

GREAT RIDING *in the* BADLANDS




2-Hour

Drive From Sturgis

Explore The

Badlands National Park



A Rider's Guide to

The Badlands of South Dakota

The Lakota's called the area simply “**bad land**” ... French-Canadian fur trappers referred to it as “**bad lands to travel through**” ... yet today’s motorcycle riders who experience the badlands break the long tradition and almost universally refer to it as ***great riding!***

This geological anomaly of the great western plains treats riders to some truly unique & strikingly rugged scenery with its sharp spires, narrow canyons, and colorful displays of rock layers deposited by ancient environments long gone by. Continue reading to learn more about the Badlands National Park

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“I have never been to such an interestingly beautiful place in the US. Lots of amazing formations to drive through ... surprised us too was how much pretty prairie land sits beneath these strange formations.”

Motorcycle rider
review from 2008

”

Badlands National Park



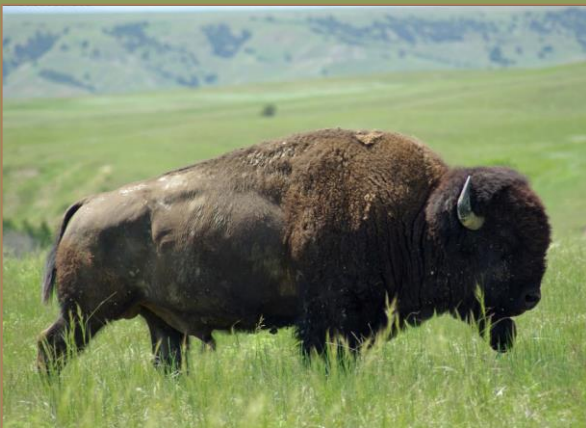
Located in west central South Dakota, right off of Interstate 90, and southeast of Rapid City, SD, this National Park is **open 7 days a week, 24 hours per day** and requires an entrance fee (note: **motorcycles are ½ price at \$10/day** compared to cars which costs \$20/day).



The park consists of nearly 250,000 acres and if you are the type that likes guided tours, there are multiple options you can take when visiting. Within the park you can hike, camp, attend a night sky program or scheduled events through out the year.



Motorcycle riding options through the park are limited as the **roads only travel through partial sections of the rugged and picturesque terrain** ... you'll have to plan to park the bike and take in some hiking if you want to explore more of the unique topography & geology of the area.



In addition to the beautiful land, your going to also see some **great wildlife** such as Bighorn & Pronghorn rams and sheep, bison, deer, and potentially even bobcats as well as smaller animals such as prairie dogs, porcupine and snakes, etc.

For more information visit -
<https://www.nps.gov/badl/index.htm>

Badlands

*from
the*

ROAD



Road Access

to the Badlands is limited as the park itself offers one main paved road through the park called “Badlands Loop Road” (Highway 240). Safe Creek Rim Road (Route 590) offers access to the northern region of the Badlands however **motorcycle riders need to be aware** this road is **gravel** and considered impassable during rain or snow periods. Motorcycle riders’ best bet for viewing the Badlands from the Road, are described in the **two registered South Dakota motorcycle roads** listed below.

Good Route Thru Badlands to a Great Monument

Drawn in
blue
above

The 6th most popular motorcycle road in South Dakota, this route takes you into the park’s Northeast Entrance, past the park visitor center (a most stop!), and then out the park thru the Interior Entrance. However the fun continues as you ride along the southern stretches of the badlands, head northwest up into Rapid City, then ride out to Mt. Rushmore. [Learn more about this great South Dakota motorcycle road.](#)

Short Run Through some “Bad Lands”

Drawn in
purple
above

The 4th most popular motorcycle road in South Dakota, this route takes you into the park via the Pinnacles Entrance and through the heart of the park along route 240. You’ll also pass by the visitor center, and exit the park, and take in more inspiring views along the southern side of the badlands and then head northwest up into Rapid City. [Learn more about this great South Dakota motorcycle road.](#)

What Motorcycle Riders Are Saying About Riding Through the Badlands

“ Rode this entire route 8/21 and the sights are amazing. I returned to the Badlands to experience the sunset and it was the best. ”



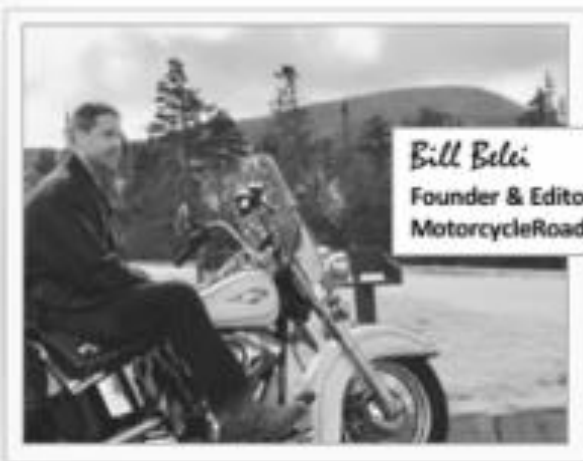
“ In July 2013 wife and I rode from Rapid City on 44 then rode up 240 to Wall. Ride was breathtaking along badlands . Had lunch at Wall Drug. Lots to see there. ”

“ Nice relaxing ride through the badlands. Lots of places to pull off to get pictures. Watch out for wildlife, as some of the animals graze right along the roadway. ”





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