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Wind River Visitors Council

Contact: Audrey Eaton 307-349-5509

E-mail: info@wind-river.org

Web: <http://www.wind-river.org>

Editor's note: 2 photo attached: Horseback tours in Wyoming's Wind River Country.jpg
wild horses.jpg

Caption: Wyoming's Wind River Country Offers 2009 Western Summer Vacation Packages for hands-on opportunities to get back to nature or a wild-west experience.

Photo Credit: Wyoming's Wind River Country

Wyoming's Wind River Country Announces 2009 Western Summer Vacation Packages



RIVERTON, WY—Adventure vacation packages in Wyoming's Wind River Country this summer range from refined to rugged. For cowgirls, archaeology buffs, singles, gourmands, and families the many attractions and unparalleled scenery of the Wind River Region are calling. Some of the packages can be enjoyed throughout the season, while others are only available during certain dates. Following is a brief description of each special vacation package wrapped in the wonder of Wyoming's Wind River Country. For complete package listings and logistics, visit <http://www.wind-river.org>. Or call 800-645-6233 for a free vacation packet.

The family owned and operated Wyoming Country Outfitters Inc. offers some of the most memorable horseback riding treks in the state. No need to be an experienced rider, just bring a sense of adventure to The Wild Horse Discovery Ride package, ranging 3-5 days and customized for each group. Guests observe herds of wild horses grazing in the rugged high desert and learn about the social structures of these magnificent animals. Ride the wilds for 1-5 days on the Historic Horseback Escape and learn firsthand how early explorers tried to tame this wild country. Guests may follow the routes of the



expert riders of the Pony Express, pan for gold at South Pass city, or pull handcarts over the Mormon Trail. Evenings are spent around the campfire listening to tall tales of The West and cowboy songs strummed on a guitar followed by sweet slumber to rejuvenate guests for the next day's Western adventure.

Guest dude ranches in Wind River Country region have special weeks in-store for summer travelers. No one needs to feel like a "third wheel" at Triangle C Dude Ranch. Nestled within the pines of the Shoshone National Forest just 30 minutes from the gates of Yellowstone National Park, the ranch hosts a "Country Singles Weeks" one in late spring. Lone travelers make new acquaintances

while kicking up their heels on the dance floor of rustic saloons and soaking up scenery on cool forest trails.

The Dubois KOA offers an amazing variety of specials this summer! Try the “Authentic Western Adventure through the Eyes of Native Americans and Cowboys” which includes a Big Horn Sheep Trap Hike, Camping, and Rodeo. For those who enjoy some horseback riding the “Saddle Up in Dubois” might be for you. It starts with camping, then a 2-hour horse ride on the MacKenzie Highland Ranch’s trails into the Shoshone Forest, ending with the Circle Up Chuckwagon Dinner. And there’s more! During the “Authentic Western Adventure through Rock Art, Song and Grub” you will see Native American Petroglyphs, then camp and enjoy the famous Circle Up Chuckwagon Dinner & Show. There is something for everyone at the KOA.

A four-day July retreat at the E A Guest Ranch in Dubois mixes horsemanship and yoga in a setting of red hills and majestic mountains. Cowgirls, cowboys and yogi unite to share wisdom, adventure and fun.

The Lazy L & B Dude Ranch overlooks the scenic Scotch Valley, named for the 1890 Scottish homesteaders that first settled this idyllic spot. Travelers get a 10% discount (Military 15%) on weekly rates all season long! (If less than one week, call for details.) Guests ride through patches of brilliant color scattered across 80 thousand wild acres surrounding the old sheep and cattle ranch. The Lazy L & B has superior riding programs as well as a rifle range, heated swimming pool and volleyball and horseshoe courts. <http://www.lazylb.com>

Families also find plenty of outdoor adventure at the historic CM Ranch near Dubois. Each guest receives expert riding instruction at this classic dude ranch, including the kids who have their own wrangler, and may try their hand at roping the “dummy steer.”

Patrons of one seasoned Wind River Country Outfitter won’t find horses in the stable. Instead, gentle and friendly llamas carry the loads for guests of the Lander Llama Company. Starting May 23 through June 20, Mama can go on a guided catered one and one-half day hike for FREE! Hire a “Llama For Your Mama” and she’ll never forget the majesty of the mountains and colorful hoodoos, towering buttes and swirling sand dunes of Wyoming’s Red Desert. The outfitter’s “Truck and Bunk” trip is a journey back to the nineteenth century as hikers follow the Oregon/Mormon Trail -a path taken by hundreds of thousands explorers and settlers hoping to start new lives in the American West.

Brooks Lake Lodge, a Wyoming guest ranch in an elegant atmosphere within an intimate secluded wilderness retreat offers a special rate this summer! This will include breakfast, lunch, dinner & teatime plus all activities: horseback trail riding, fly fishing, hiking and canoes for lake. The gorgeous summer season offers spectacular wildlife viewing, wilderness pack trips, and hiking trips into territory sure to take your breath away.

Miner’s Delight Inn Bed & Breakfast, a historic mountaintop inn, forgoes twenty-first century hotel amenities like internet connections, instead offering visitors a laid-back

pace while savoring fresh mountain breezes and later this month, the myriad of flavors of fine malted scotch whiskey as well. Maps, books, pamphlets, and distillery information will be on hand for each “Second Saturday Scotch Sampling at Six at 7,600 Feet in Wyoming’s Wind River Range” summer. Plus, connoisseurs or novices can gather mates and reserve a date later in the season to sip scotch in the inn’s Two-Bit Country Saloon. The B&B is also a host for seasonal walks, known in Europe as a Volkswanderung or Volksmarch, German for “people’s walk” between May 15 and September 30, 2009. The non-competitive walks promote vigor and health for participants as they stroll amid the beauty at 8,000 feet in Wind River Country. Barbara and Bob offer a \$20 discount to Miner’s Delight Inn B&B guests (who stay three nights if they complete the inn’s two events and the Volksmarches at South Pass City State Historic Site and Sinks Canyon State Park.

Taylor Outfitters offers a culture-based trip the first week of September called “On the Trail of the Nez Perce.” The 8-day pack trip weaves through Yellowstone’s backcountry following the 1877 flight to Canada by the Nez Perce. Encounters with soldiers, mercenaries, Indian scouts, and local tourists in the wilderness of Yellowstone are part of the fascinating tale of these early Wyoming natives. Taylor Outfitters can be reached by e-mail at metaylor@wyoming.com

Bear Basin Adventures operating out of Crowheart, Wyoming still has a few spaces left on an amazing family wilderness trip. The 6-day horse pack trip recommended for kids 8 years and older, leads guests to the Dunoir Valley, a spectacular glaciated volcanic region between the Wind River and Yellowstone. The Family wilderness is slated for anytime in August or September and includes gourmet meals, camping supplies, guides, horses and tack, and fly-fishing. If fishing is your thing, join Heath on an eight-day trip for some fantastic fishing in the beautiful Simpson Lake area. The northern Wind River Range is fabulous country and the fly-fishing in lakes or streams is great. There will be the opportunity to fish the lake itself and other surrounding fisheries. The fishing is world renowned- fly-fishing or spincasting. Brookies, Rainbows, Cutthroat Trout and Grayling all inhabit these healthy, pristine waters.

For those wishing to try their luck this summer, The Wind River Casino is offering discounts at the Holiday Inn in Riverton and the Days Inn in Thermopolis. Plus, receive gambling discount coupons!

For a complete list of events in Wyoming’s Wind River Country, go to <http://www.wind-river.org> or call 800-645-6233 for a free vacation packet.

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