

Little Bighorn Battlefield

National

2016

Monument

National Park Service
CENTENNIAL



Tatanka-iyotanka
Sitting Bull

1831 - 1890

photo courtesy of Little Bighorn

Sitting Bull was born between the years of 1831-1837, near the confluence of the Grand and Missouri Rivers in present day South Dakota. During his youth he became an accomplished hunter and warrior. He rose to prominence within his tribe as both a political and spiritual leader and became a champion of traditional Lakota culture. He is often characterized as a spiritual leader whose wisdom and eloquence was able to transform people to act together in resisting the encroaching westward expansion. During the winter and spring of 1876, open warfare broke out between the combined Lakota and Cheyenne and the Federal military forces. Sitting Bull was a leading voice in combating the U.S. Army's invasion of what he saw as Lakota way of life. The premiere battle of this struggle on the northern plains was the Battle of the Little Bighorn. After Custer's defeat, Sitting Bull, along with his people, fled north to Canada. In 1881, he returned to the United States to surrender. Sitting Bull was killed by Indian police on the Standing Rock Reservation in South Dakota on December 15, 1890.

Little Bighorn Battlefield National Monument memorializes a major battle fought on June 25th 1876, between Lakota, Cheyenne and Arapaho Indians, against the United States Army. These tribes were fighting to preserve their traditional way of life as nomadic buffalo hunters. The U.S. Army was carrying out the Grant Administration's instructions to remove the Lakota Sioux and Cheyenne peoples to the great Sioux Reservation in Dakota Territory.



George Custer

1839 - 1876

photo courtesy of Little Bighorn

George Armstrong Custer was born in New Rumley, Ohio on December 5, 1839. After his early education he became a teacher but soon accepted an appointment as a cadet at the United States Military Academy. He graduated from the Academy in June of 1861. He chose the Cavalry as the Branch he wished to serve with. Initially Custer was assigned staff duty with the Army of the Potomac. During the Civil War he steadily advanced in responsibility and rank. In the majority of the battles he engaged in with Confederate forces he was victorious. He escaped harm in battle having 11 horses shot from under him and incurring only one wound from a Confederate artillery shell during the Battle of Culpepper Courthouse. As a result he became known for his legendary "Custer Luck". During 1866 when the U.S. 7th Cavalry Regiment was created at Fort Riley Kansas, Custer was promoted to the position of Lt. Colonel of the regiment. Custer and the 7th Cavalry were assigned to accompany General Terry and the Dakota column in the summer campaign of 1876. In compliance with Gen. Terry's strategy and orders, he and 262 men met their death at the Battle of the Little Bighorn, June 25, 1876.

One – two hour visit.

- Explore the museum exhibits in the visitor center.
- Walk up to “Last Stand Hill” and the Indian Memorial.
- View the 20 minute orientation film.
- Browse the book store in the visitor center.

If you have two – four hours.

- Attend Park Ranger “Battle Talk” interpretive program under the covered patio.
- Walk the Deep Ravine Trail, ¼ mile self-guided walking trail, or visit Custer National Cemetery.

Four hours or more.

You have time to do all of the above, and more!

Drive the 4.5 mile tour road to the Reno-Benteen Battlefield, first stage of the Battle of the Bighorn.

- Do an audio tour by purchasing a CD or drive out on your own, self guided tour.
- Attend the one hour guided bus/van tour with Apsaalooke Tours. Purchase your tickets at the Visitor Center front desk.
- Visit the Custer National Cemetery, a veterans cemetery.



During your visit you will encounter a number of small signs like the one above. Use your cell phone and enter the number found on the posted signs to learn what is significant at these stops. These historic glimpses will help you enter more fully into the story of the Battle.

There are stops on both the walking tours and the tour road which can be accessed in any sequence. If you wish to leave feedback about this service please enter star 0 at anytime during your tour.

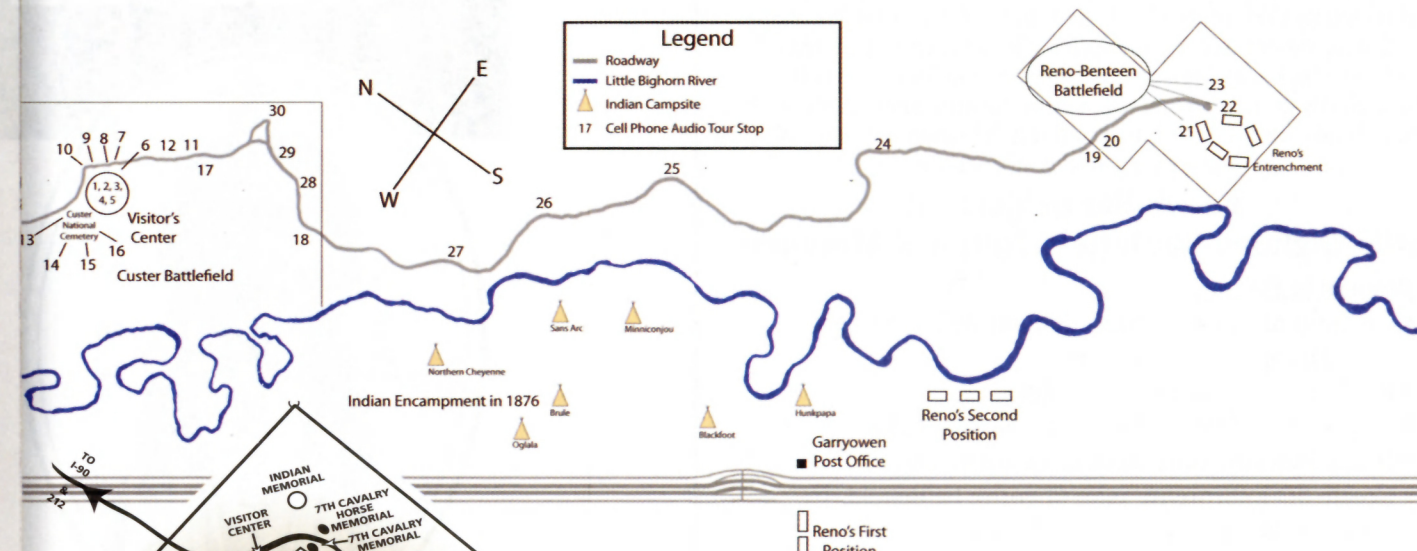
2016 Happy 100th Birthday!
National Park Service CENTENNIAL

The National Park Service turns 100 on August 25, 2016, and everyone can take part in the celebration! This centennial year kicks off a second century of stewardship of America's national parks and engaging communities through recreation, conservation, and historic preservation programs. We invite you to find your park and discover the national parks and programs in your own backyard!

The National Park Service invites you to find your park! In celebration of the 100th birthday of the National Park Service in 2016, we are launching a movement to spread the word about the amazing places we manage, the inspirational stories that the national parks tell, our country's natural resources, and our diverse cultural heritage.

Find Your Park is about more than just

Little Bighorn Battlefield CELL PHONE AUDIO TOUR STOPS



MAP OF THE LITTLE BIGHORN BATTLEFIELD

TAKE A HIKE

Deep Ravine Trail

This 3/4 mile self-guiding trail leads down to Deep Ravine where remains of soldiers from Company E were discovered. The trail returns via the same path to the visitor center patio. CAUTION: There are several steep grades.

Keogh-Crazy Horse Trail

This 1/4 mile trail traces Crazy Horse's attack upon Myles Keogh's Company I. This trail is located on the east side of the Tour Road, 450 yards south of Last Stand Hill. You may park your car at the wayside pull-out to access this trail, or at the Visitor Center parking lot.

When You Visit

Little Bighorn Battlefield is a fee area. Effective January 1, 2016, entry fee is \$20 per vehicle, \$10 for pedestrians, \$15 for motorcycles, no charge for Military pass (active duty military only) and Access Pass. America the Beautiful Annual pass is \$80 and Senior pass is \$10.

All programs are free except for guided bus/van tours operated by Apsaalooke Tours.

From Memorial Day to Labor Day, the Visitor Center is open 8:00 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. The Park Tour Road, National Cemetery, & Last Stand Hill are open 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Memorial Day to Labor Day. Fall hours are 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. during the winter and spring.

NOTE: Due to the possibility of inclement weather or conflicts in scheduling, some summer programs may not be presented as scheduled.



Little Bighorn Battlefield National Monument
P.O. Box 39, Crow Agency, MT 59022
(406) 638-3204 • www.nps.gov/libi
Published by the Western National Parks Association
in cooperation with the National Park Service.



BE SAFE!

This is rattlesnake country. Please stay on pathways. Wear appropriate head gear and footwear. Stay hydrated. Extinguish all smoking material before entering trails.

Help us protect the resources

- Stay on trail to protect historic resources
- Do not disturb wildlife or vegetation
- Do not remove artifacts or bullets
- Do not deface headstones
- Do not litter
- Pets are not permitted on trails

Federal law prohibits relic hunting and use of metal detectors. To report offenders or found artifacts, please notify a park ranger at the visitor center or call 406-638-2621.

visit our websites:
www.nps.gov/libi
www.friendslittlebighorn.com

WESTERN NATIONAL PARKS ASSOCIATION

If you would like to learn more about the Battle of the Little Bighorn, you can pick up a list of books, DVDs and CDs available for purchase at the Visitor Center. You may also write to Western National Parks Association, P.O. Box 190, Crow Agency, Montana 59022. Phone (406) 638-3224. To view our online bookstore go to www.wnpa.org. Proceeds are used by the Association to support historical, scientific, and educational activities of the National Park Service.

Memorial Day through Labor Day

Little Bighorn Battlefield

POCKET GUIDE • POCKET GUIDE • POCKET GUIDE

Daily Park Ranger Programs

TIME	PROGRAM
8:30 a.m.	20 Minute Orientation Film - Theater
9:00 a.m.	Battle Talk - Patio
10:00 a.m.	Last Stand Hill Ranger Talk - Meet at Last Stand Hill
10:30 a.m.	20 Minute Orientation Film - Theater
11:00 a.m.	Battle Talk - Patio
12:00 noon	Last Stand Hill Ranger Talk - Meet at Last Stand Hill
12:30 p.m.	20 Minute Orientation Film - Theater
1:00 p.m.	Battle Talk - Patio
2:00 p.m.	20 Minute Orientation Film - Theater
2:30 p.m.	20 Minute Orientation Film - Theater
3:00 p.m.	Battle Talk - Patio
4:00 p.m.	20 Minute Orientation Film - Theater
4:30 p.m.	Battle Talk - Patio
5:30 p.m.	20 Minute Orientation Film - Theater
6:15 p.m.	20 Minute Orientation Film - Theater

TEAR OFF AND SAVE

NOTE: Due to the possibility of inclement weather or conflicts in scheduling, some summer programs may not be presented as scheduled.

P.O. Box 159 • Crow Agency, MT 59022

“Know the power that is peace”
—Black Elk