

Its ALL Indian Country;

A 10 day family journey to the heart of Indian Country



Highlights Include:

Yellowstone National Park ▲ The Medicine Wheel ▲ The Wild Mustangs ▲ Crow Fair Powwow
Horseback Riding ▲ Cheyenne & Crow Indian Reservations
The Little Bighorn ▲ Rodeo ▲ Paha Sapa - The Black Hills ▲ Mako Sica - The Badlands
Lakota Language Instruction ▲ Mato Tipila - Devils Tower

Overview:

Native America; a place full of adventure, culture, history, music, art and fun! And with Go Native America, one of America's most well-beloved tourist trails (Yellowstone to the Black Hills) is transformed from road-trip to personal odyssey; America's Serengeti to the pine-studded Paha Sapa - the Sacred Black Hills. Spend time listening for wolves, looking for bears, learn to interpret ancient messages left in stone, and enjoy hearing indigenous stories and explanations. Then gazing star-ward to the constellations, we find the map of the summer's ceremonial journey and you are immersed in beauty, native culture and the indigenous phenomenon.

Visit reservations, hear Native flute melodies on the breeze and learn to speak some Lakota. This intertribal, intercultural journey visits the Tipi Capital of the World where the biggest powwow on the Northern Plains rages. Enter the Circle on a journey you will never forget.

Daily Itinerary:

Day 1 (Mon 13th Aug) Arrive Cody, WY (COD) and shuttle to your hotel for a relaxed evening prior to the commencement of your journey into native cultures.





DAY 2 (Tues 14th Aug)

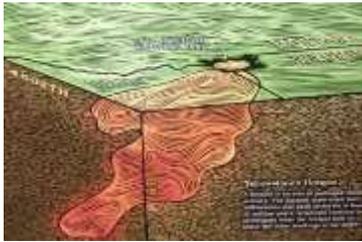
Yellowstone Is Indian Country: Experience the American Serengeti in ways most folks miss. As we journey into the realm of the bear on this unique tour we explore the physical and spiritual significance of the bear to the Plains Indians! The bear appears in tribal stories of ceremony and Creation where there are tribal songs that celebrate him, the People have learned about strength and healing from him and his speed and agility has taught and inspired hunters and warriors.



So we hear those stories, and entering the bear's domain we learn of his life, his power, the gifts he brings to the people. We learn how to walk in his tracks, to see his shadow and consider how the two-legged can live in ecological harmony with the Nakoh, the bear and other four-leggeds.

Stay: Pahaska, WY

Day 3 (Wed 15th Aug)



Yellowstone National Park sits atop a Super Volcano. Some say the Caldera is overdue to erupt by 40,000 years, geologists say that estimate is wildly off, but acknowledge that its presence helps sell books and movies. Undisputed however, is that in this region there are more than 10,000 geothermal features – a greater concentration than anywhere else on the planet. Today we travel south to see the famous Old Faithful and learn how and why she blows. 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 humans. The wolf taught many to hunt, and would call others to share the bounty. The wolf is revered in Cheyenne and other Plains cultures as a teacher, to the extent that the scouts of the people - those who guide, those who bring warnings and messages - are referred to as "wolves. Within Cheyenne culture, the Bowstrings Military Society members have an ancient connection to the wolf. Join the Trail and learn why the Bowstrings are called "Wolf Soldiers", and the leader of the society, the "Wolf Chief.

Stay Cody, WY



Day 4 (Thurs 16th Aug)

Today we enjoy the uniquely western town of Cody, Wyoming, beginning at the Plains Indian Museum the Buffalo Bill Historic Center, known as the Smithsonian of the West where we absorb the historical artistry of Plains Indian Tribes in patterns, color and exquisite craftsmanship. We take time for shopping in Cody's boutiques and western stores, then at 6pm be ready for the nightly gunfight on Cody's main street. Enjoy dinner at the famed Irma Hotel, then it's off to the Cody Nite Rodeo.

Stay Cody, WY



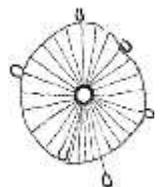
Day 5 (Fri 17th Aug)

Up early today to experience the thundering hooves of Wyoming's Wild Mustangs. We watch the McCullough Peak herd, hear of interactions and watch behaviors between these the descendents of the Cheyenne and Crow Pony herds of 1890.

Later we experience one of the most sacred sites in the world as, ascending to nearly 10,000ft, we hike the easy trail to the Medicine Wheel in the Bighorn Mountains, learning of it's origins in Cheyenne culture.

Descending to Sheridan, Wyoming we are on the lookout for moose, black bears and elk.

Tonight is 'Powwow 101'. "Why does the music stop suddenly? What happens if a feather falls to the ground? How do the dancers know which dance to do? And why do they suddenly freeze? The audience seems to be up and down on their feet, should I be too?" This evening we explain powwow etiquette and learn about the music, dances and dancer's regalia in anticipation of our Powwow experience through the weekend.





Day 6 (Sat 18th Aug)

"The Crow country is a good country. The Great Spirit has put it exactly in the right place; everything good is to be found there," said the Crow chief Arapooish, and on this journey you will discover what he meant as you are up early to witness the Crow Nation Parade which has its roots in the ceremonial method by which The People Move The Camp and which is tribal showmanship at its best. Then on to Crow Fair, Tipi Capital of the World, where thousands of tipis line the Little Bighorn River for arguably the most exhilarating powwow on the Plains. What began as an invitation from the Crows to the Northern Cheyenne to foster better relations continues to this day as a celebration of Native culture and pride, wrapped in a cascade of colors from traditional dress, song and dance.

Stay Sheridan, WY



Day 7 (Sun 19th Aug)

With our native guide, we follow Crazy Horse and Custer, White Bull and White-Man-Runs-Him across the hallowed ground of the Little Bighorn Battlefield. This is an amazing opportunity to see the terrain as the warriors and troopers saw it on that legendary June day.

Myths and reinventions abound at this infamous site, but we stand where the warriors stood to understand both the military and Indian perspectives from the most famous battle in Western history. Was it really 'Custer's Last Stand' or were the circling warriors a product of the Hollywood imagination? Why do historians still say there were 10,000 warriors on hand to fight Custer when that was culturally impossible? This is no dry museum-style battle narrative about who was where and when, this account makes *cultural* sense of why this clash happened, what happened to Indian people as a result, and what lasting effects remain to this very day. Returning to Crow Fair late afternoon, we witness one of the greatest spectacles of Indian pageantry on the Northern Plains – *Grand Entry* at Crow Fair.

Stay Sheridan, WY



Day 8 (Mon 20th Aug)

Today we drive east toward the 1300 ft stone obelisk known in the mainstream as Devil's Tower. But there are no devils at this ancient Sun Dance site. We will meet Lakota guide - Sequoia for explanations of 'Mato Tipila', the Bear's Lodge. Your local guide is fluent in his native language, so today you have opportunity to learn to communicate in Lakota! Sequoia is an accomplished native flautist and he might even pull out his guitar and sing rap songs in his Lakota language for you. Hear his stories and explanations that tell the history and cultural connotations of the rock and its relationship to the Star Nations.

Stay Rapid City, SD



Day 9 (Tues 21st Aug)

Into the sacred Black Hills, or Paha Sapa, with your guide who will begin most appropriately at the place of the Lakota genesis – Wind Cave, in the Custer State Park. Hear the story of the Lakota Creation, then later amid the vast pine forests and grassland scented with cedar and sage, where dragonflies and butterflies dart over purple echinacea blooms, yellow sweet clover, blue spiderwort flowers, we search for buffalo as you explore this most beautiful and spirited area of the Black Hills. Hear authentic Lakota cultural and historical explanations as they have been passed through families over generations, and relax and enjoy as your guide's Native flute melodies float across the gentle He Sapa winds ...just as they have for centuries.

Stay Rapid City, SD



Day 10 (Wed 22nd Aug)



When you reach the Badlands, you could just as well have reached the moon! The rugged striped terrain and lack of water led native people to call it Mako Sica (Mako means bad, Sica means land) yet still, this land became a place of refuge for those with the right survival skills and was known as *the Stonghold* after the 1890 Massacre at Wounded Knee. Pine Ridge Indian Reservation. Experience the realities of the modern day reservation life, visit the site of the calamitous events at Wounded Knee in 1890, and as you travel around the reservation, learn how the old-time traditions and present-day life melds into the current Lakota lifeway.
Stay Rapid City, SD

Day 11 (Thurs 23rd Aug)

Depart from Rapid City Regional Airport

What People Said About Their Go Native America Journey



Just a quick email to say I had such a brilliant time on the Go Native tour!! Everything you boasted the tour had, it definitely lived up to! All the guides were lovely and sophisticated, genuine and generous with their indigenous knowledge and the beautiful way they shared that with us made the tour memorable.

Katrina Banks, Australia

[Go Native America] takes you into a world that few have ever seen. The knowledge and passion they have for the Native American culture is extraordinary.

Charlotte Fields, Versailles, Kentucky

First of all I would like to thank you for an awesome trip to the Native land! I learned a lot more about the native way of living than I ever thought possible! And also your guides were very good - they definitely knew a whole lot about the Indians. The 3 days in Yellowstone were crazy!! I have never experienced anything like that before. The nature is so beautiful, and all the animals we saw were so cool. And as you know I was most glad to see the wolf that we actually did see, but also the bear that ran across the road was very cool!

Mattias Borg, Sweden

Please give our love to everyone we met - we had a wonderful, wonderful trip and we keep telling everyone we know how great Go Native America was, it was a fabulous the tour... and we could not have asked for a better trip. It was so educational, and there are not enough words to tell you how much this trip meant to us. It was everything we expected and more. Thank you. We'll stay in touch

Charlotte and Bob Pack

Frequently Asked Questions About *Its ALL Indian Country*

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.

How far is the hike to the Medicine Wheel?

The hike is about a mile each way, the trail is wide and flat with undulations up and down in both directions. We're in no rush amid the outstanding views, serenity a-plenty, and awesome bluebird and marmot spotting!

What are the arrangements for restaurant meals?

Go Native America journeys never include meals so that people can choose what they want to eat and how much to spend on meals for themselves. Expensive hotel meal packages would significantly raise the cost of the trip per person, so we take you to good eateries where you make your own choices and enjoy eating whatever takes your fancy, whether, western or native inspired cuisine.

Powwow sounds great, but won't I get bored from just watching? Can we leave early, or can I join in?

The powwow has so much everyone to enjoy – stalls, foods, tipi camps and of course the dancing but we time our visits for when the best activities are taking place. However if everyone wants to leave early we can certainly do so by consensus.

For everyone to join in the dances is already part of powwow. It's called a Round Dance, it is easy to follow (something like a two-step shuffle) but **ONLY** when the Powwow MC invites people to come and dance. When competition dances are in progress, the audience watches, but intertribals are a chance for everyone to participate if they want to.

Journey Details:

Arrival and Departure: Arr Cody, Wyoming (COD) Aug 13,
Dep Rapid City, South Dakota (RAP) Aug 23

Price: Adults \$4295pp, children 14-17 \$1495 when sharing parents room.

Meeting place: At our Cody hotel on the 14th, 9am (unless you make arrangements to come in via Billings MT in which case please do so only in conjunction with Sarah.

Who will enjoy this journey? Adults and young people over 14, interested in indigenous cultures, history, travel, wildlife, ecology, geology, eco-issues and totally new experiences in respectful environments.

Minimum numbers: We need a minimum seven people to run this journey.

What is included? Airport-hotel shuttle transfers, all tour transportation, escorted tour guide services, accommodations, and any relevant info packages.

What is not included? Flights to/from the tour, food - families save money by purchasing meals they know kids will actually eat. Sundries (drinks, phone calls, laundry etc) museum/park entrance fees, and ground costs for optional activities such as horse back riding, chuck wagon supper.

Options: You can split this itinerary to complete only the Yellowstone and Powwow section, OR the Powwow and Black Hills section. Please enquire direct with Sarah for alternative pricing.

All tours on Native American tribal lands 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.



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...

For your own comfort and to help global eco-efforts it is important that everyone travel as light as possible. You don't need much, we are very informal here in the West.

Tour Accommodations (or Pre and Post Packages...

We can also help with additional Pre or Post Tours and accommodations.

Temperature/Weather...

Trips are planned for optimum weather conditions; however please take nothing for granted - across the plains and deserts 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 rain jacket is a must. For the Medicine Wheel it is a good idea to bring broken in hiking/walking boots or shoes. It is wise to have a light but waterproof rain jacket and a fleece or good sweater for nights at the powwow and mornings. A good daypack is useful. Overall the tour is very casual.

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.

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 us to check availability. You can then book the tour online on our secure site. A deposit 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 by International check, money order or banker's draft, or credit card. There may be an additional 2.5% charge if paying by credit card. Check payments should be made payable to Go Native America.





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 _____

1st Choice trip _____

2nd Choice trip _____

Declaration: On behalf of all persons on this booking form, I have read, understood and accepted the booking conditions dated 1st Sept 2011, booking information dated 1st 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

- 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

