

(VERY) ROUGH DRAFT
OLLI VISIT TO MONTANA AND WYOMING
JUNE 04-08, 2012

Monday, June 04, 2012: Participants will travel to Billings, MT on their own. Delta and United are primary carriers. The group rate for lodging in Billings is \$89.91 single and \$95.16 double, including taxes. (Note: For those who wish to travel on Sunday, June 3rd [to avoid a missed connection on Monday] the rate is the same. The rate is also the same for Thursday, June 7th, when we return to Billings). The hotel in Billings is located in the heart of downtown, near restaurants and museums). Hotel contact information will be provided by the OLLI office to all persons who have been accepted for the trip.

Tuesday, June 05, 2012: We will depart by bus from Billings. The exact departure time will be published in the **Final Logistics and Briefing Sheet**, available at some point in the spring semester. (Note: It is the intention of your advance team not to schedule any departures in the very early AM or arrivals in the late PM). After leaving Billings we will travel by bus (a little more than a 1 hour drive) to the Little Bighorn National Battlefield Monument (LBHNB) in Crow Agency, MT. Here we will visit Reno-Benteen Hill (4.8 miles from the Visitor Center), then the Native American Monument and Last Stand Hill, then the park's Visitor Center. After we leave the LBHNB, we will travel to the Fort Phil Kearney State Historical Site, located 20 miles south of Sheridan, WY. Here we will spend most of our time inside the grounds of the old fort, but a side trip to the site of The Fetterman Fight (12/21/1866) may be possible, depending on our driver's knowledge of the site and the ability of the bus to get turned around at the site. A side trip to the site of the Wagon Box Fight will probably not be possible, as the road is narrow and unpaved. After leaving Fort Phil Kearney, we will travel back north to our lodging in Sheridan, WY. The lodging cost in Sheridan is \$97.90 including taxes. A free, hot breakfast on Wednesday morning is included.

Wednesday, June 06, 2012: The first event of the day will be a one hour trolley tour through the historical environs of Sheridan. After that, we will travel by bus to Cody, WY (over The Bighorn Mountains) with a half way rest stop at the NPS' Shell Falls Visitor Center just outside of Shell, WY. We will then travel; to Cody, WY and drop the participants off at The Buffalo Bill Historical Center (BBHC). We will return the bus to the BBHC (the Center closes at 6pm) and transport the participants to the hotel. Lodging in Cody is \$133.92 single and \$139.32 double.

Thursday, June 07, 2012: The first stop of the morning will be a side trip to the Buffalo Bill Dam Visitor Center (6 miles west of Cody). We will then return to Cody for a 2nd visit to the Buffalo Bill Historical Center. After that we will head north toward Red Lodge, MT via Route 120 (not the Beartooth All-American Road) with a side trip to the Dead Indian Overlook on the Chief Joseph Scenic Byway. Restaurant choices and some menus will be handed out on the trip between Dead Indian Overlook and Red Lodge. After a late lunch in Red Lodge, we will return by bus to Billings, about an hour's drive (+) from Red Lodge.

Friday, June 08, 2012: Travel on your own, either home or on vacation.

Weather: Billings sits at 3,000+ feet, Sheridan at 3,700 feet and Cody at 5,088 feet. Red Lodge is 5,555 feet. Weather in these areas is quite unpredictable in June; it could be 80 degrees and it could be 30 degrees, so dress accordingly.

SUGGESTED READING

Crazy Horse and Custer – The Parallel Lives of Two American Warriors Stephen E. Ambrose – Doubleday 1975 – Anchor Books Reprint 1996

A Terrible Glory – Custer and the Little Bighorn – The Last Great Battle of the American West James Donovan – Little, Brown and Co. 2008

The Last Stand – Custer, Sitting Bull and the Battle of the Little Bighorn Nathaniel Philbrick – Penguin Group USA 2010

Buffalo Bill Cody – The Man Behind the Legend Robert Carter – John Wiley & Sons, NY 2000

Lives and Legends of Buffalo Bill Don Russell – University of Oklahoma Press, OK 1960, paperback edition 1979

Questions?

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