



Fact Sheet

Preserving elements of the Minuteman II intercontinental ballistic missile system, Minuteman Missile National Historic Site interprets the deterrent value of the land-based portion of America's nuclear defense during the Cold War era and commemorates the people and events associated with this recent period of American history. Resources feature the Delta-09 Launch Facility, where a Minuteman missile is housed in its underground silo, and the Delta-01 Launch Control Facility, where Air Force personnel controlled and maintained ten of the 150 nuclear missiles located in South Dakota.

Vital Statistics

Superintendent:
Eric Leonard

Base Operating Budget:
\$724,000 (FY16)

Employees:
5 permanent; 13 temporary

Volunteers:
8 volunteers; 2,666 hours (FY15)

Legislation
Enabling Legislation
Nov. 29, 1999, Public Law 106-115
Boundary Adjustment
Sept. 18, 2013, Public Law 113-36

Acreage:
43.80 acres total
(40.15 federal and 3.65 nonfederal)

Location:

Minuteman Missile National Historic Site is located at three sites along a fifteen mile stretch of Interstate 90 in western South Dakota. The Visitor Center is located immediately north of I-90, exit 131. The two historic sites which make up the park are four miles (Launch Control Facility Delta-01) and 15 miles (Launch Facility Delta-09) from the Visitor Center.

More Information

More information on the park may be found at our website: <http://www.nps.gov/mimi/>

This press kit and other media resources including photographs are available at <http://go.nps.gov/missilemedia>

Park Description

A visit to the park provides an opportunity to explore the Minuteman II system's role as a nuclear deterrent during the Cold War and visit sites rarely seen by civilians while in use, but that nevertheless loomed large on the geo-political landscape. Those with a special interest in the Cold War or nuclear weapons could spend a half day or more at Minuteman Missile National Historic Site.

Visitor Center

The visitor center serves as the primary orientation point for the park, with exhibits, a theater, and a bookstore. At the visitor center, park rangers answer questions, lead programs, and assist visitors with their visit.

Delta-01 Launch Control Center

Delta-01, the launch control facility, is where support personnel lived above ground and missile combat crews manned the underground capsule. The 6.35-acre site includes

two buildings. One building was the living quarters for 8 to 10 personnel and various equipment rooms. The second building was a large garage for military vehicles. The living quarters connected via an elevator to the launch control center.

Delta-01 is open to the public for ranger-guided tours only. Tickets are required for these tours: <http://go.nps.gov/delta-01tour>

Delta-09 Launch Facility (missile silo)

The Delta-09 missile silo, contains the Minuteman II missile and its silo and underground utility support building. At this 1.5-acre site, visitors can look into the viewing enclosure to see the missile. Delta-09 is open daily for visitors. A cell phone tour which explains the silo components is available to augment the experience:

<http://go.nps.gov/delta-09tour>

Museum Collection

The museum collection at the park primarily contains the contents of Delta-01 Launch Control Facility as it was left by the United States Air Force in 1993. These contents include the furnishings, electronics, books and maintenance items that were typical to these sites during their occupation. The park also has a substantial archives transferred from the Civil Engineering Squadron at Ellsworth Air Force Base that includes the shop drawings, modification paperwork, and technical

orders for the maintenance and upgrades of the missile system in South Dakota. Several small personal collections have also been acquired by the Site since its formation in 1999 including personal papers, photographs, insignia, and other personal mementos. The largest object in the park is the park's namesake, a 57 foot tall Minuteman II missile displayed in the silo at Delta-09.

Collection Size: 161,098

Visitation

In the first decade of park operations, visitation was limited due in part to the small size of administrative and visitor facilities. Since the completion of the visitor center late in 2014, and the installation of exhibits in 2016, visitation has significantly increased. This increase is expected to continue in the coming years.

Annual Visitation

Year	Visits
2004	4,924
2005	7,800
2006	16,754
2007	24,566
2008	30,615
2009	36,777
2010	42,348
2011	59,389
2012	75,654
2013	76,261
2014	62,058
2015	100,488
2016	78,3777 (Through July 31, 2016)
