

DOWNTOWN BILLINGS

35



MUST-SEES

IN BILLINGS

1 Moss Mansion:

The story of one of Billings' most famous families and how Billings was built surrounded by the stunning architecture of the home. 914 Division Street, Downtown Billings. 406-256-5100 or www.mossmansion.com

- **2 Western Heritage Center:** The history of Billings and the region housed in one of our city's oldest buildings - the original Parmly Billings Library. 2822 Montana Ave., Downtown Billings. 406-256-6809 or **www.ywhc.org**
- 3 Yellowstone Kelly Interpretive Site & Boothill Cemetery: History on the Rimrocks overlooking the city. Find the interpretive site as you walk, bike or drive the scenic and historic Black Otter Trail and check out Boothill Cemetery just off Airport Road, both on the northeast side of Billings. yellowstonekelly.org
- 4 Scenic Drive Along the Rimrock **Bluffs:** Take Highway 3 from east to west and take in the forever views that make up Billings.



- Take a leisurely walk or cast in a line either way the river cannot be missed! 6 Yellowstone County Museum: Museum
- housed in an original homestead at Billings Logan International Airport rich in history and authentic stories. 406-670-0888 or www.ycmhistory.org
- **7 ZooMontana:** Montana's only zoo showcasing unique plants and animals. Bears, wolves, tigers and more. 2100 S. Shiloh Road. 406-652-8100 or www.zoomontana.org
- 8 Pictograph Cave State Park: Evidence of habitation dating back 2,000 years! Three caves and a fantastic interpretive center open year-round. I-90 to exit 452, then 6 miles south. 3401 Coburn Rd. 406-254-7342 or stateparks.mt.gov/pictograph-cave/

NEAR BILLINGS

- Ohief Plenty Coups State Park: Visit Chief Plenty Coups' home and learn about the native culture, history, and way of life. I-90, exit 447 at Pryor. 406-252-1289 or stateparks.mt.gov/chief-plenty-coups/
- Pompeys Pillar National Monument: Clark's signature left during the Lewis & Clark expedition. East on I-94 (28 miles). 406-875-2400 or www.pompeyspillar.org 40 minutes from Downtown Billings
- 11 Little Bighorn Battlefield National Monument: This monument commemorates the Sioux and Cheyenne victory over the Seventh Cavalry. The Little Bighorn Battlefield National Monument features museum exhibits, an interpretive center, and ranger-led programs. 406-924-9167 or www.nps.gov/libi
 - 1 hour from downtown Billings
- Beartooth Scenic Highway: This scenic pass, just west of Red Lodge, Montana, is open Memorial Day through fall, weather permitting, and is the most beautiful gateway to Yellowstone Park (125 miles). For more information, call 406-446-1718 or visit

www.beartoothhighway.com

1 hour 15 minutes from downtown Billings

Contact attraction for specific information. Visit Billings is not responsible for changes.

BILLINGS, MONTANA

SCENIC DRIVE POINTS

1 Visit Billings and Chamber of Commerce Visitor Center:
Welcome to Billings! This is a great-place to start your journey. Stop in and talk with a local for guidance, materials, and assistance. You'll also find interactive displays. Before you leave, be sure to take a photo by the cattle drive monument.

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2 **Historic Billings Depot:** Though there are no longer passenger trains chugging through Billings, this historic landmark was built in 1909 to service three major railroad companies. The waiting area and baggage rooms of the Depot are restored and preserved as a Historic Place. This is a self-guided tour location and subject to operating hours.

(406) 656-7273 • www.billingsdepot.org

3 Pictograph Cave State Park: In the making for thousands of years! Explore three caves and see evidence of habitation from 2,000 years ago. Visit the Visitor Interpretive Center and explore ancient artifacts. This is an excellent place to get out and hike around or just peruse at your leisure. (406) 254-7342 • stateparks.mt.gov/pictograph-cave/

MetraPark & Rodeo Hall of Fame: You've arrived at the largest event center in Montana. MetraPark is home to many diverse events year-round: concerts, rodeos, dog shows, car shows, trade shows, expos, and so much more! While here, check out the outdoor Montana Rodeo Hall of Fame. Up the stairs near the front doors. (406) 256-2400 · www.metrapark.com

Boothill Cemetery: A genuine Western legend and a place rich in history.

Boothill Cemetery is historic with mostly unknown gravesites from the historic Coulson community.

6 Black Otter Trail: An excellent view of the city. Bike, walk or run approximately 3 miles on the historic Rimrocks.

Yellowstone Kelly Interpretive Site: Luther Sage "Yellowstone" Kelly was one of the most notable American veterans. Kelly was laid to rest in June of 1929 with full military honors overlooking the Yellowstone Valley. Today, the Yellowstone Kelly Interpretive Site sits atop Sword's Park and overlooks downtown Billings. The site serves as a memorial to honor Kelly's name and significant contributions. yellowstonekelly.org

(3) Yellowstone County Museum: An original homestead built by Paul McCormick, Sr., an early Yellowstone River settler, the museum is housed at the Billings Logan Airport (yes - you do drive through the airport to get to it). The 23,000 artifacts housed here tell the authentic story of Billings and Yellowstone County's history. 406-670-0888 • www.ycmhistory.org

Your next stop takes you west along Highway 3, which provides beautiful views. Pull over to the parking area/overlook and experience breathtaking views of Billings. On a clear day, five mountain ranges can be seen from here: the Bighorns, Pryors, Beartooths, Crazies, and Snowies.

2 Zimmerman Trail: Built in 1890 by Frank Zimmerman to herd sheep for summer pasturing at the top of the Rims, this road now provides a stunning view of the city and an up close look at the Rimrocks.

Along Rimrock Road, notice Billings' two universities with beautiful campuses and noteworthy architecture.

Billings' oldest college, Rocky Mountain College was once known as the Billings Polytechnic Institute.

Originally known as Eastern Montana Normal School,
Montana State University Billings is now home of the Yellowjackets.

Moss Mansion: On the National Register of Historic Places, experience turn-of-the-century culture when you walk through the doors of the Preston B. Moss home. Listen to the story of one of Billings' most famous families while taking in the remarkable architecture. Designed by Henry Janeway

Hardenbergh, famous designer of the original Waldorf Astoria, Plaza Hotels, and more. This is a great neighborhood to drive around and look at other historic homes too. (406) 256-5100 · www.mossmansion.org

Western Heritage Center: An affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution, the museum is housed in the historic Parmly Billings Memorial Library building, built in 1901. On the National Register of Historic Places and originally the city's library, it now houses artifacts and the history of Billings. (406) 256-6809 www.ywhc.org

Skypoint: Look up! You've reached the center of downtown Billings. Explore the shops, restaurants, galleries and more that downtown Billings has to offer.

Look for events taking place here on many evenings and weekends.

downtownbillings.com

(a) Alberta Bair Theater: Opened as The Fox Theater in 1931, the building is registered as a Historic Building and is built on the spot where the Bair Family homesteaded. It's named for the daughter born in the home and who donated generously to the renovation, Alberta Bair. Now, the theater is the largest performing arts venue in the state holding over 150 diverse performances annually. (406) 256-6052 · www.albertabairtheater.org

Yellowstone Art Museum: Formerly the Yellowstone County Jail (built in 1884), the Yellowstone Art Museum was in place by 1964. Expanding around the jail to preserve the history, the museum is nationally accredited and touts both modern and historic art exhibits. The museum collection includes the most comprehensive works by cowboy illustrator Will James. (406) 256-6804 www.artmuseum.org

Dehler Park: Home of the Billings Mustangs! The Billings Mustangs are in independent baseball team of the Pioneer League, which is not affiliated with Major League Baseball but is an MLB Partner League. They are located in Billings, Montana, and have played their home games at Dehler Park since 2008. The team previously played at Cobb Field.

www.billingsmustangs.com

Continuing on toward Riverfront Park, you'll pass City Hall and the Purple Heart Memorial, commemorating Billings' war veterans. Located at North 27th and 2nd Avenue (east side), it's a lovely park and a perfect opportunity to stop and honor all veterans.

Riverfront Park: An excellent view of the Yellowstone River, the longest free flowing river in the U.S. Walk the trails and experience nature, right in the city. Home to Lake Josephine, named for the steamboat that long ago reached the farthest up the Yellowstone River. www.billingsparks.org/park/riverfront

TooMontana: At Montana's only zoo, you'll find animals and plants that can survive Montana's temperate climate and are housed in natural habitats. The Sensory Garden is designed so that sight/hearing impaired visitors can enjoy the experience as well. (406) 652-8100 · www.zoomontana.org



SCENIC ROUTE SUGGESTIONS

If You Have an Hour...

Take in stops 5, 6, and 7: Boothill Cemetery, Black Otter Trail, and Yellowstone Kelly Interpretive Site. You'll experience legendary western history, beautiful scenery, and Billings folklore all in 60 minutes!

If You Have Four Hours...

Split the route in half and take in what interests you! Stops 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, and 11 will provide you with history while stops 4, 9, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, and 17 are more outdoorsy and modern. With either option, make your first stop point #1: the Visit Billings and Chamber of Commerce Visitor Center.

Want to Spend Some Time in Museums?

Make stops 8, 10, 11, and 14 your priority. These museums offer everything from contemporary art to regional history. Spend as much time as you'd like in any of them!

Looking for the Outdoors?

Check out points 3, 5, 6, 7, 12, 16, and 17. Pictograph Cave State Park provides a great place for a leisurely hike, and Skypoint is a great starting place to experience downtown Billings' shopping, dining, galleries, and more. The other stops provide opportunities to walk outside and enjoy your surroundings.

Enjoy the Scenery in Less Than Two Hours...

Drive to points 3, 6, and 9 for the epitome of Billings' scenery. View rolling plains, mountains, and the Rimrocks that surround our city as you go. Bring your camera to capture the forever views.

