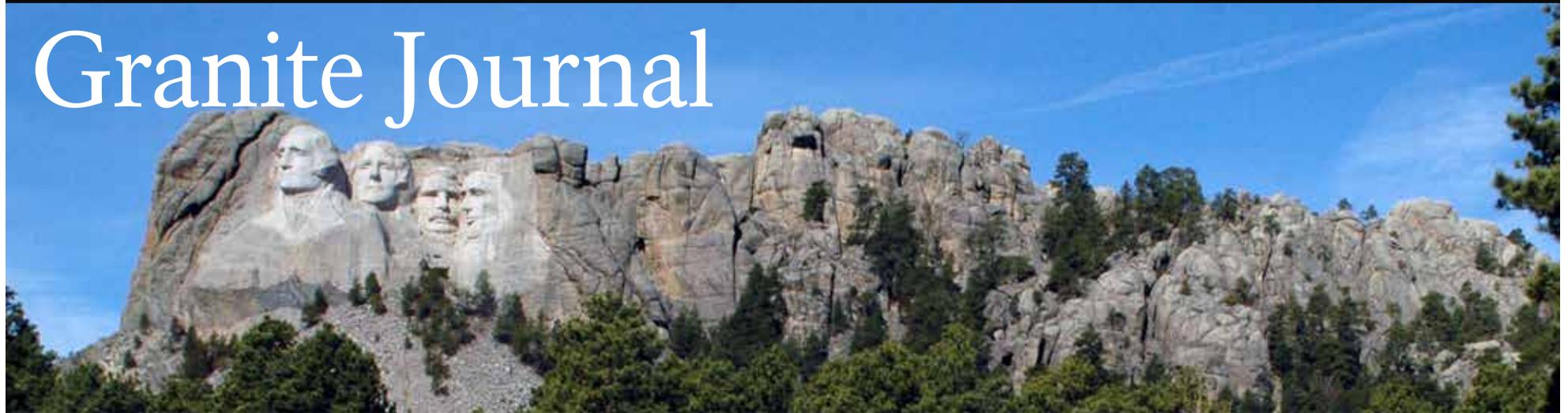




# Granite Journal



## Welcome to Mount Rushmore National Memorial

Take pleasure in the beauty and reflect upon the symbolism of the four presidents, the magnificent feat of engineering required to carve a mountain and the artistic accomplishment evident in the four faces.



Mount Rushmore is a unique iconic national park, one of 401 sites the National Park Service is entrusted to preserve and protect for

future generations. Mount Rushmore not only represents the history of America, it also evokes a distinctive significance for each visitor. Whether your personal meaning involves patriotism, inspiration, history or a renewed sense of civic unity, a visit to the park can inspire the personal connection between citizens and their country.

One of our goals is to facilitate visitor appreciation of the cultural

and natural resources of the park. Our park team and park partners are here to provide exceptional service and assist you in learning more about Mount Rushmore. We hope you experience and enjoy the many cultures represented by our visitors.

Please have a safe and enjoyable visit whether this is your first visit or you visit often.

—**Superintendent Cheryl A. Schreier**

### Things to Do:

#### All year:

- Talk to a park ranger and plan your visit at the Information Center.
- Rent the Mount Rushmore Audio Tour.
- Watch the movie and view the exhibits in the Lincoln Borglum Visitor Center.
- Walk the Presidential Trail (weather permitting).
- Visit Xanterra's Gift Shop, enjoy a meal at the Carver's Cafe or have an ice cream cone at the Memorial Team Ice Cream Shop.
- Help save the park \$20,000 - place gum in trash receptacles and save the costs of removing chewed gum from walkways.

#### During the summer:

- Participate in a ranger-led program.
- Experience the Lakota, Nakota and Dakota Heritage Village.
- Visit the Youth Exploration Area.
- See the scale model in the Sculptor's Studio.
- Attend the Evening Lighting Ceremony.

### Pets in the Park

Pets are not permitted in any part of the memorial, except in the pet exercise areas located at each end of the main parking facility. See the park map on p. 8. This applies to all pets. Please pick up after your pet with bags that are provided in these areas. If you are planning a lengthy stay, please see the kennels and pet services listed in area phone books.

Service dogs are permitted in all public spaces in the memorial.

**Additional park regulations can be found on Page 3.**

### Let Wildlife be Wild

Although they look friendly, all animals in the park are wild. Please do not approach or feed them. Approaching them causes stress and disturbs them from resting areas, natural feeding areas and travel routes. Animals have their own sources of food and must not learn to rely on human food which can cause serious health problems or death.



2 Ranger Programs | 2 Things to Do | 3 Park Regulations | 4-5 For Kids | 6 Regional Parks | 7 Park Partners | 8 Park Map

**See something? Say something. Please report any suspicious activity to Mount Rushmore Dispatch at 1-855-851-2418 or call 911 in case of emergency.**

**Mount Rushmore National Memorial** | 13000 Hwy 244, Bldg 31, Suite 1 | Keystone, SD 57751 | 605-574-2523 | [www.nps.gov/moru](http://www.nps.gov/moru)

**Superintendent** Cheryl A. Schreier



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# Enjoying Mount Rushmore

## Things to do at Mount Rushmore National Memorial

Depending on how much time you have, you can participate in one or more of the following programs. See the map on p. 8 for facility locations.

### **Lincoln Borglum Visitor Center, Museum and Theaters (30-60 minutes)**

Stop by the park's visitor center located below the Grand View Terrace for information on the mountain carving, the presidents, the sculptor, the workers and history of the United States of America. Experience interactive exhibits and talk with a park ranger about what to see and do in the park. A bookstore is available.

### **Mount Rushmore: The Shrine**

#### **(14-minute film)**

Shown in the Lincoln Borglum Visitor Center theater, the film tells the story of the carving of Mount Rushmore and the artist who took on the monumental task. Filled with historic photography and film footage, the movie is a great place to start your visit.

### **Mount Rushmore Audio Tour (30-120 mins.)**

Rent an audio tour wand to hear the story of Mount Rushmore through music, narration, interviews, historic recordings and sound effects while walking a scenic

route around the park. Rented at the Audio Tour Building across from the Information Center, the tour and accompanying brochure are available in English, German, Lakota, Spanish and French.

### **Presidential Trail**

#### **(20-40 minutes, weather permitting)**

Take a closer look at the mountain carving and the natural beauty surrounding it. This 1/2-mile loop trail begins at the Grand View Terrace, travels to the base of the mountain, past the Sculptor's Studio and loops back to the Grand View Terrace. When walking the trail clockwise, the first 1/4-mile of the trail is fully accessible, while the second half leading to the Sculptor's Studio and back to the Grand View Terrace has approximately 450 stairs.

### **Junior Ranger and Rushmore Ranger Programs (30-60 minutes)**

Learn about the sculpture and the environment that surrounds it through this self-guided activity for ages 3 and up. Upon completion of the program, participants will receive a badge. Junior Ranger and Rushmore Ranger activity booklets are available at any information desk. Patches

are available for purchase in the Mount Rushmore Bookstores. More information about this program is on p. 5.

### **Youth Exploration Area**

#### **(10-30 minutes, summer only)**

Calling kids of all ages, this area is designed just for you! Explore the natural, cultural and historical aspects of Mount Rushmore and the Black Hills at this interactive area located near the Grand View Terrace.

### **Sculptor's Studio**

#### **(15-45 minutes, summer only)**

Constructed in 1939, this historic building was the second on-site studio for sculptor Gutzon Borglum. Borglum's original model and many of the tools he used are on display. Through ranger-led programs, visitors can explore the history and process of the mountain carving. A bookstore is available.

### **Lakota, Nakota and Dakota Heritage Village (10-30 minutes, summer only)**

Explore the history of the American Indian tribes who have populated this land for thousands of years. Located along the first section of the Presidential Trail, this area highlights the customs and traditions of



Children learn about area wildlife in the Youth Exploration Area.

local American Indian tribes. Visitors can see Indian tipis, buffalo hides and more. Rangers are on hand to give programs from 10 am to 2 pm each day, weather permitting.

# Ranger-led Programs

## Daily Schedules are posted at the Information Center and Lincoln Borglum Visitor Center



Throughout the summer, thousands of visitors take part in the Evening Lighting Ceremony, which includes a ranger talk, a film and illumination of the sculpture.

### **Ranger-led Programs (30 minutes, summer only)**

Join a park ranger for an interpretive talk or a guided walk. These 30-minute presentations highlight an aspect of the natural or cultural history of Mount Rushmore or the Black Hills. Programs are offered frequently each day throughout the summer months. Please ask a park ranger at the Information Center desk, the Lincoln Borglum Visitor Center desk or consult a roving park ranger for topics, locations and start times.

### **Sculptor's Studio Talk (15 minutes, summer only)**

Learn about the tools and techniques used in carving the mountain sculpture. Ranger talks include stories from the workers, demonstrations of the tools and Borglum's working model. Programs are offered frequently each day throughout the summer months. Visitors with mobility challenges should stop by one of the information desks to inquire about how to access the Sculptor's Studio.

### **Evening Lighting Ceremony (45 minutes, summer only)**

Join a park ranger in the memorial's outdoor amphitheater for an inspirational program focusing on the presidents, patriotism and our nation's history. Beginning with a ranger talk, this program includes the film *Freedom: America's Lasting Legacy* and culminates in lighting of the sculpture. The program begins at 9 p.m. from May 23 to August 9. From August 10 to September 30, the program begins at 8 p.m. Even during the summer months, prepare for cooler weather in the evening. From October to May, the sculpture is illuminated daily for one-half hour, beginning 30 minutes after sunset.



**Weather conditions can change quickly - check current weather forecasts at the information desks.**

# Facility Hours

Facilities open year-round except Christmas Day. Times subject to change.

<b>Information Center and Lincoln Borglum Visitor Center</b>	May 23 - Aug. 9	8:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.
	Aug. 10 - Sep. 30	8:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.
	Oct. 1 - May, 2015	8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

<b>Audio Tour Building</b>	May 23 - Sep. 29	9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
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<b>Sculptor's Studio</b>	May 12 - Sep. 6	8:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
	Sep. 7 - Sep. 29	9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

<b>Gift Shop</b>	May 23 - Aug. 14	8:00 a.m. - 10:30 p.m.
	Aug. 15 - Oct. 8	8:00 a.m. - 9:30 p.m.
	Oct. 9 - Oct. 23	8:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
	Oct. 24 - Feb. 2015	8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

<b>Carvers Café</b>	May 23 - Aug. 14	8:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.
	Aug. 15 - Sep. 29	8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.
	Sep. 30 - Oct. 8	8:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
	Oct. 9 - Mar. 2015	8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

<b>Memorial Team Ice Cream Shop</b>	May 23 - Aug. 14	11:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.
	Aug. 15 - Sep. 29	11:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.
	Sep. 30 - Oct. 8	11:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Gates to parking area are closed each night.

## Parking at Mount Rushmore



Parking is readily available in the memorial's parking complex. The parking facility is operated under a concession contract between the National Park Service and the Mount Rushmore Society. No federal funding was used to construct the parking facility. A parking fee has been authorized to offset the costs associated with the construction, operation and maintenance of the parking facility. A parking permit entitles a non-commercial vehicle unlimited entry to the memorial for the calendar year.



The National Parks and Federal Recreational Lands Annual Pass, the Annual Pass - Military, the Senior Pass and the Access Pass cannot be used for parking fees at Mount Rushmore National Memorial. These passes cover entrance fees and in some cases provide a discount on special use fees such as camping and tours, but do not cover concession fees such as parking.

**See something? Say something. Please report any suspicious activity to Mount Rushmore Dispatch at 1-855-851-2418 or call 911 in case of emergency.**

## Visitors with Disabilities

### Visitors with Disabilities

Visitors with visual impairments may obtain the official park brochure in Braille at the Information Center and Lincoln Borglum Visitor Center.

Ask at the Lincoln Borglum Visitor Center information desk about assistive-listening devices for the park movie. Video exhibits are captioned. Headphones are available for the Mount Rushmore Audio Tour as well as a hardcopy script (for the same rental fee as an audio tour wand rental).

Visitors with mobility impairments may board and disembark vehicles in front of the main entryway. Wheelchairs are available for loan on a first-come, first-served basis at the Information Center. Please ask a park ranger for additional information on accessible programs available during your visit. Elevators on either side of the Grand View Terrace give access to the Lincoln Borglum Visitor Center and Amphitheater. Stop by one of the information desks to inquire about access to the Sculptor's Studio. The Presidential Trail is surfaced to accommodate wheelchairs from the Grand View Terrace to the base of the mountain. The Carvers Café and Gift Shop are wheelchair accessible.

## Park Regulations

### Pets

Pets (except service dogs) are not permitted in any part of the memorial, except in the pet exercise areas located at each end of the main parking facility (see park map on p. 8).

### Firearms in the Park

As of February 22, 2010, federal law allows people who can legally possess firearms under federal, South Dakota state and local laws, to possess firearms in Mount Rushmore National Memorial. It is the visitor's responsibility to understand and comply with all applicable state, local and federal firearms laws. Federal law prohibits firearms in federal facilities. If you have questions, please refer to Mount Rushmore's official website at [www.nps.gov/moru](http://www.nps.gov/moru).

### Protection of Park Resources

Federal law protects natural and cultural resources in all national parks. Removing rocks, collecting plants or feeding wildlife are strictly prohibited. Please do not litter.

### Smoking, Food and Beverages

Food and beverages are prohibited in the Information Center, Lincoln Borglum Visitor Center, Sculptor's Studio and Gift Shop. Smoking is only allowed in designated areas. Please dispose of litter in the appropriate containers.

### Trails and Climbing

Climbing any part of Mount Rushmore, including the rock slope, is prohibited. There are many climbing opportunities at the memorial on other rock formations. A climbing brochure is available in the Information Center and Lincoln Borglum Visitor Center. Bicycles and roller blades are not permitted on trails or walkways within the memorial.

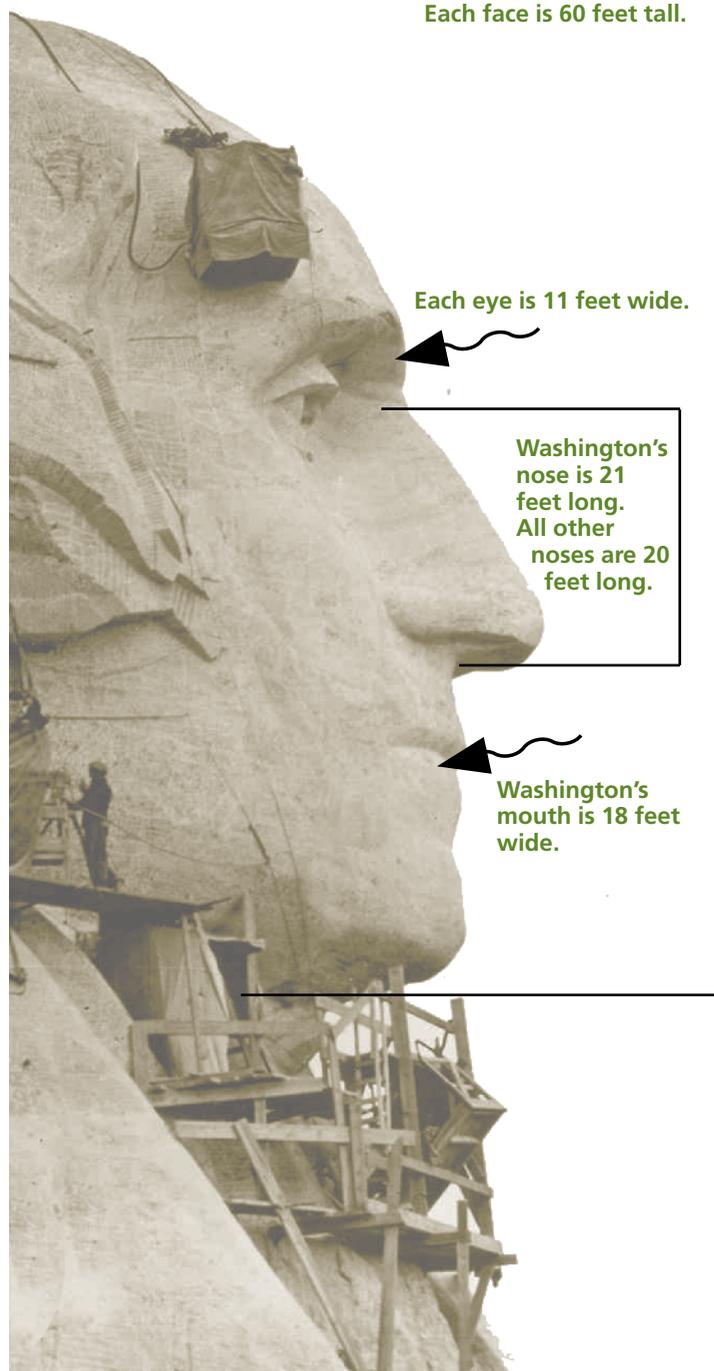
### Fires and Hunting

Fires and hunting are strictly prohibited within the park.

### Camping

Camping is not allowed. A list of national park, national forest and state campgrounds is available in the Information Center and Lincoln Borglum Visitor Center.

# Fast Facts



Each face is 60 feet tall.

Each eye is 11 feet wide.

Washington's nose is 21 feet long. All other noses are 20 feet long.

Washington's mouth is 18 feet wide.

**1927-1941**

the carving dates

**400**

the number of workers

**\$989,992.32**

the total cost

**Charles Rushmore**

the namesake

**Gutzon Borglum**

the sculptor

**Dynamite**

the main tool

**Jackhammer**

the drill

**Harney Peak Granite**

the rock

**Paha Sapa**

the Lakota word for "Black Hills"

**Ponderosa Pine**

the trees

**Democracy**

the meaning of Mount Rushmore

## Presidents of the United States

George Washington*	1789-1797
John Adams	1797-1801
Thomas Jefferson*	1801-1809
James Madison	1809-1817
James Monroe	1817-1825
John Quincy Adams	1825-1829
Andrew Jackson	1829-1837
Martin Van Buren	1837-1841
William H. Harrison	1841
John Tyler	1841-1845
James K. Polk	1845-1849
Zachary Taylor	1849-1850
Millard Fillmore	1850-1853
Franklin Pierce	1853-1857
James Buchanan	1857-1861
Abraham Lincoln*	1861-1865
Andrew Johnson	1865-1869
Ulysses S. Grant	1869-1877
Rutherford B. Hayes	1877-1881
James A. Garfield	1881
Chester A. Arthur	1881-1885
Grover Cleveland	1885-1889
Benjamin Harrison	1889-1893
Grover Cleveland	1893-1897
William McKinley	1897-1901
Theodore Roosevelt*	1901-1909
William H. Taft	1909-1913
Woodrow Wilson	1913-1921
Warren G. Harding	1921-1923
Calvin Coolidge	1923-1929
Herbert C. Hoover	1929-1933
Franklin D. Roosevelt	1933-1945
Harry S. Truman	1945-1953
Dwight D. Eisenhower	1953-1961
John F. Kennedy	1961-1963
Lyndon B. Johnson	1963-1969
Richard Nixon	1969-1974
Gerald R. Ford	1974-1977
Jimmy Carter	1977-1981
Ronald Reagan	1981-1989
George H. W. Bush	1989-1993
William J. Clinton	1993-2001
George W. Bush	2001-2009
Barack H. Obama	2009-

\* Denotes a president portrayed on Mount Rushmore.

## Why These Presidents?

Presidential portraits courtesy of the White House Association.



**BIRTH**  
First President  
George Washington

*George Washington*



**EXPANSION**  
Louisiana Purchase  
Thomas Jefferson

*Thomas Jefferson*



**DEVELOPMENT**  
Panama Canal, Trust Buster and Conservation  
Theodore Roosevelt

*Theodore Roosevelt*



**PRESERVATION**  
Saved the union during the Civil War  
Abraham Lincoln

*Abraham Lincoln*

# Junior Ranger Program



Become a Junior Ranger or Rushmore Ranger at Mount Rushmore National Memorial by completing a free activity book. Activity books are available for ages 3 and up at all information desks. Ask a park ranger for this fun book which will help you explore and learn about wonders of the mountain, the presidents and the surrounding Black Hills area.



Once you are finished find a park ranger at the information desks who will check your book and present you with a Junior Ranger badge. Junior Ranger patches are also available for purchase at the Mount Rushmore Bookstores.

The Junior Ranger Program is available at national park areas across the country and online at: [www.nps.gov/webrangers](http://www.nps.gov/webrangers)

## What is the Hall of Records?

What does Mount Rushmore mean to you? For Gutzon Borglum, who created the sculpture, the four presidents on the mountain represented important moments in American history.

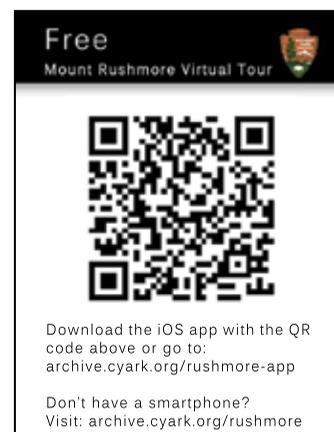
Borglum wanted to build a special place to share American history with all visitors who came to the memorial. Part of that vision included a large room that would be carved into the vertical wall of the canyon behind the faces called the “Hall of Records” and would store important documents like the Declaration of Independence, the U.S. Constitution and the Bill of Rights.

Work started on the Hall of Records in 1938, but the U.S. government did not approve funding for this addition. Workers were only able to carve a doorway and a small hallway before Congress stopped the Hall of Records project.

Although the Hall was never finished as intended, Borglum’s daughter, Mary Ellis Borglum Vhay, was determined to find a way to fulfill her father’s dream in some way. In 1998, she was part of a

team that placed a teakwood box in a titanium vault at the entrance of the Hall. The box contains 16 porcelain panels, bearing the words of the Declaration of Independence, the U.S. Constitution and the Bill of Rights. The panels also contain biographies of the presidents and information about how and why Mount Rushmore was carved.

The Hall of Records is located in a restricted area of the memorial, visitors are not allowed to hike to this part of the park. However, visitors can take a virtual tour of the memorial, including the Hall of Records, at [www.archive.cyark.org/rushmore](http://www.archive.cyark.org/rushmore).



## Nature Facts: Pine Beetle Infestation

Like many western states, the Black Hills of South Dakota have experienced a pine beetle infestation. Once infested, a tree will slowly die. The red trees seen throughout the Black Hills and in the picture to the right are the trees that were infested last year and are now dead.

To protect the memorial’s forests from this epidemic, staff at Mount Rushmore embarked on an extensive thinning program to return the forest to a more sustainable condition. Measures were also taken to protect scenic old growth trees within visitor areas

by treating them with a protective spray. With these efforts, the National Park Service hopes to preserve the forested landscape around the sculpture.

Ponderosa pines killed by pine beetles can be seen in the foreground. Mount Rushmore is located near the red dot.



## Avenue of Flags

Along the Avenue of Flags, you can view the 56 flags of the states, districts, territories and commonwealths of the United States displayed in alphabetical order.

They are listed below by the date each became part of the United States.

### States

1. Delaware	1787
2. Pennsylvania	1787
3. New Jersey	1787
4. Georgia	1788
5. Connecticut	1788
6. Massachusetts	1788
7. Maryland	1788
8. South Carolina	1788
9. New Hampshire	1788
10. Virginia	1788
11. New York	1788
12. North Carolina	1789
13. Rhode Island	1790
14. Vermont	1791
15. Kentucky	1792
16. Tennessee	1796
17. Ohio	1803
18. Louisiana	1812
19. Indiana	1816
20. Mississippi	1817
21. Illinois	1818
22. Alabama	1819
23. Maine	1820
24. Missouri	1821
25. Arkansas	1836
26. Michigan	1837
27. Florida	1845
28. Texas	1845
29. Iowa	1846
30. Wisconsin	1848
31. California	1850
32. Minnesota	1858
33. Oregon	1859
34. Kansas	1861
35. West Virginia	1863
36. Nevada	1864
37. Nebraska	1867
38. Colorado	1876
39. North Dakota	1889
40. South Dakota	1889
41. Montana	1889
42. Washington	1889
43. Idaho	1890
44. Wyoming	1890
45. Utah	1896
46. Oklahoma	1907
47. New Mexico	1912
48. Arizona	1912
49. Alaska	1959
50. Hawaii	1959
District of Columbia	1790
Territory of Guam	1898
Commonwealth of Puerto Rico	1898
Territory of American Samoa	1900
Territory of the U. S. Virgin Islands	1917
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands	1976

# Preserving a National Icon

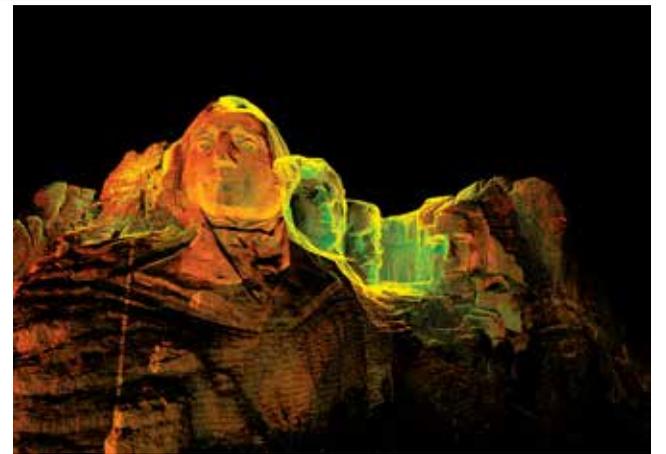
When Gutzon Borglum began carving Mount Rushmore National Memorial in 1927, he was aware of the lasting legacy of his vision. The National Park Service strives to ensure that no natural or human-caused damage happens to the memorial. Documenting, preserving, and protecting the sculpture are integral in keeping Borglum's vision alive. In May of 2010, using ground-breaking digital laser scanning equipment, park staff worked with digital preservation specialists from Historic Scotland and the Kacyra Family Foundation (CyArk) to capture sub-centimeter details of the sculpture, including the top of the heads, the canyon behind them and the Hall of Records.

Once relying on hand drawn blueprints and photographs, parks can use technology to create digital records of our nation's treasures. We can use the laser scanning data to document the sculpture, assist in tracking movement of the rock, and to develop new multimedia experiences for our visitors.

One of the first public uses of the data was an online portal ([www.cyark.org](http://www.cyark.org)) highlighting the digital scanning project. The website is free and features an interactive virtual tour, navigable and measurable 3D "point cloud" models and numerous videos and photographs.

This data was also used to create a new exhibit in the Lincoln Borglum Visitor Center. The exhibit premieres in 2014 and showcases an interactive, 360 degree virtual tour of the sculpture and visitor use areas, historic images and videos of the 3D point cloud data, a holographic image and equipment used during the scanning project. The mobile app featured in the exhibit can be downloaded for free from the iTunes app store. Other projects resulting from this public and private partnership include K-12 common core Math and Art lesson plans that are available on the CyArk website.

The National Park Service is proud to be a part of this



next generation of preservation technology that will offer unlimited opportunities for documentation and visitor experiences. Nothing compares to experiencing the sculpture in person, but with this technology, visitors will be able to see areas of the faces only seen by the original workers themselves.

## Regional Park Neighbors



### Wind Cave National Park

Wind Cave is 40 miles south of Mount Rushmore on Highway 385. It is one of the world's longest and most complex caves. It is famous for its boxwork, an unusual calcite formation resembling honeycomb. The park's surface contains 33,851 acres of mixed-grass prairie, ponderosa pine forest and associated wildlife. Call (605) 745-4600 or visit [www.nps.gov/wica](http://www.nps.gov/wica) for more information.



### Jewel Cave National Monument

Jewel Cave is 13 miles west of Custer, SD, on Highway 16. With more than 165 miles of surveyed passageways, Jewel Cave is the third longest cave in the world. Guided tours provide opportunities for exploring this cave system and its wide variety of cave formations. Call (605) 673-8300 or visit [www.nps.gov/jeca](http://www.nps.gov/jeca) for more information.



### Devils Tower National Monument

Devils Tower is about a 2.5 hour drive from Mount Rushmore, located 30 miles northwest of Sundance, Wyoming. This monolith, formed from molten rock underground and exposed by erosion, now rises 1,267 feet above the meandering Belle Fourche River. Call (307) 467-5283 or visit [www.nps.gov/deto](http://www.nps.gov/deto) for more information.



### Badlands National Park

Badlands is 85 miles east of Mount Rushmore along Interstate 90. Take I-90 to Exit 110 at Wall, SD, to access Highway 240, the Badlands Loop Road. Badlands National Park consists of 244,000 acres of sharply eroded buttes, pinnacles and spires surrounded by mixed-grass prairie. Call (605) 433-5361 or visit [www.nps.gov/badl](http://www.nps.gov/badl) for more information.



### Custer State Park

Custer State Park is located just south of Mount Rushmore. At 71,000 acres it is one of the largest state parks in the nation and is home to more than 1,000 bison. Call the Peter Norbeck Visitor Center at (605) 255-4464 or visit <http://gfp.sd.gov/state-parks/> for more information.



### Minuteman Missile National Historic Site

The Visitor Contact Station for this site is 100 miles east of Mount Rushmore at Exit 131 off of Interstate 90. Minuteman preserves a formerly operational Launch Control Facility and underground Launch Control Center. Call (605) 433-5552 or visit [www.nps.gov/mimi](http://www.nps.gov/mimi) for more information.

# Park Partners

## MOUNT RUSHMORE SOCIETY

The Mount Rushmore Society has a long history with Mount Rushmore, beginning in 1930 with soliciting private funds and providing for citizen involvement in the carving of the memorial. Ever since, the Society has been instrumental in the memorial's growth and promotion. The Society operated the first gift shop in the 1940s, embarked on a nationwide Preservation Fund campaign in the 1980s, raising \$25 million and spurring a total of \$56 million in facility improvements during redevelopment at Mount Rushmore in the 1990s, including a \$17 million parking facility, created the Mount Rushmore Bookstores in 1993 and formed the Mount Rushmore Institute in 2007.



Proposed Youth Exploration Area to be built along the Presidential Trail.

Today, the Society continues to be an active partner with the National Park Service at Mount Rushmore:

- The Mount Rushmore Bookstores contribute \$200,000 to the park annually.
- The Society raised \$300,000 to construct a permanent Youth Exploration Area that will allow younger visitors to experience hands-on programs in an engaging atmosphere.

YOU can be a part of the mission as well. Please visit one of the three bookstore outlets or go to [www.mountrushmoresociety.com](http://www.mountrushmoresociety.com) to find out more about becoming a Society member and/or to donate to specific causes.

## XANTERRA PARKS & RESORTS

For more than 130 years, Xanterra Parks & Resorts has operated lodging, restaurants and other facilities at some of the most beautiful places on earth – our country's spectacular national and state parks. The Xanterra name has become synonymous with park and resort hospitality in pristine environments. Xanterra has operated the Carvers Café, Gift Shop and Memorial Team Ice Cream Shop at Mount Rushmore since 1993. Beyond offering high-quality guest services, the organization is committed to providing guests with a memorable experience while helping them to have the least amount of impact on the environment possible. Through the Ecologix Environmental Management System, Xanterra is working towards becoming a truly sustainable business.

Since 2000, Xanterra at Mount Rushmore has reduced greenhouse gas emissions by 32%, increased its solid waste diversion rate to 48% through extensive recycling programs and now has a full-fledged food composting operation.

During your visit, stop by the Gift Shop to peruse a new section that features “Made in America” merchandise. Our buyers have been searching the country for as many American-made products as they can find, so take a few moments and visit the Mount Rushmore Gift Shop for these gifts and keepsakes.

Most of all, have a memorable and exciting visit here at Mount Rushmore.

## Stepping Up to Sustainability

Sculptor Gutzon Borglum carved a monument to last generations. Just like Borglum, every visitor to Mount Rushmore has the opportunity to create a legacy through sustainable practices. During your visit, count how many green and sustainable practices are in place in which you can participate.

Thirsty? Quench your thirst while protecting the environment by visiting the hydration station installed by Xanterra in the Carvers Café. This station allows visitors to fill up reusable water bottles while eliminating significant plastic water-bottle waste from the park.

If you enjoyed a snack, lunch or dinner in the Carvers Café, rest easy. Your biodegradable trash will eventually be compost and the used cooking oil is collected for biodiesel.

Did you find the green and the gray trash cans? Green cans are for recyclable materials and gray for non-recyclable trash. Materials deposited in the green recycle cans travel to a sorting facility, and everything in the gray non-recycle containers go to the composting facility at the local solid-waste complex. When in doubt about recycling in the park, place the material in the recycle cans. From the trash can to the garden, 85% of the trash collected at Mount Rushmore is reclaimed and processed into compost.

By doing the simple act of disposing chewing gum in the proper containers, you can save hundreds of gallons of water used in steaming the gum off walkways, as well as \$20,000 in the cost of cleaning annually.

Your efforts at sustainability, combined with the efforts in the Gift Shop and the Mount Rushmore Bookstores in supplying Made in America and ecologically conscious products, show the commitment we all have towards our environment.

President Theodore Roosevelt noted that “There can be no greater issue than that of conservation in this country.” With a big help from you and our partners, Mount Rushmore takes proactive steps to ensure that everything we do is sustainable and efficient, resulting in a legacy for future generations.



# Park Map and Facilities

## Information Center & Bookstore

Begin your visit here for park orientation and information on ranger-led programs, the Junior Ranger Program and other activities in the Black Hills. A Mount Rushmore Bookstore is located here.

## Audio Tour Building

Rent an audio tour wand here to hear the story of Mount Rushmore. Available in English, German, Lakota, Spanish and French.

## Carvers Café, Ice Cream Shop & Gift Shop

Xanterra Parks & Resorts operates a full-service food court, the Memorial Team Ice Cream Shop and Gift Shop. An ATM and restrooms are also available.

## Avenue of Flags

Location of the 56 flags of the states, districts, commonwealths and territories of the U.S.

## Youth Exploration Area (summer only)

Located near the Grand View Terrace, this hands-on exploration area focuses on the natural and cultural resources of the Black Hills.

## Grand View Terrace

Located at the end of the main walkway, this is the primary viewing area of the mountain carving.

## Lincoln Borglum Visitor Center, Museum, Theaters & Bookstore

Visit the park's visitor center below the Grand View Terrace for interactive museum exhibits, a film and an information desk staffed by park rangers. A Mount Rushmore Bookstore is located here.

## Amphitheater

Location of the nightly summer ranger-led Evening Lighting Ceremony.

## Presidential Trail (year-round, weather permitting)

This ½-mile loop trail begins on the Grand View Terrace, takes you to the base of the mountain, past the Sculptor's Studio and back. This trail has approximately 450 stairs.

## Lakota, Nakota and Dakota Heritage Village (summer only)

Explore the traditions, stories and languages of American Indians from the region from 10 am - 2 pm daily, weather permitting.

## Sculptor's Studio & Bookstore (summer only)

This historic building was the second on-site studio for sculptor Gutzon Borglum. Borglum's original model and many of the tools he used are on display. Summer ranger-led programs are held inside. A Mount Rushmore Bookstore is located here.

## Borglum View Terrace

The site of Borglum's first studio.

## Nature Trail (year-round, weather permitting)

This short trail offers a glimpse at some of the natural resources found in the park and connects the Borglum View Terrace to the parking area.

