



EPIC FAMILY ADVENTURES \mathbf{Q}



IN MONTANA, NOBODY TELLS KIDS TO SETTLE DOWN.

THIS IS WHERE THEY RUN FREE. JUMP IN A RAFT. EXPLORE NATIONAL PARKS AND GHOST TOWNS. CROSS MOUNTAIN RANGES. SPOT MOOSE, ELK AND BEARS. IT'S ALL WAITING FOR YOUR FAMILY TO DISCOVER. urn the page for experiences made only in Montana. FLATHEAD LAKE MISSOULA AREA

WHAT PLACE HAS SNOWCAPS AND WHITECAPS?

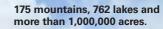
WHEN IT COMES TO CANYONS, RIVERS AND MOUNTAINS, THE Missoula AREA COVERS IT HIGH AND LOW.

200 SQUARE MILES IN ONE LAKE? BELIEVE IT!

Go sailing, paddleboarding or plain old swimming at Flathead Lake, the largest natural freshwater lake west of the Great Lakes. The Flathead Lake Lodge dude ranch makes a great home base. In summer, be sure to stop at a roadside stand to try the local cherries.

3 REASONS YOU'LL GO GAGA FOR Glacier National Park

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Mountain goats and bighorn sheep spotted from the park's alpine hiking trails.

Real live glaciers: Hike to 25 active ones in the park. Grinnell Glacier Viewpoint is an easy route for older kids.

WHITEWATER RAFTING

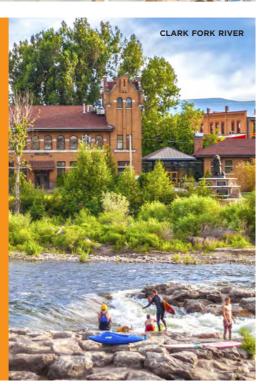
Multiple outfitters lead trips on the Blackfoot, Bitterroot and Clark Fork rivers. Flatwater tours cater to little ones; older kids will love the bouncier Class II, III and IV rapids.

REAL-LIFE ACTION HEROES

Tour the smokejumper base in Missoula to learn about the jump gear and aircraft used to fight wilderness forest fires.

A HIKE FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

Head south of Missoula (past a Lewis and Clark campsite at Travelers' Rest State Park) to Blodgett Canyon, an easy trail that passes soaring cliffs and a smokejumper memorial.







NO GEAR? NO PROBLEM!

The friendly Trail Head store in downtown Missoula rents everything you need, including tents, sleeping bags, coolers, fly rods and more. You can reserve gear online before you go.





THERE ARE ONLY SO MANY "NEXT YEARS."

Kalispell is your gateway to Montana's iconic natural wonders. In addition to hiking, biking and touring our great outdoors, this vibrant community offers endless opportunities to make lasting memories—rodeos, Main Street parades, interactive museums and so much more. Not a week goes by without some kind of festival, concert or event. Kalispell's cultural attractions and welcoming locals make adventure easy. Explore the fish raceways at Creston National Fish Hatchery, and then visit Lone Pine State Park for breathtaking views of the Flathead Valley and miles of trails. To fish, head to Pine Grove's stocked pond, where the kids can have fun while they work on their angling.

DISCOVERKALISPELL.COM

You keep saying that someday you want to cruise FLATHEAD LAKE, cycle MONTANA'S TRAILS and see GLACIER NATIONAL PARK. Make "someday"now!

WHERE'S A WEST THAT'S STILL WILD? \mathbf{Q}



THAT WOULD BE $B_{J}++e$, HOME TO GHOST TOWNS, COWBOY COOKOUTS AND TOURS THAT GO DEEP.

Rock Music

The craggy hills are alive at Ringing Rocks, where gently tapping the rocks with a hammer produces a chiming sound, thanks to their composition and arrangement. (Don't bother taking one home. The rocks won't ring anywhere else.)



Set your sights on the Milky Way and cowboy life at Helena's Last Chance Ranch. A horse-drawn wagon drives you to a meal of prime rib and huckleberry cheesecake, followed by guitars under the stars.



Visit a Real Ghost Town

Head for Bannack State Park and try panning for gold near the site of the state's first major discovery (in 1862). The town—Montana's first territorial capital—is now deserted. Take a guided tour of the 60 abandoned log and frame structures during summer, or visit in October for ghost walks that bring stories of former residents to life.

GO 100 FEET UNDERGROUND!

It doesn't get much cooler than a helmet with a built-in light, right? Everybody gets to wear one on tours that venture into the Orphan Girl Mine (part of the World Museum of Mining) in this town that was once a coppermining hot spot.

ROPE A STEER AT GRANT-KOHRS RANCH NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE.

Go Directly to Jail! Sample early 1900s life behind bars at the Old Montana Prison. Go behind the 24-foot-high sandstone walls to see stark maximum-security cells and a courtyard where convicts exercised.

INING



NATURE WITHIN REACH

Helena strikes a balance between outdoor recreation and family-friendly attractions.

Hike the town's vast trail system, which connects to downtown. Don't miss a ride on the Great Northern Carousel and its hand-carved Montana animals. Next door, find ExplorationWorks!, a science museum with hands-on exhibits for the whole family. Then head to the walking mall on Last Chance Gulch, packed with shopping, restaurants and an outdoor play area.

HELENAMT.COM





MISSOULA

PICTURE YOURSELF HERE

Honored with a Playful City USA award, Missoula offers plenty to discover.

- Ride on A Carousel for Missoula downtown, or play at Dragon Hollow Playground.
- **2** Explore science at the spectrUM Discovery Area, or bugs at the Missoula Insectarium.
- **3** Let imaginations run wild at the Children's Museum.
- **4** Plunge down a slide or float on a lazy river at Splash Montana.
- **5** Devour local ice cream at Sweet Peaks or Big Dipper.

DESTINATIONMISSOULA.ORG

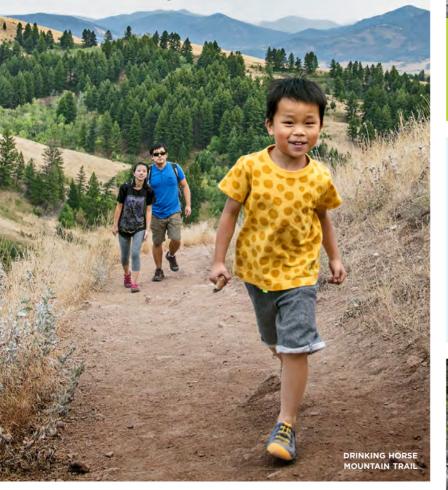
BOZEMAN AREA

WHAT'S IN YELLOWSTONE'S NEIGHBORHOOD? Q

IN THE BACKYARD OF THE WORLD'S FIRST NATIONAL PARK, Bozeman BECKONS WITH HOT ATTRACTIONS.

DOUBLE-PARK YOUR VEHICLE

Go for maximum "epic" by hitting both Yellowstone and Glacier National Parks on the same vacation. The six-hour drive between them provides plenty of stellar stops like the Drinking Horse Mountain Trail near Bozeman.



HELLO, HOT SPRINGS ¥ →

Take a swim in hot pools heated by Mother Nature. Popular dips include Bozeman Hot Springs, Norris Hot Springs, or Chico Hot Springs Resort and Day Spa.









ROCK-IT SCIENCE

Help create a geyser, see a famous fossil stash and learn about dinosaurs at Bozeman's Museum of the Rockies.

3 WAYS TO Fly in Big Sky

At Big Sky Resort Zipline Tours, cruise up a chairlift and soak in views of Lone Mountain and Spanish Peak, then zoom down four speedy zips.

Take the Lone Peak Tram to the top of Big Sky Resort, the state's highest scenic overlook.

Learn to ski at Big Sky, where 300 runsseveral of them suited to beginners-cut through more than 5,800 skiable acres. (Lessons and rentals available.)



KID-FRIENDLY HIKES

Trek just a half-mile to see impressive Palisade Falls south of Bozeman. See wildflowers (and a few salamanders) at Grotto Falls, reached via an easy 1.3-mile path. At Lewis and Clark Caverns State Park, you can slide down a natural tunnel.

SPECIAL PARTNER SECTION

FIND YOUR NEW PLACE TO PLAY

Start your tour with wildlife watching at the park, then dine cowboy-style at a Western cookout.

Horseback riding? We have that, too. Catch trout at Hebgen Lake, or fly fish a famous stream. Zipline at Yellowstone Aerial Adventures, or check out the locals at the Grizzly and Wolf Discovery Center. View classics at the Rod Run Car Show. And there's plenty to do in winter, too, including cross-country skiing (50-plus kilometers of groomed trails), snowmobiling, the Snowmobile Expo and Races, and the Yellowstone Ski Festival. Plus, kids can try a new winter activity at Kids'N'Snow.

DESTINATIONYELLOWSTONE.COM



MISSOURI RIVER COUNTRY

VENTURE LIKE A FAMOUS EXPLORER

Trace the footsteps of Lewis and Clark by fishing, camping and hiking along the scenic Yellowstone and Missouri rivers.

Fort Peck Lake Reservoir and Recreation Area offers 50 species of fish—perfect for your first family fishing trip—with camping nearby at the Charles M. Russell National Wildlife Refuge. Get your Montana Dinosaur Trail Prehistoric Passport stamped at Fort Peck Interpretive Center, Garfield County Museum, Phillips County Museum and Great Plains Dinosaur Museum, which also does fossil digs.

MISSOURIRIVER.VISITMT.COM



GREAT FALLS

WHERE CAN WE FIND ART AND ADVENTURE? \mathbf{Q}



CONNECT WITH Great Falls' RELAXING SPRINGS AND **RIVERS, FUN FRONTIER HISTORY, AND 60 MILES OF TRAILS.**

FORT-IFIED HISTORY

Stop at historic Old Fort Benton to see the frontier version of Target. You can browse bison robes, beads, guns and cloth that once filled this trading post. Numerous museums dot the town, including Homestead Village, with restored homes and businesses moved from abandoned homestead-era towns. Visit in late June during Summer Celebration for Wild West reenactments, a parade and food.





SPRINGS AND FALLS

Picnic by a bubbling spring (one of the world's largest) and enjoy constant cool breezes at Giant Springs State Park. Check out Great Falls and Rainbow Falls. Or take the swinging bridge near Ryan Dam for a cool view.





3 REASONS TO Hit the River's Edge Trail

- A sweeping look at Great Falls, thanks to the free telescope at Warden Park Gazebo, plus direct access to downtown parks, restaurants and attractions.
- Nearly 60 miles of trails along the Missouri River, including paved and off-road routes for hiking, cycling, skating and mountain biking.
- Views of Missouri River canyons, five hydroelectric dams, reservoirs and waterfalls.



SPECIAL PARTNER SECTION

CENTRAL MONTANA

5 WAYS TO FALL IN LOVE

1 Splash in creeks, float the mighty Missouri River, or swim, paddle or boat in the lakes. Or enjoy a leisurely soak in natural mineral hot springs in White Sulphur Springs. 2 Explore the Corps of Discovery at the Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center in Great Falls, or view the world's longest dinosaur at Two Medicine Dinosaur Center. 3 Hike Ear Mountain Wildlife Management Area along the Rocky Mountain Front, or get your nature on at Freezout Lake Wildlife Management Area. 4 Take in the awesome views along Great Falls' River's Edge Trail. Or see the power of water in action during a picnic on a river island near Ryan Dam. 5 Take in art shows, live music and theater, and cultural and community festivals around the area. In Central Montana, you're sure to find an event to please everyone.

CENTRALMONTANA.COM/FAMILY



can I get horses and dinosaurs in one spot? \mathbf{Q}

SADDLE UP FOR A WILD RIDE AROUND Billings, WHERE BOTH RIDING TRAILS AND FOSSILS AWAIT.



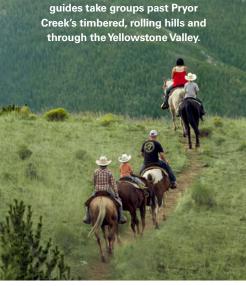
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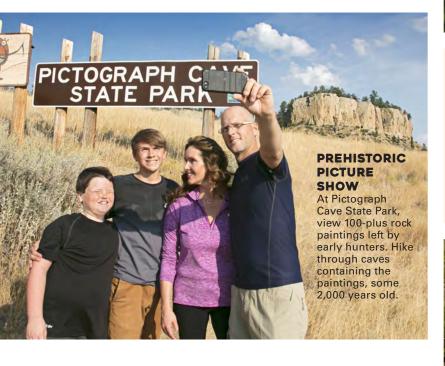
Learn the ropes of ranch work at Elk River Outfitters, where guides take groups past Pryor through the Yellowstone Valley.

Dino Closeup

(1)

See a life-size model of a *T. rex* at animal-centric Fort Peck Interpretive Center and Museum. Kids can pose with a 700-pound Apatosaurus femur at Phillips County Museum, or learn about field and lab work at the Great Plains Dinosaur Museum and Field Station's Junior Paleo program. Pick up a Montana Dinosaur Trail Prehistoric Passport at any of these museums and follow its map to other Dinosaur Trail stops.





ALL-TERRAIN TREK

Find rugged terrain and urban scenes along Rimrock Trail, a 4.5-mile hiking and biking route beginning at Zimmerman Park. Canyon rims and slickrock ledges line the route.

A LITTLE LEARNING

Pick up a Junior Ranger book at Little Bighorn Battlefield National Monument to help your kids absorb the gamechanging battle here between Custer's 7th Cavalry and the Sioux and Cheyenne people.





Rustic Western heritage,

natural beauty, smalltown charm and big-city

attractions-Billings

is the family-friendly

place to begin your

next adventure.

- The **Beartooth Highway**, the most beautiful route into Yellowstone National Park, offers an awesome landscape of Montana's highest mountain range. Look for mountain goats, moose and other wildlife (maybe even a bear).
- Bike, Segway or hike Billings on more than **40 miles of trails** throughout the city and along the Yellowstone River.
- See bears, tigers, wolves and more at **ZooMontana**.
- Have an authentic Western experience with a horse-drawn wagon ride.
- Historic downtown is home to museums and galleries featuring the region's art and history. Plus, find a walkable brewery district and familyfriendly restaurants, many featuring farm-to-table local products.

It's all in Billings: Montana's Trailhead, where the adventures are forever.

VISITBILLINGS.COM/FAMILYFUN

Voted Outside Magazine's BEST TOWN OF 2016

Billings boasts amazing urban and outdoor recreation for all ages and thrill levels.

SOUTHEAST MONTANA

DINOSAURS ROAMED OUT HERE. YOU CAN, TOO!

Explore the land where dinosaurs once lived and where the mountains meet the prairie.

Discover the Montana Dinosaur Trail or try a fossil dig near Makoshika State Park. Sit in a replica of Lewis and Clark's dugout canoes, or climb 202 steps to the top of Pompeys Pillar. For water fun, rent a pontoon boat and explore Bighorn Lake, or bring your own boat for boat-in camping. The adventure is yours to seek in the wide-open spaces of Southeast Montana.

SOUTHEASTMONTANA.COM



INTO THE GREAT WIDE OPEN

Even among Montana's 55 state parks, these two stand out with their lineup of Native American and Lewis and Clark lore.

At First Peoples Buffalo Jump State Park, south of Great Falls, study how the native people hunted bison by driving them over cliffs. Hike a trail, engage with the interpretive center and spy on prairie dogs throughout the park. At Missouri Headwaters State Park in Three Forks, see the Jefferson, Madison and Gallatin rivers joining forces to create the 2,300-mile Missouri River. Sacajawea was captured here as a child and eventually returned to the area as a member of Lewis and Clark's Corps of Discovery.

STATEPARKS.MT.GOV



SEE THE CONFLUENCE OF THREE EPIC MONTANA RIVERS AT MISSOURI HEADWATERS STATE PARK.

