

GLACIER NATIONAL PARK

MONTANA'S GLACIER NATIONAL PARK AND FLAT HEAD VALLEY

Glacier National Park isn't just another protected wildlife site in northwest Montana. It's one of Mother Nature's most prized possessions, crammed end-to-end with snow-capped peaks, blue skies, moose, big-horn sheep, mountain goats, aspen trees and inspiration. As you ride the smooth pavement of Going-to-the-Sun Road, your soundtrack will include the echo of Bird Woman Falls and the vast silences of the hinterland. And as you bed down for the evening, your lullaby will be a sea of stars, crystal clear and glittering. We'll ride Flathead Valley, sandwiched between the Blackfeet and Flathead Indian Reservations, surrounded by protected lands, and nestled square in the middle of nowhere. What are you waiting for? There's no better time to visit this undiscovered country, because only 25 glaciers remain, and with every passing day, they get a little smaller. If you're lucky enough to have some extra time in Montana before or after your trip, take advantage of all the great opportunities this state has, like hiking, rafting, fishing and horseback riding. So pack up your all-weather gear and get training - it's time for an adventure as big as the glacier itself. [Awarded Best National Parks Tour Operator and Package by Travel + Leisure»](#)

TRIP WOWS

Ride Going-to-the-Sun Road across the Continental Divide and along the spine of the Rockies and discover why it's been named one of America's most scenic roads

Raft the picturesque Flathead River and look for bear, moose and other wildlife along the way

From
\$3299

Rider Type
Active / Recreational

Hotel Style
Explorer

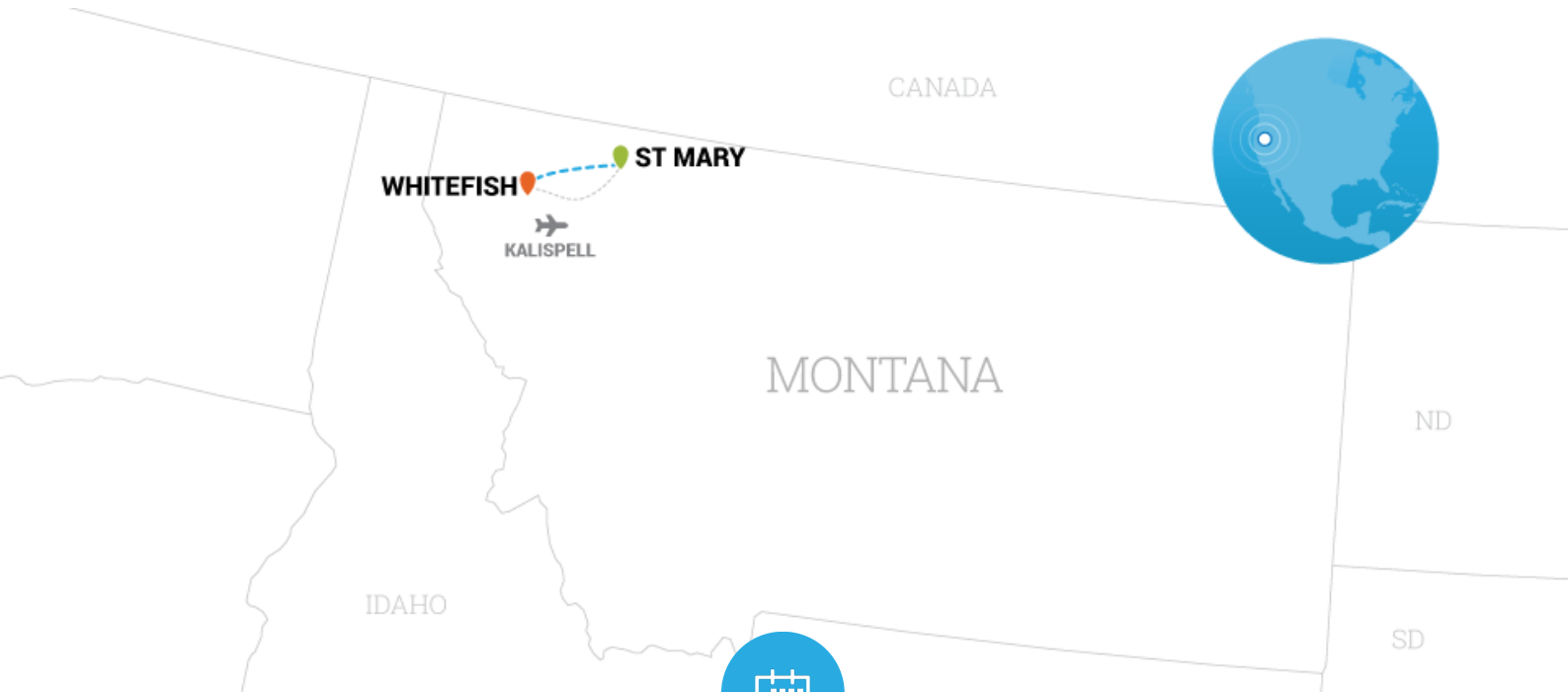
Duration
6 days | 5 nights

Start | End
St. Mary, Montana |
Whitefish, Montana

Dates
2019/Aug
2020/Jul/Aug

Experience Whitefish's western hospitality as you explore town and visit the Farmer's Market

Admire the grand peaks of Glacier National Park and the crystal clear turquoise waters of its glacial lakes by foot and by boat



DAILY ITINERARY

2019

Day
1

TODAY'S RIDE:

Two Medicine Lake to Saint Mary

Approximately 34 miles with 3,100 feet of climbing

SHORT OPTION:

Two Medicine Overlook to Saint Mary

Approximately 23 miles with 1,900 feet of climbing

DESCRIPTION:

Welcome to what's historically been referred to as God's Country, or "The Last Best Place on Earth." We'll rendezvous at the Firebrand Hotel at 8:00 AM for the two and a half hour shuttle to Two Medicine Lake, where you'll be introduced to the jaw-dropping scenery that abounds in Glacier National Park. Bring your camera because you'll want to capture Rising Wolf and Sinopah Mountains which tower above and are reflected in the still waters of this crystal blue glacial lake. Dig into a hearty picnic prepared by your guides, followed by a personal bike fitting to ensure a smooth and comfortable ride on your top-of-the-line Trek bicycle. Our first ride is both breathtaking and challenging as we pedal past Lower Two Medicine Lake, through the Blackfeet Indian Reservation and up and over Looking Glass Hill. We'll end our ride at Saint Mary Lodge, which sits on the shore of another one of Glacier National Park's many glacial lakes. Tonight, after unpacking and settling into your Great Bear Lodge room, we'll meet for social hour and will be joined by our friends Darnell and Smokey, who will share the history and legends of the Blackfeet Nation, a tribe that still lives on their ancestral lands which you are now visiting. Afterwards, we'll enjoy dinner at the Snowgoose Grille where your guides will fill you in on what lies ahead.

HOTEL:

Great Bear Lodge at Saint Mary Lodge and Resort

INCLUDED MEALS:

Lunch | Social Hour | Dinner

Day

2

TODAY'S ACTIVITY:

Morning Boat Ride and Hike to Grinnell Lake
3-4 hours

TODAY'S RIDE

Many Glacier to St Mary
Approximately 20 miles with 700 feet of climbing

AVID OPTION

Many Glacier to Chief Mountain Overlook to St Mary
Approximately 39 miles with 1,900 feet of climbing

This morning we will start with a quick shuttle from Saint Mary to Many Glacier Lodge, a historic hotel whose Swiss-alpine architecture is inspired by the magnificent surrounding landscape. From here we'll board a historic wooden boat for a peaceful cruise across Swiftcurrent and Josephine Lakes, surrounded by majestic rocky peaks. Upon docking, we'll hike to yet another of Glacier's 762 lakes, Grinnell Lake, known for its characteristic turquoise color. After a simple trailside lunch, we'll hike back to Many Glacier Hotel, and you can choose to spend the afternoon riding or simply shuttle back to the hotel to relax. Today's ride options will take you directly to the hotel, or if you are up for more miles, we'll pedal along the stunning Chief Mountain Highway. You can easily see where the road gets its name as Chief Mountain, or Ninaistako as it is known to the Blackfeet, juts up from the plains in dramatic fashion. At 9,080 feet, it is visible for up to 100 miles away and serves as both a natural landmark for travelers and a sacred site for the Blackfeet. Tonight, you are free to grab dinner on your own in St. Mary, equipped with our recommended dining options.

HOTEL:

Great Bear Lodge at Saint Mary Lodge and Resort

INCLUDED MEALS:

Breakfast | Lunch

Day

3

TODAY'S RIDE:

Saint Mary to Lake McDonald Lodge
Approximately 39 miles with 2,600 feet of climbing

DESCRIPTION:

Today is a day you're sure to remember for a long time. We're riding Going-to-the-Sun Road, which is one of the most scenic roads in America. This engineering marvel was completed in 1932. It is narrow and windy, snaking around mountainsides to give you magnificent views from every angle. We will traverse Glacier National Park pedaling past waterfalls, glaciers, lakes, wildflowers, cedar forests and hopefully some of the local wildlife abundant in this stunning refuge. You will surely want to stop at some of the many viewpoints along the way as we make our way to the top of Logan Pass (6,646 ft) and the Continental Divide. We then descend to finish our ride at Lake McDonald. Since there is only one road, we haven't listed a short option for today's ride, but rest assured, your guides can provide strategic shuttle options as needed. Once we reach Lake McDonald, you'll enjoy lunch and perhaps have some time to take a short hike or a refreshing dip in the lake. When we are ready, we'll shuttle to Whitefish, our home for the rest of the trip. Top off this amazing day by getting acquainted with downtown Whitefish and its vibrant Tuesday evening Farmer's Market. Dinner is on your own this evening and your guides will help steer you in the right direction, maybe over a beer at Great Northern Brewing Company.

HOTEL:

The Lodge at Whitefish Lake, Firebrand Hotel or Grouse Mountain Lodge

[VISIT WEBSITE](#)

INCLUDED MEALS:

Breakfast | Lunch

Day

4

TODAY'S RIDE:

Whitefish to West Glacier
Approximately 30 miles with 1,200 ft climbing

SHORT OPTION:

Whitefish to Columbia Falls
Approximately 12 miles with 300 feet climbing

TODAY'S ACTIVITY:

Whitewater Raft The Flathead River
3-4 hours

DESCRIPTION:

Today begins with spin from Whitefish, through a magical Western Montana landscape to the outpost of West Glacier. After a delicious packed lunch from one of our Whitefish favorites, Zucca Marketplace and Bistro, we will get ready for the next adventure: a thrilling float down the Middle Fork of the Flathead River with Glacier Raft Company. We'll be on the water for approximately 2 & 1/2 hours as we make our way through 8 thrilling miles of Class II to III rapids. Be sure to look for bears, moose and other local wildlife as you go. Afterwards, it's time to kickback and toast to another gorgeous day in the great outdoors as your guides host an outdoor Montana-style BBQ. Following dinner, we'll shuttle back to our hotel for a good night's sleep.

HOTEL:

The Lodge at Whitefish Lake, Firebrand Hotel or Grouse Mountain Lodge

INCLUDED MEALS:

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

Day

5

TODAY'S RIDE:

Whitefish to Whitefish Lake and Return

Approximately 18 miles with 700 feet climbing

AVID OPTION:

Whitefish to Whitefish Lake and Return with Big Mountain Climb

Approximately 27 miles with 2,400 feet climbing

DESCRIPTION:

Today's ride has it all--sweeping views of lush farmland in North Valley and the majestic mountains surrounding the Flathead Valley. The morning ride begins with a quiet ride around Whitefish Lake. If you're feeling keen to try the optional 5-mile climb up Big Mountain, you'll have a chance this afternoon. Those who brave the climb will be rewarded with panoramic views of the peaks of Glacier National Park from the ceiling of Big Sky country. Don't have a climb in your legs? Use the afternoon to hit the spa or explore town instead. Lunch is on your own in one of Whitefish's many cafés today. Tonight we'll gather for a farewell social hour and dinner for the grand finale to this gorgeous week of natural beauty.

HOTEL:

The Lodge at Whitefish Lake, Firebrand Hotel or Grouse Mountain Lodge

INCLUDED MEALS:

Breakfast | Social Hour | Dinner

Day

6

TODAY'S RIDE:

Whitefish to Columbia Falls and Return

Approximately 22 miles with 700 feet climbing

DESCRIPTION:

It's time to say goodbye to God's Country with a tranquil spin to the town of Columbia Falls and back. You'll say farewell to your guides at the hotel and then continue your adventures, or if you must, take the free hotel shuttle to the airport. You may be leaving Montana, but Glacier National Park is sure to stay with you for a lifetime.

INCLUDED MEALS:

Breakfast

WHAT'S INCLUDED

For us, the details matter most

Every moment of a Trek Travel bike trip has more than you could have ever dreamed. More romance. More scenery. More choice. It's the little additions to every Trek Travel cycling vacation that make it truly special. And that's how we help you create more memories.

What's Included

- 5 nights of accommodation at handpicked hotels
- Two experienced guides to provide local knowledge, support, and camaraderie
- Daily route support with both guides and our support van
- Daily breakfast, 4 lunches and 3 dinners
- 2 social hours of drinks and hors d'oeuvres
- Ride a Trek Domane SL 7 disc, Trek's newest Electric-Assist, or a Trek 7.6 FX Hybrid
- Up to three daily route options on riding days
- Snacks and drinks for each day's ride
- Trek Travel Bont rager cycling jersey to keep
- Trek Travel water bottles to keep
- Cinch sack day bag to keep
- Each bike is equipped with a Garmin Edge 1030 GPS computer, flat pack, front and rear Bont rager Flare R lights, a Bont rager saddle and pedals (Shimano clipless road pedals, Shimano clipless mountain pedals, caged or flat pedals)
- Bont rager WaveCel helmets
- All gratuities for drivers, local experts and hospitality staff
- All luggage transfers and transportation during your trip
- A personalized photobook of your trip
- Entrance fees for all activities, private tours and events

Gear

- Trek Domane SL 7 disc carbon road bike with Shimano Di2 electronic shifting or Trek 7.6 FX Hybrid bike
- Trek Electric Assist XM700+ also available in a limited quantity
- Trek Travel Bont rager cycling jersey to keep
- Trek Travel water bottles to keep
- Shimano clipless road pedals, Shimano clipless mountain pedals, caged or flat pedals
- Bont rager WaveCel helmet
- Bont rager men's and women's specific saddles
- Bont rager front and rear Flare R lights and a flat pack
- Garmin Edge 1030 GPS computer
- Cinch sack day bag to keep
- Upgrade your bike to include carbon wheels (+\$200)
- Coupon valued up to \$500 off a new Trek Bicycle. Your coupon will be delivered via email prior to your trip.
- *For the most comfortable ride, you may choose to bring your own pedals, saddle, and helmet on the trip. Your guides will install your gear on the first day during your bike fit.*

THANK YOUR GUIDES, BY TIPPING

Gratuities for your Trek Travel guides are not included in your trip price. We recommend tipping 7.5-10% of your trip price for the guide team. Local currency is preferred and unless you want to tip separately, guides will divide tips amongst themselves. Please tip your guides at your discretion, based on their level of professionalism, guest care and service.

What's Not Included

- Airfare and transportation to and from the trip pick-up/drop-off locations
- Lodging before and after the trip
- Personal items purchased during the trip
- Optional activities not scheduled by Trek Travel
- On select trips some meals are not included. On these trips, Trek Travel invites you to explore the local cuisine at your leisure.

HOTELS



ST. MARY LODGE AND RESORT

ST. MARY, MONTANA

St. Mary Lodge and Resort is situated just outside the eastern border of Glacier National Park with views of its peaks in the distance. It combines modern amenities with the natural beauty of the area and the calming sounds of the St. Mary River just outside your door. We will stay in the Great Bear Lodge rooms which feature modern, upscale rooms equipped with air conditioning, satellite TV, granite counter tops, and a private deck with exceptional views.



THE LODGE AT WHITEFISH LAKE | HOTEL VARIATION

WHITEFISH, MONTANA

This 4 Diamond Award winner sits on the shore of the pristine Whitefish Lake, just a few minutes outside of town. The Lodge at Whitefish Lake features a full service spa, a private beach and swim area, both indoor and outdoor pools and hot tubs, multiple dining options, a 30-acre nature preserve, a complimentary shuttle to downtown Whitefish, boat rentals, and much more. Rooms are comfortably appointed and bathrooms include granite counters and floor-to-ceiling glass showers. **This is our primary Whitefish hotel.**



THE FIREBRAND HOTEL | HOTEL VARIATION

WHITEFISH, MONTANA

Located in the heart of downtown Whitefish, the newly-opened Firebrand Hotel brings urban sophistication and service to the adventurous style of Northwest Montana's rugged landscapes. Enjoy the views from the rooftop patio, take a stroll through town or relax in your deluxe room. Each room includes leathered granite counter tops and a European floor-to-ceiling glass shower and stone floor as well as custom-select luxury beds. **You will stay at this hotel in place of The Lodge at Whitefish Lake on select dates.**



GROUSE MOUNTAIN LODGE | HOTEL

VARIATION

WHITEFISH, MONTANA

This hotel is known for its luxurious amenities and access to nature. Every room overlooks the majestic Lion Mountain, and the floor-to-ceiling windowed lobby with fireplace guarantees you won't miss a moment. Each room has wifi, and the outdoor deck includes a firepit and two year-round hot-tubs. **You will stay at this hotel in place of The Lodge at Whitefish Lake on select dates.**



MEETING & DEPARTING

How To Get There

We recommend flying directly into Glacier Park International Airport (FCA) in Kalispell. We suggest that you arrive at least one day prior to the trip start, which will enable you to adjust to the time zone and minimize the risk of missing the trip start due to flight-related delays. If you are staying at The Firebrand Hotel or The Lodge at Whitefish Lake before the trip begins, you may reserve a seat on their free airport shuttle by calling 406-863-4000 for The Lodge or 406-863-1900 for The Firebrand. 72-hour advance reservations required. The drive takes about 20 minutes. Otherwise, you may call Glacier Taxi (406-250-3603), Bigfoot Taxi (406-212-0000) or Big D's Taxi (406-892-3390) to schedule a cab.

Whitefish is also served by an Amtrak station where the Empire Builder train stops twice daily en route between Chicago and Seattle.

Before & After: Whitefish, Montana

If you are able to spend a few extra days after your trip exploring the area, the mountain town of Whitefish is a great place to relax and enjoy the laid back attitude of a Montana

Meeting Time And Location

Your Trek Travel guides will meet you at the Firebrand Hotel (650 E. 3rd Street, Whitefish, MT 59937) at 8:00 AM on the first day of the trip. After a 2-hour shuttle, we'll arrive at Two Medicine Lake. After a hearty picnic and bike-fitting session, we'll set off on our first ride through the Last Best Place on Earth! Feel free to dress comfortably for the shuttle and pack your cycling gear in a separate, easily accessible bag. You will have time to change after the picnic.

If you will be late for the pick-up or are going to miss it altogether, please inform your guides. You will receive an email a week before the trip start with their names and contact details. If you cannot reach them, please call our first hotel, Saint Mary Lodge and Resort (406-732-4431) and leave a message with your expected arrival time and contact details. There are no scheduled shuttle services to Saint Mary, and while you may be able to hire a taxi, please be warned that the cost involved would be significant. We strongly recommend that you arrive in Whitefish the night before the trip starts to ensure that you do not miss our Trek Travel shuttle.

Departing Time And Location

You will say farewell to your guides at 11:00 AM at your final hotel in Whitefish. If you are heading directly to Glacier Park International Airport (FCA), you may reserve a seat on the hotel's free airport shuttle by calling 406-863-4000 for The Lodge or 406-863-1900 for The Firebrand. 72-hour advance reservations required. The drive takes about 20 minutes. Otherwise, you may call Glacier Taxi (406-250-3603), Bigfoot Taxi (406-212-0000) or Big D's Taxi (406-892-3390) to schedule a cab.

LODGE AT WHITEFISH LAKE

This 4 Diamond Award winner sits on the shore of the pristine Whitefish Lake, just a few minutes outside of town. The Lodge at Whitefish Lake features a full service spa, a private beach and swim area, both indoor and outdoor pools and hot tubs, multiple dining options, a 30-acre nature preserve, a complimentary shuttle to downtown Whitefish, boat rentals, and much more. Rooms are comfortably appointed and bathrooms include granite counters and floor-to-ceiling glass showers.

www.lodgeatwhitefishlake.com | ~\$330

summer. You might choose to shop or check out a local cafe downtown, relax at the Whitefish City Beach on the shores of gorgeous Whitefish Lake, or explore the options for hiking and mountain biking at Whitefish Mountain Resort. The Resort also features an alpine slide and zip-line tours during the summer months. There are also opportunities for fly fishing lessons, horseback riding, and whitewater rafting adventures within a short drive of Whitefish. We recommend the following accommodations for your pre and post trip hotel.

GOOD MEDICINE LODGE

Recently named one of Travel America Magazine's 10 Most Romantic Inns, The Good Medicine Lodge is built of cedar timbers with a rustic, informal atmosphere, punctuated by crackling fireplaces and solid wood furnishings. Its nine rooms are the perfect blend of intimacy, romance and access to the call of the wild.

www.GoodMedicineLodge.com | ~\$150

ROCKY MOUNTAIN LODGE

This charming hotel, with its heated pool and hot tub and complimentary breakfast, is the perfect choice for travelers who want to maximize their access to the great outdoors. After all, around here paradise is on the outside.

www.RockyMtnLodge.com | ~\$175

* Hotels listed above are local properties we love. We do not have special rates available.



FAQS

What Are The Daily Rides Like?

- Rider Type | 2/3 - Recreational/Active
- Average Daily Mileage | 28
- Terrain | Mountainous
- Average Daily Elevation | 1,545 feet
- Total Miles | 165
- Total Elevation | 9,270 feet

Averages and totals are calculated from our "Today's Ride" options.

The terrain is mountainous. Riders can expect longer climbs and also longer descents on the routes. Road conditions in the National Parks are varied, and riders should be prepared for some rough sections, although the speed limits for vehicles are also reduced on these roads. Options are available for riding more or fewer miles, and your Trek Travel guides and support vehicle are always close behind! Glacier National Park bike trip is best suited for our Type 2 and 3 Riders. Our Trek Travel guides can also easily accommodate Type 1 Riders, who seek less mileage or fewer uphill, with a boost in the van. Those who wish to ride every mile but are concerned about their physical ability may want to try our electric bike option—you still get a workout but can climb alongside even the strongest rider. Type 3+ Riders will enjoy the extra mileage

What are the options for a non-rider travel companion?

On most Trek Travel trips, we offer non-riding options for riders who want to take the afternoon off, or travel companions who want to spend little or no time in the saddle. Some of these options may need to be scheduled before your trip—please contact one of our Trip Consultants for more information. Expenses and/or related transportation to these activities may not be included in the trip price. Some non-riding options on this trip are:

- Explore Whitefish with its many galleries and shops
- Relax in the spa or go kayaking or paddle boarding at The Lodge at Whitefish Lake
- Cruise glacial lakes on a historic wooden boat and enjoy a guided hike to Grinnell Lake
- Visit the Great Northern Brewing Company for a tour and tasting
- Join the group for whitewater rafting on the Flathead River followed by a riverside BBQ

Trip Changes

See itinerary for specific daily ride distances and elevation options. On all of our vacations, Trek Travel strives to find quiet, paved secondary roads or bike paths to experience a region; busy roads are avoided as much as possible. Our itineraries are an approximation of our trips. Trek Travel strives to offer every guest a vacation of a lifetime on every trip. At times routes, hotels, activities, etc. listed here may change at the discretion of the trip designer or guides to improve the trip experience.

the avid route options offer.