

Going to the Sun Road, Many
Glacier & the Highline Trail

Montana Cultural Walking Adventure



Classic
JOURNEYS™

DAILY ITINERARY

Montana: Going-to-the-Sun-Road, Many Glacier & the Highline Trail | Cultural Walking Adventure



“Classic Journeys provides unbeatable access to experiences around the globe.”

— *Travel + Leisure*

Inside America's Most Beloved Park

Did you know you can hear the wings of a gliding eagle slip through the high mountain air? That deep-sea fossils hide under the crimson spikes of Indian paintbrush along the shores of high-altitude lakes? That those famous white mountain goats may actually have been transplanted from the Alps? There's so much to experience on a Glacier National Park vacation that most visitors never even imagine. They drive through and snap some photos. The fanatics strap on heavy backpacks to escape the crowds. But Classic Journeys can show you the intense grandeur and deep solitude of this treasure in unique style. On easy-going walks carefully chosen so you can glory in wildlife and wildflowers. You'll touch and appreciate Glacier National Park as few people do with a fine mix of outdoor activity and perfectly located lodgings at the end of every exhilarating day.

DAY 1

WHITEFISH

- Explore the historic town of Whitefish
- Ride a scenic gondola to the top of Big Mountain

Meet in Whitefish, a quaint western town just outside the Glacier National Park boundaries. Nestled in the Rocky Mountains and surrounded on three sides by stunningly picturesque mountain peaks, Whitefish has retained the warm, friendly charm of its bygone railroading days.

Minutes from here, board the gondola that carries you to the summit of Big Mountain for a walk with cinematic views of the peaks in Glacier, the Flathead Valley and Whitefish Lake below.

Overnight: Whitefish

Meals: D

DAY 2

WHITEFISH TO WEST GLACIER

- Swift Creek Nature walk with excellent wildlife viewing opportunities
- Visit with a member of the Blackfeet Indian Tribe

Your first morning together offers the prospect of a spectacular walk to Swift Creek in the beautiful Whitefish trails. Following a breakfast of local specialties, join your guide for a great walk that takes you along a beautiful path through an old growth forest with trees over 100 years old.

Your walk leads to the tranquil, crystal clear Swift Creek for a waterside picnic. The views from the walk enable you to see the area's natural unspoiled beauty and the chance to see the wildlife as they move through their habitats along the riverbanks.

On your walk, you are accompanied by one of our friends, Jack, a member of the Blackfeet Nation and a purveyor of stories and music that describe his culture and history. You'll learn about the plants and animals that have impacted this 10,000 year old nation that once spanned eastern Montana and parts of Canada.

This afternoon, we reach the historic Belton Chalet, your home for the next two nights. The lodge was built in 1910 and is situated at the west entrance to Glacier National Park. Invigorated from the day, take time to relax at the lodge and admire the Glacier Park scenery before dinner.

Overnight: West Glacier

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 3

HIGHLINE TRAIL

- Walk on the region's most spectacular trail
- Picnic lunch overlooking the Continental Divide

After breakfast, you're off for a day of America's most spectacular scenery on Glacier's Highline Trail. You'll be walking in a pristine alpine environment with larkspur, Indian Paintbrush and bright blue forget-me-nots in the foreground and a backdrop of majestic peaks. All along the way, you'll be on the lookout for bighorn sheep, mountain goats and the marmots that are often seen here. As the broad, carefully improved trail traces the slopes, the awesome views are utterly unobstructed. At Haystack Butte, you'll stretch out for a picnic lunch with appetites sharpened by the incredible, crisp air.

At the end of this unforgettable walk, you'll transfer back to the lodge for a rest and a leisurely dinner.

Overnight: West Glacier

Meals: B, L

DAY 4

GOING-TO-THE-SUN ROAD

- Going-to-the-Sun Road
- Sun Point nature trail and a walk to three waterfalls

Going-to-the-Sun Road is one of America's greatest scenic (and engineering) treasures. If you were driving yourself, it would be strictly eyes-on-the-road, but your experienced driver guide frees you up to soak in the amazing views. En route, you'll stop

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at Sun Point, a promontory with excellent views of the lake and mountains. From Sun Point, you will embark along a footpath that offers everything an explorer in Glacier Park can want to see in an easy-going walk—spectacular vistas of the glacial lake, three magnificent waterfalls (Baring, St. Mary and St. Mary Falls) and lovely wooded areas. You'll picnic at the Falls before continuing to East Glacier, keeping your eyes sharp for the abundance of elk and deer that make their homes in this area.

Later, you will continue to St. Mary. Located in one of the most scenic areas of the park, it provides you great access to incredible scenery and a variety of explorations around St. Mary Lake, which acts as a reflecting pool, mirroring the impressive snow-capped peaks that line the valley. After dinner, you may want to slip on a jacket and head outdoors to enjoy some spectacular stargazing under the enormous Montana sky.

Overnight: St. Mary

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 5

MANY GLACIER / GRINNELL LAKE

- **Lake steamer cruise and walk to Grinnell Lake**
- **Walks that offer fine views of receding glaciers, as well as moose, bald eagles and mountain goats**

After a hearty breakfast, you'll head to Swiftcurrent Lake in the Many Glacier Valley. Since the turn of the century, this area has been known as "America's Little Switzerland", and the railroad barons who owned the Great Northern Railway spared no expense when they built the lodges, trails and lake steamers that provided the classic luxury travelers from the East were accustomed to in the early 1900's. A luxury vacation included every sort of transportation available in that day. Travelers rode out from the East on the Great Northern train, rode horseback throughout the park, stayed at the spectacular chalets and lodges, and took tours on the lake steamers. To this day, the wooden boats remain an integral part of the Glacier Park experience.

Boarding one of the historic wooden boats, you'll cruise the Swiftcurrent and Josephine Lakes to a beautiful hike that takes you through spruce and fir forests to the remote blue-green Grinnell Lake. From here you will see the receding glaciers that helped carve the stunning landscape. Throughout the day you'll want to keep watch for moose, bald eagles and mountain goats that make their homes here. Also as you walk, your guide tells you about the park's history and how, under pressure from miners who came looking for copper and gold, the mountains east of the Continental Divide were acquired in 1895 from the Blackfoot Indian tribes. The miners hoped to strike it rich, but no large copper or gold deposits were ever located.

Later in the afternoon, enjoy a wonderful farewell dinner where you can try regional specialties, such as fresh trout or venison with huckleberry sauce, at one of our favorite local restaurants.

Overnight: St. Mary

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 6

TWO MEDICINE LAKE

- **Walk among red peaks**
- **Transfer back to Whitefish**

After breakfast you will head south together to walk scenic Two Medicine Lake. A gentle hike leads to Aster Park, located in a picturesque setting among impressive red peaks. Along the way, you'll pass through fields of Brown-eyed Susan and other wildflowers. This area is also the point where the plains begin to rise into the mountains of Glacier Park, and the broad meadows that we pass make great homes for the moose we often spot on our walks here.

Our time together ends with a transfer back to Whitefish.

Meals: B, L



Tour Hotels



Lodge At Whitefish Lake

Inspired by the grand lodges of the past, the four diamond resort is surrounded by mountains with Whitefish Lake at its back door. Studio suites feature a gas stone fireplace and signature bathrooms with soaking tub and slate tile shower.

OVERNIGHT: Whitefish | **NIGHTS:** 1



Belton Chalet

Built in 1910 as Glacier's first railway hotel, this lodge is rich in history. It's beautifully restored Arts & Crafts style blends rusticity with convenience. Gardens surround the lodge, and the covered porch is the perfect spot to watch a sunset.

OVERNIGHT: West Glacier | **NIGHTS:** 2



St. Mary Village

This mountain resort sits on the edge of Glacier National Park. Guest rooms are rustically furnished and feature mountain views. This lodge is accessible to all park activities and offers complimentary Wi-Fi in public areas.

OVERNIGHT: St. Mary | **NIGHTS:** 2

Tour Dates & Prices

To see the full list of dates and prices for this tour, go to our website by clicking [here](#).

Want to travel with just your group on a date of your choosing? Visit [CLASSICJOURNEYS.COM/PRIVATE](https://www.classicjourneys.com/private) to learn more about Private Journeys.

Trip Essentials

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| TRIP LENGTH | 6 Days, 5 Nights |
| START | Lodge at Whitefish Lake, Whitefish, Montana |
| END | Lodge at Whitefish Lake, Whitefish, Montana |
| TERRAIN | Easy to moderate on good trails and paths. At your option, up to 2 to 4 hours of walking per day. |

What's Included

- Well-sited boutique hotels and lodges that provide you unrivaled access to the people and places, culture and natural environment you came to experience
- All breakfasts, 5 lunches and 4 dinners
- Full-time experienced guide(s) who are with you throughout the trip and handle behind-the-scenes logistics
- Admissions to tastings, historic sites and other scheduled events as noted in the detailed daily itinerary
- Gratuities for hotels, meals, and baggage
- All land transportation during the trip

Above & Beyond Benefits

- Privileged Access Events
- Invisible Check-In

READY TO BOOK?
CLICK TO MAKE A RESERVATION

Or give us a call

1-800-200-3887

Mon-Fri 8:00AM – 5:00PM PST
moreinfo@classicjourneys.com

AMBASSADOR CLUB

As a Classic Journeys guest, you are invited to join the Ambassador Club after your first Classic Journeys tour. As a member, you'll have access to [a whole suite of Ambassador benefits](#) you can use immediately and as often as you like.

ENJOY THE UNEXPECTED

When you travel with Classic Journeys, you can expect handcrafted surprises built into every trip, but some things just can't be anticipated. Unusual weather, a once-a-year festival or an unscheduled site closing will inspire us and your local guide to improvise and modify this itinerary. Likewise, the hotels named here are used on the majority of our trips, but occasionally one of them can't accommodate us. If that happens, you can count on us to let you know before departure and make sure you're in a hotel of equal or better quality. It's our goal to make your trip exceptional!

**Any discount offered cannot be combined with other offers, and only applies to published (regularly scheduled public) departure dates in our catalogs or on our website.

THE Classic Journeys Difference

HANDCRAFTING TRIPS OF A LIFETIME.



At the end of the day, we fundamentally believe that every guest on every departure of every trip should have a trip of a lifetime. We're fortunate to play the role of well-connected friend, linking our guests with amazing guides, artisans, winemakers, hoteliers, restaurateurs, naturalists, and too many others to list here.

That's what motivates me and our team — in our La Jolla HQ and around the world — every day. Join Us!

Franklin
President & Founder



You can expect the highest standards:



Luxurious Lodgings:

Ours include coveted properties that appear in "World's Best" and "Gold List" rankings.



Included Activities:

You'll never be surprised with add-on fees on your activities that include snorkeling to cooking lessons.



Local Guides:

Your guides are locals who are always at your side like well-connected friends.



Small Group Travel:

With an average of just 10-12 guests, it's a small footprint that guarantees you access that's off-limits to larger groups.



Amazing Cuisine:

From Michelin-starred restaurants to lunch in a farmhouse kitchen, you'll have a seat for the region's signature dishes.



Unmatched Value:

"Excellent value" and "unbeatable access" are two of the reasons that Travel + Leisure has consistently voted us a World's Best Tour Operator.

You'll enjoy these handcrafted travel experiences in Montana...

- Walking past rushing waterfalls with the chance to see moose, bald eagles and mountain goats
- Picnicking by the tranquil, turquoise colored Avalanche Lake
- Cruising on a lake steamer and then enjoying a leisurely walk to Grinnell Lake
- Settling in to perfectly-sited accommodations, like the Belton Chalet, a designated National Historic Landmark hotel in the heart of Glacier Park
- Stargazing under the enormous Montana sky

"Classic Journeys excels in providing exceptional guides familiar with the local area."

-Bert and Jo Ann E., Red Lodge, MT