



**LEWIS AND CLARK TRAIL**

Retrace the route of the Lewis and Clark Expedition through Montana. In just over 28 months—from May 1804 to September 1806—Meriwether Lewis and William Clark traveled more than 8,000 miles on foot, on horseback and by boat. More than a quarter of that distance was spent in Montana, where much of the land they explored remains unchanged. Follow them through Montana along portions of many state, U.S. and interstate highways, on the map below. Look for the Lewis & Clark sign.

Among the sites are: (1) The scenic White Cliffs of the Missouri River, accessible by river travel only. (2) Fort Benton. (3) Great Falls, with the Lewis & Clark National Historic Trail Interpretive Center and Giant Springs Heritage State Park, where Clark discovered a huge "fountain or spring" during an 18-mile portage around the Great Falls of the Missouri. (4) The Gates of the Mountains, north of Helena on I-15, where the Missouri flows through a narrow passage flanked by what Lewis described as "the most remarkable cliffs that we have yet seen." (5) Missouri Headwaters State Park near Three Forks, where the Jefferson, Madison and Gallatin rivers join to form the Missouri. (6) Beaverhead Rock State Monument, an important landmark north of Dillon on MT 41. (7) Lemhi Pass, west of Hwy. 324 in southwestern Montana, where Lewis and Clark crossed the Continental Divide on their journey westward. (8) Traveler's Rest, near the junction of US 12 and 93 south of Missoula, where the expedition split parties on the return trip east. (9) Lolo Hot Springs, on US 12 southwest of Missoula, where the expedition

camped. (10) Lolo Pass Visitor Center, on US 12 at the Montana-Idaho border, which has an interpretive site. (11) Pompeys Pillar, off I-94 east of Billings, where Clark carved his signature in a large sandstone rock along the Yellowstone River. Commercial boat tours retrace the river route of Lewis and Clark at the Gates of the Mountains (4), and in the scenic White Cliffs area of the Missouri River (1).

Do some exploring of your own by finding out more about the famous Lewis and Clark Expedition. Bookstore now have the condensed versions of their journals, as well as several excellent guides. Or, blaze a trail onto the web at [www.lewisandclarkbiennial.com](http://www.lewisandclarkbiennial.com) or [montanalewisandclark.org](http://montanalewisandclark.org) for more information and many related links.

Other sources include:

- Travel Montana, call 800-VISITMT (847-4868) or 406-841-2870 for a brochure on Montana's Lewis and Clark sites or visit [www.lewisandclarkbiennial.com](http://www.lewisandclarkbiennial.com)
- Lewis & Clark National Historic Trail Interpretive Center, Great Falls, MT. 406-727-8733. [www.fs.fed.us/rl/lewisclark/leic.htm](http://www.fs.fed.us/rl/lewisclark/leic.htm)

**WELCOME TO A VERY SPECIAL PLACE**

Montana's nickname is Big Sky Country. But we're more than big skies—we're a land of big adventure. Wildlife abounds on millions of acres of public lands. Crystal clear waters, inspiring mountains and plains of green fill our landscape. Unique cities offer art, history, culture and other interesting attractions. And everywhere, some 900,000 smiling faces are waiting to greet you. Welcome to Montana. And enjoy your stay.

**Montana's State Symbols**

The official state seal, adopted in 1893, bears the motto "Oro y Plata," meaning gold and silver in Spanish.

**NEZ PERCE TRAIL**

In the summer of 1877, five bands of Nez Perce Indians fled their homeland in Oregon and Idaho to escape war. For six months and 1,170 miles, 800 Nez Perce outmaneuvered the U.S. Army in nearly a dozen battles. Today, you can follow the Nez Perce "Doom-poo" National Historic Trail through Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Wyoming and Montana.

**NEZ PERCE TRAIL**

You'll find many significant stops along the Nez Perce Trail in Montana. The Nez Perce entered Montana at Lolo Pass and easily bypassed a blockade at "Fort Fizzle" near Missoula. At Big Hole National Battlefield near Wisdom, Colonel Big Horn's forces launched a surprise sarge attack on the sleeping camp, only to turned back with heavy losses. At Canyon Creek Battlefield near Laurel, U.S. Army forces were again foiled in their attempt to capture the Nez Perce between the Yellowstone and Musselshell Rivers. The Bear Paw Battlefield, 16 miles south of Chinook, is the site of the Nez Perce surrender on October 5, 1877. Other sources of information are:

- USDA Forest Service, Northern Region, P.O. Box 7669, Missoula, MT 59807, [www.fs.fed.us/npwh](http://www.fs.fed.us/npwh)
- Big Hole National Battlefield, P.O. Box 327, Wisdom, MT 59761, [www.nps.gov/hibo](http://www.nps.gov/hibo)



There's a wealth of information about our state free for the asking. Call 800-VISITMT (800-447-4868), Ext. 111M or 406-841-2870 to request information about lodging, camping, fishing, skiing, snowmobiling, golf or other activities. TDD 406-841-2702.

Visit our web at [www.visitmt.com](http://www.visitmt.com) - Kids can play on [www.montanakids.com](http://www.montanakids.com). Visit Montana's Department of Transportation web for information about scenic byways, road reports and weather, bicycle routes and more at [www.mdt.state.mt.us](http://www.mdt.state.mt.us)

This map is produced by Travel Montana, Departments of Commerce and the Montana Department of Transportation. Alternative accessible formats of portions of this document will be provided to disabled individuals upon request.

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Cover photo: White Cliffs along the Wild and Scenic Missouri River by Terry Demin

