

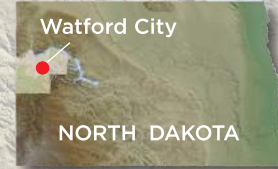
Theodore Roosevelt National Park

Watford City, North Dakota



Your Adventure Awaits on the New Frontier!

Watford City is located in the heart of...



Refer to Map
for location



Watford City's Long X Visitor Center and Pioneer Museum features regional travel information and North Dakota's largest fossil. The visitor center is a great place to start any adventure in McKenzie County.

western North Dakota's premier vacation attractions. 15 miles south is the beautiful Theodore Roosevelt National Park, North Unit which hosts a 14 mile scenic byway drive. The north trailhead of the world-renowned Maah-Daah-Hey Trail is located just across the Little Missouri River just minutes from the national park entrance. 26 miles to the north is a year round fisherman's dream at Tobacco Garden's Resort & Marina. 50 miles to the west, explore Fort Union Trading Post and the Confluence of the Missouri and Yellowstone River. 45 miles to the east, step back in time at the Three Affiliated Tribes Earth Lodge Village on the banks of Lake Sakakawea.



After your day's adventure come cool your toes at the Wild West Water Park – home of two tower slides and a splash zone or the Events Center's indoor pool with its own slides. The Children's Play Park will entertain the youngsters where they can explore,

run, climb and swing. In the evening take in a first run movie or simply kick back with fine dining, cocktail bars, and rooms available at stunning new hotels.



Photo courtesy: North Dakota Tourism

Your Adventure Awaits on the New Frontier!





In honor of a President

When Theodore Roosevelt came to Dakota Territory to hunt bison in 1883, he was a skinny, young, spectacled dude from New York. He could not have imagined how his adventure in this remote and unfamiliar place would forever alter the course of the nation. The rugged landscape and strenuous life that TR experienced here would help shape a conservation policy that we still benefit from today.

Theodore Roosevelt National Park has abundant watchable wildlife. What you see depends on the season, your patience and luck. Binoculars are helpful, but not essential. Many watchable wildlife species include Bison, Elk, Prairie Dogs, Deer and Golden Eagles to name a few. A small demonstration herd of Longhorns is kept in the North Unit as a cultural resource.

Theodore Roosevelt National Park



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Photo courtesy: North Dakota Tourism

An abundance of native grasses provide sustenance for grazing animals both large and small while the tapestry of different habitats attracts a great number of birds. The terrain of the badlands creates microclimates of warm, dry slopes, relatively cool and wet juniper woodlands, and river bottoms.



Photo courtesy: North Dakota Tourism



Photo courtesy: Diane DeFoe

“... We get exactly as much in hunting with the camera as in hunting with the rifle; and of the two, the former is the kind of sport which calls, for the higher degree of skill, patience, resolution, and knowledge of the life history of the animal sought.”

-Theodore Roosevelt, 1901

The Visitor Center, located at the entrance, is the beginning of a Scenic Byway drive of 14 miles that takes you through the North Unit. The amphitheater at the Juniper Campground has summer programs in the evening. The campground is located four miles from the park entrance where campsites are available year round on a first-come, first-served basis.



Photo courtesy: North Dakota Tourism

Little Missouri National Grasslands

Stretching over one million acres, the National Grasslands offers the opportunity to view the only bighorn sheep in the state of North Dakota. Elk, antelope, whitetail and mule deer, sharp tailed grouse, eagles, falcons, and the busy prairie dog often present themselves for the enjoyment of the visitor. The grasslands stretch from the banks of Lake Sakakawea in the north to the state line in west and through McKenzie County to the south. Theodore Roosevelt National Park North Unit sits in the middle. The grasslands are administered by the McKenzie Ranger District located in Watford City at 701-842-2393.



Photo courtesy: North Dakota Tourism




Photo courtesy: North Dakota Tourism

There are six non-motorized designated trails on the McKenzie Ranger District. The adventurer can explore the trails by hiking, biking or as Teddy Roosevelt did, on horseback. The most famous of these trails is the Maah-Daah-Hey-Trail. The north end of the trail is located just across the Little Missouri River from the entrance of Theodore Roosevelt National Park.

Photo courtesy: North Dakota Tourism

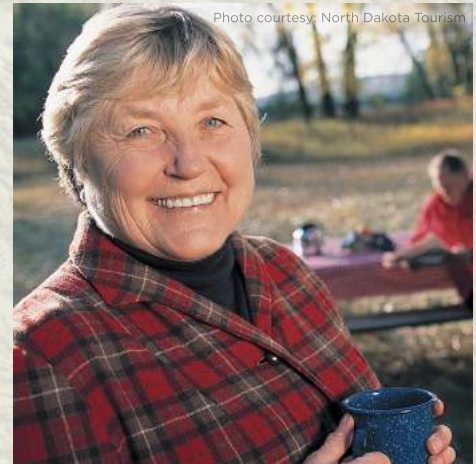


Photo courtesy: North Dakota Tourism

The Maah Daah Hey Trail is a 97 mile trail that connects the northern and southern portions of Theodore Roosevelt National Park, and winds through the Little Missouri National Grasslands in North Dakota's Badlands to form the longest continuous single track mountain biking, hiking and horseback trail in America.

Backcountry camping can be enjoyed anywhere on the Little Missouri Grasslands. There is a 14-day limit for camping at a given location; otherwise, the National Grassland area is available for your enjoyment. There are four primitive campgrounds on the McKenzie Ranger District. All are first come, first taken basis and include: Sather Dam, Summit Campground, CCC Campground and Bennett Campground.

Photo courtesy: North Dakota Tourism



Lake Sakakawea and Native Culture

Lake Sakakawea, a reservoir on the Missouri River, makes up the entire northern border of McKenzie County and is the largest lake in North Dakota and the third largest in the United States. The lake is named after the female Shoshone guide

Sakakawea (sometimes called Sacagawea) who led the Lewis & Clark expedition north on the Missouri River during their journeys through this area at the start of the 19th century. Boating and water sports abound on the lake. Pleasure and

fishing boats, sailboats, wind-surfers and canoers are commonly seen enjoying the vast expanse of the lake. In addition, swimming, water skiing, jet skiing, and scuba diving are just some of the favorite activities.

11

Refer to Map for location

Photo courtesy: North Dakota Tourism



Photo courtesy: North Dakota Tourism



Photo courtesy: North Dakota Tourism



Photo courtesy: North Dakota Tourism



Whether it is summer fishing or ice fishing on the lake you are bound to catch a walleye, northern pike, sauger, smallmouth bass, catfish, yellow perch or a trout. An easy access to the lake is located on Highway 1806, twenty six miles north of Watford City, at Tobacco Gardens Resort and Marina (701-842-4199). The campground is open year round. It offers a full service restaurant, c-store, bait & tackle shop, 100+ camp sites, two log cabins, gas, family picnic shelters, two playgrounds, wireless Internet

and hiking. It is near the Birnt Hills Trail – a certified Lewis and Clark Site, which is approximately 2.5 miles long with beautiful scenic vistas of Lake Sakakawea. The Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara, are known collectively as the Three Affiliated Tribes that currently reside in the Missouri River area – just 45 miles east of Watford City. The tribes believe their presence in North America is from the beginning of time. Although sharing cultures and histories for so long, the people keep

a distinct sense of tribal relationships. On the shores of Lake Sakakawea, experience the Earthlodge Village and Three Affiliated Tribes Museum which features artwork, crafts, artifacts and other items relating to the three tribes. There are a number of cultural performances & gatherings throughout the summer. Experience the living culture and stimulate your senses by attending summer powwows and events. Contact MHA Nation Tourism at 701-627-2243 for dates and times.

North Dakota Tourism/Final Proof Photography

The Lewis & Clark Trail

The Confluence of the Missouri and the Yellowstone Rivers, which played an important role in the Lewis and Clark (Corps of Discovery) expedition, is located on our northwestern border. Lewis and Clark considered

the Confluence of these two great rivers as one of the most important places in North America. Though the actual Confluence of the rivers is located in McKenzie County, the Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence

Interpretive Center is located on the north side of the river and is a must see for visitors to the area.

10

Refer to Map for location

Photo courtesy: North Dakota Tourism

The Yellowstone River

Just a short drive from the center is Fort Union Trading Post. The fort was the most important fur trading post on the upper Missouri for 39 years (1828 – 1867) – longer than any other post on the frontier. Fort Union is renowned as a center of peaceful economic and social exchange between Plains Indian and white cultures. The fort that you see today is a full-scale reconstruction built on the exact locations of the original structures.



Photo courtesy: North Dakota Tourism

Located further south on the Yellowstone River is Sundheim Park and the Fairview Lift Bridge and Cartwright Tunnel. The bridge was completed in 1914, with the last train



Photo courtesy: Ghosts of North Dakota

crossing the bridge in 1986. In 1997 the bridge was listed on the National Register of Historic places and is now open to the public to walk across and explore the Cartwright Tunnel – a flashlight is a must.

On the south bank of Lake Sakakawea, near Tobacco Gardens Resort, is the Birnt Hills Trail. It was near here that the Corps of Discovery ran into their first grizzly bear. Today, you won't find grizzlies on the 2.5 mile trail instead it is a great hike for bird watching, wildflower viewing and beautiful scenic vistas.



Photo courtesy: North Dakota Tourism

Hometown Fun & Festivities

Summer activities in Watford City and McKenzie County are far from boring. From festivals to fairs and rodeos to powwows you will be able to stay busy all summer long.

Homefest

Homefest is a weekend filled with family, friends, food, music, art, activities and most of all fun! The event is held the last weekend in June and is a great way to kick off summer. The event features golf tournaments, street dances, and other good, clean fun for the whole family.



Photo courtesy: Michelle Buntin



Photo courtesy: Betsy Ryan

Arnegard's Family 4th

This annual event celebrates America's birthday during one of the best 4th of July celebrations in western North Dakota. Activities typically include a BBQ Cook Off on July 3rd, a very lively parade, BBQ Beef Lunch and games, then finishing the day with a huge fireworks display on the 4th!

McKenzie County Fair

While the rodeo performances are the main featured grandstand attractions at the fair, other highlights include a demolition derby, beef barbecue, evening dances, petting zoo, 4-H live stock, horsemanship shows and an exciting carnival. The fair is typically held around the middle of July.



Photo courtesy: North Dakota Tourism

The Best of the West Ribfest

Get fired up for the annual RibFest right on Main Street Watford City typically held on the first Friday of August. One of the premier rib festivals in North Dakota, the RibFest is a full day affair including multiple rib vendors vying for top honors, a kids zone, festival food, street vendors and a variety of live music.



Photo courtesy: Williston Herald

Alexander's Old Settler's Day

The first weekend in September begins a celebration that began over

70 years ago as a community picnic at the end of the harvest season and has grown to one of McKenzie County's largest events. The beef barbecue is still an integral part of Old Settlers Day and the event typically covers 4 days. Activities will include a parade, a program in the park, an art and craft show, dances, a community church service and potluck dinner.

POWWOWS



Photo courtesy: North Dakota Tourism

Powwows are a time for people to get together to sing and dance, renew old acquaintances and make new ones. The powwows also have a religious significance – the celebration was a prayer to the Great Spirit or Grandfather. For the spectator, the powwow is a visual extravaganza beyond compare. For more information contact MHA Tourism at 701-627-2243.

FOUR BEARS POWWOW

Last Weekend in May

MANDAREE POWWOW

3rd Weekend in July

NEW TOWN LITTLE SHELL POWWOW

2nd Weekend in August

For exciting local rodeos, various fishing tournaments and other fun scheduled events, go to the “Things To Do” page at VisitWatfordCity.com.

The Long X Trading Post & Visitor Center

Centrally located at the crossroads of Business 85 and Business 23 in downtown Watford City. C'mon in for all the information, maps and brochures on the surrounding area. Or simply stop by for a cup of coffee and maybe some ice cream while you check out the Museum Store featuring Pride of Dakota and locally made products. While you're here, check out the largest petrified tree stump ever found in North Dakota.

The 60 million-year-old petrified tree stump was discovered during an archeological excavation in the badlands just south of Watford City in 2001 and is now in the lobby welcoming visitors to Watford City.

Step back in time with the Pioneer Museum – located within the Trading Post. From the rope of the last lynching in North Dakota to a replica of a pioneer home – the museum packs a whole lot of history into a small area. For a grander perspective, you may want to visit the McKenzie County Heritage Park located a short distance down Business 85. The park features many of the original buildings from the early 1900s and there are a variety other displays that preserve the pioneer heritage of western North Dakota.



*Approx. Weight – 17,000 lbs.
Diameter – 6 ft.
Height – 7 to 8 ft.*





Comfortable Accommodations

Watford City continues to grow in the ever changing landscape of western North Dakota. The community provides accommodations to fit all of your needs. From cabins to stunning new hotels - we have you covered. Have a hankering for a steak or a good 'ole burger and fries? Or are you more in the mood for teriyaki, pizza or a gourmet sandwich? We have you covered there as well. Watford City has over twenty-five eating and drinking establishments to fit any mood

you may be in – fast food to fine dining. Looking for the perfect place for your next meeting, conference or event? Watford City is the perfect location in western North Dakota offering a mixture of meeting rooms, restaurants and recreational activities



for any size group.

- More than 800 comfortable sleeping rooms.
- A versatile convention center with 869 to 7,555 square feet of meeting and exhibit space plus a 2,584 seat indoor arena.
- An Event Center offering over 76,000 sq. ft. of open exhibit space.
- 18-Hole Golf Course (Summer of 2016).
- Outdoor Exhibition Center.
- 910 seat hockey arena plus a practice arena.
- Indoor Aquatic Center and an outdoor Wild West Water Park.

In Watford City you will enjoy all the amenities of a larger city but with small town hospitality.



Legendary Hospitality

Stunning accommodations to fit every traveler's needs.



Little Missouri Inn & Suites

www.watfordcitylmis.com
109 9th Ave SE, Watford City
701-842-6262
Indoor Pool, Continental Breakfast,
Meeting Rooms.



McKenzie Inn

132 3rd ST SW, Watford City
701-444-3980



Roosevelt Inn & Suites

www.rooseveltinn.com
600 2nd Ave SW, Watford City
800-887-9170
Indoor Pool, Continental Breakfast,
Meeting Rooms.



Teddy's Residential Suites

www.watfordcitytrs.com
113 9th Ave SE, Watford City
701-842-6480
Onsite Lounge, Spa, Meeting Rooms.



The Watford Hotel

www.thewatford.com
810 3rd Ave SW, Watford City
701-842-6800
Onsite Lounge, Continental Breakfast,
Meeting Rooms.



Comfort Inn & Suites

www.choicehotels.com/nd055
600 3rd Ave SW, Watford City
701-842-6565
Continental Breakfast, Meeting Room.



Value Place

www.valueplace.com
4005 Frontier Ave, Watford City
701-842-3130
Extended Stay.

Photo courtesy Michelle Buntin



Mainstay Suites

www.choicehotels.com
222 Prairie Hills Road, Watford City
701-444-4002
Fitness Center, Free American Breakfast,
Free Wi-Fi.



Black Gold Suites

www.blackgoldsuites.com
3617 6th Ave NE, Watford City
855-784-8375
Daily Hot Breakfast, Free Wi-Fi,
Fitness Center.

Cabins & Campgrounds



**Theodore Roosevelt National Park
Juniper Campground** www.nps.gov/thro
Campground located 14 miles south of
Watford City on Hwy 85 and 4 miles from
the North Unit park entrance. Sites available
year-round, first-come, first-served basis.
Restrooms, Group Site, Drinking Water,
No Power/Sewer.



Paradise Ridge Lodge

www.paradiseridgeresort.com
13311 7th Street NW, Grassy Butte
701-863-6725
Cabin, Little Missouri Grassland,
Maah Daah Hey Trail.



Lone Butte Ranch

www.lonebutteranch.com
12251 Lone Butte Road, Grassy Butte
701-863-6864
Cozy Cabins, Spa, Horse Boarding,
Star Gazing.



Tobacco Gardens Resort & Marina

www.tobaccogardens.com
4781 Hwy 1806, Watford City
701-842-4199
Campground, Marina, C-Store,
Restaurant.





Watford City Event Center



1
Refer to Map
for location

This top-of-the-line facility offers year round activities and entertainment.

- Indoor Aquatic Center
- Indoor Field House
- Sports and Concert Arena
- Hockey Arena
- Convention Center
- Youth Programs
- Adult Programs



2,584 seat arena



234 seat aquatic center



Modern Meeting Facilities



1
Refer to Map
for location

3,014 square feet



1,482 square feet



869 square feet



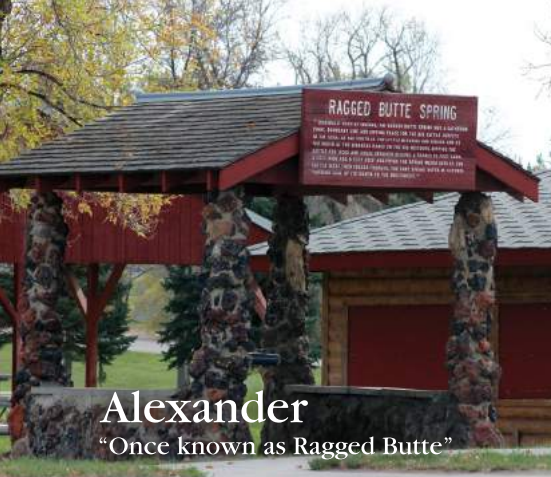


7,555 square feet

- Over 76,000 square feet in exhibit space.
- Accommodates over 230 booths.



2,980 square feet



Alexander
“Once known as Ragged Butte”

In 1907 the community was named Arnegard and was advertised as “The Garden Spot of McKenzie County”. It wasn’t until 1913 that the town became incorporated. Each 4th of July, the community celebrates the nation’s birthday with one of the best “Independence Day” celebrations in western North Dakota.

The Lewis & Clark Trail Homestead Museum

The village of Alexander and the county were named after Alexander McKenzie, a man of considerable note during the early history of North Dakota and Alaska. Alexander is home to one of the largest and most interesting museums in North Dakota: the Lewis and Clark Trail

Museum. It is also known for its beautiful city park which features a public fountain with some of the purest and tastiest spring water to be found anywhere. Each year, the community celebrates its Old Settlers Day held Labor Day weekend.



Refer to Map for Location



Arnegard
“Garden Spot of McKenzie County”

Tom Bean Photography

Gateway Communities



The township was organized in 1910. The name Keene was chosen because of a great number of settlers had come from Keene Township in Minnesota. As the years passed, the town site of Keene dwindled away and a new town called Union Center was built along Highway 23 – five miles south of old Keene. The post office was moved to Union Center, however, since the name of the post office couldn't be changed, Union Center became Keene.

Built in 1912 of logs and sod. This structure, which is listed in the National Register as a historic site, housed the Grassy Butte Post Office from 1914 to 1964. It now serves as a free admission museum housing antiques and relics from the 1800s and 1900s.

8

Refer to Map for location

Photo courtesy: North Dakota Tourism



Keene
"A Tale of Towns".

McKenzie County Activity Map



- 1** Watford City: Long X Trading Post Visitor Information Center & Pioneer Museum of McKenzie County Wild West Water Park Children's Play Park McKenzie County Heritage Park
- 2** Alexander & the Lewis & Clark Trail Museum
- 3** Fairview Liftbridge & Cartwright Tunnel Museum
- 4** Sather Dam
- 5** Theodore Roosevelt National Park, North Unit
- 6** Long X Bridge & Walter Chaloner Memorial
- 7** MashDaah Hey Trailhead & CCC Campground
- 8** Grassy Butte: The Old Sod Post Office National Historic Site
- 9** Little Missouri State Park
- 10** Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center Fort Union Trading Post National Historic Site & Fort Buford
- 11** Tobacco Garden Resort & Marina
- 12** Three Affiliated Tribes Museum & Earthlodge Village
- 13** Theodore Roosevelt National Park Scenic Byway
- 14** Killdeer Mountain Four Bears Scenic Byway



Your Adventure Awaits on the New Frontier!

Photo courtesy Diane DeFoe



Photo courtesy Jessie Veeder Scofield