



## Once In A Blue Moon Powwow

**Where:** Wyoming and Montana  
**When:** Aug 30 -  
**Tribes:** Cheyenne, Intertribal

### Highlights:

Medicine Wheel ▲ Northern Cheyenne Powwow ▲ Wolf Watching ▲ Wild Mustangs  
Cheyenne Indian Reservation ▲ Deer Medicine Rocks ▲ Bighorn Mountains  
Yellowstone National Park ▲ Jackie Bread Beading Workshop (extension 2)

### Overview:

The phrase 'once in a blue moon', perfectly describes this unique opportunity which allows you to enter the world of the Cheyenne, the Morning Star People. Your travels through culture, history and places sacred to the Cheyenne nation culminate in a powwow experience at the time of a true 'Blue Moon' a sacred phenomenon where two full moons appear within the earth's rhythmic cycle of 28 days and some say, an esoteric blue haze.

Your trail through present-day Cheyenne homelands in the Big Sky state of Montana reveals a courageous history echoed across the bluffs and buttes of the West, where stories pulse from the pounding hooves of wild mustangs and the names of those brave immortalizers of the Cheyenne tribal legacy sing on prairie winds.

Experience the exhilaration of powwow – a celebration of culture and pride wrapped in cascading colors, traditional dress, song and dance. You will never forget the moment you first saw the People dance, or felt the heartbeat of all Indian nations – the drum, as the youngest children take their place alongside elders in the arbor. We spend two evenings mingling with tribal members who gather for this celebration from the four directions, marveling at the spectacular color and beauty. The traditions have survived and so have the Morning Star People – the Cheyenne.

### Is An Add-on Available?

Yes – actually, two! This journey works in three parts and although each segment melds into the next and create a total experience, you can split them if you don't have enough time for all three.

### Daily itinerary:

#### **Day 1** (Thurs Aug 30)

Arrive Billings, Montana (BIL) and shuttle to your hotel for a relaxed evening prior to the commencement of your journey into Cheyenne culture.



**Day 2 (Fri Aug 31)**

Orienting ourselves in the best-kept secret in the West - the breath-taking natural wonder that is the Bighorn Canyon - we learn that wild mustangs range in the shadow of the Canyon amidst the Pryor Mountains and we go in search of the survivors of the Horse Nations proudest days. Our evening ascent to the plateau of the Bighorns is rewarded by the same panoramic views the ancient Cheyenne enjoyed and, thanks to zero light pollution we have confirmation that there *are* 10 times more stars in the night sky than grains of sand in the world's deserts and beaches! We discuss tribal star knowledge and its acceptance and use by NASA.

Stay: Bighorn Mountains



**Day 3 (Sat Sept 1)**

Experience one of the most sacred sites in the world, the Medicine Wheel atop Medicine Mountain in the Bighorn Mountains. We discuss the Massaum Ceremony, 'the medicine dance of the ancients', a beautiful and integral part of the traditional Cheyenne culture in it's formation in which the wolf and the 'Wolf's Lodge' is essential to creation, to life, and renewal in the spiritual and physical.

While anyone can visit a powwow and enjoy the atmosphere, sounds and sights, we prefer to comprehend the intricacies of what we are seeing, to understand what we are hearing, and to synchronize with local etiquette. Our powwow seminar is the route to that appreciation.

Stay: Sheridan, WY



**Day 4 (Sun Sept 2)**

At the awe-inspiring Deer Medicine Rocks, where Sitting Bull's vision of soldiers without ears, falling like grasshoppers upside down into camp can still be seen, we interpret the meaning and significance of great names that were bestowed upon great leaders such as Sitting Bull and Tall Bull and relate those symbols of identification in translation to sacred rock art. We stand before rugged cliff faces and amazing sandstone features to witness visual representations of the sacred where the voices of the Old Ones resonate through the images in stone. Grand Entry at any powwow is a highlight. Gazing into the arbor, we hear them before we see them; ankle bells jangling, dresses jingling and drums pounding. Honoring modern-day Cheyenne warriors is prioritized as the colors of the veterans are paraded, bringing onlookers to their feet with one accord. Then the arbor begins to fill with feathers, porcupine quills, deer-hair, bells, tassels, bustles, hide, and fur. Mimicking animal movement, males dancers dart, lunge and jerk, their intricate footwork fit to rival any RiverDance as they glide and swoop with uncanny grace, while traditional ladies from eight to eighty dip and sway in synchronized perfection with the whooping, mystic drummers and singers.

Stay: Sheridan, WY



**Day 5 (Mon Sept 3)**

We relive the Rosebud Battle, looking across the vast sweep of the field, viewing the terrain as Crazy horse and Custer saw it that June day just one week before the cataclysmic Battle of the Little Bighorn. The Battle Where The Girl Saved Her Brother went down in Cheyenne history as an event of prodigious bravery, and brought Buffalo Calf Trail Woman to spiritual immortality amongst her people. Amid the US Cavalry however, this battle is not so well remembered. Had the Lakota and Cheyenne not prevailed, would the Little Bighorn ever have happened?

This night we join the excitement at the local Northern Cheyenne powwow. Beneath the moon, the dancers stomp and whirl. As the drumming builds they twist, turn and leap, lighting the arbor with Native pride and the sheer joy of being Cheyenne.

Stay: Billings



**Day 6 (Tues Sept 4) Depart from Billings, Montana, or**



## Extend your journey: On The Trail Of Brother Wolf



### **Day 6** (Tues Sept 4)

Trace the switchbacks along the Beartooth Pass across the most ravishing landscapes Montana and Wyoming have to offer. Leveling onto the plateau then connecting with to the Chief Joseph Byway our destination is the northeast gateway to Yellowstone National Park and America's Serengeti – the Lamar Valley; home to wolves, grizzly bears and elk. Our evening is spent 'spotting' for wolves in the Valley.

Stay: Cooke City



### **Day 7** (Wed Sept 5)

On the trail of the wolf we learn that Yellowstone is Indian Country as we reconnect with Mother Earth in this unfinished land; an earth sculpture in the making! For here in this special land where we will explore the region's Native history and culture, are studded more geysers, fumaroles and mud pots than any other place on the planet. Just as the human beings and the buffalo share an ancient compact, so too do the wolf and the buffalo, and the wolf and the human beings. The wolf taught many to hunt, and would call others to share the bounty, and we learn of that tradition – of the wolf as a teacher, and how the wolf is revered in Cheyenne and other Plains cultures, to the extent that the scouts of the people, those who guide, those who bring warnings and messages, are referred to as "wolves." At dusk we will seek the twilight hunter and listen for the mysterious music of his song.

Stay: Pahaska



### **Day 8** (Thurs Sept 6)

Within Cheyenne culture, the Bowstrings Military Society members have an ancient connection to the wolf; learn why the Bowstrings are called "Wolf Soldiers", and the leader of the society, the "Wolf Chief". We learn the ways of the wolf both spiritually and scientifically.

Stay: Billings



**Day 9** (Fri Sept 7) Depart from Billings, MT  
OR

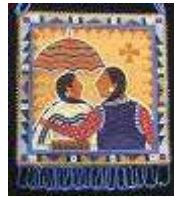
## Extend Your Journey



## Take inspiration from Native lands Then start a creation with your own hands

For Jackie Larson Bread, beadwork is her life's passion and one look at her museum-quality creations explains why her pieces are considered a Native American fine art and are sought after by collectors worldwide.

Join Jackie to gain an understanding of the design and process of traditional Blackfoot beadwork. Jackie's workshop includes discussion and hands-on project design to create a small beaded picture and you will also learn how to progress from a hand-drawn image idea to an intricately beaded bag, box, or other traditional utilitarian items.



Whether you are a total beginner or have beading skills already, Jackie can help and inspire you as she generously offers forth the skills (plus a few tricks) of her trade.

Growing up on the Blackfeet Reservation, beadwork was apart of Jackie's family tradition and as a young girl Jackie learned the delicate art of beading by watching her grandmother. The mission of this fabulous opportunity to work with Jackie is learning to create beauty for yourself.

Who knows, perhaps in that process you may start a new family tradition of your own.



### **Day 9** (Fri Sept 7)

In the luxurious surroundings of The Cody (an upscale eco-boutique with a serious commitment to the environment) we begin our beading workshop led by Jackie Larson Bread. After lunch we'll take a break at the world's premiere museum of The West, the *Buffalo Bill Historical Society* where we spend time in the fabulous *Plains Indian Gallery* admiring and learning from historic beadwork, before returning to our haven of creativity for the evening.

### **Day 10** (Sat Sept 8)

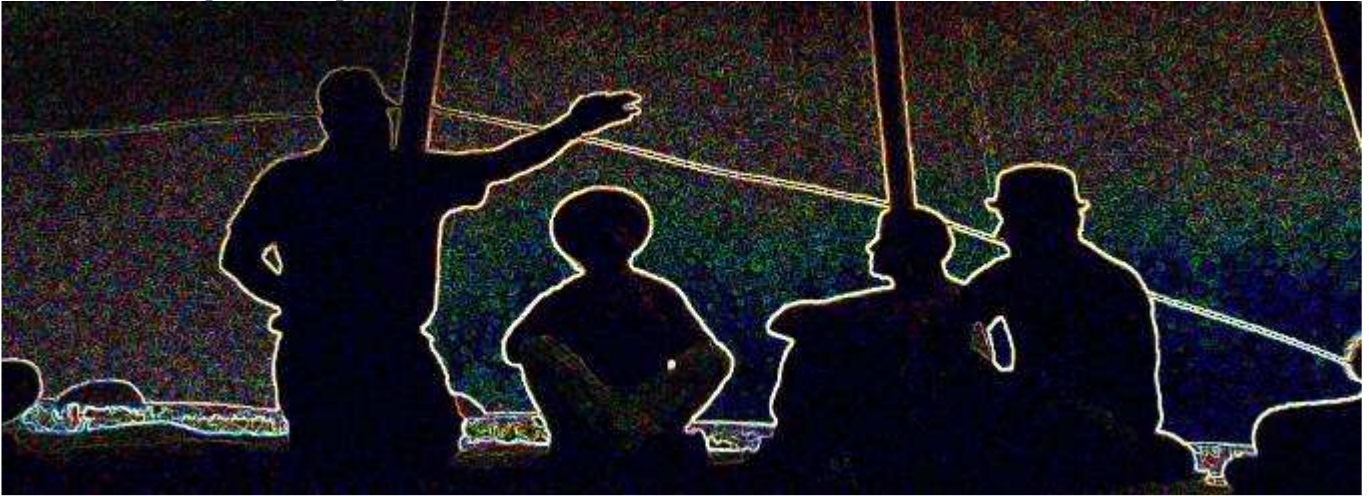
After a delicious organic breakfast, we spend the morning in continuance of our beading projects under Jackie's expert tutelage. Today's lunch break is at the historic hotel named for Buffalo Bill's hapless daughter, Irma, then we take a little time to explore the tantalizing western stores and galleries on Cody's Main Street. Recommencing mid-afternoon we bead, discuss and learn deep into the evening.

### **Day 11** (Sun Sept 9)

Depart from Cody, WY (COD)



## What People Say About their Go Native America Journey



Oh what a wonderful 'love affair' I've just had on this Go Native America trip; people, nature, culture, color, music, the families I met... and unlike past love affairs this is just the beginning and on-going nurture of a new-found love.

**Maura Devlin, N Ireland**

First day back at work and already I was wishing the Go Native America tour had continued throughout the rest of the USA - what a epic journey that would be! This trip has been such an enlightening and enchanting experience. I feel that the more I learn the more questions I have and the more intrigued I become. Oh, and the landscape! I never envisioned that Arizona would be such a parched desert beauty - I can see why only 11% of Americans own a passport and only 7% uses it!

**Cindy Wang, Washington DC**

Without a doubt Serle Chapman must be unique within the umbrella term of 'tour guide'. He *lives* the history of this stunningly beautiful, sometimes stark place with an intellectual and emotional honesty rare in the world of today.

**Helen Sherrah Davies, Boston, PA**

## Frequently Asked Questions about Once In A Blue Moon Powwow:

*Is it safe to be in Yellowstone - between the Super Volcano predictions and the recent grizzly attacks I'm a little hesitant.*

Predictions about when the volcano will blow are varied, but serious geologists believe there is at least another 60,000 years to go. Whenever it does erupt, the sheer volume of a volcano with a caldera that is over 50 miles wide ensures there will be *nowhere* in America that is not affected, so safety will be out of your hands. Bears and other large mammals however are a different deal altogether - your level of safety is directly linked to your decisions and *we will not enter the park until we are sure that every person, young and old, understands the safety rules*. There have been two fatal bear attacks this year, and although the reasons for those attacks are complex, both victims unfortunately breached cardinal rules in Bear Country; both ran away - a clear signal to the bear that they were prey to be hunted, and neither carried bear spray - a substance proven to be much more effective against bear attacks than even bullets.

*Do I have to bring my own crafting gear? Coming from outside the US will mean it's hard to travel light if I do.*

No. If you have a particular pair of crafting scissors, or sewing needles you just love, bring them, Any machines or tools will be ready for your use, and you will have opportunity to buy specific supplies to this region that may inspire you when you get home. But if you are new to beading, that's fine too.

*What about supplies - I'm trying skills for the first time here and I prefer to 'try before I buy'*

Of course! We get that. For each new craft skill you try we will equip you with a basic starter pack that will more than satisfy you creatively for that project. Then if that skill resonates with you and you want to take it further you'll have opportunity to buy a wider range of great supplies.

## Journey Information

<b>Arrival:</b> Once In A Blue Moon Powwow	<b>Billings, MT (BIL)</b>
<b>Departure:</b>	Billings, MT
<b>Price:</b>	\$1895
<b>Arrival:</b> On The Trail Of Brother Wolf	Billings, MT (BIL)
<b>Departure:</b>	Billings, MT (BIL)
<b>Price:</b>	\$1395
<b>Arrival:</b> Jackie Larson Bread Masterclass	Cody, WY (COD)
<b>Departure:</b>	Cody, WY (COD)
<b>Price:</b>	\$749

**Who will enjoy this journey?** Adults interested in Native American cultures, arts, crafting, geology, philosophy, history, travel, wildlife and *new experiences* in respectful environments.

**Minimum numbers:** Each tour requires an 8 person minimum.

**What is included?** Airport-hotel shuttle transfers, all tour transportation, escorted tour guide services, all accommodations including your arrival night at the destination city and relevant info packages.

**What is not included?** Flights to/from tour, food - tour members save money by purchasing meals of their own choice. Sundries (drinks, phone calls, laundry etc). Museum/ National Park Entrance fees. If you plan to stay for the Jackie Larson Bread Masterclass, please discuss pricing with us. Hotel accommodation is NOT included unless you request it. Accommodation IS already included in the price for other segments of the tour.

### **Optional Extras:**

- Rest days before or after the tour – please call/email for costs
- This tour is unusual in that it includes 2 opportunities to extend your time here in Native America. Please call/email to discuss your choice in this regard – we know that particularly those coming from outside the US will want to extend to make the best use of flights. The dates of the tour(s) have already been formulated so they slot together conveniently for you.

## **General Information:**

### **Transport...**

We travel in comfortable, air-conditioned vehicles, ranging from 4-wheel drive vehicles (Range Rover/Jeep Sport Utility or similar) to 15 seat passenger vans. All modes of transport are spacious enough for our tour members to travel in comfort. However, luggage space is of a premium, therefore we urge you to read our 'Packing Checklist' - it is amazing how little you need to take.

### **Health and Vaccinations...**

It is important that you have both a dental and medical check-up and we recommend that you ensure your Tetanus inoculations are up to date.

### **Baggage Allowance...**

With limited room available in the vehicles it is important that everyone travel as light as possible. Please bring a soft hold-all / sports bag, and not a hard suitcase. Hotels will have laundry facilities and these are generally big, fast and easy to use.

### **Accommodation/Lodging...**

Wherever possible, we support tribally owned and/or operated properties. We stay in a wide range of good quality accommodations on our journeys. All rooms are en-suite as standard; many have swimming pools and often laundry facilities. We choose from established hotel chains, log cabins in National Parks or unique period properties.

### **Temperature/Weather...**

Usually our trips are planned for optimum weather conditions, however please take nothing for granted - things can change very quickly. You will need good sunscreen and sunglasses, a sunhat and a fleece jacket. Be prepared, and expect the unexpected. A good jacket is a must and you'll need broken in hiking/walking boots or shoes. The best way to dress is to layer, layer, layer! A good daypack is useful. Overall the tour is very casual - no need to dress for dinner.

### **Insurance...**

Travel insurance is a vital aspect to booking a holiday, giving you protection against unforeseen circumstances that could otherwise spoil your holiday. It is important that you purchase travel insurance that properly covers your participation in whatever activities you may undertake at the time that you make your booking. We strongly advise you obtain travel insurance at your time of booking so that you are protected against cancellation and you must provide us with details of your insurance with your final payment. For your own safety and protection, we will not allow tour members to alight our vehicles unless we have copies of your travel insurance policy, or you have US health insurance in place.

### **How to Book...**

Before you book, we recommend that you carefully read the enclosed information and itinerary. To book your place on this tour, please telephone or email with any questions you may have about the tour, then book the tour online on our secure site. A deposit of \$750 is due in order to hold your space on the tour or if you book less than twelve weeks prior to departure, full payment is due at the time of booking.

### **Confirmation...**

Upon receipt of your booking form and deposit, we will send you acknowledgement of your booking. Relevant information that applies to the tour, including any suggested reading and general information about the region, climate and Native people will follow.

### **Method of Payment...**

Payments can be made in USD (\$) by international check, money order, bank draft, wire or credit card, and you are responsible for fees charged by your bank/card. There may be an additional 2.5% charge if paying by credit card. USD check payments should be made payable to Go Native America.

**All tours on tribal lands and wilderness areas require flexibility.** Time is not exact and things happen when they happen. There may be itinerary changes - often additions! Due to the developing tourism industry in the area changes can and do occur in this type of program. Weather conditions, sometimes severe enough to limit where we can drive or walk, can also alter the program. As visitors, please respect this, and remain flexible and open to local conditions, safety concerns and unforeseen opportunities. Our guides will do their best to keep things on track and in the event that our schedule changes, they will try to keep disruption to a minimum, and organise other options as far as it is reasonable and practical to do so.



## JOURNEY BOOKING FORM 2012

Mr./ Ms Mrs/ Dr	First Name	Surname	Date of birth	Occupation	Nationality	Passport No	Expiry Date

**BOOKING MADE BY:**

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**POSTCODE/ZIP:** \_\_\_\_\_

**PHONE CONTACT(S)** \_\_\_\_\_

**EMAIL ADDRESS** \_\_\_\_\_

1<sup>st</sup> Choice trip \_\_\_\_\_

2<sup>nd</sup> Choice trip \_\_\_\_\_

**Declaration:** On behalf of all persons on this booking form, I have read, understood and accepted the booking conditions dated 1<sup>st</sup> Sept 2011, booking information dated 1<sup>st</sup> Sept 2011, and itinerary provided by Go Native America.

I am duly authorized to make this agreement.

To the best of my knowledge, no person will be traveling against medical advice. I am over 18 years.

Signed:

Name (print):

Date:

If submitting this form by email attachment please also put the wording of the above declaration in the body of the email to us.

**PAYMENT**

A deposit of \$750 payable for every tour member. Full payment is required if within 90 days of the trip. We accept major credit cards, US checks, international/money orders or PayPal to [sarah@gonativeamerica.com](mailto:sarah@gonativeamerica.com)

- I enclose a USD check for \_\_\_\_\_  
This is my journey deposit/part payment/full payment. (Checks are payable to Go Native America.)
- I wish to pay by credit card
- I prefer to give card details by phone. The best number and time to reach me is:
- I would like to pay my deposit by pay pal



Please note that for MasterCard, Visa, Discover, or Amex payments of *final balances* there is a 3% surcharge on top of the quoted price of your journey as to cover the CC facility. We do not charge on payments of deposits only. The charge will apply if you are making your full payment by credit card at the time of booking.

I certify that this is my card and authorize you to charge \$\_\_\_\_\_

This is my holiday deposit / part payment / full payment (please circle)

Card Type (i.e. Visa, MasterCard, Delta etc): \_\_\_\_\_

Card 

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 No: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiry Date \_\_\_\_\_ Start date (if available) \_\_\_\_\_ Issue No (if available) \_\_\_\_\_

Security number \_\_\_\_\_ (3 numbers, usually found on the security strip where you sign the card))

Cardholders Name as shown on the card \_\_\_\_\_

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**TOWN / CITY:** \_\_\_\_\_ **COUNTY / STATE** \_\_\_\_\_

**COUNTRY** \_\_\_\_\_ **POSTCODE / ZIP:** \_\_\_\_\_

**PHONE #** \_\_\_\_\_

**Cardholder's signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

- Please automatically also take my balance from this card when due 90 days prior to departure.
- Please call me before charging my card for the balance of this journey
- I intend to make a bank transfer/electronic payment and will contact Go Native America for bank details.

**Please assist us with some additional information**

▲ Where did you hear of Go Native America? (Please circle)

Magazine : TV : Newspaper : Google Search : Yahoo Search : Referred by friend

▲ Have you found any other tour comparable to those Go Native America offer? Yes  No   
*If so, why did you choose Go Native America?*

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▲ Are any of the following important to you? (Please circle for yes, leave blank for no)

experiencing new cultures : visiting new places : fair trade tourism : shopping  
history : eco-tourism : photography : philosophy : wildlife conservation : powwows  
sustainable tourism : solitude and peace : arts or music : meeting interesting people  
lively discourse family/kids activities : transformational experiences indigenous languages  
physical/outdoor activities : experiencing tribal celebrations