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# Wildlife & Wild West History **Yellowstone Tour 2013 Denver, Colorado to Salt Lake City, Utah**

#### Day 1: Arrival in Denver

The group will meet up in Denver, capitol of Colorado, at 5:30 PM in the hotel lobby. We will get to know each other at dinner where our tour guide will hand out tour documentation and share some important information about the tour.





Arrival in Denver

Denver, downtown

## Day 2: Wild Animal Sanctuary - Cheyenne - Register Cliff - Fort Laramie -Lusk

Visit a Wild Animal Sanctuary near Denver and see North American wildlife including Grizzly bears, wolves, mountain lions, raccoons, foxes, coyotes and bobcats which have been rescued. Stop in Cheyenne, capitol city of Wyoming. See famous Fort Laramie, a landmark for western American history and stop at Register Cliff where hundreds of Oregon Trail immigrants have left their names. Stay for the night in Lusk.





Grizzly bear

Fort Laramie

Day 3: Fort Robinson, Nebraska - Oglala National Grassland - Hot Springs, Wyoming - Badlands National Park - Wall, South Dakota Drive through wildlife areas near Fort Robinson, famous for their bighorn sheep population. Learn about native history and local nature at Fort Robinson. At Hot Springs visit Mammoth Site, an excavation of 26,000 year old mammoth skeletons. Explore Badlands National Park in beautiful evening light. Stay for two nights near Badlands National Park in log cabins.





Bighorn Sheep

**Badlands NP** 

#### Day 4: Badlands National Park - Bear Butte State Park - Petrified Forest -Wall.

Explore Badlands National Park's West part, where wildlife including bison and bighorn sheep can often be seen. Travel to Piedmont for a walk in a petrified forest. Discover wild buffalo herds at spiritual, historical Bear Butte State Park.





Badlands bison

Bear Butte bison

## Day 5: Wall - Crazy Horse Memorial - Custer State Park - Mt. Rushmore -Deadwood

Today's sights include two giant rock carvings, the first being Crazy Horse, still under construction, and Mt. Rushmore, a completed sculpting of 4 presidents' heads. Observe wildlife including wild burros and bison in gorgeous rocky landscape of Custer State Park. Hike around spectacular Sylvan Lake. Night in Deadwood, historic Wild West town and gambling center.





Custer, Wild Burros Mt. Rushmore

Day 6: Lead Mining - Devil's Tower NM - Fort Phil Kearny - Sheridan See the largest Gold Mine in U.S. history, the Homestake Mine in Lead, stop at visitor center. Stop at Beulah Buffalo Jump and see an ancient hunting trap. Visit Devil's Tower. Hike around this impressive volcanic formation and discover prairie dog colonies nearby. Explore historic Fort Phil Kearny and learn about the Bozeman Trail and Indian wars. Night in Sheridan.





Devil's Tower

Prairie Dogs

## Day 7: Sheridan - Bighorn Mountains - Cody

Depending on weather, visit Medicine Wheel up on 3000 meters in the Bighorn Mountains, a native sanctuary. Watch for moose roaming in the alpine forests of the Bighorn Mountains. Drive through prairie lands to Cody, Wyoming, watching for wild mustangs along the road. Stay downtown Cody. Depending on season you can reserve an optional rodeo event.





Wild Mustangs

Moose

## Day 8: Cody – optional Mustang tour - Buffalo Bill Historical Center – Pahaska Tepee

Participate in an optional mustang jeep tour guided by a local naturalist or stroll through Cody with its many galleries and boutiques. Visit the Buffalo Bill Historical Center featuring five museums under one roof and learn about the Wild West and nature. Relax in this most serene environment in beautiful Shoshone Valley at Buffalo Bill's Hunting Lodge at Pahaska Tepee.





optional Mustang tour

Buffalo Bill Center





Bison herd

Mammoth Hot Springs

#### Day 9: Yellowstone Park - West Yellowstone, Montana

Today's highlight is Yellowstone National Park. Depending on weather forecast, travel over beautiful Chief Joseph Highway over mountainous Beartooth All American Highway. Discover wildlife including bison, elk, mountain goats and wolves while driving through Lamar Valley. Explore Mammoth Hot Springs and historic Fort Yellowstone. Alternatively, travel along beautiful Lake Yellowstone. Stop for photos, walks and animal observations, visit famous Yellowstone sites. 2 nights in pedestrian friendly Gardiner or West Yellowstone, Montana with good restaurants, galleries and gift shops.

## Day 10: Yellowstone National Park highlights

Walk at Norris Geyser Basin, largest geothermal area of Yellowstone National Park and hike the rim of Yellowstone Canyon at Lower Falls. Picnic in the park. While driving stop for buffalo, elk, and with some luck discover coyotes and bears. Visit Old Faithful Lodge, Geyser and area.





Elk/Wapiti

Norris Geyser Basin

## Day 11: Yellowstone NP - Grand Teton NP - Jackson - Alpine

Drive through Yellowstone National Park exploring more famous wonders. Onto Grand Teton National Park, picnic, hike along beautiful Jenny Lake and take a leisure boat ride. Look out for moose. Explore Jackson with its art galleries and gift shops. Night in a lodge on Snake River in the small community of Alpine.





Day 12: Alpine – Blackfoot Reservoir/Grays Lake National Wildlife Refuge – Fossil Butte NM - Kemmerer

View wild birds at Blackfoot Reservoir habitat of American White Pelicans and/or depending on the season Grays Lake National Wildlife Refuge with rare Sandhill Cranes and trumpeter swans. Explore Fossil Butte National Monument. See rare fossils of fish, leaves, turtles and more amid wildlife viewing. Night in Kemmerer.





Lava Hot Springs

Sandhill Cranes

# Day 13: Kemmerer – Fossil Butte NM – 2002 Olympic Park – Salt Lake City Optional fish fossil hunting tour, view Ulrich's Fish Fossil Gallery. Stop at Park's City famous Outlet Mall for some brand name shopping. Visit 2002 Winter Olympics Park, Alf Engen Ski Museum. Evening and 2 nights in Salt Lake City.







Fossil Butte N.M.

Pronghorn Antelope



Red Butte Gardens

Antelope Island





Salt Lake Capitol

## Day 15: Departure – or – Continue Independent Travel Our tour comes to an end. Journey home or continue traveling.

Say good-bye at dinner in Salt Lake City.