

Exploring the Dakotas

SECOND
DATE
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America's Semiquincentennial - 250th Birthday

September 6 - 15, 2026

(10 days - 9 nights)



Sun, Sep 6

Liberal, KS

With much excitement in the air our motorcoach will take us northward through the panhandle of Texas, across a small portion of Oklahoma and into Kansas.

Mon, Sep 7

Valentine, NE

Today we continue across the Sunflower State and into Nebraska, a land with rugged pioneer history. It is said to be a 77,000-square-mile museum without walls. We will overnight in a town that brings romantic thoughts to mind, Valentine, NE.

Tue, Sep 8

Rapid City, SD

As we enter the Badlands National Park of South Dakota, you will see the result of 37 million years of wind and water erosion that have carved saw-edged spires and multi-colored grassy-topped buttes out of the vast prairies. A refreshing stop will be in Wall, SD at the world-famous Wall Drug. Built in 1931, the world's largest drugstore survived the depression by advertising free ice water to travelers. Rapid City was founded in 1876, two years after gold was discovered in the Black Hills; our home for the next 2 nights. This evening we travel through Keystone, with its origins in 1883 as a mining town, and on to Mount Rushmore National Memorial for the evening lighting ceremony, weather permitting.



Highlights Include:

- Celebrating America's 250th Birthday
- North Dakota, South Dakota and Nebraska
- Mount Rushmore National Memorial
- Black Hills
- Crazy Horse Memorial
- Wall Drug
- Badlands National Park
- Theodore Roosevelt Presidential Library (opening 2026)
- Theodore Roosevelt National Park
- Medora Musical & Pitchfork Fondue Dinner
- Tatanka: Story of the Bison

Wed, Sep 9

Rapid City, SD

Today will be a day to remember as we return to Mount Rushmore where the heads of four American Presidents have been carved in granite. Continuing through the Black Hills we will also visit the Crazy Horse Memorial to check on its progress. When finished, it will be the world's largest mountain carving at 563 feet high and 641 feet long.

Thu, Sep 10

Dickinson, ND

Before leaving the state, we have included a visit to Deadwood, a town with only one main street—all that space permits on the floor of Deadwood Gulch. It is filled with reminders of its lively past as a gold rush boomtown and haven for well-known gunfighters and gamblers. Legalized gambling returned to Deadwood in 1988. A stop is planned at

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Tatanka, the Story of the Bison. With larger than life bronze sculptures featuring 14 bison pursued by 3 Native American horseback riders, the foundation was begun by Kevin Costner. Traveling to the north, we enter North Dakota, a state with river valleys, huge ranches and vast prairies. We will overnight in Medora with its population of 100, near the ranch Theodore Roosevelt established in 1883 and now preserved in the Theodore Roosevelt National Park. This evening enjoy a Pitchfork Fondue dinner prior to the Medora Musical.

Fri, Sep 11

Dickinson, ND

Start our morning with Gospel Brunch as we enjoy brunch and learn of living and ranching in the Badlands, followed by some free time in downtown Medora. Opening on July 4, 2026, we will visit the Theodore Roosevelt Presidential Library and explore the Theodore Roosevelt National Park.

Sat, Sep 12

Pierre, SD

Moving eastward across the state will soon have us arriving in Bismarck. From a distance you will be able to see the 19-story State Capital Building, known as the "skyscraper of the prairie." This afternoon, we return to South Dakota to overnight in Pierre, the capital of the state.

Sun, Sep 13

Kearney, NE

This morning we learn more of the state's history and discover stories of the American Indians before returning to Nebraska, we overnight in Kearney whose motto is "The Heart of Nebraska".

Mon, Sep 14

Liberal, KS

Making our way into Kansas, we will stop in Dodge

City, KS. Famous for its rich history as a frontier cow town, we will visit the Boot Hill Museum, a re-creation of early Dodge City with a saloon, general store and more. You might enjoy some Sarsaparilla!

Tue, Sep 15

[Return home](#)

As we board our motorcoach this morning, we realize our tour is rapidly coming to an end. It will be a time to sit back and reminisce of the natural and diverse beauty we have experienced and the new friendships made. Everyone will long remember our tour featuring North Dakota, South Dakota and Nebraska.

Thank you for traveling with Bilbrey Tours!

Price Includes:

- Roundtrip motorcoach transportation from: **Abilene, Big Spring, and Midland**
- 9 nights accommodations
- Baggage handling for one piece of luggage
- Admission to included attractions per itinerary
- Meals: 7 continental breakfasts, 2 breakfasts, 9 lunches or dinners
- Services of a tour escort
- Gratuity for motorcoach driver

Cost:

**\$3325 per person (2 people per room)
\$4260 per person (1 person per room)**

**\$50 due upon booking
Final due June 25, 2026**

Travel Insurance

An optional Travel Insurance plan is available for purchase on overnight tours through TripAssure. Bilbrey Tours encourages the purchase of a Travel Protection Plan to help protect your investment, your belongings and most importantly you! Bilbrey Tours makes the Tour & Cruise Travel Protection Plans easily available. For complete details and to purchase a plan, follow this link: <https://atc.tripassure.com/main/?welcome=BILB3262TX>

Cancellation Policy

All cancellations must be reported to Bilbrey Tours, Inc. and TripAssure when the problem causing the need to cancel arises.

Tour Activity Level: EASY 1 2 **3** 4 ACTIVE

Luggage tags and a detailed itinerary will be provided 2 weeks prior to tour.