

DISCOVER 
CARBON COUNTY
WYOMING

Easy Access From Interstate 80
Excellent Outdoor Adventures



DISCOVER 
CARBON COUNTY
WYOMING

ADVENTURE. OUT.

WyomingCarbonCounty.com

Mineral Hot Springs • Historic Walking Tours
10+ Unique Western Museums • Wildlife
Historic Frontier Prison • Local Events
Rodeos • Excellent Outdoor Recreation



Discover Exciting Adventures in Beautiful Places



Carbon County, Wyoming

is known for its diversity of landscapes and wide open spaces, delicious food, natural and historic attractions, abundant wildlife, dazzling sunsets and friendly people.

Take the scenic road less traveled to explore pristine mountains, beautiful deserts, rivers teeming with “blue ribbon” trout, mineral hot springs and uncrowded trails.

To help make the most of your visit, we have included itineraries that will allow you to soak in mineral hot springs, tour museums and historic sites, fish, golf, hike, take scenic drives, see wildlife and more.

*Come to Carbon County
and leave the crowds
behind.*

CARBON COUNTY VISITORS' COUNCIL

PO Box 1017 | Rawlins, WY 82301

800-228-3547 • 307-324-3020



Design by Cindy Loose,

Visions In Progress (V. I. P.) Marketing, LLC • 307-460-8502

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ABOUT US

Carbon County is 7,897 square miles from the mountains to the deserts. 53% of the lands are public lands, with the largest portions managed by the Bureau of Land Management and the United States Forest Service. **Our unique combination of great public access and an expansive area allows for countless exciting discoveries and authentic experiences.**

Historically, Carbon County has been traversed by the Overland Trail, the Oregon Trail, and the Mormon Trail. With the arrival of the first Transcontinental Railroad (Union Pacific) and the Lincoln Highway, settlement and expansion increased throughout the county. **10 museums and 1 historic site preserve our history through unique artifacts and stories.**

The population of Carbon County is largely rural, with most living within the communities of Rawlins, Sinclair, Saratoga, Encampment, Riverside, Hanna, Medicine Bow, Elk Mountain, Baggs, Dixon and Savery. **There is a wide variety of places to stay, eat, and shop throughout Carbon County, Wyoming.**



DISCOVER
CARBON COUNTY
 WYOMING

**ACTIVITIES
 MAP**



MAPS & INFORMATION

Bureau of Land Management
 Rawlins, WY · 307-328-4200


Wyoming Game and Fish Department
 Cheyenne, WY · 307-777-3600

Medicine Bow/Routt National Forest
 Saratoga, WY · 307-326-5250

Wyoming Road and Travel
 (888) 996-7623 · wyoroad.info

MUSEUMS & HISTORIC SITES

- 1 Baggs Outlaw Stop**
 221 N. Penland St. · Baggs
 307-383-2166
littlesnakerivermuseum.com
- 2 Carbon County Museum**
 904 W Walnut St. · Rawlins
 307-328-274
carboncountymuseum.org
- 3 Elk Mountain Museum**
 105 Bridge St. · Elk Mountain
 307-348-7037
elkmountainmuseum.com
- 4 Fort Fred Steele State Historic Site**
 Exit 228 on I-80 · Sinclair
 307-320-3013
wyoparks.wyo.gov/index.php/places-to-go/fort-fred-steele
- 5 Grand Encampment Museum**
 807 Barnett Ave. · Encampment
 307-327-5308 · gemuseum.com
- 6 Hanna Basin Museum**
 502 Front St. · Hanna · 307-325-6465
HannaBasinMuseum.net
- 7 Little Snake River Museum**
 13 County Rd 561 N · Savery
 307-383-7262
littlesnakerivermuseum.com
- 8 Medicine Bow Museum**
 405 Lincoln Hwy. · Medicine Bow
 307-379-2383
medbowmuseum.com
- 9 Parco/Sinclair Museum**
 300 Lincoln Ave. · Sinclair · 307-324-3058
parcosinclairtheatre.com
- 10 Saratoga Museum**
 104 E Constitution Ave.
 Saratoga · 307-326-5511
saratogamuseumwy.com
- 11 Wyoming Frontier Prison**
 500 W. Walnut St. · Rawlins
 307-324-4422
wyomingfrontierprison.org

 Distances (in miles)	Rawlins	Saratoga	Encampment/ Riverside	Medicine Bow	Hanna	Elk Mountain	Baggs	Dixon	Savery	Denver, CO	Salt Lake City, UT	Yellowstone Nat'l Park South Entrance	Steamboat, CO	Cheyenne, WY	Casper, WY
	Rawlins	-	42	62	58	41	46	77	84	88	230	290	248	160	150
Saratoga	42	-	20	57	38	44	75	68	62	228	333	280	126	148	152
Encampment/ Riverside	62	18	-	76	58	63	46	39	34	217	333	300	108	136	172
Medicine Bow	58	57	76	-	20	36	135	142	146	186	348	282	182	107	95
Hanna	41	38	58	20	-	16	117	124	130	198	348	331	165	119	116
Elk Mountain	46	44	63	36	16	-	110	103	97	184	336	283	170	105	129
Baggs	77	75	46	135	117	110	-	7	12	242	315	374	80	225	198
Dixon	84	68	39	142	124	103	7	-	6	249	322	381	87	232	205
Savery	88	62	34	146	130	97	12	6	-	255	328	393	93	238	211

GOLF COURSES

- 1 Rochelle Ranch Golf Course**
 2808 E Rochelle Dr. · Rawlins · 307-324-7121
rawlinswy.gov/158/Rochelle-Ranch-Golf-Course
- 2 Saratoga Public Golf Course**
 601 E Pic Pike Rd. · Saratoga · 800-594-0178
wyomingoutdooradventures.com/saratoga-public-golf-course
- 3 Sinclair Golf Course**
 510 A CR 324 · NE of Sinclair · 307-324-6320

POOLS & STATE PARKS

- 1 Hanna Recreation Center**
 8000 Hwy 72 · Hanna · 307-325-9402 · hannaheadlight.com
- 2 Rawlins Aquatic Center**
 1401 Colorado St. · Rawlins · 307-328-9272 ·
rawlinswy.gov/155/Rawlins-Family-Recreation-Center
- 3 Saratoga Municipal Pool**
 300 E. Walnut Ave. · Saratoga · 307-326-8338
- 4 Saratoga Hobo Hot Pools**
 300 E. Walnut Ave. · Saratoga · 307-326-8335
- 5 Seminoe State Park**
 County Rd 351 · 307-320-3013 · wyoparks.wyo.gov/index.php/places-to-go/seminoe

RAWLINS

POPULATION: 9,075 | ELEVATION: 6,755 FEET



AVERAGE TEMPERATURES

Summer High (July) 84° F

Winter Low (Jan) 12° F

Rawlins is located on Interstate 80 and bordered by the Great Divide Basin (west), Sierra Madre Mountain Range (south), Seminoe Mountains and Shirley Mountains (east) and Ferris Mountains (north).

Rawlins captures the spirit of the Old West with two fantastic museums and a historic downtown. Its diverse population, multicultural heritage, and variety of lodging and dining options, unique stores and beautiful parks provide a welcome atmosphere for residents and weary travelers alike.

RAWLINS HISTORY

The city of Rawlins garners its name from General John A. Rawlins, chief of staff of the US Army. In 1867, General Rawlins traveled to Wyoming to survey land with Grenville M. Dodge, chief engineer of the **Union Pacific Railroad**. Upon arriving to this area, General Rawlins sent out a team of scouts who found a fresh spring. He declared it “the sweetest water ever tasted” and indicated that the highest honor he could receive would be to have the spring named for him. **Rawlins Spring**, later shortened to Rawlins, was founded as a division point on the railroad. Rawlins became known as a last stop for water before the long dusty ride across the Great Divide Basin.

The Railroad arrived in Rawlins in 1868, and along with it, gamblers, thieves and gunmen. Tough, rowdy and lawless--saloon brawls were frequent. Sometimes vigilantes took over when the townsfolk

felt justice should be immediate. Such was the case for infamous outlaw, George Parrott, also known as **Big Nose George**. Stop by the **Carbon County Museum** to see what became of George.

Rawlins’ remote location made it a desirable place for the first state penitentiary. Inmates arriving here by train would find escape difficult in the desert. For 80 years, the “Old Pen” housed some of Wyoming’s most notorious criminals. The **Wyoming Frontier Prison**, now a museum, shares their stories.

Rawlins is a nationally recognized, award-winning Main Street Community. As you wander the streets of downtown Rawlins, admire the architecture from 150 years ago and reflect on the serene beauty of this western city.

WHERE TO STAY AND EAT: RAWLINS & SINCLAIR

CAMPGROUNDS & RV PARKS

Rawlins KOA Campground
205 E. Highway 71 • 307-328-2021
koa.com/campgrounds/rawlins

Red Desert Rose Campground
3101 Wagon Circle Rd.
307-328-1091 • reddesertrose.com

Western Hills Campground
2500 Wagon Circle Rd. • 307-324-2592
westernhillscampground.com

HOTELS & MOTELS

America's Best Value Inn Rawlins
1392 S. Higley Blvd. • 307-328-1732
americasbestvalueinn.com

Baymont Inn & Suites Rawlins
2005 E. Daley St. • 307-324-4700
wyndhamhotels.com/baymont

Best Western Cottontree Inn
2221 W. Spruce St. • 307-324-2737
cottontreeinns.com

Brickyard Inn
415 W. Spruce St. • 307-328-5319
brickyardinn.com

Comfort Inn & Suites
2366 E. Cedar St. • 307-324-3663
choicehotels.com

Days Inn
2222 E. Cedar St. • 307-621-9100
wyndhamhotels.com

Econo Lodge
1801 E. Cedar St. • 307-324-2783
choicehotels.com

Fairfield by Marriott
2370 E. Cedar St. • 307-328-5991
marriott.com

First Choice Inn
1904 E. Cedar St. • 307-328-1401
1stchoicerawlins.com

Hampton Inn
406 Airport Rd. • 307-324-2320
hamptoninn3.hilton.com

Holiday Inn Express
201 Airport Rd. • 307-324-3760
ihg.com/holidayinnexpress

Labella Motel
1819 W Spruce St. • 307-324-2583

Microtel Inn and Suites by Wyndham
812 Locust St. • 307-324-5588
wyndhamhotels.com

Motel 7
1915 W. Spruce St. • 307-324-2263

Quality Inn
1617 W. Spruce St. • 307-328-1600
wyndhamhotels.com

Rawlins Western Lodge
1806 E. Cedar St. • 307-328-5621

Super 8 Motel
2338 Wagon Circle Rd.
307-328-0630
wyndhamhotels.com

ASIAN & THAI

Anong's Thai Cuisine
210 5th St. • 307-324-6262

Aspen House
318 5th St. • 307-324-4787

Ichiban Japanese Steakhouse
1307 W. Spruce St. • 307-328-5858

MEXICAN

La Abuelita Mexican Restaurant
304 E. Cedar St. • 307-328-5210

Michael's "Big City" Steakhouse
1711 W. Spruce St. • 307-324-4868

Su Casa Cafe in Sinclair
705 E. Lincoln Ave. • 307-328-1745

FAST FOOD

Burger King
2510 E. Cedar St. • 307-324-3866

Taco Bell
2421 Plaza St. • 307-328-5890

McDonald's
2225 Plaza St. • 307-324-7377

Subway (2 locations)
2014 E. Cedar St. • 307-324-6130
1400 S. Higley Blvd. • 307-328-2103

AMERICAN FOOD

Buck's Sports Grill
401 W. Cedar St. • 307-328-5581

Cappy's Restaurant
2351 Spruce St. • 307-324-4847

Country Pride
1400 S. Higley Blvd. • 307-324-8722

Denny's
I-80 & Johnson Rd. • 307-324-0078

I-80 Travel Plaza & Restaurant
I-80 & Exit 221 • 307-324-7623

Michael's "Big City" Steakhouse
1711 W. Spruce St. • 307-324-4868

Penny's Diner
2005 E. Daley • 307-324-4700

Peppermill Bar & Cactus Jack's
1602 Inverness Blvd. • 307-324-7427

Rochelle Ranch Bar & Grill
2808 E. Rochelle Rd. • 307-324-7121

Turnbuckle Lounge at Best Western
2221 W. Spruce St. • 307-324-2737

PIZZA & ITALIAN

Domino's
312 W. Cedar St. • 307-328-1400

Pizza Hut
506 Higley Blvd. • 307-324-7706

Shogunz Pizzeria
309 W. Cedar St. • 307-328-5550

SPECIALTY

Deb B's Family Espresso
1902 E. Cedar St. • 307-324-2919

Good Days Tea House
509 West Cedar St.

Mukwano Coffee
1410 West Pine St. • 307-328-5021

West End Cafe
2300 W. Spruce St. • 307-710-2233



Rawlins & Sinclair

BEST 3-DAY ITINERARY



DAY 1 - TOUR MUSEUMS AND HISTORIC DOWNTOWN RAWLINS

Take an all-day tour that spans 150 years. From the moment explorers and settlers sprawled West to claim lands once inhabited by Native American tribes, Carbon County has been a stronghold of some of Wyoming's most colorful characters. Experience Rawlins' rich history through its diverse and interesting collection of museums.

Learn the history of western expansion at the **Carbon County Museum**. Your "Wild West" adventure begins with fascinating exhibits including a new Union Pacific Railroad exhibit, Native American exhibit, art exhibit, and an "Outlaws" exhibit featuring Big Nose George Parrot. The staff still ring the old Fire Truck bell on request. Open April 1 - Oct. 31: Tuesday - Saturday, 10am to 6pm; Winter hours: Tuesday-Saturday, 10am to 5pm.

Looking for an authentic experience that's a tad creepy, yet educational? Tour the **Wyoming Frontier Prison**, Wyoming's first state penitentiary. Currently operating as a museum, this impressive stone fortress once housed Wyoming's most infamous outlaws. Excellent tour guides tell interesting stories of the inmates, prison life and punishment--from hangings to the gas chamber. Daily one hour tours available, Memorial Day-Labor Day. Please call first off-season.

Take a break for lunch and explore **Historic Downtown Rawlins**. Rich in 19th century architecture, downtown Rawlins has several unique shops and stores. Rawlins boasts a great selection of restaurants with good eats: steaks, burgers, seafood, Thai, pasta, pizza and authentic Mexican. Then take a walk through history with Rawlins' downtown mural tour. 14 murals created by local artists highlight the history and natural beauty of Carbon County.



DAY 2 - GOLF AND TOUR THE PARCO/SINCLAIR MUSEUM & FORT FRED STEELE HISTORIC SITE

SEASON: APRIL - SEPTEMBER

The golf experience in Wyoming is about so much more than great golf. The public courses in Rawlins and Sinclair are certain to challenge your abilities in Wyoming's weather and terrain.

The **Rochelle Ranch Golf Course** in Rawlins has quickly become one of the most-talked about golf destinations! This is partly due to the 18-hole, open links-style course that weaves through sagebrush for nearly 8,000 yards. Challenge your skills on well-groomed greens and fairways where you have a good chance of seeing pronghorn antelope right on the course. Excellent views and affordable with on-site restaurant, bar and pro shop.

Not far from Sinclair, the **Sinclair Golf Course** offers uncrowded, affordable golf for every skill level. Play 9 holes amid a few trees and natural beauty. The course is located roughly 13 miles northeast of Sinclair on the Sinclair Golf Course Road.

After time on the course, swing by **Su Casa** in Sinclair for an authentic Mexican meal. This local favorite is known for their shrimp fajitas, green chili and sopapillas!

The **Parco/Sinclair Museum** is located inside the Sinclair Town Hall, in a room that was originally the First National Bank of Parco. Collections date back to the 1930's and feature the founding of the town of Parco (Producers And Refiners Company) and the building of the oil refinery. This company town was purchased by Sinclair Oil in 1935, so there is plenty of Sinclair's history here as well. Open Monday through Friday, 8am to 12pm and 1pm to 5pm.

For an off-the-beaten-path piece of history, visit the **Fort Steele State Historic Site**. The Fort was built in 1868, on the North Platte River, to protect the men building the Union Pacific Railroad from attacks by Native Americans. There are still many foundations, a few original structures and occasionally trains pass by over the bridge, giving you a sense of life in the past. Open Memorial Day through Labor Day from 9am to 7pm. Directions: From the I-80 Rest Area, exit 228, follow the paved road 1.5 miles north to the Fort.

DAY 3 - SEMINOE-ALCOVA BACKCOUNTRY BYWAY SCENIC DRIVE

SEASON: MAY - OCTOBER

There's just something special about the wide open spaces of Carbon County. Take your time, explore the stops and absorb the natural scenery of this backcountry drive.



The **Seminoe-Alcova Back Country Byway** begins just a couple of miles off of I-80, north of Sinclair. It follows County Road 351/Seminoe Road, for 64 miles. Highlights of the trip include passing through the remote, red rocky terrain of Carbon County to **Seminoe Reservoir**, **Seminoe State Park**, **Seminoe Mountains** and **Miracle Mile** (a seven-mile-long "blue-ribbon" trout fishery on the North Platte River). See **SCENIC DRIVES** on page 25 for more details.

TIP: The Byway segment beyond Seminoe State Park and through the Seminoe Mountains to the Miracle Mile is very steep, and not recommended for motor homes or vehicles pulling trailers. There are no services along the Byway.

SARATOGA

POPULATION: 1,690 | ELEVATION: 6,791 FEET



AVERAGE TEMPERATURES

Summer High (July) 82° F

Winter Low (Jan) 11° F

Located 20 miles south of Interstate 80, Saratoga is nestled in a scenic river valley between the Snowy Range and Sierra Madre Mountain Range. This easy-going town also sits atop one of the most active mineral hot springs in Wyoming.

Saratoga is treasured by those that love the outdoors. It offers miles of “blue ribbon” trout fishing in the North Platte River and close proximity to mountains for hiking, camping, big game hunting, skiing, snowmobiling, and wildlife viewing.

SARATOGA HISTORY

Native American tribes were the first to discover the healing and relaxation benefits of the natural mineral hot springs, naming them the “**Place of Magic Water**”. Early explorers, trappers, traders, and migrants soon followed in stagecoaches and wagon trains along the established trails. Wagon ruts from the **Overland Trail**, are still visible where the trail crosses Highway 130, north of Saratoga.

Saratoga, originally known as Warm Springs, traces its origins to 1877. It was then that homesteader William H. Cadwell built a bath house for travelers passing through the area. As word spread, visitors came to soak, eat and stay the night. Hotels were built, including the two-and-one-half story **Hotel Wolf**. A gathering place for the past 125 years, this landmark in downtown Saratoga offers visitors and locals casual dining in historic ambiance.

The **North Platte River** has long been prized for its excellent trout fishing, solitude and scenic views. More than 65 miles have been designated as a “Blue Ribbon” trout fishery. As one of the few rivers that flow north, it was used during the construction of the Union Pacific Railroad. “**Tie hacks**” were employed to cut logs/railroad ties from lodgepole pine in the Medicine Bow mountains. During spring runoff, the logs were floated down creeks to the North Platte River, where they drifted in mass to Fort Steele.

Visitors are still drawn to Saratoga as a destination for healing, relaxation and thrilling outdoor adventures. Enjoy the small town atmosphere and endless beauty in a place away from the crowds.

BED AND BREAKFASTS

Copperline Lodge

417 W. Rochester Ave. • 307-321-5544
copperlinelodge.com

CAMPGROUNDS & RV PARKS

Deer Haven RV

706 N. First St. • 307-326-8746
deerhavenrv.com

Saratoga Lake Campground

2 miles N. of Saratoga • 307-326-8335
townofsaratoga.org

Ten Mile Inn & RV Park

5651 Highway 130 • 307-326-5928
tenmileinnsaratoga.com

HOTELS & MOTELS

Hacienda Motel

1500 S. First St. • 307-326-5751

Historic Wolf Hotel & Restaurant

101 E. Bridge Ave. • 307-326-5525
wolffhotel.com

Riviera Motor Lodge

104 E. Saratoga Ave. • 307-326-5651
therivieramotorlodge.com

Sage Motel

311 S. First St. • 307-326-8339
saratogasagemotel.com

Silver Moon Motel & Suites

412 E. Bridge Ave. • 307-326-5974
silvermoonmotel.com

LODGES, GUEST RANCHES & RESORTS

Brush Creek Luxury Ranch Collection

66 Brush Creek Road • 307-327-5284
brushcreekranch.com

Medicine Bow Lodge and Adventure Guest Ranch

5556 Highway 130 • 307-326-5439
medicinebowlodge.net



CABINS & COTTAGES

Jack Creek Guard Station

20 miles W. on County Road 500, 5 miles on NFSR 452
307-326-5258 • recreation.gov

Platte River Cottages

304 S. River St. • 307-321-1658

Platte Valley Cabins

6495 WY-130 • 307-329-8246
plattevalleycabins.com

Rendezvous Creekside

#9 Ryan Park Road
307-326-8998
rendezvouscreekside.com

River Cottages

216 E. Walnut Ave.
307-326-3053

Ten Mile Inn & RV Park

5651 Highway 130 •
307-326-5928
tenmileinnsaratoga.com

AMERICAN FOOD

Hotel Wolf Restaurant

101 E. Bridge Ave. • 307-326-5525

J.W. Hugus & Company

405 N. First St. • 307-326-5046

Lazy River Cantina

110 E. Bridge Ave. • 307-326-8472

Saratoga Sandwich Company

104 W. Bridge Ave. • 307-326-5555

Snowy Mountain Pub & Brewery

601 E. Pic Pike Road • 307-326-5261

The Malt

110 E. Main Ave. • 307-326-3572

PIZZA & ITALIAN

Bella's Bistro

218 N. First St. • 307-326-8033

The Grumpy Italian Eatery and Deli

113 W. Bridge St. • 307-326-3210

SPECIALTY

Lollypops

107 E. Bridge Ave. • 307-326-5020

Sunny Cup

100 S. First St. • 307-326-3699



DAY 1 - SOAK IN SARATOGA'S MINERAL HOT SPRINGS POOLS

Arrive in Saratoga and drop off your bags at your place of accommodation. If arriving between April and September, sign up for a **guided fishing trip** or **scenic river float** on either the North Platte River or the Encampment River. These tours are very popular and we recommend that you book at least 48 hours in advance.

Afterward, take a leisurely soak in the **Hobo Hot Springs Pools**. Free and open to the public 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, these mineral hot spring pools are the ultimate for healthy relaxation. Water temperatures range from 101 to 110 degrees; the Lobster Pot is a steamy 120 degrees. The "Not-So-Hot" Pool offers cooler temperatures. Restrooms, changing, and shower facilities are available on-site.

Next tour the **Saratoga Museum** which is housed in the 1915 Saratoga-Encampment Railroad Depot. Learn the history of Saratoga and the Upper North Platte River Valley through exhibits that include: minerals and gems ranging from India to Antarctica, hands-on dinosaur poop, a Columbian mammoth tooth, vintage toys, a buffalo kill site and a one-bedroom cabin. The Saratoga Museum is open seasonally from Memorial Day weekend through September, Wednesday through Saturday 10am-4pm and on Sunday's noon to 4pm.

Then head to **downtown Saratoga** for its unique shops, western stores, **Studio T** art gallery, a personalized outdoor experience at **Koyoty Sports**, ice cream at **Lollypop's** and some of the best restaurants in Carbon County. There are so many dining options in Saratoga, you'll have no trouble finding a great place to eat.

Saratoga BEST 3-DAY ITINERARY



DAY 2 - GUIDED FISHING TRIP OR SCENIC RIVER FLOAT AND GOLF

SEASON: APRIL - SEPTEMBER

One of the best experiences in Carbon County is floating and fishing the **Upper North Platte River** (a Blue Ribbon Wild Trout Stream with about 3,200 fish per mile) and the **Encampment River** (for unique trophy trout). Professional area guides offer full-day and half-day float fishing trips. Wade fishing trips are available year round.

If fishing is not your thing, then take a nice relaxing half-day boat ride instead. Enjoy beautiful scenery with views of wildlife and bald eagles.

Afterwards, stretch your legs with a round of golf on the **Saratoga Hot Springs Resort Golf Course**. This scenic 9-hole public course offers over-river shots in a lush wooded area. Cart rentals are available. Then stop by the **Snowy Mountain Brewery**, located at the Resort, and sample some locally brewed beer.

Finish your day by watching the sunset at **Saratoga Lake**. Just 5 minutes north of town, Saratoga Lake is a favorite spot for fishing, boating and birdwatching at the nearby wetlands.

DAY 3 - SNOWY RANGE SCENIC DRIVE

SEASON: JUNE - MID-OCTOBER

Have a relaxed breakfast at the **Saratoga Sandwich Company** or **JW Hugus & Company** - both are hot spots for locals and visitors alike. After breakfast, pick up some fresh items for a picnic lunch at **Valley Foods and Liquors**. Then head south to the **Snowy Range Scenic Byway** turnoff, the Highway 130/230 junction.

The **Snowy Range Scenic Byway** follows Highway 130 for twenty-nine miles through the center of the **Snowy Range** in the **Medicine Bow National Forest**. Typically open Memorial Day through October, weather permitting, this high altitude pass offers easy access to many picnic areas, campgrounds, observation and interpretive sites, and a large network of roads and trails. It also showcases some of the most breathtaking and easily accessible peaks in the Rocky Mountains, including famed **Medicine Bow Peak** at 12,013 feet. See **SCENIC DRIVES** on page 25 for more details.



TIP: There are several convenient places to stay and eat along Highway 130. See page 12.

ADDITIONAL DAY - HIKE MEDICINE BOW PEAK

SEASON: LATE-JUNE - MID-SEPTEMBER

Medicine Bow Peak is a popular attraction, so start your day early to avoid the crowds. This high elevation trail is strenuous and roughly 5.5 miles one-way. Be prepared for a long and warm hike. Take plenty of drinking water, snacks, good hiking shoes and a hat or a cap to protect you from the sun. It's best to finish your hike by 3:00 pm as afternoon storms are common and often include lightning strikes.

The Medicine Bow Peak Trail is accessible from the Lake Marie parking lot and the Sugarloaf Recreation Area. If you begin from the Lake Marie parking lot, we recommend capturing some early-morning photos of Lake Marie prior to your hike.

Lake Marie lies below majestic Medicine Bow Peak and is named after Mrs. Mary (Marie) Bellamy. Marie led a successful suffrage drive that resulted in the passage of the 19th Amendment to the United States Constitution. She was also the first woman elected to the Wyoming Legislature in 1910.

The Medicine Bow Peak Trail follows switchbacks and several rock crossings above tree line to the highest point in the Snowy Range at 12,013 feet. Serene and simply breathtaking views are everywhere.

ENCAMPMENT & RIVERSIDE

POPULATION: 502 | ELEVATION: 7,277 FEET



AVERAGE TEMPERATURES

Summer High (July) 78° F
Winter Low (Jan) 10° F

These unhurried small towns share a huge backyard! Located in the beautiful foothills of the Sierra Madre Mountain Range, Encampment and Riverside offer easy access to big outdoor adventures.

Relax and unwind. This lightly visited paradise is the perfect place to fish the trout-filled Encampment River, backpack the Continental Divide, hike pristine wilderness, and hunt for plentiful elk, mule deer and pronghorn antelope.

ENCAMPMENT HISTORY

Camp le Grande—The Grand Encampment was named in 1838 by fur trappers for their mountain trading fair, or Rendezvous, beside the river. The annual Rendezvous attracted mountain men, traders and Native American tribes who passed through and hunted the Sierra Madre Mountain Range. Grand Encampment was later shortened to Encampment.

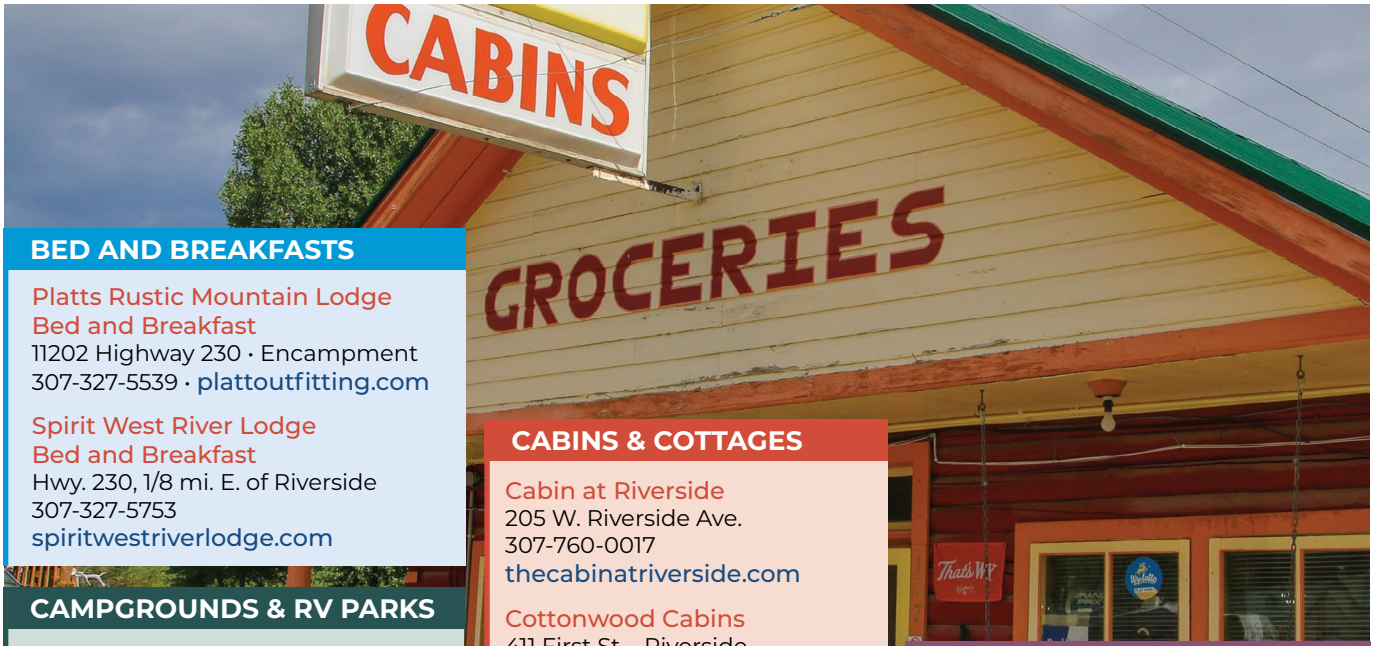
Copper was discovered in 1897 in the Sierra Madre Mountain Range, just above this quiet settlement. The area boomed with approximately 2,000 residents by 1908. A 16-mile tramway was built to transport copper ore from the **Ferris-Haggarty mine**, over the Continental Divide (10,690 feet) to a smelter in Riverside. The mine produced more than two million dollars of copper over its ten years of production. A segment of this tramway is on display at the **Grand Encampment Museum**.

RIVERSIDE HISTORY

Formerly a ranching headquarters on the Encampment River, the **town of Doggett** was established in 1897 by the Doggett Brothers. As co-owners of a grocery store in Saratoga, the Doggetts expanded their business to the newly platted 13-acre, six block town. Within a year, the town of Doggett included a livery stable, blacksmith shop, grocery store, saloon, restaurant and served as a shipping center for the mines. In 1900, the Riverside Addition was added to the town of Doggett and the town was later renamed Riverside.

Encampment and Riverside host exciting annual events to celebrate their rich history through family activities, old-fashioned melodramas, jamborees and rodeos.

WHERE TO STAY AND EAT: ENCAMPMENT & RIVERSIDE



BED AND BREAKFASTS

**Platts Rustic Mountain Lodge
Bed and Breakfast**
11202 Highway 230 · Encampment
307-327-5539 · plattoutfitting.com

**Spirit West River Lodge
Bed and Breakfast**
Hwy. 230, 1/8 mi. E. of Riverside
307-327-5753
spiritwestriverlodge.com

CAMPGROUNDS & RV PARKS

**Lazy Acres Campground
& Motel**
110 Fields Ave. · Riverside
307-327-5968 · lazyacreswyo.com

HOTELS & MOTELS

The Pine Lodge
508 McCaffrey Ave. · Encampment
307-327-5110

VACATION RENTALS

620 Vacation Rental
620 MacFarlane Ave. · Encampment
303-919-9378 · vrbo.com/781174

LODGES, GUEST RANCHES & RESORTS

A Bar A Ranch
820 A-Bar-A Ranch Rd.
Encampment · 307-327-5454
abararanch.com

**Brush Creek Luxury Ranch
Collection**
66 Brush Creek Ranch Rd.
Encampment
brushcreekranch.com

GROCERIES

CABINS & COTTAGES

Cabin at Riverside
205 W. Riverside Ave.
307-760-0017
thecabinatriverside.com

Cottonwood Cabins
411 First St. · Riverside
307-327-5151
cottonwoodcabinswy.com

**Platts Rustic Mountain Lodge
Cabin**
11202 Highway 230
Encampment · 307-327-5539
plattoutfitting.com

River Ridge Lodge & Cabins
3640 Highway 230
Encampment · 307-327-5345
wyriverridge.com

Riverside Garage & Cabins
107 Riverside Ave.
307-327-5361
riversidegarageandcabins.com

AMERICAN FOOD

Bear Trap Café & Bar
120 Riverside Ave. · Riverside
307-327-5277

307 Pub & Grub
6th St and MacFarlane · Encampment
307-327-5280

Mangy Moose
108 Riverside Ave. · Riverside
307-327-5005

The DiVide
520 McCaffrey Ave. · Encampment
307-327-5064

PIZZA & ITALIAN

Bear Trap Café & Bar
120 Riverside Ave. · Riverside
307-327-5277

The DiVide
520 McCaffrey Ave. · Encampment
307-327-5064

SPECIALTY

How You Bean?
614 McCaffrey Ave. · Encampment
307-327-5058



Encampment & Riverside

BEST 2-DAY ITINERARY

DAY 1 - GRAND ENCAMPMENT MUSEUM AND SHORT HIKE: INDIAN BATHTUBS TRAIL OR ENCAMPMENT RIVER TRAIL

Get acquainted with southern Carbon County by touring the **Grand Encampment Museum**, the “GEM” of Southern Wyoming. Here you can walk among 15 historic buildings dating back to the early-1890’s to 1920. Museum highlights include a two-story outhouse, a segment of the aerial mining tramway used to transport copper ore 16 miles, and one of the largest photography collections in the West: the Lora Webb Nichols Collection. The GEM is open seasonally from Memorial Day weekend through early-October, Tuesday through Saturday 9am-5pm and Sundays noon to 4pm.

Next grab some water, snacks and sunscreen for a short hike. **Option 1: Indian Bathtubs Trail.** The Indian Bathtubs are deep holes in a granite outcrop, formed naturally by snow melt and rainwater. They are said to have been used by Native American tribes-the Ute, Arapaho and Cheyenne-as bathing holes. Access to this natural rock formation is located 5 minutes southeast of Riverside via County Road 211. From the county road, it is approximately 0.75 miles, one-way, on a well-marked dirt trail. A map is available at the **Riverside Visitors Center**.

Option 2: Encampment River Trail. Named for the river it parallels, this scenic trail is great for out and back hikes and for fishing the shallow riffles and deep pools of the Encampment River. Fishing licenses and supplies are available at the **Trading Post** at the Hwy 230 Junction. Access to this trail is located 0.5 miles southwest of Encampment via Highway 70 and County Road 353. Follow the county road south to the Odd Fellows/ Encampment River Campground, where you’ll find a sturdy footbridge that leads to the trailhead.



DAY 2 - BATTLE HIGHWAY SCENIC DRIVE OR SIERRA MADRE SCENIC LOOP TOUR

SEASON: LATE-MAY - MID-OCTOBER

Enjoy a leisurely drive and take in the natural scenic beauty of southern Carbon County. These “off-the-beaten-path” routes are dotted with several attractions and places to wander about.

The **Battle Highway**, Highway 70, stretches west between the Encampment River Valley and the Little Snake River Valley. Typically open Memorial Day through October, weather permitting, this 28-mile paved route is simply beautiful. It passes over the crest of the Sierra Madre Mountain Range at 9,955 feet and crosses the Continental Divide. Along the way, there are several recommended stops of historic and natural interest. See **SCENIC DRIVES** on page 25 for more details.

The **Sierra Madre Scenic Loop Tour** is one of the best backroads in Carbon County. Beginning and ending in Encampment, this route highlights historic sights and some of the best places to stop for hikes and fishing in southern Carbon County. See **SCENIC DRIVES** on pages 25 for more details.

The **CDNST - Red Mountain trailhead** is located 12 miles west of Encampment, on the south side of Highway 70. This 12-mile segment of the CDNST leads into the **Huston Park Wilderness**. The trail descends through red granite, wet mountain meadows, mixed conifer and aspen forests before it ends at the Pipeline Trailhead. Other trails tie into the CDNST, offering additional route options. *As this trail is one-way, consider leaving a vehicle at the Pipeline Trailhead and driving to the Red Mountain Trailhead for an all-day hike down the Continental Divide.*



ADDITIONAL DAY: HIKE THE CONTINENTAL DIVIDE NATIONAL SCENIC TRAIL OR GREEN MOUNTAIN FALLS TRAIL

SEASON: JUNE - MID-OCTOBER

Get up early for an all-day hike in the Sierra Madre Mountain Range. Start with hearty breakfast at the **Beartrap Cafe** in Riverside or **307 Pub & Grub** in Encampment--both are local favorites.

Approximately 45 miles of the **Continental Divide National Scenic Trail (CDNST)** straddle the backbone of the Sierra Madre Mountain Range. Entering through Colorado, the CDNST climbs to its highest elevation at Bridger Peak (11,004 ft.) and descends to 8,441 ft. before leaving the forest. There are five points of access to the CDNST in southern Carbon County.

The **Green Mountain Falls trail** parallels the furious rush of the North Fork of the Encampment River and gently climbs to a spectacular descent of water crashing over large boulders. The hike is approximately 4 miles, one-way, through a mix of conifer and aspen trees. The first two miles of the hike follow a rough 4WD road to the trailhead. The path then becomes a well-marked hiking trail that leads to the **Huston Park Wilderness** boundary and finally, the Green Mountain Falls. Directions: Drive west of Encampment for 6 miles on Highway 70. Turn left onto NFSR 550. Continue driving for another 2 miles until you reach NFSR 550.2H. There is a small parking area there.

TIP: Medicine Bow-Routt National Forest Maps are available from the Brush Creek/Hayden Ranger District Office in Saratoga.

MEDICINE BOW, HANNA & ELK MOUNTAIN

ELK MOUNTAIN POP.: 196 | ELEVATION: 7,264 FEET
HANNA POPULATION: 812 | ELEVATION: 6,818 FEET
MEDICINE BOW POP.: 270 | ELEVATION: 6,565 FEET

AVERAGE TEMPERATURES

Summer High (July) 82°F

Winter Low (Jan) 13°F

There is no shortage of pronghorn antelope in the spacious sagebrush flats surrounding Medicine Bow, Hanna and Elk Mountain. Peaceful and picturesque, with their own brand of hospitality, these small towns are ideal getaways for history buffs and outdoor enthusiasts. Stop and smell the sagebrush.

Early explorers established original routes, followed by stage coaches and wagons, and opened the West for settlement. The Overland Trail, the First Transcontinental Railroad, the Lincoln Highway and the discovery of coal contributed to the growth and expansion of this area.

MEDICINE BOW HISTORY

Medicine Bow was founded in 1868 as a Union Pacific watering station along the **Medicine Bow River**. Watering stations were important in a time when steam locomotives used thousands of gallons of water to go relatively short distances. These stations often became local supply depots and trading posts.

"When you call me that, smile!" Built in 1911, the three-story **Virginian Hotel** takes its name from Owen Wister's famous novel. At the time, it was the largest hotel between Denver and Salt Lake City and a regular gathering place for travelers, local ranchers and railroad men. This historic hotel, built nearly a century ago, still operates as hotel and restaurant, with one of the finest old-time western bars in Wyoming.

HANNA HISTORY

Hanna was founded in 1890 as a company town for the **Union Pacific Coal Company**. It's rich past is rooted in railroad expansion, 150+ years of coal mining, and ranching.

The mines operated in one of Wyoming's largest and richest coalfields through 1954. However, Hanna's mining boom ended much as other mining camps of the era; up and down for decades, until only a few hundred residents remained. The disastrous explosions in 1903 and 1908 took the lives of 228 local miners. There are **three monuments** in Hanna dedicated to those who lost their lives in the Carbon and Hanna coalmines.

A rare **snowplow locomotive** is also on display at the Hanna Recreation Center.

WHERE TO STAY AND EAT: MEDICINE BOW, HANNA & ELK MOUNTAIN



ELK MOUNTAIN HISTORY

Elk Mountain is located at the base of its 11,156-foot namesake. It was founded as a stage stop on the Overland Trail, where immigrants and stage travelers could safely cross the **Medicine Bow River**. In 1862, **Fort Halleck** was built a few miles west of Elk Mountain. It served to protect travelers passing through this region for four years.

In 1905, the **Elk Mountain Hotel** was built on the property previously used by the Overland Stage Station. The building's architecture is Folk Victorian style, reminiscent of what was found on the frontier during that time. Next to the Hotel stood the **Garden Spot Pavilion**, which was host to such notable entertainers as Louis Armstrong, Tommy Dorsey, Glenn Miller, and Lawrence Welk. These entertainers inspired hundreds to "jump on and ride" the Garden Spot's magical dance floor. The historic hotel remains a perfect venue for weddings and social gatherings, lodging and dining.

CABINS & COTTAGES

Elk Mountain Cabins
107 Main St. • Elk Mountain
307-348-7778
elkmountaincabins.com

Tyler Sims Outfitting LLC
958 Highway 13 • McFadden
307-760-5596 • tylersims.com

CAMPGROUNDS & RV PARKS

BS RV Park, LLC
103 E Main St. • Elk Mountain
307-321-1178 or 307-760-5719

**The Historic Virginian Hotel
RV Park**
404 Lincoln Highway/Highway 30
Medicine Bow • 307-379-2377
historicvirginianhotel.vpweb.com

HOTELS & MOTELS

The Historic Elk Mountain Hotel
102 E. Main St. • Elk Mountain
307-348-7774
elkmountainhotel.com

The Historic Virginian Hotel
404 Lincoln Highway/Highway 30
Medicine Bow • 307-379-2377
historicvirginianhotel.vpweb.com

AMERICAN FOOD

C Spear Bar & Grill
202 Lincoln Hwy. • Medicine Bow
307-520-3030

**The Crossing Café at the
Elk Mountain Trading Co.**
205 E. Bridge St. • Elk Mountain
307-348-7478

The New Dingy Dan's
204 Adams St. • Hanna • 307-325-9829

J B's Stop & Shop
604 Lincoln Hwy. • Medicine Bow
307-379-2547

Old West Bar
612 Lincoln Hwy. • Medicine Bow
307-379-2240

Poulos' Nugget Bar
2200 1st St. • Elmo Addition, Hanna
307-325-6872

Skinny's Beer Garden
605 2nd St. • Hanna • 307-797-1827

**The Historic Virginian Eating
House**
404 Lincoln Highway/Highway 30
Medicine Bow • 307-379-2377



DAY 1 - HANNA BASIN MUSEUM, MEDICINE BOW MUSEUM & THE VIRGINIAN HOTEL

Experience quaint towns along the old Lincoln Highway (Highway 30) with must-see museums and a historic hotel.

The **Hanna Basin Museum** represents more than 134 years of underground coal mining in the Carbon and Hanna Basins. Learn the origins of this company mining town and that of the **ghost town of Carbon**--an early mining community on the original line of the Union Pacific Railway whose population was once 1,140 people. Impressive collections and artifacts include an original Union Pacific Coal Company house, the oldest church bell in Wyoming (1870), artwork depicting ranch and homestead life, a tribute to residents, and many historic photographs. Open Friday - Sunday, 1pm to 5pm.

The **Medicine Bow Museum** is housed in the 1913 Union Pacific Railroad depot. Get a sense of the Old West through the ranching and homesteading antiques and railroad memorabilia that inspired the classic western, "The Virginian", by Owen Wister. The museum grounds also house the **Owen Wister Cabin and Monument**, an original Union Pacific caboose--that you can actually walk inside, a shepherd's wagon, and a collection of local cattle and sheep brands. Open Memorial Day - Labor Day. Please visit medbowmuseum.com for summer and off-season hours.

The Historic Virginian Hotel, built in 1911, derives its name from the classic western novel by Owen Wister. For wild west fans, this 3-story hotel (with saloon, cafe, and pool table) will have you feeling like you stepped back in time. Hotel rooms are adorned in old-fashioned wallpaper, with beautiful antique furniture and vintage curtains; the meals are hearty, western saloon fare. Located across from the railroad on the Old Lincoln Highway 30, the Virginian Hotel offers a full menu for breakfast, lunch and dinner.

Medicine Bow, Hanna & Elk Mountain BEST 2-DAY ITINERARY



ADDITIONAL DAY: FISH THE WORLD FAMOUS MIRACLE MILE OR MEDICINE BOW RIVER

The Miracle Mile is a 7-mile stretch of the North Platte River between the Kortez Dam and Pathfinder Reservoir. Trophy-sized rainbow and brown trout caught here weigh 5 to 10 pounds. See driving directions from Hanna and more details on page 25.

The **Medicine Bow River** flows north from its source in the Medicine Bow National Forest, through the town of Elk Mountain and the Medicine Bow valley, before it merges northwest of Hanna into the **Medicine Bow Arm of Seminole Reservoir**. Fish for good-sized brookies higher up on the forest. Large brown and rainbow trout are more common downstream.

Medicine Bow Arm access: From Hanna, travel north on Jefferson Street/Hanna Draw Road (County Road 291) for 13 miles. At the Hanna-Leo Draw Road, turn left and follow for 9.7 miles to Shiners Point Road. From here the boat launch is 2.2 miles.

Snowy Range access: From Elk Mountain, travel east on Highway 72. This road becomes County Road 101; continue south for 14.5 miles. Drive past the Bow River campground to NFSR 105. Turn south to access on the East Fork of the Medicine Bow.

DAY 2 - ELK MOUNTAIN MUSEUM, HISTORIC ELK MOUNTAIN HOTEL & PASS CREEK

The **Historic Elk Mountain Hotel** has been restored to Victorian era styling, with individually decorated bedrooms appointed with period antiques. Built in 1905, this historic property is more spacious than a bed and breakfast and more relaxing than a large hotel. The **Crossing Café at the Elk Mountain Trading Company** serves up delicious meals for breakfast, lunch, and dinner.

The **Elk Mountain Museum**, located at 105 Bridge Street, features artifacts from the Garden Spot Pavilion and the Historic Elk Mountain Hotel and memorabilia dating back to the early 1900's from local ranches. Open seasonally Memorial Day through Labor Day, Wednesday from 1pm to 7pm, Friday and Saturday 10am - 5pm and by appointment at 307-348-7037.

Take a beautiful drive and see stunning vistas teeming with wildlife along the **Pass Creek Road**. Approximately 40 miles to Saratoga, it follows Pass Creek, winding between Elk Mountain and Coad Mountain, through willow bottoms and open sagebrush.



ADDITIONAL DAY: FISH TURPIN RESERVOIR

Turpin Reservoir is located 20 miles south of Elk Mountain in the Medicine Bow National Forest. It is stocked with brook trout and splake (a hybrid between a brook trout and lake trout) and is surrounded by beautiful mountain scenery.

A short distance below the reservoir, the road drops down along Turpin Creek and passes by remnant **tie hack cabins**. Stop and explore the meadow, you may even hear chorus frogs in the creek.

Directions: Travel County Road 101 for 13.5 miles. At NFSR 100, turn right and follow past the Bow River Campground for 6 miles. Turpin Reservoir and the boat ramp are located on the left side of the road.

BAGGS, DIXON & SAVERY

BAGGS POPULATION: 430 | ELEVATION: 6,247 FEET

DIXON POPULATION: 79 | ELEVATION: 6,355 FEET

SAVERY POPULATION: 66 | ELEVATION: 6,473 FEET



AVERAGE TEMPERATURES

Summer High (July) 86°F

Winter Low (Jan) 5°F

The wild west is alive and well in Baggs, Dixon and Savery. Located along the Little Snake River on Highway 70, the towns are filled with western charm and rugged frontier history. Experience the untamed spirit of this remote area, from the dry and sparse Red Desert to the lush wilderness west of the Continental Divide.

The Little Snake River Valley was settled for its access to water, abundance of wild game, impressive scenery and agricultural opportunities. And it offered some of the best-known hideouts for outlaws too.

BAGGS HISTORY

Located three miles north of the Colorado state line and east of the **Red Desert**, Baggs was a perfect hideout for bandits outrunning the law. Butch Cassidy and his infamous Wild Bunch, “holed-up” in this rough and tumble outpost. The **Gaddis Mathews House** was a known hang-out for Butch and the gang.

SAVERY HISTORY

The **Little Snake River Museum** houses several exhibits from the Valley’s past, including Jim Baker’s two-story log cabin. Jim Baker was a mountain man, explorer, and one of the original settlers and local traders in the area.

DIXON HISTORY

Wyoming was only a territory when the town of Dixon was incorporated in July 1887.

Dixon is named for Bob Dixon who was one of the regions first fur trappers, along with Jim Baker. Built in 1911, the **Dixon Club** has been a longtime watering hole for weary travelers passing through the valley. Its walls are covered with antiques and mementos of the area.

Dixon is also home to the annual **Little Snake River Rodeo**. This small town rodeo and Saturday night dance offer plenty of action and family fun.

CABINS & COTTAGES

Ladder Ranch

489 Carbon Co. Rd. #710 • Savery
307-383-2413 • ladderranch.com

CAMPGROUNDS & RV PARKS

Cowboy Inn RV Park

210 Penland St. • Baggs
307-383-2200 • thecowboyinn.com

Happy Camper

Highway 789, Mile Marker 49
Baggs • 307-383-7120
facebook.com/Happy-Camper-RV-Park-1079120565612113

HOTELS & MOTELS

Cowboy Inn Motel

210 Penland St. • Baggs
307-383-2200 • thecowboyinn.com

Dixon Motel

217 Cottonwood • Dixon
307-383-2300 • dixonmotel.com

LODGES, GUEST RANCHES & RESORTS

Antelope Ranch

763 Carbon Co Rd. 561 N. • Savery
307-383-2625

Boyer YL Ranch

34 County Rd 754 • Savery •
307-383-7778 | boyerlranh.com

The Lodge and Spa at Three Forks Ranch

1445 Carbon County Rd. #710
Savery • 970-583-7396
threeforksranh.com

AMERICAN FOOD

The Cowboy Inn

210 S. Penland St. • Baggs
307-383-2200

The Dixon Club

216 Cottonwood St. • Dixon
307-383-7722

WHERE TO STAY AND EAT: BAGGS, DIXON & SAVERY



Baggs, Dixon & Savery

BEST 1-DAY ITINERARY

DAY 1 - LITTLE SNAKE RIVER VALLEY MUSEUM AND THE OUTLAW STOP

The Little Snake River Museum

in Savery features over 15 historic buildings, including Jim Baker's cabin, built in 1873. Spend some time touring original cabins and homes, an interactive Homesteader House, a mountain man tent and several replicated businesses. The LSRV Museum is open seasonally from Memorial Day weekend through mid-September, Tuesday-Sunday from 10:00am-4:30pm.

The Outlaw Stop, located in the center of Baggs, features buildings frequented by Butch Cassidy and his infamous Wild Bunch during the heydays of the Old West. Tour the **Mathews-Gaddis House** - a roadhouse that doubled as a Saturday night dance hall for Butch and the gang, and the **Baggs Town Hall-Fire Station-Jail** - a building that saw many notorious characters.

ADDITIONAL DAY - EXPLORE THE RED DESERT AND SEE WILD HORSES

Southern Wyoming's Red Desert is one of the most spectacular, yet often missed, attractions in Carbon County. Located west of Baggs, between the Wyoming/Colorado border and Interstate 80, the Red Desert is a labyrinth of canyons, hoodoos, mesas, and dunes. And it is home to the largest remaining wild horse herd in Wyoming.

TIP: The Red Desert is best explored by an ATV or a sturdy, high-clearance, off-road 4WD vehicle and on foot. There are lots of roads, but they are confusing, unmarked and rough. You will definitely want to bring BLM maps, a GPS unit, and lots of water.

FOUR AMAZING SCENIC DRIVES

BATTLE HIGHWAY SCENIC BYWAY

Length: 28 miles via Highway 70

Open Memorial Day through October, weather permitting



1

2

3

4

SNOWY RANGE SCENIC BYWAY

Length: 29 miles via Highway 130

Open Memorial Day through October, weather permitting



SEMINOE-ALCOVA BACK COUNTRY BYWAY

Length: 64 miles via County Road 351

Open Memorial Day through October, weather permitting

SIERRA MADRE SCENIC LOOP

Length: 58 miles via Highway 70, and Forest Service Roads 550, 496 & 409

Open Memorial Day through October, weather permitting

BATTLE HIGHWAY SCENIC BYWAY

Named for the famous 1841 battle between Native Americans and fur trappers, the Battle Highway stretches over the crest of the Sierra Madre Mountain Range, between Encampment and Baggs. Many scenic highlights, including two spectacular museums, ghost towns from the mining era, and historic sites, are featured on this trek across the Continental Divide.

Grand Encampment Museum in Encampment: features aerial mining tramway segment and 15 historic buildings from the copper boom era.

Battle: located on the Continental Divide, it is one of many mining ghost towns in the Sierra Madre Mountain Range.

Battle Pass Summit, 9,955 ft: on the Continental Divide, provides a sweeping view of the Sierra Madre Mountain Range.

Battle Lake and Thomas A. Edison monument: While vacationing here in 1878, Edison threw a broken bamboo fishing pole in the fire and was intrigued by the way the frayed pieces glowed. This observation led Edison to the discovery of filament for the incandescent electric lamp.

Aspen Alley: a natural canopy of aspen trees, just north of the Highway on NFSR 801. Particularly beautiful in the fall.

Little Snake River Valley Museum in Savery: features over 15 historic buildings, including Jim Baker's cabin, built in 1873.

SNOWY RANGE SCENIC BYWAY

This high altitude drive showcases some of the most spectacular and easily accessible peaks in Medicine Bow National Forest. Highway 130 runs between the Highway 130/230 junction (8 miles south of Saratoga) and Centennial. After crossing the North Platte River, it ascends to its highest point at 10,847 feet before meandering toward Centennial. Picnic areas, campgrounds, alpine lakes, a network of hiking trails and several scenic overlooks are accessible from the Highway--plus unforgettable views and plenty of wildlife sightings.

Medicine Bow Peak, 12,013 ft: the highest peak in southern Wyoming. A 5.5-mile hike to the top features switch-backs, rock crossings and amazing views.

Lake Marie: popular lake named after Mary (Marie) Bellamy who led a suffrage drive for the adoption of 19th Amendment which gave women the right to vote.

Libby Flats Observation Point: the highest point on the Highway.

P. O. W. Camp at the Ryan Park Campground: originally a Civilian Conservation Corps camp, it later served as a P.O.W. Camp for German and Italian soldiers during WWII.

SEMINOE-ALCOVA BACK COUNTRY BYWAY

Located between Sinclair and Alcova, this remote drive climbs over the rugged Seminoe Mountains before passing into antelope-grazed prairie and stark desert. The amazing transformations in the landscape are worth the backcountry journey. On your trip, you might see a variety of wildlife such as mule deer, pronghorn antelope, bighorn sheep, golden and bald eagles, and ferruginous hawks.

Seminoe Reservoir: popular for trout and walleye fishing, boating, water skiing, and wildlife viewing.

Miracle Mile: a 7-mile stretch of the North Platte River, famous for huge trout and great fly fishing.

Seminoe State Park: popular for access to Seminoe Reservoir, with camping and picnicking among giant white sand dunes.

SIERRA MADRE SCENIC LOOP

Set in a quiet corner of southern Carbon County, this drive makes a loop through the Sierra Madre Mountain Range on well-maintained gravel roads. Beginning in Encampment, follow Highway 70 west for 6 miles to NFSR 550. Turn left and travel south for 16 miles. At Hog Park Reservoir, merge left, the road becomes NFSR 496. Continue 10 miles south and turn left to follow NFSR 496 north for 12.5 miles to NFSR 409 (the Blackhall Road). Turn left and travel north 11 miles and turn left onto Highway 230. The loop ends in 2 miles at Riverside. Along the way, enjoy several stops of historical and natural interest.

Halfway House: built in 1902, as a stopping point between Encampment and the mining camps in the Hog Park area.

Hog Park Reservoir: formed in the 1960's when an earthen dam was constructed to store water for municipal use in Cheyenne. It is a favorite spot for fishing and boating.

East Fork Trail Access: follows East Fork of the Encampment River, with several remnant mining cabins.

Billie Creek Junction (NFSR 496 & 409): road forks left back to Riverside; right provides access to the

Blackhall Mountain Fire Lookout Tower, 4WD recommended.

Indian Bathtubs: a natural rock formation believed to be used by Native Americans for bathing.

OUTDOOR RECREATION



Carbon County has thousands of acres of public land, spans an impressive range of landscapes and offers an abundance of activities. So pack up the tackle box and picnic basket and get ready for a little one-on-one time with nature.

FISHING

Come cast your line in Carbon County! It's the **only area in Wyoming** that offers such variety in fishing opportunities. From beautiful rivers and large reservoirs to alpine lakes and streams, the clear, cold water here is the perfect habitat for trout. Area waters contain "blue ribbon" wild brown and rainbow trout, walleye, tiger, brook, brown, rainbow, splake, golden and cutthroat trout, and kokanee salmon. Fish to your heart's content in spectacular scenery without the crowds.

Upper North Platte River features "blue ribbon" wild trout fishing and is popular for floating and kayaking. Beginning in Colorado, this pristine freestone river flows north through mountain wilderness, the Saratoga valley hay meadows, and finally through majestic desert before leaving Carbon County. As the Premier Blue Ribbon Wild Trout Stream in Wyoming, the North Platte claims 4,000 catchable fish per mile. There are several public river access points between Colorado and the Miracle Mile.

The Miracle Mile is the famed 7-mile stretch of the North Platte River between the Kortes Dam below Seminoe Reservoir and the headwaters of Pathfinder Reservoir. In this ideal big trout habitat, trophy-size rainbows and browns can weigh between 5 and 10 pounds. Directions: From Sinclair, follow County Road 351/Seminoe Road for 37 miles to the North Platte bridge. From Hanna,

follow County Road 291/Hanna-Leo Draw Road for 46 miles to Kortes Road. Turn left and follow 6 miles to the bridge.

Encampment River flows north into Wyoming through the rugged Encampment River Wilderness in the Sierra Madre Mountain Range. It winds northwest through the town of Riverside before merging with the North Platte River. Also a "blue ribbon" trout stream, the river has three public river access points.

These prominent reservoirs and lakes in Carbon County offer miles of great shoreline fishing and are excellent boating spots.

Seminoe Reservoir: of all the places in Wyoming where walleye are found, they are most abundant here. Seminoe also offers great fishing for rainbow, brown and cutthroat trout, with 180 miles of shoreline.

Seminoe State Park is located 30 miles north of Sinclair on County Road 351 and has several campsites, potable water, restrooms, boat ramps, picnic shelters and access to the largest sandy beach in Wyoming.

High Savery Reservoir: located 38 miles south of Rawlins on County Road 401, it is the only place in Wyoming to catch tiger trout (brown trout/brook trout cross). Brook and rainbow trout, Colorado River cutthroat and Kokanee salmon are also plentiful here. Not much shoreline, but there is a boat ramp.

Hog Park Reservoir: excellent fishing for brook, rainbow and cutthroat trout. There is a 50-site campground and two picnic areas, drinking water and

plenty of shoreline fishing. From Encampment, travel west on Highway 70 for 6 miles. Turn left on NFSR 550 and travel south about 16 miles. The campground and boat dock is 3 miles ahead on NFSR 496.

Saratoga Lake: located a few miles north of Saratoga, it offers good fishing for rainbow and brown trout. There is a 50-site campground, boat dock and restrooms. Nearby wetlands are home to hundreds of species of birds.

HIKING

There are over 50 designated hiking trails in the Snowy Range and Sierra Madre Mountain Range of the **Medicine Bow National Forest**. Trails range from 7,400 ft. to 11,200 ft. in elevation and offer a variety of hiking experiences. Our favorite day hikes are outlined in the itinerary pages of this guide.

HIKING AND MOUNTAIN BIKING THE CONTINENTAL DIVIDE TRAIL

Approximately 125 miles of the Continental Divide National Scenic Trail (CDT) pass through Carbon County. For those who relish the experience of traveling along the spine of the Rocky Mountains and through the Great Divide Basin, this is the place. The terrain is wonderfully diverse and scenic views are breathtaking and endless. Hiking, mountain biking, horseback riding and motor vehicle use are allowed on the majority of the trail. However there are a few segments that are unavailable to motorists.

From south to north, the trail enters Wyoming through the Sierra Madre Mountain Range and the tranquil Huston Park Wilderness. *Please note that motorized vehicles and mountain bikes are not allowed in wilderness areas. An alternate route is available utilizing forest roads.* The trail then crosses the **Battle Pass Scenic Byway** (Highway 70) and climbs to 11,004 feet in elevation at Bridger Peak and 9,091 feet at Divide Peak before leaving the forest. It then descends 3,500 feet through sagebrush prairie as it reaches the city of Rawlins.

Rawlins, a CDT Gateway Community, is located at the southeastern edge of the Great Divide Basin. Rawlins is a great place to refresh and refuel before continuing your journey. The CDT passes directly through Rawlins, offering opportunities to shop, dine and stroll through Historic Downtown Rawlins.

Public restrooms are available downtown and at the Memorial Sports Complex (ballfields across from the Rawlins Recreation Center).

From Rawlins, the trail follows Highway 287 north and continues northwest across sagebrush prairie into the Great Divide Basin. This trail segment is best explored with 4WD vehicles and mountain bikes. Highlights include expansive desert vistas, wildlife sightings, and wild horses. Bring plenty of water for this segment as it is exposed with little cover and services are unavailable.

The best time of year to experience the CDNST in Carbon County is late-June through mid-September. Snow at high elevations can remain through much of June and make passage difficult. Even in July and August, afternoon storms can bring plenty of rain, lightning, sleet and hail. Be prepared for weather to change rapidly. Travelers should expect summer daytime temperatures to be around 80F and nighttime temperatures in the mountains to be around 30F.

GREAT DIVIDE BASIN

In North America, river systems west of the Continental Divide flow into the Pacific Ocean and river systems east of the Continental Divide flow into the Atlantic Ocean. That is, except in the **Great Divide Basin** which lies just west of Rawlins. Water that flows into this vast high desert either evaporates or soaks into the earth, but does not drain to either ocean.

The **Great Divide Basin** encompasses 778,792 acres of public, private, and state land. Closer inspection of this seemingly barren landscape reveals a variety of mountains, badlands, and sand dunes. Wild horses, over 50,000 pronghorn antelope, a rare desert elk herd and the greater sage grouse are among the wild animals that call this rich high desert landscape their home.

It's a good idea to let someone know which segment of the trail you will be traveling. Cell phone service ranges from limited to non-existent in remote areas. And there are no taxi or Uber services available if you get tired of hiking. Plan ahead and download the **Carbon County Interactive Map** on the next page.

SNOWMOBILING

Carbon County has some of the best snowmobiling in Wyoming. Explore over 500 miles of groomed and ungroomed trails with terrain to excite users of all skill levels.

The Snowy Range is the largest and most developed snowmobile area in Carbon County, with 306 miles of groomed trails and 170 miles of ungroomed trails. It's also the home of the "Widow Maker" (11,330 feet), one of Wyoming's most extreme snowmobile trails. The terrain is varied with plenty of play areas, hills and deep champagne powder. Snow depths reach up to 12 feet.

The Sierra Madre Mountain Range is relatively uncrowded and offers a series of trail loops with outstanding views. There are 110 miles of groomed and 50 miles of ungroomed trails and two trailheads/parking lots. The Bottle Creek trailhead/parking area is located on Highway 70, six miles west of Encampment. The Stemp Springs trailhead/parking area is located 16 miles east of Savery. Snow depths reach up to 8 feet.

CROSS-COUNTY SKIING & SNOWSHOEING

Whether novice or expert, the beautiful, groomed trails in the Snowy Range and Sierra Madre Mountain Range provide plenty of solitude in diverse terrain.

The Bottle Creek Trails are located 6 miles west of Encampment on Highway 70 in the Sierra Madre Mountain Range. Several loop trails wind through aspen, lodgepole pine stands, and regenerating tree harvest areas.

The Brush Creek Trails are accessed from Highway 130 in the Snowy Range, behind the Brush Creek Visitor Center. The trail system winds through aspen, lodgepole pine stands, and by a remnant tie hack cabin. Restroom facilities are available.

For the more adventurous skiers or snowshoers, there's a lot of backcountry to explore in both mountain ranges.



ADVENTURE VACATIONS

Experience genuine western hospitality, ride horses, and enjoy family-style dining and sporting opportunities at ranch getaways in Carbon County.

A BAR A RANCH

abararanch.com

Located along the banks of the Upper North Platte River, on the southwestern edge of the Snowy Range, the A Bar A is one of the oldest guest ranches in the country. It has operated as a guest and cattle ranch since the early 1920s. With nearly 100,000 acres for guests to explore, the A Bar A features unforgettable horseback riding, fly fishing, hiking, archery/shooting ranges and children's programs. Anglers have access to 32 miles of "blue-ribbon" private water and exceptional fly-fishing conditions.

Breakfast, lunch, and dinner cookouts are highlights of the week. Creative menus are prepared with healthy, quality ingredients. Evening entertainment includes cowboy singing and folk music.

MEDICINE BOW LODGE & ADVENTURE GUEST RANCH

medicinebowlodge.net

Since 1917, the Medicine Bow Lodge has been offering guests an extraordinary opportunity to unplug, unwind, and reconnect with their families.

Located in the Medicine Bow National Forest along the Snowy Range Scenic Byway, the Medicine Bow Lodge is easily accessible and close to many horseback riding trails. Well-trained wranglers specifically tailor trips for riders of all levels. Guests can take advantage of all day rides, overnight pack trips, fishing excursions, scenic hikes, and the archery range.

Guests stay in rustic cabins that are comfortable, cozy and welcoming. Enjoy all amenities and three delicious home cooked meals that are served daily.

BRUSH CREEK LUXURY RANCH COLLECTION

brushcreekranch.com

Reconnect, relax, and rejoice in unbridled luxury at the Travel + Leisure #1 Resort in the US and #2 Hotel in the World. Vacationing at the Brush Creek Ranch means all-inclusive access to a host of lodging, amenities, food and beverage, and lots of activities, all unfolding over 30,000 acres of a working cattle ranch. All-inclusive, luxury ranch resorts are located southeast of Saratoga.

Guests can explore a vast array of activities: fly fishing, archery, ATV adventures, horseback riding, rock climbing, guided ranger tours, spa, hiking and trail running, yoga, glamping, mountain biking, golf, shooting sports, ziplining, farm tour, culinary classes, wine cellar tour, skiing, snowboarding, sleigh rides, ice skating, ice fishing, snowmobiling, snowshoeing and activities tailored specifically to families.

THE LODGE AND SPA AT THREE FORKS RANCH

threeforksranch.com

Located just 40 miles north of Steamboat Springs on the Colorado-Wyoming border, this luxury getaway and working cattle ranch has attracted and impressed anglers, outdoorsmen, vacationers, and explorers from far and wide. Every aspect of this all-inclusive stay is personalized for each and every guest.

Guests can take advantage of a variety of activities: wellness classes, 3D archery range, cooking classes, fly fishing, hiking, horseback riding, relaxing massage, wildlife tours, game hunting, ice fishing, snowmobiling, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, snowboarding and downhill skiing.



CARBON COUNTY 2023-2024 EVENTS



From live musical performances and art festivals to skijoring competitions and brewfests, there is something for everyone in Carbon County. For more details about annual and upcoming events, visit wyomingcarboncounty.com

Due to uncertain times, all events and/or dates are subject to change. Confirmation of event happenings is a necessity. Please be sure to follow all travel guidelines and restrictions of your state and Wyoming.

APRIL 2023

5-9 Wyoming Open Pool Tournament - Saratoga

MAY 2023

- 1 Rawlins Outdoor Shooting Range Opens
- 20 Riverside Visitor Center Opening Day - Riverside
- 27 Grand Encampment Museum (GEM) Opening
- 27 C. J. Box Book Signing @ GEM - Encampment
- 27 Wyoming Frontier Prison Opening
- 27 Museums Summer Season Begins
- 27 Fort Fred Steele Historic Site Opens

JUNE 2023

- 3 Marion Baker Memorial Shoot - Encampment
- 9-10 Tale of Two Cities Disc Golf - Riverside
- 17-18 Woodchopper's Jamboree & Rodeo - Encampment
- 22 Music in the Park "Patti Fiasco" - Rawlins
- 23-25 Women Who Hike (Seminole)
- 28 Local Authors Roundtable: C. J. Box and others @ GEM - Encampment
- 29 Music in the Park "Jalan Crossland" - Rawlins

JULY 2023

- 1 Neal McCoy @ Saratoga Days - Saratoga
- 1 Platte Valley Kiwanis Cornhole Tournament - Saratoga
- 1-2 Platte Valley Festival of the Arts - Saratoga
- 1-2 Little Snake River Rodeo - Baggs
- 6 Music in the Park "Lendon James" - Rawlins
- 6-9 76th Wyoming Ranchers Family Camp - Encampment
- 7-8 SummerFest - Rawlins
- 7-8 Platte River Rodeo - Saratoga
- 13 Music in the Park "Powell Brothers" - Rawlins
- 14-15 King Coal Days - Hanna

- 14-16 20th Annual Grand Encampment Cowboy Gathering - Encampment
- 15 Wyoming Frontier Prison 101 Birthday - Rawlins
- 20 Music in the Park "Rocky Athas" - Rawlins
- 21-23 Mountain Man Rendezvous - Encampment
- 22 Living History Day @ the GEM- Encampment
- TBA Open Class Horse Show - Rawlins
- 27 Music in the Park "Trouble Bound" - Rawlins

AUGUST 2023

- 5 "RAWTOWN Riot" @ CC Fair & Rodeo - Rawlins
- 5 Community Barbecue & Music in the Park - Encampment
- 7-12 Carbon County Fair and Rodeo - Rawlins
- 10 Music in the Park "The Man Cubs" - Rawlins
- 11-19 Tramway Days @ GEM - Encampment
- "Land of the West" History Symposium @ GEM
- 19 Annual Historic Trek @ GEM - Encampment
- 12 Steinley Cup Microbrew Festival - Saratoga
- 12 "Sleuthing with Joe Pickett" Trivia Contest - Saratoga
- 18-19 8th Annual Quilt Retreat - Encampment
- 18-19 Sinclair Celebration
- 26 Saratoga Bullfest - Saratoga
- 27 Battle of the Gravel - Savery
- TBA Cow Plop Festibull - Rawlins

SEPTEMBER 2023

- 4 End of Summer Season at Museums
- 4 Fort Fred Steele Historic Site Closes
- 8 Party on the Platte - Saratoga
- 9-10 Chug n' Tug Copper Days Festival & Antique Tractor Pull & Engine Show - Encampment
- 18 Brewfest - Rawlins

OCTOBER 2023

- TBA Pumpkin Patch - Rawlins
- 6 ArtBeat - Rawlins
- TBA Harvest Festival - Rawlins
- 22 Masquerade Ball @ WY Frontier Prison - Rawlins
- 27-28 Haunted Tours @ WY Frontier Prison - Rawlins
- 31 Haunted Tours @ WY Frontier Prison - Rawlins
- 31 Safe Trick or Treat in Downtowns
- 31 Safe Trick or Treat at Rawlins Recreation Center

NOVEMBER 2023

- 1 Indoor Shooting Range Opens
- 24 Blue Plaid Friday - Rawlins
- 25 Small Business Saturday - Rawlins & Saratoga

DECEMBER 2023

- 1 Starlight Christmas Parade - Rawlins
- 1 Festival of Trees Gala & Auction - Saratoga

- 2 Christmas out of the Big House - Rawlins
- 9 Winter Wonderland & Lighted Christmas Parade - Saratoga
- 9-11 Rawlins WinterFest
- 16 Carbon County Museum Christmas Fest
- TBA Festival of Wreaths & Trees - Rawlins



JANUARY 2024

- 20-21 Saratoga Lake Ice Fishing Derby
- 26-27 Sierra Madre Winter Carnival - Encampment
- TBA 307 Go Fast on Ice - Saratoga

FEBRUARY 2024

- 3-4 Saratoga Skijoring Races - Saratoga
- 17 Frozen Fore Ice Golf Tournament - Saratoga
- 18 Upper Platte Valley Search & Rescue Ben Romios Memorial Poker Run
- TBA 307 Go Fast on Ice - Saratoga

For event dates and details, visit
www.wyomingcarboncounty.com

CARBON COUNTY VISITORS' COUNCIL

PO Box 1017 | Rawlins, WY 82301
 800-228-3547 · 307-324-3020

