



Theodore Roosevelt NP

“It was here that the romance of my life began.”

– Theodore Roosevelt



In ancient times, a river began slowly carving away at the plains leaving in its wake a fantastically broken landscape – the badlands. Today, Theodore Roosevelt National Park preserves a part of this unique place, creating a world-class destination for outdoor enthusiasts, history buffs, and adventurers in western North Dakota.

Visitors enjoy sweeping badlands views and up-close wildlife viewing on the park’s scenic roads. Hiking trails showcase the grandeur of the rugged landscape and range from wheelchair-accessible nature trails to long-distance backcountry routes. Visitor centers and ranger-led activities provide opportunities to gain a deeper understanding of the natural world around us and the human history that brought us to where we are today.

Whether you have half a day or an entire week, Theodore Roosevelt National Park provides ample opportunities to experience and understand the place that so inspired our nation’s 26th president.



Theodore Roosevelt National Park is comprised of three units. The North and South Units offer scenic drives, miles of trails, and opportunities to view bison, prairie dogs, and a variety of other mammal and bird species. The Elkhorn Ranch Unit boasts great scenery, history, and solitude.

South Unit

Visitors can tour Theodore Roosevelt's Maltese Cross Cabin and enjoy the 36-mile scenic loop drive showcasing the beauty of the badlands. Wild horses and elk are favorites among visitors to the South Unit. Camping is available year-round in Cottonwood Campground (fee) and in the park's undeveloped backcountry (free permit required).

North Unit

A 14-mile scenic drive through the badlands meanders past River Bend Overlook, one of the most photographed views in North Dakota. Camping in Juniper Campground (fee) and in the park's undeveloped backcountry (free permit required) is available year-round. Visitors with a keen eye can spot bighorn sheep on the rugged slopes of the North Unit.

The Elkhorn Ranch Unit

The Elkhorn Ranch cabin site is accessed by a 3/4 mile walk down a mowed pathway. Only the cornerstones of the cabin remain, but the beauty and wildness of Roosevelt's home ranch are preserved forever.



Planning Your Trip

You are welcome to enter the park 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

The South Unit Visitor Center is in Medora, ND just off of Interstate 94, 133 miles west of Bismarck, ND.

South Unit Visitor Center hours:
8:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. MT
Extended hours in summer

The North Unit Visitor Center is off of Highway 85, 50 miles north of Belfield, ND.

North Unit Visitor Center hours:
9:00 A.M. to 5:30 P.M. CT
Reduced hours in winter

Visit our website for updated information and road conditions:
www.nps.gov/thro.



Theodore Roosevelt National Park
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