

CENTENNIAL TRAIL



The Centennial Trail, number "89", got its number from the date of South Dakota's statehood, 1889.

TRAIL HIGHLIGHTS



View of Bear Butte

Bear Butte - Centennial Trail begins in the north at the top of Bear Butte. At 4,422 feet, Bear Butte is a sacred place for the American Indian. The butte is a laccolith formed by molten magma intrusion that has been exposed by erosion of the surrounding prairie lands.



Wild turkeys

Wildlife - The Black Hills area provides habitat for many wildlife species. You might see antelope, bighorn sheep, mule deer, white-tailed deer, elk, turkeys, or mountain goats. There are about 370 miles of trout fishery streams in the Black Hills. The Centennial Trail crosses a number of these streams.



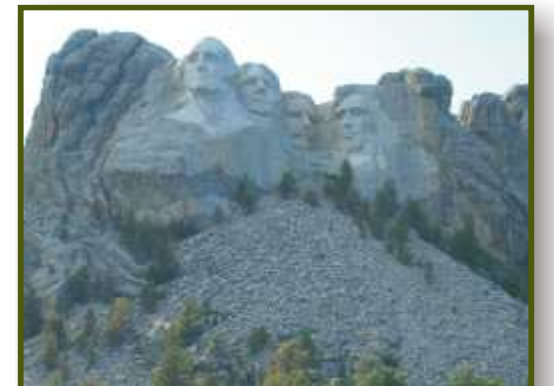
Legion Lake

Lakes and Reservoirs - The Centennial Trail passes by or near seven bodies of water, each with its own special character. Sheridan Lake and Pactola Reservoir are popular recreation spots for boating, fishing and swimming. Trout fishing is especially popular. Most lakes are stocked with fish by the South Dakota Department of Game, Fish, and Parks.



Black Hills rock formations

Geology - Black Hills geology is very complex. The Hills were formed by the uplifting of the earth's crust millions of years ago. Precambrian rock formations, consisting of slates, schists and granites, form a central core. Harney Peak of 7,242 feet and the nearby Needles are part of this core. Surrounding the central core are rings of sedimentary rocks consisting of sandstones, limestones, and shales in which occur many well-known caves, such as Wind Cave and Jewel Cave.



Mt. Rushmore

Mt. Rushmore - The Centennial Trail passes within one mile of Mt. Rushmore National Memorial. Mt. Rushmore serves as the Shrine of Democracy with the sixty foot likenesses of Presidents Washington, Jefferson, Teddy Roosevelt, and Lincoln carved into the granite.



Buffalo shedding its winter coat

American Bison (Buffalo) - Buffalo herds roam Custer State Park and Wind Cave National Park. They are exciting to watch, but can be dangerous and unpredictable if approached. View from a safe distance.



Custer and his officers

History - The Black Hills are rich in both Native American and early American history. Archeological evidence suggests Native American use of the area occurred about 10,000 years ago. The first expedition to explore the Black Hills was Custer's Expedition in 1874, two years before his death at the Little Big Horn in Montana. The Centennial Trail passes many historical sites.

Marking the 100th anniversary of statehood, 1889 to 1989, the 111-mile Centennial Trail represents the diversity of South Dakota. The trail crosses the prairie grasslands near Bear Butte State Park and climbs into the Black Hills high country, skirting lakes and streams until it reaches Wind Cave National Park near hot springs. The U.S. Forest Service, the Bureau of Land Management, the National Park Service, and the South Dakota Department of Game, Fish, and Parks have combined their efforts to develop this Trail for you to enjoy.

Expect and respect other trail users



*Horse and mountain bike use is not allowed in the eastern portion of Bear Butte State Park. Along the Trail several short stretches are designated for hiker use only. Bypass routes are signed for other trail user types.

*Motorized use of the Centennial Trail is prohibited between Pilot Knob Trailhead and Daton Trailhead. Use alternate routes as signed.

Facility	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No
Wind Cave National Park	Yes	Yes	No	No	No
Custer State Park	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No
Black Elk Wilderness	Yes	Yes	No	No	No
Black Hill National Forest	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No
Ft. Meade Recreation Area	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No
Bear Butte State Park	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No



Allowed Trail Uses

Motorized Vehicles
Mountain Biking
Horseshoeing
Hiking

By Management Agency

Agency Addresses and Phone Numbers

Bear Butte State Park
PO Box 688
Sturgis, SD 57785
(605) 347-5240
www.sdgap.info/parks/Regions/NorthernHills/BearButte.htm

Bureau of Land Management
310 Roundup St.
Belle Fourche, SD 57717
(605) 892-7000
www.mt.blm.gov/sdfo/ftmeade/ftmeade.html

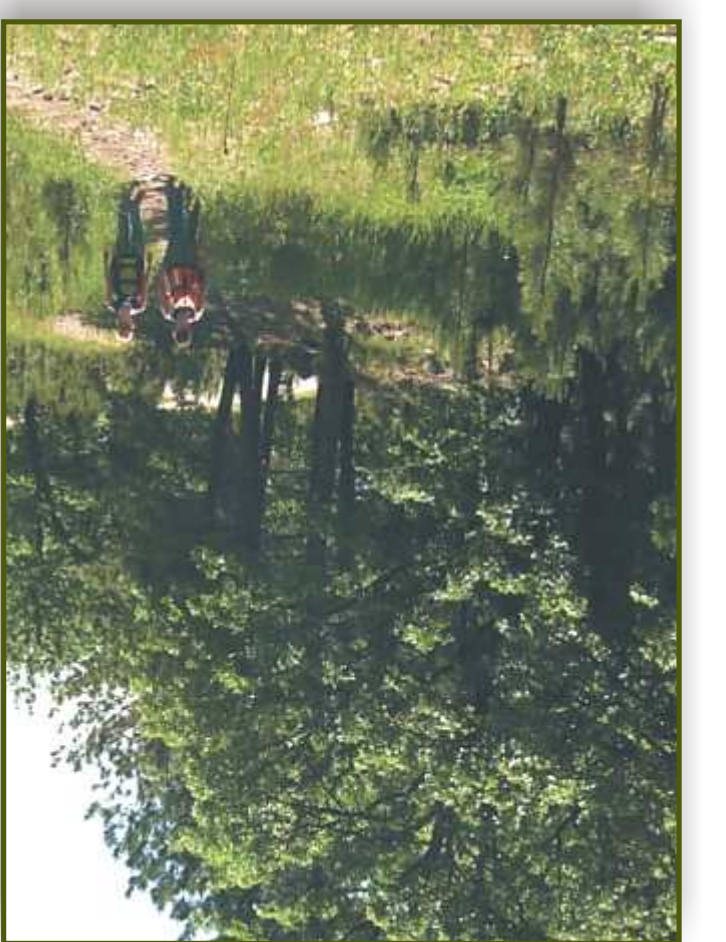
Black Hills National Forest
1019 N. 5th St.
Custer, SD 57730
(605) 673-9200
TDD (605) 673-9227
www.fs.fed.us/r2/blackhills

Hell Canyon Ranger District
330 Mt. Rushmore Road
Custer, SD 57730
(605) 673-4853

Mystic Ranger District
8221 S. Hwy 16
Rapid City, SD 57702
(605) 343-1567

Custer State Park
13329 U.S. Highway 16A
Custer, SD 57730
(605) 255-4515
www.custerstatepark.info

Wind Cave National Park
26611 U.S. Highway 385
Hot Springs, SD 57747
(605) 745-4600
www.nps.gov/wica/
These organizations are equal opportunity providers.



CENTENNIAL TRAIL



In the Black Hills of South Dakota

Black Elk Wilderness portion of the trail requires free registration for anyone using the wilderness. This registration form describes the rules and regulations of the Black Elk Wilderness and are available at Wilderness Trailheads. Bicycles are not allowed off designated roads.

Wind Cave National Park requires a free back country permit for those who plan to camp in the back country. This permit describes requirements which must be followed when camping in the back country of Wind Cave National Park. Permits are available at National Park trailheads. Bicycles are not allowed off designated roads.

Custer State Park requires the purchase of a park entrance license for vehicles in order to use the Park. Annual and temporary permits are available. No permit is required to hike or bike through Custer State Park. Within Custer State Park, camping is only allowed in developed campgrounds, except in French Creek Natural Area where camping is allowed anywhere along the trail.

Many of the campgrounds along the Trail charge a fee. Some of the campgrounds also require a reservation ahead of time. The facility list on the reverse of this brochure indicates which facilities require a use fee and reservation.

Permits, Fees, and Camping



Vehicle Security

Long-term parking is available at many of the trailheads as shown on the reverse of this brochure. If you plan to leave your vehicle overnight or longer in Fort Meade Recreation Area, Bear Butte State Park, or Wind Cave National Park, please notify the ranger. Doing this will let park managers know why a vehicle has been left at a trailhead.



Campfires

Open fires are not permitted. An "open fire" is defined as any fire burning slash, brush, grass, stubble, debris, rubbish, or other inflammable material not enclosed in a stove, spark-proof incinerator, or an established fireplace approved or constructed by public agencies in designated recreation areas. Campfire grates are provided in many campgrounds for campground users. **Please be careful with fire.**



Planning will help you enjoy your trip on the Centennial Trail. Find out as much as you can about the area where you plan to use the Trail. Drinking water is not readily available along the Trail. Many of the streams dry up in early summer. Protect yourself and treat raw water taken from streams and lakes before you drink it. Many of the established campgrounds and picnic areas along the Trail have drinking water during the summer months of June, July, and August. During the rest of the year, campground water systems are turned off. Be prepared for unexpected changes in the weather, and for emergencies. Food is not readily available along the Trail. Food may be obtained from stores in the Black Hills area.

Trip Planning

Trail Ethics

The Centennial Trail has been developed for you to enjoy. Please help us keep the Trail clear of trash by packing out all of your litter and food residue. When camping, use minimum impact techniques and practice Leave No Trace ethics. If using a motorized vehicle on the Trail where permitted, TREAD LIGHTLY and protect the environment you enjoy. When meeting other parties on the Trail, allow room to pass. Horse riders will require extra space. Bikes yield to hikers; hikers yield to horses.

Feedback

We need your comments on your Centennial Trail experience. Did you find the trail signing adequate? Were the facilities along the Trail adequate? Were you able to find enough information to plan your trip? Please send any comments you may have to the supervisor of any agency listed on this brochure.

Trail Maps

This Trail is shown in detail on two different Trails Illustrated maps which are available for approximately \$9.95 each. The Black Hills National Forest visitor map can be purchased from any of the agencies listed for approximately \$7.49. This map provides information about road access to the trailheads. Prices are subject to change.



- Recreation vehicle camping pads are available. Water, electric, and sewer hookups are not available.
- Dates shown indicate period of year when facilities such as the water system are in operation. The operation season shown is approximate and may vary a week or two on each end of the season.
- Campgrounds at Sheridan and Pactola Lakes provide for both reservation of sites and first come-first served basis. Reservations at these campgrounds can be made by calling 1-877-444-6777 or online at www.reserveUSA.com. A portion of Sheridan Lake Campground is for group camping only. Some camping supplies and food is available at the marinas. For camping reservations in Custer State Park call 1-800-710-2267.
- Fees are for overnight use of these facilities.
- The campfire grates are provided for your safety. Open fires are prohibited.
- BBSP - Bear Butte State Park (South Dakota Dept. of Game, Fish, & Parks)
FMRA - Ft. Meade Recreation Area (Bureau of Land Management)
BHNf - Black Hills National Forest (U.S. Forest Service)
MRNM - Mount Rushmore National Memorial (National Park Service)
CSP - Custer State Park (South Dakota Dept. of Game, Fish, & Parks)
WCNP - Wind Cave National Park (National Park Service)