



**On July 19, 1805,** Lewis and Clark and the Corps of Discovery canoed upriver and entered a spectacular gorge with cliffs rising up 1,200 feet. The Corps had entered the Gates of the Mountains.

**By August 12, 1805,** the Corps of Discovery reached the headwaters of the Missouri River after traveling 15 months and 3,000 miles. Lewis climbed to the crest of Lemhi Pass hoping to see the river that could take them to the Pacific Ocean. Instead, he looked out on row upon row of snow-capped mountains.

**Today, you and your family can experience the beauty of Montana's Rocky Mountains and the area's rich history.**

**Helena** – On I-15. Montana's capitol city traces its history to the 1864 discovery of gold at Last Chance Gulch. The capitol dome is covered with copper and the Main Street is still known as Last Chance Gulch. The Montana Historical Society Museum has a superb collection of C.M. Russell art as well as Native American art and exhibits. The original Governor's Mansion, St. Helena Cathedral, historic downtown Helena and the Great Northern Carousel are among the exciting attractions and activities to see.

**Gates of the Mountains** – North of Helena on I-15. Today's travelers can board a tour boat to relive the Corps' voyage through this Missouri River Canyon with imposing 1,200-foot high cliffs and great wildlife viewing.

**Deer Lodge** – On I-90 west of Helena features the Grant Kohrs Ranch National Historic Site, the Montana Auto Museum and the Old Prison Complex.

**Butte** – On I-15/I-90. Known as the "Richest Hill on Earth" where copper, gold and silver were mined. Butte features the World Museum of Mining, Old No.1 Trolley Tours, Granite Mountain Mine Memorial, the Copper King Mansion, Old Butte Adventure Historical Tours, plus live theater and a distillery.

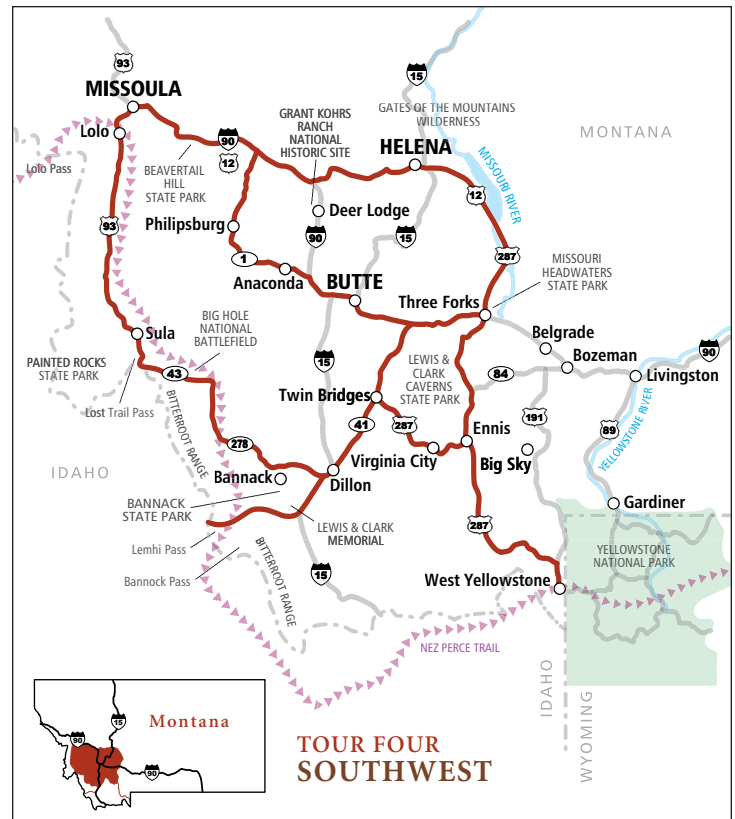
**Anaconda** – West of Butte off of I-90, this was the smelting city for Butte's rich ore. A 575-foot smoke stack, "The Stack," is the community's landmark and state park. The Old Works, a Jack Nicklaus-designed golf course, covers much of the old industrial complex. Anaconda is a gateway to outdoor recreation in the surrounding national forest and the Pintler Scenic Route, MT 1, which connects you with Georgetown Lake, and Philipsburg and Drummond.

**Philipsburg** – This distinctive historic mining community on MT 1 has been nationally recognized for its preservation and charm. Find a treasure at the gift stores, dig for Montana sapphires, enjoy the same candy as you did when you were a kid, sip a float at an old time soda fountain, and enjoy a performance in the historic Opera House.

**Three Forks** – On I-90 and US 287. Lewis and Clark named the Jefferson, Gallatin and Madison rivers at the headwaters of the Missouri River. The town of Three Forks features the Headwater Heritage Museum, and three state parks nearby: the Headwaters of the Missouri River, the Lewis and Clark Caverns, and the Madison Buffalo Jump.

**Virginia City and Nevada City** – On MT 287 are popular ghost towns that feature gift shops, museums, music hall, train rides and living history programs. Ennis, just 14 miles east, features majestic mountain vistas, the Madison River and world-class trout fishing. US 287 is a primary southern route to the West Yellowstone area which features the Yellowstone Imax Theater, the Grizzly & Wolf Discovery Center, the Yellowstone Historic Center, and the Madison Canyon Earthquake Area and Visitor Center.

**Dillon** – On I-15. Lewis and Clark met with the Shoshone Indians at Camp Fortunate, now submerged under the Clark Canyon Reservoir 20 miles south of Dillon. Here, Lewis and Clark secured horses to cross the Bitterroot Mountains, thanks to Sacagawea who served as interpreter and was a member of the Agaidika (Lemhi) Shoshone tribe. For more info go to: [www.lemhi-shoshone.com](http://www.lemhi-shoshone.com). Dillon has a Visitor Center, County Museum, Beaverhead Rock, Clark Lookout State Park and the Lemhi Pass National Historical Landmark that chronicles events



that ultimately led to the Corps crossing the Continental Divide. Nearby is Bannack State Park, a well preserved ghost town and the first territorial capitol of what became Montana.

**Big Hole National Battlefield** – On MT 43 north of Bannack near Wisdom on the Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) National Historic Trail. This historic site is a major stop within the Nez Perce National Historic Park and has an inspiring memorial to the Nez Perce who fought the U.S. Calvary during their epic flight to Canada.

**The Bitterroot Valley** – Discovering that Lemhi Pass was too difficult to cross and the Salmon River's rapids too dangerous, the Corps of Discovery proceeded north on horseback and dropped down into the Bitterroot Valley at Sula where they secured fresh horses from the Salish Indians. The Salish told them the Lolo Trail was the best route to follow over the mountains. Vacationers can parallel Lewis and Clark's route north

on US 93 and see the rugged beauty, vistas, and historic sites along the way.

**Lolo** – On US 12. The Corps proceeded north to Travelers' Rest, near present-day Lolo, arriving there on September 9, 1805. Three days later they began their trek over Lolo Pass. The Travelers' Rest State Park, Lolo Pass Visitor Center and the Fort Fizzle Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) National Historic Trail site are west of Lolo on US 12. The Lolo Pass Visitor Center also features an interpretive display on the history of the Nez Perce War.

**Missoula** – On I-90/U.S. 93 features nine historic districts, live theatre and music venues, shopping boutiques, the Smokejumper Visitor Center, the Historic Museum at Fort Missoula, the Montana Museum of Art and Culture, the Missoula Art Museum and the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation Center. Caras Park in downtown Missoula features kayakers riding the waves on the Clark Fork River.

**For more information on the great attractions and parks along the Lewis and Clark Trail, go to: [lewisandclarkcountry.org](http://lewisandclarkcountry.org)**