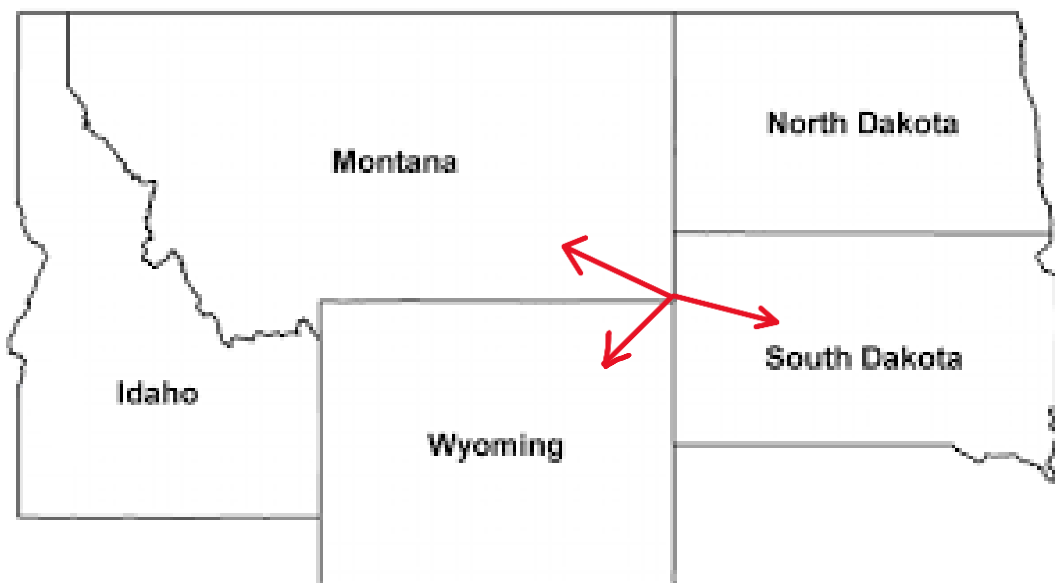


GRAND CENTRAL USA 2026 (South Dakota, Wyoming, Montana)



An awesome 21-day adventure incorporating numerous magnificent attractions!

**Sunday 5 July – Saturday 25 July 2026
(Rapid City, South Dakota to Kalispell, Montana)**

Leader: Phillip Donnell

Price: \$9950pp

***This is an estimated price as at 20 October 2025, based on a minimum of 10 participants and subject to currency fluctuations.**

An accurate price will be established once we have a viable group registered.

PRICE INCLUDES :

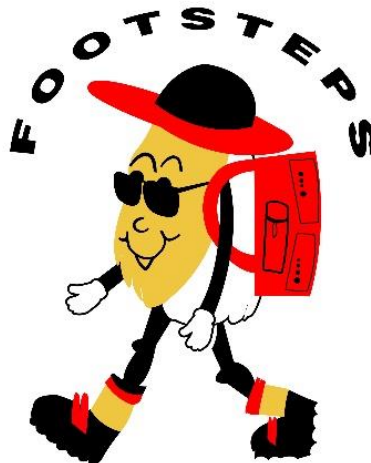
- All accommodations inclusive of taxes, mostly twin share rooms in hotels, motels etc
- Transport – hired minivan for the trip duration
- The services of an experienced and knowledgeable Kiwi leader throughout
- All breakfasts
- National park fees, historic site entry fees, national monument entry fees

PRICE DOES NOT INCLUDE :

- Flights to start and finish points
- Lunches and dinners
- Any optional activities or choices, personal expenses outside of the inclusions
- Travel insurance (mandatory)

Trip Highlights

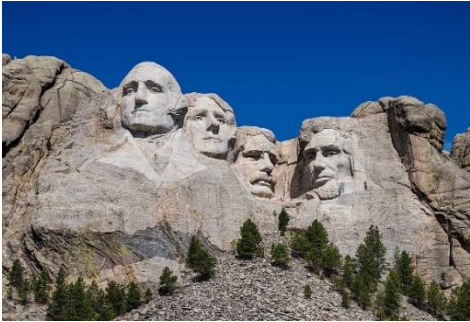
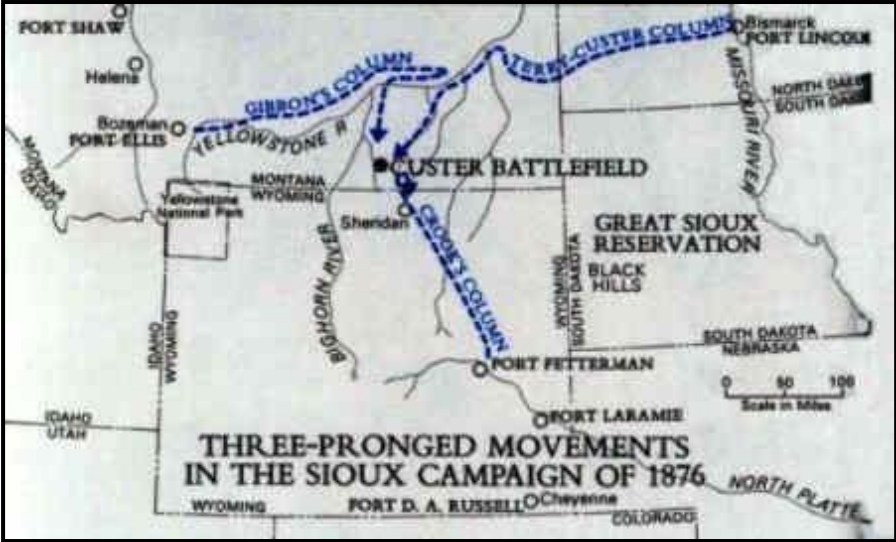
- **A comprehensive super-natural tour**, timed for best summer conditions.
- **5 National Parks:** Glacier, Yellowstone, Grand Teton, Wind Cave, Badlands. The parks are spectacular and the scenery is absolutely exceptional!
- **A vast array of stunning trails**, such as those indicated in red below
- **The modern and attractive towns of Kalispel, Great Falls, Jackson Hole and Rapid City.**
- **The thermal and wildlife wonders of Yellowstone NP**, such as Mammoth Terraces, Old Faithful Geyser, Grand Prismatic Spring, Mud Volcano, West Thumb.
- The largest mineral hot water spring in the world at **Thermopolis**
- The stamping ground of **Buffalo Bill Cody, Calamity Jane, Wild Bill Hickok.**
- Sioux history and the battlefield that witnessed **Custer's Last Stand**
- **Geological wonders:** Devils Tower, Black Hills, Jewel Cavern, Wind Cave, Mount Rushmore.
- **Walks** are a major feature , graded to suit. You choose your activity level on the day – a more strenuous half or whole day walk, a shorter walk or just “tiki” tour with the vehicle. Although day walking is a focus of the itinerary, you participate at your own level, according to how you feel.



GRAND CENTRAL USA 2026: ITINERARY

Participants should arrive in Rapid City, South Dakota by Saturday evening, 4 July.
The initial briefing will be at 6 p.m.

DATE	ACTIVITIES
BADLANDS NATIONAL PARK (SOUTH DAKOTA) (1 day)	
Day 1 Sunday 5 July	Travel from Rapid City to Wall (90km, 55 mins) Drive the <i>Badlands Scenic Loop Byway</i> (SD240) with its 12 spectacular overlooks. Possible Walks: Door Trail (1.2 km), Window Trail (0.2 km), Fossil Exhibit (0.1 km), Castle Trail (16 km), Notch Trail (2.4 km), Saddle Pass Trail (0.3 km), Cliff Shelf Trail (0.8 km). O/n Rapid City
WIND CAVE NATIONAL PARK (1 day)	
Day 2 Monday 6 July	<i>Travel from Rapid City to Hot Springs (90km) for a day in Wind Cave National Park...</i> <i>Wind Cave is the fourth longest cave in the world (210 km).</i> <i>The Mammoth Site at Hot Springs is an active paleontological dig site, which boasts the largest concentration of mammoth remains in the world!</i> Choice of Cave Tours (own expense): Wild Cave (4 hours), Natural Entrance (1.25 hours), Fairgrounds (1.5 hours), Garden of Eden (1 hour), Candlelight (2 hours). Possible Walks: Rankin Ridge Nature Trail (1 km), Wind Cave Canyon (5.5 km), Cold Brook (4.5 km), East Bison Flats (11.8 km), Lookout Point (7 km), Sanctuary (11.5 km), Boland Ridge (8.3 km). <i>Travel from Hot Springs to Keystone (80 km, 1h10m).</i> O/n Keystone
CUSTER STATE PARK (1 day)	
Day 3 Tuesday 7 July	<i>Custer State Park is renowned for its vast herds of bison.</i> Possible Walks: Lost Cabin (8 km), Willow Creek Loop (4.5 km), Harney (Black Elk) Peak North (7 km), Harney (Black Elk) Peak South (5.5 km), Black Elk Peak Loop (10km), Horsethief Lake (4.3 km), Iron Creek (3.8 km), Iron Mountain (2.3 km), Grizzly Bear Creek (10 km), Norbeck (10 km), Cathedral Spires (4.8 km, 2 hours), Sunday Gulch (6km), Little Devil's Tower (5km, 2-3h), Spring Creek and Flume Loop (5km, 1h30m), Lake Sylvan Circuit (1.6km). O/n Keystone
BLACK HILLS NATIONAL FOREST (SOUTH DAKOTA) (2 days)	
Day 4 Wednesday 8 July	<i>Possible visits:</i> • NEEDLES EYE TUNNEL (drive-through) • CRAZY HORSE: the <i>largest mountain sculpture in the world</i> in progress. • JEWEL CAVE: Choice of Cave Tours: Scenic (1.5h), Discovery (own expense). Cannot book in advance. Possible Walk: Hell Canyon Trail (9 km). • MOUNT RUSHMORE:

	Possible Walks: The Presidential Trail (0.8 km), Willow Creek Rushmore (3 km).  O/n Keystone
Day 5 Thursday 9 July	Travel from Keystone to Gillette to (220km 2h20m). Possible visits en route: - Devil's Tower National Monument (featured in the movie <i>Close Encounters of the Third Kind</i>) Possible Walks: Red Beds Trail (4.8 km), Tower Trail (2km). - The <i>geographical centre</i> of the 50 state USA at Belle Fourche 1880 Vintage Train (Hill City depot) 35km round trip through Black Hills (own expense) - Deadwood: Mount Moriah Cemetery (graves of Wild Bill Hickok, Calamity Jane etc) O/n Gillette
LITTLE BIGHORN / BIGHORN NATIONAL FOREST	
Day 6 Friday 10 July	Travel from to Gillette (South Dakota) to Billings (Montana) along the Bozeman Trail Historic Route (IS 90, 370km, 3h30m) Visit en route: <i>Little Bighorn Battlefield National Monument</i> (Custer's last stand). <i>There are many other historic forts and battlefields on this route: Connor Battlefield, Wagon Box, Fort Phil Kearney, Massacre Hill, Fort McKinney.</i>  O/n Billings
BUFFALO BILL COUNTRY	
Day 7 Saturday 11 July	Travel from Billings (Montana) to Cody (Wyoming) (165km,1h45). Pictograph Cave State Park Dead Indian Summit Overlook <i>In Cody walk the Old Trail Town and visit the Buffalo Bill Historic Centre, Cody Firearms Museum, Cody Night Rodeo, Buffalo Bill Dam, Buffalo Bill State Park.</i> Possible Walk: Hayden Arch Bridge Trail (8km return) O/n Cody

THE WORLD'S LARGEST MINERAL HOT SPRINGS: HOT SPRINGS STATE PARK		
Day 8 Sunday 12 July	Travel from to Cody to Thermopolis (135km,1h20m) Possible Walks: Hill and Rim Loop (4.8km, 1h25m), Rainbow Terraces (1km,10min). O/n Thermopolis	
GRAND TETON NATIONAL PARK (2 days)		
Days 9 and 10 Monday 13 July Tuesday 14 July	Travel from Thermopolis to Moran (290km,3h). *Teton Village Aerial Tramway *Signal Mountain Viewpoint drive (7.7 km) *Jackson Hole Aerial Tramway Possible Walks: Jenny Lake Loop (11.3 km, 4 hours), Inspiration Point (3.8 km), Hidden Falls (1.7 km), Phelps Lake (options), String Lake Circuit (6 km), Leigh Lake (6 km). O/n Moran	
YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK (5.5 days)		
Day 11 Wednesday 15 July	Travel from Moran to West Yellowstone via the Grand Teton National Park Scenic Highway and Yellowstone National Park (160km, 2h30m) Possible Walks: West Thumb Geyser Basin (2 km), Lone Star Geyser (8 km), Observation Point Loop (3 km), Mystic Falls (5 km), Fairy Falls (8 km), Shoshone Lake (10 km), Avalanche Peak (6.5 km), Riddle Lake (8 km), Natural Bridge (2.5 km), Yellowstone Lake Overlook (3 km). O/n West Yellowstone	
Day 12 Thursday 16 July	Thermal Areas: Lower, Midway and Upper Geyser Basins (including Grand Prismatic Spring, Old Faithful Geyser), Norris Geyser Basin. O/n West Yellowstone	
Days 13 and 14 Friday 17 July Saturday 18 July	<i>Travel from West Yellowstone to Canyon Village</i> (65km, 1h) Possible Walks (near Canyon Village): EASY: Clear Lake-Lilly Pond Lake-Artists Point (6 km) MODERATE: North Rim Trail (5.2 km), South Rim Trail (up to 10 km), South Rim Trail and Ribbon Lake (10 km), Cascade Lake (7 km), Grebe Lake (9.6 km), Chain of Lakes Trail (Ice, Wolf, Grebe, Cascade Lakes: 17 km), Mud Volcano (2km). HARD: Observation Peak (17.5 km), Seven Mile Hole (17.5 km). O/n West Yellowstone	
Day 15 Sunday 19 July	Travel from West Yellowstone to Gairdner (via Tower/Roosevelt) (80km, 2h) Possible Walks: Yellowstone River Picnic Area Trail (6.5 km), Lost Lake Loop (6.5 km), Mt. Washburn (9.6 km), Black Canyon of the Yellowstone (26.5 km), Slough Creek (6.5 km), Pebble Creek (6.5 km), Lamar River (10 km), Mt Washburn/Seven Mile Hole (25 km). Possibly Mammoth Terraces (see below). O/n Gairdner	
Day 16 Monday 20 July	Travel from Gairdner Wyoming to Great Falls, Montana (365km, 4h).	

	Possible Walks in Mammoth (a.m.): Bunsen Peak (6.5 km), Beaver Ponds Loop (8 km), Upper and Lower Terraces (5 km), Grizzly Lake (6.5 km), Rescue Creek (13 km). O/n Great Falls
GIANT SPRINGS STATE PARK	
Day 17 Tuesday 21 July	Travel from Great Falls, Montana to East Glacier Montana (315 km, 3h30m). The park is home to one of the largest freshwater springs in North America, the Rainbow Dam & 50km of trails There are many walks along the Rivers Edge Trail, on both sides of the Missouri River. Possible Walks: Giant Springs State Park Loop (2.3km, 30min), Rivers Edge Trail to Rainbow Dam Overlook (7km, 1h30m), Rivers Edge Trail via Giant Springs State Park (2km, 30min) O/n East Glacier
GLACIER NATIONAL PARK (3.5 days)	
Days 18 and 19 Wednesday 22 July Thursday 23 July	Possible Walks: Swiftcurrent Nature Trail (4 km), Redrock Falls (6 km), Morning Eagle Falls (10 - 14.5 km), Ptarmigan Falls (8.3 km), Iceberg Lake (8 - 15.3 km), Grinnell Glacier (16.5 km, or 11.5 km if you take the boat), Cracker Lake (19.5 km), Ptarmigan Tunnel (17.5 km), Piegan Pass (14.5 km), Swiftcurrent Pass (12.8 - 21.5 km), Grinnell Lake (11.2 km), St Mary Falls/Virginia Falls (8.5 km, 3-4 hrs) O/n East Glacier
Day 20 Friday 24 July	Travel from East Glacier to West Glacier (Lake McDonald) via the famous <i>Going to the Sun</i> Road. with its many attractions (60 km, 1.25 hours) Possible Walks: Garden Wall/Highline Trail (6.5 - 18.5 km), Siyeh Pass (15 km) O/n West Glacier 
Day 21 Saturday 25 July	Travel from Lake McDonald to Kalispell (65 km, 1 hour) Possible Walks at Lake McDonald (a.m.): Avalanche Lake Trail (6 km, 2 hrs), Trail of the Cedars (1 km, 30 mins), Hidden Lake Overlook Trail (5 km, 1-2 hours). Farewell celebration dinner (own expense) Own arrangements hereafter. Departure from Kalispell. O/n Kalispell

GRAND CENTRAL USA 2026

Booking Conditions

1. Participants agree to all terms and conditions by signing the Registration Form.
2. Footsteps Walking and Travel Club is not responsible or liable for any injury, damage, loss, accident, delay or irregularity which may arise from weather, defect in any vehicle, vessel or aircraft, or through the acts or default of any person or company engaged in carrying out any of the arrangements of the trip.
3. We reserve the right to cancel the trip if minimum numbers don't eventuate. In such an event, all monies paid will be fully refunded. We also reserve the right to make any modifications that may be essential.
4. The trip price includes some subsidisation of the leader's administrative and travel expenses.
5. Registrations are accepted in good faith on a first comer's basis on receipt of the Registration Form. The deposit is \$500 per person.
6. Registrations should be sent *as early as possible* in order to obtain optimal outcomes. Once we reach "critical mass" the trip moves from "orange light" status to "green light" status and the earlier that happens the better because people can then book flights and make arrangements with confidence. The deadline for registrations is **1 March, 2026**, or earlier if fully subscribed.
7. The balance of the trip price is due by **15 May, 2026**. Our preferred method of payment is internet banking to Kiwibank Footsteps P J Donnell 38-9002-0435674-03 (please write your surname and "GCUSA" in the reference boxes).
8. Arrangements are made in other currencies. Events beyond our control, such as exchange rate fluctuations or any unforeseen additional costs, may affect the overall trip price. We cannot guarantee the price until such times as *full payment has been received* (15 April, 2026). Upon full payment, the trip price is guaranteed.
9. Cancellations. If you need to cancel your registration for any reason, you must advise Phillip in writing as soon as possible. An email is acceptable, a phone call alone is not. Full refunds are given up to 90 days prior. Following that, refunds are by negotiation, with the aim of refunding the maximum amount possible. Travel insurance can cover you for unexpected changes of plan that have a valid reason. If you find a suitable replacement person, cancellation fees MAY be waived.
10. Personal travel insurance is mandatory, and proof thereof should be carried by all participants.

We welcome your participation in this unforgettable journey of discovery!

Registration and waiver forms are below...

FOOTSTEPS WALKING AND TRAVEL CLUB OF AOTEAROA NEW ZEALAND

Registration Form – Grand Central USA 2026

Complete and send to Phillip Donnell with Waiver Form and a copy of the data page in your passport. The deposit required is \$500 per person Our preferred payment method is internet banking into Kiwibank 38-9002-0435674-03 (Footsteps P J Donnell) (with your surname and "GCUSA 2026" in the reference columns).

Your full name(s) as per passport(s) and please underline or highlight your preferred first name(s)

Mailing address

Day phone

Night phone

Mobile

Email

Date(s) of birth

Are you comfortable in close contact with like-minded travellers with all the give and take needed for harmony?
Please extend your answers overleaf or on separate paper, or by email.

Specify any dietary requirements, allergies or medical conditions

Contact person in NZ for any emergencies : name, address, contact phone numbers, email and the relationship to you. In the event of any emergency, this is the sole person you are authorizing us to liaise with

I/We have read the full trip dossier and I / We enclose the per person deposit of \$500pp. I / We agree to pay the remainder of trip costs by the due dates. I/ We understand that the final trip price is subject to minimum numbers and other cost impacts as detailed under the Booking Conditions section; therefore the final trip price cannot be guaranteed until such time as *full payment has been made*.

Signed (all participants should sign here):

Send to: Footsteps, 3B Te Arawa Place, Welcome Bay, Tauranga 3112. Email: footstepsanz@gmail.com (scanned or photographed documents are acceptable).

FOOTSTEPS WALKING and TRAVEL CLUB OF AOTEAROA / NEW ZEALAND

RELEASE AND WAIVER OF LIABILITY FORM

PROVIDER: Footsteps Walking and Travel Club (Phillip John Donnell)("Footsteps")

PARTICIPANT:

("the Participant")

I, the Participant, release and forever discharge and hold harmless Footsteps from all and any liability, claims, demands and damages, of whatsoever kind or nature, whether foreseeable or otherwise, either at law or in equity, which arise or may arise from the services and activities provided and arranged by Footsteps.

I understand and acknowledge that this Release and Waiver discharges Footsteps from any liability or claim that I may have against Footsteps in respect of personal injury, illness, medical treatment, death, property loss or damage, and otherwise howsoever, resulting from the services and activities provided and arranged by Footsteps. I hereby waive all such rights and remedies.

I accept that I participate in the services and activities entirely at my own risk.

I acknowledge and accept that this Release and Waiver:

- (a) Extends to and covers all contractors, agents, volunteers and employees of Footsteps; and
- (b) Binds the executors, administrators, successors, attorneys and assigns of both parties.

Signed by the Participant:

Date:
