



GROUP TRAVEL ITINERARY

A healthy chunk of Montana stretches out between Yellowstone and Glacier National Parks. Simply hitting the icons and blowing right past the details would still make for a life-changing journey. But instead, you could take a little time to experience many of the other Montana adventures along the way. Here's an idea of what you could find in just three days:

DAY 1 | WEST YELLOWSTONE TO BUTTE

Head north from the gateway town of West Yellowstone. It's a 55-minute drive through the pristine northwestern corner of Yellowstone National Park to the resort community of Big Sky. The Scenic Lift Ride at Big Sky Mountain Resort offers a chance to reach a dramatic vantage point without a herculean effort. Hike or bike back down or, if you're looking for more of a rush, try the Zipline. After lunch, continue north through the Gallatin Canyon to Bozeman. With a charming downtown district, Bozeman offers an eclectic mix of food, fashions and framed art to take in. Explore the Museum of the Rockies, famous for its dinosaur collections, Indian artifacts, Montana history and homesteader cabin.

Then it's on to the mining city of Butte. From the open-pit copper mine of the Berkeley Pit to the headframes guarding Butte's historic buildings, there are few rivals of Butte in bringing the West's mining history to life. Visit the World Museum of Mining, the Copper King Mansion and the Mineral Museum.

Overnight in Butte.



DAY 2 | BUTTE TO PHILIPSBURG/DEER LODGE/MISSOULA TO KALISPELL/WHITEFISH

Today offers the choice of two distinctly different but equally attractive routes.

Your first option, MT Highway 1, takes you along the Pintler Veterans' Memorial Scenic Highway. Following along the shores of Georgetown Lake and through national forests, you eventually arrive at the scenic town of Philipsburg. Heralded as one of America's "Prettiest Painted Places," it's a great place to stretch your legs, feed your sweet tooth or amble through its historic downtown. After concluding your Philipsburg explorations, continue on the Pintler Veterans' Memorial Scenic Highway until it meets with I-90 to Missoula.

Your second option is to follow I-90 from Butte to Deer Lodge. Home to three unique and historic attractions, Deer Lodge offers a worthwhile stop on your way to Missoula. The Grant-Kohrs Ranch National Historic Site, the Old Montana Prison and the Montana Auto Museum offer glimpses into life on a "cattle spread," tours of an early territorial prison and a collection of over 150 classic automobiles.

Reach the Garden City of Missoula by lunch and you have an impressive selection of options. Stretch your legs with a stroll downtown for some great shopping and consider taking a ride on the hand-carved A Carousel for Missoula. For some more fun at any age, spend time exploring the interactive elk conservation and hunting heritage exhibits at the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation's Elk Country Visitor Center. Also very popular is an opportunity to take a tour of the Smokejumper Visitor Center and Aerial Fire Depot, home to the largest smokejumper base in the country.

The day ends with a scenic drive along the incomparable Flathead Lake to Kalispell or Whitefish for an overnight stay.



DAY 3 | KALISPELL OR WHITEFISH TO WEST GLACIER AND GLACIER NATIONAL PARK

Get an early start for Glacier National Park. There are short hikes, boat rides and plenty of wildlife viewing at every turn. If you want a unique experience and a bit of history banter, there's nothing better than Glacier's signature red "Jammer" buses for a ride up Going-to-the-Sun Road, or in-depth, Native American highlights provided by Sun Tours.

You have your choice of overnight options in either Glacier National Park itself, or the neighboring communities of Kalispell, Whitefish and West Glacier.

