

GREAT DESTINATIONS

Medora, North Dakota

MEDORA

SHARING LEGACY, HERITAGE, FUN
IN NORTH DAKOTA'S BADLANDS



Feral horses are just one wildlife species that roam in Theodore Roosevelt National Park. The horses are descendants of the mustangs that lived in the west. Many other species of game, birds and native plants create a unique ecological balance.

Where the deer and the antelope play, where seldom is heard a discouraging word...



Medora presents an adventure so actively lived and eloquently described by our 26th President, Theodore Roosevelt.

Roosevelt settled in the North Dakota Badlands in September of 1883, about 35 miles as the eagle flies up the Little Missouri River. At the Elkhorn Ranch, Roosevelt lived, worked and wrote about his adventures.

He established relationships with local ranchers and philosophized with many, including French nobleman and entrepreneur, Antoine de Vallambrosa Marquis de Mores, who founded the town in April of 1883 and named it after his wife, Medora.

Medora was to be the center of a cattle empire for de Mores who expected to process beef and ship it to urban areas via refrigerated railroad cars. He built a 26-room home for his wife on the bluff just across the Little Missouri River where he could view his enterprises and the new town.

De Mores' plans failed and he left Medora for good in 1886. Medora continued into history, defacto claiming Roosevelt as its own. Medora was a central hub for livestock production and served as the county seat for Billings County, as early as 1886, three years prior to North Dakota being granted statehood.

Roosevelt's conservation legacy is perpetuated in the North Dakota badlands and preserved in Theodore Roosevelt National Park. Medora is the gateway community to the park's South Unit. Theodore Roosevelt National Park offers visitors an up-close look at dozens of species of wildlife, over 150 species of birds and many native plant species.

Open year round, Theodore Roosevelt National Park was established in 1948. Three units comprise over 70,000 acres, running along the Little Missouri River from Medora to south of Watford City.

But, don't stop there. Medora has moved into the 21st century with ease and splendor, making it North Dakota's number one summer visitor destination. Aside from the scenic viewsheds carved by Mother Nature, Medora knows how to entertain visitors.



TOP: Chateau deMores is most visited North Dakota SHS site.

MIDDLE: North Dakota Cowboy Hall of Fame is one of seven museums in the community.

BOTTOM The Medora Musical is internationally recognized, an entertainment opportunity for people of all ages.

Just 36 minutes from Theodore Roosevelt Regional Airport in Dickinson (home to daily Great Lakes Airlines flights), Medora continues as a central community to the North Dakota Badlands, which beckon daily. A variety of outdoor experiences and adventures include river water, clay buttes, hiking, biking and riding trails, grass greens—and more.

Head south of Medora to the Bully Pulpit Golf Course and the Maah Daah Hey Trail, nationally recognized and surrounded by clean, pristine air and stunning landscapes.

Bully Pulpit Golf Course conforms to the landscape of meadows and woodlands and meanders along the Little Missouri River. The 18-hole course features five different tee lengths.



The Maah Daah Hey Trail presents mountain bikers, hikers and horseback riders with a challenging 97-mile trail running in and out of the Badlands. An adventure lover's dream, the trail was characterized as one of the top 10 single-track mountain bike trails in the United States. It caps the clay buttes, provides breathtaking scenery of coniferous filled draws and offers close up views of wildlife. While biking is not allowed in the park, the trail does provide an alternate route.

The most frequently visited North Dakota State Historical Society site is the 128-acre Chateau de Mores. The site is home to the two-story building built in 1883, the summer residence of the de Mores family. It is one of eight National Register of Historic Sites in and around Medora and contains many of the original furnishings and personal effects of the de Mores family.

Strolling through Medora is a walk into western history. Seven museums tastefully preserve and display the heritage, history and culture of the town and area.

Summer evenings say outdoor cooking. The Pitchfork Steak fondue has all the fixings. Then proceed to the Burning Hills Amphitheatre for the internationally acclaimed Medora Musical, a professionally produced, high energy, western style musical dedicated to the legacy of Roosevelt.

Patriotism is on display daily, reflecting the values of our 26th President, Theodore Roosevelt. From the annual All Horse Flag Day Parade (June 14) to Medora's Old Fashioned Cowboy Christmas (week-end nearest Pearl Harbor Day), Medora celebrates its roots and proudly waves its American flag.

Photographers will find endless opportunities for pictures that will last a lifetime—and can be passed out to friends. Sunrises and sunsets are the bookends for bragging rights about your trip to Medora.

P&P

To help plan your visit, contact the Medora Area Convention and Visitors Bureau, 701-623-4829; email, bcm@midstate.net; or on the web at www.medorand.com.

Photography by: Odermann Communications Company Photo, James Odermann, Artist.

18 PEAKS & PLAINS



MEDORA

A CALL OR CLICK AWAY

MEDORA AREA CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU

Phone: 701-623-4829

Email: bcm@midstate.net

Website: www.medorand.com

CHATEAU DE MORES STATE HISTORIC SITE

Phone: 701-623-4355

Website: www.history.nd.gov/historicsites/chateau

NORTH DAKOTA COWBOY HALL OF FAME

Phone: 701-623-2000

Website: www.northdakotacowboy.com

THEODORE ROOSEVELT MEDORA FOUNDATION

Phone: 1-800-MEDORA-1 • (1-800-633-6721)

Website: www.medora.com

THEODORE ROOSEVELT NATIONAL PARK

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