Ranger Programs – September 18–24

Sunday, September 18

12:30 pm Afternoon Program – “Small Arms in Service” – Join park rangers as they discuss the evolution and use of military small arms. Learn how the rapid advancement in firearms technology changed the very nature of warfare in the 19th century. Commissary Bleachers, 30 minutes.

3:30 pm Afternoon Program – “Disregard, Disaster, and Disgrace” – President Grant gave the nations of the Northern Plains an ultimatum to return to their agencies by January 31, 1876 or face military action. In February, General Crook began his Powder River Campaign that ignited the Great Sioux War. Post Trader Store, 30 minutes.

Monday, September 19
9:30 am Morning Program – “The Fur Trade” – Fashion drove an entire industry and led to exploration and exploitation of the West. Learn how furs were significant in the establishment of the early trading posts of Fort Laramie. Commissary Bleachers, 30 minutes.

12:30 pm Afternoon Program – “Small Arms in Service” – Join park rangers as they discuss the evolution and use of military small arms. Learn how the rapid advancement in firearms technology changed the very nature of warfare in the 19th century. Military Camp and Barracks, 30 minutes.

2:30 pm Afternoon Program – “The Post Trader” – Post trader, sutler, and more. Learn the real story of how these men acquired a lucrative monopoly with the US Army. Post Trader Store, 30 minutes.

3:30 pm Afternoon Program – “The Soldier’s Life on a Frontier Fort” – For the frontier soldier, life could be a struggle with constant duties to meet the demands of daily life on a frontier post. Learn what it took to survive as a soldier in the harsh environment of the Northern Great Plains. Commissary Bleachers and Barracks, 30 minutes.

Tuesday, September 20
2:30 pm Afternoon Program – “The Soldier’s Life on a Frontier Fort” – For the frontier soldier, life could be a struggle with constant duties to meet the demands of daily life on a frontier post. Learn what it took to survive as a soldier in the harsh environment of the Northern Great Plains. Commissary Bleachers and Barracks, 30 minutes.

3:30 pm Afternoon Program – “Crime in the Frontier Army: Punishment, Harsh and Certain” – Life on the frontier army was harsh and an enlisted soldier was almost sure to run afoul of military justice. 1866 Guardhouse, 30 minutes.

Wednesday, September 21
9:30 am Morning Program – “Manifest Destinies” – What did the Westward expansion of the United States mean for fur traders, emigrants, soldiers, and Native Americans? Explore this thorny topic in history with Ranger Joe. Commissary Bleachers, 30 minutes.

2:30 pm Afternoon Program – “Scouts on the Western Frontiers” – As America pushed Westward, conflicts between the Army and Plains Tribes grew frequent. Unfamiliar with the people and the territory of the west, the Army relied on civilian and Indian Scouts to guide the way. Post Trader Store, 30 minutes.
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**Wednesday, September 21 (cont)**
3:30 pm Afternoon Program – “Crime in the Frontier Army: Punishment, Harsh and Certain” – Life on the frontier army was harsh and an enlisted soldier was almost sure to run afoul of military justice. *1866 Guardhouse, 30 minutes.*

**Thursday, September 22**
9:30 am Morning Program – “Alcohol, Animal, and Arrogance” – The three A’s that started the Plains Indians War. *Cavalry Barracks, 30 minutes.*

3:30 pm Afternoon Program – “Crime in the Frontier Army: Punishment, Harsh and Certain” – Life on the frontier army was harsh and an enlisted soldier was almost sure to run afoul of military justice. *1866 Guardhouse, 30 minutes.*

**Friday, September 23**


**Saturday, September 24**
9:30 am Morning Program – “The Fur Trade” – Fashion drove an entire industry and led to exploration and exploitation of the West. Learn how furs were significant in the establishment of the early trading posts of Fort Laramie. *Commissary Bleachers, 30 minutes.*

12:30 pm Afternoon Program – “Small Arms in Service” – Join park rangers as they discuss the evolution and use of military small arms. Learn how the rapid advancement in firearms technology changed the very nature of warfare in the 19th century. *Military Camp and Barracks, 30 minutes.*

2:30 pm Afternoon Program – “The Soldier’s Life on a Frontier Fort” – For the frontier soldier, life could be a struggle with constant duties to meet the demands of daily life on a frontier post. Learn what it took to survive as a soldier in the harsh environment of the Northern Great Plains. *Cavalry Barracks, 30 minutes.*

3:30 pm Afternoon Program – Guided Tour of “Old Fort Laramie” – The epic story of the American West played out on a grand scale at Fort Laramie. Join a ranger and tour the place that became famous in the annals of history. *Commissary Bleachers, 60 minutes.*

All programs are free and open to the public. Scheduled topics subject to change depending on staff availability. More information: [www.nps.gov/fola](http://www.nps.gov/fola) or (307) 837-2221