Birding	44
Brief Outdoor Growing Season	10	North Dakota Museums	46
North Dakota Gardens	13	Local Parks	50
The Changing Landscape of the		Indoor Activities	53
Peace Garden	14	7 Places Minot Teens Actually Hang Out	54
North Dakota Arts	16	Shooting Ranges	57
Minot's Music Scene: The Sound of Summer	18	Pools & Water Parks	59
North Dakota Fairs & Rodeos	20	Golf Courses & Mini Golf	60
North Dakota Historic Sites	22	Motor Sports	63
North Dakota Scenic Drives	25	Explore Medora	64
Road Trip Magic: Exploring North Dakota's		Explore Rugby	70
Enchanted Highway	26	Explore Watford City	72
North Dakota Trails	28	Explore New Town	74
North Dakota Fishing	31		

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SUMMER ADVENTURE GUIDE PRODUCED BY: Northern Sentry, 315 South Main Street, Suite 202, Minot, ND 58701, 701-839-0946.

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WELCOME

Welcome to North Dakota

Hot Tots Military Appreciation
Baseball Game

In North Dakota we are so very fortunate to experience four distinct and very different seasons. Of course summer is by far the most active time of the year for vacations and weekend trips, but spring and fall also afford those who look for activities the opportunities to get out and enjoy not only North Dakota, but neighboring states of Montana, Minnesota and South Dakota. And let's not forget those neighbors to the north of us in Saskatchewan and Manitoba. The Summer Adventure guide is one of those "take it along" resources for locating places to go, places to stay, and popular activities. We have even listed a couple of our "Best

kept Secret" locations for those of you who want to take the path less traveled. In combination with several state agencies, we also offer editorial content that will give a little more information about activities and how to best enjoy them. We also want to thank our many advertisers who are eager to help you enjoy summer 2026 to it's fullest. Got questions? Give them a call. It is our mid-western personality to give you friendly advice and encouragement. So summer, here we come. Have a great time and take lots of pictures.

LOOKING FOR
Things to Do?

Find all the summer events at
events*minot*.com



VISIT  MINOT



Sensational Summer

PHOTO CONTEST



There's just something magical about a North Dakota summer. Maybe it's the short season, or maybe it's the sunshine we've all been waiting for—but whatever the reason, summer here is truly special. It's the perfect time to fish, swim, hike, boat, or just enjoy the great outdoors.

Let's celebrate this season by capturing it!
Enter the Sensational Summer Photo Contest

and show us your best moments under the North Dakota sun.

We're looking for photos of:

- Backyard fun with the kids
- Splashing at the base pool or playground
- Adventures in Medora or Teddy Roosevelt National Park
- Camping in ND's State Parks
- Family outings at the State Fair or a local baseball game

If it shows summer joy in North Dakota, we want to see it!
***Selected photos may be featured in the Northern Sentry newspaper and/or on our Facebook page.**

GRAND PRIZE
TWO-NIGHT STAY AT THE PEACE GARDENS IN A 3 BEDROOM CABIN!



INTERNATIONAL PEACE GARDEN

*Stays available October 15, 2026- March 15, 2027

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 Photos chosen by Northern Sentry staff.



How to Enter

Submit your photo and who/what/when/where description on our website by using the QR code

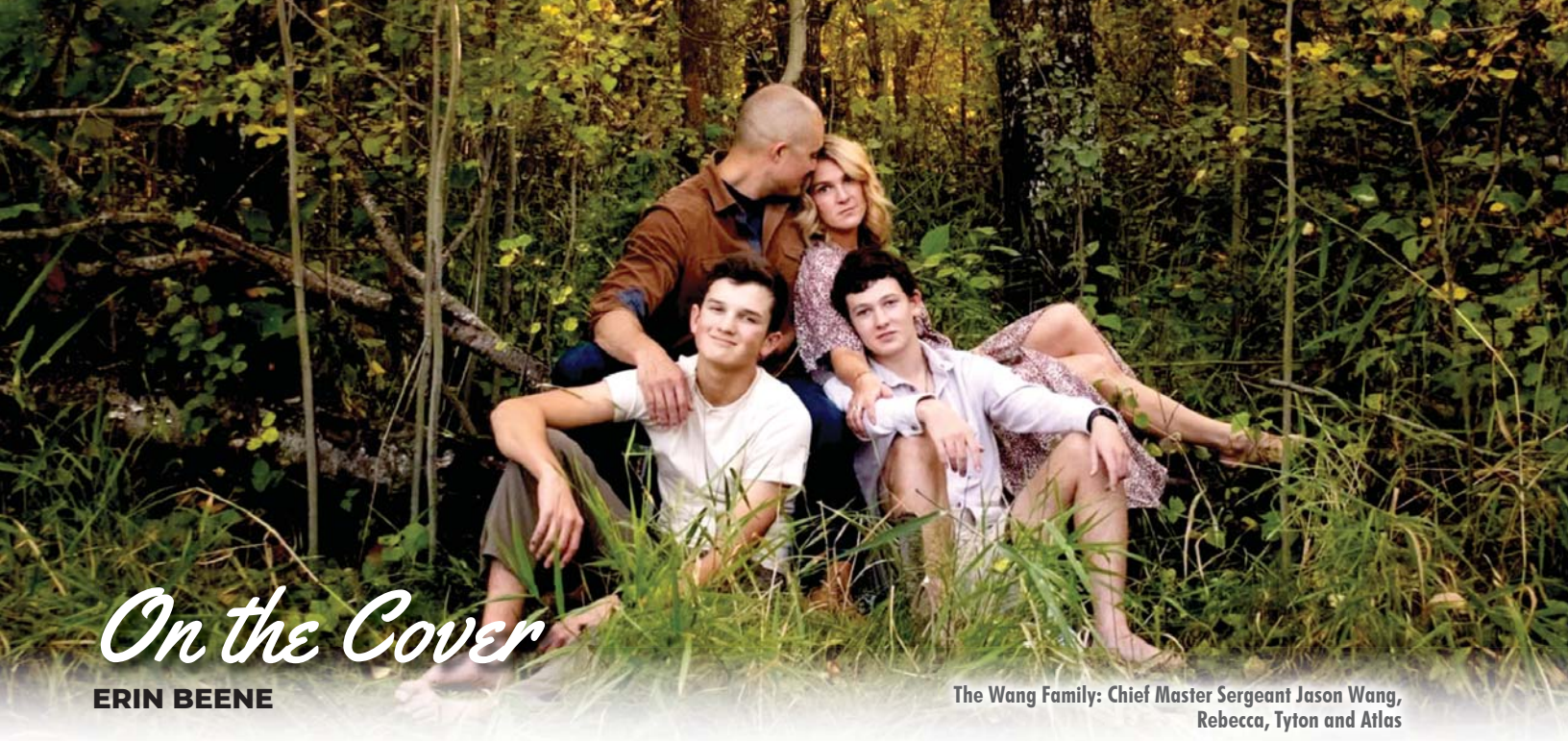


So grab your camera and soak in the season—we can't wait to see your summer through your lens!

CONTEST DETAILS:

- One winner will be selected at random from all entries
- Each photo submitted counts as one entry (limit one photo per person per day)
- Contest runs from Memorial Day to Labor Day 2026

- Winner will be notified by email in September 2026
- Photos must be taken in North Dakota during Spring/Summer 2026
- By entering, you grant the Northern Sentry permission to use your photo in print, online, and promotional materials
- Open to Minot AFB assigned members and their dependents only



On the Cover

ERIN BEENE

The Wang Family: Chief Master Sergeant Jason Wang, Rebecca, Tyton and Atlas

The Wang family has taken in all of the outdoor adventures that Minot has to offer. The family, which includes dad Chief Master Sergeant Jason Wang, mom Rebecca, and teenage brothers Tyton and Atlas, could not stop raving about how much they love taking advantage of the summer months here in North Dakota.

Rebecca explained how the family loves to tent camp, hike, bike, hunt, and everything in between: "When it warms up until it gets cold, we are never home." The family's favorite place to hunt and spend time in North Dakota is Lake Metigoshe, but they also gushed about Sylvan Lake in South Dakota and the Kite Festival at Fort Stevenson. Basically, if it's outdoors in the summer, the Wang family is there.

Rebecca is a military brat and a graduate of Minot High School, Class of 2005. She compared Minot today to what it was like 20 years ago, saying, "There are so many more local things to do now, and businesses have really taken off. They have done a really great job." Bringing even more of Minot

into her story, Rebecca and Jason actually met years ago when Jason was a young Airman at his first duty station at Minot AFB while Rebecca was finishing high school. The pair crossed paths at Sports on Tap, and the rest is history.

The couple was excited to learn they had been ordered back to Minot three years ago. Even though the family is set to PCS this summer, they will leave Minot with a heavy heart.

The photo, which Rebecca submitted to the Northern Sentry's Summer Photo Contest last year, features Tyton and Atlas mountain biking through the hills at a local state park. The photo not only won the contest, but it also went on to win a national photo contest as well. Rebecca, who is also a professional photographer, said she took it on a whim but is so glad she did.

Ultimately, the photo captures the spirit of the family's love for North Dakota summers and the hidden beauty of the Peace Garden State.



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During the summertime, the fields around Minot blaze with gold from the yearly sunflowers.

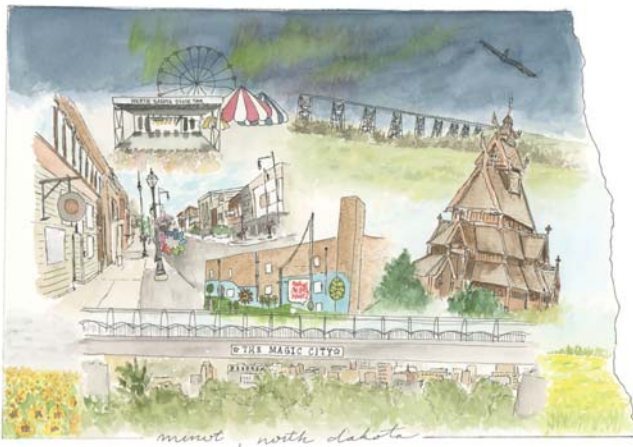
The Beauty Is There, Just Look for It

ERIN BEENE

What comes to mind when you're asked to name the most beautiful state in the U.S.? Do you picture Maine's vibrant fall foliage, Colorado's snow-covered Rockies, or perhaps the sparkling, endless beaches of Hawaii? These destinations are well known for their breathtaking natural landscapes. But let's take a wild guess, North Dakota probably didn't crack your top 10, did it?

Most people don't think of North Dakota as particularly majestic. The common image is one of flat, empty plains dotted with cows and blasted by bone-chilling wind in the winter. Honestly, that's not entirely wrong. But this quiet, fourth-least-populated state holds a hidden kind of beauty that you don't truly discover until you're living in it. And that's the magic. It's exactly the quiet, untouched openness that makes North Dakota so unique.

The beauty here looks different. It feels different. But if you take a moment to slow down and really see it, beyond the surface, you just might fall in love with it too.



Minot Sights to See. "I wanted something that would be a great memento for people when they PCS from here. It features many of the major places that people know of when they think of Minot."

The Most Beautiful Things About North Dakota:

The Vast Sky.

With few buildings and little urban sprawl, the land feels almost untouched by time. On a summer day, the wind rolls softly across endless prairies, and the sky stretches wide in every direction. The daylight lingers late into the evening, almost until 11 p.m., and the air is so crisp and clean, it makes you feel fully alive.

The People.

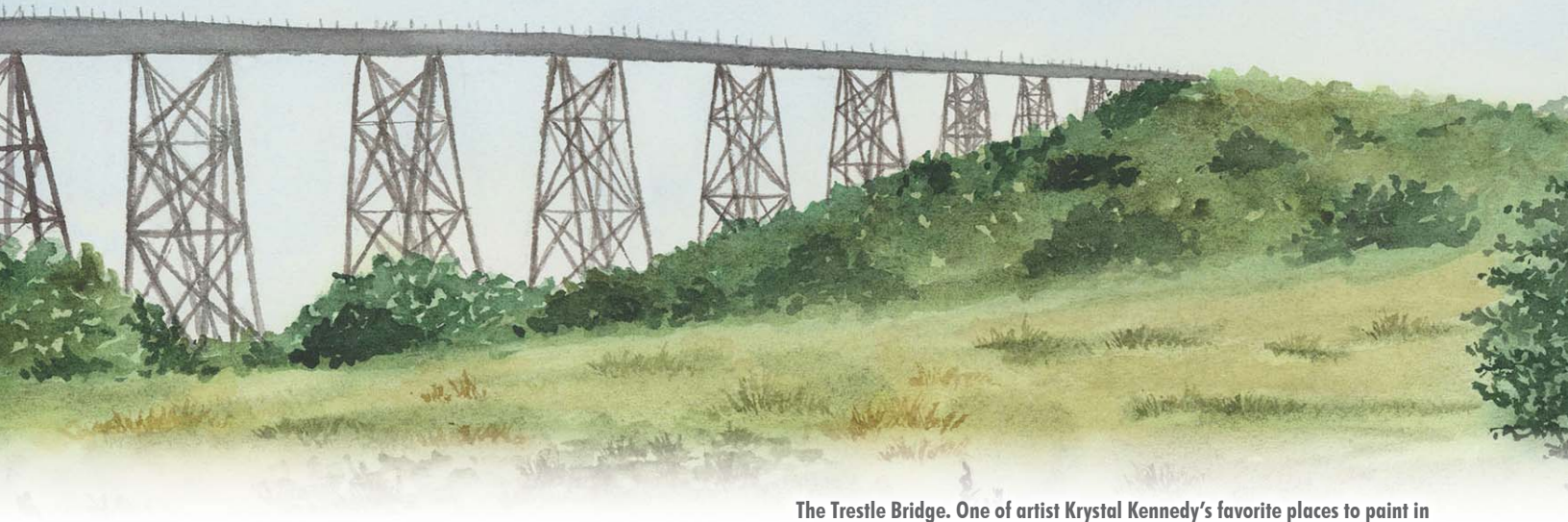
There may not be a large population here, but the people who are here genuinely want to be. They're warm, happy, and curious about you. Unlike some tourist destinations where locals grow weary of visitors or newcomers, North Dakotans welcome others with open arms. The culture is a perfect blend of Southern hospitality and Midwestern kindness, wrapped up in a strong sense of community.

The Attitude.

Yes, the winters are rough. But the summers? Absolutely dreamy. From May through September, people take full advantage of every warm, sunny day. They go camping, take fishing trips, plan lakeside getaways, or simply enjoy their backyard. Life slows down. The pace softens. There's a shared sense of "just enjoy it" that you don't find everywhere. It feels like a collective exhale after a long, cold season—and the joy is contagious.



The iconic "falling barn" along Highway 83 was a frequent topic of conversation among military families. Many wondered when it would collapse. As of fall 2025, the barn is nearly flattened back into the earth after an estimated 100 years of withstanding the North Dakota climate.



The Trestle Bridge. One of artist Krystal Kennedy’s favorite places to paint in Minot. She has watercolors of the bridge in every season!

The Land.

Despite the old “flat and boring” stereotype, North Dakota offers a surprisingly varied landscape. A century ago, homesteaders rushed west to farm this land. Though many have moved on, their abandoned barns and buildings still stand, weathered and hauntingly beautiful. Before them, the Dakota (Sioux) and Chippewa tribes called this region home, living off the prairie, buffalo, and rivers that defined it. Today, North Dakota includes a corner of Badlands National Park, the rolling buttes of Theodore Roosevelt National Park, and even the lush Turtle Mountains in the north.

North Dakota may not be what most would call “classically beautiful,” but that’s what makes it so special. Its beauty is raw, quiet, and deeply rooted in simplicity, and it’s something only those who live here and choose to look for it will ever truly understand.

**The images attached to this story are watercolor prints done by my spouse artist, Krystal Kennedy. Her artwork can be viewed and purchased at krystalkennedyart.com*



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Making the Most of Minot's Brief Outdoor Growing Season

MAFB Outdoor Recreation offers rentable community garden plots for those who are up to the challenge of growing in a larger space.

KERRIANNE NOEL

Summertime in Minot is the perfect time to get outside. Many members of Team Minot will set out to enjoy camping, hiking and State as well as National Parks. It is also the perfect time to connect with nature by planting a garden. But with its shorter growing season, colder winter temperatures, and unwelcome garden visitors, figuring out how to get started can feel daunting.

The first consideration in Minot for outdoor gardening is the climate. Ward County falls under the USDA plant hardiness zone 4a. This means the average low temperature range in the winter falls between -25 and -30 degrees Fahrenheit. It gets colder at times, but this average temperature zone is what affects the plants and soil. Another important consideration are the last and first frost dates of the season. According to the Old Farmer's Almanac, the last frost date falls about May 15th, with potential for frosty mornings returning around September 27th. On average, residents can enjoy a growing season of about 134 days each summer.

Next consideration for gardeners is space. Pots, in-ground gardens, and raised beds can all be seen around MAFB. For the more ambitious (or a group of friends looking to share the work) the base's Outdoor Recreation center offers 10-foot by 20-foot community garden plots. These become available to the general public from May 5-16 and can be rented for the entire growing season at a flat fee of \$20. A word to the wise: choose a space near one of the limited hose spigots for easier watering, and be prepared for lots and lots of weeding.

But where to purchase plants and gardening supplies? Those on a budget may prefer to shop at big box stores, but local garden centers are often the safer bet in terms of plant health and suitability to Minot's climate. Lowes Garden Center

and Green Thumb Greenhouse are favorites of many local gardeners. Prairie Bistro and Gardens in Mohall, ND is a longer drive, but offers a tasty lunch menu and engaging community events, that make for a fun mini adventure. Local stores stock a variety of plants May through mid June, after which they offer less of everything and generally no longer carry vegetables.

An easy way to get a head start on Minot's growing season is to start seeds inside - sometimes as early as late March. These seedlings can be brought outside on warmer days to 'harden off.' Experienced gardeners may want to try their luck and plant before the last frost date to extend their season. This requires keeping an eye on overnight temperatures and having a cover on hand if frost threatens. Cool season crops like peas or kale are great, safer choices for this approach.

Herbs and flowers are great options for those who are planting a bit later in the growing season.





Square foot gardening and companion planting can help make the most of your backyard raised bed.



Minot local greenhouses include plants particularly suited to the area's climate and growing season.

A few gardening basics: Most plants want soil that drains well and has the right balance of nutrients. All seedlings will experience 'transplant shock' for up to two weeks. When they finally take off, Minot's longer daylight will cause rapid growth. Fertilize at the beginning of the season and at least once more about halfway through. Water deeply, with slightly less frequency, aiming at the base of the plant and not the leaves. Frequent, shallow watering leads to poor root development and weak plants.

Missed out on this initial planting window? Seed packets for quick-growing vegetables like radishes, lettuces, turnips, and beets are an option. Herbs do well in pots and will pay you back in savings at the grocery store. Easy to grow favorites include basil, thyme, oregano and rosemary. At a minimum one can always throw some less expensive annuals or cold tolerant mums into a planter for a bright front door display. This reporter's favorite for any outdoor hangout, if you can find them, are mosquito plants, which can help keep one of summer's less welcome visitors at bay.

Speaking of unwelcome visitors, the number one threat to both garden and sanity in many base residents' experience are the dak rats. These tend to be attracted to tender seedlings of all kinds as well as leafy vegetables such as lettuces. To avoid them entirely, plant their preferred snacks in pots or raised beds that are entirely off the ground. Otherwise, keep your soil well-watered as they prefer digging in dry soil, and sprinkle cayenne pepper around and on any plants you want them to avoid. For larger areas, such as a community plot, planting strong smelling onions and garlic along outside rows is thought to keep them away.

Cicero once said that, "if you have a garden and a library you have everything you need." Ancient intuition has been backed up by modern science. A quick Internet search will reveal a long list of benefits from gardening to include a boost in immunity,

improved cognitive function, and better overall mental and physical health. So get out in the dirt this summer - don't let Minot's shorter growing season stop you from experiencing the joys and benefits of gardening!

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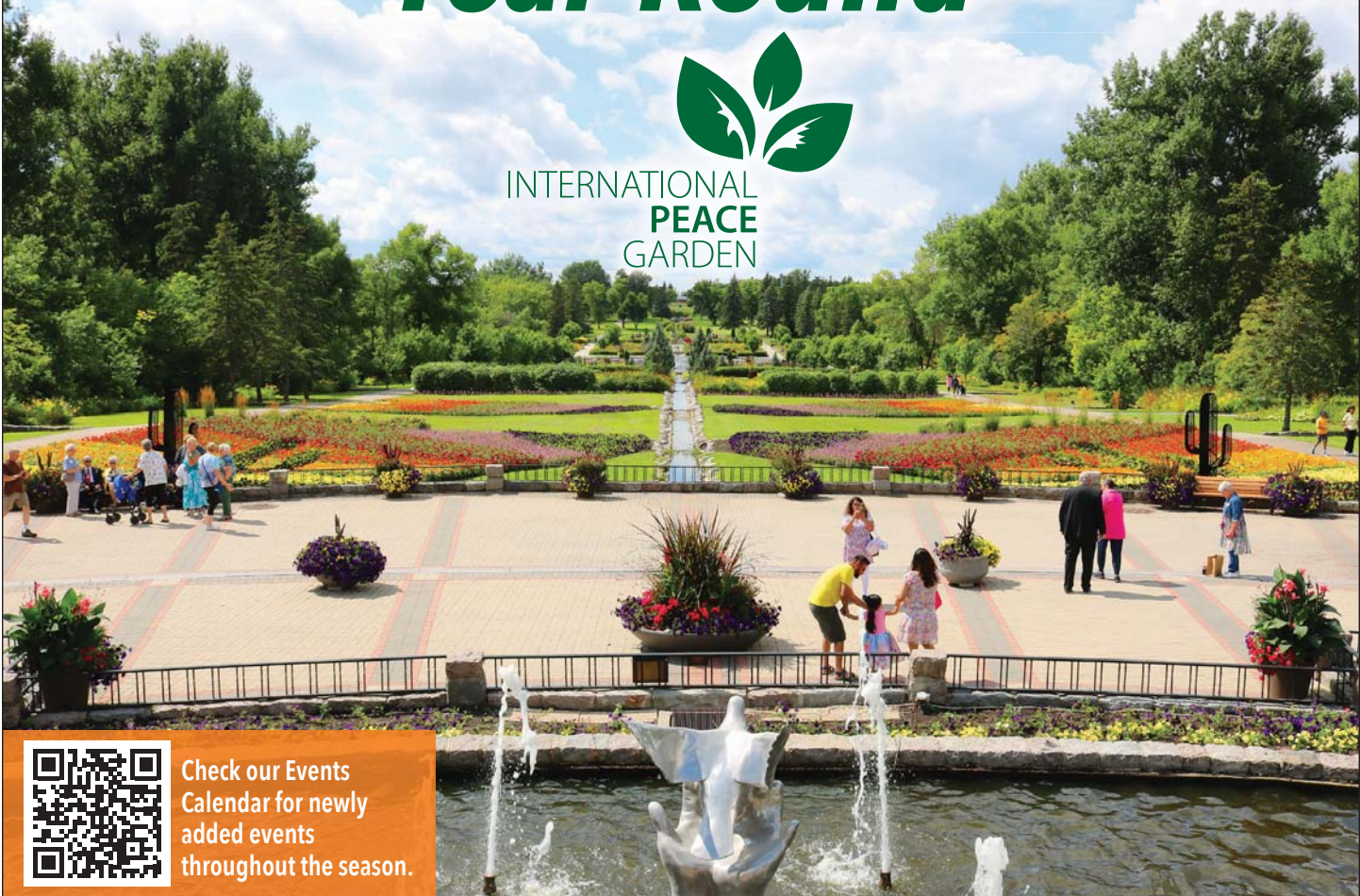
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International Peace Garden

Angelic Garden

Minot, ND | 6200 11th Ave SE | 701-500-7713
Venture through the Walk Through Victorian Garden or visit the Produce garden and Pick your own produce! This ensures that very little goes to waste and that you produce is as fresh as it can possibly be.

Dakota Sun Gardens and Winery

Carrington, ND | 955 73rd Ave. NE | 701-674-3316
Dakota Sun Gardens and Winery has many wines made on site available for tasting and purchase. The wines are also sold at many North Dakota bottle shops. We use as much locally and regionally grown fruits and grapes as possible. The winery is always interested in fruit purchase from other growers. Our extensive gardens and water features exhibit flower and shrubbery displays using natural rock, driftwood, and metal sculpture as accents. Meetings, groups or individuals may be arranged, with prior reservations. Beautiful garden wedding venue. The nominal per person charge includes guided garden tours and wine tastings.

Elaine's Garden and Guesthouse

Balfour, ND | 3238 Highway
A beautifully restored 1915 home with a large porch, veranda, theme-decorated bedrooms, completely furnished for all overnight guests as well as hunters. Acres of hunting land and a warm place to clean your birds. Added attraction on the farm site is a restored one-room schoolhouse and beautiful gardens during the growing season.

Floral Flag Display

International Peace Garden | 10939 Highway 281
The Floral Flag Display is the only display remaining the same each year. The American red, white and blue, stars and stripes and the Canadian red Maple Leaf are located in the Formal Garden area.

International Peace Garden

15 Miles North of Dunseith, ND | 701-263-4390
Since 1932, nestled in the Turtle Mountains of North Dakota and Manitoba, the International Peace Garden is one of the continent's most symbolic and scenic attractions. Thousands of tourists flock to this unique tribute to peace and friendship between the United States of America and Canada. The park plants over 150,000 flowers each year. Main features of the garden include an 18-foot floral clock display, fountains, a chime, and twin 120-foot concrete towers straddling the border with a peace chapel at their base. The Arma Sifton bells were a gift from Central United Church of Brandon, Manitoba, in 1972. The tower was supplied by North Dakota Veterans and dedicated in 1976. Some building remains of the World Trade Center attacks of September 11, 2001, have been placed in part of the garden. The International Peace Garden, "Like No Other Place on Earth," is a perfect and memorable retreat, where people and nature meet.

Japanese Garden

Grand Forks, ND | 11th Avenue and 34th Street
701-746-2750
This lovely and unique garden - featuring the beauty of rocks, water, hills, trees and plants - graces the landscape of Sertoma Park. A gift from the residents of Grand Forks' sister city, Awano, Japan, it commemorates the recovery from the 1997 Red River Valley flood.

Rainbow Garden & Sculpture Walk

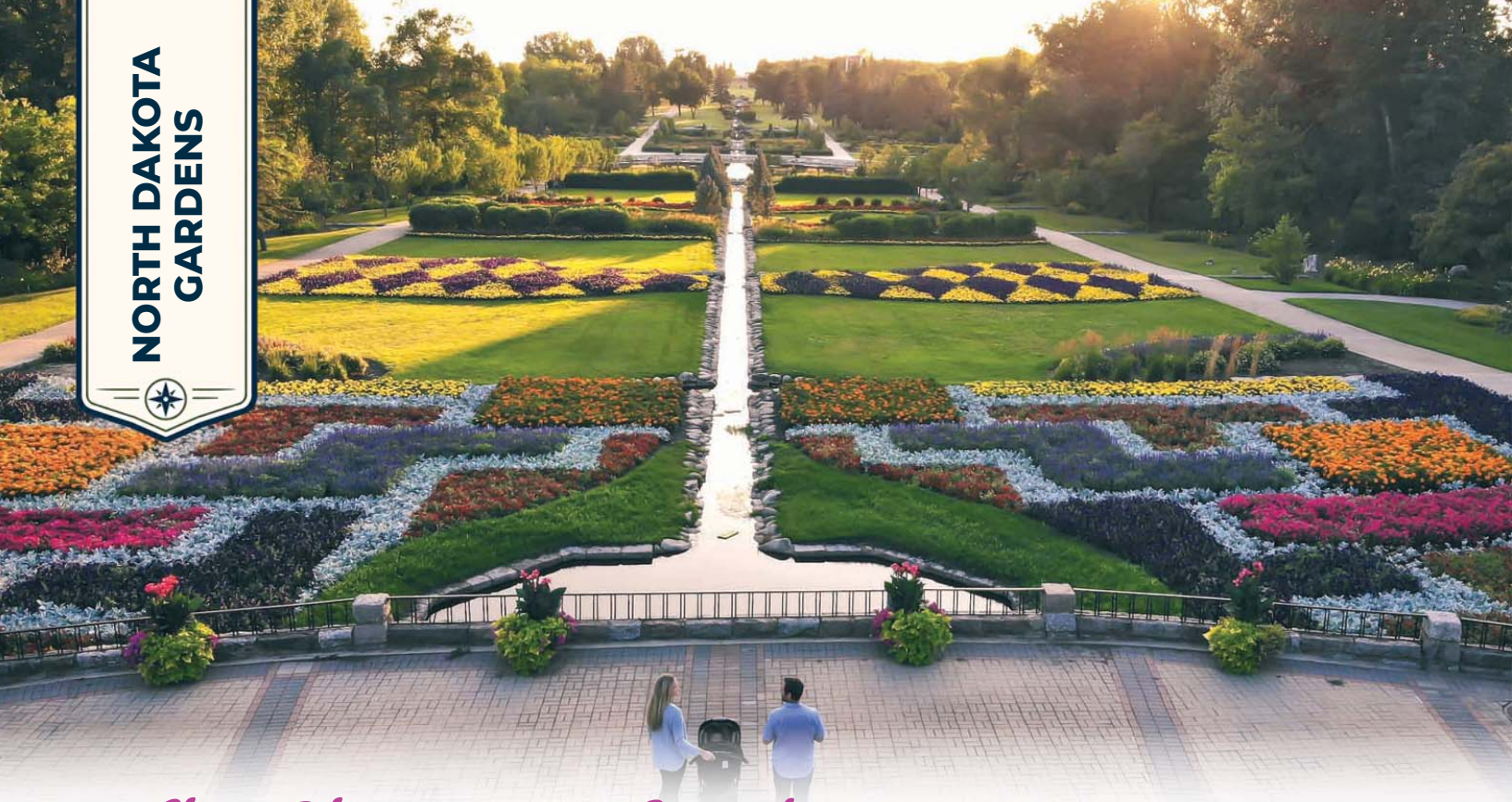
Mayville, ND | 367 3rd St SW (HWY 200)
Rainbow Garden has seven plots, each demonstrating a different theme. Their goal is that the variety in the gardens gives visitors ideas for their own yards. The seven gardens are The English Garden, The White Garden, The Cottage Garden, The Rock Garden, The Children's Garden, The Herb Garden, and The Labyrinth. Since they have become fairly competent at the craft of gardening, they have graduated to the art of design by concentrating on color, texture, shape and arrangement. They are building a collection of commissioned sculptures from artists around the nation. Currently there are 15 sculptures and poems in the Sculpture Walk.

Sunken Garden

International Peace Garden | 10939 Highway 281
Interestingly, a series of five uniform terraces extend down to the Sunken Garden area. Located in the center of each terrace are small pools that have connecting water channels that spill into each pool on the next level. So ultimately, water flows from one ornamental pool on each terrace to the next, and finally down to the reflecting octagon shaped pond in the center of the Sunken Garden, where the water is pumped back to the first terrace to begin its round again! Along the mazed walkways of The Sunken Garden are two stone garden houses financed by the North Dakota and U.S. National Homemakers' Clubs. The placement of these original houses marks the Avenues of America and Canada and both leads to their respective countries. Thousands of perennials, flowering shrubs and annuals fill the mosaic-like beds surrounding the focal pond in the Sunken Garden. Within walking distance is the Interpretive Center housing the cafe, retail store, moderate horticultural library and conservatory.

Northern Plains Botanic Garden

Fargo, ND | 1201 28th Ave N | 701-281-2568
Open throughout the year from sunrise until sunset and free to the public, the Botanic Garden is an incredible destination for those in the entire region. It consists of 7 separate gardens including the Woodland Garden, Alerus Financial Butterfly Garden, Chrysanthemum Test Garden, Alphabet Garden, Rain Garden, The Turnaround Garden, Seeds of Opportunity Garden and a humming bird patio. The next project slated is the development of the Garden of Mind which is a Japanese-style garden.



The Changing Landscape of the Peace Garden

The main flower beds are most vibrant at the end of June and into July.

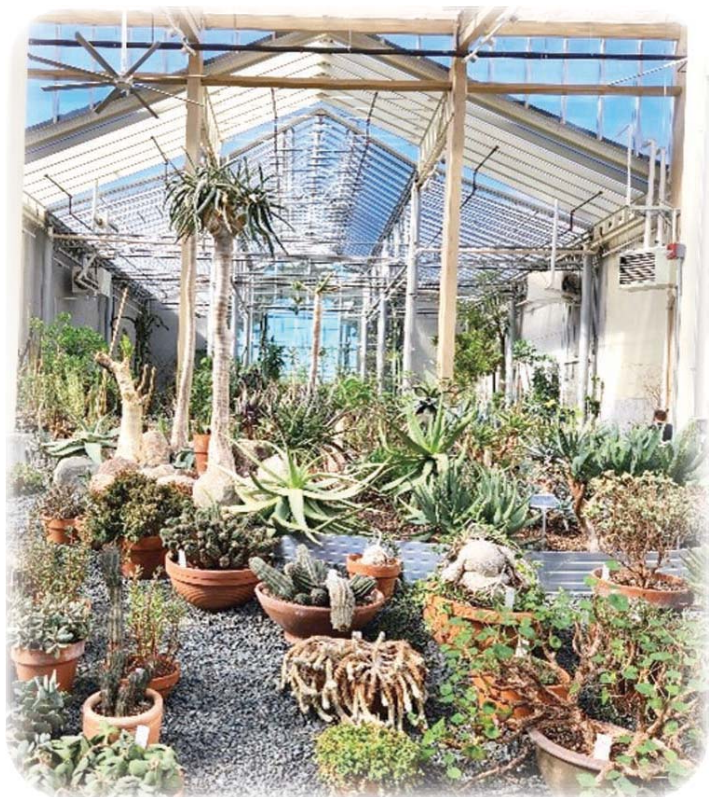
ROD WILSON

The International Peace Garden, located on the U.S./Canadian border just north of Dunseith, commemorates the largest non-protected border between 2 countries.

The idea for the Peace Garden began in 1928 as an ambitious idea conceived by Dr. Henry Moore, a Canadian horticulturist who had trained at London's famous Kew Gardens. Dr. Moore imagined a living tribute to the friendship between the United States and Canada in the form of an international garden dedicated to peace.

With over 2,000 acres spread between Canada and the United States, the Peace Garden is more than just a stop on the way to a different destination. The Peace Garden, whether you have a few hours, a whole day or a weekend, is a destination all to itself with the landscape continually changing to match the 4 seasons of this area.

As a young kid I can remember the impressive floral clock just inside the gates to the south. My Mom was a backyard horticulturist, and over 1/2 of our yard in my hometown of Maddock was flower beds. What is unique about the floral clock is that it is never the same floral arrangements every year, which means the colors of the clock change from year to year.



There are so many photo opportunities in the conservatory. Take your camera and allow extra time to tour.



My first visit as a kid was to the floral clock area. It's always so beautiful. The 2023 Floral Clock design of a medicine wheel was sponsored by the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians.

The other memory I have as a young kid was shaking hands with my brother across the border. Ken stood in Canada, and I stood in the United States. We then switched places and I was in Canada. The walk from the main entrance to the Peace Chapel on the west end of the Formal Gardens is certainly beautiful and a bit surreal, especially when the flower beds are at the height of their natural beauty.

As you walk towards the Peace Chapel, on your left is the 9/11 Memorial. This is the 25th Anniversary of the events that happened on September 11th of 2001. The Peace Garden staff is planning a very special event to commemorate the event, and to honor the heroes of that date.

One of the newest buildings in the Peace Garden is located on a hill overlooking the formal garden area. It is the North American Game Warden museum. The museum has two missions: 1) To honor game wardens who have given their lives in the line of duty & 2) To educate the public about their work and the natural resources they protect. The museum is open during the summer season but usually closes mid-September.

As we continue to follow the walkway along the Formal Gardens, we can see the entrance to the Peace Chapel ahead. The Peace Chapel is known as "A Place of Peace & Worship." The Peace Chapel is at the very end of the Formal Gardens and there are memorable quotes by world leaders on the walls. It's a place where you can enter and sit and contemplate a world at peace and certainly think about how fragile peace is.

One of the tenants at the International Peace Garden is the International Music Camp, and their campus is on the lower (south) driving loop. Thousands of kids have taken residence at the IMC during the summer, and their major performance area, The Masonic Auditorium is a major venue for weddings and other gatherings when not being used by the IMC.

My short journalistic tour of the Peace Garden certainly does not do the area justice. There are so many more memorable areas to visit including the Historic Lodge, one of the first buildings erected with field rock from North Dakota and timbers from Riding Mountain National Park in Manitoba. On the north loop you will see the Errick Willis Pavilion, another popular rental venue that overlooks a beautiful, serene lake.

There are also camping and picnicking areas, a kids' playground and canoe and kayak rentals to round out your Peace Garden visit, or visits.

Just a simple reminder, you will be leaving the United States once you enter the Peace Garden, and thus will need at best, your passport or in place of a passport a Smart ID and birth certificate for anyone who is in your vehicle, including children.

Year round the Peace Garden area invites guests to enjoy the quiet and serenity of an area dedicated to celebrating peace.



Entrance to the Peace Chapel.



Burning Hill Amphitheatre

Arts in the Parks

Minot, ND | Oak Park -305 4th Ave NW
www.minotarts.org

From mid-June through early August, this program offers something for all ages and interests in a relaxed outdoor setting. On Thursday evenings and Sunday afternoons and evenings, the Minot Area Council of the Arts hosts musical and visual arts presentations.

Artspace Suite 1 Gallery

Minot, ND | 3 Main St. S Suite 1

Hours: Thurs. & Fri. 2:30-5:30pm, Sat. 11am-4pm
From mid-June through early August, this program offers something for all ages and interests in a relaxed outdoor setting. On Thursday evenings and Sunday afternoons and evenings, the Minot Area Council of the Arts hosts musical and visual arts presentations.

Bismarck Art and Galleries Assoc

Bismarck, ND | 422 E. Front Ave | www.bismarck-art.org

Hours: Tues. - Fri. 10am-5pm, Sat. 1pm-3pm. Closed Saturdays between Memorial Day to Labor Day
Art gallery serving the Bismarck-Mandan area. With monthly exhibits of local, regional and national artists provided a wide spectrum of interests.

Bismarck Downtown Artist Co-op

Bismarck, ND | 222 North 4th Street, Suite 202

www.bismarckdac.com
Hours: Thurs. 12-8pm, Fri. 12pm-6pm, Sat. 10am-4pm
Downtown Artist Cooperative is an art gallery and working studio space operated by and for local artists.

Bismarck-Mandan Symphony Orchestra

Bismarck, ND | 215 North 6th St

www.bismarckmandansymphony.org
Symphony orchestra serving central and western North Dakota.

Dakota Stage, Ltd

Bismarck, ND | 412 E Main Ave

www.dakotastageltd.com
Community theatre serving the Bismarck-Mandan area.

Fargo Theatre

Fargo, ND | 314 Broadway N

www.fargotheatre.org
Theatre which shows films and live performances and houses the Fargo-Film Festival.

Fargo-Moorhead Community Theatre

Fargo, ND | 202 1st Ave N Moorhead | www.fmct.org

Community theatre serving the Fargo-Moorhead area.

Fargo-Moorhead Symphony

Fargo, ND | 848 3rd Ave S

www.fmsymphony.org
Symphony orchestra serving the Fargo-Moorhead region.

Fargo-Moorhead Opera

Fargo, ND | 21 8th Street S. | www.fmopera.org

Opera company serving the Fargo-Moorhead region.

Greater Grand Forks Symphony

Orchestra

Grand Forks, ND | www.ggfsso.org
Symphony orchestra serving Grand Forks area.

International Music Camp

www.internationalmusiccamp.com
Summer School of Fine Arts, in the International Peace Gardens. Study music, dance, creative writing, painting, drawing, etc.

James Memorial Art Center

Williston, ND | 621 1st Ave West

www.thejamesmemorial.org
Hours: Mon.-Thurs. 9am-3pm, Fri. 12pm-5pm, Sat. Closed, Sun. 1pm-5pm Sept.-Apr. Closed Sun. May-Aug.
To share art and culture with the community of Williston, North Dakota while preserving the historic building known as The James Memorial Art Center.



MSU Summer Theatre

Mouse River Players

Community Theatre
Minot, ND | 115 1st St. SE
www.mouseriverplayers.com
Mouse River Players is an all-volunteer community theatre organization. We are dedicated to providing live, quality theatre experiences, at an affordable cost, to the community of Minot and the surrounding rural areas.

Medora Musical

Medora, ND | 3422 Chateau Rd
www.medora.com
Located behind the MSU Dome, MSU Summer Theatre performs multiple plays and musicals each June and July.

Minot Symphony Orchestra

Minot, ND | 500 University Ave W
www.minotsymphony.com
A university and community orchestra serving the Minot area.

MSU Summer Theater

Minot, ND | 500 University Ave W
www.minotstateu.edu/theatre
Located behind the MSU Dome, MSU Summer Theatre performs multiple plays and musicals each June and July.

North Dakota Museum of Art

Grand Forks, ND | 261 Centennial Drive
www.ndmoa.com
Hours: Mon.-Fri. 9am-5pm, Sat.-Sun. 1pm-5pm
Serves as the official art museum of the State of North Dakota. The Museum's purpose is to foster and nurture the aesthetic life and artistic expression of the people living on the Northern Plains.

Northwest Art Center

Minot, ND | 500 University Ave W
www.minotstateu.edu/nac/
Minot State University is home to two art galleries managed by the Northwest Art Center; one located in Hartnett Hall the other in the Library. Best known for its diverse contemporary and traditional art, The Northwest Art Center hosts exhibitions by local, regional, national, and international artists.

Plains Art Museum

Fargo, ND | 704 1st Ave N | www.plainsart.org
Hours: Mon. Tues. Wed. Fri. 11am-5pm,
Thurs. 11am-9pm, Sat & Sun. 10am-5pm
Art gallery serving the Fargo-Moorhead region.

Sleepy Hollow Theatre & Arts Park

Bismarck, ND | 2899 E Divide Ave | www.shst.org
Summer theatre serving Bismarck-Mandan.

Taube Museum of Art

Minot, ND | 2 N. Main Street | www.taubemuseum.org
Hours: Tues.-Fri. 10:30am-5:30pm, Sat. 11am-4pm
The Taube Museum offers a full range of art classes throughout the year for kids aged 9 months through adults. There are also Paint the Town Red classes for adults who want to make a night of it with wine and instructed painting. Since there are two galleries, the main gallery & the lower gallery, the Taube is able to accommodate a vast amount of art. They also have a gift shop full of local art.

The Arts Center

Jamestown, ND | 115 2nd Street SW
www.jamestownarts.com
Hours: Mon.-Fri. 9:00am-5:00pm, Sat.10:00am-2:00pm
Jamestown area arts organization. Providing a wide variety of arts activities, exposure and experience for every age group and skill level.



Sleepy Hollow Theatre & Arts Park



Minot's Music Scene: The Sound of Summer

Community members settle in camp chairs at Citizens Alley to enjoy live music from the outdoor stage in downtown Minot on a summer night in 2025.

Jessica Ackerman Photo

FATIMZAHRA ELBOUAB

As summer approaches, communities across North Dakota come alive with music, bringing people together through shared experiences, culture, and entertainment. Whether looking for a relaxed evening outdoors or the excitement of a major concert, Minot's music scene has a place for everyone.

One of the highlights of the summer is the Levitt AMP Minot Music Series, which brings free live music to Citizens Alley. With ten free concerts featuring local, regional, and national artists, the space is open to all ages. Jessica Ackerman is the director of Local Motives, the nonprofit operator of Citizens Alley, and a part of the Levitt AMP Minot Music Series team. She describes the event as more than just a concert: "It's a space where music and community come together for a shared experience."

The full musical lineup is now available, and those interested can stay updated through the Citizens Alley website, e-newsletter, and social channels. The concert series, bringing out a total of 20 different music groups to the stage, runs from June 4 through August 20. It will showcase a wide range of genres, from Americana and country to hip-hop, folk, and indie rock.



Fun time at the fair and the Luke Bryan concert last summer!

Kauther Coffee Photo

Cadyn at the Luke Bryan concert at the 2025 ND State Fair!
Stephanie Johnson photo



With its relaxed, welcoming atmosphere (and free admission) visitors simply need to bring a blanket or chair, grab some food, and enjoy the live music, vendors, and activities. "Seeing people show up with smiles on their faces, connecting with each other, and enjoying the moments," says Ackerman, is what makes her job feel rewarding. "We hope it grows in a way that feels like a natural, lasting part of summer in Minot," she says. "This series is for everyone. Whether you come once or every week, you're part of what makes it special."

Another important contributor to Minot's summer music is the Minot Area Council of the Arts (MACA). Known for supporting and promoting the arts within the community, MACA will continue hosting free concerts at Oak Park. While details for this year's schedule have not yet been fully confirmed, these concerts have been described as offering a relaxed and family-friendly atmosphere, featuring Voice of Note, the Minot Symphony Orchestra, and the Minot City Band in past years. Historically, MACA has hosted live music, local art, and food vendors every Sunday from June to July from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. Bring along a chair and some blankets for a cozy night out in Oak Park! For those seeking a larger, high-energy concert experience, the North Dakota State Fair concerts are a major summer attraction. Held annually in Minot from July 17 to 25, 2026, more than 18,000 people attend the concerts each year, turning the city into an exciting hub for live music and entertainment. Featuring artists from across the region, the concerts offer a unique experience rivaling those across the state at a fraction of the price. State Fair admission remains widely accessible, making it one of the most affordable concerts to see performers live!

The Grandstand Showpass includes access to all 6 nights of entertainment during the fair, with 4 concerts and 2 horse relay events. The concerts are set to feature Jon Pardi, Jessie Murph, Niko Moon, and Zach Top. Meanwhile, Single Ticket Acts feature three artists, including Alex Warren feat. Noah Cyrus, Zedd, and T.I. w/ DaBaby & Waka Flocka Flame. Most importantly, the fair

hosts vendors selling a wide variety of foods and drinks to quench visitors' hunger amidst the fun. The atmosphere embodies the essence of summer: warmth, cheers, and beaming smiles that light up everyone's faces.

The full description of all events and lineups can now be viewed and purchased on the NDSF website, so buy tickets now before they sell out! The Northern Sentry also usually hosts giveaways, offering a chance for MAFB members to experience these performances at no cost. Keeping an eye on these promotions can be a great way to take part in festivities.

Overall, Minot's summer music scene reflects the power of the arts to bring communities together while creating lasting memories. Ranging from free local concerts to major performances, there are opportunities for everyone to engage with and enjoy live music. With concerts and entertainment filling every corner of Minot, every show is a chance to be part of Minot's unforgettable summer.



As people of all ages dance and tap along, Little Chicago Funk takes the stage at Citizens Alley in summer 2025.

Jessica Ackerman photo



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"Sliding Scale" Service Coupon

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All Batteries

\$10 OFF Regular Price




Brands may vary by location.

Must present coupon to get this offer. Savings off regular price. Most vehicles. No other discounts apply. Will be deducted from participating retailer's price at the time of purchase. Additional charge for shop supplies may be added. Redeem at a participating Pomp's location. Offer ends 8/31/26.



North Dakota State Fair

McLean County Fair

June 12-14, 2026
Underwood, ND

**Roughrider Days
Fair & Expo**

June 13 - July 4, 2026
Dickinson, ND

**Greater Grand
Forks Fair**

June 16-21, 2026
Grand Forks, ND

Foster County Fair

June 18-21, 2026
Carrington, ND

**Fort Union
Rendezvous**

June 18-21, 2026
Williston, ND

Bottineau County Fair

June 18-21, 2026
Bottineau, ND

Wells County Fair

June 18-21, 2026
Fessenden, ND

Stutsman County Fair

June 24-27, 2026
Jamestown, ND

**Upper Missouri
Valley Fair**

June 24-25, 2026
Williston, ND

Mercer County Fair

June 25-28, 2026
Beulah, ND

Pierce County Fair

June 26-28, 2026
Rugby, ND

**Roughrider Days
PRCA Pro Rodeo**

June 26-28, 2026
Dickinson, ND

Mandan Rodeo Days

July 2-4, 2026
Mandan, ND

Red River Valley Fair

July 3-12, 2026
West Fargo, ND

Pembina County Fair

July 9-11, 2026
Hamilton, ND

Tri-County Fair

July 9-12, 2026
Wishek, ND

Downtown Fargo Street Fair

July 16-18, 2026
Fargo, ND

**North Dakota
State Fair**

July 17-25, 2026
Minot, ND

Sargent County Fair

July 22-26, 2026
Forman, ND

Morton County Fair

July 29-August 2, 2026
New Salem, ND

Adams County Fair

July 31-August 2, 2026
Hettinger, ND

Capital A'Fair

August 1-2, 2026
Bismarck, ND

Bowman County Fair

August 6-9, 2026
Bowman, ND

**Red River Valley
Renaissance Faire**

August 8-9, 2026
West Fargo, ND

Downtown Street Fair

August 21-22, 2026
Grand Forks, ND

Ransom County Fair

August 26-30, 2026
Lisbon, ND

Big Iron Farm Show

September 14-16, 2026
West Fargo, ND

**Badlands Circuit
Finals Rodeo**

October 9-11, 2026
Minot, ND



Fort Union Trading Post

Chateau de Mores Historic Site

Medora, ND | 3426 Chateau Rd | 701-623-4355
A 26-room, 1883 hunting lodge built by the Marquis de Mores, an entrepreneurial French aristocrat who hoped to find his fortune in the Dakota Territory, overlooks Medora. His meatpacking business failed, but the town he named for his wife, Medora, prospered. The lavish home where he and his wife lived still contains many original furnishings. Eager docents stationed throughout Chateau de Mores State Historic Site offer insights and tours.

Fort Union Trading Post

Williston, ND | 15550 ND-1804 | 701-572-9083
Now reconstructed, Fort Union was the most important fur-trading site on the upper Missouri from 1828 to 1867. A self-guided tour, ranger-guided tours and living history programs are available for visitors.

Fort Totten State Historic Site

Fort Totten, ND | 417 Cavalry Cir | 701-766-4441
The Fort Totten State Historic Site got its start in 1867 when soldiers built a log structure that in no time was enlarged and expanded to include dozens of buildings. There is a lot more history to explore.

Fort Seward Military Post

Jamestown, ND | 605 10th St SW | 701-252-6682
An active military fort from 1872-1877, Fort Seward now houses an interpretive center displaying artifacts excavated from the site's archaeological digs. The grounds are also home to a Veterans' Memorial and scenic views of the James River Valley. Also, the largest United States flag on display in North Dakota flies here when weather permits.

Knife River Indian Villages

Stanton, ND | 564 County Rd 37 | 701-745-3309
Explore a reconstructed, furnished Hidatsa earth lodge, 15 miles of trails and a museum. A rich culture thrived along the banks of the Missouri River in west-central North Dakota when Meriwether Lewis and William Clark arrived in 1804. Today, trails weave through the sage and wildflower-dappled prairie to the remains of villages, including one where Sakakawea lived before she joined Lewis and Clark.

Lewis & Clark Interpretive Center & Fort Mandan Historic Site

Washburn, ND | 2576 8th St SW | 701-462-8535
Meriwether Lewis and William Clark spent more of their epic journey in North Dakota than in any other state. Stop first at the striking Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center and take in its exhibits about the expedition and area history. Then, continue to a replica of the fort, authentically reconstructed with 800 cottonwood logs, where the explorers weathered the brutal winter of 1804-1805.

Fort Buford State Historic Site

Near Williston, ND
Here, where two great rivers meet, people have gathered for thousands of years. At the Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center, take in the history of a place little changed since Lewis and Clark visited two centuries ago. At nearby Fort Buford, tour original and reconstructed building of the military post where Sitting Bull laid down his rifle.

Ronald Reagan Minuteman Missile State Historic Site

Cooperstown, ND | 555 113th 1/2 Ave NE
701- 797-3691
The Ronald Reagan Minuteman Missile State Historic Site consists of two sites telling the story of the Cold War years in North Dakota; Oscar-Zero Missile Alert Facility and the November-33 Launch Facility. They are the last remnants of the 321st Missile Wing, a cluster of intercontinental ballistic missile launch sites that were spread over a 6,500-square-mile area around the Grand Forks Air Force Base. Both played an integral part in the Cold War in North Dakota and the world.

Fort Abraham Lincoln Custer House & Commissary Bookstore

Mandan, ND | Fort Abraham State Park
701-667-6340
Guided tour of Gen. George and Libbie Custer's home. Self-guided tour of Fort Abraham Lincoln, home of the 7th Cavalry. Commissary Bookstore houses a large collection books about Custer and the history of Fort Abraham Lincoln.



Former Governors' Mansion

Fort Abercrombie

Abercrombie, ND
 Fort Abercrombie once served as a gateway to the West and the spear point of the army's advance into the Northern Plains. The original guardhouse and the reconstructed blockhouses and stockade attest to the bloody conflict that spilled into the Dakotas from Minnesota. Explore the buildings and visitor center.

Fort Stevenson Guardhouse

Garrison, ND | 1252A 41st Ave NW | 701-337-5576
 The Guardhouse Interpretive Center was reconstructed to tell the story of the frontier military history of Fort Stevenson. Step back in time and experience military life during Frontier Military Days held each year the fourth weekend in June.

Camp Hancock

Bismarck, ND
 Before Bismarck, there was Camp Hancock. Once a bustling military supply post and later a weather station, Camp Hancock is now home to the oldest building in Bismarck as well as an 1881 church and locomotive from the glory days of steam transportation.

Former Governors' Mansion

Bismarck, ND
 Explore the home of 20 former governors and their families at the Former Governors' Mansion. A lovely staircase leads from the public rooms to private areas where children played, servants worked, and families enjoyed privacy from 1894 to 1960. A carriage house on the lot features exhibits from the time the house was occupied.



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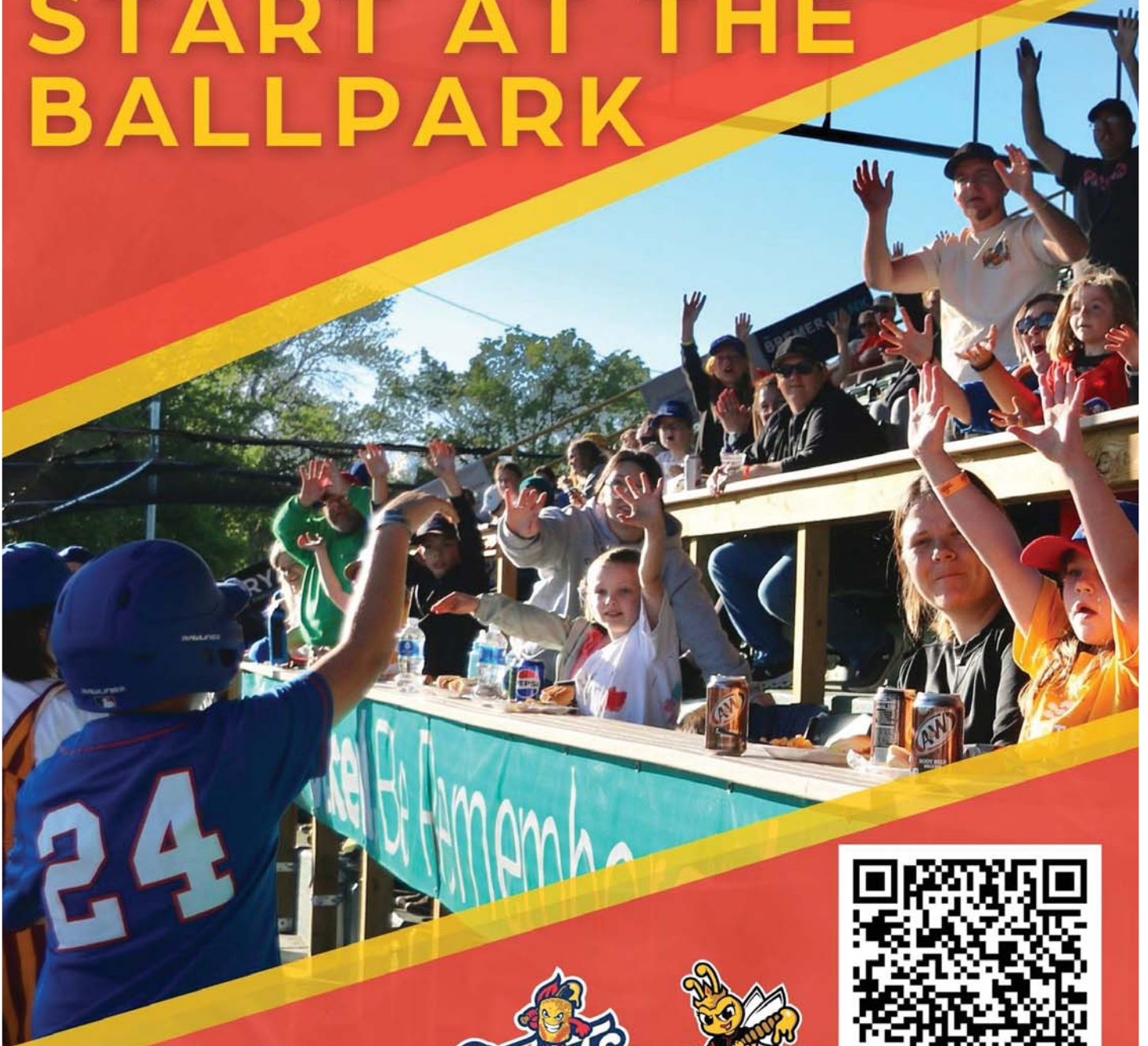


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Turtle Mountain Scenic Byway

Chan SanSan Scenic Backway

Begins at Highway 46 and continues south through Adrian, Dickey, Grand Rapids and LaMoure to the intersection of the County Line Road.

Des Lacs Scenic Backway

Begins at US Highway 52, 6 miles south of Kenmare and continues to the north end of the refuge where it terminates at the intersection of Ward County Road 1.

Points of Interest

- Historic Danish Mill: Built in 1902 on a homestead, the Mill was used by area farmers for grinding grains into flour. Now located in the center of the Park on the Square in Kenmare.
- Des Lacs National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center: The visitor center at Des Lacs National Wildlife Refuge Headquarters features displays of local history and native wildlife.
- Munch's Coulee National Recreation Trail: From this trail, excellent bird watching opportunities abound.

Enchanted Highway

Just off of 94 (Exit 72) approximately 20 miles east of Dickinson, ND. Here you will find six sculptures (The Tin Family, Grasshoppers in the Field, Pheasants on the Prairie, Teddy Roosevelt Rides Again, Geese in Flight and The Deer Family) that are spread out along the 32 miles. The works of art are created by Gary Greff, a native of Regent, North Dakota. Make sure to stop in Regent, ND at the Enchanted Highway Gift Shop, the Hettinger County Historical Museum and the Enchanted Castle.

Killdeer Mountain Four Bears Scenic Byway

Begins north of Manning on Highway 22 through Killdeer to Highway 23, then east to New Town.

Old Red Old Ten Scenic Byway

Begins at the Mandan Depot on Main Street in Mandan and travels west along Old Highway 10 to Dickinson. There is a 12-mile section of gravel road near Almont known as the Curlew Loop. Caution: 12-foot railroad underpass 11 miles west of Hebron.

Rendezvous Region Scenic Backway

Begins on Highway 55 in Vang proceeding east to Walhalla, turning southeast for 22 miles traveling past Icelandic State Park to Highway 5 ending in Cavalier.

Sakakawea Scenic Byway

This byway highlights fantastic views of the Missouri River Valley along with some of the state's most outstanding Lewis and Clark destinations. Visitors are able to follow the course of this great journey and discover the history and culture of the people who lived in the rolling hills and wooded valleys of the Missouri and Knife Rivers. Begins at Highway 200A from Washburn to Stanton.

Points of Interest

- Fort Clark State Historic Site: protects the archeological remains of a large earth lodge village, cemetery, two fur trade posts, and was the scene of devastating smallpox and cholera epidemics that decimated most of the inhabitants of a Mandan and later an Arikara Indian village.
- Fort Mandan Historic Site: The reconstructed Fort Mandan rests in the riparian forests of the Missouri River and features refurbished rooms filled with the equipage of the Lewis & Clark Expedition. On-site interpreters provide programs and year-round tours of Lewis & Clark's 1804-1805 wintering post.

Sheyenne River Valley National Scenic Byway

Begins at Getchell Township Hall on Barnes County Highway 21, along Highways 17 and 19, through Valley City, proceeding on Highway 21 to Ransom County Highway 13 to Lisbon. Standing Rock National Native American Scenic Byway Begins at the Cannonball River and continues south along Highways 1806 and 24 to the South Dakota state line.

Theodore Roosevelt National Park North Unit Scenic Byway

This byway provides the colorful North Dakota Badlands as a scenic backdrop with its sweeping vistas of one of the last remnants of wilderness in the Northern Great Plains. Theodore Roosevelt National Park memorializes the 26th president for his enduring contributions to the conservation of our natural resources. Visitors are provided a unique opportunity for wildlife viewing. In the park you will find open prairie, hardwood draws, bison, other wildlife, and the Little Missouri River. Begins 15 miles south of Watford City from US Highway 85 and proceeds west on the scenic drive through the North Unit of the park.

Turtle Mountain Scenic Byway

Begins 3 miles north of Rolla to St. John and proceeds west on County Highway 43 to State Highway 281. Continues west on State Highway 43 until it terminates on State Highway 14.



North Dakota's Enchanted Highway—32 miles of giant metal sculptures handcrafted by local artist Gary Greff.

Road Trip Magic: Exploring North Dakota's Enchanted Highway

NATALY ZARRELLA

When people think of North Dakota, wide-open prairies and rugged badlands often come to mind. But tucked away just off Exit 72 of I-94, between the towns of Gladstone and Regent, lies one of the most unexpected and delightful road trip experiences in the Midwest: the Enchanted Highway.

Stretching 32 miles through golden fields and rolling hills, the Enchanted Highway is a larger-than-life outdoor art exhibit featuring a series of massive metal sculptures—some as tall as a six-story building. Created by local artist and former school principal Gary Greff, the project began in 1989 with a simple dream: to breathe new life into his declining hometown of Regent and draw travelers off the interstate to explore the heart of North Dakota.

Greff, a self-taught artist, found inspiration in local wildlife, history, and community pride. Using scrap metal and a powerful imagination, he began welding together what would become some of the world's largest scrap metal sculptures. Over the decades, Greff has built and maintained the sculptures largely by hand—welding, sandblasting, and painting every detail himself.

What started as a single installation has since grown into a beloved attraction that captures the attention and admiration of thousands of visitors each year.

Each sculpture along the route tells a story—some whimsical, some nostalgic, and all unforgettable. Here's what you can expect on this magical journey:

• **Geese in Flight (Exit 72 off I-94):** Towering 110 feet tall and 154 feet wide, this dazzling display of geese flying across a sunburst holds the Guinness World Record for the largest metal sculpture in the world. The access road is lined with 200 smaller geese, guiding you onto the highway.

• **Deer Crossing (100 Ave SW):** This scene features a pair of deer mid-leap, symbolizing the beauty and agility of North Dakota's wildlife.

• **Grasshoppers in the Field:** A giant 60-foot grasshopper dominates the prairie, surrounded by smaller grasshoppers, paying tribute to the area's agricultural roots and the bugs that are part of farm life.

• **Fisherman's Dream:** A 70-foot trout bursts out of stylized water in a vivid scene that celebrates outdoor recreation and fishing culture.

• **Pheasants on the Prairie:** A colorful family of pheasants—a 40-foot rooster, a 35-foot hen, and two chicks—stand proudly against the open sky, capturing a slice of life on the plains.

• **Theodore Roosevelt Rides Again:** A salute to North Dakota's favorite adopted son, this sculpture features a massive figure of Roosevelt on horseback, accompanied by a stagecoach and other elements from the frontier era.

• **The Tin Family:** One of the most beloved installations, the Tin Family features a 45-foot-tall father holding a pitchfork, a 44-foot-tall mother with a purse, and a 23-foot-tall son holding a lollipop. It's a tribute to hardworking farm families and classic Americana



Tin Man: "The World's Largest Tin Family", which can be found on the Enchanted Highway in North Dakota



Cooper Family stop at Fisherman's Dream on the Enchanted Highway!!

As if the Enchanted Highway wasn't magical enough, a brand-new attraction is being unveiled in Summer 2025: "The Knight and the Dragon."

This dramatic installation brings a medieval twist to the prairie, featuring a towering knight in shining armor defending the Enchanted Castle from a fearsome metal dragon. With intricate detailing, dramatic scale, and imaginative storytelling, this sculpture promises to become a new favorite for both kids and adults. It will be located just beyond The Tin Family, making it the final (and perhaps most fantastical) stop before reaching Regent, North Dakota. The journey ends in the quaint town of Regent at the Enchanted Castle, where visitors can explore the Gift Shop and Motel for souvenirs, snacks, and a whimsical place to stay. Styled like a medieval castle, this whimsical destination offers souvenirs, snacks, and even lodging for those who want to spend a night in a fairy-tale setting. It's the perfect way to end your adventure—or to rest up before heading back out on the open road.

Tips for Travelers

- **Distance from Minot:** The Enchanted Highway is approximately 165 miles (about a 2.5-hour drive) southwest of Minot. With a round trip of around 5 hours this is a perfect day trip.
- **Flexible Route:** There's no wrong way to enjoy the Enchanted Highway! You can turn around at any point along the route if you're short on time or just want a shorter trip, each sculpture is accessible and enjoyable on its own.



Residents of Minot AFB Sadie and Laijla Tilstra visiting at Geese in Flight: Enchanted Highway sculpture off Exit 72 of I-94.



The Enchanted Highway newest sculpture which should be completed by Summer 2025.

- **Timing:** Summer is the best season to visit, with clear skies, green fields, and ideal road trip weather.
- **Photos:** Be sure to stop and take photos at each sculpture—parking areas are available and safe to pull into.
- **Gas & Snacks:** Fill up before you start the drive, as services are limited along the route. The nearest gas station is 14 miles west at the Cenex in Richardton, or you can find additional options in Dickinson or at the end of the Enchanted Highway in Regent, ND. Services are limited along the route, so plan ahead.
- **Restrooms:** Public restrooms are not available at every sculpture stop, so it's a good idea to use facilities in Richardton, Dickinson, or Regent before or after your drive.
- **Nearby Attractions:** Extend your trip by visiting Theodore Roosevelt National Park, the Dakota Dinosaur Museum, or the Medora Musical, all within a short drive from Regent.

More than just an art exhibit, the Enchanted Highway is a testament to the power of creativity, community pride, and one man's determination to make a difference. Whether you're a North Dakota native or just passing through, this unique destination offers something rare: a genuine sense of wonder. So pack up the car, grab your camera, and take the scenic route this summer. Because sometimes, the road less traveled really is the most enchanted.



Lake Metigoshe

Beaver Lake State Park

Trails: Beaver Lake Nature Trail, Old Settlers Trail, Woodland Trail, Moraine Loop Trail, Lake View Loop Trail and Rolling Prairie Loop Trail. Beaver Lake State Park’s non-motorized trail system covers 5.34 miles in a series of loops and several connecting segment trails that are open for hiking and biking. The Beaver Lake Nature Trail is a self-guided nature trail open to hiking only. Most of the trail system surface is either grass, dirt or hard-packed single-track, with manageable grades with only a few steeper sections.

Bison Plant Trail

This is Minot’s little jewel, located a few miles east of Minot off of Highway 52. The 3.5 mile trail is now entirely comprised of single track trail looping through a beautiful stash of city owned wooded land. It offers excellent shade and varies from fast hard pack dirt cruising sections to tight technical sections. Its location just outside of town makes it a great place to go pump out a couple laps after work. There is also a shorter variation of the trail (2.1 miles) used for running. All trails are well maintained.

Black Butte Adventures Trail

Located near Sawyer, this is a beautiful ride that traverses pasture land above the river and climbs over Black Butte. The trail is a tight single track with occasional rock technical sections, and one muddy water crossing. The main loop is about 5 miles and there is a secondary 3 mile loop across the cattle guard in the southwest.

Burlington Walking Path

The Burlington Walking Path is a paved trail through rural, rolling countryside that connects the cities of Minot and Burlington in north-central North Dakota. It parallels County Road 15 for most of its length, which becomes 4th Avenue as the trail approaches Minot.

Cross Ranch State Park

Trails: Matah “River” Trail, Ma-ak-oti “Old Villiage” Trail, Cottonwood Trail/Gaines Trail, Levis Trail and TNC Self-Guided Prairie Trail. Situated along the west bank of the Missouri River, the 589-acre Cross Ranch State Park and adjacent 6,000-acre Cross Ranch Nature Preserve are one of the few areas in North Dakota to offer a true primitive outdoor experience. Over 16 miles of trail wind through Cross Ranch State Park and Nature Preserve. Trail posts identify the trail names.

Fort Abraham Lincoln State Park

Trails: Scouts Trail System, Little Soldier Loop Trail, Young Hawk Interpretive Trail, Bob Tailed Pass, Little Sioux Trail, Bloody Knife Trail and Nature Trail. Fort Abraham Lincoln State Park’s non-motorized trail system covers approximately 6.75 miles in a series of loops and several connecting segment trails that are open for hiking, biking and horseback riding. Most of the trail system surface is either grass, dirt or hard-packed single-track, with manageable grades with only a few steeper sections.

Fort Ransom State Park

Trails: North Country National Scenic Trail, Redetzke Ridge Trail, Pederson Hills Trail, North Fork Trail, Nelson 80, Firebreak Trail, Little Twig Nature Trail, Ridgeline Nature Trail, Valley View Trail, Oak Ridge Trail, Meadow Run Trail, Riverside Trail and Southgate Trail Fort Ransom State Park’s non-motorized trail system covers over 14.64-miles in a series of loops, trails and connecting segment trails most which are multi-use and are open for hiking, horseback riding, biking, cross country skiing and snowshoeing. The majority of the trail system surface is either grass, dirt or hard-packed single-track, with manageable grades with only a few steeper sections.

Fort Stevenson State Park

The park offers 8.13 miles of non-motorized, multi use trail which provides a pleasant place to bike, walk, jog and cross country ski. This includes a .22 mile interpretive trail and a .48 mile arboretum trail.

Grahams Island State Park

Grahams Island State Park has two trails for hiking or walking. One is a 1.6 mile loop that can be accessed by the Sivert Thompson activity center. The other is a .5 mile loop located on the north end of the west campground.

Icelandic State Park

A 3/4 mile self-guided interpretive trail begins at the Gunlogson Homestead site and loops along the south side of the Tongue River. Other trails continue throughout the 200 acre Gunlogson Nature Preserve and natural wooded area along the river. Foot bridges provide easy crossing of the Tongue River and the area’s many natural springs. The majority of this 3 mile trail system is groomed and open in the winter for cross-country skiing. A 6 mile paved bike and hiking trail connects the park to Cavalier and to the golf course just west of the park.



Little Missouri State Park

Lake Metigoshe State Park

Trails: Old Oak Trail and Multi-Use Trails
Nestled in the scenic Turtle Mountains, on the shores of Lake Metigoshe, Lake Metigoshe State Park was constructed by the Works Progress Administration (WPA) in the 1930s and is one of the most popular year-round vacation spots in North Dakota.

Lake Sakakawea State Park

Several multi-use trails in the park are perfect for hiking, biking, cross-country skiing and snowshoeing. Hikers are encouraged to take in the scenic beauty of the completed segments of the North Country National Scenic Trail found in this park.

Lewis and Clark State Park

Trails: Prairie Nature Trail, North Trail System, South Trail System and Shoreline Trail
On the north shore of Lake Sakakawea, Lewis and Clark State Park is situated among the rugged buttes of the North Dakota Badlands. The park is named for the Corps of Discovery explorers Meriwether Lewis and William Clark. The expedition camped nearby on April 17, 1805.

Little Missouri State Park

Little Missouri State Park has over 47 miles of trails for horseback riding and hiking. Horse corrals are available for individuals and groups bringing in their own horses, and several artesian wells are located within the park for horse watering purposes. Trails are marked at major interestions.

Sully Creek State Park

Horseback riders, mountain bikers, and hikers have access to the 120-mile long Maah Daah Hey Trail, which traverses the Little Missouri National Grassland and to the 50 plus mile long Maah Daah Hey II Trail. Those using the trail should carry adequate potable water for drinking. In the early spring or during high flows, canoeing the Little Missouri River also offers a unique perspective of the Badlands.

Tatman Branch Trail

The trail begins on the outskirts of Minot and travels north for 10 miles along the former Tatman Branch Line. The path parallels 27th Street NE for most of its length, offering a straight, flat route through the countryside that ends at Minot Gate, the main entrance to the military base.

Turtle River State Park

Turtle River State Park has a system of mountain biking, hiking, and interpretive trails.

Upper Souris Wildlife Refuge

Trails: Oxbow Nature Trail, Overlook Nature Trail, Cottonwood Nature Trail and Centennial Wildlife Nature Trail
Located 30 miles NW of Minot, the Upper Souris National Wildlife Refuge has five nature trails for walking and hiking, two canoe trails and one auto tour route.

Long Distance Biking Routes

With its low traffic and excellent country roads, North Dakota is great for cross-country bike trips. For particularly scenic treks, check out North Dakota's designated scenic byways and backways on the N.D. State Highway Map. Before riding, check at area Chamber of Commerce offices, state and federal parks, state and federal Forest Service offices and local bike shops for their recommendations on the best routes. Some scenic areas to ride in North Dakota include:

- Little Missouri National Grassland
- Theodore Roosevelt National Park
- Lewis and Clark Trail (State highways 1804 and 1806)
- Pembina Gorge/Walhalla Area
- Turtle Mountains/Lake Metigoshe
- Fort Ransom State Park
- Sheyenne National Grassland

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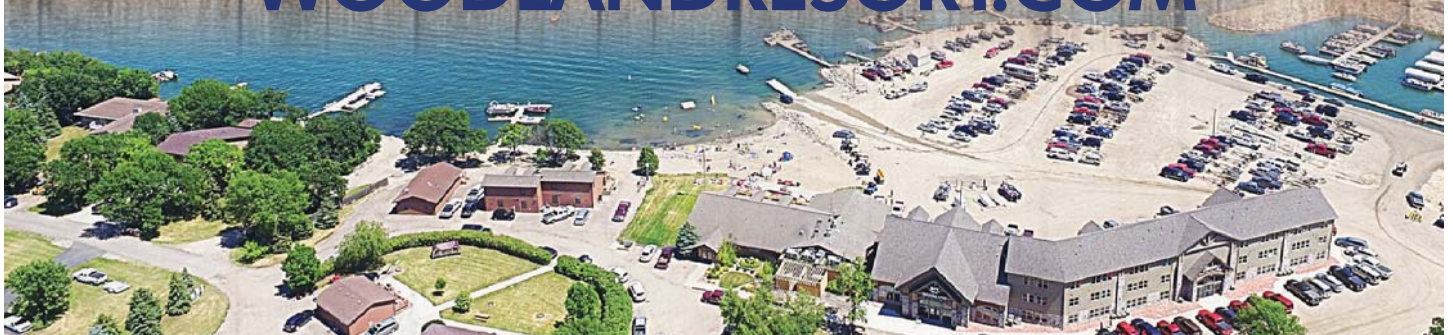
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Let's Fish

Fishing off docks and piers for bluegill on Lake Metigoshe is popular in the summer.

N.D. Game and Fish Department Photo

PATRICIA STOCKDILL

It's almost like stepping into a kaleidoscope of colors and shapes – the wide array of fishing tackle and presentation options lining fishing sections in stores across North Dakota.

It doesn't matter if it's a local convenience store or a diverse business like Home of Economy, summer fishing and its tackle are popular. While many residents hone in on walleye for their great taste, several other species offer options.

The N.D. Game and Fish Department manages more than 400 lakes across the state and here are some tips for area fishing adventures this summer:

BASS, LARGEMOUTH:

When it comes to largemouth bass and their pension for warm water, in North Dakota that means Oliver County's Nelson Lake. "All of Nelson Lake has warm water in it compared to our other lakes," described Game and Fish Department North-central District Fisheries Supervisor Jason Lee.

Five miles east and three miles south of Center, the man-made lake has warm water year-around with abundant forage so warm water loving largemouth bass grow faster there than other lakes. Its natural reproduction is supplemented periodically with stocking, Lee added. Try traditional bass techniques for good numbers of largemouth in a variety of sizes.

Kota-Ray Dam southeast of Ray in Williams County might be a pleasant surprise for anglers in search of nice largemouth bass, as well.



Oliver County's Nelson Lake – and its year-around warm water – provide what could be considered North Dakota's most consistent largemouth bass fishery.

N.D. Game and Fish Department Photo

BASS, SMALLMOUTH:

Feisty smallmouth bass are most often found in Lake Audubon, Lake Sakakawea, Hecker's Lake, any of the chain of lakes associated with the McClusky Canal, and the canal itself.

The McClusky Canal and its lakes - Hecker's, New Johns, East Park, and West Park lakes - feeds from the east side of Lake Audubon. Accessing the canal itself can be difficult, Lee advised, because of its steep, rocky edges. Best shore-fishing access points are off road bridges with a fishing pier on the canal northwest of Hecker's Lake, which is southeast of Mercer in Sheridan County.

Lake Audubon is on the east side of U.S. Highway 83 crossing the Lake Sakakawea embankment. The lake has multiple access points and fishing piers, making it excellent for shore-fishing.

Lake Darling northwest of Minot on the Upper Souris National Wildlife Refuge might offer up a smallmouth bass surprise for some anglers but remember that as a wildlife refuge, anglers should follow its special regulations such as no camping.

Smallies prefer gravelly substrate and rocky points with crayfish a popular food source. Lee suggests anglers target rocks and riprap from shore, casting small jigs or crankbaits away from shore or pitching small crankbaits towards shore when boat fishing. He also uses crankbaits as large as No. 9 or 11.

Lake Sakakawea also has smallmouth bass. Try areas with gravel and rocky points on the east end of the "Big Lake", such as areas around Sakakawea State Park.

BASS, WHITE:

Devils Lake is the state's "go to" white bass location. The 2015 age class is currently the most abundant population in the lake and fish could range between 14 and 16 inches. However, the upper end of Lake Sakakawea has its share of white bass at times and they love minnows in the spring.

BLUEGILL:

When it comes to this colorful panfish, head north, anglers, head north...to Lake Metigoshe, that is. Tucked in the Turtle Mountains of Bottineau County about 14 miles northeast of Bottineau, Metigoshe's mix of sub-emergent and emergent aquatic vegetation allows bluegill to escape predation. Its good water quality coupled with ample food means the lake has a nice mix of sizes and age classes.

While Lake Metigoshe is the region's premier bluegill lake, it's not the only one. They're also stocked in a few other lakes and while populations aren't strong, "they're slowly expanding," Lee explained. Try Long Lake (also in Bottineau County), Rice Lake northeast of Ryder (Ward County), South Carlson Lake southwest of Minot, Brush Lake three miles north of Mercer, Hiddenwood Lake south of Makoti, or even Nelson Lake.

Don't look for the numbers of fish from those lakes one might find in Lake Metigoshe but they could provide an occasional nice-sized bluegill, in part because lakes such as Rice, South Carlson, and Brush were stocked with adults a few years ago.



The fishing pier at Lake Audubon's East Totten Recreation Area provides easy access to shore-fishing opportunities.

Patricia Stockdill Photo



While not nearly as abundant as bluegill in Metigoshe, anglers going to Blacktail Dam northwest of highways U.S. 2 and U.S. 85 junction or Northgate Dam northwest of Bowbells in Burke County could also encounter some success. Smishek Lake northwest of Powers Lake has abundant small bluegill numbers – maybe even a keeper hiding somewhere.

Try a bobber with small hook and nightcrawler pieces from shore, casting along the edge of vegetation and letting the bobber float, Lee offered, or casting light jigs and worm pieces and reeling towards shore from boats.



Lake Metigoshe is the place to go in north-central North Dakota for bluegill. The lake's abundant aquatic vegetation, good water quality, and ample food provide some nice-sized bluegill and activity for anglers of all ages.
N.D. Game and Fish Department Photo

CATFISH:

When it comes to catfish in North Dakota, the Red River dividing North Dakota and Minnesota is considered the “go to” destination.

But it doesn't have to be.

Simply head to the Missouri River System, namely the Missouri River tailrace or Lake Sakakawea's back bays – especially those on the upper end around Williston or ones with feeder creeks and tributaries where water warms faster and is more turbid, described Game and Fish Department Missouri River Fisheries Supervisor Dave Fryda.

Native to the Missouri River, channel catfish provide good shore-fishing opportunities on both the river and lake. Given the state's short summers catfish have a short “growing” season. Most average about 2 to 5 pounds, sometimes 7 pounds. “A 10-pounder is pretty

big, especially for Lake Sakakawea,” Fryda described.

Rainbow smelt are the forage of choice for virtually all of Lake Sakakawea's predator fish and channel catfish are no exception. Fryda suggests anglers try any type of bottom rig with dead smelt.

The best tailrace fishing typically begins in June extending into the fall. The cold water of the tailrace produces excellent eater-sized 2- to 3-pound catfish. Try shore-fishing along the boat ramp or take the road east of Garrison Dam National Fish Hatchery to the large pool of water below Garrison Dam spillway where larger catfish may lurk.

Use dead smelt or drift with three-way swivels if boat fishing in the tailrace.

CRAPPIE:

While some areas of the upper end of Lake Sakakawea offer crappie activity, two locations in the region could be considered “go to” spots – Trenton Lake on the south side of the community of Trenton near Williston and Nelson Lake. Williston's John Shunk suggests casting slip bobbers with small jig and minnow or casting traditional crappie rigs. Early season is the best time for Trenton Lake crappie.

Try shallow water of bays for Lake Sakakawea crappie but don't neglect Northgate Dam for crappie.

NORTHERN PIKE:

Summer fishing adventures often begin with northern pike in North Dakota, one of the most common and popular native fish species until walleye overtook the popularity reigns among anglers. “The good thing is they're easy to catch from shore,” Lee suggested.

In addition, pike flourish in high water years when shoreline vegetation becomes flooded. While North Dakota is in the midst of a dry spell, ample northern pike opportunities still exist across the region and there is still time to catch them before they head for deeper water in the summer heat.

Pike success is best right after the spawn, but anglers might still want to try places such as Buffalo Lodge Lake northeast of Granville, Rice Lake, Hiddenwood Lake, Makoti Lake (south of Makoti and close to nearby Hiddenwood Lake), the chain of natural lakes in McLean County - Long, Crooked, and Strawberry lakes - and Lake Audubon - again because of its abundant shore-fishing opportunities. And don't neglect Lake Darling for pike.

Northwestern pike lakes include Smishek Lake and Blacktail Dam.

Now is the time to cast red-and-white Dardevles or large crankbaits from shore, moving out to deeper water in July or August. “The nice thing about pike is they grow fast,” Lee added.

Just a note when pike fishing on Lake Audubon – the lake is stocked with muskie, which are similar in size and coloration to northern pike. Be certain of species identification when keeping pike because all muskie less than 48 inches in length must be released.



TROUT:

Trout aren't native to North Dakota lakes or rivers. They don't spawn naturally in the state, either, so any trout fishery is a result of the cooperative fish spawning, rearing, and stocking program between the Game and Fish Department and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Garrison Dam National Fish Hatchery below Lake Sakakawea.

The Game and Fish Department stocks several community ponds, including Minot's North Dakota State Fair Pond. Rainbow and brown trout are also in the Missouri River below Garrison Dam.

Spring Lake Park near Williston, Kettle Lake northeast of Zahl, and Stanley and Watford City community ponds are stocked annually.

WALLEYE:

Given their popularity, walleye are the most common fish species across North Dakota lakes and draw the most attention from fisheries managers.

The Missouri River System - Lake Sakakawea, Lake Oahe, and the river itself - plus Lake Audubon and Devils Lake are the state's premier walleye fisheries as well as regional destinations for many anglers.

However, other smaller nearby lakes can provide walleye opportunities and may not garner as much attention. Lee suggests places like Buffalo Lodge Lake, Lake Metigoshe, Lake Audubon, Hiddenwood Lake, Antelope Lake northeast of Anamoose in Pierce County, or Clear Lake southeast of Anamoose. A word of caution, though, Lee offered - Clear Lake doesn't have a boat ramp and shore access is limited.

The south side of Lake Audubon is closed to open water fishing because it's part of the Fish and Wildlife Service's Audubon National Wildlife Refuge. Buoys mark the boundary across the water. Even so, Audubon has ample shore-fishing opportunities with a Game and Fish Department Wildlife Management Area embracing the north side of the lake to provide multiple boat access points.

Look for the possibility of keeper-sized walleye from White Earth Dam with an occasional larger walleye from Northgate and Blacktail dams.

Early season is the time to try jigs and minnows for walleye, moving into jigs and nightcrawlers as summer advances. Spinners or slow death hooks with nightcrawlers are typically good summer presentations.

The N.D. Game and Fish Department website, (gf.nd.gov) has just about everything an angler needs to know to help them head to the water for a summer fishing adventure. Simply click "Fishing" on the home page, and then "Where to Fish" for details.

The N.D. Game and Fish Department stocks catchable sized rainbow and brown trout in several community ponds in the state, providing shore-fishing in small and larger towns alike. For example, the North Dakota State Fair Pond has trout, as do ponds in communities such as Stanley and Watford City. In addition, the Missouri River tailrace below Garrison Dam is another good location to test one's fly-casting ability.

N.D. Game and Fish Department Photo



Although walleye are the most-desired fish species among anglers heading to North Dakota lakes and rivers, many lakes across the state offer a variety of other species.

Patricia Stockdill Photo



Adams Lake

Lots of small perch, with some up to 10 inches, and a few Walleye.

Arnegard Dam

Primarily pike, with some larger fish. Some adult perch and an abundance of black bullhead. Stocked with adult catfish in 2016.

Bisbee Dam - Big Coulee

Pike, walleye, perch, bluegill and crapple. Most walleye longer than 16 inches. Good pike numbers with some up to 6 pounds. Most perch are small.

Boundary Lake

Decent number of 6-8 inch perch.

Coal Mine Lake

Good number of northern pike, with some larger fish.

Crooked Lake

Good number of nice sized pike and walleye, with some smaller perch.

East Park Lake

Decent walleye numbers, with some larger fish. Fair number of small to medium sized yellow perch. Bluegill population has increased in recent years.

Epping-Springbrook Dam

Fair populations of northern pike, walleye and perch. Black bullhead abundant.

Fox Lake

Good walleye and perch populations, with larger fish present.

Froelich Dam

Walleye and pike abundant. Yellow perch, crappie, bluegill and largemouth bass present.

Gravel Lake

Pike and perch fishery. Pike average about 24 inches and most perch under 10 inches.

Green Lake

Quality walleye and perch fishery, with a low number of pike.

Harmony Lake

Good number of bluegill, with some quality sized fish. Stocked annually with rainbow trout.

Hatchery Kids Pond

Good shore fishing for early season trout.

Jasper Lake

Walleye up to 25 inches abundant and a fair number of large perch present.

Juanita Lake

Some pike available, but not high numbers. Bullhead abundant.

Kettle Lake

Primarily a rainbow trout fishery, but also contains some brown trout and largemouth bass. Small perch abundant.

Kraft Slough

Walleye and perch abundant.

Lightning Lake

A quality trout fishery, with some large fish. Stocked annually with rainbow trout.

Little Heart Pond

Catchable sized rainbow trout stocked in spring.

McPhail Lake

Small perch abundant and low numbers of walleye present.

Mirror Lake

Stocked fry walleye in May.

Nelson Lake

The best largemouth bass lake in the state. Abundant quality sized bluegill and crappie.

Northgate Dam

Good populations of walleye, rainbow trout and bluegill. Fair number of black crappie and a few largemouth bass.

Odland Lake

Abundant perch up to 1 pound & bluegill up to 1 pound. Abundant young walleye, with some up to a quarter-pound.

Painted Woods

Creek

Fair number of northern pike.

Paris Lake

Fair number of perch various sizes.

Rafferty Lake

Walleye up to 18 inches abundant.

Round Lake

Good number of pike and some walleye.



Smallmouth bass can be an underappreciated fish among many North Dakota anglers because of their passion for walleye but they're missing out on a lot of action and good eating. Try some of the McClusky Canal lakes, Lake Audubon, or rocky points on the bays of the east end of Lake Sakakawea.

N.D. Game and Fish Department Photo



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MILEAGE:

Minot: 47mi / 49min

Minot AFB: 64mi/ 1 hr.

Bismarck: 75mi / 1hr. 20min.

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- June 20 - Prairie Lake Quilt Fest.
- June 21 - Fly-In Breakfast
- June 27-28 - Frontier Military Days
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- July 18-19 - ND Governor's Cup
- July 19 - ND Junior Governor's Cup
- Aug 5-26 - Harvest Market on Main
- Aug. 8 - Aw Shucks! Corn Fest & Party in the Park
- Aug. 15 - EMS Kid Strong Event
- Sep. 19 - Oktober Family Fest
- Oct. 4 - Fire Prevention Breakfast
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Alumacraft Fishing Boats, deluxe fishing style Avalon pontoons, and deluxe cruise-fish style Avalon pontoons. All rentals come with fuel, life jackets, landing nets, minnow buckets, and are well maintained and guaranteed dependable. Rent by the day, 1/2 day, or hour. Special week packages. Full-day rentals are required on weekends and holidays.

**Fort Stevenson State Park
Garrison Marina**

Aqua Pads, Bikes, Canoes, Fat Tire Bikes, Kayaks, Kicksleds, Motorized Boats, Boats, Pontoons, Paddleboats.

**Lake View Lodge | Devils Lake, ND
Fishing Boats**

3- 18 ft Lund Alaskans, with 4 pedestal seats and a 75 hp 4-stroke motor. Side counsels.

Lake Sakakawea | Pick City, ND

The Park rents a variety of recreational equipment including paddle boats, canoes, kayaks, paddle boards and wave runners. All equipment is housed and rented at the park swim beach. Personal Floatation Devices (PFD's) are offered on loan for both adults and children.

**Dakota Cyclery Mountain Bike Adventures |
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We have a wide variety of rentals - from high end full suspension for the Maah Daah Hey to flat bar road bikes for the nearby National Park Loop to cruisers for hitting the streets of little Medora.

**Epic Sports | Bismarck, ND
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The Bismarck-Mandan area is filled with bike trails — paved and off-road, just waiting for you to ride. If you're from out-of-town, or your bike is in the shop, consider renting one of our bikes. Our rental bikes are always kept in tip-top shape and are of the highest quality. Our staff will help you select the best bike for you and what you intend to do. We also have bike trail maps available, and can help get you where you need to be to find that perfect trail. We are also one of the last stops before the legendary Maah Daah Hey Trail in Western North Dakota.





Camping in North Dakota

4 Bears RV Park

Located just south of the casino overlooking beautiful Lake Sakakawea, 4 Bears RV Park offers 24-hour security with 115 full service hookups and numerous picnic shelters. Primitive camping is also available.

Beaver Lake State Park

Located on the west shore of Beaver Lake, the park's gently rolling prairie provides scenic views for leisurely walks. In the summer, the lake attracts visitors for boating, canoeing, water skiing and fishing. Camping, picnicking and water-based activities available from mid-May through the end of September.

Cross Ranch State Park

Located along 7 miles of the last free-flowing, undeveloped stretches of the Missouri River, North Dakota's Cross Ranch Centennial State Park is rich in cultural and natural history.

Downstream Campground

Downstream Campground is located on the east bank of the Missouri River below Garrison Dam, which forms Lake Sakakawea. The area offers a wide variety of recreational activities, including boating, fishing and hunting.

Fort Abraham Lincoln State Park

Rich in both military and early Native American history, Fort Abraham Lincoln was once an important infantry and cavalry post. It was from this fort that Lt. Col. George Armstrong Custer and the Seventh cavalry rode out on their ill-fated expedition against the Sioux at the Little Big Horn. Portions of the military post, including the Custer House, have been reconstructed. Popular with visitors is On-A-Slant Indian Village. Reconstructed earthlodges depict the lifestyle of the Mandan Indians, who occupied this site from about 1575-1781. A modern campground is located in a scenic wooded area adjacent to the Heart River with picnic sites and playground equipment. Walking along the gently sloping hills, visitors have a panoramic vista of the Missouri River from the park's nature and historic trails. The park also has 4 primitive campsites with horse corrals.



Fort Stevenson State Park

Fort Lincoln State Park

Rich in both military and early Native American history, Fort Abraham Lincoln was once an important infantry and cavalry post. Portions of the military post, including the Custer House, have been reconstructed.

Fort Ransom State Park

The park, nestled in the picturesque and heavily-wooded Sheyenne River Valley, is managed as a natural and scenic area, and is located on one of North Dakota's officially designated Scenic Byways and Backways.

Fort Stevenson State Park

On the north shore of giant Lake Sakakawea, 3 miles south of Garrison, Ft. Stevenson State Park is known as the walleye capital of North Dakota. Visitors will find a modern campground, sleeping cabins, visitor center, interpretive trails and prairie dog town, as well as boat launching facilities.

Grahams Island State Park

The lake features some of the best fishing in North Dakota, both summer and winter. Amenities at Grahams Island State Park include a boat ramp, bait shop, modern and primitive camping facilities and camping cabins.

Icelandic State Park

Located on the north shore of Lake Renwick, Icelandic State Park offers visitors a wide array of recreational opportunities and glimpses of North Dakota's homesteading heritage.

Indian Hills Resort

Offers a variety of Camping and Lodging services from rustic Log Camping Cabins, Tent Camping and RV sites, to fully modern Lodging. Experience Lake Sakakawea's famous Walleye, Northern Pike, Small Mouth Bass, and Salmon fishing.

Lake Metigoshe State Park

Nestled in the scenic Turtle Mountains on the shores of Lake Metigoshe, Lake Metigoshe State Park was constructed by the Works Progress Administration in the 1930s and is one of the most popular year-round vacation spots in North Dakota.

Lake Sakakawea State Park

Located on the south shore of Lake Sakakawea, adjacent to Garrison Dam, Lake Sakakawea State Park offers a wide range of water based recreational activities and facilities. The park has a full service marina, including convenience store, fishing guide services and boat and camper storage.



Sunsets in North Dakota
ND Tourism Photo

Lewis and Clark State Park

Lewis and Clark State Park is situated on one of the upper bays of Lake Sakakawea. The rugged buttes of the North Dakota Badlands display a towering backdrop to one of the state's best recreation areas.

Little Missouri State Park

Some of the most picturesque Badlands scenery can be found at Little Missouri State Park. Most of this primitive park is accessible only on foot or horseback. Electrical hookups are available to campers, however, all other facilities are primitive.

Lunds Landing

Beautiful, quaint country setting, genuine hospitality, delicious homemade food, Juneberry pie, pan-fried walleye. Full-service restaurant, cabins, kayaks, canoes, boat rentals, fishing, hunting, birding activities, golfing, camping, tipi camping and Lewis and Clark Interpretive Trail. Wireless Internet available in all the cabins and lodge.

Pembina Gorge State Park

Opening in 2026 as North Dakota's 14th state park, Pembina Gorge State Park invites visitors to explore one of the state's most dramatic and diverse landscapes. A newly constructed campground sits near an extensive trail system open to hiking, horseback riding, mountain biking, and OHV use, with more than 16 miles of trails to discover. The region is also connected by an extensive snowmobile trail system. The Pembina River winds through the gorge, offering kayaking opportunities when river conditions allow, with rentals available seasonally.

Defined by steep valley cliffs, quiet prairies, and pocketed wetlands, Pembina Gorge is surrounded by the largest continuous, undisturbed forest in North Dakota. This rugged terrain supports exceptional biodiversity and is rich in wildlife, history, and paleontological resources.

From sweeping views and unforgettable sunsets to miles of wooded trails, Pembina Gorge State Park offers both adventure and solitude in a landscape found nowhere else in North Dakota.

Rough Rider State Park

Located in the heart of the North Dakota badlands, Rough Rider State Park is just minutes away from the historic town of Medora and Theodore Roosevelt National Park. This park offers a quiet escape from these popular tourist destinations. This park is the perfect spot for visitors seeking adventure. In the early spring, canoeing and kayaking the Little Missouri River is a popular activity. Traversing the 274-mile long Little Missouri River offers a unique perspective of the badlands from North Dakota's only State Scenic River. Horseback riding, hiking, and biking are also popular activities. The park gives visitors access to the 144-mile Maah Daah Hey Trail. Park previously known as Sully Creek State Park

Turtle River State Park

Situated on the meandering Turtle River, Turtle River State Park is located in a beautiful wooded valley. Constructed in the 1930s by the Civilian Conservation Corps, the park offers year-round recreational activities, including camping, picnicking, fishing and trails for hiking, mountain biking and cross country skiing.

Turtle Mountain State Recreation Area

The Turtle Mountain State Recreation Area is located six miles northwest of Bottineau. This recreation area has over 12 miles of motorized trails open to off-highway vehicles (OHV's), hiking, biking, snowshoeing and horseback riding.

Theodore Roosevelt National Park

Whether you're an avid camper, a hiking expert or just love beautiful scenery, there is something for everyone to enjoy at Theodore Roosevelt National Park. The park spans a total of 70,447 acres and is open year-round, although some trails and facilities are only open seasonally. The North Unit Visitor Center is open daily April to mid-October and Friday, Saturday and Sunday through the rest of the year. Be sure to drive the 14-mile Scenic Drive that leads in from the entrance of the park to Oxbow Overlook. The South Unit Visitor Center is located at the park entrance in Medora, North Dakota. It has an info desk, museum, movie and offers plenty of opportunities to learn about Theodore Roosevelt and his experience in the badlands. A major feature of the South Unit is the paved, 26-mile Scenic Loop Drive with interpretive stops that illustrate the parks history and natural features. Over 100 miles of trail make it a first-class hiking park, although because prairie and grasslands mostly surround the park, water and shade are limited along trails. Some are short self-guided trails while other trails span the length of the park.

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Theodore Roosevelt
National Park Wind Canyon

The best place to be in the summer is lakeside. The calm waters provide an abundance of things to do and enjoy. Swimming, fishing, boating, or just hanging out on the shore are all the perfect activities for a sunny day and are hard to surpass in how fun and easy they are to do.

East Arroda Lake

This beautiful spot is in Oliver County and provides an excellent spot for fishing and boating. The area is simply gorgeous all summer long.

Des Lacs Lake

Des Lacs Lake is home to a wildlife refuge as well as recreational areas. These help provide the perfect lake environment for everyone to enjoy. Hundreds of thousands of snow geese stop on their migration to this lake every year and plenty of other wildlife can be seen. Head out to Kenmare, North Dakota and take a visit to Des Lacs Lake and experience it for yourself.

Des Moines Lake

This lovely lake is the perfect spot for some lakeside lounging as well as some fun on the water. There are a couple of lakes nearby as well, so your possibilities are endless in this area. Des Moines Lake is located in Kidder County about 30 miles from Carrington.

Devils Lake

Devils Lake is the largest natural lake in North Dakota and is the best spot for summer fishing. If fishing is not your thing, then you can still enjoy the lake in any way you choose. There are tons of opportunities for all sorts of activities and it's definitely worth visiting again and again.

Lake Audubon

This lake is great for smallmouth bass fishing as well as perch and walleye. It's not only a perfect spot for fishing but also a beautiful spot in general. Grab some rods and check it out sometime!

Lake Darling

Lake Darling is the focal point of the Upper Souris National Wildlife Refuge located in northwest North Dakota.

Lake Metigoshe

Nestled in the Turtle Mountains, Lake Metigoshe is an absolutely breathtaking spot that is perfect for a stroll or setting out on the beautiful blue waters in a canoe and just enjoying nature and the warm weather. You won't find many places more serene than here, and the environment is picture worthy year round.

Lake Oahe

Lake Oahe extends from South Dakota all the way into south central North Dakota. It has prime opportunities for catching walleye, northern pike, catfish, and white bass. There's plenty of lake to enjoy and plenty of fish to catch here, and it's definitely a spot you should visit.

Lake Sakakawea

North Dakota's largest body of water is one of the top destinations for everything you can enjoy when it comes to seasonal lake fun. Whether you have a sailboat, pontoon, canoe, speedboat, or prefer to experience the shore or take a plunge into the water for a swim, you are guaranteed to have a good time here.

Larimore Dam

Take a weekend trip and camp at this spectacular lake formed from the Larimore Dam. Bring a canoe or kayak and take an early morning adventure across the lake, or just have a picnic lakeside on a pleasant day. There are so many possibilities here to make some awesome summer memories!

Nelson Lake

Nelson Lake is a great place if you are looking for bass fishing. There are both largemouth and smallmouth bass here along with northern pike and crappies. You're sure to get some bites here!

Powers Lake

The town of Powers Lake, North Dakota, is right on the banks of Powers Lake. The lake is an optimal spot for all kinds of summer fun, so get out there and enjoy what it has to offer.

Rice Lake

Rice Lake, near Minot, is a great summer destination for anyone who loves being around water. Swimming, fishing, boating - you name it, this lake is there for. Hang out with family and friends there all day and enjoy a sunset over Rice Lake to complete a perfect summer evening.

Strawberry Lake

Strawberry Lake is located in McLean County, North Dakota. This lake is 144 acres in size. It is approximately 21 feet deep at its deepest point. Anglers can expect to catch a variety of fish including Bluegill, Northern Pike, Walleye and Yellow Perch.



Brown Bear Exhibit

Minot Parks/Roosevelt Park Zoo Photo

Chahinkapa Zoo

Whapeton, ND | 1004 RJ Hughes Drive
www.chahinkapazoo.org | 701-248-0812 ext. 3

Hours

Daily 10 AM to 7 PM Through Labor Day
After Labor Day 10A M to 4 PM

Daily Admission Fees

Children Under 2:	FREE
Children (Ages 3-12):	\$13.00
Adults (3+ up):	\$15.00
Seniors (62+):	\$14.00
Military:	\$14.00

Dakota Zoo

Bismarck, ND | 602 Riverside Park Rd
www.dakotazoo.org | 701-223-7543

Hours (weather permitting)

Summer Hours
Late April to Sept: 10 AM to 6 PM daily
Winter Hours
October to Late April: 1 PM to 5 PM Friday-Sunday

Daily Admission Fees

Babies under 2:	Free
Children ages 2-12:	\$11.00
Adults (age 13+):	\$15.00
Seniors (age 60+):	\$14.00
Military (with ID):	\$14.00
Train Tickets	\$6.00

Red River Zoo

Fargo, ND | 4255 23rd Ave S
www.redriverzoo.org | 701-277-9240

Hours

Summer Hours
Daily 10 AM to 6 PM

Admission Fees

Children Under 2:	FREE
Children (Ages 2-14):	\$12.95
Adults:	\$14.95
Seniors (60+):	\$13.95

Roosevelt Park Zoo

Minot, ND | 1219 Burdick Expy E
rooseveltparkzoo.com | 701-857-4166

Hours (weather permitting)

Summer Hours
May 9 AM - 6 PM
June-August 9 AM - 8 PM
September 9 AM - 6 PM
Winter Hours
October - April Monday-Saturday 10AM - 3PM

Summer Admission Fees

Children 2 & under:	FREE
Children (Ages 3-12):	\$8.00
Adults:	\$12.00
Military Adults:	\$10.00
Seniors (Ages 60+):	\$10.00
Student (w/ college ID):	\$10.00

Winter Admission Fees

Children 2 & under:	FREE
Children (Ages 3-12):	\$6.00
Adults:	\$7.00
Military Adults:	\$5.00
Seniors (Ages 60+):	\$5.00
Student (w/ college ID):	\$5.00

Wagon & Stroller Rentals available. Concession on site.



Amur Tiger Exhibit

Minot Parks/Roosevelt Park Zoo Photo



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SUMMER ADMISSION

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Military: \$10.00*
College Students: \$10.00*
Seniors: \$10.00
Kids 3-12 years: \$8.00
2 & Under: Free

* (with ID)

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SEPT 10AM-6PM
OCT-APR 10AM-3PM

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Audubon NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Department of the Interior



Audubon National Wildlife Refuge
ND Tourism Photo

Audubon National Wildlife Refuge

Coleharbor, ND

Bird checklist includes 239 birds. 95 of these species nest on the Refuge.

Icelandic State Park & Gunlogson Nature Preserve

Cavalier, ND

Contains a variety of natural communities which include low-land woodlands, oak woodlands, wetland thickets, and native prairie.

Lake Metigoshe State Park

Turtle Mountains – Bottineau, ND

A summer breeding haven for many species of birds and migrating stopover for others.

Lostwood National Wildlife Refuge

Kenmare, ND

A refuge and breeding ground for migratory birds and other wildlife. 26,900 acres of rolling, mixed grass prairie dotted with more than 4,000 wetlands.

Pembina Hills

Walhalla, ND

Good habitat for ruffed grouse and wild turkeys. 75 species of breeding birds, including 11 of the state's 14 breeding warblers.

Souris Loop National Wildlife Refuge

Kenmare, Upham and Foxholm, ND

While waterfowl, pelicans, tundra swans, grouse and cranes are spectacular, a variety of other species of interest may be found. Birders come from all over the country looking for Sprague's Pipits, and Baird's and Le Conte's sparrows.

Sully's Hill National Game Preserve

Devils Lake, ND

The preserve's wooded hills are attractive to birds not normally seen in the open areas of the state.

Theodore Roosevelt National Park

Medora, ND

This list includes 186 species which have been observed in Theodore Roosevelt National Park plus 22 species that have not yet been observed but are suspected of occurring since they have been seen in the immediate area.

Birding Drives will take you to these remote birding hotspots:

- Arrowwood National Wildlife Refuge
- Chase Lake National Wildlife Refuge
- Lake Juanita
- Missouri Coteau Region
- Edward R. Brigham III
- Alkali Lake Sanctuary
- Jamestown Reservoir
- Jamestown Sewage Lagoons
- James River Valley
- Hawk's Nest Ridge
- Pipestem Reservoir





OPEN
MAY 16, 2026
THROUGH
OCTOBER 11, 2026



Museum Information

MUSEUM HOURS

Monday-Saturday: 10am-5pm
Sunday: 1pm-5pm
Open Mid-May to Mid-October

ADMISSIONS

Ages 5 and Under: Free
Ages 6-17: \$5.00
Ages 18+: \$10.00
Family: \$25.00
25% military discount on admission with valid military ID

LOCATION

100 34th Ave. NE, Minot, ND
On the North Side of the Airport



Scan For More
Information





Fargo Air Museum

Bonanzaville USA

West Fargo, ND | 1351 Main Ave W | 701-282-2822
Interpreters and 40 buildings on 12 acres re-create life when “bonanza” farms ruled the prairies in the late 1800s. Bonanzaville USA includes just about every type of building and business that might have made up a small North Dakota town when the area was being settled.

Dakota Territory Air Museum

Minot, ND | 100 34th Ave NE | 701-852-8500
The museum tells a rich and varied story of region’s aviation history. In addition to a replica of the Wright Flyer, the museum displays military and civilian aircraft from 1903 through the present. There are exhibits, narratives, kiosks, military uniforms, aviation items, memorabilia, paintings, photographs and a gift shop.

Dickinson Museum Center

Dickinson, ND | 188 Museum Drive E | 701-456-6225
Dinosaur museum featuring 11 full-scale dinosaur skeletons, including real skeletons excavated from the area, one of the world’s finest real Triceratops skulls, skeletal casts and sculptures. Visitors may also view an outstanding mineral collection from locations all over the world, invertebrate fossils and a real Rhinoceros and bison excavated from the area. The center also contains a history museum that tells the story of Dickinson and southwestern North Dakota. The center contains two exhibit galleries, the Pioneer Machinery Building and the 12-acre Prairie Outpost Park with five historic and six reproduction buildings.

Fargo Air Museum

Fargo, ND | 1609 19th Ave N | 701-293-8043
A premier flying museum in the Upper Midwest. The rotation of historic flyable airplanes. Other exhibits include: History of the North Dakota Flying Aces, North Dakota Air National Guard, cloud modification and agriculture aviation. We also have historical military displays featuring World War II, Korea, Vietnam and Iraq and Afghanistan wars.

Frontier Village & World’s Largest Buffalo

Jamestown, ND | 404 Louis L’Amour Lane | 701-251-9145
Take a step back in time at this re-created prairie town. Original buildings from the frontier villages of North Dakota have been moved to this site and filled with antiques and artifacts that bring the world of the prairie pioneers to life.

Gateway to Science Center

Bismarck, ND | 1810 Schafer St, Suite 1
Gateway to Science is North Dakota’s hands-on science center and children’s museum. Ignite your imagination as you explore our unique gallery containing more than 90 interactive science exhibits. With subjects ranging from robotics to simple machines, real human brain specimen to nanotechnology and beyond, learning is made fun for all ages in an informal environment where hands-on experience is the best teacher.

Magic City Discovery Center

Minot, ND | 1545 1st St NW | 701-858-7529
The Magic City Discovery Center is a hybrid between a children’s museum and a science center. Magic City Discovery Center boasts 12 galleries of 150 interactive exhibits geared towards kids of all ages. Kids can expel energy at the climbing walls and the extensive 37 foot Magic Climber where the peak offers a 360 degree view of the Magic City itself through glass windows.

National Buffalo Museum

Jamestown, ND | 500 17th St SE | 701-252-8648
Seeing one albino bison in a lifetime puts you among a lucky few. Find three of them—in one place—and you must be in North Dakota. The National Buffalo Museum has long been known for its albino cow White Cloud, a sacred animal in many Native American cultures.

North Dakota Cowboy Hall of Fame

Medora, ND | 250 Main Street | 701-623-2000
Native American, Ranching and Rodeo in Medora provides the history and heritage of the trail drivers, homesteaders, rodeo stars, Native Americans and the horse’s impact on plains culture. Recipient of 2010 Best American Cowboy Museum in Sept. 2010.

North Dakota Heritage Center

Bismarck, ND | 612 E Boulevard Ave | 701-328-2666
New galleries almost doubled the size of the North Dakota Heritage Center in Bismarck. Explore the dinosaur age, native tribes and modern cultural issues. Exhibits in the Treehouse, scheduled to open in 2015, will cater to tykes.



Dickinson Museum Center

Old Soo Transportation Museum

Minot, ND | 15 North Main Street | 701-852-2234

The museum focuses on the history of transportation in the American West including railroads, automobiles, buses and aviation. Permanent exhibits include BNSF, Amtrak, Great Northern Railway, Milwaukee Road, Northern Pacific Railway, Soo Line/Canadian Pacific, Railway Express Agency and Westland Oil Company.

Railroad Museum of Minot

Minot, ND | 19 1st St NE | 701-852-7091

This museum is dedicated to the railroad history and culture that established many of the state's cities. Displays and artifacts trace the vital impact of the railroads on the communities and the way of life the railroads provided for many individuals. The museum focuses on the time period from 1886 to present and has many hands on displays and information for visitors for all ages.

Prairie Village Museum

Rugby, ND | 102 US-2 | 701-776-6414

This museum at the Geographical Center of North America features 23 historic buildings and six exhibition halls arranged around a quaint village square. The museum's expansive collection includes everything from Native American powwow dresses to antique cars and farm machinery, to a real iron lung.

The Children's Museum at Yunker Farm

Fargo, ND | 1201 28th Ave N 701-232-6102

The Children's Museum offers hands-on exhibits and creative, unique learning opportunities for children and families. The Museum is located at a picturesque farmstead that includes picnic areas, mini-golf, train and carousel rides, children's gardens, nature trails and a playground.



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**MAGIC CITY
DISCOVERY
CENTER**



Magic City Discovery Center

North Dakota's first interactive science and children's museum is bursting at the seams with excitement! The glowing building on Minot's North Hill has been beckoning the imaginations of children (and adults) for months. In May 2023, the building officially opened to the public!

Parents won't have to worry about their kids not learning over the summer break because the Magic City Discovery Center boasts 12 galleries of 150 interactive exhibits geared towards kids of all ages. Kids can expel energy at the climbing walls and the extensive 37 foot Magic Climber where the peak offers a 360 degree view of the Magic City itself through glass windows.

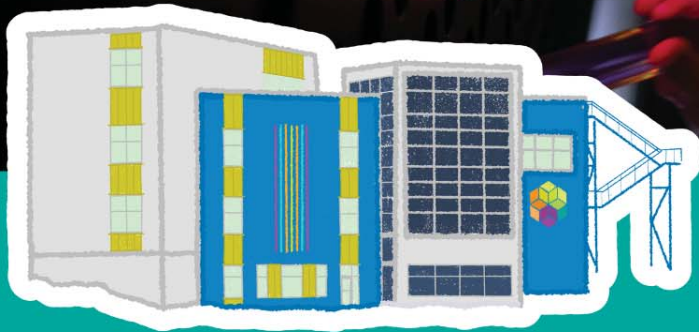
Kids will also experience physical science come to life in the Air Forces gallery where different playscapes offer hands-on learning about wind energy. Although science focused, the Discovery Center also includes a space for the artist to blossom with the Creativity Studio. This gallery "encourages fearless creativity, creative problem solving, and risk as children of all ages explore a wide range of art disciplines with STEAM relationships to both process and products."

They offer yearly family memberships, military discounts and a wide range of open hours both on weekdays and weekends. Come on out and experience the brand new Magic City Discovery Center this summer! The kids will have so much fun you will forget how much they are learning!

Visit them today at 1545 1st St NW, Minot.



LEARNING DOESN'T STOP WHEN SCHOOL LETS OUT...



In fact, it just gets **MORE** fun!

Spend your summer exploring all the Discovery Center has to offer through 12 galleries and 150+ exhibits!

Find us at 1545 1st St. NW, Minot, ND or at MagicCityDiscoveryCenter.com



Scandinavian Heritage Park

Dakota Bark Park

Minot, ND | 2905 7th Ave SW
The Dakota Bark Park features three fenced in play areas as well as benches and convenient bags to pick up after your pooch.

Green Valley Park

Minot, ND | Souris Drive & 27th St SE
Green Valley Park features a Basketball Court, Tennis Court, Playground and Bathroom Facilities.

Hammond Park

Minot, ND | 8th Ave & 3rd St NE
Hammond Park features Basketball Courts, Tennis Courts, a Playground, Picnic Shelter and Restrooms.

Leach Park

Minot, ND | 2400 Block of 2nd Ave SW
Leach Park features Basketball Courts, Tennis Courts, Horseshoes, Playgrounds, a Picnic Shelter and Bathroom Facilities.

Moose Park

Minot, ND | 400 9th St SW
Moose Park features a Playground, Picnic Shelter, Sand Volleyball Court, Horseshoe Pit and Bathroom Facilities.

Oak Park

Minot, ND | 11th to 14th Block of 4th Ave NW
Oak Park features a Playground, Sand Volleyball Court, Splash Pad, Band Shelter, Amphitheater, Trails and Picnic Shelters.

Old Settlers Park

Burlington, ND | 305 Park Rd
Old Settlers Park features Camping, Baseball, Volleyball, Horseshoes and Fishing.

Polaris Park

Minot, ND | 712 26th Ave NW
Polaris Park is home to a disc golf course, playground, skate park, picnic shelter and a baseball field.

Radio City Park

Minot, ND | 37th Ave SE & 2nd St
Radio City Park features a Splash Pad, Basketball Court, Tball Practice Field, Playground, Picnic Shelters, Open Space and Restrooms.

Riverside Park

Minot, ND | Alley South of Cortland Drive
Basketball Courts, Playground, Picnic Shelter and Restroom.

Roosevelt Park

Minot, ND | 1215 E Burdick Expy
Roosevelt Park features a Zoo, Swimming Pool, Sand Volleyball, Gardens, Picnic Shelters, Band Shelter, Playground, Magic City Express, Tennis Courts, Trails and Fishing Docks. Please expect some detours and closures as improvements to the area are expected throughout 2025.

Scandinavian Heritage Park

Minot, ND | South Broadway & 11th Ave SW | 852-9161
Scandinavian Heritage Center features, Picnic Shelters and Restrooms.

Velva City Park

Velva, ND | 112 2nd Ave W
The Velva City Park features Picnic Shelters, Tennis and HorseShoe Courts with a Walking Bridge connecting to the Recreation Complex including Softball, Football and Baseball Fields, Outdoor Swimming Pool and Modern RV Hookups.



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TILL 5PM



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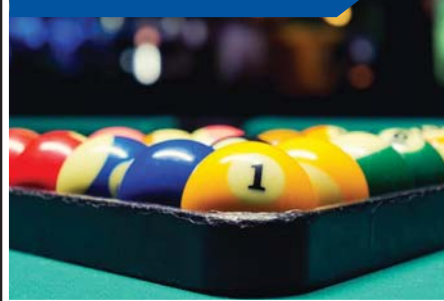
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POOL



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TUESDAY-THURSDAY 11AM-12PM
FRIDAY-SATURDAY 11AM-2AM

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AMC Dakota Square 9

Minot, ND | 2400 10th St SW | 701-839-4123
9 Stadium movie theaters, popcorn, candy, and games. Located inside the Dakota Square Mall next to Scheel Hunting & Fishing.

Escape Point

Minot, ND | 18 2nd St NE, Suite 3 | 701-500-0501
An Escape Room is a live-action adventure game where players are locked in a room where they must find clues and solve a series of puzzles in order to escape the room within a set period of time.

Gourmet Chef

Minot, ND | 122 Main St S | 701-839-8928
Gourmet Chef is your locally owned and operated culinary center! Specializing in quality cookware, bakeware, cutlery, kitchen tools, and specialty foods. We also carry a large assortment of North Dakota products! We host cooking classes for all ages. Visit www.gchef.com for available classes.

Get Air Trampoline Park

Minot, ND | 1210 4th Ave NW | 701-253-1222
Get Air Trampoline Park in Minot is an action-packed indoor attraction featuring wall-to-wall trampolines, foam pits, dodgeball courts, and a large indoor play zone. With more than 10,000 square feet of attractions, it's a favorite spot for active family fun, birthday parties, and group outings.

Margie's Art Glass Studio

Minot, ND | 109 Main Street South | 701-837-8555
Margie's is a locally owned studio bringing ceramics to life in a creative, inviting environment where family and community can gather to paint and create lasting memories. No reservations needed, walk-ins all day from open till one hour before close. Party room available.

North Hill Bowl

Minot, ND | 1901 N Broadway | 701-852-4108
Extremely fun if you want to go for extreme bowling, date night, or to play in a league. NHB is a family friendly 40 lane center! We have a restaurant, bar, and arcade! Fun for all ages!

Oak Park Theater

Minot, ND | 1500 4th Ave NW | 701-852-7469
Oak Park Theater has a long rich history in Minot and strive to keep that tradition going. Check out Oakparktheater.net for current shows and times

Planet Pizza

Minot, ND | 220 S Broadway Suite B | (701) 852-1700
Planet Pizza is one of Minot's top family entertainment destinations, combining specialty pizza, arcade games, and the region's largest laser tag arena. Located in downtown Minot, it's a go-to spot for birthdays, group outings, and family fun.

The Bunker

Minot, ND | 305 17th Ave SW | 701-852-4653
The Bunker is a unique indoor golf practice facility in Minot designed to make the game fun and accessible for families. Open seasonally from October through April, the space features more than 1,000 square feet of indoor putting green and three full-swing golf simulators for practice and friendly competition.

The Putt District

Minot, ND | 17 Main St S | 701-852-7888
The Putt District is a family-fun entertainment center in Minot, North Dakota featuring Glow in the Dark Mini-Golf, Arcade Lounge, and Clubhouse. The adventure starts here!

The Spot

Minot, ND | 6 2nd St NE | 701-852-7768
The Spot has 23 pool tables (16 diamond tables 13 cushion billiards table, 6 valley bar box tables) darts, golf simulator, batting cages, and video games.

TILT Studio

Tilt Studio at Dakota Square Mall is one of the largest indoor entertainment centers in Minot, offering more than 25,000 square feet of attractions and games for all ages. From laser tag and bumper cars to mini golf and arcade games, it's a go-to destination for family fun and group outings.

X-GOLF

Minot, ND | 21 East Central Ave. Suite 102 | 701-852-2937
North Dakota's premier indoor golf training and recreation center is open to all ages. The Ultimate Indoor Golf Experience. Golf on some of the most famous courses from around the world on our top-of-the-line golf simulators, book a private event, or a personal lesson from our in-house golf Pro.



7 Places Minot Teens Actually Hang Out

BRYLEIGH MCBRIDE

Settling into a new city mid-tour is no easy task. Especially if you're a teenager. While your parents are buried in housing paperwork and base orientation schedules, you're staring down an entire summer in a place where you don't know a single soul.

Here's the good news: Minot has more going on than it looks from the outside. You just need to know where to find it. Consider this your official Minot teen hangout field guide.

1. Get Air Trampoline Park

(1210 4th Ave NW, Minot)

Get Air is wall-to-wall trampolines, foam pits, dodgeball courts that get competitive, and a surf simulator that will definitely humble you. Weekend evenings level up into "glow sessions", high-energy events with music and neon lighting that are loud, fun, and according to Minot teens, it's one of the best spots in the city to meet people without anyone having to awkwardly introduce themselves.

2. Tilt Studio at Dakota Square Mall

(2400 10th St SW, Minot)

With over 150 arcade and video games, Tilt Studio doesn't mess around with its lineup, and neither do the teens who've basically claimed it as the city's unofficial central meeting point. It's inside Dakota Square Mall, which means there's also food nearby when you inevitably get hungry mid-session. Reachable via MATS (Minot's public bus system), so a car isn't required.

3. Planet Pizza

(220 S Broadway, Minot)

Laser tag with multi-level layouts and actual objective-based gameplay modes, for less than a minimum \$10. Planet Pizza combines a solid food menu with a laser tag arena that takes the game seriously. Throw in a full arcade section with prize redemption games and you've got a spot that works equally well for a solo Tuesday afternoon or a full group outing on a Friday night.

4. The Putt District

(17 S. Main St., Suite A, Minot)

The Putt District, features a glow-in-the-dark 14-hole mini golf course, board game rentals, console gaming lounges, and local ice cream that's notably good. The vibe is relaxed enough that nobody feels rushed, which is probably why groups constantly show up for "just an hour" and end up staying until close. Perfect for a first hangout and a little competition with people you just met.

5. Minot YMCA

(215 S Main St, Minot)

Year-round, accessible, a hot-spot, and genuinely well-equipped. The Y has a full gym, an indoor pool, a rock-climbing wall, and open courts for basketball and volleyball. Drop-in recreation is completely normal here for \$5. If you're the kind of person who stays sane by staying active (and let's be honest, a lot of teens are), this place should be on your agenda within the first week. It's also one of the better spots in the city for meeting people who share your energy without making it weird.

6. North Dakota State Fairgrounds

(2005 Burdick Expy E, Minot)

The North Dakota State Fair is one of the biggest events in the entire region, and it happens right here in Minot from July 17th-25th. We're talking carnival rides, live concerts ranging from country to rock, a massive midway, competitive food vendors doing everything from giant pickle pizzas to deep-fried oreos, and thousands of people descending on the city for a full week. It's loud, packed, and exactly the kind of shared experience that gives you instant conversation material with anyone who was there.

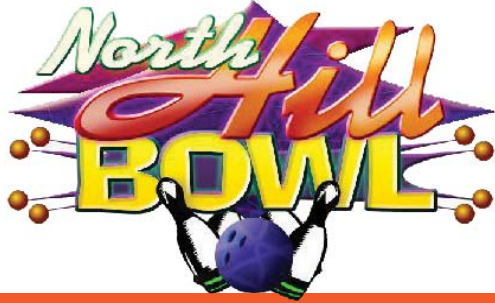
7. Oak Park & Roosevelt Pool

(1300 4th Ave NW, Minot / 1219 E Burdick Expy, Minot)

Oak Park has open fields, walking paths, playgrounds, and the kind of relaxed atmosphere that makes it easy to show up and end up in a random game with new friends within fifteen minutes. Roosevelt Pool is the summer heavyweight: diving boards, swim areas, and crowds of teens throughout the day once the temperature climbs. Both are affordable, accessible, and get significantly more fun once you know a few people to bring with you.

Most of these spots are reachable by bus, bike, or short drive. Minot isn't a massive city, as we all know, but it's got enough going on so that you won't spend the whole summer staring at those beige bedroom walls.

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Pistol Silhouette, Rifle Silhouette.

Capital City Sporting Clays LLC

Bismarck, ND | 701-220-1003
Skeet, Sporting Clays.

Lake Region Shooting Sports Association

Devils Lake, ND | Box 207 | 701-662-5301
Archery, Indoor Pistol (50 ft), Indoor Rifle (50 ft), Muzzleloading,
Outdoor Pistol (25,50,75,100,150,200,300), Outdoor Rifle
(25,50,75,100,150,200,300), Pistol Silhouette, Rifle Silhouette,
Skeet, Trap.

Nodak Arms Pistol Range

Minot, ND | 601 104th St SE | 701-839-0005
2 Lane Range is 2 lanes. \$1/minute gets you access to the entire
range regardless of the number of shooters in your group.
We have over a dozen hand guns if you want to try something
different or do not have your own firearm. Open 10am-6pm
Monday-Saturday

Minot Rifle & Pistol Club

Minot, ND | 1600 62nd St SW | 701-838-7882
Facilities include a 25 yard, 12-lane indoor range with
classroom; 120 acres outdoor range complete with multiple
shooting bays for pistol and longer range rifle bays. Outdoor
range is for members and their guests with passes only. Indoor
range is for members and the general public.

Rugby Shooting Club

Rugby, ND | Box 153 | 701-776-2879
Airgun, Outdoor Pistol (25 & 50 yds), Outdoor Rifle (25,
50, 75, 100 & 200 yds), Pistol Silhouette, Rifle Silhouette,
Sporting Clays, Trap.

Souris Valley Bowmen

Minot, ND | 6175 County Road 12 W | 701-240-6892
The Souris Valley Bowmen archery club maintains a 45-
acre outdoor range from May 1st until November, located
3 miles west of Minot, 1/2 mile southwest of the Trestle
Valley railroad trestle. Full and Partial Year memberships are
available as well as Individual and Family.

Turtle Lake Wildlife Club

Turtle Lake, ND | 701-448-2687
Trap.

Public Shooting Ranges

The North Dakota Game and Fish Department manages five
public shooting ranges on its wildlife management areas.
These are generally open to the public year round. However,
they may periodically close for maintenance, improvements
and events.

Lewis and Clark WMA

Six miles southwest of Williston

Little Heart Bottoms

12 miles south of Mandan off ND Highway 1806

MacLean Bottoms

Two miles south of ND Hwy 1804, 15 miles SE of Bismarck

Riverdale WMA

Two miles southwest of Riverdale

Wilton Mine WMA

Two miles east of Wilton



Souris Valley Bowmen



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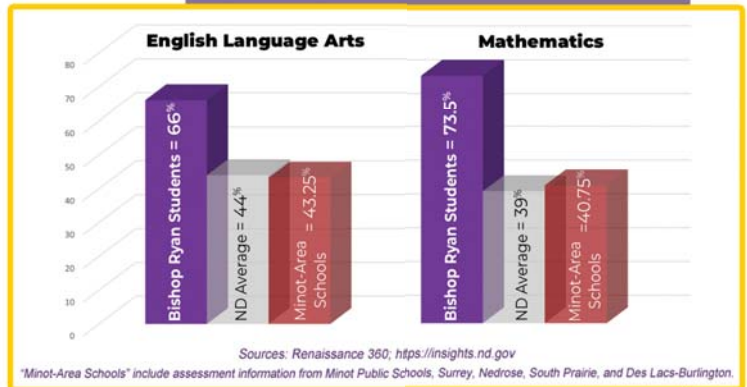
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4 Bears Water Park

New Town, ND | 202 Frontage Road | 701-627-4018
The 4 Bears Water Park is a favorite for family fun. Splash, slide, and relax in a tropical-style indoor water park right inside 4 Bears Casino & Lodge. The water park operates seasonally. Check their website for updated hours, schedules, and everything you need to plan your visit.

Bismarck Hotel and Conference Center

Bismarck, ND | 800 S 3rd St
The Bismarck Hotel and Conference Center has a pool area that includes 150-foot water slide, whirlpool, sauna and virtual reality arcade.

Coconut Cove Waterpark

Fargo, ND | 1635 42nd St S | 701-277-9000
The Delta by Marriott boasts a wild, winding, 150-foot waterslide. Coconut Cove also features a children's pool with cascade fountain, a lap pool, hot tub, sauna, outdoor patio and fitness center.

Governors' Inn of Casselton Waterpark

Casselton, ND | 2050 Governor's Dr | 701-347-4524
Indoor water park at Days Inn of Casselton features 2-story water slide, 5-level kiddie structure, 2 swimming pools, gator water walk, water basketball, water volleyball and a hot tub.

Elks Aquatic Center

Bismarck, ND | 321 W. Broadway Ave | 701-222-6607

Hillside Aquatic Complex

Bismarck, ND | 1719 E. Boulevard Ave. | 701-222-6419

Garrison Swimming Pool

Garrison, ND | 443 1st St. NW | 701-463-2751
Take a refreshing dip on a hot day and have a great time at the Garrison Swimming Pool which includes a slide and little tykes wadding pool.

Raging Rivers Water Park

Mandan, ND | 2600 46th Avenue SE | 701-663-3393
Raging Rivers Water park features tube slides, speed slides, a lazy river and a brand new Aqua Play area. It is four acres of wet and wild fun!

Roosevelt Park Pool

Minot, ND | 1215 E Burdick Expy | 701-857-4136
The Roosevelt Park Pool is one the best places to cool off and have fun in Minot. The pool features a waterslide, a wading pool, and a recently finished expansion of the locker room facilities.

Shipwreck Bay Water Playland

Fargo, ND | 3803 13th Ave S
Take a dip in our immersive water playland, Shipwreck Bay! Featuring thrilling slides, a pirate ship, and a tiki bar - there's something for the entire family to enjoy. Book a pool access room so you don't miss a minute of fun! Wristbands required for pool area entry. 6 wristbands per room. Located in the Holiday Inn.

Splash Down Dakota Water Park

Minot, ND | Dakota Square Mall | 701-837-3115
The largest indoor water park in the mid-west region with three huge slides, a large pool, a kiddie splash area, and a spacious hot tub.

Splasher's of the South Seas Indoor Waterpark

Grand Forks, ND | 1000 S 42nd St | 701-792-1970
A 40,000-square-foot indoor waterpark at Canad Inn in Grand Forks. Splashers of the South Seas includes cannonball slide, activity pool, kiddy pool, slide pool, lazy river, adult hot tub, 8 cabanas, and concessions.

Turtle Island Indoor Water Park

Belcourt, ND | 3965 Sky Dancer Way NE | 701-244-5550
Whether you come for a relaxing float, dizzying twists and turns or thrilling plunges, Turtle Island Indoor Water Park won't disappoint. The 23,000 square foot facility is attached to Sky Dancer Resort & Casino for convenient access to lodging, dining and entertainment. Includes 3 waterslides, 175 foot long lazy river, Activity pool and Kiddie's play area.

Velva Swimming Pool

Velva, ND | 701-338-2668

West River Community Center

Dickinson, ND | 2004 Fairway St
The West River Community Center in Dickinson has 2 water slides, a lazy river, water sprays, jets and falls, lap pool sauna and whirlpool.

Wild West Water Park

Watford City | 315 3rd St SE | 701-444-7665

Williston Area Recreation Center

Williston, ND | 822 18th St E | 701-572-9272
The Williston Area Recreation Center feature a water slide, lazy river, Flow Rider. Games include Battleship, Innertube Basketball and Water Volleyball.



Wildwood Country Club Golf Course

Black Sand Golf Course

Beulah, ND | 1130 ND-49
701-873-2929

Located on the south side of Lake Sakakawea. The public course, formerly known as Beulah Municipal Golf Course, has been in operation since 1953. Play this 9-hole course twice, and it measures 6,226 yards and plays to a par 70.

Bully Pulpit Golf Course

Medora, ND | 3731 Bible Camp Rd | 701-623-4653

Chiseled into the awe-inspiring North Dakota Badlands, you'll fall in love with the wild and breathtaking scenery that surrounds Bully Pulpit Golf Course, while enjoying a world-class golf experience. This 18-hole venue features five tees, ranging in length from a comfortable 4,750 total yards from the forward tees to a challenging 7,166 at the tips.

Eagle Ridge Golf Club

Williston, ND | 6401 3rd Ave E | (701) 572-6500

Not far from Williston, Eagle Ridge Golf Club offers terrific views and challenging play for golfers at every skill level. Well-groomed fairways and greens keep Eagle Ridge Golf Club difficult yet friendly, and the staff can offer tips and tricks for playing your best round. Eagle Ridge is a terrific choice for your regular rounds of golf, or perhaps a new destination for you and friends when visiting Williston.

Edgewater Golf Course

New Town, ND | 100 Highway 23 | (701) 627-9407

The 9-hole "Edgewater" course at the Edgewater Country Club facility in New Town, North Dakota features 3,278 yards of golf from the longest tees for a par of 36. Edgewater golf course opened in 1979. Ray Helphrey manages the course as the General Manager.

Garrison Golf Course

Garrison, ND | Hwy 37, | 701-337-5420

Beautiful 9-hole, par-36 golf course. Year-round golf on the new state of the art golf simulator! Nice clubhouse for seating up to 75 people with hot food!

Jack Hoeven Wee Links Golf Course

Minot, ND | 900 Forest Road | 701-857-1570

The Wee Links is a real golf course consisting of nine holes varying from 60 to 120 yards in length. It was designed specifically for kids. Each hole promotes one the The First Tee's 9 Core Values.

Lucy's Amusement Park (Mini Golf)

Minot, ND | 5119 Hwy 83 S | 701-839-2320

Lucy's Amusement Park is a terrific place to have hours of family fun. The park offers the most challenging 18-hole miniature golf course in the northwest, cosmic orbiter, a tower slide, various kiddie rides, disco scooter and moonwalk. Picnic areas are available with bonfire by request. Ride fees set for individual rides.

Minot Country Club

Minot, ND | 1912 Valley Bluff Dr | 701-852-3591

This member only course features four sets of tees ranging from 4,686 yards to 7,029 yards. In addition to world-class golf, Minot Country Club has a new clubhouse featuring golf shop, restaurant, lounge, conference room and locker room facilities. There is a practice facility with short game area, a member pool and other year round family friendly activities.

Pebble Creek Golf Course

Bismarck, ND | 2525 N. 19th St | 701-223-3600

Pebble Creek plays to par 70 with a length of 5,874 yards for 18 holes. This links-style course with native grass rough has water in play on five holes, and big fast greens to test your putting nerves. Pebble Creek is also the site of Fore Seasons Golf Center that features an indoor driving range, pro shop and a batting cage. Club rentals, pro shop, indoor and outdoor driving range, putting green and cart rentals are also available.

Riverwood Golf Course

Bismarck, ND | 725 Riverwood Drive | 701-222-6462

Riverwood is an 18-hole course with tree-lined fairways making for challenging play. From the tips, the par-72 course measures 7,004 yards. The course has been lengthened from 6929 yards while rating/slope remains the same. The distinction is made by the magazine's nationwide team of course raters, and is an exclusive honor given to public golf courses.

Roughrider Golf Course

Minot AFB, ND | 220 Golf Drive | 701-723-3164

A challenging nine-hole course located near the Base and can be entered directly from US Highway 83. The complex is managed and maintained in a relaxed, friendly atmosphere and offers nine holes, a driving range, putting green, chipping green, and picnic area. The club house includes a pro shop and snack bar/lounge.

Souris Valley Golf Course

Minot, ND | 2400 14th Avenue SW | 701-857-4189
The 18-hole "Souris Valley" course at the Souris Valley Golf Course facility in Minot, North Dakota features 6,759 yards of golf from the longest tees for a par of 72 . The course rating is 72.5 and it has a slope rating of 125 on Blue tees.

Star City Golf Course

Velva, ND | Highway 41 North | 701-338-2363
9-holes of golf that is ideal for all levels of golfers and is designed to help you improve your game. You will be able to test your skill set with our numerous water hazards and carefully placed sand traps.

Super Slide (Mini Golf)

Bismarck, ND | 500 Riverside Park Rd | 701-255-1107
Superslide Amusement Park has a variety of activities for everyone to enjoy! Come play a round of mini-golf with friends or challenge your family to a game of Bankshot Basketball. Take a trip down the 6-lane Superslide and soar above the trees on the Ferris Wheel.

The Links of North Dakota

Ray, ND | 5153 109th Ave NW | 701-568-2600
The Links of North Dakota is an example of some of the purest links style golf. This natural, rolling true links design harkens back to the birth of the game – golf as it should be played - in a truly magnificent setting along the bluffs and banks overlooking sprawling Lake Sakakawea.

Thunder Road (Mini Golf)

Fargo, ND | 2902 Thunder Rd S | 701-282-5151
Two unique 18-hole miniature golf courses, both playing up around the volcano, with ponds, rivers and waterfalls. You can have a relaxing round of golf or play competitive style complete with score cards.

Vardon Golf Club

Minot, ND | 7101 County Road 15 W | 701-852-0312
Formally the Minot Country Club, hosting golfers since 1929 but devastated by 2011 flooding, then rebuilt and rebranded as Vardon Golf Club, this golf course offers a memorable golfing experience for all types of players. Come out for a great round of golf or just to grab some food in the bar/grille.

Wildwood Country Club Golf Course

Burlington, ND | 8401 Highway 15 | 701-725-4653
Wildwood Country Club is an 18-hole regulation length golf course. Offers amenities such as a driving range, pull carts, riding carts, lessons, pro shop gear and great dining.



Pebble Creek Golf Course

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-29TH**
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SAT, APRIL 26TH
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REGULAR SEASON:

SUN, MAY 3RD / 7PM
OPENING NIGHT
SM-H-ST-M-NOSA

SUN, MAY 10TH / 7PM
MOTHER'S DAY
SM-H-ST-SC-M

SUN, MAY 17TH / 7PM
RACE NIGHT
SM-H-ST-SC-M

SUN, MAY 24TH / 7PM
RACE NIGHT
SM-H-ST-SC-M

MON, MAY 25TH / 7PM
MEMORIAL DAY / MILITARY APPRECIATION NIGHT
SM-H-ST-SC-M

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H = IMCA HOBBY STOCKS
SC = SPORT COMPACTS
ST = IMCA STOCK CARS
M = IMCA MODIFIEDS
SL = SLINGSHOTS
W = WINGLESS SPRINTS
L = LEGENDS
NOSA = NOSA SPRINT CARS



SUN, MAY 31ST / 7PM
WORLD OF OUTLAW SPRINT CARS
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SUN, JUNE 7TH / 7PM
TOUGHER THAN DIRT TOUR
SM-H-ST-M-SL

SUN, JUNE 14TH / 7PM
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SUN, JUNE 21ST / 7PM
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SUN, JUNE 28TH / 7PM
WORLD OF OUTLAW LATE MODELS
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POST-SEASON/SPECIALS:

SAT, JULY 4TH / 7PM
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SUN, JULY 5TH / 7PM
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SUN, AUG 9TH / 7PM
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ST-SM-W



SUN, AUG 16TH / 7PM
BONNIE BEETER & MONTE LUNDY MEMORIAL
(FAST SHIFTS ALL STAR QUALIFIER)
H-M-W-SL



MOTOR MAGIC:

FRI, SEPT 4TH / 7PM
MOTOR MAGIC NIGHT #1
H-SM-SC-ST-M

SAT, SEPT 5TH / 7PM
MOTOR MAGIC NIGHT #2
NODAK HALL OF FAME NIGHT
H-SM-SC-ST-M-SL

SUN, SEPT 6TH / 7PM
MOTOR MAGIC NIGHT #3
H-SM-SC-ST-M-SL



SAT, OCT 24TH
NODAK BANQUET

SUN, OCT 25TH
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North Dakota offers thousands of miles for registered OHV use. OHVs are motorized vehicles designed for off-road travel across various terrains.

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- Certain roads up to 65 mph (for licensed drivers 16+ operating Class III OHVs)
- Roadside areas like ditches or outslope (not the shoulder or inside slope)
- Gravel, dirt, or loose-surface roads

Where you cannot ride:

- Interstates or controlled-access highways
- Restricted or posted public/private land
- State parks, recreation areas, historic sites, or wildlife areas
- Tree nurseries or planting areas
- Railroad rights of way
- Snowmobile-designated motorized trails

Public lands open to OHV

- **Pembina Gorge** - Pembina Gorge trails will be open to OHV recreation starting Memorial Day weekend.
- **St. John's OHV Park** - Located NW of Rolla in the town of St. John.
- **Little Missouri National Grasslands** - Riders will find several hundred miles of riding opportunities. OHVs must stay on established roads and trails.
- **Roughrider OHV Trail** - A 16-mile trail managed by the North Dakota Parks and Recreation Department. The trail is located 30 miles south of Mandan on Highway 1806; it begins at the Fort Rice Campground, travels north on an old railroad bed, and ends at Little Heart Bottoms.
- **Kimball Bottoms Recreation Area** - Also known as, The Desert, this 400-acre play area is managed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and is located 8 miles south of Bismarck, ND.



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Theodore Roosevelt Presidential Library Coming to North Dakota

The terrace offers scenic views and likely a North Dakota breeze.

ERIN BEENE

Something big is coming to North Dakota this summer, something only twelve other states currently have. The small town of Medora will soon be home to the Theodore Roosevelt Presidential Library, opening July 4. But what exactly is a presidential library? Why Medora? What does it mean for you, and is it worth the trip?

Despite the name, presidential libraries aren't traditional libraries filled with books and quiet reading rooms. According to the National Archives, they are funded primarily through private donations, local governments, university partners, and nonprofit organizations.

These libraries are dedicated to individual U.S. presidents and function more like museums, featuring exhibits, artifacts, and historical documents related to their lives and legacies. According to Chief Communications Officer Matt Briney, "[Roosevelt's] papers [and official documents] will still remain at the Library of Congress, National Archives, Harvard, etc. However we are working with our partners at Dickinson State University, the Theodore Roosevelt Center, to make everything digital and accessible online."

There are currently 15 presidential libraries in the United States, with the Theodore Roosevelt Presidential Library becoming the 16th when it opens in 2026.

So why Medora?

If you've spent any time in North Dakota, you've likely heard about Theodore Roosevelt's deep connection to the state. While he didn't grow up here, his time in the Badlands had a lasting impact on his life. In fact, he once said, "I would not have been President had it not been for my experience in North Dakota." Even Minot Air Force Base reflects that legacy: the 91st Missile Wing's mascot, the Rough Riders, is named after the cavalry unit Roosevelt led in the late 1800s.

The library will overlook Theodore Roosevelt National Park, blending into the surrounding Badlands and honoring both the landscape and the legacy that shaped him.

So, is it worth the drive?

Along with Medora's existing attractions (the charming town, the Medora Musical, and the scenic beauty) the Theodore Roosevelt Presidential Library promises a highly interactive experience. Briney explained that visitors will be able to explore the Adventure Gallery, which "immerses visitors into TR's world," allowing them to experience key moments of his life, from his childhood to his time in the White House.

Guests can also interact with an AI version of Roosevelt, asking questions about his life and legacy. Another unique feature includes wearable wristbands that allow visitors to "check in" at different exhibits and take virtual photos alongside Roosevelt in locations he explored throughout his life.

Briney recommends planning at least three and a half hours for a visit, though history enthusiasts could easily spend an entire day there. He emphasized that while all visitors will enjoy the experience, it's especially engaging for children and families.

Unlike traditional public libraries, presidential libraries do charge admission. Tickets are recommended to be purchased in advance, especially during the opening months when demand is expected to be high. They also have an extensive military discount policy that extends to Active Duty, Veterans, Reserves, National Guard and immediate family members. Military discounted tickets are currently priced at \$22. More specifics about ticketing can be found on their website.

Briney also noted that the library is working on a low-cost annual military membership option, allowing service members to visit throughout the year. More details are expected soon.



Visitors can explore different periods of Teddy's life and experiences.

In addition to daily exhibits, the library plans to host year-round events, including author talks, historical lectures, and seasonal celebrations.

The official ribbon-cutting ceremony is scheduled for July 4, 2026, with political leaders, North Dakota officials, and even descendants of Theodore Roosevelt expected to attend. While opening week is already sold out, Briney encourages Minot Air Force Base families to plan a visit later in the summer or early fall.

This is more than just a new attraction, it's a chance to experience history in a place that helped shape it.



The Theodore Roosevelt Presidential Library amidst the expansive Badlands of North Dakota

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Hiking in Medora
Jesse Nelson Photo

Medora is located in the Badlands of North Dakota. Plan a vacation to this historical town and enjoy the beautiful scenery it has to offer. Theodore Roosevelt National Park is an outdoor enthusiasts dream offering amazing bike and hiking trails, camping and relaxation.

Family Fun Center

No family trip to Medora would be complete without an afternoon spent at the Family Fun Center! The kids can have a blast on our massive Inflatable Water Slide, catch some air on the bungee jump, scale a kid-friendly rock wall, or soak each other in Water Wars -- a water balloon sling shot stand off!

Bully Pulpit Golf Course

Some courses impose themselves on the landscape, but at Bully Pulpit Golf Course you'll find yourself climbing through meadows and woodlands and meandering along the Little Missouri River, fully immersed in the beauty of the landscape all around you! As you climb out of the shadow of the bluff on thirteen green, our signature holes await. "The Badlands Holes" number 14, 15, and 16 will take you through a rugged fairway gorge. From butte-top tee boxes to a green among a sea of Badlands, this is one golfing adventure you're not soon to forget.



Bully Pulpit Golf Course

Pitchfork Steak Fondue

Every evening our chefs load steaks onto pitchforks and fondue them western style. Savor your steak as you overlook the picturesque Badlands from atop a bluff at the Tjaden Terrace. Your steak comes with all of the fixin's. Plus, you'll be serenaded with western melodies performed live by members of The Coal Diggers from the Medora Musical. Don't miss this unique dining experience that was featured on the national television show, Best Of, on The Food Network!

The Medora Musical

The Medora Musical is the rootin'-tootiest, boot-scootiest show in all the west! There's no other show quite like it. Set in the outdoor splendor of the rugged North Dakota Badlands, this professionally produced, high energy, western-style musical show is proudly dedicated to the legacy of America's 26th President, Theodore Roosevelt, and the time he spent here in the Badlands of the Dakota Territory.

Teddy Roosevelt National Park

Encompassing over 70,000 acres of breathtaking North Dakota Badlands, there's an adventure for everyone at TRNP. For starters, drive through the south unit of the park on the 36-mile scenic loop through the buttes and Badlands. The winding drive features striking overlooks with unbelievable views, trailheads for 12 different hiking trails (more on those below), interpretive signs about the Park's history and natural wonders, and real prairie dog towns – plus, you might even get a close up with a buffalo! Experience this unique wilderness through daily Ranger programs which include short talks, guided walks, tours of Roosevelt's Maltese Cross Cabin and evening programs at the campground amphitheater. Or set out on an experience all your own!

Theodore's Dining Room

Enjoy this fresh culinary experience in a historic and elegant atmosphere. You will be in the well-trained hands of our executive chef. Whether you're craving a scrumptious steak, or a refreshing after dinner drink, stop at Theodore's and treat yourself. All taste buds are treated equal at Theodore's. From fresh garden salads and delectable brussel sprouts, to bacon-wrapped steaks and tantalizing buffalo osso bucco, Theodore's Dining Room has something for everyone!

Bully Pulpit™

GOLF COURSE



Breathtaking Badlands Golf

Bully Pulpit is chiseled right out of the North Dakota Badlands in a site unlike any in the world. A round here is one you won't soon forget. You'll find yourself fully immersed in the Badlands as you meander through meadows and woodlands, skirt along the Little Missouri River, and tee off from one butte to another.

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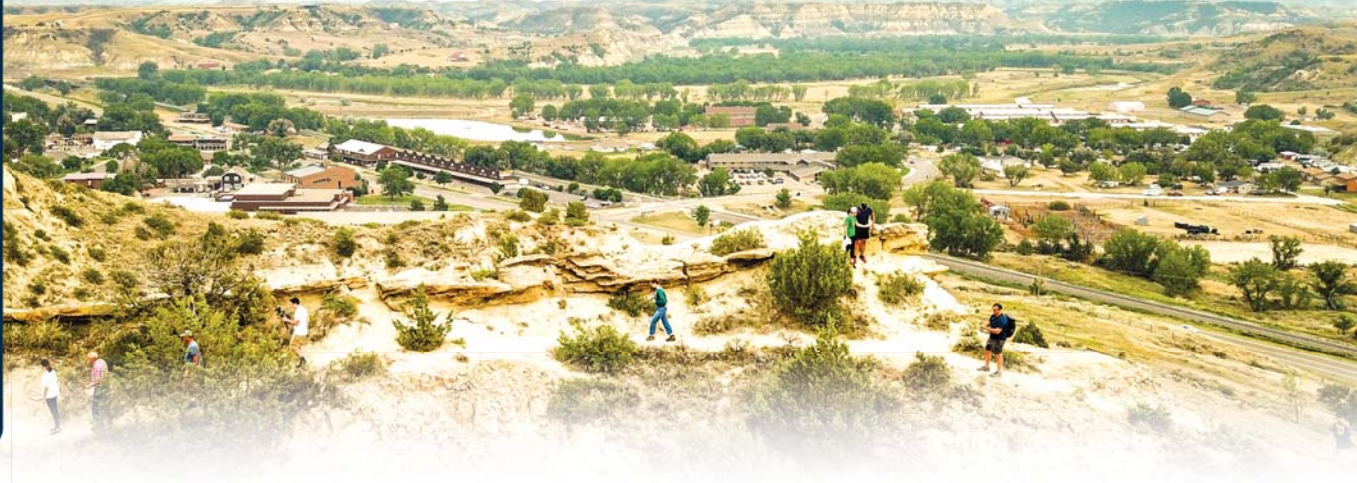
Experience the ultimate Country Western Music Revue in Medora, ND! This live outdoor spectacle showcases a variety of music favorites with live horses on stage, a firework finale, and new twists each summer. All while celebrating the history of Medora, Teddy Roosevelt, and the historic American West.



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EXPLORE MEDORA



Medora, North Dakota may only have a population of 130 people, but it holds an immeasurable impact on those who visit. Nestled between the rugged buttes of Theodore Roosevelt National Park and the bright lights of the city, Medora offers a unique blend of experiences that make it one huge destination.

The vastness of the horizon is one of Medora's most defining features. With its rolling prairies and towering buttes, the landscape is nothing short of breathtaking. It's no wonder that a young Theodore Roosevelt was captivated by the beauty of the area, which later led to the establishment of Theodore Roosevelt National Park. The way the horizon expands in Medora is awe-inspiring and has the power to leave visitors feeling both humbled and empowered.

But Medora's charm extends beyond its natural beauty. The town itself has a unique character that draws people in. Despite its small size, there is always something going on in Medora. The summer months are especially busy with nightly performances at the Medora Musical, which has been entertaining audiences for over 50 years. The show is paired with the Pitchfork Steak Fondue which is just like it sounds, great big pitchforks loaded up with steaks and deep fried cowboy style are the star of the evenings menu. The experiences of Medora expand deep into the world of history where visitors can take in the sights at the North Dakota Cowboy Hall of Fame or learn about the namesakes of the town at the Chateau de Mores State Historic Site.



Medora buggy rides in Downtown Medora
ND Tourism photo

One of the best things about visiting Medora is the way time seems to slow down. Afternoons move at their own good time, giving visitors the chance to soak in the beauty of their surroundings and disconnect from the hustle and bustle of everyday life. It's a chance to unplug and appreciate the simple things in life, like a warm summer breeze or the sound of birds chirping in the distance.

Medora is the perfect year-round destination for travelers. In the fall, visitors can enjoy the breathtaking views of the changing leaves, the slower days and crisper air of a stroll through town. Plus, a special Broadway style show playing at the Old Town Hall Theater in September and October. Winter, brings a peaceful winter wonderland with snowcapped Badlands, a roaring fire at the Rough Riders Hotel, and delectable food at Theodore's Dining Room. Spring brings new life to Medora, with a great view of wildflowers and baby animals, perfect for hiking, biking, and horseback riding. Bully Pulpit Golf Course also welcomes golfers mid-April. No matter the season, Medora offers a unique blend of natural beauty, small-town charm, and year-round activities, making it the perfect destination any time of year.



While Medora may be a tiny dot on the map, it holds a big place in the hearts of those who visit. The memories made in this small town are larger than life, and the impact of the experience is immeasurable. From the stunning natural beauty to the unique character of the town, Medora offers a one-of-a-kind vacation that is sure to leave visitors feeling rejuvenated and inspired.

In a world where bigger is often perceived as better, Medora proves that sometimes the most extraordinary experiences can be found in the most unexpected places. So why not plan your next vacation to this little town with a big heart? With 1883 reasons to visit, there's never been a better time to discover the magic of Medora.

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EXPLORE RUGBY



Prairie Village Museum

The community of Rugby is perhaps known best for being the Geographical center of North America as well as the location for the annual Pierce County Fair. Rugby is located 64 miles east of Minot. Rugby has several places of interest for tourists such as a Museum, Library, Golf course, Movie Theater, swimming pool, parks, playgrounds, hockey arena, baseball diamonds, frisbee golf, tennis court, pickleball court and excellent hunting grounds for waterfowl, upland game, and big game. Each summer, the small town hosts the Pierce County Fair June 26-28, 2026 which invites locals and communities nearby to attend attractions such as the demolition derby, and carnival rides.

From recreational facilities and shopping, to museums and historical landmarks, Rugby has something for everyone. Whether you're here for the day, a weekend getaway or an extended stay, we have the services and attractions to make your visit both pleasurable and memorable. The Geographical Center of North America was established at (or near) Rugby by a U.S. Geological Survey in 1931. A year later, W. B and E.B. Paterson - assisted by the local Lions Club, Boy Scouts and other volunteers - erected a fieldstone monument at the intersection of U.S. Highway 2 and N.D. Highway 3 to denote Rugby's geographical distinction. Thousands of visitors stop at the monument each year to snap photos at North America's geographical center.

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EXPLORE WATFORD CITY



Watford City
Watford City Photo

Searching for an all-around destination for your summer adventure? Look no further than Watford City, North Dakota! Watford City is located in McKenzie County, about 2.5 hours west of Minot Air Force Base. Whether you're looking for a cultural experience, fun for the whole family, or an outdoor adventure, Watford City has it all.

The historic city is nestled in western North Dakota near some of the state's most popular attractions, including Theodore Roosevelt National Park and the Little Missouri National Grasslands. Tobacco Gardens Resort and Marina offers local camping, kayak rental, fishing and boat access. Walk or bike the Maah Daah Hey Trail for a taste of North Dakota's majestic terrain.

Take a day off to explore downtown Watford City and you'll find a variety of local shops with hand crafted gifts and North Dakota treasures. The Wild West Water Park has water slides, a splash pad, and a variety of swim activities for some family fun on those extra hot days. Grab a bite to eat and settle down with a drink at one of

their unique restaurants, coffee shops, or even the local brewery. For the history buffs, Watford City has many attractions nearby for visitors to learn about North Dakota's rich past. The McKenzie County Heritage Park sits on six acres of land and includes historic buildings from all over the state and is now open year-round. Nearby, the Fort Union Trading Post National Historic Site and Fort Buford State Historic Site offer a glimpse into the history of life on the frontier with original structures and informative (and sometimes interactive) exhibits. Take a tour of a Native American earth lodge and learn more about North Dakota's Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara people at Knife River Indian Villages National Historic Site. At the nearby Fort Berthold Indian Reservation, you can hear stories from cultural interpreters and even spend the night in an earth lodge to experience the heritage of North Dakota's indigenous peoples.

To learn more about all Watford City and McKenzie County have to offer and even take a virtual tour, visit www.visitwatfordcity.com. Plan your trip Watford City today to experience small town charm with big-city attractions!



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**EXPLORE
NEW TOWN**



**MHA Nation
Interpretive Center**

Honoring Native Culture

If you're looking to experience and learn about North Dakota's extensive indigenous culture, be sure to take a visit to the MHA Nation Interpretive Center in New Town, North Dakota!

The MHA Nation, which is comprised of Mandan, Hidatsa and Arikara Nation tribes, also known as the Three Affiliated Tribes, is located on the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation in central North Dakota and includes over 16,800 members. The Interpretive Center is a newly developed tribute to the history and heritage of the Three Affiliated Tribes.

The center includes a variety of amenities and informative displays, including interactive exhibits and a recording studio for tribal members and elders to record their own stories to pass down for

generations to come. They offer traditional catered meals and a coffee shop. It also includes two meeting rooms and a scenic rooftop that overlook Lake Sakakawea to be rented out for conferences, meetings, or weddings. The outdoor amphitheater holds up to 500 people for concerts and events. The MHA Interpretive Center also hosts permanent and rotating galleries that display artifacts and history from the three tribes as well as cultural seminars on beading, traditional agriculture and storytelling. There are also archival rooms for research and preservation of artifacts.

Check out their Facebook page at MHA Nation Interpretive Center. The MHA Nation Interpretive Center is located at 9386 Lake Sakakawea Road, New Town, ND.

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Your Summer Starts at 4 Bears Casino & Lodge

This summer, you don't have to go far to feel like you've truly gotten away.

4 Bears Casino & Lodge, one of North Dakota's favorite summer destinations, is set along the scenic shores of Lake Sakakawea, just a short drive away. From the moment you arrive, it feels different, like you've stepped into a place where fun comes easy and the pace slows just enough to enjoy it.

It's a place where every kind of getaway comes together, from family fun to laid-back relaxation and a little bit of excitement in between.

Summer here is all about time well spent, especially on the water.

The on-site water park offers something for every age, from a relaxing lazy river to high-energy slides and a splash pad designed for younger guests. Whether you're soaking up the sun or staying cool in the water, it's an easy way to spend the day doing exactly what you want.

For something a little different, step aboard the River Willow, North Dakota's first gaming riverboat. This three-level experience combines scenic lake views with slot machines, table games and a full bar. Choose a daily cruise or plan a private outing; it's a one-of-a-kind way to enjoy Lake Sakakawea.

Back on shore, the energy keeps going from day to night.

Try your luck on the gaming floor with a wide variety of slots and table games or take a break and explore everything else the property has to offer.

Live entertainment fills the summer calendar with big-name concerts, comedy and special events that bring people together night after night.

Sports fans can also catch the 4 Bears Roar, delivering fast-paced action and hometown pride as North Dakota's only professional basketball team. It's more than a game: It's a thrilling experience you won't find anywhere else in the state.

When it's time to refuel, you'll find a variety of dining options to match any mood or craving, from quick bites to sit-down meals that bring everyone together.

And now there's even more to experience. The new seven-story hotel expansion introduces additional guest rooms, expanded gaming space, and the Bison Room Steakhouse, adding a fresh take on classic dining in a warm, inviting setting.

Whether you're planning a family getaway, a weekend with friends or a relaxing escape of your own, 4 Bears makes it easy to do it all in one place.

Spend your days by the water, your evenings enjoying live entertainment and every moment in between discovering something new.

Make this summer one to remember at 4 Bears Casino & Lodge.



Discover the MHA Nation's captivating history at the Interpretive Center. Immerse yourself in permanent exhibitions, witness living history programs, and explore exclusive merchandise at the OakTree Gift Shop.



Explore



MHA NATION

Come and enjoy the waters of Lake Sakakawea year round! Check out the 4 Bears Casino & Lodge and be sure to stop by the Earth Lodge Village and MHA Interpretive Center!



MHA Tourism Office

Hours: 9AM-5PM

Earth Lodge Village

Hours: 10AM-6PM

For more info contact us!

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A Bismarck Must-Do: Lewis & Clark Riverboat

The Lewis and Clark Riverboat, originally built in the 1990s and operating in Bismarck since 2008.

ERIN BEENE

“I didn’t know there was so much to do here!” is a phrase tourists and newcomers often use when talking about North Dakota. And one Aaron Barth, Executive Director of the Lewis and Clark Riverboat, says he hears frequently.

The Lewis and Clark Riverboat, originally built in the 1990s and operating in Bismarck since 2008, was designed to resemble a 19th-century steamboat. Those original steamboats were used to transport goods and people up and down the Missouri River. The river, the longest in the continental United States at about 2,340 miles, holds significant importance in Wild West history, the expansion of the U.S., and the journeys of explorers like Lewis and Clark.

Today, visitors can experience a ride along similar routes settlers may have traveled more than 100 years ago—only now with air conditioning and snacks readily available.

Barth explained that the historical boat ride lasts about 90 minutes. Guests can sit back, relax, and enjoy a 30-minute historical podcast about the Missouri River while floating along in comfort. “It [the Lewis and Clark Riverboat] is the easiest way to get close to the Missouri River and see the majesty,” he said. He also emphasized that there are about three to four “must-do” activities in the Bismarck area for visitors or new families to the state, and the riverboat is definitely on that list.

Great for all ages, the riverboat offers discounts for military members and their families. Tickets can be purchased online or in person, though booking ahead is recommended. They also offer dinner cruises, charter trips for larger groups, and smaller events like wedding receptions and parties. Cruises run from Memorial Day through Labor Day each year.

Overall, this unique experience should not be missed when exploring the often underrated state of North Dakota. There is plenty to see and do. On your next trip to Bismarck, try the beautiful Lewis and Clark Riverboat, located just off Interstate 94 along the majestic Missouri River.



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The Lewis and Clark Riverboat boathouse.



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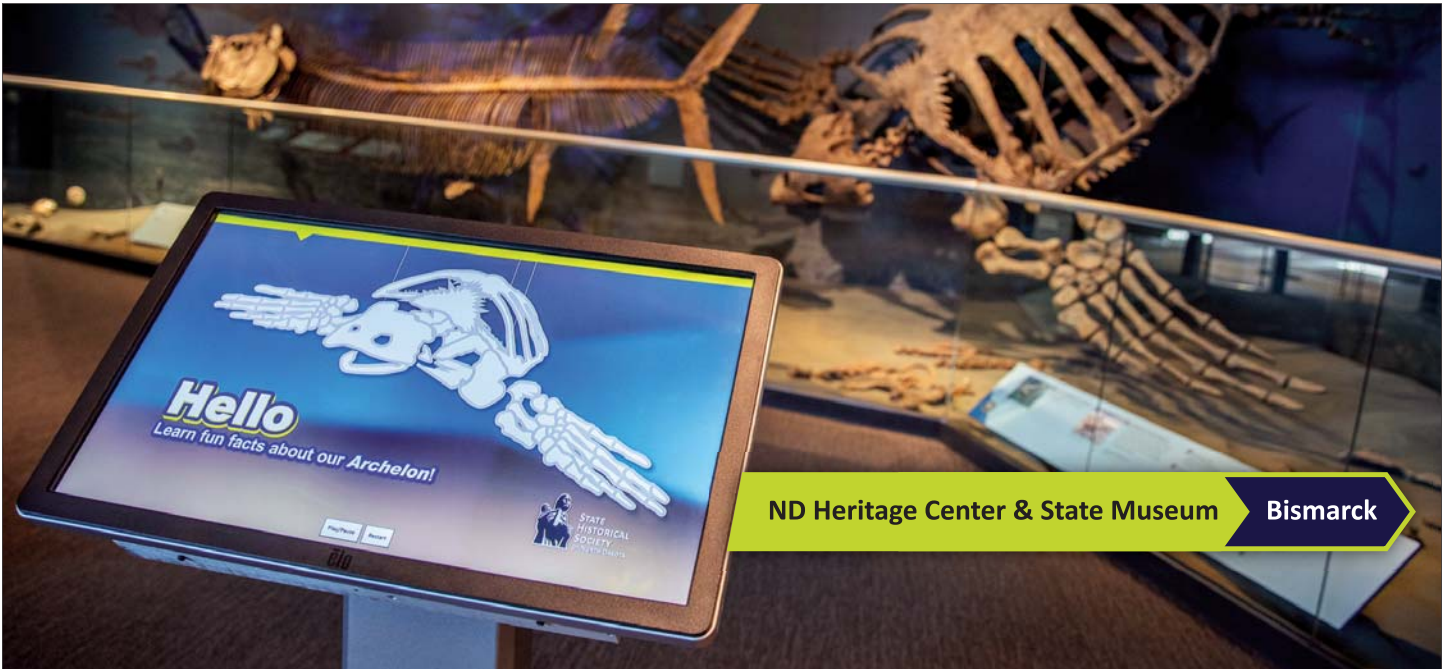
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ND Heritage Center & State Museum

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Fort Mandan State Historic Site and Lewis & Clark Interpretive Center

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