



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

# Expedition: Black Hills

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## Option A3 - 5 Day Program

### Destinations Include:

- Mammoth Site
- Wind Cave National Park
- Broken Boot Gold Mine
- Adams Museum
- Black Elk Peak (formerly Harney Peak)
- Crazy Horse Memorial & Laser Light Show
- Spearfish Canyon Roughlock Falls
- DC Booth Historic Fish Hatchery
- Custer State Park Wildlife Loop
- Alpine Inn

**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>A3</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	Wind Cave National Park - Cave Tour
6:00PM	Dinner in Campsite
7:00PM - 9:00PM	Open Program at Camp
Tuesday	
6:45AM	Breakfast in Campsite
8:00AM	Depart Camp
10:30AM	Broken Boot Gold Mine   Pan for Gold
12:00PM	Sack Lunch in Deadwood
1:00PM	Adams Museum
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 at Alpine Inn
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
10:00AM	Spearfish Canyon Roughlock Falls
12:00PM	Sack Lunch at Spearfish Park
1:00PM	DC Booth Historic Fish Hatchery
5:00PM	Dinner in Campsite
7:00PM - 9:00PM	Open Program at Camp

Friday	
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	Drive Needles Highway Loop
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.

### Wind Cave National Park

A hidden world beneath the prairie... Bison, elk, and other wildlife roam the rolling prairie grasslands and forested hillsides of one of America's oldest national parks. Below the remnant island of the intact prairie sits Wind Cave, one of the longest and most complex caves in the world. Named for barometric winds at its entrance, this maze of passages is home to boxwork, a unique formation rarely found elsewhere.

### **Broken Boot Gold Mine and Panning for Gold**

Step into the Black Hills best underground mine tour and return to a time when the powerful punch of a miner's pick and the roaring boom of another dynamite blast signaled the ongoing search for the richest veins of gold on Earth.

Follow the path of ore cars deep underground into the century-old shafts of the Broken Boot. Walk in the footsteps of thousands of faceless miners who sought their fortunes in the dark and explosive atmosphere of black powder and candlelight.

### **Adams Museum**

The Adams Museum is the Black Hills' oldest history museum. In 1930 pioneer businessman W.E. Adams founded the Adams Museum in downtown Deadwood with the purpose of preserving and displaying the history of the Black Hills.

The Adams Museum is home to some of the Black Hills' greatest treasures including Potato Creek Johnny's gold nugget, beloved American illustrator N.C. Wyeth's pencil sketch drawing of Western legend Wild Bill Hickok, the mysterious Thoen Stone record of the Ezra Kind party's discovery of gold in the Hills in the 1830s and a one-of-a-kind plesiosaur (marine reptile).

### **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.

### **Spearfish Roughlock Falls**

A stunning highlight of Spearfish Canyon is Roughlock Falls, widely considered one of the most beautiful locations in the Black Hills. The scenery is so beautiful that cinematographers for the motion picture "Dances with Wolves" decided to shoot its final scenes here.

The name Roughlock Falls originates from difficulties early settlers encountered while traveling through Spearfish Canyon. Wagon drivers would "roughlock" the wheels of their wagons with logs or chains to keep them in place and slide down the slope.

### **DC Booth Historic Fish Hatchery**

Constructed in 1899 as the region's first fish management center, the DC Booth Historic Fish Hatchery was responsible not only for introducing trout to the Black Hills, but for being the first to control the fish population in Yellowstone National Park.

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## **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.

## **The Alpine Inn**

Located on Main Street in Hill City at the historic Harney Peak Hotel. Featuring special dinner menu with European charm. Evening menu offers fine filet mignon steaks, homemade pastries, and fine desserts.

## **An 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.

# EXPEDITION: BLACK HILLS

## 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.