



THE VILLAGES GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY – Field Trip Information

SOUTH DAKOTA



Deadwood SD Area

deadwood.com

Black Hills

Geology of the Black Hills

The geology of the Black Hills is complex. A Tertiary mountain-building episode is responsible for the uplift and current topography of the Black Hills region. This uplift was marked by volcanic activity in the northern Black Hills. The southern Black Hills are characterized by Precambrian granite, pegmatite, and metamorphic rocks that comprise the core of the entire Black Hills uplift. This core is rimmed by Paleozoic, Mesozoic, and Cenozoic sedimentary rocks. The stratigraphy of the Black Hills is laid out like a target, as it is an oval dome, with rings of different rock types dipping away from the center.

Regions of the Black Hills

The northern Black Hills approximate Lawrence and Meade Counties and are roughly equivalent to the Northern Hills District of the Black Hills National Forest. The central Black Hills (the Mystic District of the Black Hills National Forest) are located in Pennington County west of Rapid City. The southern Black Hills are in Custer County and are administered in the national forest's Hell Canyon District. Finally, Wyoming's Black Hills follow the Bearlodge District, approximately Weston and Crook Counties.

Geologically separate from the Black Hills are the Elk Mountains, a small range forming the southwest portion of the region.

Original Deadwood Tour

605 920 1177 originaldeadwoodtour.com

This is a narrated tour of Deadwood, Tatanka and Mt. Moriah Cemetery. The most informative, entertaining, hour-long tour of Deadwood and Mt. Moriah Cemetery you'll find!

Homestake Gold Mine Surface Tour/Visitor Center

160 W Main St Lead, SD

605 584 3110 homestakevisitorcenter.com

The surface tour of the Homestake Mining Operation takes you through the historic town of Lead and Homestake's surface operation. It follows the mining process including hoisting, crushing and milling of the underground ore and views Homestake Gold Mine's state-of-the-art Waste Water Treatment Plant and open pit mine. This is a guided tour that takes about 1 hour. You are taken via bus through the city of Lead then up to the Homestake surface operation.



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Deadwood SD Area (Continued)

Mt Rushmore Audio Tour

13036 W Highway 244, Keystone, SD
605 341 8883 mtrushmore.org

The Mount Rushmore Audio Tour is a recorded guide at Mount Rushmore National Memorial incorporating narration, music, interviews, sound effects and historic recordings of Gutzon Borglum, Lincoln Borglum, American Indians and workers. Using a lightweight handheld wand, a visitor can listen to the self-guided tour while simply sitting down in a favorite spot, walking around the park or following the suggested route shown on the map provided to them. A visitor can listen to just a few stops or to the entire tour depending on the time allotted.

Affordable Adventures

5542 Meteor St Rapid City, SD
605 342 7691 affordableadventuresbh.com

Unique tours available throughout the Black Hills area. Tours will pick guests up at their hotel in Rapid City. Sit back and relax as experienced tour guides take you to various destinations including Mount Rushmore, Crazy Horse, Custer State Park, Badlands National Park, and the 1880 Train. You can also enjoy historical tours of Rapid City, Spearfish, Lead, and Deadwood