

centralMONTANA

heart of the big sky



WHY I BUILT MY BUSINESS IN GREAT FALLS

Paris Bread owns Fresh Bread Productions, a video production company based in Great Falls. Fresh Bread Productions specializes in high-quality cinematography and video production and creates content for major brands, small businesses, and everything in between.

After attending the University of Montana, Paris could have started his business anywhere, but he chose Great Falls.

“ We chose Great Falls, Montana, due to its central location, beautiful rivers, mountains, and epic scenery. The fact that I can drive to the front range, the Missouri River, and then to the sweeping prairies that seem to have no end in one day is amazing. Central Montana is a photographer’s and cinematographer’s dream.

- Paris Bread, Fresh Bread Productions ”

LIVE IN
Great Falls
MONTANA

Learn more about why Great Falls is the perfect place to start a business at

LiveInGreatFalls.com

WELCOME

Between Glacier National Park to the north and Yellowstone National Park to the south, you'll find the heart of the big sky—Central Montana. Here, wide-open spaces, enchanting views, and friendly people welcome you to a truly authentic Montana experience. Consider this an invitation to make Central Montana your next destination.

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Find everything Central Montana at
CentralMontana.com or call 406-761-5036.

The sun sets on a day of rounding up cattle on horseback. PHOTO: ERIK PETERSEN
COVER PHOTO: Scenic drives take on a whole new meaning in Central Montana. CHARLEY WILLETT

HAPPY TRAILS DEPEND ON YOU

Do your part to recreate responsibly.

REMOVE plants and mud from boots, gear, pets and vehicles.

CLEAN your gear before entering and leaving recreation sites.

STAY on designated roads and trails.



**STOP INVASIVE
SPECIES IN
YOUR TRACKS.**

PlayCleanGo.org

PlayCleanGo.org



Make Campfire Memories

Bring marshmallows,
not firewood



Invasive tree-killing insects and diseases that hitchhike on firewood can threaten Montana's forests.

Leave firewood at home - but local firewood at or near your destination or collect firewood on-site when permitted.

**DONTMOVE
FIREWOOD.org**

**BUY
IT WHERE
YOU
BURN IT.**



TRAVEL INFO

Take the trip! We're pretty sure after looking through this publication you are going to want to plan a trip to Central Montana—mission accomplished!
As you begin planning your trip use this page as a reference guide.

Follow us on social media to learn more and discover some hidden gems!



facebook.com/centralmontanaregion



@centralmontana

406

This is the area code for Montana so use it for all numbers listed in the planner, unless otherwise noted.



Road conditions?
Dial 511 while in Montana
or call 1-800-226-7623.
View conditions online at
www.mdt.mt.gov/travinfo/



Call 449-5204 to
check current weather
conditions or hear
the forecast.



Stay awhile! Scan this
code with your device's
camera to find hotels,
lodges, vacation rentals,
campgrounds and more.



Useful Resources:

**Lewis & Clark National
Historic Trail**
www.nps.gov/lecl

**Lewis & Clark National
Historic Trip Interpretive Center**
www.fs.usda.gov/hlcnf

Bureau of Land Management
www.blm.gov

Nez Perce National Historic Trail
www.fs.usda.gov/npnht

**Glacier & Yellowstone
National Parks**
www.nps.gov

**Montana Department of Fish,
Wildlife and Parks**
www.fwp.mt.gov

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AUGUSTA



A rural ranching community located on US 287. Spectacular recreational opportunities in the Lewis & Clark National Forest and Bob Marshall Wilderness. Wildlife viewing in the Sun River Game Range. Fishing available at nearby Gibson Reservoir, Willow Creek Reservoir, Nilan Reservoir and Bean Lake. Maps and information available at the Forest Service office (seasonal 562-3247).

BELT



First built as a city jail in 1895, the Belt Museum now houses local history and art. Many downtown buildings are part of the Belt Commercial Historic District and interpretive markers explain history and architecture.

BIG SANDY



Near the beautiful Bears Paw Mountains on US 87. Visit the Big Sandy Historical Society & Museum in the old Great Northern Railroad depot, home to the largest collection of early pioneer photos in Chouteau County. Tour the old jailhouse and tourist center, or view wildlife northwest of town at Lonesome Lake. Closest access point to the White Cliffs area of the Upper Missouri National Wild and Scenic River (622-4000).

BYNUM



A noted stop along Montana's Dinosaur Trail. Visit The Montana Dinosaur Center (469-2211) and experience a paleontology dig or view the 187 ft. long, 23 ft. tall reconstructed Seismosaurus. US 89.

CARTER



Cross the Missouri River here the old-fashioned way, via ferry boat. Fishing and concrete boat ramp are located at the Carter Ferry Fishing Access Site. Off US 87.

CASCADE



Riverfront community with plenty of public fishing access, camping, hunting and hiking sites nearby. Start a relaxing float trip down the Missouri. Area history and photos can be found downtown at the Senior Center Museum (468-9883 or 468-2684).

CHESTER



A short distance from the highest isolated peaks in the US, this community lies near the Sweet Grass Hills. Experience area history and culture at the Liberty County Museum (759-5256) or at the Liberty Village Arts Center (759-5652). Great fishing, hunting, boating and camping opportunities. Public marina, RV park and raft/canoe access to the Marias River at nearby Lake Elwell and Tiber Dam.

DISCOVER THE
COMMUNITIES OF
**CENTRAL
MONTANA**

CHINOOK

A gateway to northcentral Montana's history and a stop along the Dinosaur Trail. See history, archaeology and paleontology exhibits and view the Nez Perce War presentation "40 Miles from Freedom" at the Blaine County Museum (357-2590). Over 200 wildlife species are displayed in their natural habitat at the Wildlife Museum. Travel south to the Upper Missouri River Breaks National Monument and historic McClelland Ferry. Route 240 leads to the Bear Paw Battlefield, where Chief Joseph surrendered at the end of the Nez Perce War of 1877.

CHOTEAU

Rolling plains meet the high peaks of the Rocky Mountain Front here. Choteau is a full service community from tasty eateries to unique shopping and boundless recreation. Whether it's golfing, hunting, fishing or snowshoeing, Choteau offers something for everyone.

Visit the Old Trail Museum (466-5332) to learn about homestead life, Native American culture and the Two Medicine dinosaur discoveries. Outdoor recreation opportunities are abundant along BLM's Ear Mountain Trailhead, Bob Marshall Wilderness, Helena-Lewis and Clark National Forest, or hike the A.B. Guthrie trail for views of Pine Butte. Stop by the Visitors Center or contact the Choteau Ranger Station (466-5341).

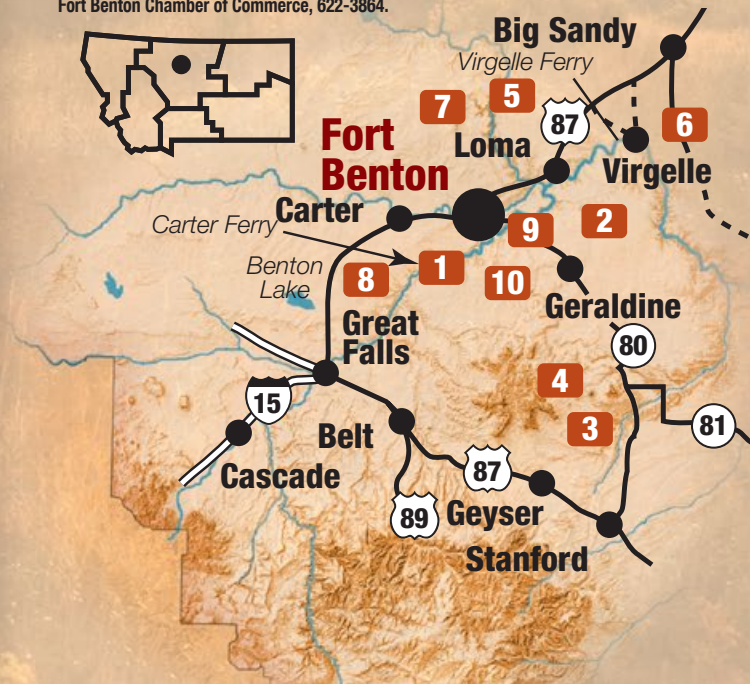
The colors of fall paint the landscape in the Missouri River Breaks.

GATEWAY TO THE BREAKS

Fort Benton, the birthplace of Montana, is located just off US Highway 87. Relive the history of early Montana by taking a historic walking tour on the levee and viewing the inspiring landscape as you enter the Upper Missouri River Breaks.

- 1 Museums in Town** – Museum of the Upper Missouri, Museum of the Northern Great Plains – The State of Montana's Museum of Agriculture, Historic Old Fort Benton, Upper Missouri River Breaks National Monument Interpretive Center. Open Memorial Day weekend through the end of September (admission charged). 622-5316.
- 2 The Upper Missouri National Wild & Scenic River** – 149 miles of the Upper Missouri protected in its natural free-flowing state. Fort Benton is the western gateway community to the Upper Missouri River Breaks National Monument.
- 3 Geraldine and Square Butte** – Noted scenic and geological natural area. Wildlife and raptor viewing. South 26 miles on Highway 80. No public access to Square Butte.
- 4 Highwood Mountains** – 20 miles south. Wildlife viewing, camping (fee), picnicking, hunting, mountain biking.
- 5 Loma** – 11 miles north on Highway 87. Richard Wood Watchable Wildlife Area, one mile south of highway. Lewis and Clark "Decision Point" Overlook. Earth Science Museum (admission charged). 739-4361.
- 6 Virgelle** – 27 miles north on Highway 87. Major launch point for floating the National Wild and Scenic Missouri River. Virgelle is a restored, homestead-era settlement and boasts one of three remaining ferry crossings on the Upper Missouri National Wild and Scenic River.
- 7 Signal Point** – 9-hole public golf course. One mile southeast of Highway 87.
- 8 BLM's Upper Missouri River Breaks National Monument** – Visitor Center and River Contact Station. Interpretive displays and river floating information. Open year 'round. (877) 256-3252 or 622-4000.
- 9 Lewis & Clark State Memorial "Explorers At the Marias"** – Located on the historic levee overlooking the expedition's route.
- 10 Shep Memorial** – Located on the levee. In memory of a legendary, faithful dog.

Fort Benton Chamber of Commerce, 622-3864.



Quaint communities, like Conrad,
are the heart of this region.



CHARLEY WILLETT

Come spring, you'll find locals helping
each other round up cattle for branding.



CHUCK HANEY

6

CONRAD



Easy access off I-15, with something for everyone. Play a challenging 9 holes of golf at the Pondera Golf Course. Visit the Conrad Transportation Museum (278-0178) and the Conrad Depot Society Museum (627-2397). Boating, fishing and wildlife viewing available at nearby Lake Frances and Lake Elwell (271-7791). Bird and big game hunting access.

DENTON



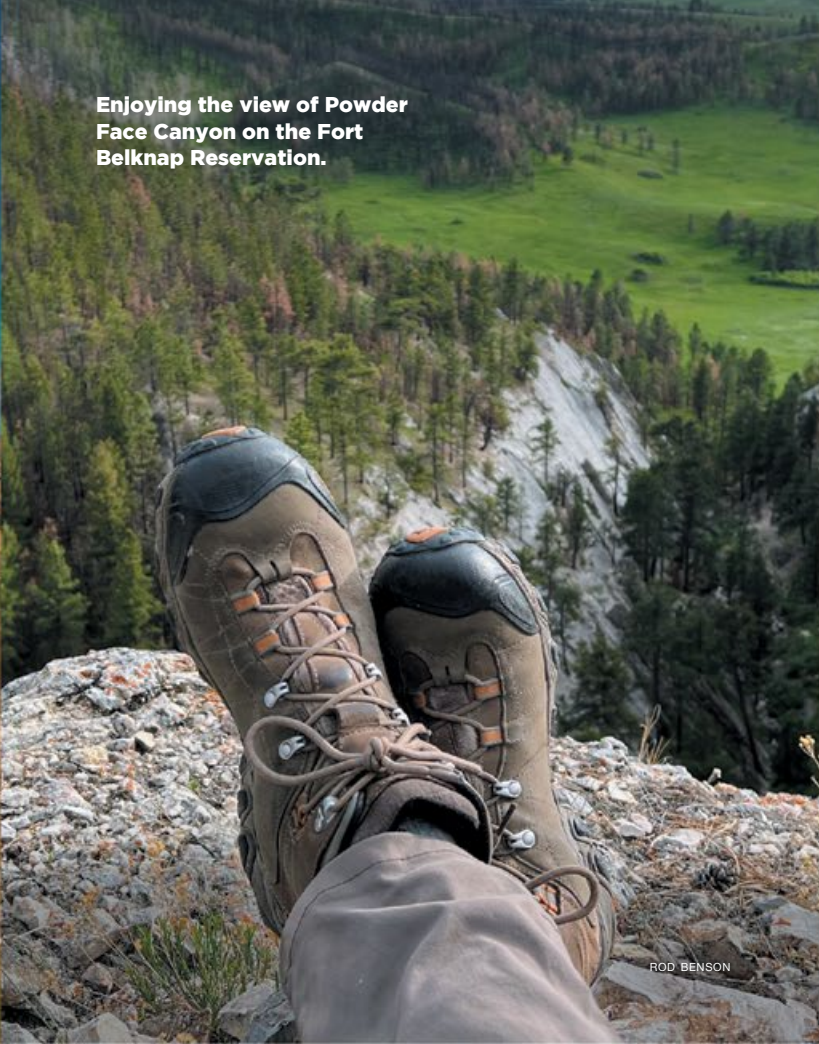
One of the top dry land farm and cattle production communities in the state. Located in the heartland of Montana, with great upland game bird hunting and the mid-point of the Charlie Russell Chew Choo.

DUPUYER



One of the earliest settlements along the East Slope of the Rocky Mountain Front. Picnicking and camping available at William

Enjoying the view of Powder Face Canyon on the Fort Belknap Reservation.



Jones Memorial Park near town and 18 miles west at Swift Dam. Mountain bike the foothills of the Front. Horseback riding, backpacking, hiking, hunting, fishing and bird and wildlife viewing in the Helena-Lewis and Clark National Forest, Bob Marshall Wilderness and Great Bear Wilderness.

FAIRFIELD



The malting barley capital of the world. Excellent bird watching opportunities north of town at Freezout Lake.

FORT BELKNAP/HARLEM



Fort Belknap Indian Reservation is home to the Gros Ventre and Assiniboine Tribes. Guided tours available (301-3005) to Snake Butte, Mission Canyon, Bear Gulch and St. Paul's Mission. View deer, antelope, waterfowl, upland birds, as well as the tribe's two buffalo herds.

FORT BENTON



Originally an American Fur Co. trading post on the Missouri River, this town was the world's most inland port during the steamboat era. Visit the Museum of the Northern Great Plains, the State of Montana's Museum of Agriculture, Homestead Village, Museum of the Upper Missouri, Old Fort Benton, two galleries of western art, and the Smithsonian Hornaday Bison exhibit (622-5316) or take a relaxing walk along the levee. Experience the culture and natural history of the Upper Missouri at Upper Missouri River Breaks National Monument Interpretive Center (622-4000); western gateway to the monument's 375,000 acres, which stretch downstream on both sides of the river corridor to the Charles M. Russell Wildlife Refuge.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN FRONT

Choteau is located at the junction of US Highways 287 and 89 on the Rocky Mountain Front. It is a natural stopover on the route between Glacier and Yellowstone National Parks.

- 1 Teton Pass Area** – 4 miles north on Highway 89, turn west on Teton Canyon Road. Cross-country skiing, snowmobiling, fishing, camping (fee).
- 2 South Fork of Teton/Ear Mountain Outstanding Natural Area/Our (Hidden) Lake/Headquarters Pass** – 4 miles north on Highway 89, turn west on Teton River Road, then south on South Fork Road. Hiking, fishing, camping (fee), picnicking.
- 3 Blackleaf Canyon/Bynum Reservoir** – 13 miles north on Highway 89, turn west from Bynum on County Road. Year 'round fishing, boating, hiking, rock climbing
- 4 Sun River Canyon/Gibson Dam** – 26 miles south on Highway 287 to Augusta, then west from Augusta on Sun River Canyon Road. Camping (fee), hiking, fishing.
- 5 Benchmark/Wood Lake** – 26 miles south on Highway 287 to Augusta, then west from Augusta on Benchmark Road. Non-motorized boating, fishing, camping (fee).
- 6 Pishkun Reservoir** – 6 miles west on Bellview Road, 13 miles southwest on Pishkun Road. Fishing, ice fishing, bird watching, camping (fee) and boat launch.
- 7 A.B. Guthrie Trail/The Nature Conservancy** – 1 mile south on Highway 287, then 19 miles west on Bellview Road. Turn north on the Cut Across Road and look for the kiosk on the west. Hiking, nature walks, wildlife viewing.
- 8 Freezout Lake/Waterfowl Refuge** – 10 miles south on Highway 89. Wildlife and bird watching, camping (no fee), bird and waterfowl hunting.
- 9 Sun River Game Range** – 26 miles south on Highway 287 to Augusta, 10 miles west of Augusta. Winter range for large population of elk and deer.
- 10 Priest Butte and Priest Lake** – 5 miles south on Highway 89. Scenic views with opportunities for bird and wildlife watching.
- 11 Museums/Old Trail Museum** – 823 N. Main, Choteau. Dinosaur, Native American, grizzly bear and local celebrity exhibits. Open seasonally. Visitor center adjacent to museum. The Montana Dinosaur Center 469-2211 in Bynum, 13 miles north of Choteau on Highway 89, offers paleontology digs and a visitor center.

Choteau Chamber of Commerce, (800) 823-3866.





FORT BENTON WELCOMES YOU ...



... TO SOAK IN OUR HISTORY



... TO ENJOY OUR SMALL-TOWN HOSPITALITY



... TO LAUNCH GREAT ADVENTURES

FORT BENTON
The Birthplace of Montana

www.fortbenton.com 406-622-4000

Find Your Center in Lewistown

B & B Motel
(406) 535-5496
B-BMotel.com

Yogo Inn
(406) 535-8721
YogoInn.com

Montana's Longest Table
August 2024
MontanasLongestTable@gmail.com

Cottonwood Log Cabins
(574) 229-4415
CottonwoodLogCabins.com

Montana Winter Fair
January 26-28, 2024
MontanaWinterFair.com

Hot Summer Nights
August 2024
LewistownDowntown.com

The Calvert Hotel
(406) 535-5411
TheCalvertHotel.com

Charlie Russell Chew Choo
May - October 2024
MontanaDinnerTrain.com

Chokecherry Festival
September 7, 2024
LewistownChokecherry.com

Judith Mountain Lodge
(406) 538-7063
JudithMountainLodge.com

Roy Rodeo
Annually on Father's Day
(406) 535-5436

Trails & Ales
September 7, 2024
FriendsofLewistownTrails.com

Montana Bunkhouse
(406) 366-0986
MontanaBunkhouse.com

Central Montana Fair
July 17-27, 2024
CentralMontanaFair.com

Central Montana Museum
(406) 535-3642
CentralMTmuseum.weebly.com

Super 8 by Wyndham
(406) 708-4541
WyndhamHotels.com/super-8

CenterFest Music Festival
August 3, 2024
CenterfestMT.com

APR Discovery Center
(406) 585-4600
AmericanPrairie.org

Trails End Motel
(406) 535-5468
TrailsEndMotelmt.us

MT Cowboy Poetry Gathering
August 8-11, 2024
MontanaCowboyPoetryGathering.com



LewistownChamber.com ❖ (406) 535-5436 ❖ LewistownDowntown.com ❖ (866) 912-3980 ❖ EnjoyLewistown.com

LIBERTY COUNTY MONTANA



SWEETGRASS HILLS

TIBER DAM/LAKE ELWELL

Photo by Janice Hendrickson

CHARMING SMALL TOWNS

**Liberty County
Chamber
of Commerce**
(406) 759-4848

**Liberty County
Museum**
(406) 759-5256

MX Motel
(406) 759-7165
mxmotel.com

**The Grand
BAR &
GRILL**
(406)
759-5582

Fraser's Oil, Inc.
conoco
Inverness: (406) 292-3833
Chester: (406) 759-5541
Galata: (406) 432-2321

INFORMATION | LODGING | FOOD | FUEL



Fun Local Events



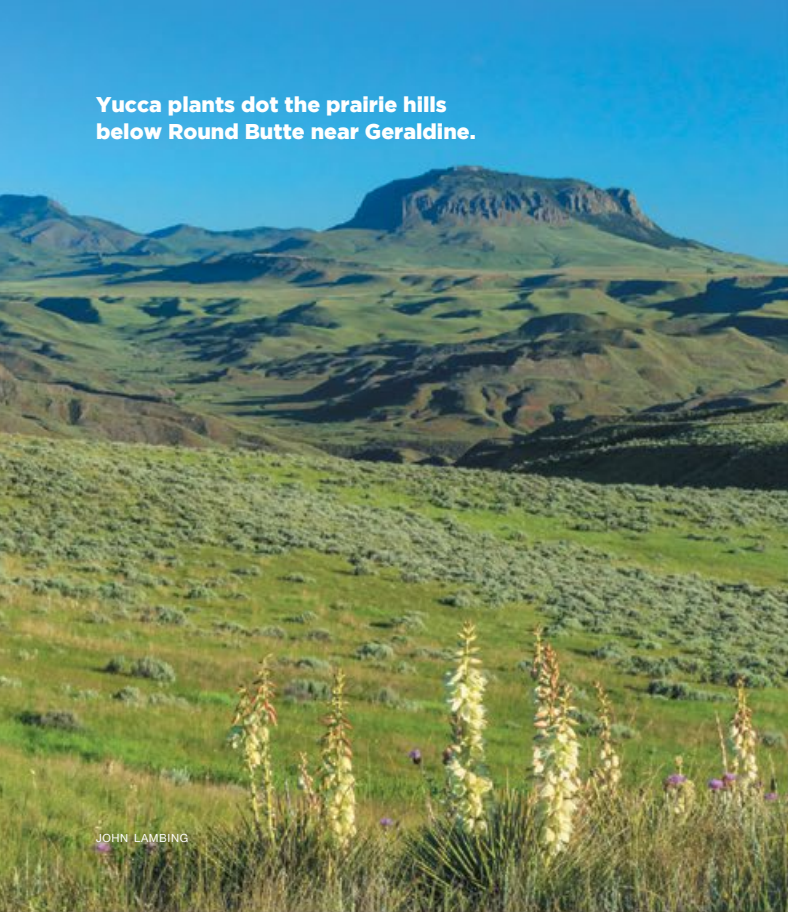
Great Fishing



Abundant
Wildlife



Museum



Yucca plants dot the prairie hills
below Round Butte near Geraldine.

JOHN LAMBING

GERALDINE, GEYSER, SQUARE BUTTE



Visit the restored Geraldine Milwaukee Depot (737-4368), listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The town of Square Butte hosts a historic jail built with local shonkinite, and a short drive to the steep cliffs of Square Butte, depicted in several of Charlie Russell's frontier paintings.

GRASS RANGE

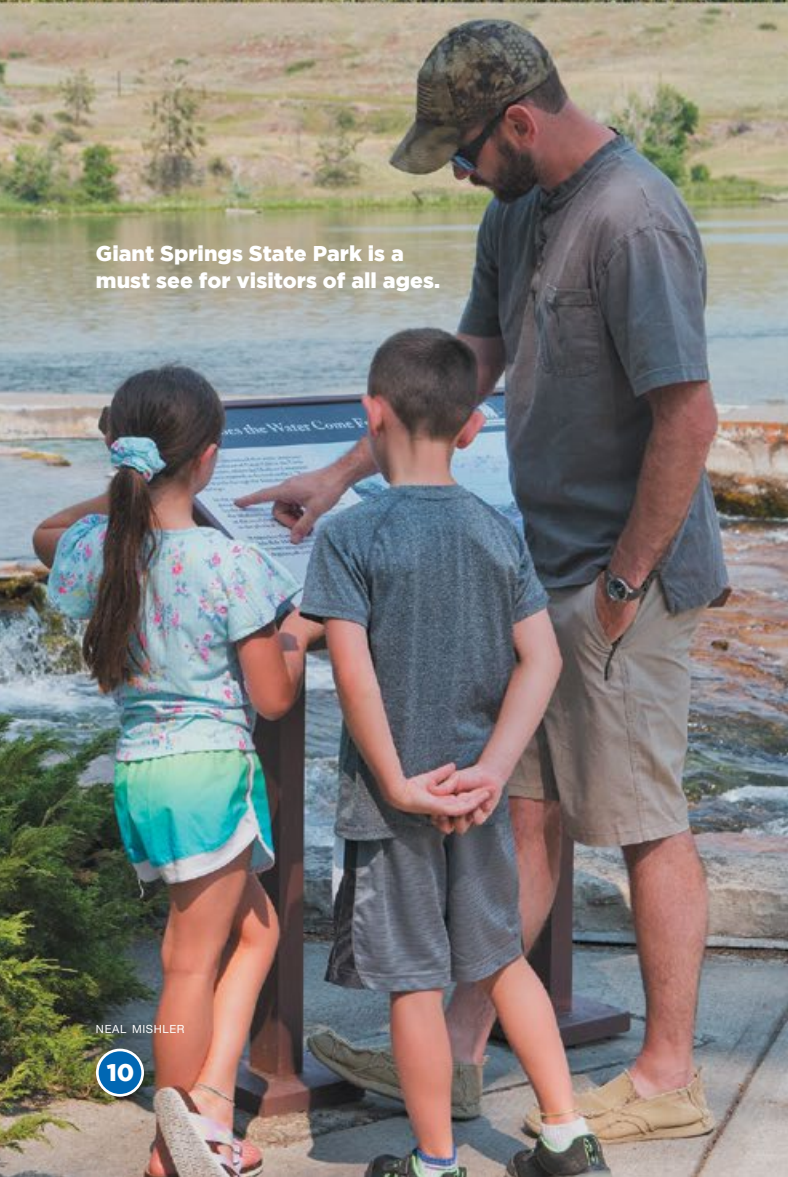


Located one mile south of the junction of MT 200, US 87 and MT 19, the town boasts an impressive view of the Snowy Mountains. With plenty to see and do in any direction, take advantage of scenic drives along the north forks of McDonald Creek and Flatwillow Creek.

GREAT FALLS



The largest city in central Montana and home of five waterfalls on the Missouri River that the Lewis and Clark Expedition spent nearly a month portaging in 1805. Learn about the Expedition and their encounters with the Plains Indians, walk interpretive trails and view demonstrations at the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail Interpretive Center (453-6248). View some of the falls by car via scenic turnouts or enjoy a walk, run or bike ride along the River's Edge Trail; nearly 60 miles of non-motorized trails including 19 miles of paved, handicap-accessible pathways. Experience one of the world's largest natural freshwater springs at Giant Springs State Park and enjoy trout fishing along the Missouri. The C.M. Russell Museum Complex (727-8787)



Giant Springs State Park is a
must see for visitors of all ages.

NEAL MISHLER

10



**Square Butte is a prominent
landmark—soaring 2,400 feet
above the surrounding plains.**

offers the largest collection of Charlie Russell's western art, and his home and log studio are National Historic Landmarks. Other museums include the Montana Cowboy's Bar and Museum (453-0651); Malmstrom Air Force Base Museum (731-2705); The History Museum (452-3462); Children's Museum of Montana (452-6661); Montana Museum of Railroad History (453-6393); Paris Gibson Square Museum of Art (727-8255); Ursuline Centre (452-8585); and Galerie Trinitas (1-800-856-9544) at the University of Providence. View or photograph wildlife and birds at Benton Lake National Wildlife Refuge (727-7400). First Peoples Buffalo Jump State Park, a National Historic Landmark southwest of town, is believed to be one of the longest buffalo jumps in the US (866-2217). For historic walking tour brochures in Great Falls

contact Great Falls Montana Tourism (761-4436).

HARLOWTON

Junction of US 12 and MT 191. Camping, scenic walkways, a fishing pond and playground available at Chief Joseph Park and Nez Perce Trail. The E-57B Electric Train engine commemorates the longest stretch of electric railway in North America. View the *Avaceratops lammersi* dinosaur display at the Upper Musselshell Museum and tour the Milwaukee Depot Museum. Play 9 holes of golf at the Jawbone Creek Golf Course. Enjoy camping, fishing and boating at Deadman's Basin, 20 miles east of town. See the Judith Gap Wind Farm and its 90 wind towers 12 miles north of town. Area is known for its prime hunting.

THE FALLS OF THE MISSOURI

Named after a series of waterfalls on the Missouri River, Great Falls is centrally located. From here, travelers can visit all areas of the region in an easy day's drive.

- 1 Giant Springs State Park** – 5 miles east of downtown Great Falls on River Drive. On your way, view Black Eagle Dam and Falls, Giant Springs, Roe River, state fish hatchery and Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks Visitor Center. Open year 'round (user fee for nonresidents). Picnic and recreation facilities available.
- 2 River's Edge Trail** – Nearly 60 miles of non-motorized trails including 19 miles of paved, handicap-accessible pathways, following the Missouri River from Oddfellows Park, through Gibson Park (downtown Great Falls), past the Lewis & Clark National Historic Trail Interpretive Center and Giant Springs State Park, toward Crooked Falls Overlook.
- 3 Rainbow Dam and Falls Overlook** – 1 mile beyond Giant Springs on Giant Springs Road. To view the other falls, take Highway 87 north 4 miles, turn on Ryan Dam Road and travel east 5 miles to Ryan Dam. Continue 6 miles to Morony Dam.
- 4 Golf** – 18-hole courses: Eagle Falls Golf Club 761-1078, south of the Missouri River. Anaconda Hills Golf Course 761-8459, north of the Missouri. Hickory Swing Golf Course 452-9400.
- 5 First Peoples Buffalo Jump** – Take I-15 west of Great Falls for 9 miles, turn at Ulm and follow signs for 4 miles to this National Historic Landmark. Hiking trails, picnic area and visitor center.
- 6 Historic Fort Shaw** – 11 miles north on I-15, turn at Vaughn and take Highway 87 west to Fort Shaw. On your way, view Adams Stone Barn.
- 7 Benton Lake Wildlife Refuge** – 14 miles north of Great Falls on Highway 87. Wildlife viewing. Open year 'round (no fee).
- 8 Museums** – C.M. Russell Museum, 400 13th Street North, log studio and home. Open year 'round (fee). Paris Gibson Square Museum of Art, 1400 1st Ave. North (free admission). The History Museum, 422 2nd Street South, open year 'round (fee). The Children's Museum of Montana (fee), 22 Railroad Square, Tuesday - Saturday. Ursuline Centre, 2300 Central Ave., museum, meeting and retreat center. Tours by appointment. Galerie Trinitas, University of Providence campus, (free admission).
- 9 Lewis & Clark National Historic Trail Interpretive Center** – Located along the Missouri River in Giant Springs State Park. Exhibits detail the 1804-1806 Lewis & Clark Expedition and their encounters with the Plains Indians. Outdoor living history area. Open year 'round (fee). 453-6248.

Great Falls Montana Tourism, 761-4436.



TODD KLASSY



KEEPING IT REEL IN **CENTRAL MONTANA**

Bent rods are a common site along the blue ribbon streams of Central Montana.

JESS MCGLOTHLIN

**The sun sets on a beautiful day
of boating at Fresno Reservoir.**



GEORGIA MILLER

HAVRE



Experience a guided Havre Beneath the Streets tour, the Railroad Museum and a historical re-creation of early Havre (265-8888). Stop along the Dinosaur Trail and visit exhibits, dioramas and Havre history at the H. Earl Clack Museum (265-4000). Tours of Fort Assiniboine Historic Site begin at the site 6 miles southwest of Havre on Highway 87; the largest military fort west of the Mississippi when it was built in 1879 (265-4000 or 262-7656). Learn area Native American history and view artifacts at the Louis and Antoinette Hagener Museum of the Northern Plains Indians located in the Vande Bogart Library on the MSU Northern campus (265-3706). Enjoy a self-guided walking tour through the Historic Residential and Business districts; maps available at the Havre Chamber (265-4383). Havre Historic Tours offers several different guided walking tours of the

residential historic district, downtown, cemeteries and a tour of a c. 1898 house museum (fee) (399-5225). Tour the largest and best-preserved bison kill and campsite in the area at Wahkpa Chu'gn Buffalo Jump (265-4000 or 262-7656). Camping, hiking, fishing and biking available at Beaver Creek Park (395-4565), the nation's largest county park with over 10,000 acres; 10 miles south on Highway 234. Fresno Reservoir west of town offers boating, fishing and handicap fishing access for visitors.

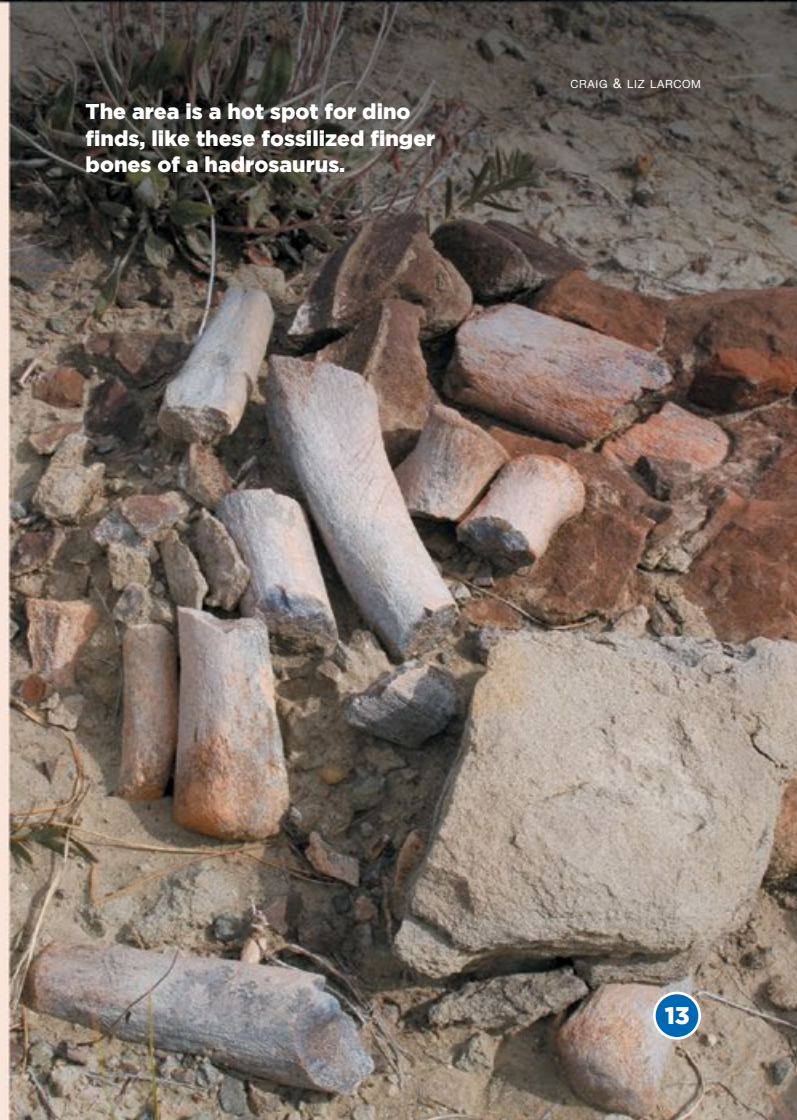
HOBSON



Along the historic Charlie Russell Trail with views of four mountain ranges, this "Pride of the Judith" is located in prime cattle and farm country. Camping, fishing and boating available at Ackley Lake State Park (454-5840), seven miles southwest of town.

The area is a hot spot for dino finds, like these fossilized finger bones of a hadrosaurus.

CRAIG & LIZ LARCOM

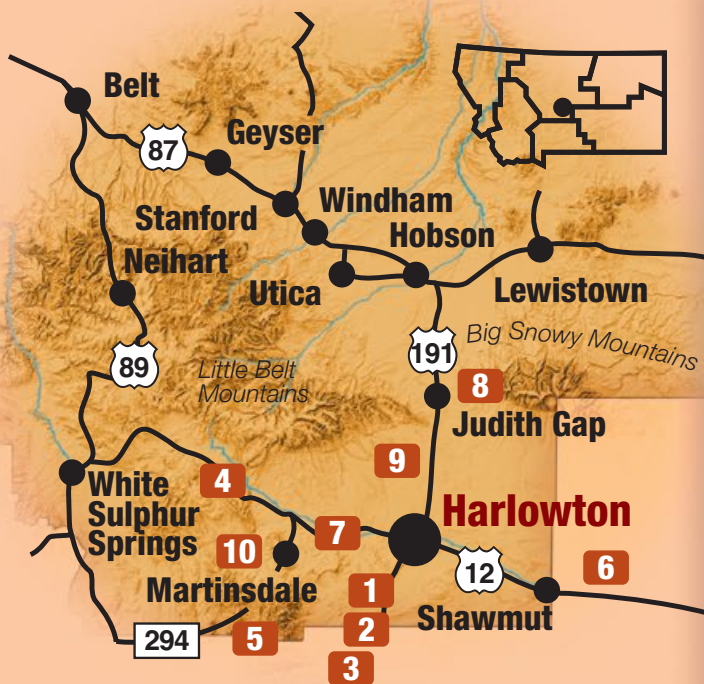


PRAIRIES TO FOOTHILLS

Harlowton sits at the junction of US Highways 12 & 191, nestled between plains and several mountain ranges, in the heart of antelope country.

- 1** Upper Musselshell Museum and Milwaukee Depot Museum – Main Street. Dinosaur, early settler history and railroad history. Open Memorial Day to Labor Day (fee).
- 2** Chief Joseph Park – Enter from Highway 12 or US Highway 191 South. Campsites (fee), fire pits, picnic shelters, restrooms, fish pond, playground, nature trails, volleyball, baseball, horseshoes.
- 3** Jawbone Creek Country Club – North edge of town. Scenic 9-hole golf course; open to the public.
- 4** Spring Creek Campground – 30 miles west on Highway 12, partially paved road to campsite (approximately 4 miles). Campsites (fee), fire pits, rest rooms, picnic tables, water.
- 5** Forest Lake Campground – 42 miles southwest on Highway 12 to junction of Highway 294. Rugged gravel road to campsite (approximately 9 miles). Campsites (no fee), fire pits, restrooms, picnic tables.
- 6** Deadman's Basin – 20 miles east on Highway 12. Enjoy windsurfing, water skiing, fishing, picnics and camping (fee).
- 7** Two Dot – 12 miles west on Highway 12. Home of the historic Two Dot Bar and gateway to the streams of the Musselshell River.
- 8** Judith Gap – 18 miles north on US Highway 191. Scenic town located in the gap of the Little Belt and Snowy Mountains. Snowmobiling, hunting, camping.
- 9** Judith Gap Wind Farm – 12 miles north of Harlowton. 90 electricity-generating wind towers stand 300 feet high on both sides of US Highway 191.
- 10** Charles M. Bair Family Museum – 25 miles west of Harlowton on Highway 12, then one mile south on Highway 294. Open Memorial Day through October. Guided tours (fee). 572-3314.

Wheatland County Chamber of Commerce, 632-4694.



Crystal Lake is the perfect name for this picturesque locale in the Big Snowy Mountains.



CRAIG & LIZ LARCOM

LEWISTOWN



Surrounded by the Judith, Moccasin and Snowy Mountains, spectacular scenery and wildlife viewing, cultural and recreational opportunities abound. Locations on the National Register of Historic Sites: Silk Stocking and Central Business Districts, Courthouse Square, Judith Place and Stone Quarry. Visit the Central Montana Museum (535-5436). In the warmer months, visit the outdoor swimming complex with waterslides. Highway signs mark the Nez Perce National Historic Trail (538-1900). Camping, non-motorized boating, fishing, swimming, hiking, fossil and ice cave exploration available at Crystal Lake south of town (566-2292). Panoramic views await at the top of the Limekiln Canyon hiking trail east of town in the Judith Mountains; handicap

accessible near the trailhead. The Judith Mountain Recreation Area and Big Spring Trout Hatchery are located nearby (538-5588). Charlie Russell Chew Choo, a 4-hour dinner train adventure departs north of town. Beargulch Pictographs west of Lewistown offers guided tours of over 2,000 pictographs and petroglyphs (428-2439 or 366-2835). Self-guided Ghost Town & Gold Mine brochures available (535-5436).

LOMA



US 87. Explore gems, minerals, fossils and Indian artifacts at the Earth Science Museum (739-4361). Richard Wood Watchable Wildlife Area (622-4000) and Lewis and Clark Trail "Decision Point" marker overlooking the confluence of the Marias and Missouri Rivers located one mile south of town.



The town of Neihart basks in the light of this double rainbow in the Little Belt Mountains.

CHARLEY WILLETT

MARTINSDALE



Just off of US 12, between Harlowton and White Sulphur Springs. The Charles M. Bair Family Museum (572-3314) was once home of one of Montana's most successful sheep ranchers. Hiking, fishing and wildlife viewing available in nearby Crazy, Little Belt and Castle Mountains.

MONARCH



Mountain village located on the Kings Hill Scenic Byway with access to camping, hiking, hunting, fishing, mountain biking and snowmobiling. Trail maps and information available at the Belt Creek Ranger Station (236-5511), south on US 89. Sluice Boxes State Park located 10 miles north of town.

MOORE



Agricultural community 17 miles west of Lewistown on Highway 200. Camping, non-motorized boating and hiking available at Crystal Lake, 20 miles south of town in the Big Snowy Mountains.

NEIHART



Historic mining town in the heart of the Little Belt Mountains with endless outdoor recreation opportunities. Showdown Montana (236-5522), at the top of Kings Hill Pass south of town, offers ski and snowshoe rentals. Nearby Memorial Falls has a handicap accessible nature trail.



Sluice Boxes State Park is worth the stop for anyone wanting to explore.

ROLAND TAYLOR

ROCKY BOY/BOX ELDER



Rocky Boy's Reservation located near Box Elder is home to the Chippewa Cree Tribe. From rolling plains to the Bears Paw Mountains, the diverse terrain supports Bear Paw Ski Bowl and a variety of wildlife. Celebrate culture of the Chippewa Cree at an annual August powwow and Christmas powwow.

ROY



Thirty-six miles northeast of Lewistown on US 191. Access to Charles M. Russell National Wildlife Refuge available north on US 191 at James Kipp Recreation Area's Wilder and Sand Creek Trails. Campground and marina available at Crooked Creek Recreation Area east of town. Snag a paddlefish on the Missouri River during May and early June; spectacular elk viewing during the months of September and October.

RUDYARD



A stop along Montana's Dinosaur Trail, the Depot Museum (355-4322 or 355-4356) houses the "Oldest Sorehead," a fully articulated Gryposaurus. Also home to other dinosaur displays, area homestead history, a blacksmith shop, county schoolhouse, teacherage, milk house and paper museum. Visit the Vintage Auto Museum on Main Street. Open Memorial Day to Labor Day, 10am-4pm.

SHELBY



Thirty-five miles south of the Canadian border at the junction of US 2 and I-15. Experience area history, homesteading, a dinosaur collection and more at the Marias Museum of History (424-2551). Enjoy a ride on the town's new indoor carousel while you're here. Deer, antelope, elk, fox, golden eagle, grouse and the unique 'sweet grass' can be seen in the nearby Sweet Grass Hills; private access to hiking and wildlife viewing (434-7184). The Marias River winds past the Marias Valley Golf Course, Country Club and Williamson Park south of town. Camping and outdoor recreation available at Lake Shel-oole (434-5114). The Roadrunner Recreational Trail has 3 and 5 mile loops starting in Shelby and winding through the natural prairie.

STANFORD



Visit the Judith Basin Museum (566-2277) and famous White Wolf at the Basin Trading Post. Tour a local sculptor's studio, foundry and collection of old agricultural machinery at the Prairie Past Museum. Recreational opportunities in nearby Helena-Lewis and Clark National Forest in the Little Belt Mountains (566-2292).

SWEET GRASS



24-hour port of entry into Canada. Be sure to stop for gasoline and visit the duty-free store before continuing on with your trip across the border.

ULM



Southwest of Great Falls on I-15 and a popular place to embark on a float trip down the Missouri. Plenty of public fishing access sites along the Frontage Road. Visit one of the longest buffalo jump sites in the country at First Peoples Buffalo Jump State Park, just four miles out of town.

Getting up early to beat the crowds? Forget it.

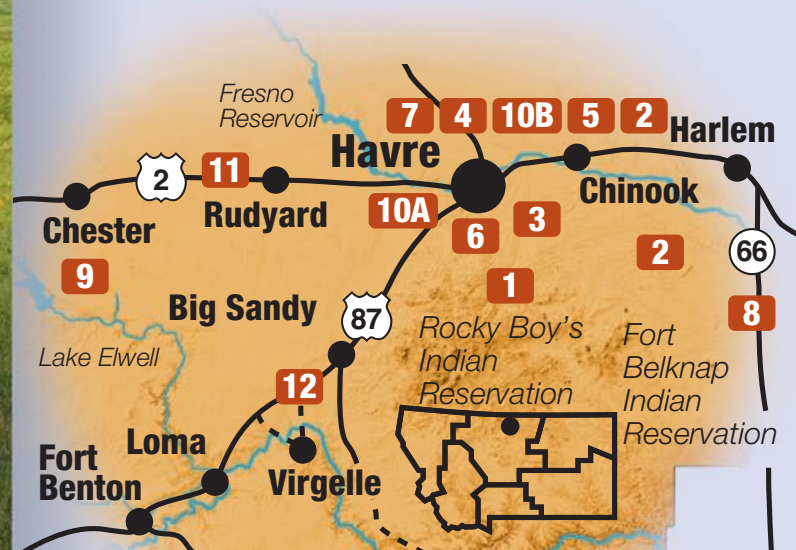
IN PLAIN SIGHT CENTRAL MONTANA

ALONG THE HI-LINE

Havre and surrounding communities are located along US Highway 2, making up what is known as the Hi-Line.

- 1 Beaver Creek Park/Rocky Boys Reservation** – South on Highway 234, picnicking, camping (fee), fishing, boating, skiing and snowmobiling in winter. 395-4565.
- 2 Blaine County Museum/Bear Paw Battlefield** – The Museum in Chinook also serves as the Interim National Park Service Visitor Center for the Battlefield, 16 miles south on Route 240. Both open year 'round (no fee). For hours and tours, call the Museum 357-2590 and the Battlefield 357-3130.
- 3 H. Earl Clack Museum** – The Museum is located at 2 5th Street in Havre. Open daily Memorial Day – Labor Day, winter hours in effect after Labor Day (no fee). 265-4000.
- 4 Wahkpa Chu'gn Buffalo Jump** – Take a 1-hour walking tour, which provides an unequaled view of the area's prehistory. Located behind Holiday Village Mall. Tours daily 9am – 4pm (fee) June 1st – Labor Day. 265-4000.
- 5 Havre Beneath the Streets and Railroad Museum** – Downtown Havre. Re-creation of Havre's past. Tours available. Open year 'round (fee). 265-8888.
- 6 Fort Assiniboine Historic Site** – 6 miles southwest of Havre on Hwy 87. Guided tours only. Summer hours 9 am-4 pm Thursday through Sunday. 265-4000 or 265-7656.
- 7 Fresno Reservoir** – 12 miles west of Havre on Highway 2, then north at sign. Water sports, fishing, camping, boating, picnicking, handicap access for boaters.
- 8 Mission Canyon/Hays** – On Fort Belknap Indian Reservation, 45 miles east of Havre. For more information contact Fort Belknap Agency. 353-2205.
- 9 Tiber Dam/Lake Elwell** – 65 miles west of Havre on US Highway 2. Boating, fishing, camping (fee), marina.
- 10 Public Golf Courses** – Beaver Creek Golf Course (10A) – 3 miles west of Havre, 9-holes. 265-4201. Prairie Farms Golf Course (10B) – 5 miles east of North Havre, 9-holes. 265-4790.
- 11 Rudyard Depot Museum** – 40 miles west of Havre. Area history and dinosaur displays. Open Memorial Day to Labor Day, 10am to 4pm. 355-4322 or 355-4356.
- 12 Big Sandy Historical Museum** – 35 miles southwest of Havre on Highway 87.

Havre Area Chamber of Commerce, 265-4383.



The Marlas River was named by Meriwether Lewis during his time in the area.

CHUCK HANEY

JOHN LAMBING

The Sweet Grass Hills are full of opportunities for adventure.

LET YOUR STRESS FLOAT AWAY IN **CENTRAL MONTANA**



UTICA



Explore area history at the Utica Museum (423-5208). Outdoor recreation available in nearby Helena-Lewis and Clark National Forest (566-2292) and Judith River Wildlife Management Area (454-5840).

VALIER



Upland bird hunting, big game hunting and year 'round fishing opportunities with full service camping at Lake Frances located just outside of this small community 14 miles west of I-15. Lewis and Clark Trail interpretive markers detailing the Expedition's confrontation with the Blackfeet located 14 miles west of town, at the junction of US 89 and MT 44, and north of town on MT 358.

VIRGELLE



Northeast of Fort Benton, eight miles off US 87. Find historic accommodations and a free ferry crossing near the restored remnants of this tiny homestead-era town. Coal Banks Landing is located one mile downstream, a primary launch along the Upper Missouri National Wild and Scenic River. Float the river and view bighorn sheep and elk along the Lewis and Clark Trail further downstream, deep within the Upper Missouri River Breaks National Monument.

A historic mercantile and unique accommodations greet visitors to Virgelle.



Less standing in line, more standing in awe of places like the Two Medicine River.

THE HEART OF MONTANA

Lewistown, the geographical center of Montana, is surrounded by the Judith Mountains, Moccasin Mountains and Big and Little Snowy Mountains.

- 1 Crystal Lake** – 9 miles west on MT Highway 200, 24 miles south on county roads. Non-motorized boating, fishing and hiking trails. Nearby ice caves. Camping (fee).
- 2 Judith Mountains Recreation Area** – 10 miles northeast of Lewistown. Scenic overlook and Collar Peak trail. Auto loop tour route passes Maiden and Gilt Edge ghost towns and Limekiln Canyon hiking trail.
- 3 Upper Missouri River Breaks National Monument** – Roughly 60 miles north, features the 149-mile Upper Missouri National Wild and Scenic River and adjacent 375,000 acres of public land. The Missouri Breaks Back Country Byway offers spectacular scenery and wildlife viewing on unimproved roads between Winifred and James Kipp Recreation Area. Access to C. M. Russell National Wildlife Refuge 75 miles northeast of Lewistown on Highway 181; fishing, boating, scenic drive trails, camping (fee).
- 4 Big Spring** – 7 miles south of Lewistown. State fish hatchery, public recreation area. Source of Spring Creek (no fee).
- 5 Charles M. Russell Memorial Trail** – From Lewistown to Great Falls along Highway 200, passing many scenic landmarks painted by Charlie Russell.
- 6 Stanford** – 45 miles west on Highway 200/87. Judith Basin Museum open June through August. View the famous "White Wolf" at the Basin Trading Post. Prairie Past Museum open year 'round (no fee).
- 7 Utica** – 30 miles west of Lewistown, Charlie Russell's stompin' grounds. Gateway to the Little Belt Mountains, camping (fee), hunting, fishing and the Judith River Game Range.
- 8 Kendall/South Moccasin Mountains** – Vehicle loop tour northeast of Lewistown near Hilger. See interpretive panels near Kendall and scenic view of historical gold mining activities.
- 9 Pine Meadows Golf Course and Judith Shadows Golf Course** – Both are open to public. Outskirts of Lewistown.
- 10 Winifred** – 37 miles north of Lewistown. Historic Museum contains largest Tonka Toy collection in the world. Open Feb. 1 through Nov. 30, 11am - 4:30 pm. 462-5425.
- 11 Hobson** – 23 miles west of Lewistown on Highway 200/87. Public swimming pool, parks, library with computer access.
- 12 Ackley Lake State Park** – 7 miles southwest of Hobson. Fishing, improved campgrounds, boating, ice fishing.

Lewistown Chamber of Commerce, 535-5436.

JOHN LAMBING

CHUCK HANEY

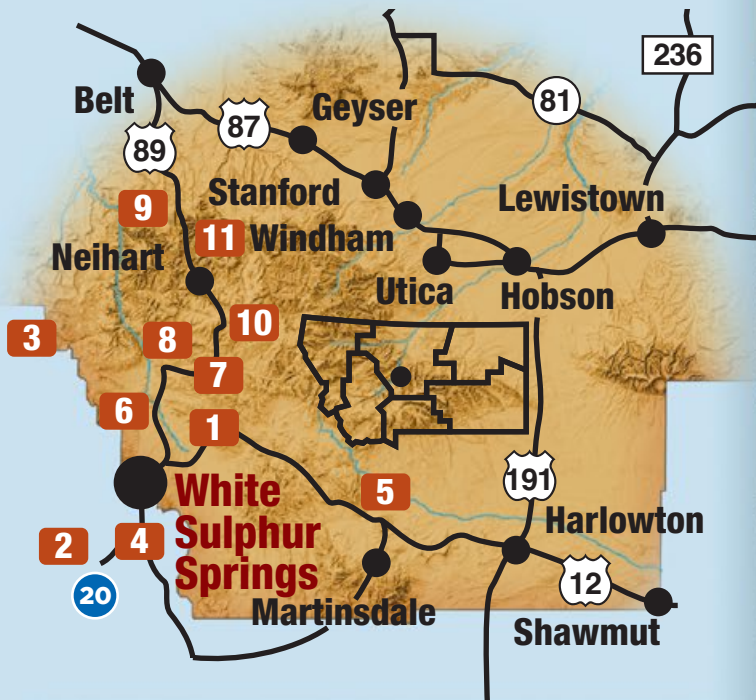


THE LITTLE BELTS

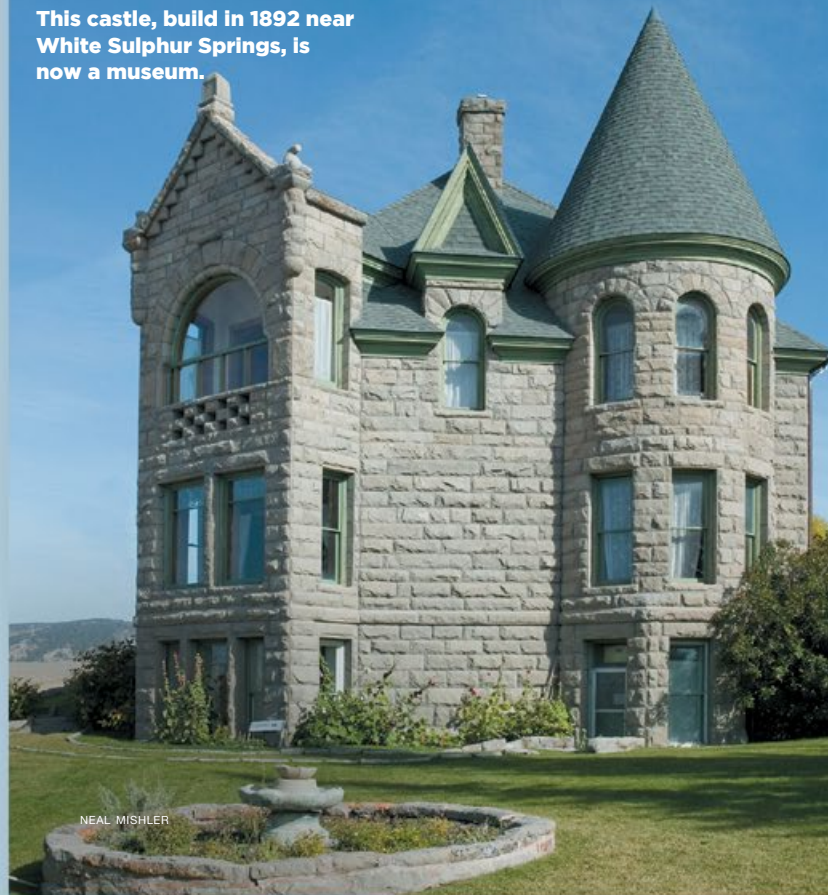
White Sulphur Springs sits at the junction of Highways 89 and 12, surrounded by the Big Belt, Little Belt and Castle Mountains.

- 1 Natural Hot Mineral Springs Pools** – Open to the public (fee). 406-547-3366.
- 2 Castle Mansion and Museum** – Stagecoach and buggy collection (fee). Self-guided driving tour to view many Victorian-era houses in town. Open May – Sept. 547-2324.
- 3 Fort Logan Blockhouse** – 18 miles west of White Sulphur Springs on Highway 360. Located on private land, open to the public (no fee).
- 4 Arrowhead Meadows Golf Course** – 9 holes. Open to the public. Beverage service, club and cart rentals. 547-3993.
- 5 Bair and Martinsdale Reservoirs** – Highway 12, east from White Sulphur Springs. Fishing, boating, camping (no fee). Also visit the Charles M. Bair Family Museum one mile south of Martinsdale turn on Highway 12. Open Memorial Day through Labor Day (fee).
- 6 Newlan Creek Reservoir** – 6 miles north, then turn west for 2 miles. Camping, fishing, boating (no fee).
- 7 Kings Hill Pass/Showdown Montana/Silver Crest** – 30 miles north of White Sulphur Springs. Alpine ski area, groomed cross-country ski trails, over 200 miles of groomed snowmobile trails. Downhill ski and snowshoe rentals available.
- 8 Porphyry Peak Lookout** – 30 miles north of White Sulphur Springs on Forest Service road, 1.25 miles off the highway. Forest Service volunteer on duty July 1 through Labor Day (no fee).
- 9 Kings Hill National Scenic Byway** – 71 miles north from White Sulphur Springs to junction of Highways 89 and 87.
- 10 Memorial Falls** – 37 miles north of White Sulphur Springs on Highway 89; short, easy hike to beautiful falls.
- 11 Belt Creek Forest Service Ranger Station** – 45 miles north of White Sulphur Springs on Highway 89. Open year 'round.

White Sulphur Springs Chamber of Commerce, 547-2250.



This castle, build in 1892 near White Sulphur Springs, is now a museum.



NEAL MISHLER

WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS



Located in southern Central Montana, halfway between Yellowstone and Glacier National Parks. Soak in natural sulphur hot springs at the Spa Hot Springs Motel; open to the public. Visit the Castle Museum (547-2324). Skiing, snowmobiling, fishing, hunting, golfing, mountain biking and hiking also available. Watch for barn quilt signs and outdoor art along Meagher County's Art & Culture Trail.

WINDHAM



Turn here for a scenic drive along the Charles Russell Memorial Trail loop.

Don't let cooler temperatures deter you from exploring places like Memorial Falls.



CHARLEY WILLETT

FIND YOURSELF AT HOME ON THE Hi Line



AD CREATION BY: K CUBED CONCEPTS

PHOTOGRAPH BY: SABRINA MARIE PHOTOGRAPHY



EST. 1946

SHELBY AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

☎ 406-434-7185

🌐 shelbymtchamber.org

📍 100 Main Street Shelby, MT 59474

HAVRE MONTANA

HAVRE IS IDEALLY SITUATED ALONG THE HI-LINE WITH ENDLESS PRAIRIES, MOUNTAINS, CREEKS, LAKES, BIG SKIES, WILDLIFE, GLIMPSES OF NORTHERN LIGHTS, & DAZZLING SUNSETS. HAVRE IS A FRIENDLY STOP ALONG THE WAY FOR PASSERSBY, A DESTINATION FOR EXPLORATION, AND A FRIENDLY COMMUNITY FOR ALL. COME SEE IT FOR YOURSELF.

ANNUAL EVENTS *You don't want to miss*

BEAR PAW MARATHON
LIVING HISTORY DAY
ART ALLEY CELEBRATION
SOUNDS ON THE SQUARE
SATURDAY MARKET
ROCKY BOY POW WOW
FESTIVAL DAYS
HOLIDAY STROLL

1st Saturday in June
1st Saturday in June
1st Saturday in June
Wednesdays June - August 6-8pm Town Square
Saturdays July - September 8am-12pm Town Square
1st weekend in August Rocky Boy Reservation
3rd weekend in September
Saturday after Thanksgiving

- HAVRE BENEATH THE STREETS
- WAHKPA CHU-GN BUFFALO JUMP
- FORT ASSINNIBOINE
- MONTANA ACTORS' THEATRE
- HISTORIC DISTRICT
- H. EARL CLACK MUSEUM
- BEAR PAW SKI BOWL
- MSU-NORTHERN

- GOLFING
- FOLFING
- FISHING
- BIRDING
- HIKING
- HUNTING
- DINOSAURS
- HISTORY

- BEAVER CREEK PARK
- BEAR PAW MOUNTAINS
- LAKES, RIVERS, & CREEKS
- NORTHERN LIGHTS
- STARRY SKIES
- RODEOS
- POW WOWS
- BREWFESTS

- CAMPING
- SKIING
- DINING
- COFFEE
- SHOPPING
- DISTILLERY
- BREWERY
- ART ALLEY

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HAVRE CHAMBER
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SUPER 8
1901 US-2 W
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**BEST WESTERN PLUS
GREAT NORTHERN INN**
1345 1ST ST
406-265-4200

**BEST WESTERN PLUS
HAVRE INN & SUITES**
1425 US-2 NW
406-265-2888

QUALITY INN
601 1ST ST
406-564-1145



WINIFRED



The southern door of the Upper Missouri River Breaks National Monument. Located 38 miles north of Lewistown, 17 miles from the Stafford-McClelland Ferry and 26 miles from Judith Landing. Enjoy a breathtaking drive along the historic DY Trail during favorable weather. Visit the world's largest Tonka Toy collection, firearms and homestead displays at the Winifred Historic Museum (462-5425); open February 1 – November 30.

WINNETT



Prime hunting country including upland game birds, waterfowl, mule and white-tailed deer, pronghorn, elk and prairie dogs. Petrolia Lake and Yellow Water Reservoir south of town offer excellent fishing opportunities. Visit James Kipp Recreation Area (538-1900) and War Horse National Wildlife Refuge (538-8706) nearby. Close access to Crooked Creek Recreation Area and Fort Peck Lake.

Looking to escape the hustle and bustle? Mission accomplished.

KELLY ENGEN

JESS MCGLOTHLIN

A picture perfect day of upland bird hunting with a loyal companion.

THE SWEET GRASS HILLS

Shelby, Valier, Conrad and Chester all have impressive views of the Sweet Grass Hills along Central Montana's northern border, and the Rocky Mountains to the west. Shelby is located at the crossroads of I-15 and Highway 2, just 89 miles east of Glacier Park and was the site of the Dempsey/Gibbons fight on July 4, 1923.

- 1 Sweet Grass/Coutts** – 35 miles north of Shelby on I-15, 24-hour US/Canada port, duty-free shopping. Jerusalem Rocks sandstone formations, travel west of Sweet Grass on county road for 4 miles.
- 2 Sweet Grass Hills** – Take I-15 north 27 miles to Sunburst, then east on Nine Mile road for 9 miles. Scenic views, hiking.
- 3 Marias Museum and Annex** – Shelby. Open Memorial Day through Labor Day. Dempsey/Gibbons fight memorabilia.
- 4 Carousel, Indoor Pool & Racquetball** – Shelby. Indoor pool and racquetball open year 'round (fee). Splash Park open summer months. Carousel open Friday and Saturday (fee).
- 5 Lake Elwell** – 20-40 miles from Shelby, Highway 2 East. Takes you to several marked access roads, camping, boating, fishing, marina. Hookups available.
- 6 Lake Frances** – 15 miles south on I-15, 15 miles west on Highway 44, at Valier. Swimming, boating, windsurfing, fishing, campground, picnicking, restaurants, lodging.
- 7 Williamson Park** – Near Shelby. Picnicking, riverfront access.
- 8 Marias Valley Golf Course** – 5 miles south of Shelby on I-15, then take marked road for 4 miles. 18-holes, restaurant, pro shop. Open to the public.
- 9 Liberty Village Art Center and Liberty County Museum** – 42 miles east of Shelby in Chester. Open May through September (fee).
- 10 Toole County Library** – Shelby. See an extensive Plains Indian artifact exhibit. Open year 'round (no fee).
- 11 Pondera Golf Club** – 9-hole course, open to the public. 1 mile west of Conrad on the Conrad-Dupuyer road.
- 12 Conrad Transportation and Historical Museum** – Conrad. Open May through September (fee). 278-0178.

Shelby Chamber of Commerce, 434-7184.

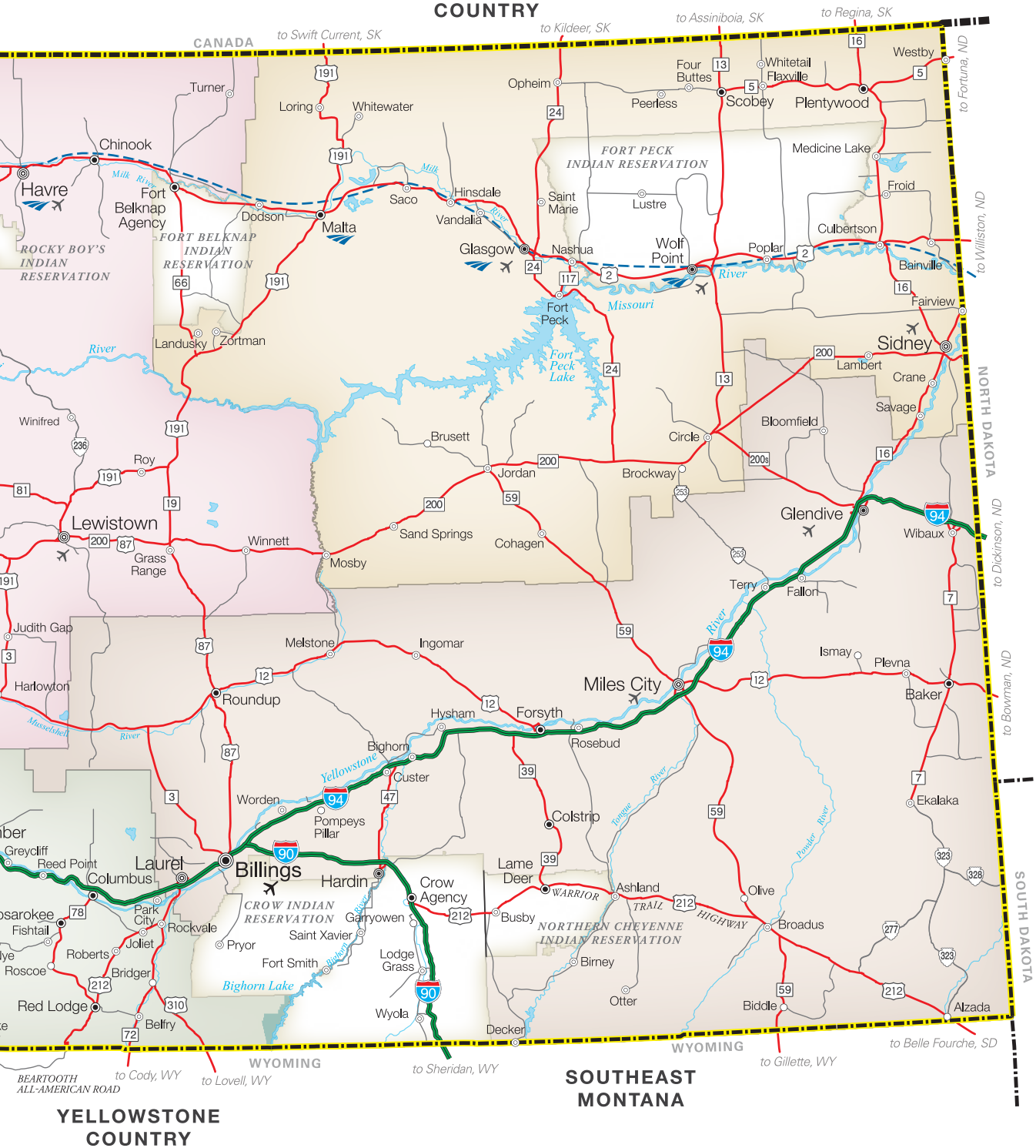




State Capital: Helena
 Montana Population: 998,199*
 *2011 U.S. Census Estimate

Land Area: 145,392 sq. miles
 Water Area: 1,746 sq. miles
 Total Area: 147,138 sq. miles

MISSOURI RIVER COUNTRY



FOLLOW CENTRAL MONTANA'S HISTORIC TRAILS

LEWIS & CLARK TRAIL

Follow the expedition's route through northcentral Montana.

1 Missouri Breaks National

Back Country Byway: Enjoy breathtaking landscapes, geology and wildlife throughout the Upper Missouri River Breaks National Monument off US 191.

2 Upper Missouri River Breaks National Monument:

Unique landscapes and 149 miles of the Upper Missouri National Wild and Scenic River.

3 Decision Point: The Corps had to choose the correct route west at this confluence of the Marias and Missouri rivers, one mile off US 87 near Loma.

4 Fort Benton: Montana's Lewis and Clark memorial stands watch on the levee beside this historic stretch of river. Tour the Old Fort, museums, Upper Missouri River Breaks National Monument Interpretive Center and more.

5 Great Falls: It took the expedition one month to portage around the "sublimely grand spectacle" of the great falls and reach navigable waters again. Experience the route in one day via scenic overlooks, Giant Springs State Park and the Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center.

6 Camp Disappointment:

The northernmost point of the journey, 22 miles west of Cut Bank.

7 Two Medicine Fight Site: On June 27, 1806, eight Blackfeet warriors attempted to steal horses and guns from Lewis and his party as they traveled back to the Missouri. A fight ensued, and two warriors lost their lives. Near Valier, this site marks the spot of the only Indian casualties during the expedition.

8 Tower Rock State Park:

Unknown landscapes awaited the expedition at this prominent rock site. South of Cascade, take exit 247 off I-15.

OLD FORTS TRAIL

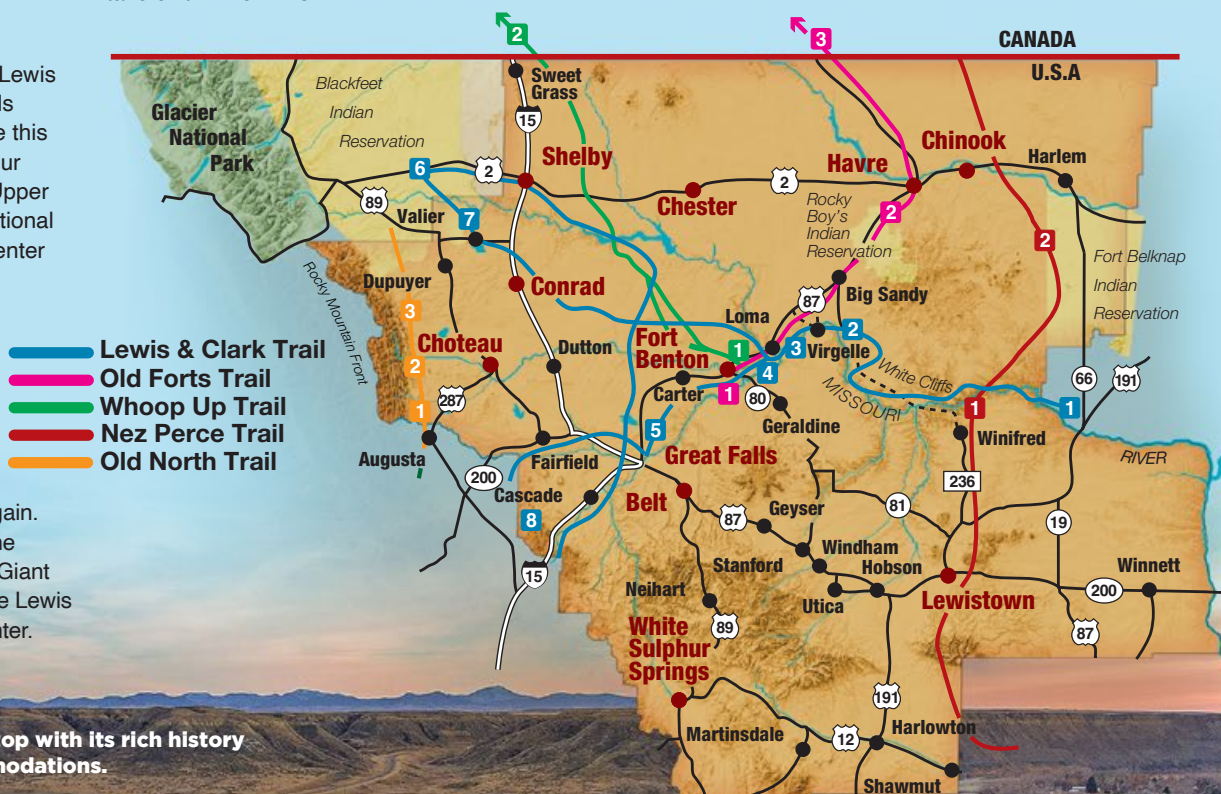
Experience early trade and settler life along this supply wagon trail from Fort Benton to Canada.

1 Fort Benton: Enjoy a relaxing day of sightseeing along the Missouri River at the "Birthplace of Montana," once a hub of trade and travel in Montana territory's early days. Visit the Museum of the Upper Missouri, steamboat levee, Old Fort Benton, Museum of the Northern Great Plains, the Historic Grand Union Hotel and Upper Missouri Breaks National Monument Interpretive Center while you're here.

2 Fort Assiniboine: At one time, the largest military post west of the Mississippi; it housed over 750 people, 100 buildings and the area's first official Post Office in its heyday. Guided tours of post remnants available.

3 Fort Walsh/Wood Mountain Post/Fort Battleford/Fort Whoop-Up/Fort Macleod/Fort Calgary: Six forts along the trail reside in Alberta and Saskatchewan, Canada.

Portions of these trails may be undeveloped or inaccessible. Please consult the Montana Highway Map for details.



Fort Benton is a must stop with its rich history and welcoming accommodations.

WHOOOP UP TRAIL

Beginning in Fort Benton and ending in Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada this major trade route was carved by bootleggers and traders transporting illegal whiskey and goods across the US/Canadian border. Interpretive sights along the trail include:

- 1 Fort Benton
- 2 Fort Hamilton
(Fort Whoop Up), Canada

NEZ PERCE TRAIL

The Nez Perce's long flight from the US Army through Oregon, Idaho, Wyoming and Montana ended near Chinook and resulted in exile to Canada and Oklahoma. The Nez Perce were just 40 miles from freedom in Canada when they surrendered.

1 Cow Island Landing: This remote supply depot at the western limit of low-water navigation on the Upper Missouri refused to sell supplies to the Nez Perce. In a September 1877 skirmish, the Nez Perce destroyed the depot's supplies before continuing north up Cow Creek drainage toward Canada. Accessible by boat.

2 Bear Paw Battlefield: Located 16 miles south of Chinook on Route 240, the site is a tribute to the Nez Perce people and the battle ending the Nez Perce War of 1877. From here, the trail divides: some escaped to Canada, while others were relocated to Oklahoma. Annual commemoration takes place the first week of October.

OLD NORTH TRAIL

"One of the oldest trails known to mankind," this trail once extended across the ice bridge from Siberia southward into Mexico some 25,000 years ago. For generations, the Blackfeet used the trail on the east side of the Rockies for trade and travel from northern hunting grounds to southern winter encampments. Learn more at the Old Trail Museum in Choteau or experience part of the journey through trail markers located west of Highway 89 outside of:

- 1 Choteau: 20 miles west on North and South Forks of Teton Road
- 2 Bynum: Blackleaf Road
- 3 Dupuyer: 17 miles west on Swift Dam Road

Fall transitions to winter with the elevation change on Centennial Mountain near Big Sandy.



JOHN LAMBING

This sign, near Dupuyer, marks one of the oldest documented trails.



NEAL MISHLER

TAKE THE SCENIC ROUTE THROUGH CENTRAL MONTANA

Some of the best barley in the world is grown right here in Central Montana.

CHUCK HANEY

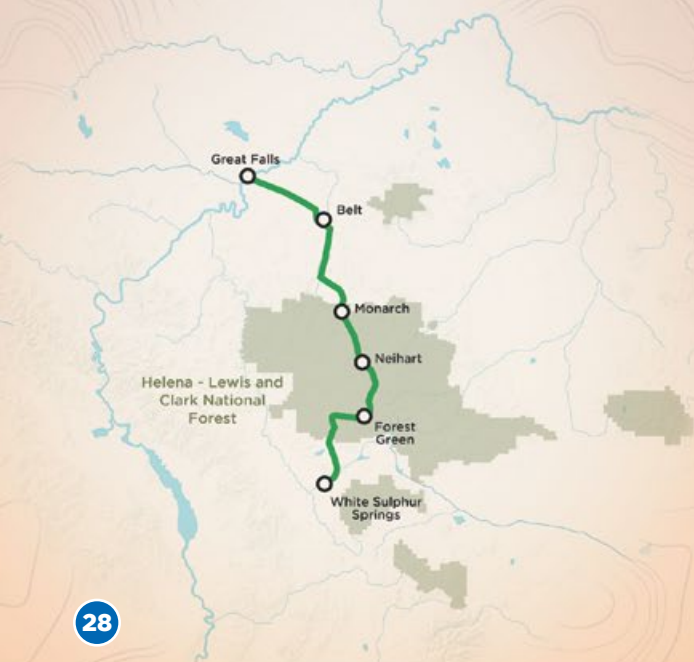
Scenic drives through Central Montana are simply hard to beat! Whether you're looking to take an afternoon drive or an extended adventure, we've got plenty of options. Here are a couple favorites for consideration.



C.M. Russell Auto Tour

The Montana Legislature designated Highway 87 between Great Falls and Lewistown as the "Charles M. Russell Trail." The land continues to stir the imagination and spirit today as it did for the cowboy artist over 100 years ago. In fact, many of the scenes he painted are from the area covered in this drive.

The main route follows Highway 87 for approximately 100 miles between Great Falls and Lewistown. The loop turns south at either Windham or Hobson, travels to Utica and then south into the Little Belt Mountains. Interpretive signage is located along this route.



Kings Hill Scenic Byway

The Byway begins at the junction of US Highways 89 & 12 near White Sulphur Springs and travels north to Armington Junction near Belt. Allow two hours to leisurely drive the route. Stretching 71 miles along US Highway 89, the Kings Hill Scenic Byway winds its way along pristine mountain streams and is home to an abundant variety of wildlife. Gravel roads criss-crossing the main highway lead to 450 miles of spectacular mountain scenery, high country lakes, trailheads, campgrounds and old mines.

At the top of Kings Hill Pass, Showdown Montana ski area offers 34 downhill ski runs of varied terrain. North of Kings Hill Pass is Silver Crest Nordic Ski Area with 17 miles of cross-country ski trails. There are over 200 miles of marked snowmobile trails in the area. In addition to great winter recreation, activities like fishing, floating, camping, birdwatching, mountain biking and horseback riding are also popular in this rugged country.



Montana Scenic Loop

This route covers over 350 miles of spectacular landscapes and offers travelers the opportunity to see one of the most intact mountainous ecosystems. The route encompasses Flathead, Lolo, Helena and Lewis & Clark National Forests and circles one of the largest expanses of wilderness in the lower 48 United States.

Wilderness areas accessible from the Montana Scenic Loop include the Great Bear Wilderness, Scapegoat Wilderness and Bob Marshall Wilderness. Glacier National Park borders the northern section of the Loop and travelers can drive along the west and east slopes of the Rocky Mountains.

The southern part of the Montana Scenic Loop crosses Rogers Pass. Recreation opportunities are unparalleled along this route and there are many small towns offering a variety of services.



Missouri Breaks Back Country Byway

The Missouri Breaks National Back Country Byway, overlooking the Upper Missouri National Wild and Scenic River, covers a ruggedly spectacular landscape. The Byway begins in Winifred, located 38 miles north of Lewistown on Montana Secondary 236. The Byway consists of gravel roads and unimproved roads that can become totally impassable when wet.

Driving time is approximately 2 to 3 hours and the length of the drive is about 80 miles. Information signs are located along the way and there are several side trips off the route. The area provides significant habitat for wildlife and travelers may see antelope, white-tailed deer, mule deer, elk, bighorn sheep, prairie dogs, beaver, pheasant, sage grouse, sharp-tailed grouse and a variety of songbirds and raptors.

Find more information on Scenic Byways on our website under 'Trip Ideas'.
CentralMontana.com



HAVRE HISTORIC TOURS

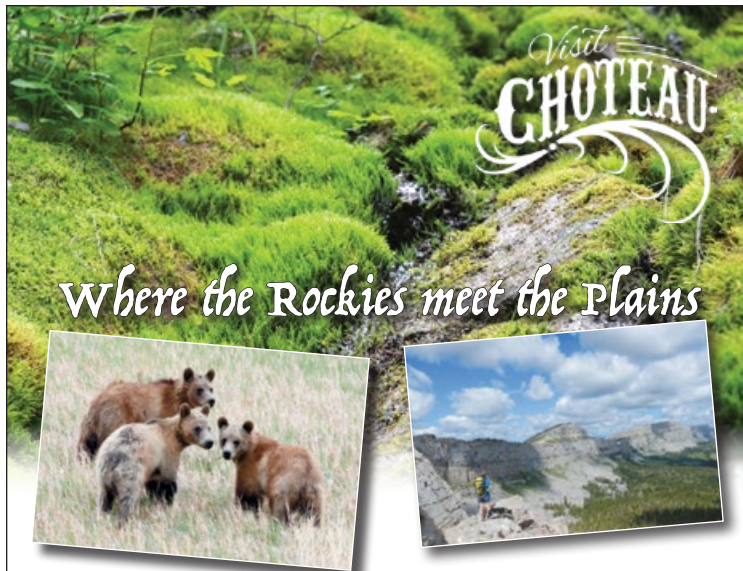
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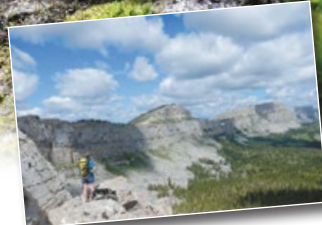
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Legendary 4th of July Celebration ~ A.B. Guthrie Trail

Old North Trail ~ Endless Hiking ~ Montana Pie Trail

Wild Wings Festival (March 22-24, 2024)

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of Shelby**
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FOLLOW THE EXPEDITION THROUGH CENTRAL MONTANA

The expedition of Meriwether Lewis and William Clark, known as the Corps of Discovery, began May 14, 1804 in Camp River Dubois, Illinois. The expedition totaled 28 months in which the Corps traversed 8,000 miles. The mission? Explore the Northwest Passage which had remained a mystery.

In November of 1804, the group set up winter camp in what is now known as North Dakota near the junction of the Knife and Missouri rivers. The Corps, accompanied by two new interpreters including Sacagawea, set out to continue their journey up the Missouri once winter had passed. On June 13, the group reached the Great Falls of the Missouri and four additional falls further upstream. The 18-mile portage of the falls took nearly a month—signaling their longest stay in one area beside their time at winter camp.

Central Montana is rich in Lewis and Clark history, so be sure to take time to explore the area and the stops noted below. You'll be glad you did!

CASCADE

Tower Rock is located on the west side of the Missouri River, approximately eight miles south of Cascade, exit 247 off I-15. This was the end of the Great Plains and transition to the unknown Rocky Mountain terrain ahead.

CHESTER

Eighteen miles south of Chester on Montana Secondary Road 66, four interpretive signs detail Meriwether Lewis' 1805 and 1806 trips through this area.

DUPUYER AND VALIER

Two interpretive panels mark the only hostile encounter with Indians experienced by the Corps of Discovery on their long journey. One is located 14 miles west of Valier at the junction of US Highway 89 and MT 44 north of Dupuyer and the other is north of Valier on the Cut Bank highway (MT 358).

FORT BENTON

This historic town boasts Montana's Lewis and Clark Memorial: a heroic-sized statue of the explorers, Sacagawea and her son. A walking tour includes the steamboat levee; museums; reconstructed portion of the Old Fort Benton fur post, which includes the bastion (the oldest building in Montana) and other historic buildings. Fort Benton is also a launch point for the 149 mile "Upper Missouri National Wild and Scenic River" waterway segment of the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail and the western gateway for Upper Missouri River Breaks National Monument. The Missouri Breaks Interpretive Center displays the cultural and natural history of the Upper Missouri, and serves as a contact station for floaters.

GREAT FALLS

Great Falls features many opportunities for Lewis and Clark enthusiasts. The Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail Interpretive Center, along the River's Edge Trail, is an essential stop for visitors. Along the same stretch of the River's Edge Trail, Giant Springs State Park can be reached, as well as overlooks for Black Eagle and Rainbow Falls. Don't forget to visit Broadwater Overlook Park, also home to the Visitors Center.

LEWISTOWN

North of Lewistown and Winifred, the Judith Landing public access site provides an excellent opportunity to re-trace a section of the actual Lewis and Clark Expedition trail on the Missouri River.

LOMA

In June 1805, the Lewis and Clark Expedition spent nine days at the Marias River trying to determine whether or not the Marias was a main stem of the Missouri; they correctly concluded that it was not. Visit Decision Point Overlook while there.

ULM

Visit First Peoples Buffalo Jump State Park and Visitor Center to see what is believed to be one of the longest buffalo kill sites in the United States. Though not actually part of the Lewis and Clark route, Lewis described in great detail these buffalo kills. First Peoples Buffalo Jump National Historic Landmark gives visitors a way to "see" what Lewis described in his journal.

History comes to life during the annual Lewis and Clark Festival in Great Falls.

ELIZABETH MOORE

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The Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center houses one of the most extensive collections from the expedition.

TERESA OTTO

THE ART OF ADVENTURE



VISIT
Great Falls
MONTANA

Whether you're looking for a trip full of nature, culture, art, history or just simply to get away from it all Great Falls is ready for you! Find trip ideas, lodging options and more by scanning the QR code or at the URL below.



SCAN WITH PHONE

VisitGreatFallsMontana.org/CentralMontana

UNDER THE CENTRAL MONTANA SKY

Ever wondered why Montana is often referred to as 'Big Sky Country'? Well, let us show you. Central Montana boasts some of the biggest skies around, but you really have to see it to believe it! Some of the most mesmerizing views you'll find here only come out at night.

When it comes to stargazing, Central Montana is hard to beat. From the peaks of our mountain ranges to the open plains, the area offers viewers endless opportunities to see the wonders of the night sky. If you're lucky, beyond the millions of stars, you may also be able to spot planets, meteors, constellations including the Big and Little Dipper, and perhaps even the Milky Way. The rural nature of the region means low light pollution and a horizon free of obstructions—all perks to those seeking views of the dark sky.

Did we mention that when conditions are just right you may catch the northern lights? There truly is nothing like seeing the aurora borealis in person.

Whether you're just a visitor looking to see the stars or an astronomy junkie, Central Montana is calling your name. We have selected a few of our favorite locales on the map to the right, but really all of Central Montana is a great place to stop and stare. Check the weather forecast, pick your place, and head out to catch the celestial wonders of Central Montana.

Camping under the Montana stars—an unforgettable experience.



ERIC HEIDLE

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 Beaver Creek County Park:
Open year-round | 10 Island Area at Tiber Dam:
Open year-round |
| 2 Bonanza Creek Country
Guest Ranch:
Open June - November
(weather permitting) | 11 James Kipp Recreation Area:
Open April - November |
| 3 Cave Mountain:
Open Summer | 12 JJJ Wilderness Ranch:
Open year-round |
| 4 Coal Banks Landing:
Open April - November | 13 Judith Landing:
Open May 15 - October 15 |
| 5 Crystal Lake:
Open June - October | 14 Myers Family Huts:
Open May - November |
| 6 First Peoples Buffalo Jump
State Park: Open year-round | 15 Slippery Ann Wildlife Viewing
Area: Open Spring - Fall |
| 7 Forest Lake: Open Summer | 16 Timber Creek Disperses:
Open year-round |
| 8 Hay Canyon Campground:
Open Memorial Day -
Labor Day | 17 Upper Missouri River Breaks:
Open year-round |
| 9 Hole in the Wall
Campground:
Open April - November | 18 Virgelle Mercantile, B&B and
Cabins: Open year-round |
| | 19 Wood Bottom Recreation Area:
Open April - November |

The northern lights dance across
the dark skies of Central Montana.

Winter provides unique opportunities for fun in Central Montana. From the thrill of downhill skiing to the quiet mystique of soaking in natural hot springs, we have it all. A wide variety of winter activities will provide you with memories that last a lifetime. Check out all there is to do once winter arrives.

CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING

Beaver Creek Park: An ideal setting for cross-country skiing can be found south of Havre in the Bears Paw Mountains. With two lakes close by and ample scenery, it's a natural!

Great Falls: Giant Springs State Park on the eastern edge of town is available for cross-country skiing and snowshoeing.

Green Pole & Rock Creek:

Located 35 miles southwest of Lewistown, Green Pole and Rock Creek offer excellent cross-country trails.

Showdown Montana: Located in the Little Belt Mountains southeast of Great Falls, the area offers beautiful scenery for cross-country skiing. There are maps at the Belt Creek ranger station or at Showdown Montana.

Silver Crest: Silver Crest has 18 km of marked and groomed cross-country touring trails, just 7 short miles south of Neihart. Two warming huts offer pause along the trail.

Choteau: Variety of options for cross-country skiing on the Rocky Mountain Front, west of Choteau. Located just east of the Bob Marshall Wilderness area, Teton Pass Ski Area offers a variety of cross-country ski trails.

DOWNHILL SKIING & SNOWBOARDING

Bear Paw Ski Bowl: Dubbed "Steep-n-Deep" by the locals, this ski area is located 29 miles south of Havre on the Rocky Boy's Indian Reservation (395-4040). Top elevation is exactly one mile with a 900 foot vertical drop. Of 10 ski runs, half are advanced and the other half intermediate.

Food can be purchased in the warming lodge. Ski rentals can be found in Havre.

Showdown Montana: With a top elevation of 8,200 feet and 1,400 feet of vertical drop, Showdown Montana offers a wide range of skiing and snowboarding opportunities. Showdown has 34 pristine runs, with the longest measuring 2 miles. Downhill and telemark skis, snowboards, snow bikes and snowshoes are available for rent. Full-service day lodge includes a grill, saloon, daycare, pro-shop and coffee bar (236-5522). Call for snow report (771-1300).

Teton Pass Ski Area: Located at the edge of the Rocky Mountain Front west of Choteau, Teton Pass boasts a diverse terrain and unbeatable views. The 1,000 foot vertical

drop from 7,200 feet to 6,190 feet will entertain skiers and snowboarders alike, no matter the skill level. There are 46 runs of varying difficulty, giving everyone an opportunity to join the fun. They offer a day lodge, restaurant, ski school, and rental shop (466-2209).

HOCKEY

The Great Falls Americans play in the American West Hockey League, December-March.

HUNTING

Central Montana offers great hunting opportunities during the fall and winter months for upland game birds, waterfowl and big game.

ICE BOATING

Try this sport at Freezout Lake near Fairfield, Lake Frances near Valier, or Priest Butte Lake outside of Choteau.



See what fun winter is at
youtube.com/centralmontana

Powder hounds hitch a ride to the top of the mountain at Showdown Montana ski area.

**SNOW
MUCH FUN
IN CENTRAL
MONTANA**

CHARLEY WILLET



If you build it, they will come—the statement rings true for more than just baseball diamonds.

ROD BENSON

ICE FISHING

Chester: Lake Elwell, 18 miles south of Chester, has both walleye and northern pike. In 2007, the walleye state record was caught in Lake Elwell and weighed 17.75 pounds.

Choteau: Enjoy ice fishing on nearby Bynum Reservoir or try your hand at catching trout and pike at Eureka Reservoir. There are many other favorite local spots, so ask around town to find out where the fish are biting best!

Conrad: Arod Lake, located between Conrad and Choteau, is a great place to try your hand at ice fishing.

Havre: If you want to stay close, try fishing for perch at Beaver Creek Park. Fresno Reservoir, 17 miles west of Havre is excellent for trout, walleye, pike, and perch.

Lewistown: Hanson Creek Dam and East Fork Dam are great ice fishing spots in the area. You can find trout at Carter's Pond. Ackley Lake near Hobson is another hot spot for trout.

Martinsdale: Martinsdale Reservoir, south of town, and Bair Reservoir, west on US Highway 12, offer area anglers ample ice fishing opportunities.

Valier: Lake Frances is a popular ice fishing spot for walleye, pike and perch. You're sure to find that the local folks will lend a hand should you need it.



NEAL MISHLER

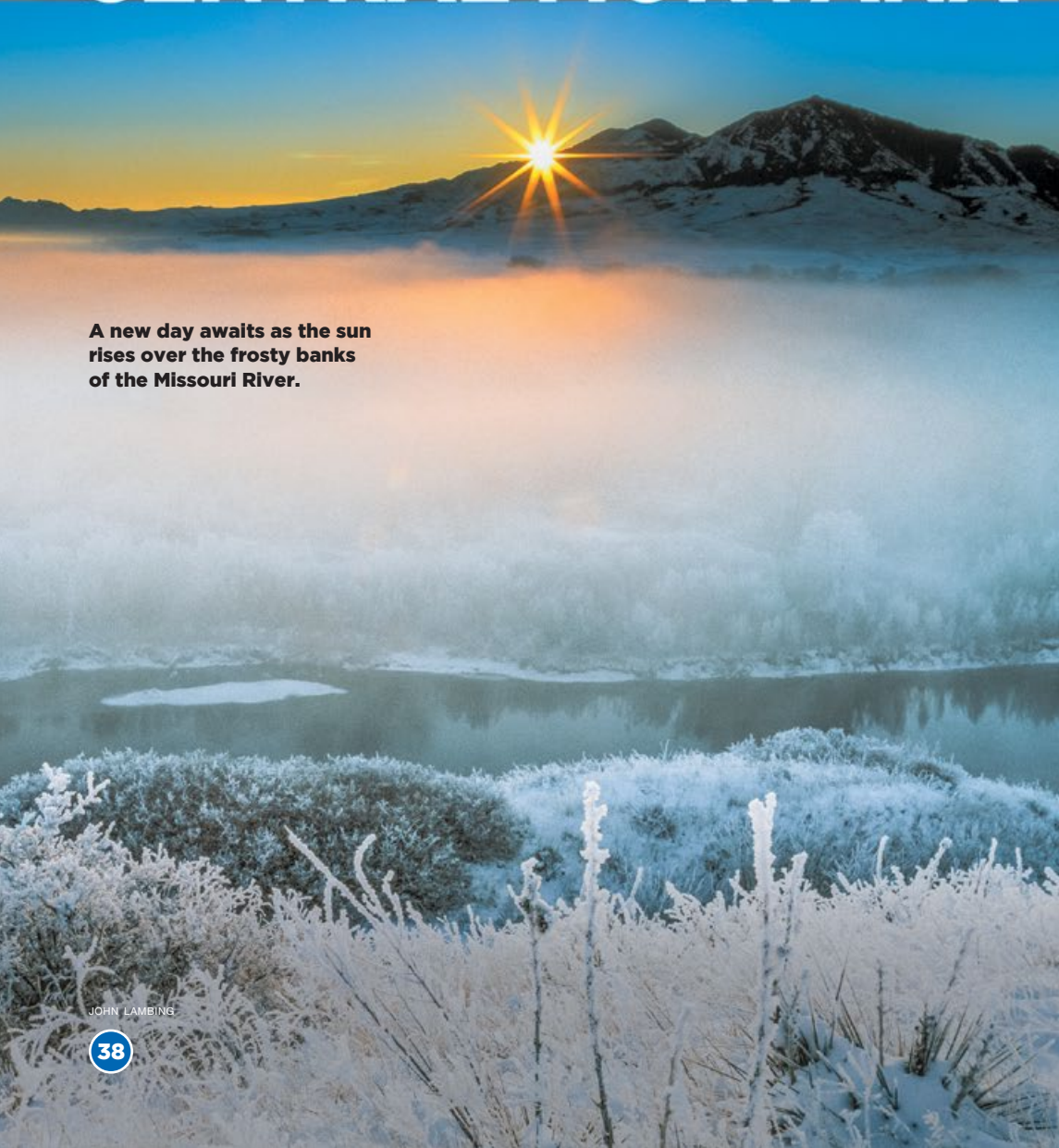
Once the ice is thick enough, you'll find fishermen baiting lines at Nilan Reservoir.



Snowmobiling is the perfect fit for those seeking winter adventure with a little more horsepower.

GEORGIA MILLER

WINTER IN CENTRAL MONTANA



A new day awaits as the sun rises over the frosty banks of the Missouri River.

JOHN LAMBING

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ICE SKATING

For less strenuous winter fun, check out the ponds, lakes and reservoirs located throughout Central Montana.

SNOWMOBILING

Belt: Many opportunities for snowmobile enthusiasts are available near the town of Belt. For trail maps, call 236-5511.

Choteau: There are 5 miles of marked snowmobile trails 29 miles northwest of Choteau, at South Fork Waldron.

Havre: Beaver Creek Park has several excellent areas for snowmobiling. Be sure to watch out for cross-country skiers sharing trails in the area.

Kings Hill: In the Little Belt Mountains southeast of Great Falls, the Kings Hill recreation area has more than 200 miles of marked snowmobile trails. Follow the trailheads off Highway 89 for these popular loop trails, big powder playgrounds and spectacular panoramic views.

Lewistown: Try the Big Snowy Mountains near Crystal Lake for great snowmobiling! Lewistown is nearby, so supplies are accessible!

Stanford/Utica: Discover the Little Belt Trail southwest of Utica and marvel at the unspoiled beauty of the Helena-Lewis and Clark National Forest. The trail winds along the Judith River through the South Fork Canyon.



More winter adventure videos available at youtube.com/centralmontana

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HISTORY MADE LOCALLY

BLAINE COUNTY MUSEUM

Chinook, Montana

Photo: Bear Paw Pool by Charles E. Morris



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and Quickest Route to Glacier National Park!

HOP IN FOR A LOCAL BREW

As you travel through Central Montana, you are bound to be thirsty! All that travel and adventure is hard work. Did you know that Montana now has over 110 breweries throughout the state? Well, you do now. And, Central Montana is no exception to that trend with a growing list of local breweries. Whether you are looking to try a new IPA, porter, or pale ale, you're bound to find a new favorite here. The best part is that many brewers in Central Montana use barley grown locally. Crops of malting barley can be found throughout Central Montana which makes stopping for a cold one a truly local experience.

As you settle in to enjoy a frosty drink, make sure to ask the friendly staff about a bite to eat. Many of Central Montana's breweries also offer great food too or can recommend a local eatery to help you refuel for your next adventure. And while you're thinking of your next adventure, don't forget to ask about options to take some Central Montana brews with you as most breweries now offer growlers, cans or bottles to go. Cheers friends!



Watch tours of local breweries
at youtube.com/centralmontana

**Without barley, and the
dedicated farmers who
tend to it, there is no beer.**





A mighty smelter once stood just across the river from Great Falls, where **Black Eagle Brewery** now forges great beers like Smoke Stack Scottish Ale.



Run the legendary trout waters of the Missouri via kayak, raft or canoe. Even if you don't catch any, you'll be ready to reel in a Rising Trout or Lip Ripper IPA from **Mighty Mo Brew Co.** in Great Falls.



Triple Dog Brewing Co. in Havre believes in hops, and you should hop on the chance to try one yourself. The Bear Paws Belgian Wit and Fresno Wheat are local favorites.



Located in the center of Montana, Lewistown is the perfect stop during your Central Montana travels. Be sure to hit up **Big Spring Brewing**, named after the crystal-clear Big Spring Creek that runs through town. Sip a Crystal Pale Ale or try the Highwood American Wheat which is one of their mainstays.



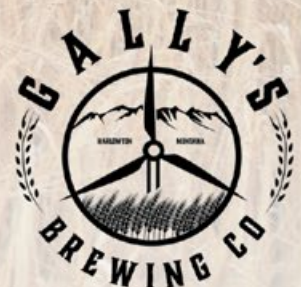
The Rocky Mountain Front has seen many mountain men come and go, but Mountain Man Scotch Ale from **Jeremiah Johnson Brewing Company** in Great Falls can still be found in these parts today.



Harvest Moon Brewing Company in the historic town of Belt is one of Central Montana's oldest breweries, and they have a fondness for local history. Try a Charlie Russell Red, named in honor of the region's famed Western artist, to see why.



2 Basset Brewery in White Sulphur Springs is just down the street from the town's fabled hot springs. Get a hot soak and a cool pint all in one trip for a truly epic day!



Enjoy a Rusted Rail Irish Red Ale, a nod to Harlowton's rail history at **Gally's Brewing Co.** A stop at Gally's is a celebration of Harlowton's past, topped with great beers.



Although majestic, moose can be aggressive. Always use caution around wildlife.

CAPTIVATING WILDLIFE IN CENTRAL MONTANA

CAROL POLICH

Wildlife watching opportunities are abundant in Central Montana—home to over 100 mammals. It's safe to say there is no shortage of chances to spot animals in their natural habitat here. Several wildlife management areas and wildlife refuges in the region offer excellent access for viewing a variety of wildlife. Check with Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks (454-5840) for information on access to Central Montana's wildlife management areas.

Sun River Wildlife Management Area

Located on the Rocky Mountain Front, nine miles northwest of MT Highway 287 near Augusta. Large numbers of elk can usually be observed during winter months.

Freezout Lake Wildlife Management Area

Borders US Highway 89 between Fairfield and Choteau. There are year 'round viewing opportunities: upland game birds and raptors in winter, waterfowl migrations in spring and fall, and waterfowl and shore birds in summer.

Ear Mountain Wildlife Management Area/Blackleaf Wildlife Management Area

Ear Mountain WMA is 22 miles west of Choteau. Entrance to Blackleaf WMA is fifteen miles west of Bynum on US Highway 89. Both provide viewing opportunities for elk, mule and white-tailed deer, black bear, grizzly bear and a variety of songbirds and raptors.

Judith Wildlife Management Area

11 miles southwest of Utica in the east end of the Little Belt Mountains. This area provides abundant vegetation for wintering elk and deer.

Benton Lake National Wildlife Refuge

14 miles north of Great Falls just off US Highway 87. Self-guided auto tour route through the refuge, which provides critical habitat for migratory birds and other wildlife (727-7400).

The Kevin Rim Area

North of Shelby has outstanding raptor viewing along county roads. Northwest of Shelby in the Sweet Grass Hills are deer, elk, fox, raptors and upland game birds.



Want to see more? Go to youtube.com/centralmontana

Seeing mule deer bucks with antlers still in velvet is a special treat.

CHUCK HANEY





To hear a bull elk bugle should be on every visitor's bucket list.

JAKE WILSON

CAROL POLICH

ELIZABETH MOORE

Bears, like this grizzly, do call Central Montana home.

Pacific Marten are well-adapted to live in northcentral Montana.

IN FLIGHT IN CENTRAL MONTANA

This Forster's tern is joining thousands of birds for a stopover at Freezeout Wildlife Management Area.



The diversity of Central Montana's landscape supports an incredible variety of bird species. Wildlife management areas and refuges in the region provide great opportunities for bird watching.

We'd like to ensure your birding experience is safe and rewarding. Please be aware of all wildlife and maintain a respectful distance. When viewing from roads, please park in a safe location and make sure you're visible to other drivers.

You'll want to keep your binoculars handy as you travel our byways and hike our trails, as over 250 species call Central Montana home.

Follow usage regulations for each site and always get permission from landowners before accessing private property. Stay on roads/trails and leave sites as you found them for others to enjoy.



Prepare for takeoff with birding videos at youtube.com/centralmontana

CRAIG & LIZ LARCOM

This sharp-tailed grouse is dancing and scuffling as he courts a nearby female.



CRAIG MILLER

TWELVE HOT BIRDING SPOTS

While great birding is nearly everywhere in the region, we've identified a few of the best sites in Central Montana to spot feathered friends.

- 1 The Rocky Mountain Front
- 2 Freezout Lake
- 3 First Peoples Buffalo Jump State Park
- 4 Benton Lake National Wildlife Refuge
- 5 Giant Springs State Park
- 6 Sanford Park
- 7 Kings Hill Scenic Byway
- 8 Stanford Bluebirds
- 9 Kingsbury Lake Waterfowl Production Area
- 10 Upper Missouri National Wild and Scenic River
- 11 Beaver Creek Park/Chippewa Cree Recreational Park
- 12 Chinook/Lloyd Loop



Want more information on the best birding areas in the region? Check out our Birding Trails in Central Montana brochure at centralmontana.com/birding or call 761-5036 to request a free copy. This resource includes detailed species lists, directions and access information.

A trumpeter swan spreads its wings, taking advantage of Montana's vast skies.



NEAL MISHLER

The traditional pieces worn by dancers during the Rocky Boy Powwow span every color of the rainbow.

TODD KLASSY

GET SOCIAL IN CENTRAL MONTANA

Whether it's a festival, fair, or celebration, we live for a good party. Fortunately, there is no shortage of exciting gatherings and events in Central Montana. While you are here we encourage you to check out area festivals, music events, powwows, county fairs, parades, beer festivals, holiday events and more.

When it comes to celebrating, we find ourselves embracing opportunities to honor our history, culture, and local landscapes. Native American powwows present the opportunity to partake in traditional dancing, music, games and food that are time-honored traditions of our First People. You'll find a whole host of music events such as the Harlo Music Project and Red Ants Pants Festival which both draw world-class talent to the region.

Travel through the region and taste locally brewed beers and spirits at a local beer fest. Many local breweries use barley grown in the area for a true farm-to-glass experience.

Art more your style? Central Montana is the place to be! Many communities host street fairs where local artists offer pieces for sale giving locals and visitors the opportunity to take home unique finds. If you happen to be in the area come March, a must do is Western Art Week. This world-renowned event draws artists and art lovers from all corners of the planet as Great Falls becomes the Western Art Capital of the World! See art-in-action, shop for a piece to take home, enjoy live music, and take in the rich history of the American West.

Come join us for some festive fun in Central Montana!



Check out some events at
youtube.com/centralmontana



Check out our website at
CentralMontana.com/CalendarofEvents
for a complete listing of local events
with specific dates and locations.

SAVE THE DATE

**Montana Pro Rodeo
Circuit Finals**
Great Falls
Mid January

**Charlie Russell
Chew-Choo Train Rides**
Lewistown
June - December

Summer Celebration
Fort Benton
Late June

**Montana Cowboy
Poetry Gathering**
Lewistown
Mid August

Montana Winter Fair
Lewistown
Late January

Living History Day
Havre
Early June

Buffalo Kite Festival
Ulm
Mid July

Havre Trails Brewfest
Havre
Late August

Western Art Week
Great Falls
Mid March

Whoop Up Days
Conrad
Early June

**Red Ants Pants
Music Festival**
White Sulphur Springs
Late July

Chokecherry Festival
Lewistown
Early September

Hi-Line Brewfest
Havre
Late March

Kite Festival
Shelby
Mid June

**CenterFest
Music Festival**
Lewistown
Early August

Havre Festival Days
Havre
Mid September

Bentonfest
Fort Benton
Late May

Homesteader Days
Valler
Late June

Rocky Boy Powwow
Rocky Boy's Reservation
Early August

Sugarbeet Festival
Chinook
Late September

**Community
Farmers Markets**
Throughout Central Montana
June - September

Ivan Doig Day
Dupuyer
Late June

ArtsFest Montana
Great Falls
Mid August

HarvestFest Art Auction
Lewistown
Early October

Rodeos
Throughout Central Montana
June - September

Lewis & Clark Festival
Great Falls
Late June

Harlo Music Project
Harlowton
Mid August

**Christmas Strolls &
Light Displays**
Throughout Central Montana
December

Please note that the weather in Montana is always changing so event dates are subject to change.



Tanya Tucker takes the stage at the Red Ants Pants Music Festival.

ELIZABETH MOORE

HIGHLIGHT REELS

From jaw-dropping landscapes to epic adventures, Central Montana is calling your name. If you aren't yet convinced this is your next destination then check out some of our videos so you can see what we are talking about. We've created these videos as a sneak peek of all Central Montana has to offer. The images to the right have been taken from a couple of our favorites videos—one on mountain biking and one that highlights agriculture.

Truth be told—as hard as we try these videos simply can't replace seeing this place for yourself. So, book your trip!



More videos are available
at youtube.com/centralmontana



Moody skies settle over the rugged landscapes of Central Montana.

Prefer to see the great outdoors on 2 wheels instead of 4? We've got you covered. Pack your bike, or reserve a rental, for the adventure of a lifetime as you pedal through Central Montana. The region is full of epic mountain biking trails like the ones in this video!

Farms and ranches dot our landscapes in every direction. We are proud of our agricultural roots and love to share the experience with visitors. As you travel through the region, carve out time to enjoy true farm-to-table experiences with locally-raised produce, grains and protein.

Find Your Center

Enjoy the time and space to do what you love

Flyfishing on Big Spring Creek
Lewistown, Montana



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Funding Provided By Lewistown Hoteliers Tourism Business Improvement District ❖ PHOTO BY PATRICIA KENNEY THOMPSON

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