

# Glacier Country MONTANA

*What's New & Exciting in Glacier Country?*

## Event News:

- ❖ **Glacier National Park's Centennial** – the Park will be celebrating its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary during the summer of 2010 in grand style! A complete list of the activities, educational programs and commemorative events can be found at on the Glacier Centennial website. [www.glaciercentennial.org](http://www.glaciercentennial.org)
- ❖ The **National Folk Festival** - one of the country's largest and most prestigious celebrations of the arts, has taken up residence in Butte from 2008 to 2010. Don't miss the final July 9<sup>th</sup> - 11<sup>th</sup>, 2010 festival! A large-scale three-day outdoor event presented free to the public, the National Folk Festival celebrates the roots, richness, and variety of American culture. Rated in the *ABA's "Top 100 Activities" in North America*. A free motorcoach transportation system makes Missoula (120 miles) a wonderful base camp idea. [www.nationalfolkfestival.com](http://www.nationalfolkfestival.com)
- ❖ **International Wildlife Film Festival** in Missoula – works to promote awareness, knowledge and understanding of wildlife, habitat, people and nature through excellent film, television and other media. (May 8<sup>th</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup>, 2010) [www.wildlifefilms.org](http://www.wildlifefilms.org)
- ❖ **2010 Bitterroot Scottish Irish Festival** in Hamilton - Hidden Legend Winery is proud to host the 2010 Bitterroot Scottish Irish Festival! It will be held at the Daly Mansion in the beautiful Bitterroot Valley on August 28<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup>. [www.bitterrootvalleychamber.com](http://www.bitterrootvalleychamber.com)
- ❖ **Rendezvous Days** in Eureka - events begin with a Friday Night Kick-Off Dinner and Concert. The weekend features three musical groups, three days of Black Powder Shoot and Mountain Man Camp, parade at noon Saturday, Quilt Show, Arts and Craft Shows, Car Show, Arm Wrestling Championship, Mud Bog, Sand Drags and Food Vendors of all kinds. April 23<sup>rd</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup>, 2010. [www.welcome2eureka.com](http://www.welcome2eureka.com)

## Activities News:

- ❖ **Travelers' Rest State Park** in Lolo - this National Historic Landmark marks the location of a centuries-old Native American campsite which Lewis and Clark's used in 1805 and 1806. In 2009, Montana State Parks opened the Holt Museum and Visitor Center at Travelers' Rest. This exciting new addition to this timeless place gives visitors glimpses of the time before and immediately after the Lewis and Clark Expedition traveled through the Bitterroot Valley. [www.travelersrest.org](http://www.travelersrest.org)
- ❖ **Motorcoach Step-On Guide** – specializing in Glacier National Park, regional activities and history, to complete itinerary planning -- Flathead Travel uses experienced, professional local guides. Enhance your groups' motorcoach tour experience in Montana's Glacier Country. [www.flatheadtravel.com](http://www.flatheadtravel.com)
- ❖ **National Geographic Society's "Crown of the Continent" Map** - the Crown of the Continent is the expansive eco-region of southeastern British Columbia, southwestern Alberta and northern Montana. This diverse area -- one of the most intact ecosystems in the world -- encompasses Glacier National Park, Native American tribes and traditions, ranches and charming communities. Check out the interactive Geotourism MapGuide developed in cooperation with the National Geographic Society as an amazing resource to enjoy the uniqueness this region. [www.crownofthecontinent.net](http://www.crownofthecontinent.net)
- ❖ **THE BARN** in Bigfork – features beautifully displayed antiques and gifts that portray Montana and Western history. The scenic setting, between Glacier National Park and Missoula, and is a perfect stop for tours. With reservations, groups will enjoy a welcome reception with complimentary refreshments. [www.barnantiques.biz](http://www.barnantiques.biz)
- ❖ **Trails and Ales** – enjoy Glacier National Park (25 miles from Whitefish/ Kalispell) for a refreshing outing of guided snow-shoeing or cross-country skiing with Glacier Outdoor Center-- including lunch on the trails, and dinner at the Belton Chalet. Or extend your stay in one of the spacious vacation rental log cabins at Glacier Outdoor Center, for some groomed ski/in ski/out cross-country skiing. Ground transportation and gear rentals also available. [www.glacierraftco.com](http://www.glacierraftco.com)

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- ❖ **Two Nation Vacation** – when combining the Canadian Rockies and a Montana vacation for summer or winter travel, consider this two nation shuttle service. Perfect for when your car rental company does not permit a one way rental. [www.airportshuttleexpress.com](http://www.airportshuttleexpress.com)
- ❖ **Alpine Artisans' Tour of the Arts** - a self-guided tour to the studios of working artists in the Seeley, Swan and Blackfoot Valleys. You have a chance to visit photographer's studios, the working space of watercolor artists, see sculptors, woodworkers, a metalsmith and jeweler at work. [www.alpineartisans.org](http://www.alpineartisans.org)

## *Unique Meal Experiences:*

- ❖ **Dinner & Theater Package** – combine dinner at one of the fabulous downtown restaurants within walking distance of two very remarkable, professional live theaters. Group rates available.
  - **Alpine Theater Company** in Whitefish [www.alpinetheatreproject.com](http://www.alpinetheatreproject.com)
  - **Bigfork Summer Playhouse** in Bigfork [www.bigforksummerplayhouse.com](http://www.bigforksummerplayhouse.com)
- ❖ **Scenic Lift Ride at Whitefish Mountain Resort** in Whitefish – ride the gondola/chair lift to the 7000 foot summit for stunning views into Glacier National Park to enjoy a US Forest Service presentation about the flora and fauna of this unspoiled, still intact eco-region or a short hike to get acquainted with the wildflowers and grand views. Then ride back down for a gourmet dining experience in the beautiful, new Montana-style Base Lodge. Other activities not to miss are “Walk in the Treetops”, Zipline and Alpine Slide! [www.skiwhitefish.com](http://www.skiwhitefish.com)
- ❖ **Cowboy Cookout at Glacier Park Lodge** in East Glacier Park - groups will love the delicious “All-You-Can-Eat Cowboy Cookout”, served buffet style on the front lawn of Glacier Park Lodge. [www.glacierparkinc.com](http://www.glacierparkinc.com)
- ❖ **Fondue at Many Glacier Hotel** - your visit to the Many Glacier Hotel in Glacier National Park is not complete without sampling their fabulous Après Fondue! The hotel was named the *Sherman's 2009 #2 Travel Top 10 National Park Lodges*. [www.glacierparkinc.com](http://www.glacierparkinc.com)
- ❖ **Western Meal at Bar W Ranch** in Whitefish – ride in a horse-drawn wagon to the event tent in a lovely Montana meadow for a western meal and a little cowboy entertainment. [www.thebarw.com](http://www.thebarw.com)
- ❖ **Boat Cruise on Flathead Lake** - the Best Western KwaTaqNuk Resort in Polson is offering scenic summer cruises on the biggest natural lake west of the Mississippi, on their new 65 foot, 149 passenger cruise boat. Ask about the cruise/lunch package for groups. [www.kwataqnuk.com](http://www.kwataqnuk.com)
- ❖ **Dine with the Bears** at Grouse Mountain Lodge in Whitefish - enjoy some Montana hospitality, a memorable meal – and a special grizzly bear photo presentation for groups by Tim Rubbert; wildlife educator, photographer, and author. [www.montanasfinest.com](http://www.montanasfinest.com)
- ❖ **Launch & Lunch** - experience a half day scenic river float trip on the Middle Fork of the Flathead River while taking in the views of Glacier National Park. Don't forget their great BBQ lunch option! [www.glacierraftco.com](http://www.glacierraftco.com)
- ❖ **Two Fabulous New Restaurants** – on Main Street in Polson
  - **101 Main** – a Steak and Chop House near Flathead Lake. [www.101mainsteakhouse.com](http://www.101mainsteakhouse.com)
  - **Maxwell's on Main Street** – an intriguing menu for lunch or dinner.

## *Hotel/Resort News:*

- ❖ **Whitefish** - in the October 2009 issue of Arthur Frommer's Budget Travel Magazine, Whitefish has been picked as one of the *10 Coolest Small Towns in America*. Whitefish is featured as one of the editorial staff's picks for up-and-coming, affordable travel destinations nationwide, all with a population under 10,000. "Every now and then you stumble upon a town that's gotten everything right -- great coffee, food with character, shop owners with purpose." [www.explorewhitefish.com](http://www.explorewhitefish.com)

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- ❖ **Triple Creek Ranch** in Darby - is ranked *#1 Best Service in the U.S.* and *#3 Best Service in the World* by the readers of Travel + Leisure Magazine (June 2009). [www.triplecreekranch.com](http://www.triplecreekranch.com)
- ❖ **Whitefish Mountain Resort** - SKI Magazine's (October 2009) annual reader survey rates Whitefish Mountain Resort (formerly Big Mountain Resort) in "*Top 20 resorts in North America*". The 2010 Resort Guide also rated the resort in the top 10 for "scenery" and "value." [www.skiwhitefish.com](http://www.skiwhitefish.com)
- ❖ **Hawthorne Suites** is Missoula's newest hotel. The "Western-Style Luxury" all-suite hotel, with full efficiency kitchens, is conveniently located near the Missoula International Airport (MSO). [www.hawthorn.com](http://www.hawthorn.com)
- ❖ **The Lodge at Whitefish Lake** in Whitefish – is currently building an additional 36 rooms overlooking 30 acres of natural preserve to further compliment the lovely lakefront, full-service hotel in Whitefish. Scheduled to open July 2009, the new "Viking Creek" expansion is built for corporate travelers, ski groups and the bus and tour market. In a remarkable, environmentally-friendly gesture, the owners gave the 30 acres surrounding the new hotel to the Whitefish Lake Institute for a conservation preserve area. [www.lodgeatwhitefishlake.com](http://www.lodgeatwhitefishlake.com)
- ❖ **Townhouse Inn in Hamilton** – stay and relax at the newly remodeled TownHouse Inn, located in the beautiful Bitterroot Valley. The recently completed a \$1.5 million remodel includes remodeled guest rooms and a roomy new breakfast area. [www.townhouseinnhamilton.com](http://www.townhouseinnhamilton.com)

*For sample itineraries and images, please visit: <http://touroperators.glaciermt.com>*