



## Rapid City & Black Hills Destination Tour - 5 day

### Overview:

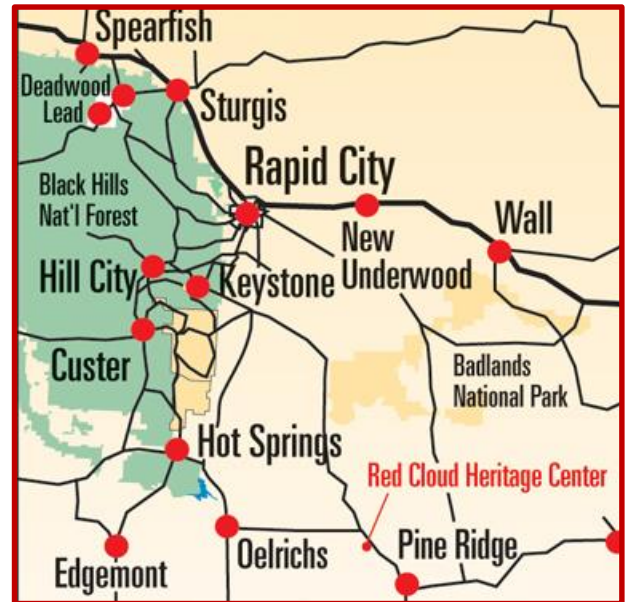
Do Big Things in Rapid City. Surrounded by bucket list-worthy experiences, like Mount Rushmore and Crazy Horse, everyday has big potential. Rapid City offers the perfect home base for your Black Hills tour with a vibrant main street America experience, unique attractions and urban pleasures including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

### Tour Highlights:

- Mt. Rushmore National Memorial
- Crazy Horse Memorial
- Custer State Park
- Historic Deadwood
- Badlands National Park

### Video:

[Do Big Things in Rapid City](#)



### Itinerary:

#### Day One: Rapid City

Tour [Rapid City](#) with stops at many free and group-friendly attractions. Begin your day 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. Next visit the [Stavkirke\\*](#) (Chapel in the Hills), an exact replica of the famous Borgund Stavkirke of Laerdal, Norway. Outdoor enthusiasts can indulge at the [Outdoor Campus West](#), another free attraction featuring hands-on activities. Or make time for a tour at [Landstrom's- Mt. Rushmore Black Hills Gold - Factory Tours](#) where you will watch as each piece of jewelry is hand-crafted. Enjoy lunch at one of Rapid City's many locally owned cafe's offering home cooked meals and local fare. The afternoon is perfect spent in [downtown Rapid City](#). Experience the dancing fountains and *Passage of Wind and Water* sculpture project at [Main Street Square](#). View the [City of Presidents](#) and get your picture taken with life-size bronze statues of our nation's presidents. Another must-see is [Prairie Edge Trading Co. & Galleries](#) offering authentic hand-crafted Native American items. In the evening, Rapid City offers an old fashioned chuckwagon supper and music show\*.

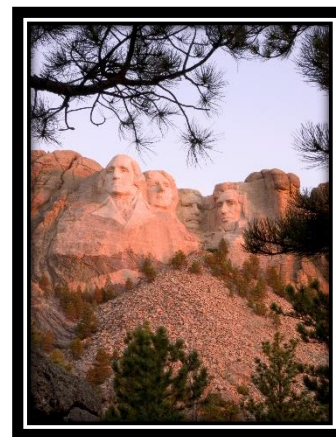


Free time? [The City View Trolley\\*](#) that makes several narrated stops throughout town at several of the attractions mentioned above and gives a fantastic view of Rapid City along Skyline Drive.

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

## Day Two: Central Black Hills

Begin your day at [Mt. Rushmore National Memorial](#), our shrine of democracy and the highlight of any Black Hills tour. On the way to Mt. Rushmore, visit [Bear Country USA\\*](#) and make a trip through their wildlife park featuring hundreds of black bear and other animals or stop at [Reptile Gardens\\*](#), offering informative and education shows featuring the world's largest collection of privately owned reptiles. Group-friendly lunch options can be found at the Carver's Café at Mt. Rushmore National Memorial or Laughing Water Restaurant at Crazy Horse. After you experience Mt. Rushmore, move on to the colossal [Crazy Horse Memorial](#), a gigantic carving of Lakota leader Crazy Horse being blasted from a mountain in the Black Hills. The Crazy Horse complex also contains the beautiful Indian Museum of North America. End your day in the Central Black Hills a stop at [Prairie Berry Winery](#) and a tour on the [1880 Train\\*](#). 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\*.



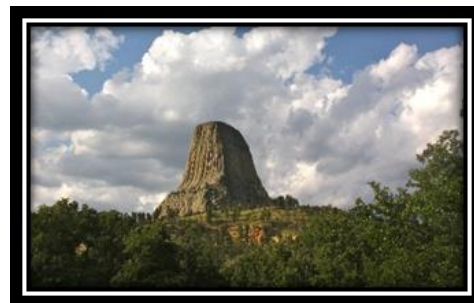
Return to your comfortable accommodations in Rapid City for the evening.

## Day Three: Northern Black Hills

From Rapid City, head west on Interstate 90 to **Sturgis** with a stop at the **Sturgis Motorcycle Museum** to learn the history of the famous Sturgis Motorcycle Rally, or for American History buffs, visit the **Fort Meade Museum\***, home of the 7th Cavalry, re-formed after the disastrous Battle of the Little Big Horn in 1876. Continue your tour of the Northern Hills in **Spearfish**, home of the **D.C. Booth Historic Fish Hatchery**. Start the afternoon with a drive through [Spearfish Canyon](#), a National Forest Scenic Byway with lunch in the canyon at the **Latchstring Inn Restaurant**. Indulge in the rich mining heritage with visits to the **Black Hills Mining Museum\*** or the **Homestake Visitor Center** in Lead or the wild west history of Deadwood at **Mount Moriah Cemetery\***, where the likes of Wild Bill Hickok and Calamity Jane are buried. Take a city tour of Deadwood 24/7 gaming casinos beckon with slots, blackjack and poker. Enjoy a variety of dining options in Deadwood before returning to Rapid City for the evening.

If you are ambitious... an alternate tour option to begin your day is an early morning at [Devils Tower National Monument](#), the first national monument as proclaimed by President Theodore Roosevelt in 1906 located just across the border in Wyoming.

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



## Day Four: Southern Black Hills

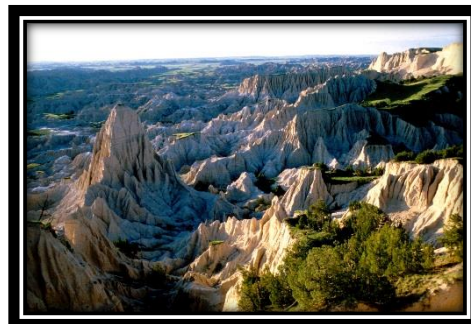
Your southern hills tour will take you through the beauty of [Custer State Park](#), one of the nation's famed state parks. Your trip includes the park's drive-through wildlife loop, home to one of America's largest wild buffalo herds, begging burrows, and a variety of other wildlife. If you are adventurous, try the [Buffalo Jeep Safari](#)\* through the 71,000 acre park. Enjoy lunch on your own in downtown Custer City before continuing through some of the longest caves in the world with a visit to either [Wind Cave National Park](#) or [Jewel Cave National Monument](#). Venturing south, you'll come upon one of the richest archaeological finds in recent years at the [Mammoth Site](#) in Hot Springs, a dig site home to 59 and counting mammoths. Just south of Hot Springs you will find the [Black Hills Wild Horse Sanctuary](#), where you get up close and personal on a wild horse herd tour! Evening entertainment opportunities include a hayride/supper in Custer State Park or dinner at one of the Park lodge restaurant's followed by a performance at the nearby [Black Hills Playhouse](#)\*.



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

## Day Five: The Badlands and Native Heritage

This day tour takes you to a moonscape on earth. Departing Rapid City east **Wall**. [Wall Drug](#), a tiny store, built in 1931, has boomed to become internationally known for its offering of free ice water, specialty shopping, unique backyard experience and expansive private art collection. Continuing south, enter [Badlands National Park](#), 244,000 acres of a stunning example of geological variety: jagged cliffs, deep canyons and sharp buttes, formed by relentless forces of nature. Take time for lunch at Wall Drug before you depart or indulge at the **Cedar Pass Lodge**\* dining room in the Badlands. After touring the Badlands, journey onto the [Pine Ridge Indian Reservation](#), where you will have the opportunity to experience Native American culture at the [Red Cloud Indian School and Heritage Center](#) and view the [Wounded Knee National Historic Landmark](#). Equally significant to your visit is a stop at the [Oglala Lakota College Historical Center](#), located near Kyle, where you will hear, see and feel the history of the Oglala Lakota people.



Alternate tour options to complete this day include returning to Rapid City after your Badlands tour. Visit the [South Dakota Air and Space Museum](#)\*, where you can see 52 aircraft, missiles and indoor exhibits and the Minuteman Missile Silo National Historic Site, created to illustrate the history and significance of the Cold War, the arms race, and intercontinental ballistic missile development. Enjoy dinner in Rapid City at one of our group-friendly restaurants, a catered meal at a unique venue, or an old fashioned chuckwagon supper and music show.

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

\* While the majority of the attractions included in this itinerary are open year-round there are a few that open for the summer season only. These are indicated by an asterisk (\*).

For more information:

### **Rapid City Convention & Visitors Bureau**

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