



Parks, Monuments, and Memorials - 3 day

Overview:

Do Big Things in Rapid City. Surrounded by bucket list-worthy experiences, like Mount Rushmore and Crazy Horse, everyday has big potential. Rapid City offers the perfect home base for your Black Hills tour with a vibrant main street America experience, unique attractions and urban pleasures including accommodations, restaurants and shopping.

Tour Highlights:

- Mt. Rushmore National Memorial
- Crazy Horse Memorial
- Custer State Park
- Rapid City including The City of Presidents
- Historic Deadwood
- Badlands National Park
- Three nights in superior accommodations in Rapid City

Video:

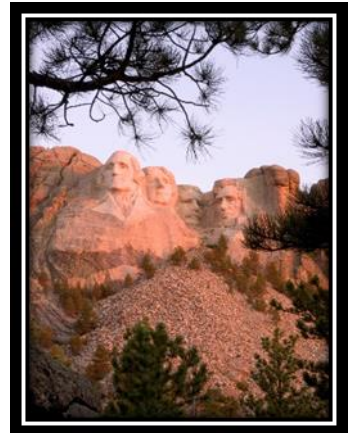
[Do Big Things in Rapid City](#)

Itinerary:

Day One: Central Black Hills

The first stop of the Parks, Monuments and Memorials tour is Our Nation's Shrine of Democracy, [Mt. Rushmore National Memorial](#). Spend time in the Lincoln Borglum Museum at the memorial to learn more about this amazing sculpture. Next, enjoy the scenic drive to [Crazy Horse Memorial](#). This ongoing mountain carving is the world's largest and a majestic tribute to all Native American tribes across the country. Group-friendly lunch options can be found at the Carver's Café at Mt. Rushmore National Memorial or Laughing Water Restaurant at Crazy Horse. Driving further into the Black Hills is [Custer State Park](#), a 71,000-acre park is home to abundant wildlife, including one of the nation's largest free roaming buffalo herds, making it common to encounter a "Buffalo Jam" while driving in the park. Group-friendly dining options are available at a variety of [restaurants in Rapid City](#), Mt. Rushmore or Crazy Horse Memorial. Then return to Mount Rushmore or Crazy Horse for their evening shows. During the summer season, Mount Rushmore holds a nightly patriotic lighting ceremony*, while at Crazy Horse you can experience the laser light show, Legends in Light*.

Return to your comfortable accommodations in Rapid City for the evening.



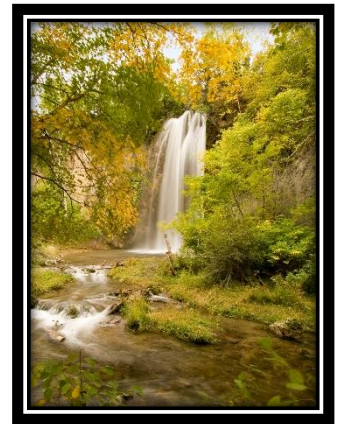
Day Two: Rapid City & the Badlands

Before departing Rapid City, stop at [The Journey Museum & Learning Center](#), where you will take on an incredible trek through time, from the violent upheaval that formed the mystical Black Hills over 2.5 billion years ago to the continuing saga of the Western Frontier. When your journey is complete, you will fully understand the legacy of the land and its people. Depart Rapid City and head east to Wall, where you will find world-famous [Wall Drug](#) store, built in 1931, has boomed to become internationally known for its offering of free ice water, specialty shopping, and a unique backyard experience. The restaurant at Wall Drug easily accommodates groups for any meal. Continue on to [Badlands National Park](#) to enjoy the spires and pinnacles of this 244,000-acre wilderness area. There are many scenic pull-offs for photos and short hikes. The Ben Reifel Visitor Center is also located on the Badlands loop drive. It may not be a national park or monument, but the [City of Presidents](#) walking tour in [downtown Rapid City](#) is a great way to end your Parks and Monument tour. These life-sized bronze statues will take you on a journey through American Presidential history. While downtown, also enjoy shopping at [Prairie Edge Trading Co. & Galleries](#), wine tasting at [Firehouse Wine Cellars](#), or entertainment at [Main Street Square](#). Spend your evening at an old-fashioned chuckwagon supper and music show* in Rapid City. Return to your comfortable accommodations in Rapid City for the evening.



Day Three: Northern Black Hills

Start your final day in Rapid City with a tour at [Landstrom's-Mt. Rushmore Black Hills Gold Factory Tours](#), where you will watch as each piece of jewelry is handcrafted. A Black Hills experience would not be complete without visiting the likes of **Deadwood** where wild west history abounds. This gaming town's claim to fame comes from the likes of Wild Bill Hickok and Calamity Jane, who you will find buried in **Mount Moriah Cemetery***. Take a city tour of Deadwood where more than 80 gaming casinos beckon with slots, blackjack and poker. Enjoy lunch at a variety of dining establishments in Deadwood. Venture to Deadwood's sister-city, **Lead**, to visit the **Homestake Visitor Center** where you will view the open cut mine and take a surface tour of the gold mine which was in operation until 2002. Complete your day with a drive through the [Spearfish Canyon Scenic Byway*](#) and enjoy the picturesque views of the canyon and waterfalls. Return to Rapid City for dinner at one of our [group-friendly restaurants](#) or a catered meal at a unique venue. Return to your comfortable accommodations in Rapid City for the evening.



Optional

Extend your itinerary with day four in the Southern Hills and day five with more Rapid City attractions! For additional tour ideas and suggestions contact the [Rapid City Convention & Visitors Bureau](#).

* While the majority of the attractions included in this itinerary are open year-round, there are several attractions in the Black Hills area open for the * summer season only.

For more information:

Rapid City Convention & Visitors Bureau

Julie Jones-Whitcher, Director of Tourism | Lindsey Beasley, Manager of Tourism Sales
605-718-8484 | 800-487-3222 Tours@VisitRapidCity.com www.TourRapidCity.com