

Montana: Exploring Big Sky Country featuring Yellowstone & Glacier National Parks

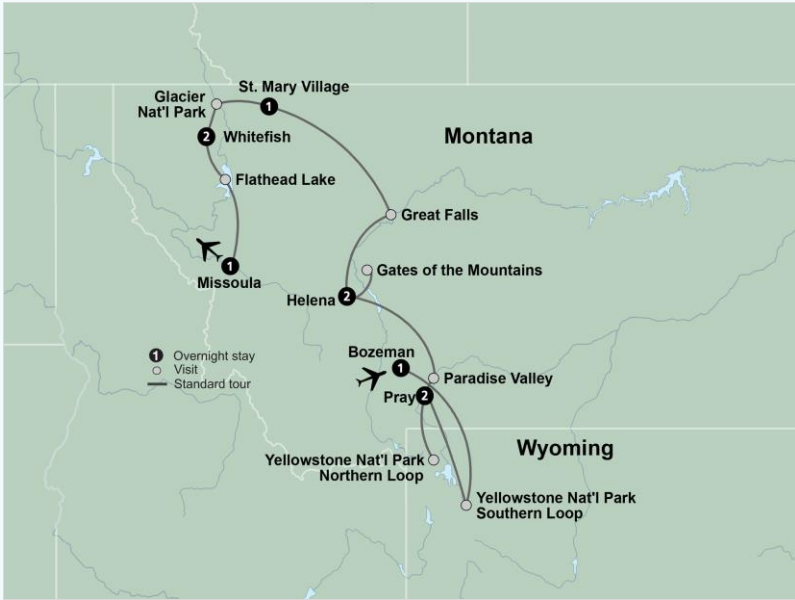
10 Days • 14 Meals: 9 Breakfasts, 1 Lunch, 4 Dinners • Avg Group Size 19

Step outside, take a deep breath in, and look towards the mountains – you're in the big sky country of Montana, now. A land of wilderness, adventure, and beauty, Montana is waiting for you.

Highlights: Yellowstone • Old Faithful • Mammoth Hot Springs • Yellowstone Grand Canyon • Gates of the Mountains • Glacier National Park • Going-to-the-Sun Road

 TRAVEL STYLE	Explorations - Small groups, local connections, unexpected angles. You'll step into communities, not just visit them — and come home with more than just photos.
 ACTIVITY LEVEL	Level 3: Active  See page 5 for more information
 EXTEND YOUR TOUR	Pre Tour: arrive early with an extra night in Bozeman, MT Post Tour: stay an extra night in Missoula, MT

Itinerary: Montana: Exploring Big Sky Country



AT A GLANCE

On some dates similar accommodations will be used

Day 1	AC Hotel Downtown	Bozeman, MT
Days 2, 3	Chico Hot Springs Resort	Pray, MT
Days 4, 5	Best Western Premier Helena Great Northern Hotel	Helena, MT
Day 6	Great Bear Lodge at St. Mary Village	St. Mary, MT
Days 7, 8	Grouse Mountain Lodge	Whitefish, MT
Day 9	Holiday Inn Missoula Downtown	Missoula, MT

CULTURAL CONNECTIONS	MUST-SEE HIGHLIGHTS	CULINARY INCLUSIONS
Explore both the Northern and Southern Loops of Yellowstone National Park. Learn about Native American culture on the Flathead Reservation.	Explore the wild beauty of Glacier National Park. Cruise along Lewis and Clark's famous trail through the Gates of the Mountains. Spend time in the picturesque town of Whitefish.	Dig into a mouth-watering barbeque dinner. Sample traditional food of the Kootenai people. Take a horsedrawn wagon to a cowboy cookout.

Day 1: Bozeman, Montana

Step outside, take a deep breath in, and look around you – you're in big sky country. Montana is wilderness, adventure, and beauty, and you're about to see what makes it unique. Today, arrive in Bozeman, the jumping off point to explore the northern and southern loops of Yellowstone, America's first national park. As traveler's arrival times vary, there is no included sightseeing today. Tonight enjoy Bozeman's western charm and dinner on your own.

 **Accommodation:** AC Hotel Downtown or similar

Day 2: Bozeman - Yellowstone Southern Loop - Pray

This morning, pass through Yellowstone's northern gate and venture into the Lower Loop, the road that encircles the entire lower half of the National Park. Your first stop will be at the Grand Prismatic Spring, where

steaming azure-blue waters clash brilliantly with the bright orange of the clay earth surrounding it. You'll quickly learn why this is one of the most photographed spots in the entire park – its unearthly beauty is something to behold. The best spot to take it all in is at the overlook, and you'll have enough time to take the 20-minute hike up if you choose. Afterwards, head to Old Faithful, the legendary geyser that you can "set your watch to." Enjoy lunch on your own, walk the boardwalk trails surrounding Old Faithful, and check the time on the next eruption. No drive through Yellowstone is that quiet, though – you'll want to gaze out your window at the mountains, plains, cliffs, and forests. Bison, elk, bears, eagles, wolves, and antelope call this incredible slice of wilderness their home, and you might spot them at any time. *Today breakfast and dinner will be included.*

 **Accommodation:** *Chico Hot Springs Resort or similar*

Day 3: Pray - Yellowstone Northern Loop - Pray

Today, explore Yellowstone's northern loop. Your first stop will be Mammoth Hot Springs. Here, bubbling pots of geothermal water trickle down the step-like terraces, creating incredible shapes and colors. Explore the boardwalks that wind through the steaming landscape. Next, head to the Grand Canyon of Yellowstone lookout, where you'll find yourself standing over the massive, 20-mile-long canyon. Its craggy walls are streaked with brilliant whites, pinks, and oranges from the volcanic minerals contained in the rocks. The Yellowstone River roars along at the bottom over three different waterfalls. Later today, return to your hotel for an evening at leisure. *Today breakfast will be included.*

 **Accommodation:** *Chico Hot Springs Resort or similar*

Day 4: Pray - Paradise Valley - Helena

This morning, head through the sweeping vistas of Montana's Paradise Valley. In the distance, you'll see the Absaroka Beartooth Mountains to the east, and the Gallatin Range of the Rocky Mountains to your west. You'll arrive in the capital of Montana, Helena, a city with rich gold rush history and beautiful Victorian era architecture. These days, the "Queen City of the Rockies" is less known for gold and more known for its great local restaurants and microbreweries, as well as a stunning trail system in the surrounding landscape. Tonight we head into the backcountry in horsedrawn wagons for a cowboy cookout and some local entertainment. *Today breakfast and dinner will be included.*

 **Accommodation:** *Best Western Premier Helena Great Northern Hotel or similar*

Day 5: Helena - Gates of the Mountains - Helena

Start your day with a local guide showing you around the beautiful and welcoming mountain city of Helena on a narrated, train trolley tour. See the opulent mansion district, marvel at the Cathedral of St. Helena, and roll by governor's homes. Pass by a restored miners' village, enjoy the unique architecture along Last Chance Gulch, and catch a glimpse of the Old Fire Tower. After exploring the city a bit, you'll have time on your own to enjoy the charm of downtown Helena before heading to the Gates of the Mountains. Here, on the shores of the Missouri River, you'll follow in the footsteps of the most renowned explorers in American history – Lewis and Clark. Climb aboard a boat and cruise these storied waters, follow the path Lewis and Clark took on their legendary journey across this vast

wilderness, and take in the natural beauty. Meriwether Lewis himself named this stunning canyon the Gates of the Mountains, and you'll discover just how it must have felt to come across this awe-inspiring sight. Tonight, return to Helena for an evening at leisure. *Today breakfast will be included.*

 **Accommodation:** *Best Western Premier Helena Great Northern Hotel or similar*

Day 6: Helena - Great Falls - St. Mary

Today, venture to Great Falls, where the mighty Missouri River thunders down from the Rocky Mountains, over five waterfalls to the great plains below. This was a massive obstacle for Lewis and Clark's expedition in 1805. They had to carry their boats over land for a month to make it from the lower falls to the upper falls. You will not have to work that hard, because **it's your choice!** Visit the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail Interpretive Center where you can learn about the trials of the legendary expedition **-OR-** explore the exhibits at the C.M. Russell Art Museum during a self-guided tour, where you'll see the art of Charles Russell, a cowboy-turned-artist from the turn of the century, as well as his original home and log studio. Afterwards, continue to St. Mary, the eastern entryway to Glacier National Park. *Today breakfast will be included.*

 **Accommodation:** *Great Bear Lodge at St. Mary Village or similar*

Day 7: Glacier National Park - Going-to-the-Sun Road - Whitefish

Head into Glacier National Park to board one of the 1930's vintage red buses and venture down one of the most breathtaking roads in North America, Going-to-the-Sun Road.* Sit back and admire the views of the valley as your "jammer," one of the experienced guides, drives you through this natural landscape. Relax and take in all the majestic sights, before heading to the town of Whitefish where forests, lakes, rivers, and mountains unfold in every direction. *Today breakfast and lunch will be included.*

 **Accommodation:** *Grouse Mountain Lodge or similar*

Day 8: Whitefish

This morning, enjoy some leisure time in the quaint, picturesque town of Whitefish. Always listed as one of America's 25 prettiest towns, indulge yourself with time to stroll around, do some shopping, or just relax. Perhaps you'll stop for lunch at one of the great restaurants found along Central Avenue or buy some Huckleberry jam from a local shop. A true favorite in Montana, huckleberries can be found in snacks, drinks, candy, and more. Your morning leads into an adventurous afternoon, because **it's your choice!** Grab

a paddle and get ready for a white-water rafting adventure **-OR-** take the calmer, scenic route on a float down the Flathead River. No matter which style river journey you choose, the awe-inspiring views of Glacier National Park await. Tonight, tell tales about your river escapades while sitting down for a mouth-watering barbeque dinner. *Today breakfast and dinner will be included.*

 **Accommodation:** Grouse Mountain Lodge or similar

Day 9: Whitefish - Flathead Lake - Missoula

Depart Whitefish and drive south, journeying along the western edge of beautiful Flathead Lake. Carved by the ancient glaciers that give Glacier National Park its name, Flathead Lake stretches almost 200 square miles. Quaint, small towns dot the shores here, built with the beautiful backdrop of nature behind them. You might even spot some orchards, growing Flathead cherries. Encompassing most of the lake is the Flathead Reservation, home to the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Nation. At one point, these tribes had territories that stretched out of Montana and into Idaho, British Columbia, and Wyoming. The Hellgate Treaty of 1855 set aside

Flathead Lake for the tribes, reducing their lands to a fraction of what it once was. Tribal land was once again shrunk in 1904 by over half a million acres. Despite all of this, the Tribal way of life continues on to this day, passed down from elders to children through a rich oral and spiritual tradition. Get a glimpse into these traditions when you meet a descendant of the last Kootenai chief, and learn about the importance of the land in native life. Then, experience an **Impact Moment** at the Smokejumper Visitor Center to learn about the heroes who fight fires in North America. This evening, enjoy a memorable farewell dinner with your fellow travelers, where you can raise a glass and toast to a wildly fun Montana adventure. *Today breakfast and dinner will be included.*

 **Accommodation:** Holiday Inn Missoula Downtown or similar

Day 10: Missoula - Tour Ends

Say goodbye to Big Sky Country and its beautiful sights as you head home. *Today breakfast will be included.*

See page 5 for essential tour information

Pre-Tour Extensions

- **Pre-Night Stay in Bozeman, MT:** Arrive early and enjoy an extra night in Bozeman, MT. This is an independent hotel stay before your guided tour begins.

Post-Tour Extensions

- **Post-Night Stay in Missoula, MT:** Extend your stay with an extra night in Missoula, MT. This is an independent hotel stay after your guided tour ends.

Essential Tour Information

What to Expect: Montana: Exploring Big Sky Country

GROUP SIZE & AGE POLICY

Group Size: **Travel with an average of 19 people (maximum of 24).**

PHYSICAL EFFORT & ACCESSIBILITY

Activity Level: The overall activity level of this tour is a level 3. This means you're an on-the-go traveler. You don't want to miss a thing, so walking and standing for longer periods of time (2-3 hours) isn't a big deal. A moderately paced two-and-a-half-hour walking tour, covering several miles, hills, and uneven surfaces, is no problem for you. Walking four miles over the course of a day is very doable, as is climbing into and out of various modes of transportation (tuk-tuk, cable car, zodiac, etc.). You can climb three flights of stairs easily and handle altitudes between 6,000 and 9,000 feet. Expect some longer days with early mornings or late nights balanced with free time to recharge or set out on your own adventure. This level is not a fit for travelers who require mobility assistance devices.

Medical Equipment/ Devices: If you require any special assistance while on tour, please make us aware at the time of reservation so the necessary request form can be sent to your attention.

Tour Pacing: In order to fully experience all that we have included on this tour, there will be 3 long travel days with 4 hours or more of driving, including stops.

ACCOMMODATIONS

Accommodation Restrictions: Single accommodations are limited and are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Single rate subject to change based on availability.

Travel Requirements: Montana: Exploring Big Sky Country

TRAVEL DOCUMENTS & ENTRY RULES

Passport/ Identification Requirements: IDENTIFICATION Travel within USA A Real ID compliant form of identification must be presented both at the time of booking air travel with Collette and upon checking in at the airport to board any flight. State-issued driver's licenses and IDs that are not REAL ID compliant are no longer accepted as valid forms of identification at airports. Any fees associated with changing a reservation resulting from a non-compliant identification will be the responsibility of the traveler. For more information on Real ID, please visit the Department of Homeland Security website: <https://www.dhs.gov/real-id>

Destination Entry/ Exit Requirements: Collette will provide all necessary information, updates, and supporting documents for your travel requirements, including visa and Electronic Travel Authorizations (ETAs), if required, approximately 60-90 days prior to your departure.

Terms and Conditions

IMPORTANT RESERVATION INFORMATION

***Airfare:** For your convenience, we offer airfare for purchase with all tour packages. If you purchase an air inclusive program, your airfare will be quoted inclusive of all fuel, taxes and fees. Your price is guaranteed once deposit is received by Collette. Your price is not subject to increase after the deposit is received, except for charges resulting from increases in government-

imposed taxes or fees. Preassigned seats are limited and may not be available on every flight or departure date. **Checked Baggage Charges:** Some airlines may impose additional charges if you choose to check any baggage. Please contact your airline or refer to its website for detailed information regarding your airline's checked baggage policies.

Cancellation Charges for this tour: After your seat reduction date has passed, a non-refundable deposit will be retained. For Cancellation between 90-16 days prior to departure: cancellation fee of 40% of total price. For cancellation between 15-1 days prior to departure: cancellation fee of 75% of total price. For cancellation on the day of departure and after: 100% of total price. For Ocean Cruises: For cancellation between 90-61 days prior to departure: cancellation fee of 40% of total price. For cancellation between 60-31 days prior to departure: 60% of total price. 30 or fewer days prior to departure: 100% of total price. For River Cruises: including Europe, Russia, Egypt and China, 90-61 days prior to departure: cancellation fee of 50% of total price. For cancellation between 60-31 days prior to departure: cancellation fee of 85% of total price. For cancellation 30 or fewer days prior to departure: cancellation fee of 100% of total price. For Galapagos and Antarctica: A cancellation fee of 60% will apply for cancellation between 120-90 days prior to departure; A cancellation charge of 100% will apply for cancellation less than 90 days prior to departure. Cancellation protection is highly recommended and must be purchased at time of deposit. Air rates are subject to change until tour is paid in full. If Travel Protection Plan has not been purchased and a reservation is cancelled for any reason prior to departure - Air is 100% non-refundable once paid in full. Cancellation charges also apply to reservations made for "pre" and "post" night accommodations. Payment of a Per Person Travel Protection Plan Fee guarantees a full refund of all payments (including deposit), except the Travel Protection Plan Fee itself, made to Collette for travel arrangements in case of cancellation of your travel plans for any reason prior to the day of departure. The Travel Protection Plan Fee with Air only covers airline tickets you have purchased from Collette. Exception: If you originally purchased nonrefundable airline tickets, Part B of the Travel Protection Plan may provide a refund for the airline tickets, taxes, or fees in the event of a cancellation for a covered reason (see Part B for more details). The Travel Protection Plan Fee does not cover any single supplement charges which arise from an individual's traveling companion electing to cancel for any reason prior to departure. However, the Part B travel insurance includes a single supplement benefit of \$1,500 for certain covered reasons as detailed in Part B. In this case, the single supplement will be deducted from the refund of the person who cancels. Division of this charge between the two passengers involved is solely their responsibility. If insufficient funds are deducted from the canceling client, the traveling client will be charged the remaining portion of the single supplement. Cancellation waiver protects you from penalties in the event you have a need to cancel your entire inclusive tour package up to the day prior to departure. Cancellation waiver does not indemnify you from penalties if you chose to cancel partial tour components or air. If you chose to partially cancel your vacation, you will be responsible for a revision fee as well as any penalties that are incurred at the time of the cancellation. Upon cancellation of transportation or travel services where you, the customer, are not at fault and have not canceled in violation of the terms and conditions above, you will be refunded 100%. Please see your sales agent for more information, or review our brochure for details.

Responsibilities: Collette monitors security situations around the world as well as government travel advisories. Conditions may require Collette to change or even cancel trips. You accept the risks involved in travel, both foreign and domestic, and accept responsibility for your own travel decisions. Travelers may be required to review and sign a participation agreement prior to engaging in certain activities on the trip. Neither Collette Travel Service, Inc., its affiliated entities and its and their employees, shareholders, officers, directors, successors, agents, and assigns (collectively "Collette"), own or operate any person or entity which is to or does provide goods or services for these trips. You agree to be bound by the conditions of carriage for all transportation providers. Collette does not maintain control or operate the personnel, equipment, or operations of these suppliers it uses and as such Collette assumes no responsibility for and cannot be held liable for any personal injury, death, property damage or other loss, accident, delay, inconvenience, or irregularity which may be occasioned by reason of (1) any wrongful, negligent, willful or unauthorized acts or omissions on the part of any of the suppliers or other employees or agents, (2) any defect in or failure of any vehicle, equipment, or instrument owned, operated or otherwise used by any of these suppliers, or (3) any wrongful, willful or negligent act or omission on the part of any other party. Client shall indemnify and hold harmless Collette Travel Service, Inc., its affiliated entities and its and their employees, agents, shareholders, officers, successors and assigns (collectively "Collette"), from all suits, actions, losses, damages, claims or liability for any personal injury, death, property damage or other loss, accident, delay, inconvenience or irregularity which is occasioned by any negligent acts or omissions of Collette arising out of any goods or services provided for this or these trips. Additionally, responsibility is not accepted for losses or expenses due to sickness, lack of appropriate medical facilities or practitioners, weather, strikes, theft or other criminal acts, war, terrorism, computer problems, or other such causes. Other risks may arise such as, but not limited to, hazards of traveling in foreign countries including undeveloped areas, the hazards of travel by aircraft, bus, van, train, automobile or other motorized vehicle, differing safety standards, sickness, criminal acts committed by others, allergic reactions, and/or animal encounters. You are voluntarily participating in the tour and Collette, and as lawful consideration for the agreement to travel with Collette, you agree not to make a claim against Collette, its related companies, officers and employees for injuries, death, or any other claim and agree to release Collette, its related companies, officers and employees from any such claim. This release is binding on all members of your traveling party, as well as your Estate and heirs and this

provision shall be enforceable even after your trip has ended. If you make your own air reservations, Collette is not responsible and shall provide no refund if your flight schedule changes so that you are not able to enjoy the entirety of your tour. All services and accommodations are subject to the laws of the country in which they are provided. Collette reserves the right to make changes in the published itinerary whenever, in their sole judgment, conditions warrant, or if Collette deems it necessary for the comfort, convenience, or safety of the tour. Collette reserves the right to withdraw any tour announced. Collette reserves the right to decline to accept any person as a member of the tour, or to require any participant to withdraw from the tour at any time, when such action is determined by the Tour Manager to be in the best interests of the health, safety, and general welfare of the tour group or of the individual participant. If you are traveling with children, you are solely responsible for their behavior and monitoring them throughout the tour. Neither does Collette accept liability for any carrier's cancellation penalty incurred by the purchase of a nonrefundable airline or other ticket to the tour departure city and return or otherwise. Baggage and personal effects are the sole responsibility of the owner at all times. Collette is not responsible, and will not be bound by, representations made by third party representatives, travel agents, unaffiliated websites, or any other party. Participants may be photographed for the promotional purposes of Collette. In addition, any comments that you submit as a review or your social media posts may be used for Collette's promotional purposes. Payment of the deposit to Collette constitutes acceptance of these terms and conditions. Collette reserves the right to modify these terms and conditions at any time, without notice.

Consumer Protection Plans: Collette Travel Service holds membership in the following highly reputable industry organizations: the United States Tour Operators Association and the American Society of Travel Agents. Each association operates a consumer protection plan to cover deposits made by travelers. Full details are available from the organizations or Collette Travel Service. Collette is pleased to give this additional protection to our clients. **Our California Sellers of Travel registration number is 2006766-20. Our State of Washington Unified Business Number is 601-220-855. Florida Seller of Travel registration number. ST35613.**

