



# MUSEUMS

From mammoths to music & space, South Dakota's museums create unique educational experiences for all ages. The wide variety of exhibits, artifacts and memorabilia found in the state's diverse museums are sure to keep visitors entertained and continuously learning throughout their trip.

**Adams Museum (Deadwood)** - W. E. Adams, a pioneer businessman in the 1930s, founded the Adams Museum in historic downtown Deadwood. He wanted to honor and display the Black Hills' history and donated the building to the City of Deadwood. The board has been collecting treasures from the area ever since. Among other interesting oddities are Potato Creek Johnny's gold nugget, a rare marine reptile and a sketch of Wild Bill Hickok.

**Brothel Museum (Deadwood)** - Brothels were a fixture on the second story of several Deadwood Main Street buildings from 1876-1980. This aspect of Deadwood's history, although difficult and uncomfortable to talk about, had a huge impact on the community. A series of eight rooms have been curated with period-appropriate furnishings to help transport the visitor to another era. The Brothel is not an attempt to glamorize prostitution, nor is it meant to be an approval or condemnation of prostitution. Rather it is an integral part of the narrative of Deadwood's unique history.

**Children's Museum of South Dakota (Brookings)** - The Children's Museum of South Dakota is an interactive museum built for children of all ages. Kids can experience hands-on exhibits showcasing water and sound sensations, house construction and farming & prairie life. Fun experiences include indoor & outdoor prairie play and the Dino Dig. Younger children, or "mini explorers," can explore South Dakota's prairies through wavy slides, plush animals and more.

**Days of '76 Museum (Deadwood)** - The Days of '76 Museum stands as a tribute to the first pioneers to come to Deadwood. It features memorabilia and collectibles from the period, as well as American Indian artifacts. The museum also has the largest and most extensive collection of horse-drawn vehicles in the state.

**The Indian Museum of North America at Crazy Horse Memorial (Crazy Horse)** - The Indian Museum of North America® is home to a large collection of art and artifacts reflecting the diverse histories and cultures of over 300 Native Nations. The Museum, designed to complement the story being told in stone on the Mountain, presents the lives of American Indians and preserves Native Culture for future generations.

**The Journey Museum (Rapid City)** - The unique museum covers the intricate history of the Western Great Plains and the people that inhabit the land. The exhibits cover the four major prehistoric and historical time periods to help visitors better understand the history of the Black Hills region. Visitors can explore the "Pap" Madison Cabin, the oldest known structure in Rapid City.



**The Mammoth Site (Hot Springs)** - Discovered in 1974, the Mammoth Site is now a museum that is home to more than 60 mammoth skeletons in addition to skeletons of a llama, camel, prairie dog, wolf, fish and giant short-faced bear. Visitors can view the remains up-close and personal, and even see what the mammoths would have looked like if they were still alive today.





**Museum at Black Hills Institute (Hill City)** - BHI has been collecting and preparing fossils for nearly 50 years. Their collection is one of the finest accumulations of both vertebrate and invertebrate fossils. In addition to the awe-inspiring fossils, the museum offers an array of mineral treasures from around the globe, with a special emphasis on the geology of the Black Hills region.

**National Music Museum (Vermillion)** - This "Landmark of American Music," as recognized by the National Music Council, thrills visitors with more than 15,000 musical instruments. Enjoy a guided tour, attend a musical performance, or browse around the incredible collection on your own.

**National Presidential Wax Museum (Keystone)** - Located only minutes from Mount Rushmore, the National Presidential Wax Museum is an exciting patriotic experience for the whole family. Meet over 100 lifelike wax figures, including all 46 U.S. presidents, all depicted in stunning visual recreations of iconic moments in U.S. presidential history.

**Old Courthouse Museum (Sioux Falls)** - Make time for history at the Old Courthouse Museum. This beautifully restored 1800s quartzite building has three floors of regional history exhibits.

**Petrified Wood Park & Museum (Lemmon)** - Occupying nearly a full city block in Lemmon, the Petrified Wood Park & Museum is a curiosity that will pique an interest in both geology and architecture. With towers up to 20 feet tall, a castle comprised of petrified wood, and petrified dinosaur and mammoth bones, the petrified wood park will be a topic of family discussion for years to come.

**Redlin Art Center (Watertown)** - Named after Terry Redlin, one of America's most celebrated and collected wildlife and Americana painters, the Redlin Art Center celebrates his work with an award-winning gallery of over 150 original oil paintings. Visitors can also visit the Terry Redlin Conservation Park made up of the 30 acres surrounding the impressive Art Center. The Park is often referred to as Redlin's living painting with strategically placed hills, valleys and trees.

**South Dakota Agricultural Heritage Museum (Brookings)** - Founded in 1884, the South Dakota Agricultural Heritage Museum's exhibits and programming showcase how diverse, exciting and essential the history, culture and science of agriculture can be in South Dakota. It is housed in the historic Stock Judging Pavilion on the campus of South Dakota State University in Brookings.

**South Dakota Air and Space Museum (Ellsworth AFB)** - The Ellsworth Air Force Base is home to the South Dakota Air and Space Museum. There are exhibits featuring missiles, a B-1B bomber simulator, the interior of Minuteman II launch control capsule, H-13 Helicopter and other military memorabilia. Kids and adults alike can explore these vintage vehicles and can take part in a bus tour around the base.

**South Dakota Art Museum (Brookings)** - Explore the state's artistic gem! Galleries feature Native American art, Harvey Dunn, Paul Globe illustrations, Marghab Linens and dynamic exhibits by regional and national artists. The Museum Store features jewelry, pottery and original works of art by local and regional artists along with books about South Dakota history and culture.



**South Dakota Cultural Heritage Center (Pierre)** - Discover the rich heritage and complex history of South Dakota at the Cultural Heritage Center in Pierre. Award-winning rotating exhibits capture the spirit of The Mount Rushmore State and hands-on activities offer new experiences and learning opportunities at every turn.



## CONTACT US

Travel South Dakota  
711 E Wells Avenue, Pierre, South Dakota, USA 57501  
605-773-3301

Katlyn Svendsen,  
Global Public Relations & Content Services Senior Director,  
[Katlyn.Svendsen@travelsouthdakota.com](mailto:Katlyn.Svendsen@travelsouthdakota.com)

Stephanie Spronk,  
Social Media Manager & Global Media Representative,  
[Stephanie.Spronk@travelsouthdakota.com](mailto:Stephanie.Spronk@travelsouthdakota.com)

Kortney Moser,  
Social Media & Public Relations Representative,  
[Kortney.Moser@travelsouthdakota.com](mailto:Kortney.Moser@travelsouthdakota.com)

MediaSD.com  
[TravelSouthDakota.com](http://TravelSouthDakota.com)

