



Medicine Mountain Scout Ranch  
24201 Bobcat Road  
Custer, South Dakota 57730

# Expedition: Black Hills

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## Option A2 - 5 Day Program

### Destinations Include:

- Mammoth Site
- Evan's Plunge
- Custer State Park Wildlife Loop
- Mount Rushmore
- Black Elk Peak (formerly Harney Peak)
- Sylvan Lake
- Crazy Horse Memorial & Laser Light Show
- Minuteman Missile National Historic Site
- Badlands National Park
- Devil's Tower

**If after reading this overview, you have any questions, please contact our friendly team at 605-342-2824 or send an email to [reservations@blackhillsbsa.org](mailto:reservations@blackhillsbsa.org).**

# EXPEDITION: BLACK HILLS

## Key Info:

<b>Option Number</b>	<b>A2</b>
<b>Tour Length</b>	Monday - Friday (5 days)
<b>Cost Per Person</b>	\$430.00 (estimated - Call for exact pricing)

Sunday	
12:00PM - 4:00PM	Arrive at Medicine Mountain
7:30PM	Evening Flag Ceremony
7:45PM	Welcome Campfire
9:30PM	SPL & Scoutmaster Cracker Barrel
Monday	
6:45AM	Breakfast in Campsite
8:00AM	Depart Camp
10:30AM	Mammoth Site
12:00PM	Sack Lunch at Mammoth Site
1:00PM	Evan's Plunge
6:00PM	Dinner in Campsite
7:00PM - 9:00PM	Open Program at Camp
Tuesday	
6:45AM	Breakfast in Campsite
8:00AM	Depart Camp
9:00AM	Custer State Park Wildlife Loop
12:00PM	Sack Lunch at Game Lodge
1:30PM	Mount Rushmore
5:00PM	Dinner in Campsite
7:00PM - 9:00PM	Open Program at Camp
Wednesday	
6:45AM	Breakfast in Campsite
8:00AM	Depart Camp
9:00AM	Black Elk Peak
12:00PM	Sack Lunch at Black Elk Peak
2:30PM	Sylvan Lake
5:00PM	Dinner in Campsite
7:30PM	Depart Camp
8:00PM	Crazy Horse Memorial & Laser Light Show
11:00PM	Back at Campsite
Thursday	
6:45AM	Breakfast in Campsite
8:00AM	Depart Camp
10:30AM	Minuteman Missile National Historic Site
12:00PM	Sack Lunch at Minuteman Missile Historic Site
1:00PM	Badlands National Park
5:00PM	Packed Dinner in the Badlands
7:00PM	Arrive back at Camp

Friday	
6:45AM	Breakfast in Campsite
8:00AM	Depart Camp
10:30AM	Devil's Tower National Monument
12:00PM	Sack Lunch at Devil's Tower
5:00PM	Dinner at Camp
7:15PM	Closing Campfire
Saturday	
4:00AM - 9:00AM	Depart Camp for Home

## Destinations in this Option

### Mammoth Site

For centuries the bones lay buried, until discovered by chance in 1974 during excavating for a housing development, when earth moving equipment exposed South Dakota's greatest fossil treasure. Fortunately, through the work of local citizens, the Mammoth Site was preserved. Today it is the world's largest Columbian mammoth exhibit, and a world-renown research center for Pleistocene.

### Evans Plunge

Swim, splash and soak in the warm mineral water of Evans Plunge Mineral Springs. This indoor/outdoor pool is naturally filled by 5000 gallons of 87 degree spring water. With slides, children's' pools, Tarzan rings, tubes, and health club, it will sure to delight the entire family. Groups and buses welcome.

### **Custer State Park Wildlife Loop**

Wildlife Loop Road travels through 18 miles of open grasslands and pine-speckled hills that much of the park's wildlife calls home. Depending on the day, you might see bison, pronghorn, whitetail and mule deer, elk, coyotes, burros, prairie dogs, eagles, hawks, and a variety of other birds. A medley of colorful wildflowers and prairie grasses surround the road, making for a picturesque drive.

### **Mount Rushmore**

Mount Rushmore National Memorial is a large-scale mountain sculpture by artist Gutzon Borglum. The figures of America's most prominent U.S. presidents--George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Abraham Lincoln and Theodore Roosevelt—represent 150 years of American history.

### **Black Elk Peak (formerly Harney Peak)**

Black Elk Peak is the highest natural point in South Dakota. It is the highest point east of the Rockies and west of the Pyrenees mountain range in Europe. It lies in the Black Elk Wilderness area, in southern Pennington County, in the Black Hills National Forest.

### **Sylvan Lake**

Sylvan Lake, known as the "crown jewel" of Custer State Park, is located in the Black Hills of South Dakota. It presents a relaxing setting and plenty of exploring opportunities to Scouts.

### **Crazy Horse Memorial & Laser Light Show**

A mythic warrior, a famed artist, his family and a canvas composed of granite are the elements that comprise the legendary past, present and future of the Crazy Horse Memorial.

The Indian Museum of North America, and the adjoining Welcome Center and Native American Educational and Cultural Center, feature more than 12,000 contemporary and historic items, from pre-Colombian to contemporary times. The new Mountain Museum wing helps explain the work behind the scenes, augmenting the

introductory "Dynamite & Dreams" movie at the Welcome Center.

From mid-May to mid-October, the storytelling continues each night at dark with the "Legends in Light" laser-light show projected on the mountain carving.

### **Minuteman Missile National Historic Site**

Minuteman Missile National Historic Site is one of the nation's newest national park areas. The park was established by Congress in 1999 and consists of a nuclear missile silo and launch control facility. From this seemingly isolated patch of Midwestern prairie, United States Air Force officers could have launched intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBM) at targets in the Soviet Union. With the simple turn of keys, nuclear missiles would have been exchanged with the Soviet Union, making real one of the greatest fears of the 20th Century, nuclear war.

### **Badlands National Park**

The Lakota gave this land its name, "Mako Sica," meaning "land bad." Located in southwestern South Dakota, Badlands National Park consists of 244,000 acres of sharply eroded buttes, pinnacles and spires blended with the largest protected mixed grass prairie in the United States. It is desolation at its truest, where you can look for miles and see no sign of civilization.

### **Devil's Tower National Monument**

Devil's Tower National Monument, located near Sundance, Wyoming, is a most improbable geological rock formation, sticking up a thousand feet in the air above the surrounding valley like some giant, prehistoric tree-stump. Devil's Tower was also the setting for the movie, "Close Encounters of the Third Kind."

# EXPEDITION: BLACK HILLS

## Overview

In 2015, the Medicine Mountain Scout Ranch & Adventure Base piloted our first Expedition: Black Hills program with Troop 110 from Kentucky and it was a great success and provided their unit with a once and a lifetime experience in the Black Hills.

In 2016, Medicine Mountain hosted several units that toured the Black Hills through our Expedition: Black Hills program. Our local team of experts will plan out a week long (Monday – Friday) adventure for your unit where you visit the sights and sounds on the Black Hills. This program is entirely customized to your unit

Alternatively, our team can also mix and match our camp program with the Expedition: Black Hills program. This allows units to get a tradition summer camp experience in addition to touring the Black Hills. Typically we see units participate in camp programming Monday through Tuesday and tour Wednesday through Friday.

The bottom line is that we can custom craft a week for your unit based upon what they want to accomplish on their trip to the beautiful Black Hills of South Dakota.

## What's Included?

Since this program is customized, our team will produce a free custom itinerary based upon what your unit is interested in with a quote. The quote will include:

- 17 Meals
- 6 Nights at Medicine Mountain
- Transportation for the week (optional)
- A Personal Tour Guide
- Admission to all Attractions & Locations
- Insurance
- Trip Planning Support
- Camp Patch

## What Can We Do?

The options are limitless on what your unit can do! Since everything is custom planned, we have a high level of flexibility. Here is a sample list of the most popular places to see in the Black Hills.

- Mammoth Site
- Wind Cave
- Evan's Plunge
- Crazy Horse Memorial
- Crazy Horse Memorial Laser Light Show
- Minuteman Missile Silo & Historical Site
- Harney/Black Elk Peak
- Mount Rushmore
- Mount Rushmore Evening Lighting
- South Dakota Air & Space Museum
- Sylvan Lake
- Devil's Tower
- Custer State Park
- 1880's Train
- Keystone, SD
- Bear Country USA
- Watiki Indoor Waterpark
- Bear Mountain Fire Outlook Tower
- Downtown Rapid City
- Custer, SD
- Reptile Gardens
- The Journey Museum
- Spearfish Canyon
- DC Booth Fish Hatchery
- Badlands National Park
- Deadwood, SD
- Cosmos Mystery Area
- Founding Fathers

## Getting to Camp

The Expedition: Black Hills program is based out of the Medicine Mountain Scout Ranch & Adventure Base located at:

24201 Bobcat Road  
Custer, South Dakota 57730

It is the responsibility of the unit to arrange their travel to and from Medicine Mountain. At this time, our team does not arrange or serve as a booking agent for travel to and from Medicine Mountain. However, we have some general tips and knowledge to pass along from our personal experience with traveling to South Dakota.

- It can be expensive to fly into Rapid City, SD (RAP). It is the closest commercial airport to Medicine Mountain being one hour away.
- Budget airlines such as Allegiant fly into the Sioux Falls Regional Airport and could provide cheaper travel from various destinations.
- Most units opt to fly into the Denver International Airport, which is six hours away from Medicine Mountain. Transportation can be provided by our transportation group for an additional fee, however it may be cheaper to rent vehicles depending on the amount of people.
- For an additional fee, we also offer shuttles from the following locations: Rapid City Regional Airport (SD), Sioux Falls Regional Airport (SD), Gillette County Airport (WY), Pierre Regional Airport (SD), Fort Morgan Amtrak Station (CO), Williston Amtrak Station (ND), and Denver Amtrak Station (CO).
- Medicine Mountain does have ample room for the parking of off loading of large commercial coach buses. A number of troops choose to use this method to get to and from Medicine Mountain.
- Our team can arrange for special hotel rates for the drivers of commercial coach buses if your unit is looking for the bus to remain in the Black Hills for the week.

## Booking Steps

1. Call our team at 605-342-2824 or send an email to [reservations@blackhillsbsa.org](mailto:reservations@blackhillsbsa.org) to let us know that your unit is interested in this program.
2. Let our team know what itinerary number your unit is considering. Your unit can change the itinerary if they are looking to swap out different attractions or change up the days. Please note that the estimated price per person could change.
3. After finalizing the itinerary and price per person, an online reservation will be created and prices will be adjusted to match your approved itinerary. **A deposit is due within 10 days of your reservation being created.** The deposit is \$10 per youth and \$5 per adult.
4. The Expedition: Black Hills program is applicable to all policies listed in the Administration Section of our Leader's Guide. That guide can be obtained at [www.mountain.blackhillsbsa.org](http://www.mountain.blackhillsbsa.org) under "Summer Camp."
5. The unit and/or individuals will be able to log into the reservation online to make payment and to input participant information.
6. Once paid in full, you are ready for your Expedition in the wonderful Black Hills of South Dakota.