

# Mount Rushmore, South Dakota Gems & More!

Mon., June 9—Sun., June 15, 2025

*Tour Highlights:* Badland's National Park • Mt. Rushmore • Mt. Rushmore at night • Custer State Park • Buffalo Jeep Safari • Chuckwagon Supper • 1880's Train Ride • Deadwood • Bear Country USA • K Bars Lodge Meal • Wall Drug Store • Crazy Horse Memorial

## Developing Itinerary/Best of Americana Travel!

### Day 1, Monday—First Night, Sioux City, Iowa!

Board at St. Stephens Catholic Church (175th & 84th Ave), Tinley Park, IL. Our tour begins in heading toward Rapid City, South Dakota, known as the Gateway to the Black Hills. We'll travel across Illinois and Iowa and stop for a farmer's lunch in Iowa. We continue after lunch through Iowa and travel along the Missouri River en route to our evening hotel in Sioux City. Enjoy a Northwood's welcome and get further acquainted with our travelers this evening. **B, L**

### Day 2, Tuesday—Badland's National Park, Wall Drug, arrive at Rapid City, SD

This morning after breakfast we travel westward with wonderful scenery. We visit Al's Oasis for a great lunch. We're headed to Badland's National Park. We travel the Badlands Loop Road past many scenic lookouts. It's home to vibrant colors and rock formations created by Minera deposits. View dramatic landscapes, steep canyons, and towering spires which make for incredible photo ops. Look for bison, big horn sheep, and prairie dogs which inhabit the sprawling grasslands. Next we'll visit the famous Wall Drug with their free ice-water cups. There'll be time to tour the stores and streets and then check-in to our hotel for the next 4 nights in Rapid City, SD. **B, L**

### Day 3, Wednesday—Visit Mount Rushmore, Keystone & Bear Country USA

This morning enjoy a short drive to Bear Country USA as we're guided for our bus journey on the drive-thru windy road that takes us through several animal enclosures set in a natural, spacious environment. We'll watch animals roam freely and enjoy their habitats. We have time for a leisurely stroll along a wildlife walkway and a stop by the Bear's Den Gift Shop. Next, is a short ride through Keystone to visit the Mount Rushmore National Memorial, the epic sculpture of four American presidents—Washington, Jefferson, Teddy Roosevelt and Lincoln. We'll have free time to explore and have lunch in the park. Afterward we visit the streets of Keystone, SD before heading to our dinner stop. **B, D**

### Day 4, Thursday—Visit Wyoming, The Black Hills, Devil's Tower Natl. Park, Sundance, Deadwood

Today we journey West to Wyoming to visit Devil's Tower to view the 867ft monolith. We also stop in Sundance to enjoy a Butch Cassidy lunchtime. We return East to Sout Dakota to visit historic Deadwood. The entire city is a National Historic Landmark and features an incredibly preserved Mainstreet. Enjoy this day's scenic drive in the Black Hills of WY & SD. **B, L or D**

### Day 5, Friday—Crazy Horse, Custer Park, Buffalo Jeep Safari, Chuckwagon Cookout

Today we visit Crazy Horse Memorial, still in progress. We view the mountainside sculpture of the famous Indian Chief astride his pony. Tour includes: Indian Museum & Cultural Center. Next, visit Custer State Park, famous as a wildlife preserve featuring 1500 free roaming buffalo. Enjoy an open-air off-road buffalo safari tour with pronghorns, elk & more. Then our tour meets up with the Chuckwagon Cookout in the mountain canyon where we enjoy a feast, live entertainment, and some Western flair. Our jeep(s) bring us back to the State Game Lodge Resort. **B, D**

### Day 6, Saturday— Journey back East

After breakfast we'll board our motorcoach at the hotel and begin our eastward journey for an encore drive through the Badlands National Park. We'll continue east through South Dakota, visit the Sioux Falls area for dinner and sightseeing and then check in again at Stoney Creek Inn in Sioux City, Iowa. **B, L**

### Day 7, Sunday— Homeward Bound

This morning we drive along the beautiful Missouri River. We'll have a planned mid-afternoon lunch in Iowa and the continue towards Illinois bringing us back home with everlasting memories of our Black Hills, Badlands, and Mount Rushmore adventure! **B, L**

### Accommodations Information

Day 1 - Stoney Creek Hotel (*Sioux City, IA*)

Day 2—5 DoubleTree by Hilton (*Downtown Rapid City, SD*)

Days 6 - Stoney Creek Hotel (*Sioux City, IA*)