

‘A very great vision is needed, and the man who has it must follow it as the eagle seeks the deepest blue of the sky’



## Crazy Horse Country

**Where:** Wyoming, Montana

**When:** July 15 - 21

**Tribes:** Cheyenne and Lakota

### Highlights:

Wild Mustangs ▲ Bighorn Mountains ▲ Fetterman Battlefield ▲ The Wagon Box  
Cheyenne Indian Reservation ▲ De Smet ▲ Tongue River ▲ The Little Bighorn  
The Rosebud – The Fight Where The Girl Saved Her brother

On this tour we spend time in areas of outstanding natural beauty; amid the mountains, plains, and endless skies that were highly significant to the legendary Lakota patriot, Crazy Horse. Experience the tranquil energy of special places he valued as retreats – the places to which he would go to renew his spirit and to strengthen his Lakota virtues of *fortitude*, *bravery*, *truthfulness* and *generosity*. And at these places we learn of some of the greatest triumphs and tragedies of his life, both on a personal level and on a national level through his military achievements.

Like Roman Nose, a Cheyenne elder warrior who deeply and positively influenced him, Crazy Horse was a Thunder Dreamer, and those who have dreamed of *Wakinyan* ride the whirlwind. So it is impossible to confine the expanse of his life within the pages of any book.



**If you are to relate to the humanity of a man who remains a People’s dream, come with us - Enter the Circle.**

### Daily Itinerary:



**Day 1** (Sun July 15<sup>th</sup>) Arrive in Billings, Montana  
*Stay:* Billings, MT

**Day 2** (Mon July 16<sup>th</sup>) In the shadow of the Prior Mountains we go in search of the Wild Mustangs – descendants of the original pony herds of the Plains Indians. We hear the stories of Crazy Horse’s skill with capturing wild horses, of how he received his first adult name and of hard times for the Lakota. We begin our ascent into the Bighorn Mountains; Crazy Horse’s favored area of quiet and solitude. Often seen by his people as a loner, Crazy Horse who suffered personal tragedy on many occasions, would

disappear for days at a time. Today you stand where he stood in a remarkably unchanged mountain-landscape of outstanding beauty.

*Stay:* Sheridan, WY

### **Day 3 July 17<sup>th</sup>**

Crazy Horse often inspired others by reminding them of a fundamental difference between the two sides; the Lakota and Cheyenne were peoples not armies, and the men fought to protect the Lakota and Cheyenne ways of life, of which their families and the unborn were made. The soldiers were fighting because they were paid to do so. Reinforcements would be available from the East. Not so for Lakota and Cheyenne families. As the war to shut down the Bozeman Trail began, the old ways of Indian battles –each man doing whatever he felt necessary to defend his family - became impractical. “He didn’t like to start a battle unless he had it all planned out in his head and knew he was going to win,” said He Dog of his lifelong friend Crazy Horse, emphasizing the new necessity for discipline. Today we begin to understand the cultural and tactical imperatives of Crazy Horse and at the site of the Fetterman Battle his genius becomes apparent.

Stay: Sheridan, WY

### **Day 4 July 18<sup>th</sup> Wagon Box, Lake De Smet**

We travel to the site of the Wagon Box fight and learn of this less desirable outcome within ‘Red Cloud’s War’ Yet for Crazy Horse and those aside him, the practical conduct of war was but one part in its waging. Crazy Horse was a man made of visions; he inhabited the sacred realm that was revealed to him when he cried for a vision, and so what he saw and what he was given is what he became, and to those holy ones he entrusted himself and committed to a life of contemplation to discover and embrace the sanctity and meaning. His life was a pact with the sacred. The Thunders blessed him first, and later, in the unity of powers, a manifestation of the waters appeared to him, and thenceforth his body and soul were as a vessel in which was borne the duality of these spiritual forces. This day we stand at the site where many believe he received his vision of the horseman rising from the water.

Stay: Sheridan, WY

### **Day 5 July 19<sup>th</sup> Crazy Horse, the man, could be forgiven for failing to recognize himself, or what has since been ascribed to him, by white biographers who have sought to define him. An introverted and modest man, in the times he faced death to defend the Lakota way of life as he had lived it and so that future generations may also live that way, he humbled himself before the powers, appealing for their aid. In the quiet before combat, he would ascend a high butte, pray and sing his vision song to the Four Directions, sending his voice to the ancestor stone spirits, black, red, yellow and white, calling out to the powers Above and Below for guidance and protection.**

We spend quiet time absorbing the atmosphere of that place.

As dusk fell on June 16, the forces that would converge on the Rosebud were only thirty miles apart, but in philosophy and origin were separated by an ocean. When they met the next morning, Crook’s command would outnumber the Lakota and Cheyenne by almost two-to-one. We hear the story, and learn of *The Fight Where The Girl Saved Her Brother* – an event of cultural magnitude to this day for the Cheyenne people.

Stay: Sheridan, WY

### **Day 6 July 20<sup>th</sup> Then onwards to the infamous Greasy Grass, where just eight days later Custer and his men rode to immortality! Crazy Horse himself probably wouldn’t have cared that it took until 2003 to build a monument to his courage and leadership at the Little Bighorn since he never even allowed anyone to take his picture or paint his portrait - but Little Bighorn must be the only battlefield on earth at which the sole memorial was been erected to the losing side. The fighting was desperate as the harsh sun made the prairie boil that day. “Crazy Horse put great confidence in his medicine,” reaffirmed Horn Chips, who was given the knowledge to make Crazy Horse’s *wotawe*, the protective war medicine he justly had such faith in, and carried in a tanned deer skin pouch around his neck. “No matter how near he got to his enemy they could not hit him,”**

The cenotaph stands at the top of Custer Hill, upon which George Custer and the final surviving remnants of his command were killed. White stone markers poke through the grass where each soldier fell. Down the valley, towards the trees which secluded the Indian camp that June afternoon in 1876, more of the melancholy little tablets mark the path of Custer’s retreat. It was a bad day for the Custers - also among the dead that afternoon were two of his brothers, and his sister’s husband. For the Cheyenne and Lakota, *hoka hey* – it was a *good day to die*. We seek the real story of the battle, assessing *both* military perspectives, applying new-found cultural understanding to the first-hand accounts and we learn the truth of what occurred that fateful day.

Stay: Billings, MT

## Optional Extra Day

### **Day 7** July 21<sup>st</sup>

Custer didn't lose the battle of Little Bighorn by himself. He did make a rare mess of his assault on the Indian camp, but he was also out-thought and out-fought by two instinctive strategists - the Lakota chiefs Gall and Crazy Horse. Looking down to the west from the top of Custer Hill today, it is easy to imagine the sight that confronted Custer's bewildered, terrified men as they struggled to the high ground, trying to escape Crazy Horse's inspired charge to cut them off. But take this opportunity to go further.

**Ride horseback where the Lakota, the Cheyenne and the 7<sup>th</sup> Cavalry rode.** Spend your morning seeing for yourself what they saw, cutting through the partisan, wild imaginings of Hollywood and historians alike, and put yourself in the place of Crazy Horse, Lakota visionary and man of his People.

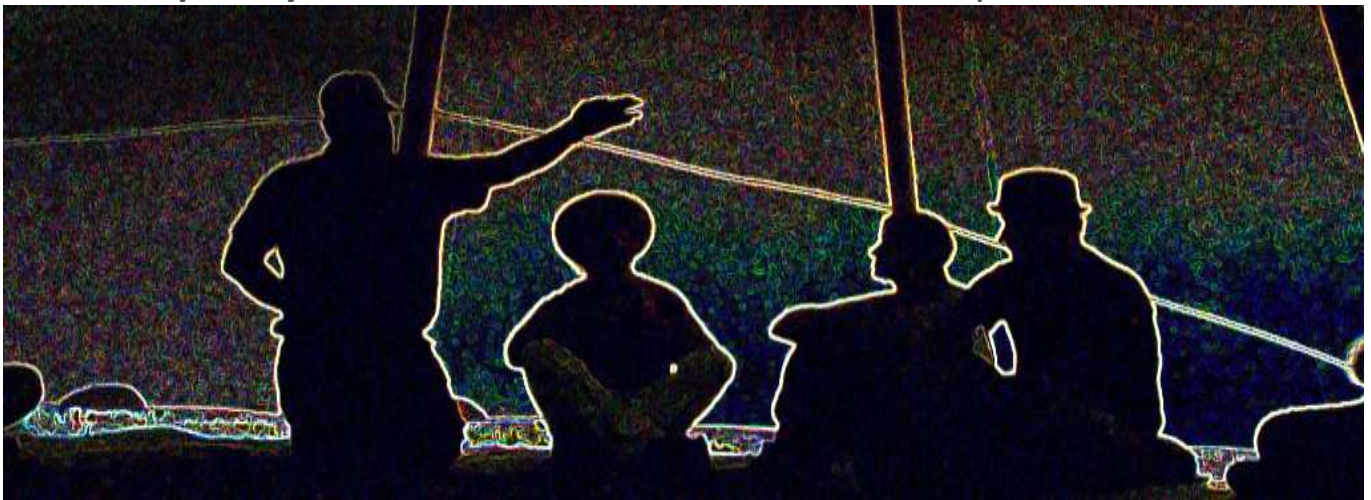
Later this day we travel to the Northern Cheyenne Indian Reservation where we meet descendants of those who fought in the immortal battle to retain culture, spirituality and freedom.

*"When they finally took a pipe to Crazy Horse they told him that if he came into Fort Robinson the Great White Father would receive him in Washington, DC and agree to give him his own Agency on Beaver Creek. I used to believe that was the creek between Chadron and Hay Springs, Nebraska, but it was actually a different Beaver Creek; what he was talking about was another Beaver Creek, west of the Black Hills."*

**Johnson Holy Rock**

This is the area Crazy Horse loved and lived. This is where you will travel.

## 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**

# Journey Information

<b>Arrival:</b>	<b>July 15, 2012</b> Billings, MT (BIL)	OR 2 <sup>nd</sup> departure <b>Aug 24</b>
<b>Departure:</b>	<b>July 21/22, 2012</b> Billings, MT (BIL)	OR 2 <sup>nd</sup> departure <b>Aug 30/31</b>
<b>Price:</b>	\$1995	
<b>Extra Day</b>	\$225 (plus \$120 for all those wishing to ride horseback on the Little Bighorn Battlefield	

**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 a 5 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.

**Optional Extras:** Rest days before or after the tour – please call/email for costs

## 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

