

Cloud Peak Skyway

Sky Road Across the Bighorns



4 Days/3 Nights

Gateway City: Sheridan, Wyoming



Every spring, wildflowers cover the hillsides turning the meadows red, white, purple and blue. Deer, elk and moose frolic on the rugged alpine landscapes where views extend for more than 40 miles. Two canyons loom overhead as you pass through. In winter, the landscape turns white with a blanket of snow, waiting for another colorful spring. You'll discover all this and more on the Cloud Peak Skyway, a 45-mile Scenic Byway in north central Wyoming, that crests at the 9,666 foot Powder River Pass. Cloud Peak, the "granddaddy" of the Bighorn Mountains, can only be seen from this route. The parkway was considered quite modern when it opened in 1920, yet the "white knuckle" twists and turns along with the steep grades, spoke to the gumption of early motorists enjoying new scenic roads. The route was also the scene of history, when a range war between wealthy ranchers and small farmers broke out. It took the Sixth Cavalry and the sheriff with a posse of 200 men to route out 50 hired killers who were holed up at a local ranch. Take your time as you travel this beautiful road, savor the time at the top of the world, and enjoy the unique nature that makes this route a Scenic Byway. It's one of a kind.



Touring the Byway

We recommend starting your journey in Sheridan, where you can tour the Museum at the Bighorns, Trail End State Historic Site and the Don King Museum, before spending the night at a fully restored flour mill.

On Day Two, you'll be heading south to Buffalo. Along the way, explore the Brinton Museum with extensive art collections and Fort Phil Kearney State Historic Site. Once in Buffalo, you can stay at the historic landmark Occidental Hotel, complete with a restaurant, saloon and its own museum.

Before leaving Buffalo on Day Three, you can take the historic walking tour and visit the Jim Gatchell Memorial Museum, before heading out to drive the Cloud Peak Skyway. Even though the Byway ends at Ten Sleep (yes, that's the real name of a town), you can continue to Worland and then drive north to Greybull for an overnight stay. While there, you can tour the Greybull Museum, the Bighorn Basin Geoscience Center and the Museum of Flight and Ariel Firefighting.

From there, we wish you safe passage if you are traveling on another Wyoming Scenic Byway, or a safe and pleasant journey home.

DAY ONE



Sheridan

Expansive western history right out of the movies, dramatic mountain vistas, new world comforts, and wide-open spaces define this city named after Union Civil War General Philip Sheridan. Founded in 1882 after a series of clashes with Native Americans, the arrival of the railroad in 1892 and the discovery of coal stimulated growth. In that era, the town's social activity centered around the bars, pool halls and brothels where outlaws made history. William F. "Buffalo Bill" Cody made the Sheridan Inn his headquarters for tryouts for his Wild West show. Set against the magnificent backdrop of the Bighorn Mountains, Sheridan now offers modern hospitality with old west vibes. In fact, *True West Magazine* ranked Sheridan as the number one Top Western Town. The downtown's historic buildings have been rebuilt and repurposed to house galleries, boutiques, shops, restaurants and more.

Museum at the Bighorns

The Museum at the Bighorns makes a priority of promoting a greater understanding of the American West and exploring history through the ears and eyes of the men and women who settled Sheridan County. Exhibits feature the hearty ranchers, railroaders, miners, and soldiers, all of whom arrived from around the world to settle in the shadow of the Bighorn Mountains.

850 Sibley Circle, Sheridan, WY, 82801, 307-675-1150, T-Sat May-Aug
9AM-5PM, Sept-Oct 1PM-5PM, Adult \$6



Trail End State Historic Site

This 1908 Flemish Revival style historic home was built by Wyoming cattleman, banker, governor, and U.S. Senator, John B. Kendrick. Trail End elegantly displays different aspects of Wyoming's rich and colorful history in authentically furnished rooms surrounded by finely manicured lawns, Clarendon Avenue, Sheridan, WY, 82801, 307-674-4589, April-May/Sept-Dec 1PM-4PM, June-Aug 9AM-6PM, Adults \$8



Don King Museum

Explore the Old West in photos, saddles, Native American artifacts, original art, chaps, saddles, antlers and a myriad of other items in a remarkable collection. 184 North Main Street, Sheridan, WY 82801 800-44-8919 M-Sat 8AM-5PM Free



Destination Distinctive Accommodations

The Mill Inn 2161 Coffeen Avenue, Sheridan, WY, 82801, 307-672-6401 This historic property, once the Sheridan Flouring Mills, milling flour in the in the early 1890s, has been transformed into a Bed and Breakfast.

Destination Distinctive Dining

Pony Bar & Grill 3 South Gould Street, Sheridan, WY, 82801, 307-674-7000 Informal restaurant serving classic American fare, with seasonal outdoor seating.

Wyoming's Rib & Chop House 847 North Main Street, Sheridan, WY, 82801, 307-673-4700 Chophouse serving aged steaks, seafood, slow-cooked ribs and beer in a relaxed, casual setting.

Silver Spur Café 832 North Main Street, Sheridan, WY, 82801, 307-763-2474, Great local place for large breakfasts and hearty lunches.

Destination Distinctive Retail

Mercantile & Co 39 South Main Street, Sheridan, WY, 82801, 307-620-2917 A gift shop with a local, trendy vibe.

Crazy Woman Trading Co 134 North Main Street, Sheridan, WY, 82801, 307-672-3939 Clothing, gifts, home decor, Wyoming made products, and more.

High Mountain Mercantile 130 North Main Street, Sheridan, WY, 82801, 307-675-1055 Western clothing, boots, and hats, Western housewares and home décor, rusty signs made in the U.S.A., an exclusive blend of coffee roasted in Sheridan, and much more.

DAY TWO

The Brinton Museum

Connecting the past, present, and future of the American West and showcases each in collections of unique and engaging artwork, the Quarter Circle A Ranch encompasses 620 acres, also designated as an Audubon Important Bird Area with gardens and outdoor sculptures. Exhibits in the Historic Brinton Ranch House feature Bradford Brinton's collection original watercolors, oils, pen and ink drawings, sculptures, and historical documents in their original setting. The new 24,000 Forrest E. Mars, Jr. Building highlights extensive collections of his favorite artist's work, including Edward Borein etchings, hand-colored letters, and monotypes, the largest collection of Hans Kleiber art in existence, Gollings oils and drawings, and the Gallatin Collection of Plains Indian Native American art. All together, they comprise one of the most significant collections of Western and Native American art in the Rocky Mountain West. Enjoy indoor and outdoor dining with 180-degree views of the Bighorn Mountains.

239 Brinton Road, Big Horn, WY, 82833, 307-672-3173, May 31-September 5
9:30AM-5PM, Free

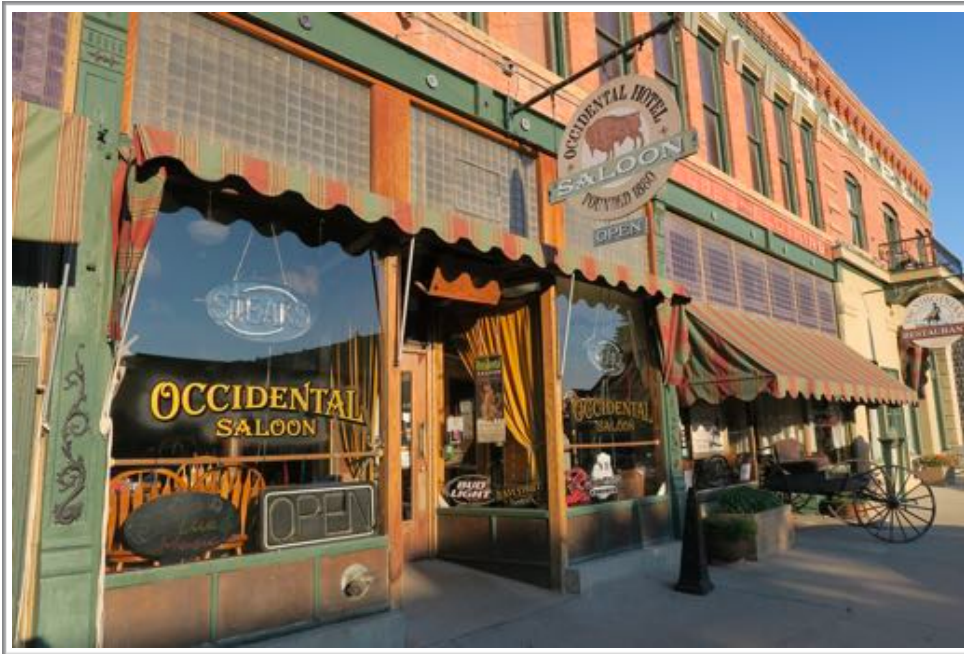


Fort Phil Kearny State Historic Site

Fort Phil Kearney was the largest of three forts built along the Bozeman Trail, a route which led to the gold fields in Montana. Originally entirely surrounded by an eight-foot fence, it was constructed to protect freighters, prospectors and travelers making their way west. The Wagon Box Fight of 1867 occurred when 32 woodcutters and guards were attacked outside the fort and defended themselves by firing new breech-loading rifles from a corral of wagon boxes until help arrived from the fort. When the Fort Laramie Treaty was finalized in 1868, all the forts were abandoned. Today, trails within the property lead visitors to the sites of the conflict, and interpretive signs explain the events from the perspectives of both the military and Native Americans.

528 Wagon Box Road, Banner, WY 82832, 307-684-7629





Buffalo

Nestled in the foothills of the Big Horn Mountains, Buffalo is on the route between Mount Rushmore and Yellowstone National Park. It was originally protected by one of the forts built to protect settlers and prospectors moving west and Main Street still boasts more than a dozen historic buildings. Buffalo was also the birthplace of “the Western” in literature. In the 1880s, Owen Wister visited Buffalo’s historic Occidental Hotel and used it and its famous guests to create the setting and characters for his 1902 classic novel, *The Virginian*. The story of a frontier cowboy honorably battling thieves and outlaws and winning the heart of an attractive and young schoolteacher, set the precedent for good-guy heroes in future Westerns. It also included the world’s first literary shootout, thought to have occurred in real-life in front of the Occidental.

Historic Buffalo Walking Tour

Stroll along North Main Street to discover the Historic Mansion House Inn, which has been receiving guests since 1906, Buffalo’s first movie theater, two historic buildings that house the work of artists, the Occidental Hotel, and the historic courthouse. On South Main Street, see the Shaver Block and Gatchell’s Drug Store, which opened in 1904 (now a museum).



Destination Distinctive Accommodations

Occidental Hotel 10 North Main Street, Buffalo, WY 82834 307-684-8989
Award winning restored Old West frontier hotel, complete with its own museum.

Destination Distinctive Dining

Virginian Restaurant and Occidental Saloon Located in the Occidental Hotel.

Cattleguard Steakhouse 1176 South Highway 16, Buffalo, WY 82834 307-684-8636

Sagewood Gifts and Cafe 15 North Main Street, Buffalo, WY 82834 307-684-07670

The Breadboard 190 East Hart Street, Buffalo, WY 82834, 307-684-2890

Destination Distinctive Retail

Hitching Post Gallery 51 South Main Street, Buffalo, WY 82834, 307-684-9473

Treasure Chest Antiques 76 South Main Street, Buffalo, WY 82834, 307-217-0144

Margo's Pottery One North Main Street, Buffalo, WY, 82834, 307-684-9406

Wyoming in Color 38 South Main Street, Buffalo, WY 82834, 307-425-0999

DAY THREE

Jim Gatchell Memorial Museum of the West

Before he opened a pharmacy in 1900, Jim Gatchell had grown up on a nearby Lakota Native American reservation. Fluent in Lakota and known for his caring nature, Native Americans who grew to trust him brought him guns, war bonnets, tools, medicine bags, bows, arrows and clothing. As word about the gifts got out, local residents began donating mementos of historic names, places and events from Johnson County. This is the collection of more than 15,000 items you'll discover in the museum in downtown Buffalo. In addition to the main museum on Fort Street, there is also a Carnegie Wing located at 90 North Main Street.

100 Fort Street, Buffalo, WY 82834, 307-684-9331, M-F 9AM-4PM

Cloud Peak Skyway

From Buffalo, you'll be taking the Cloud Peak Skyway, one of the original touring Parkways built in America in the 1920s.



Tensleep Canyon Interpretive Site

Sitting along side Cloud Peak Skyway, the Tensleep Canyon Interpretive Site illustrates the geography and geology of this very scenic area. Beginning about 75 million years ago, the land began to rise slowly above the seabed that covered the area, reaching an elevation of nearly 20,000 feet. Since then, glaciers carved out the valley of Tensleep Canyon within the last 250,000 years, leaving behind the U-shape of the valley bottom, and the piles of boulders, or glacial moraine. The “West Moraine” stretches for 10 miles, making it the longest moraine in the Bighorn Mountains.



Worland

First settled in 1900, Worland was moved from one side of the Big Horn River to the other to accommodate the railroad. The Washakie Museum provides insights into the history of the region.

Greybull

Greybull takes its name from a local Native American legend that claimed a very revered great albino buffalo once roamed the area, which they considered a sign from the Great Spirit. Native American arrowheads, fossils and semiprecious stones can be found around town. The Greybull Visitor Center has a host of information about the area and beyond, so don't hesitate to ask for information or recommendations.

521 Greybull Avenue, Greybull, WY, 82426, 307-765-2100, M-F 9AM-4PM





Destination Distinctive Accommodations

The Historic Hotel Greybull 600 Greybull Avenue, Greybull, WY, 82426, 307-202-0329

This 1916 hotel has been lovingly restored to its previous grandeur to offer up true western hospitality.

Destination Distinctive Dining

Speakeasy Steakhouse 600 Greybull Avenue, Greybull, WY, 82426, 307-202-0329 Featuring special recipe prime rib, ribeye steaks, seafood, pasta, and homemade desserts.

The Tippy Cow 540 1st Avenue South, Greybull, WY, 82426, 307-765-2007 Daily American specials in a friendly western atmosphere.

Lisa's Western Cuisine & Spirits 200 Greybull Avenue, Greybull, WY, 82426, 307-765-4765 Authentic Western and Southwestern Cuisine in a great setting near the Greybull River.

Destination Distinctive Retail

Big Horn Antiques and Gifts 1336 North 6th Street, Greybull, WY, 82426, 307-765-2023 Take a stroll down memory lane as you browse antiques, gifts, and one-of-a-kind items.

Crazy Woman Trading Post, 529 Greybull Avenue, Greybull, WY 82426, 307-765-2916

Wyoming Scene, 513 Greybull Avenue, Greybull, WY 82426, 307-6222

DAY FOUR

Greybull Museum

This museum houses war memorabilia, Native American artifacts, antique dishes, cookware, fossils, photos and large ammonite fossils, which date from the Mesozoic era when the Greybull area was part of a large inland sea.

325 Greybull Avenue, Greybull, WY, 82426, 307-765-2444, M,W, F 1PM-4PM
Free

Bighorn Basin Geoscience Center

Dedicated to the display of the northern Bighorn Basin's natural resources, The center includes the Museum of Ancient Life displaying fossils in their appropriate geologic context and reproductions in the context of the environment that was prevalent in the timeframe the animals existed. The museum also features a 40-foot mural depicting the landscape, flora and fauna of the Bighorn Basin 150 million years ago, enhanced with a display of actual fallen trees, rocks and plantings. Be sure to watch the movie about the first dig in the Basin and touch a few fossils.

534 Greybull Avenue, Greybull, WY, 82426, 307-765-2259, M-F 10AM-4PM Free



Museum of Flight and Aerial Firefighting

Preserving the history of Aerial Firefighting, the museum displays many types of aircraft and fire retardant drop systems have been utilized to combat forest fires since the late 1920s.

2534 Hiller Lane, Greybull, WY, 82426, 307-765-2100, mid-May to Oct
M-Sat 9AM-5PM Suggested Donation \$3

