

Meet the Wild Horses of

"The Black Hills"

with

September 12 - 17, 2008

.....



DAY 1 ARRIVE RAPID CITY - WELCOME DINNER

Begin our Western holiday with an arrival in Rapid City where we will be met by a local tour guide. Check-in to our hotel, our home for the next five nights. Then as an introduction to the area, visit the Journey Museum, taking us on a trek through time from the formation of the Black Hills over two billion years ago to the continuing saga of the Western frontier. Following our "journey", enjoy a wonderful welcome dinner in the main gallery followed by an entertaining musical performance. (D)

DAY 2 WILD HORSE SANCTUARY - MAMMOTH - CRAZY HORSE

A thrilling day is in store when we visit the Black Hills Wild Horse Sanctuary, home to over 400 wild mustangs. Visitors from all over the world come here, a place where you can view America as it was some 300 years ago. Watch them run free across endless prairie, hooves striking thunder, manes and tails flying in the wind. Have a picnic lunch while a Sanctuary staff person gives an informative talk. This afternoon, take a guided tour of the Mammoth Site in Hot Springs. This internationally renowned working Paleontological dig is where scientists are uncovering large Colombian mammoths which were trapped in a spring-fed sinkhole 26,000 years ago. Then it's onto Crazy Horse Memorial, the enormous mountain carving in progress dedicated to all Native Americans. Dinner this evening is in the Laughing Water Restaurant at Crazy Horse. (CB,L,D)

DAY 3 BIG THUNDER GOLD MINE - TATANKA - DEADWOOD

Start Sunday morning with a visit to the quaint and picturesque Stav Kirke Norwegian Chapel in the Hills. Combining Norse dragon heads and Christian symbols, it is an exact replica of an 800 year old church in Borgund, Norway. Then a guided tour and panning at historic Big Thunder Gold Mine gives us a glimpse into mining operations a hundred years ago, and you can take all the free samples you want! The trail leads us to Deadwood this afternoon. Visit "Tatanka, the Story of the Bison", an extraordinary outdoor sculpture exhibit featuring larger than life bronze buffalo being pursued by Natives on horseback. Later, try your hand at games of chance (blackjack, poker and slots) in the Wild West town of Deadwood. Here is where Wild Bill and Calamity lived during the gold rush days of 1876. Cap this great day off with a delicious buffet dinner before heading back to Rapid City. (CB,D)

DAY 4 WALL DRUG - THE BADLANDS - CHUCKWAGON DINNER

Begin our day at Prairie Edge Indian Fine Arts Galleries where a unique shopping experience evokes the spirit of the Old West and where art remains faithful to the Lakota Indian Spirit. We'll head east across the rolling prairie where we'll visit the world famous Wall Drug, proud to be rated as "One of the Top 50 Tackiest Tourist Traps in the United States" and a favorite watering hole in these parts since the 1930's. This afternoon, tour Badlands National Park where wondrous sights are ours as we travel through this fascinating geological area formed over millions of years by wind and rain and erosion. Tonight, the Flying T Chuckwagon welcomes you to have a good 'ole time with a hearty BBQ dinner followed by a lively western music show. (CB,D)

DAY 5 MT. RUSHMORE - CUSTER STATE PARK

This morning enjoy a tour of the Black Hills Gold factory where we'll see skilled artisans crafting the beautiful tricolored jewelry that is unique to this area. Take a leisurely drive through Bear Country, where we'll view elk, timber wolves, big horn sheep, mountain goats and black bears from the comfort of our motorcoach. Then it's off to the awe-inspiring "Shrine to Democracy", Mt. Rushmore, where the 60-foot faces of Washington, Jefferson, Lincoln and Theodore Roosevelt are carved in granite. Something special awaits this afternoon as we board open-air jeeps for a ride through scenic Custer State Park in search of the buffalo, antelope and other wildlife that roam free in the Hills. This evening, a fabulous farewell dinner is at the State Game Lodge right in the park, once the summer White House for Calvin Coolidge in 1927. (CB, D)

DAY 6 DEPART FOR HOME

Our Black Hills adventure comes to an end today after breakfast. Checkout and transfer to the airport for our flight home Thank you for exploring with us and join us soon for another wonderful adventure! (CB)

PRICE INCLUDES:

- *Deluxe Motorcoach Transportation While Touring
 - * 5 Nights Hotel Accommodations
 - * 11 Meals: 5 Deluxe Continental Breakfasts (CB), 1 Picnic Lunch (L) and 5 Dinners (D)
 - * Journey Museum with Musical Performance
 - * Black Hills Wild Horse Sanctuary
 - * Mammoth Site in Hot Springs
 - * Crazy Horse Memorial
 - * Wall Drug
 - * Badlands National Park
 - * Big Thunder Gold Mine Tour & Panning
 - * Deadwood & "Tatanka"
 - * Stav Kirke Norwegian Chapel
 - * Black Hills Gold Factory
 - * Bear Country
 - * Mount Rushmore
 - * Jeep Tour in Custer State Park
 - * Services of a Professional Tour Escort (excluding gratuities**)
 - * Admissions to National Parks, Monuments and Attractions as Included in Itinerary
 - * Roundtrip Airport Transfers
 - * Baggage Handling (one piece per person)
 - * All Taxes and Tips on Included Features
- * Group Incentive: Receive One Free "Double" with 25 or More Paying Passengers (land only)**

****Recommended tipping: \$2.00 for tour escort/ \$1.00 for driver (per person per day)**

LAND PRICE PER PAYING PASSENGER:

DOUBLE: \$ 889
TRIPLE: \$ 839
SINGLE: \$1139



ADD ROUNDTRIP AIR FROM **TO RAPID CITY: \$**

(Price based on current rates and fuel taxes; subject to change.)