TALES & TRAILS
A GUIDE TO THE ICONS & OUTLAWS OF SHERIDAN, WY

VOLUME 3 2020

UNEARTH LOCAL GEMS
FIND THE BEST BITES & BAIT
DISCOVER TALL TALES

PLANNING YOUR PERFECT TRIP
ADVENTURE AWAITS

CELEBRATE THE 90TH SHERIDAN WYO RODEO

SHERIDAN WYOMING
The world comes out west expecting to see cowboys driving horses through the streets of downtown; pronghorn butting heads on windswept bluffs; clouds encircling the towering granite pinnacles of the Bighorn Mountains; and endless expanses of wild, open country. These are some of the fibers that have been stitched together over time to create the patchwork quilt of Sheridan’s identity, each part and parcel to the Wyoming experience. What you may not have been expecting when you came way out West was a thriving, historic downtown district, with western allure, hospitality and good graces to spare; a vibrant art scene; bombastic craft culture; a robust festival and events calendar; and living history on every corner.

Welcome to Sheridan, the Cultural Capital of Wyoming.

Wyoming is a testament to what people are capable of if you give them enough space.

- Sam Morton

Sheridan has a total area of 10.95 square miles
10.93/sq miles of land | 0.02/sq miles of water
ELEVATION 3,743 feet above sea level
CITY POPULATION 17,954 | COUNTY POPULATION 30,210
AVERAGE SUNNY DAYS PER YEAR: 208
July is the warmest | January is the coldest
Record High 107°F in 2002
Record Low -41°F in 1989

SHERIDANWYOMING.ORG
#VISITSHERIDAN
SHERIDAN, WY

Blessed by Bighorn Mountain topography and evenly spaced between Yellowstone National Park and Mount Rushmore, Sheridan is Wyoming’s Emerald City.

Sheridan is a short drive from national battle sites, parks, recreation areas, and monuments; home to two National Historic Sites (Medicine Wheel and the Sheridan Inn); and on the doorstep of one of the nation’s finest wilderness areas.

Sheridan is where frontier history, mountain recreation, and Old West charm conspire to deliver the travel experience of a lifetime. Sheridan features a thriving, historic downtown district, with western allure, hospitality, and good graces to spare; a vibrant arts scene; bombastic craft culture; a robust festival and events calendar; and living history from one corner of the county to the next.

1. **BIGHORN NATIONAL FOREST**
   - 35 MILES, 40 MINUTES
   - Established in 1897. Elevations range from 5,000 feet along the sagebrush and grass-covered lowlands at the foot of the mountains, to 13,189 feet on top of Cloud Peak, the highest point in the Bighorns. Within the forest is the Cloud Peak Wilderness. There are 1,500 miles of trails in the forest, along with 33 campgrounds, Medicine Wheel, lodges, and three scenic byways.

2. **YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK**
   - 200 MILES, 4 HOURS
   - The nation’s first national park was established in 1872. Nearly 3,500-sq.-mile wilderness recreation area atop a volcanic hot spot, featuring its most famous geyser, Old Faithful.

3. **GRAND TETON NATIONAL PARK**
   - 350 MILES, 6.25 HOURS
   - Wyoming’s second national park features the magnificent Teton Range, the valley known as Jackson Hole, the resort community of Jackson, and some of the finest wildlife viewing in the world.

4. **DEVILS TOWER NATIONAL MONUMENT**
   - 165 MILES, 2.5 HOURS
   - An astounding geologic feature that protrudes out of the prairie surrounding the Black Hills. It is considered sacred by Northern Plains Indians and indigenous people.

5. **MOUNT RUSHMORE NATIONAL MEMORIAL**
   - 245 MILES, 3.5 HOURS

6. **THERMOPOLIS HOT SPRINGS STATE PARK**
   - 160 MILES, 3 HOURS
   - The hot springs flow at a constant temperature of 135° Fahrenheit. Offers free bathing at the State Bath House, where temperatures are moderated to a therapeutic 104°F. The petroglyph site at Legend Rock, some 25 miles away, is also part of the park.

7. **LITTLE BIGHORN BATTLEFIELD MONUMENT**
   - 71 MILES, 65 MINUTES
   - Preserves the site of the June 25-26, 1876, Battle of the Little Bighorn, near Crow Agency, MT. Serves as a memorial to those who fought in the battle: George Armstrong Custer’s 7th Cavalry and a combined Lakota-Northern Cheyenne and Arapaho force.

8. **BIGHORN CANYON NATIONAL RECREATION AREA**
   - 115 MILES, 2.25 HOURS
   - Established in 1966, following the construction of the Yellowtail Dam. Straddles the border between Wyoming and Montana. About one third of the park is located on the Crow Indian Reservation. One-quarter of the Pryor Mountains Wild Horse Range lies within the Bighorn Canyon National Recreation Area.
LOCAL ATTRACTIONS

1. HISTORIC DOWNTOWN SHERIDAN
2. KENDRICK PARK
3. SHERIDAN COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS
4. THE HISTORIC SHERIDAN INN
5. TRAIL END STATE HISTORIC SITE
6. SOUTH PARK NATURAL AREA
7. NORTH PARK NATURAL AREA
8. BLACK TOOTH PARK
9. SOLDIER RIDGE TRAIL
10. EATON’S RANCH
11. THE TOWN OF RANCHESTER
12. THE TOWN OF DAYTON
13. BIGHORN NATIONAL FOREST
14. SHERIDAN COUNTY AIRPORT
15. THE BRINTON MUSEUM
16. BIG HORN EQUESTRIAN CENTER
17. THE POWDER HORN
18. UCROSS FOUNDATION + ART GALLERY
19. SHERIDAN INFORMATION CENTER
20. MOUNT HOPE/MUNICIPAL CEMETERY
21. THE MILL INN
22. BLACK TOOTH BREWING CO.
23. BISON AND ELK PADDock
24. FORT MCKENZIE (VA MEDICAL CENTER)
25. SHERIDAN COUNTY MUSEUM
26. THE MINT BAR
27. KING’S SADDLERY AND DON KING MUSEUM
28. THE WYO THEATER
29. FORT PHIL KEARNY
30. DAVINCI’S HORSE
31. COMMUNITY OF BIG HORN
32. COMMUNITY OF STORY
33. STEAMBOAT POINT
34. WHITNEY COMMONS + MANDEL CABIN
35. KENDRICK GOLF COURSE
36. TOWN OF CLEARMONT
37. BORN IN A BARN
38. BIG GOOSE CREEK
39. SOLDIER CREEK
40. LITTLE GOOSE CREEK

DISTANCES FROM SHERIDAN

CASPER, WY  149 MILES
CODY, WY  148 MILES
YELLOWSTONE NP  204 MILES
GRAND TETON NP  275 MILES
BILLINGS, MT  130 MILES
RAPID CITY, SD  250 MILES
MOUNT RUSHMORE  270 MILES
DENVER, CO  430 MILES
SALT LAKE CITY, UT  553 MILES
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<td>307.737.2281</td>
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<td>The Powder Horn</td>
<td>161 Highway 335, Sheridan</td>
<td>powderhornrealty.com</td>
<td>307.674.9545</td>
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<td>Lazy R Campground</td>
<td>652 US-14, Ranchester</td>
<td>lazyrcampground.com</td>
<td>888.655.9284</td>
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<td>Double Rafter Ranch</td>
<td>84 5 Mile Rd., Parkman</td>
<td>doublerafter.com</td>
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Spanning over 1.1 million acres and encompassing 1,200 miles of trails, 30 camp grounds, 10 picnic areas, 6 mountain lodges, and hundreds of miles of waterways, the Bighorn National Forest offers near limitless outdoor recreation activities - from hiking and hunting to camping and snowmobiling. The Cloud Peak Wilderness, with peaks reaching over 13,000-ft in elevation, features some of the most pristine forest in the United States, and ample opportunities to hike, climb, fish and much more. Tackle legendary excursions like the 60-mile Solitude Loop Trail, or go Tooth-to-Tooth as you race from downtown Sheridan to one of the tallest peaks in the Bighorns. Wildlife photography opportunities abound, and many trails are easily accessed from scenic Highway 14 or 14A. Popular trails, including Red Grade, Tongue River Canyon, and Soldier Ridge, are a short drive from downtown Sheridan. Trail and ATV maps are available at the Information Center and the Forest Service Office.

EXPLORE WYOMING’S GREAT OUTDOORS

218 MILES OF GROOMED SNOWMOBILE TRAILS PRESENT SOME OF THE MOST SCENIC TERRAIN IN THE NATION
ONE DAY IN THE WILD

MORNING 🌞

If your legs are weary, take the back roads out to the hamlet of Story, tucked into the mountains south of Sheridan; here you can visit the Story Fish Hatchery, providing visitors with a unique opportunity to observe fish and local wildlife.

EVENING 🌕

By now you’ve earned your appetite and your dinner; head back to Sheridan to dine in Wyoming’s culinary and craft capital. You could try wild game at the cozy Cowboy Cafe, hand-tossed pies at Powder River Pizza, or fresh Bighorn catch at Wyoming Cattle & Creek.

And since there is no rest for the wild at heart, don your warm and woolies and prepare for an evening out under the stars; the new Skylab at Fort Phil Kearny is an inspiring way to experience Rocky Mountain cosmology, the history of the frontier, and the unforgettable stories of this important Indian Wars Battle Site.

When you finally return to Sheridan, bursting at the seams with a hundred years’ worth of frontier history, outdoor grit and local insight, you’ll be in a fine position to share Wyoming’s tall tales, historic gossip and spectacular stories with your friends and family.

More comfortable with a guide? Looking for a speciality activity, like rock climbing, paddle boarding, or kayaking? Contact Sheridan Travel & Tourism for information on local guides and outfitters, multi-day itineraries, and more.

Experience the best of the iconic Bighorn Mountains

When you finally return to Sheridan, bursting at the seams with a hundred years’ worth of frontier history, outdoor grit and local insight, you’ll be in a fine position to share Wyoming’s tall tales, historic gossip and spectacular stories with your friends and family.

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sheridanwyoming.org

The Bighorn Mountains have been at the center of the essential Sheridan experience for generations. The mountains boast secluded canyons, miles of hiking, biking and riding trails, secret fishing holes, epic climbing lines, and so much more.

Consider renting a bike, stocking up on backpacking or climbing gear, tying a few flies, or purchasing other outdoor essentials from one of our outstanding outfitters. These include Sheridan Bicycle Co., The Sport Stop, Rocky Mountain Discount Sports, the Fly Shop of the Bighorns, and more.

Jump start your day of outdoor adventure with a breakfast at the Shabby Shack (the peaches and cream French toast are a local favorite), or Andi’s Coffee, then drive out to Highway 14 toward Dayton; the beautiful Town of Dayton is the gateway to the Tongue River Canyon.

The canyon features a long in-and-out multi-purpose adventure trail, swimming and fishing holes, and some of the finest views in all of Wyoming. Here you’ll experience a little of what racers endure during the annual Bighorn Trail Run.

Further along scenic Highway 14, up and into the mountains, you’ll come to Steamboat Point, one of Sheridan County’s most recognizable natural icons. If you’re fortunate enough to be in Sheridan late in the spring, the wildflowers at Steamboat are stunning. The strenuous hike to the top of Steamboat is short – less than a mile – but climbs nearly 600 feet, offering sweeping panoramic views of the valley below.

AFTERNOON 🌞

Stop for lunch at one of Sheridan County’s fine mountain lodges - you’ll pass Arrowhead Lodge first; their burgers are the perfect fuel for an adventurous appetite. Bear Lodge and Elk View Inn feature fine pies for those with a sweet tooth. All three lodges sit in scenic surroundings, and offer ample opportunity for wildlife viewing - keep your eyes peeled for elk, deer, moose, and more.

Continue along Highway 14 to Burgess Junction, and take Highway 14A to the trailhead for Porcupine Falls; one of the Bighorn’s most beautiful secrets, the falls pour out of a granite wall and tumble hundreds of feet to a pool below. This is your own private swimming hole for the afternoon.

If you have the legs for it, continue on the dirt road for a few more miles; you’ll end at the trailhead for Bucking Mule Falls. The hike to the canyon and the falls overlook weaves through forests, crosses shallow streams, and reveals a side of the Bighorns often unseen.

Finally, end your afternoon of exploration at over 10,000 feet with a visit to the historic Medicine Wheel (pictured above) – this ancient ceremonial Indian site is still used today for cultural and ritualistic events by the Crow and Northern Cheyenne. A sunset visit is a surreal experience.

THE GREAT OUTDOORS | SHERIDANWYOMING.ORG

14
HUNTING AND FISHING

Sheridan County offers sportsmen and women some of the best hunting and fishing in the nation. Stalk mule deer and pronghorn antelope across the high plains, track elk or mountain lion through alpine terrain, or drop a line in a cool mountain stream as you angle for a beautiful brown or epic rainbow trout - the Bighorns belong at the top of any outdoor enthusiast's list.

In addition to the wild game noted above, the Bighorns are also home to black bear, moose, white-tailed deer, and a variety of bird and fish species.

Wildlife licensing, regulations, harvest limits, and seasons are set by the Wyoming Game and Fish Department. Hunting and fishing licenses can be purchased at Game and Fish offices, or via participating local outfitting shops. Local guide and outfitter services are available and offered for a variety of services such as hunting, fishing, and horseback riding. If you use the services of an outfitter, make sure they are licensed with the state and permitted to operate on the Bighorn National Forest.

Sheridan County is home to some terrific public walk-in areas. These hunting and fishing areas are identified with signs, and can be located by using maps found in an atlas, which is available at the Wyoming Game & Fish regional office and license agents.

Hunting or fishing on private land requires landowner permission. For questions, contact the WGF Regional Office at 307-672-7418 or 1-800-331-9834.

The nation's outdoor industry is robust; lodges and ranches offer seasonal hunting and fishing programs, while a number of guiding and outfitting services are available.

The Sports Stop, Rocky Mountain Discount Sports, Sportsman's Warehouse, the Fly Shop of the Bighorns and a number of other local retail outlets sell sporting goods and gear. In 2019, Sheridan was fortunate to become the new home of Weatherby, the maker of the finest sporting firearms in the world. Weatherby's facility includes a showroom and museum that is open to the public.

THE NATION'S FINEST HUNTING & FISHING

TOP TIPS FOR HUNTING AND FISHING SUCCESS

- FOLLOW ALL WY GAME AND FISH REGULATIONS
- DOWNLOAD AN OFFLINE MAP APP LIKE onX HUNT
- VISIT A FOREST SERVICE OFFICE FOR CURRENT TRAIL CONDITIONS
- BOOK A FISHING EXPEDITION WITH THE FLY SHOP OF THE BIGHORNS
- ENROLL FIRST-TIME HUNTERS IN AN EDUCATION AND SAFETY COURSE
- CONSIDER HUNTING WITH A LOCAL GUIDE OR OUTFITTER

DON'T MISS: The North Fork of the Tongue River is considered one of the finest fly fishing destinations in the western United States.

MUST SEE: The Story Fish Hatchery offers a look at local conservation and management practices in WY.
LOCAL NUGGETS [01]

IT'S AN EASY DAY TRIP TO ANY OF FIVE SPECTACULAR WATERFALLS IN THE BIGHORNS.
PORCUPINE, BUCKING MULE, PARADISE, LITTLE GOOSE, & BIG GOOSE

WHEN FLY FISHING THE BIGHORNS, YOU CAN'T GO WRONG USING A PURPLE PARAWULFF.

STEAMBOAT ROCK is a formidable hike. At 1.7 miles round trip, you can do it in less than an hour! BUT, IF YOU HAVE 10-14 DAYS, THE ICONIC 62-MILE SOLITUDE TRAIL LOOP IS A MUST.

MOUNTAIN BIKING IS A BIG DEAL IN THE BIGHORNS. THE DEAD SWEDE HUNDO IS AN EPIC ANNUAL EVENT THAT ATTRACTS COMPETITORS FROM ACROSS THE COUNTRY.

THE MOOSE IS THE LARGEST MEMBER OF THE DEER FAMILY. A FULLY GROWN MALE MOOSE IS TALLER THAN A HORSE AND CAN WEIGH OVER 1300 LBS.

90% of the time Local Nuggets & Tall Tales are correct all of the time.
Just 30 minutes south of Sheridan you’ll find the Fort Phil Kearny State Historic Site and Interpretive Center, with the Fetterman Massacre and the Wagon Box Fight in close proximity. Driving north into Montana you’ll discover the Rosebud Battlefield and the Little Bighorn National Monument, both within an hour of Sheridan.

Consider booking a custom tour with a local outfitter to truly immerse yourself in the history of these formative battles. Annual reenactments and events are presented by WYO State Parks; Fort Phil Kearny hosts a series of annual reenactments that bring the history of these engagements to life.

ThunderMountainTours.com
CrazyHorseTours.com

HISTORIC FRONTIER SITES

Sheridan County’s frontier attractions are legion. Across the region you’ll find legendary battlefields that shaped the history of the American west, as well as little-known sites nestled into the foothills of the Bighorn Mountains. At an elevation of over 10,000-ft, you’ll find the Medicine Wheel, while south of Sheridan, in Johnson County, you’ll find the Hole-in-the-Wall, a remote pass long used by the infamous Hole in the Wall Gang and Butch Cassidy’s Wild Bunch. These outlaws ran with the likes of the Logan Brothers, Jesse James, Kid Curry, and Black Jack Ketchum. Cassidy, the Sundance Kid, and other desperadoes met at a log cabin in the Hole-in-the-Wall country which has been preserved at the Old Trail Town museum in Cody.

Years before the City of Sheridan was established, a trapper named George Mandel built a cabin and post office near the forks of Goose Creek; that cabin still stands today, and can be viewed at Whitney Commons in downtown Sheridan.

The arrival of the Burlington & Missouri Railroad in 1892 transformed Sheridan into the region’s industrial and commercial center; both of Sheridan’s train depots still stand today.

Buffalo Bill Cody famously held auditions for his Wild West Show on the lawn at the Sheridan Inn; many icons and outlaws of the old west wandered through Sheridan in his time, and they continue to explore today.

Experience Wyoming’s Frontier History

HISTORIC INDIAN BATTLEFIELD DAY TRIP FROM SHERIDAN

1. Connor Battlefield Historic Site
2. Little Bighorn Battlefield
3. Rosebud Battlefield
4. Fort Phil Kearny Historic Site
5. Wagon Box Monument

MUST SEE: American Indian Art at the Brinton Museum. The First Peoples’ Pow Wow and Dance, held on the lawn of the Sheridan Inn every July during Sheridan WYO Rodeo Week.
ONE DAY IN HISTORY

MORNING

Sheridan’s historic heart beats with the stories of cowboys, Indians, battle sites, ranching legends, and western outlaws. Prepare for a day of historic immersion with breakfast at PO News & Flagstaff Cafe, a local haunt with over 100 years of history, or grab something to go from the much-loved Java Moon.

Less than an hour from downtown, near Crow Agency, Montana, is the Little Bighorn Battlefield National Monument. The site memorializes the US Army’s 7th Cavalry and the Lakotas and Cheyennes in one of the Indian’s last armed efforts to preserve their way of life.

Back in Sheridan County, tour other important Indian Wars battle sites, including Fort Phil Kearney, the Wagon Box Fight, and the Connor Battlefield. The Connor Battlefield, otherwise known as the site of the Battle of the Tongue River, is located at the City Park in the Town of Ranchester.

Your next stop is The Brinton Ranch Museum, located on the 620-acre Quarter Circle A Ranch in the community of Big Horn. The museum offers an authentic view into the life of Bradford Brinton, a Western gentleman and art collector who was a patron of many of the most celebrated 19th and 20th-century Western artists.

The Brinton Ranch House, originally built in 1892, was expanded in 1927-28 to accommodate the Brinton’s extensive collections of Indian artifacts, art, historic documents, books and over 600 oils, watercolors and sketches by American artists including Audubon, Borein, Gollings, Kleiber, Remington and Russell. Lunch at the Brinton Bistro comes with sublime mountain views and an opportunity to wax poetic about the museum’s immense collection of artifacts.

Passing back through Big Horn, take some time to visit the community’s main street, home to a number of historic properties, including the beautiful Big Horn Mercantile.

Stop at the Bozeman Trail Museum; Built in 1879 by the Rock Creek Stage Line, the blacksmith shop, now home to the museum, originally satisfied the needs of travelers on the nearby Bozeman Trail.

AFTERNOON

The Trail End State Historic Site is a 14,000 sq.-ft. historic Flemish-revival style mansion built and inhabited by former Wyoming Governor and U.S. Senator John B. Kendrick. Kendrick was a successful cattleman when he commissioned the house, and he was only beginning his political career; when he became governor in 1914 and a senator three years later, Trail End became his summer home. The house was added to the National Register of Historic Places on February 26, 1970. Set aside an hour for a thorough tour of the property and adjacent Kendrick Park.

The Historic Sheridan Inn, constructed in 1892, was one of the first hotels in Sheridan. Conceptualized and developed by William F. “Buffalo Bill” Cody, Cody directed hotel management, and even auditioned new members for his legendary “Wild West Show” from the front porch. In 2013, Bob and Dana Townsend became the newest owners of the Inn, bringing 21st-century luxury to the 19th-century building. The Inn is now open as a hotel for overnight stays, banquet events, weddings, and tours. Each of the twenty-two rooms have been revitalized to reflect on “Buffalo Bill” and twenty-one other key characters in his life.

Sheridan’s Veterans Hospital is located on the site of historic Fort Mackenzie. In 1899, Congress appropriated funds for a permanent garrison on this site, and by June 18 of that year a detachment of the First Cavalry had arrived. In November of 1901, the 2nd and 3rd Battalions of the 18th Infantry were garrisoned at Fort Mackenzie. By August of 1902, companies G and H of the Tenth Cavalry, known as the Buffalo Soldiers, arrived. These soldiers, returning from fighting in Cuba and the Philippines, were reassigned here for recuperation and retraining. The campus is open for tours during daylight hours. Please respect the privacy of patients, residents, and staff. Buildings are closed to the public.

EVENING

Dine on classic western fare at a steakhouse, enjoy inventive cuisine at an atmospheric bistro, experience local food truck culture, and embrace Sheridan’s outstanding culinary scene.

For more on historic attractions and activities, visit sheridanwyoming.org
Fantastic displays of bulldogging, rope tricks and marksmanship were a regular occurrence at The Sheridan Inn at the turn of the 19th century... just another day in the life of frontier legend Buffalo Bill Cody and the Wild West Show.

DURING PROHIBITION, THE MINT OPERATED AS A CIGAR COMPANY AND SODA SHOP, BUT OPERATED A POPULAR SPEAKEASY AT THE BACK OF THE HOUSE.

ORDERING A "SARSAPARILLA, NEAT" GOT YOU INTO THE REAL ACTION.

IF ERECTED TODAY... KENDRICK MANSION WOULD COST 40X THAT OF AN AVERAGE HOUSE. IN SHERIDAN THAT COULD EASILY BE $10,000,000!

Miss Kate lived and worked at the Sheridan Inn for nearly six decades. She passed away in 1968; her final request was to be laid to rest at the Inn. Her ashes were buried in the wall of her third floor room. The self-appointed night watchman, Miss Kate’s spirit is considered the guardian of the Inn, and her appearance is considered a good omen for weary travelers.

90% of the time, Local Nuggets & Tall Tales are correct all of the time.
Sheridan is home to legendary craftsfolk who have built a reputation for quality, function, style, and artistry. Sheridan County’s museums, galleries, public art and community art centers present an intimate glimpse at the life of western artists. Take a trip to prehistoric Wyoming with a visit to the T-Rex Natural History Museum or follow the gold rush on an expedition to the Bozeman Trail Museum. Enjoy world-class art and exhibits at the Brinton Museum, Hans Kleiber Studio, and the Sheridan County Museum, and get lost in Wild West paraphernalia at the Don King Museum. Located in the historic Big Red Barn, the Ucross Foundation Art Gallery is an integral public component of the Foundation’s creative environment, while SAGE Community Arts displays modern marvels by local artists.

**MUSEUMS & GALLERIES**

- Bozeman Trail Museum
- The Brinton Museum
- Edward A. Whitney Gallery
- Gallery on Main
- Bozeman Trail Gallery
- Expressions Art Gallery
- Hans Kleiber Studio Museum
- Don King Museum
- Jentel Artist Residency
- SAGE Community Arts
- Sheridan County Museum
- Fulmer Public Library
- T-Rex History Museum
- Trail End State Historic Site
- Ucross Art Gallery
- Public Art Collection
MORNING 🌞

Sheridan is the Cultural Capital of Wyoming, and features numerous galleries, exhibits, exhibitions, and art collections open to the public. Craft culture and maker spaces abound – there’s plenty of opportunity to have a hand’s-on experience in shaping your own artistic vision (and vacation).

Arrive early at Jackalope Ranch Cafe in the heart of downtown and experience scratch baking at its finest, or get down with some old-fashioned American cooking at the Silver Spur Cafe. This should give you ample time to check the Community Calendar for art exhibits, classes, or upcoming shows.

Take Sheridan's self-guided Historic Walking Tour and enjoy more than 40 public art pieces and numerous buildings listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Maps are available at the Chamber of Commerce, Travel & Tourism Office, or Downtown Sheridan Association, as well as the DSA website.

Stop by the WYO Theater to pick up tickets for tonight's show (whatever's on the marquee is sure to please - trust us). When the WYO Theater opened in 1923 as the Lotus, newspaper headlines proclaimed it “Wyoming’s Wonder Picture Palace!” The theater remains one of Sheridan's hallmark attractions.

Main Street is home to a number of art outposts, including The Bozeman Trail Gallery, Main Frame, the Don King Museum, and SAGE Community Arts.

Be one of the first to experience the new exhibits at the Sheridan County Historical Society & Museum, then take the short drive to the Town of Dayton; this picturesque mountain town features the Hans Kleiber studio Museum, Sonja Caywood Studio (by appointment only), and Gallery On Main, featuring a fabulous collection of local art (and an excellent cafe). Just down the street is the Dayton Mercantile, known for delicious sandwiches, shakes, and Wyoming curios.

Ranchester, located between Sheridan and Dayton, is home to the T-Rex Natural History Museum. Take photos with the massive skull of a female T-Rex named Sue, and explore dioramas, raptor fossils, geological curiosities, crystals, and more.

Grab a bite to eat at the Wyoming Buckshot Saloon (yes, you want to try the elk and bison brats, and you know you deserve the onion rings).

AFTERNOON 🌞

The afternoon is all about getting your hands dirty. Book a class to throw some clay on one of Red Bison Studio's pottery wheels, or exercise your inner artist at one of the many local pottery studios. Red Bison's Stephen Mullins has produced pieces for Surf Wyoming, the WYO Winter Rodeo, each of Sheridan's breweries, and many more local businesses.

Interactive art doesn't end there - consider a workshop with Archetype Collective, where you'll learn to craft rings, earrings, or even pet tags. Archetype's new maker space is located at The Union at Montgomery; The Union hosts workshops and classes in a variety of disciplines. SAGE Community Arts, located next door, likewise features lectures, workshops, an annual local photography gala, and much more.

Take your show on the road and visit the Ucross Art Gallery; exhibitions are evocative, insightful and beautiful. Ucross is less than 40 miles from Sheridan; pastoral beauty is the highlight of the drive.

On your way back to Sheridan, stop in Banner to visit Turned Antiques (Saturdays only, 10am-4pm), where you'll find over 10,000-sq. ft. of early American antiques and contemporary home furnishings.

ART IS AN INTERACTIVE EXPERIENCE IN THE WILD WEST

EVENING 🌙

Art can be exhausting, but you're not through yet; steady yourself for an evening on the town at Frackelton's Fine Food & Spirits. Frack's features more beautiful local art, and excellent modern fare - the tuna poke is legendary. Or fill your boots with something substantial at Wyoming's Rib & Chop House. Dressed to impress, head out for a night of pomp and pageantry. The Edward A. Whitney Gallery at the new Whitney Center for the Arts at Sheridan College is small, but exhibits pack a punch - visit the WCA's website for information on performances in Kinnison Hall, the exclamation point on your day of experiential art.
**LOCAL NUGGETS**

2 FEET THICK
209 FEET LONG
51 FEET TALL

THE BRINTON MUSEUM’S RAMMED EARTH WALL IS THE LARGEST IN NORTH AMERICA. LIKE ITS RAMMED EARTH COUSIN, THE GREAT WALL OF CHINA, IT IS EXPECTED TO LAST AT LEAST TWO MILLENNIA.

THE UCROSS FOUNDATION, like a midwife, helped these writers give birth to their masterpieces:

- ANNE PROULX’S *The Shipping News*
- ELIZABETH GILBERT’S *Eat, Pray, Love*
- ADAM GUETTEL’S *The Light in the Piazza*
- RICKY IAN GORDON’S *The Grapes of Wrath*

Just a few of the acclaimed works that have been created in part during Ucross residencies.

A LOCAL CHAMBERMAID WON AN MTV CONTEST IN 1986. HER PRIZE? A PRINCE CONCERT IN SHERIDAN. PRINCE’S FILM “UNDER THE CHERRY MOON” PREMIERED IN SHERIDAN AS PART OF THE PROMOTION.

SHERIDAN’S PUBLIC ART IS AS EPIC AS IT IS ICONIC. CAN YOU FIND DA VINCI’S HORSE, BOZEMAN SCOUT, BREAKING TRAIL, FLOWER DANCING IN THE WIND, STANDING PROUD, AND THE BOSS?

90% of the time, Local Nuggets & Tall Tales are correct all of the time.

**TALL TALES**

In 1923, Ernest Hemingway visited Big Horn, the Folly Ranch, and Spear-O-Wigwam on a trout-fishing expedition he called “squalation.” It was at the famed Spear-O where he finished writing his classic novel “A Farewell to Arms.”

Hemingway claimed his favorite two places were Wyoming and Africa. “This is a cockeyed wonderful country, looks like Spain, swell people,” he wrote to a friend.
10 THINGS YOU DIDN’T KNOW ABOUT THE SHERIDAN WYO RODEO

1. The Sheridan WYO Rodeo was not held in 1942 or 1943 due to WWII
2. The WYO was once known as the ‘Bots Sots Stampede’
3. The first Crow Indian Rodeo Queen was elected by popular applause
4. 26,508 tickets were sold for the 2016 WYO Rodeo performances
5. A pilot once crashed his plane into a building to entertain the WYO crowd
6. The Sheridan WYO Rodeo is a week-long celebration of local culture
7. The WYO is part of the Pro Rodeo Tour of the PRCA Circuit
8. The Kiwanis pancake breakfast began in 1975
9. The WYO was almost known as the Old West Rodeo and Frontier Jamboree
10. Burger King Inc. is an original WYO Rodeo shareholder

Folks come to Sheridan to get cozy with cowboys, and there’s no better way to experience the icons and outlaws and frontier legends of Wyoming than during WYO Rodeo Week, Sheridan’s premiere cultural attraction. Visit sheridanwyorodeo.com for information on all the festivities.

Rodeo Week features the First Peoples’ Pow Wow, Rodeo Parade, Boot Kick Off, Pancake Breakfast, street dances, Rodeo Carnival, World Championship Indian Relay Races, and four nights of epic PRCA Rodeo performances. WYO Rodeo Week takes place every July; 2020 marks the 90th edition of the WYO, with attendance expected to top 30,000 rodeo fans through the gates of the Sheridan County Fairgrounds.

Annual western events include the Sheridan County Rodeo, Elks Youth Rodeo, Bots Sots Remount, the Leather Crafter’s Trade Show, Eaton’s Horse Drive, and the Brinton Leather Show. The Bots Sots Remount, staged at Trail End State Historic Site, celebrates the pomp and pageantry of equestrian history with activities, attractions, and the eponymous sale itself. Don King Days at the Big Horn Equestrian Center is a raucous celebration of western life, and includes cowboy polo, smithing, bronc riding, and more. The event, hosted annually over Labor Day Weekend, brings in cowboys and horsemen from across the Rocky Mountain region. The Blacksmithing World Championship is a chance to really test your mettle out west.

One of Sheridan County’s best kept secrets is the community’s deep connection to polo. Sheridan County is home to two major polo venues at the Flying H Polo Club and the Big Horn Equestrian Center; both located in the historic community of Big Horn. Polo matches run from June through September, and are open to the public.

Annually, 21,900 tickets are sold for the four nights of Carnival action at the fairgrounds. Merchandise available at sheridanwyorodeo.com

2020 SHERIDAN WYO RODEO
JULY 6 - 12, 2020

Tickets on sale February, 2020
Boot Kick-Off Party at Kendrick Park, July 6
First Peoples’ Pow Wow, hosted by the Sheridan Inn
Four Nights of Carnival Action at the Fairgrounds
Merchandise available at sheridanwyorodeo.com
**ONE DAY AS A COWBOY**

*OK, first thing - you need more than one day to experience the cowboy way. Plan to spend at least three days immersed in the legend and lore of local icons and outlaws. You'll be glad you did. They say timing is everything, and for the most authentic western experience in America, visit Sheridan during WYO Rodeo Week. If you can’t be here during the WYO, consider an immersive experience like the Bots Sots Remount Horse Sale, Don King Days, or the Sheridan WYO Winter Rodeo (for fans of skijoring, hot cider, and frosty mountain peaks).

**DAY 1**

You’ve booked a stay at one of Sheridan County’s legendary ranches or mountain lodges, and you wake up to the sound of elk buggling or roosters crowing. Your day as a cowboy is just beginning. Spend an hour tossing a fly line into a stream, cover a bit of ground on horseback, or photograph moose, elk, deer, or dozens of beautiful migratory birds as you take in the majesty of the mountains.

If you’re staying somewhere closer to town, it’s time for breakfast; head to Main Street Corner Cafe for chicken fried steak and gravy. Yes, you read that correctly.

Travel south to friendly Johnson County, and the Hole-in-the-Wall Outlaw Hideout (2.5 hour drive). The Hole-in-the-Wall is a colorful and scenic red sandstone escarpment that is rich in legends of outlaw activity from the late 1800s, most notably Butch Cassidy and the Wild Bunch Gang. The ‘hole’ is a gap in the Red Wall that, legend has it, was used secretly by outlaws to move horses and cattle from the area. Even Jesse James is reported to have spent time here. Contact Sheridan Travel & Tourism for directions and trail conditions.

Stop in the hamlet of Story on your way back; the Wagon Box Inn maintains beautiful cabins and a spectacular outdoor restaurant that specializes in prime rib and steak. Hungry yet?

**DAY 2**

Plan on getting your boots dirty today. You’re going to cowboy up for breakfast at Midtown Cafe on Main Street before heading out for another day of action.

If it’s late May, you’re in luck; the Eaton’s Horse Drive is an annual tradition that captures the imagination of the community. Cowboys from Eaton’s Ranch drive their herd in from winter grazing areas straight through town - down 5th Street in front of the Sheridan Inn, across Main, and out toward the ranch.

**ICONS & OUTLAWS STILL ROAM THIS WILD COUNTRY**

If you’re a guest at one of the ranches, it’s time to saddle up for the pack trip of a lifetime. There’s nothing like riding into the Bighorns with the sun at your back and the mountains towering above you.

If you’re not a guest at a ranch, you can book a pack trip with Range Land Enterprises or Nelson Outfitters. Expeditions range from two to five days. Contact Sheridan Travel & Tourism for details.

Belly up to the bar at The Mint, the famed former speakeasy on Main. Tip one back and take the trophy tour, explore history through photographs, and check out the thousands of brands on the wall panels.

**DAY 3**

Today we’re going to test your mettle. Take your breakfast with a side of pie at the cozy Cowboy Cafe, the beloved local dining spot. If you’re here in the winter, we hope you’ll stay for the WYO Winter Rodeo (annual, February). Skijoring, a sport where a horse and rider tow a skier along a snowy course marked by jumps and other obstacles, is the tentpole event. Are you cowboy enough to strap on the skis? The skijoring course on Broadway runs between Black Tooth Brewing Co. and Luminous Brewhouse.

If you’re visiting another time of year, head to King’s Saddlery to witness the masters of rope making and leather crafting at work, and try tossing a rope yourself in the Don King Museum. Or book an archery class at Rocky Mountain Discount Sports, and let your inner Robin Hood loose.

You could spend your afternoon enjoying polo in Big Horn, or at a picnic at Kendrick Park; the horse shoe competitions at Kendrick can get fierce.

Keep your eye on the community calendar for live country music performances at the WYO Theater, Trails End Concert Park, and Luminous Brewhouse. Sheridan knows how to rock.
Bruce Burns’ Fireworks Extravaganza has been lighting up starry, sparkling skies over the Bighorns for more than 20 years. This July 4th spectacle is the largest of its kind in northeast Wyoming.

**Local Nuggets [04]**

The Dead Swede Campground is named for a Swede who was unceremoniously murdered (and buried) on site.

The Dead Swede Hundo is a 100-mile gravel bike race that challenges competitors with a grueling Bighorn Mountain course that covers some of the most spectacular terrain in Wyoming.

Koltiska Butt Dart Pros are specialized athletes that train year-round, often rounding their rears and strengthening their cheeks in anticipation of this annual competition. Winners clinch the Butt Darts World Champion Belt Buckle. Curious? Visit koltiska.com

**Tall Tales**

Legend holds that the Bighorn Mountain Wild and Scenic Trail Run’s 100-mile endurance race got its start when a runner was chased by an ornery moose across treacherous terrain. Today, runners (in a variety of distances) run through fields of wildflowers, over streams, through Tongue River Canyon, and down into Dayton - all in search of glory.

90% of the time, Local Nuggets & Tall Tales are correct all of the time.
The culture of craft is as quintessentially Wyoming as long days on the ranch, bucking broncs, and snow-capped peaks. Sheridan is home to a vast spectrum of craftsfolk, including world-renowned leather crafters, brewers, metalsmiths, carpenters, chefs, sculptors, painters and writers – maverick artisans that are often celebrated for their steadfast belief in the relevance of craft in a world where design and aesthetic are increasingly influenced by technology, media, and instant distribution.

When most folk think craft, they think of beer, wine, and spirits - and so it follows that Sheridan is home to three breweries, a distillery, a winery, and a namesake brew that was recently reintroduced to the world (thank you, Sheridan Beer Co.). But Sheridan County is more than an ale tale - we’re home to culinary hotspots like Cottonwood Kitchen + Home and Verdello; both host engaging cooking classes and regular tastings.

Fashion designer Jesse Smith’s Western Grace has in less than a year become the most revered outpost for bespoke women and men’s clothing in all of Wyoming. Weatherby crafts the finest hunting rifles in the world right in our own backyard. Tucker Goss and Trevor Clark have kickstarted their fabrication and metalwork business in the old Sheridan Iron Works facility, and honor traditional methods and techniques of age-old blacksmiths (in their craft-forward methods).

The local food truck scene is booming, with outfits like Bonafide, WYO Thai, Wicked Smoke, Hetty’s Pizza, the Burger Wagon, Big Horn Catering, and El Rodeo conjuring culinary wizardry daily.

See what we’re saying? Sheridan County is one seriously crafty place. There’s a good chance that when you walk around downtown, the hat on that guy’s head, the beautiful dress that lady is wearing, and the beer those friendly folk are drinking were all hand-crafted right here in Sheridan, Wyoming, USA.
WHERE CRAFT IS KING

THE TOOTH WILL PREVAIL

Black Tooth Brewing has garnered critical acclaim since it opened in 2010. Banners from national competitions hang throughout the tap room, and you would be hard pressed to find a bar or restaurant within a hundred miles that isn’t serving at least one BTB brew. Black Tooth has become one of the largest breweries in Wyoming, growth spurred by a fundamental dedication to producing top-quality beer with the finest possible ingredients.

THE KINGS OF THE WEST

For a full appreciation for the American Cowboy and his craft, visit King's Saddlery. Master leathercrafters are frequently sighted in the workshop; watch them put the finishing touches on a one-of-a-kind saddle, or a handcrafted piece of custom cowboy kit.

Tom Balding's Bits and Spurs are considered staple pieces of Sheridan's western experience - he's known for design innovation, precision and flawless finish work. A visit to his showroom is an opportunity to glimpse beautiful pendants, buckles, and other pieces of art.

Big Horn Design’s flagship Surf Wyoming brand is known across the nation for its bold, singular Wyoming aesthetic.

Since 1909, Sheridan Tent & Awning has been designing and manufacturing canvas tents, wall tents, outfitter tents, hunting tents and cowboy range tents. For hunting enthusiasts, glamping or family camping, it's hard to beat a sturdy canvas tent made in the USA.

THE SPIRIT OF THE WEST

The original Kolts Fine Spirits, established in 2001, released the handcrafted Koltiska Original Liqueur, followed by KO 90, each an embodiment of the spirit of the American West. In early 2016 Kolts Fine Spirits became the Koltiska Distillery, and the company opened a production facility and tasting room that offers old favorites, new products, and craft cocktails inspired by more than 100 years of local family lore.

USA GROWN, WYO CELLARED

307 Wines celebrate the life and times of legendary horse trainer Buck Brannaman, “Longmire” author Craig Johnson, bronc rider and recording artist Chris LeDoux, as well as the icons of Wyoming itself, including the Grand Tetons, Devils Tower, and the Flaming Gorge. 307 operates The Vault, a tasting room located in a historic bank building on Main Street.

TRUE BREW ENLIGHTENMENT

One of the finest brewery secrets in the American West, Luminous Brewhouse is a purveyor of malty gold that has carved out a niche as a bespoke brewer of unique beers. The Luminous taproom is always rocking with live music and is frequently charged by special event energy, and features a dazzling array of brews, sure to please suds-o-philes and craft newbs alike.

FOR THE PUBLIC

Smith Alley Brewing’s public house opened to great fanfare in January 2019. Family-friendly and focused on handcrafted ales and clever pub grub, Smith Alley’s historic bones and beautiful outdoor seating spaces are poised to please crowds all year long.

A SPIN ON THE CLASSICS

Chef Travis Sorenson has created a restaurant that fuses West Coast sensibilities with Wyoming culinary traditions. birch is a dynamic contemporary American eatery with a focus on local, seasonal ingredients. For instance, you couldn’t possibly know that you can’t live without a Reuben spring roll until you try one, and the road to gastro bliss is paved with braised short ribs (milk-braised, bone in bison ribs, that is). Clever cocktails and scratch-made desserts round out the experience.

CRAFT CULTURE IS AT THE CORE OF SHERIDAN’S IDENTITY

know that you can’t live without a Reuben spring roll until you try one, and the road to gastro bliss is paved with braised short ribs (milk-braised, bone in bison ribs, that is). Clever cocktails and scratch-made desserts round out the experience.

WESTERN HOSPITALITY

The Mint Bar opened in 1907; even Prohibition, enacted in 1919, couldn’t stem the flow of liquid courage, as a speakeasy was kept running out back until the end of the Congressional dry spell in 1933. The bar was remodeled shortly after its official reopening and has remained relatively unchanged since the 1940s.

THE ARTIST IN ALL OF US

Local artists who have found a national audience include Sonja Caywood, Joel Ostlind, and David McDougall; David’s bison portraits are available at the Painted Skull Studio.
At the turn of the 20th century, a local dentist named Dr. William Frackelton was known to moonlight as a bare-knuckle boxer. If you were on the receiving end of one of his powerful blows, chances were pretty good that the good doctor would be the one putting your chompers back in place the next day. Frackleton’s Fine Food & Spirits is named in his honor.

The Mint Bar’s 73 wall mounts include moose, wolves, elk, deer, and a few curious creatures you may not recognize. Ready to learn more? Belly up to the iconic bar and ask to take the Mint tour.

The craft of fly fishing - as well as rod building and fly tying - are bug business in Sheridan (bug business - get it?). The Fly Shop of the Bighorns is the leading outfitter in the region; Quill Gordon sells hand-tied flies; Joey’s Fly Fishing Foundation introduces children to fly fishing to foster an appreciation for the outdoors; while Jake’s Lures produces the “Number 1 lure used in Yellowstone National Park.”

*90% of the time, Local Nuggets & Tall Tales are correct all of the time.*
Sheridan, WY

Historic Downtown Sheridan is the beating heart of Sheridan County - the cultural core, center of commerce, icon of identity, and Wyoming’s Emerald City. Sheridan’s old west bones have fused perfectly with new west sensibilities to present visitors a truly authentic American experience. Browse shops and galleries, unwind at cafes and brewpubs, dine at an innovative gastro pub or grab a quick bite at a food truck, book a cooking class or become a leather crafting master - opportunities for engagement are near limitless. And when you simply can’t pack another activity into your day, spend the night at one of our beautiful historic hotels.

Downtown hosts major events that draw thousands of locals and visitors, including the 3rd Thursday Street Festivals (June through September), the weekly Farmer’s Market on Grinnell, WYO Rodeo Week festivities, the WYO Winter Rodeo skijoring races on Broadway, the Karz Hot Rod Run, Celebrate the Arts, the Absaroka Car Show, the Christmas Stroll, and much more.

While “Celebrate the Arts” is an annual spring event, you can experience public art on every corner thanks to the Sheridan Public Arts Committee; there are more than 60 sculptures downtown, including “Bird Woman,” by RV Greeves, and “Bigger Flies for Tired Eyes,” by Jerold Smiley.

Green space is never far afield when you’re downtown - Whitney Commons is an interactive park located in the center of Sheridan at 320 West Alger. Whitney Commons hosts numerous community events, including the Suds N Spurs Brewfest (August), and the October Link, Partners in Pink Run/Walk.

Kendrick Park is also nearby, and hosts the WYO Rodeo Boot Kick Off, as well as Concerts in the Park on Tuesdays in July and August. Kendrick features the Kendrick Pool, bison and elk paddock, Scoops Ice Cream Stand, playgrounds, and much more.

For more information on downtown activities, events and attractions, please visit sheridanwyoming.org
Joan Rivers was a fan of polo and was frequently spotted at the Big Horn Equestrian Center during polo season. Joan passed away in 2014, but one of her final wishes was to have some of her ashes spread along her beloved Bighorn Mountains. Her daughter, Melissa Rivers, so honored her mother on the family’s 2015 Wyoming vacation.

BIRTH OF THE DUDE RANCH
In 1897, the Eaton brothers - Howard, Willis, and Alden - established a South Dakota ranch. Friends and family from afar came to visit, and the brothers declared that “folks can stay as long as they like.” Thus, the concept of the dude ranch was born. The Eaton crew drew up stakes and rode west in 1904; they settled on Wolf Creek, at the foot of the Bighorn Mountains, where Eaton’s Ranch continues to welcome guests in search of the real America.

TALL TALES
Joan Rivers was a fan of polo and was frequently spotted at the Big Horn Equestrian Center during polo season. Joan passed away in 2014, but one of her final wishes was to have some of her ashes spread along her beloved Bighorn Mountains. Her daughter, Melissa Rivers, so honored her mother on the family’s 2015 Wyoming vacation.

LOCAL NUGGETS
SELF-TAUGHT TOM BALDING CUT HIS TEETH IN CALIFORNIA WELDING CUSTOM HOT ROD ENGINE PARTS. ONCE IN SHERIDAN, TOM FOCUSED ON HORSEPOWER OF A DIFFERENT KIND — HE’S NOW FAMOUS FOR HIS CUSTOM BITS & SPURS.

TALL TALES
YOU’LL BE HARD PRESS TO FIND A RANCH DOG THAT ISN’T MIXED WITH BLUE HEALER, BORDER COLLIE, AND/OR AUSTRALIAN SHEPHERD.

#WORKINGLIKEADOG
90% of the time, Local Nuggets & Tall Tales are correct all of the time.
The Town of Dayton frames U.S. Highway 14 as it enters the foothills of the Bighorn Mountains in northwestern Sheridan County, approximately 17 miles from the City of Sheridan. Dayton has been a progressive community since its early days, electing Wyoming’s first female mayor, Susan Wissler, in 1911. World War II saw the community protected by an all-woman volunteer fire department. The Dayton Bell Tower, used to spot planes and sound fire alarms during the war, is now a town landmark located in Scott Bicentennial Park. The park hosts a variety of events throughout the year, including the Bighorn Mountain Wild and Scenic Trail Run, one of the premiere races in the Rocky Mountain region.

The Padlock Ranch, located just outside of town, is one of the largest working ranches in the country. The German-born artist Hans Kleiber made Dayton his home in the early 1900s. His studio, filled with etchings, his furniture and art supplies is open and free to the public. Enjoy coffee and pie at the Branding Iron Cafe or a milkshake and sandwich at the Dayton Mercantile. Don’t miss the Gallery on Main, the perfect spot to pick up local art and enjoy wine tastings from Jackson Hole Winery. Stretch your legs or join a game of volleyball or horseshoes at the Scott Bicentennial Park. Dayton is the gateway to Tongue River Canyon, a recreation area known for its scenic beauty and endless cave system.

Built on rails and ties and incorporated in 1911, the Town of Ranchester is nestled deep in the heart of ranch country. Located between the City of Sheridan and the Bighorn Mountains, Ranchester sits just 9 miles south of the Montana state line. Ranchester got its name from rancher S.H. Hardin - town names in Hardin’s native England often ended in “chester,” so Hardin dubbed the town “Ranchester.” In addition to its namesake ranches, the town was the site of the loading dock for railroad ties hewn from harvested mountain timber and floated down the tie flume. Connor Battlefield State Park is located within the town limits and offers great fishing opportunities, a playground area, and sites for overnight camping. Historic U.S. Highway 14 runs through the center of town, heading over the Bighorns via the Bighorn Scenic Byway, ending at the east gate to Yellowstone National Park. The Town of Ranchester has long served as a popular point of embarkation for hunters and snowmobile enthusiasts. Accommodations include the Western Motel, and the Lazy R Campground and Cabins. Fine Wyoming fare and libations can be found at the Buckshot Saloon, the Silver Spur Bar & Lounge, and the new Innominate Coffeehouse & Bakery. Additional attractions include the T-Rex Natural History Museum, Big Bear Taxidermy, and Rahimi’s Taxidermy. The annual 4th of July celebration includes the Wyoming Wife Carrying Championship, live music, and fireworks show.
In 1890, the Pratt & Ferris Cattle Company controlled the valley where Clearmont is located; farming and agriculture have been important to the region ever since.

Before Clearmont became a town in 1892, there was the town of Huson, complete with a cemetery, post office and local press. Huson ceased to exist in November 1892, just six months after its post office was established because the owners of the Burlington and Missouri Railroad Co. didn’t like a bend in the track, and chose instead Clearmont as the location for its new station. A fire in the 1920s destroyed a row of buildings that included the Rock Hotel and Saloon, a meat market, and a popular confectionary store.

Today, Clearmont offers an interesting alternate route for travelers heading for Gillette or Devils Tower National Monument; take historic Highway 14 through Clearmont for a glimpse at stunning countryside, majestic mountain views, and quintessential small town living. The area features unique attractions and curious history. The Clearmont Town Jail, built in 1922, is listed on the National Registry of Historic Places; the Ucross Foundation features an art gallery, and hosts exhibitions and a unique artists-in-residence program that draws participants from all over the world; The Ranch at Ucross is one of Wyoming’s most spectacular vacation destinations.

In 1881 the area caught the eye of well-to-do cattle and sheep ranchers who established operations along the base of the Bighorn Mountains. These included the sheep-breeding Moncreiffe brothers, Oliver Wallop, Goelot Gallatin, and Bradford Brinton. These residents of higher means were a minority among other residents who were owners or tenants on small ranches and farms. Ernest Hemingway was no stranger to Big Horn; he stayed at Folly Ranch and Spear-O-Wigwam during the summer of 1928. During his time here, Hemingway fished, hunted, and finished his masterpiece, A Farewell to Arms.

In the summer the community attracts polo players from around the world who enjoy the laid-back atmosphere of Big Horn Polo and the Flying H Polo Club. Every May, the Big Horn Equestrian Center is host to the Snickers Big Horn Cup, a soccer tournament for traveling teams. The Big Horn Equestrian Center also hosts a spectacular 4th of July Fireworks Celebration, the Big Horn Balloon Rally and Don King Days. A great day in Big Horn would include a visit to the Bozeman Trail Museum, the Brinton Museum, lunch at the Big Horn Mercantile and a nightcap at the Last Chance Saloon.

Big Horn provides access to Red Grade Road, a steep dirt track that opens access to the Bighorn Mountains and the Cloud Peak Wilderness.
Nestled among the pines between North and South Piney Creeks, this bedroom community has long been a popular retreat for locals and visitors alike. Story is characterized by abundant wildlife, incredible Bighorn views, and an air of the Wyoming uncharted.

Story was first platted by a horse trader named Marshall Wolf, who planned to give the town his own name; when he discovered that Wolf was already taken, he named the town after Charles B. Story, a rancher who was instrumental in getting a post office established – the first building in what had until then been a town made up of only tent structures.

Story is home to the Wagon Box Fight monument, and is in close proximity to Ft. Phil Kearny and the site of the Battle of the Hundred in the Hands, important Indian War battlefields.

The outdoors play a major role in life in Story. Piney Creek is quickly gaining a reputation as one of Wyoming’s finest rock climbing destinations, while fishing and hunting have been popular here for generations.

Overnight accommodations include the Story Pines Inn, Wagon Box Inn, and the Waldorf A’Story Guest Haus. Additional attractions and amenities include Centennial Park, Thorne-Rider Youth Camp, Camp Story, and Our Lady of the Pines Parish. Wyoming Game & Fish maintains the Story Fish Hatchery, open daily.

Sheridan County’s ranches and lodges are legendary. From the authentically rustic trappings of Eaton’s, the nation’s oldest dude ranch, to the outdoor playground at Bear Lodge, these facilities provide an intimate glimpse at the Wyoming way of life, and the spirit of the Bighorn Mountains.

Canyon Ranch is deeply connected to the British royal crown, and has been a destination for wayfaring nobility for nearly a century, while Arrowhead Lodge caters to hunters, snowmobile enthusiasts, and travelers keen to experience relaxed Bighorn vibes. Elk View Inn sits high atop the Bighorns on the Bighorn Scenic Byway, while out in the eastern foothills, the Ranch at Ucross is known for western hospitality, stunning accommodations, and historic hidden gems.

Some ranches, like Double Rafter, based in Parkman, specialize in cattle drives, while all offer a mix of outdoor adventure, including horseback riding, fly fishing, hunting, hiking, Nordic skiing, and even yoga and photography. Each features an outstanding restaurant, while some, like Eaton’s Ranch, serve such notable regional fare that they’ve been featured in magazines, newspapers, and national editorials.

Sheridan County’s trio of mountain lodges, located on Highway 14, sit in close proximity to hiking trails, alpine lakes, the Medicine Wheel, Bucking Mule Falls National Recreation Area, Bighorn Canyon National Recreation Area, and the Cloud Peak Wilderness.
Winter and Wyoming equal epic adventure. Sheridan County is home to three mountain lodges, the legendary Eaton’s Ranch, and numerous hotels offering sensational winter programs.

With more than 218 miles of groomed winter trails, the Bighorn Mountains are an outdoor paradise for snowmobile enthusiasts, cross-country and backcountry skiers, ice climbers, snowshoers, fat bikers and folks on the hunt for that perfect Instagram moment. #VisitSheridan

Stoke your fire and embrace the season as the community celebrates the Sheridan WYO Winter Rodeo (February). Photograph elk and bison under coats of snow at Kendrick Park, or hop on a sled and take a ride down Linden Hill. Tongue River Canyon, just outside of Dayton, is a spectacular winter fly fishing destination (you’ll have the mountains to yourself), while cross-country skiing is a popular activity at well-groomed Cutler Hill Trails and Sibley Lake. The Bighorn Rush Sled Dog Races (December) appeal to the fast and the furry.

The truly wild at heart begin each new year with the Polar Bear Plunge at Lake DeSmet. Yes, it’s colder than it looks. The annual Christmas Stroll, presented by the Chamber of Commerce, is all about those holiday feels (November), while the Wild West Wine Fest, presented by the Downtown Sheridan Association, is your opportunity to sample fine wine, spirits and ale from Sheridan and beyond (March).

Winter recreation opportunities are unlimited in Sheridan County - and so are destinations to après ski. Elk View Inn, Arrowhead Lodge and Bear Lodge Resort offer guided snowmobile tours, cross-country skiing expeditions, ice fishing trips, and outdoor gear rentals. Eaton’s Ranch offers a unique winter program. Enjoy the peace and tranquility of winter at the base of Wolf Creek Canyon, explore the great outdoors, relax by the fire in historic cabins, and dine in true Western style in one of the most storied historic lodges in Wyoming.

The Antelope Butte Mountain Recreation Area re-opened to alpine skiers in 2018; in addition to excellent skiing and snowboarding, Antelope Butte hosts numerous events, races, and festivals throughout the year.
### 2020 Calendar

#### January
- **1>>** Polar Bear Plunge
- **13>>** National First Day Hike

#### February
- **9>>** Classic Westerns at the WYO
- **15-23>>** Sheridan WYO Winter Rodeo

#### March
- **6>>** Wild West Wine Fest
- **6-7>>** Home and Garden Show
- **8-9>>** Ballet Jörgen & Billings Symphony

#### April
- **1>>** Trail End Historic Site opens
- **1>>** Ft. Phil Kearny opens
- **2-4>>** King Lear at the WCA
- **9>>** Sheridan College Symphony
- **21>>** Banff Mountain Film Fest
- **23-27>>** Celebrate the Arts

#### May
- **1>>** County Museum opens
- **9-10>>** Snickers Big Horn Soccer Cup
- **9>>** Big Goose Gallop & Grind
- **9>>** The Brinton Leather Show
- **15-17>>** Rocky Mountain Leather Show
- **24>>** Eaton’s Horse Drive

#### June
- **6-7>>** Hoop Jam 3-on-3 Basketball
- **6-7>>** Bots Sots Remount Horse Sale
- **6>>** Dead Swede Hundo
- **3>>** Start of Polo Season
- **19-21>>** Bighorn Mountain Trail Run
- **18>>** 3rd Thursday Street Festival
- **18>>** SAGE Photography Show
- **19-21>>** Bighorn Crawlers Summer Safari
- **27>>** Bighorn Mountain Brewfest

#### July
- **4>>** Equestrian Center Fireworks
- **6>>** Karz Hot Rod Run
- **4>>** Untapped Homebrew Fest

#### July (Cont’d)
- **8-11>>** 89th Sheridan WYO Rodeo
- **10>>** First People’s Pow Wow
- **17-18>>** Brinton Summer Art Camp
- **16>>** 3rd Thursday Street Festival
- **18>>** Mega Monster Truck Tour
- **17-19>>** Antelope Butte Summer Fest
- **24-26>>** Dayton Days
- **25>>** Tournament of Knights
- **31-10>>** Sheridan County Fair

#### August
- **8>>** Absaroka Car Show
- **8-9>>** Bike MS Wyoming
- **14-15>>** Sheridan County Rodeo
- **20>>** 3rd Thursday Street Festival
- **22>>** Suds n’ Spurs Brewfest
- **22-23>>** Sheridan Elks Youth Rodeo

#### September
- **5>>** Blacksmithing Championships
- **6-7>>** Don King Days
- **12-13>>** Balloon the Bighorns
- **11-12>>** Born in a Barn
- **13>>** Wolf Creek Wrangle at Eaton’s Ranch
- **17>>** 3rd Thursday Street Festival

#### October
- **3>>** Oktoberfest
- **2-4>>** Sheridan WYO Film Festival
- **4-6>>** Bike-to-berfest
- **3>>** Full Moon Fort
- **17>>** WYO Theater Gala

#### November
- **7>>** Behind the Picket Fence
- **27>>** Christmas Stroll

#### December
- **5-7>>** Trail End Holiday Open House
- **12-13>>** Rocky Mtn. Discount Sports
- **26>>** Big Horn Christmas Bird Count
- **31>>** Bighorn Rush Sled Dog Challenge

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**Best Place to Live Like an Old West Cowboy**

**Top Ten True Western Towns**

**The West’s Best Main Streets, Runner Up**

**Best Wyoming Attraction, 3rd Place**

**25 Happiest Small Towns in America**

**Best Place to Raise an Outdoor Family, Runner Up**

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**For a complete list of events, please visit sheridanwyoming.org**
December 10, 2019 marked the 150th anniversary of women’s suffrage in the Equality State, a date celebrating the sesquicentennial of the landmark territorial legislative decision.

In 1869, Wyoming passed the first law in United States history granting women the right to vote and the right to hold public office, a historic milestone that came more than 50 years before the ratification of the 19th Amendment to the US Constitution.

The Wyoming Office of Tourism marked the anniversary with activities, events, retreats and must-visit historic destinations that commemorate the spirit of Wyoming as the first frontier for American women; these programs will continue throughout 2020, as the United States celebrates woman’s suffrage.

In 2020, Sheridan Travel & Tourism will continue to pay tribute to the icons, outlaws, storytellers and mavericks who make Sheridan their home (including the September 2019 feature on Jesse Smith, pictured). Each month we feature an artist, innovator, pioneer or personality with ties to Sheridan and roots in Wyoming. Our program includes a video series, essays, podcasts, stories and more. Join us in celebrating all the Women of Sheridan, Wyo.

Wyoming Office of Tourism
travelwyoming.com

Wyoming Road & Travel Information (WYDOT)
wyoroad.info
1.800.WYO.ROAD (1.800.996.7623)

Sheridan County Chamber of Commerce
sheridanwyomingchamber.org
307.672.2485

Fly Sheridan
Round-trip jet service between Denver and Sheridan via United Airlines.
flysheridan.com

Bighorn Airways
Chartered air service, based at the Sheridan County Airport.
bighorairways.com
307.672.3421

This guide has been designed to serve as an introduction to the activities, attractions, and accommodations available in Sheridan.

For more resources, features and information, please visit us online at sheridanwyoming.org

Design: Shawn Parker of Sheridan Travel & Tourism and Jenae Neeson of MYBONNIE Studios.

Photography: Shawn Parker, Megan Ahrens Parker and Jeff Shanor of Sheridan Travel & Tourism, Jenae Neeson of MYBONNIE Studios. Hunting photos courtesy Weatherby Inc.

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Sheridan TALES & TRAILS
A GUIDE TO THE ICONS & OUTLAWS OF SHERIDAN, WY