

*Meeting & Special Event  
Planning Guide*

Montana's  
*Flathead Valley*



*Meet in Montana, Leave with a Memory*

## *Meetings come with a view in Montana's Flathead Valley*

Conference and meeting facilities range from secluded mountain retreats to full-scale convention hotels, all located within a few minutes of Montana's great outdoors. To complement the spectacular scenery, meeting planners will find a wide range of convention services to help make every meeting productive as well as memorable.

### *Destination Weddings*

Montana's Flathead Valley is an ideal location for destination weddings. The primary reason couples choose a destination wedding is to have a memorable wedding in a unique location. Besides a beautiful location, you can mix in local cultural traditions with your own ceremony to give some excitement and uniqueness to your special day. Most couples will agree that the most important element of their dream wedding is the venue. This is the magical element which sets the tone for the entire experience. Years from now you and your guests might not remember all the specifics of your wedding, but one thing is certain - the venue will remain with them forever.

### *Family Reunions*

Montana's Flathead Valley is also a great venue for a family reunion, with activities and area attractions which can be enjoyed by all ages and abilities. A reunion can be a memorable experience that brings you and your relatives closer together. There are a variety of facilities ideal for the budget conscious, as well as luxurious resorts to pamper your guests.

### *The Great Outdoors*

Surrounded by national parks, forests, and protected lands, the Flathead Valley is a gateway to a wilderness area the size of Vermont. It's all within easy reach with options for every age and ability. Recreation is abundant in the Flathead Valley; summer is highlighted by hiking, biking, fishing, horseback riding, boating, sailing and golfing, while the winter months are ideal for skiing, snowshoeing, dog sledding, ice skating, ice fishing and snowmobiling.

#### **Glacier National Park**

Within its boundaries are more than 700 miles of hiking trails and 1000 species of plants and wildlife of all sizes and descriptions. The famous going-to-the-sun Road is 52 miles of panoramic views, thundering waterfalls, alpine meadows, and glacial lakes. Take time to truly experience Glacier. The park is open year-round. Backpack or camp in the backcountry, float the Flathead River, or strap on skis or snowshoes and enjoy winter's calm.

#### **Flathead Lake**

There's lots of room to play on Flathead Lake. Located just south of Kalispell, the largest natural freshwater lake west of the Mississippi is 28 miles long and up to 15 miles wide. That translates to 188 square miles of pure enjoyment. The lake's sparkling waters and miles of tree-lined shore offer unlimited recreational opportunities and wildlife habitat. This playground has something for everyone.

#### **Winter Sports**

Winter's snow softens the edges of the craggy peaks, smoothes out some of the valley hills, and provides a soft blanket on which to play!

- **Skiing:** The Whitefish Mountain Resort and Blacktail Mountain Ski Area both promise great powder, acres of groomed trails, fantastic views, great rates and no lines!
- **Cross Country Skiing and Snowshoeing:** Tour the spectacular area on cross-country skis or snowshoes. There are hundreds of trails in Glacier National Park, the Flathead National Forest, and throughout the valley.

- **Snowmobiling:** For a peak experience, tour the valley on a snowmobile. There are mountain top rides through snow ghosts and hundreds of miles of groomed trails winding through pristine alpine forests.

## Golf

With nine public courses offering challenging layouts and unique golfing experiences, it's no wonder visitors to Montana's Flathead Valley often bring golf clubs along with fishing poles and camping gear. Named to Golf Digest's top "50 Golf Destinations" in the world based on courses, service, transportation, setting, quality accommodations, travel to and around the destination, and value, Flathead Valley golf has it all.

## Culture & History

Whatever your passion - arts, history, culture - you'll find magical new ways and places to explore it throughout the Flathead. There are numerous museums, art galleries and "Made in Montana" retail establishments to visit. You can even enjoy the symphony, as well as incredible plays and musicals in theatre companies throughout the Flathead Valley.

## Transportation

Delta Airlines/SkyWest, Northwest Airlines, United Express/SkyWest and Alaska/Horizon Airlines serve the Glacier Park International Airport (FCA), centrally located between Kalispell, Whitefish and Columbia Falls. Amtrak's Empire Builder pulls into the historic Whitefish Depot daily from points east and west. Automobiles and RV's can utilize I-90 to Highway 93 or take US 2 into the Flathead Valley.

## Group Tour & Activity Ideas

Make sure to include some "play time" in your itinerary. Here are a few ideas to consider...

### Sample Group Tours

- Arts & Cultural Tour
- Glacier National Park Tour
- Whitefish Mountain Resort Tour
- Made in Montana Tour

### Sample Group Activities

- Golf Tournament
- Fishing Derby
- Whitefish Mountain Resort: Gondola Ride & Dinner at the Summit House Restaurant
- Glacier National Park: Jammer Ride to Logan Pass, Dinner/Lunch at Lake McDonald Lodge
- Lewis & Clark Presentation

### Sample Individual or Spousal Activities

- Golf
- Horseback Riding
- Fly Fishing or Lake Fishing
- Guided Hikes
- Rafting
- Hot Air Balloon
- Sky Diving
- Flathead Lake Tour to Wildhorse Island
- Heli Tour
- Walk in the Tree Tops, Alpine Slide or Zip Line at Whitefish Mountain Resort
- Sailing on Flathead Lake

## Meeting Facilities

|  | Sleeping Rooms | Meeting Rooms | Sq Feet                       | Theatre | Classroom | Banquet | Disabled | Restaurant | A/V |
|--|----------------|---------------|-------------------------------|---------|-----------|---------|----------|------------|-----|
| <b>Bigfork</b>   |                |               |                               |         |           |         |          |            |     |
| <b>Flathead Lake Lodge</b><br>150 Flathead Lake Lodge Rd<br>PO Box 248, Bigfork, MT 59911<br>406-837-4391<br>Fax: 406-837-6977<br>info@flatheadlakelodge.com<br>www.flatheadlakelodge.com                  | 45             | 4             | 5,000                         | 200     | 80        | 150     | Y        | Y          | Y   |
| <b>Many Springs Flathead Lake Resort</b><br>24377 MT Hwy 35, Bigfork, MT 59911<br>406-982-3900<br>Fax: 406-982-3566<br>decompress@manysprings.com<br>www.manysprings.com                                   | 12             | 1             | 600                           | 70      | 50        | 48      | Y        | Y          | Y   |
| <b>Mountain Lake Lodge</b><br>14735 Sylvan Dr, Bigfork, MT 59911<br>406-837-3800 or 877-823-4923<br>Fax: 406-837-3861<br>events@mountainlakelodge.com<br>www.mountainlakelodge.com                         | 30             | 2             | 1,560                         | 50      | 30        | 75      | Y        | Y          | Y   |
| <b>Timbers Motel</b><br>8540 Hwy 35 South<br>PO Box 2214, Bigfork, MT 59911<br>406-837-6200 or 800-821-4546<br>timbers@live.com<br>www.timbersmotel.com  | 40             | 1             | Outside Gazebo                | 20      | -         | -       | Y        | N          | N   |
| <b>Columbia Falls</b>  |                |               |                               |         |           |         |          |            |     |
| <b>North Forty Resort</b><br>3765 Hwy 40 W, Columbia Falls, MT 59912<br>PO Box 4250, Whitefish, MT 59937<br>406-862-7740 or 800-775-1740<br>groups@northfortyresort.com<br>www.northfortyresort.com        | 22             | 1             | 1,300                         | 65      | 50        | 50      | Y        | N          | N   |
| <b>Glacier National Park Area</b>  |                |               |                               |         |           |         |          |            |     |
| <b>Glacier Park Lodge &amp; Resort</b><br>East Glacier, MT<br>Oct-April Phone: 602-207-2600<br>May-Sept Phone: 406-226-5631<br>sroberts@glacierparkinc.com<br>www.glacierparkinc.com/MeetingsAndEvents.htm | 161            | 4             | 7,788                         | 250     | 150       | 150     | Y        | Y          | Y   |
| <b>Historic Tamarack Lodge &amp; Cabins</b><br>9549 US Highway 2 East<br>P.O. Box 190236, Hungry Horse, MT 59919<br>406-387-4420<br>stay@historictamaracklodge.com<br>www.historictamaracklodge.com        | 35             | 1             | 750 Lodge<br><br>550 Pavilion | 25      | 25        | 25      | Y        | N          | Y   |

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|---|----------------|---------------|-------------|---------|-----------|---------|----------|------------|-----|
| <b>Glacier National Park Area</b>   |                |               |             |         |           |         |          |            |     |
| <b>Izaak Walton Inn</b><br>290 Izaak Walton Inn Rd, Essex, MT 59916<br>406-888-5700<br>Fax: 406-888-5200<br>stay@izaakwaltoninn.com<br>www.izaakwaltoninn.com                             | 37             | 2             | 1,200       | 125     | 100       | 250     | Y        | Y          | Y   |
| <b>Kalispell</b>  |                |               |             |         |           |         |          |            |     |
| <b>Best Western White Oak Grand Hotel</b><br>4824 Hwy 93 S, Kalispell, MT 59901<br>406-857-2400 or 888-226-1003<br>Fax: 406-846-2401<br>fishgal74@yahoo.com<br>www.bestwesternmontana.com | 60             | 4             | 9,500       | 550     | 460       | 500     | Y        | N          | Y   |
| <b>Comfort Inn Big Sky</b><br>1330 Hwy 2 W, Kalispell, MT 59901<br>406-755-6700<br>Fax: 406-755-6717<br>gm.qiks@bhghotels.com<br>www.comfortinn.com                                       | 64             | 1             | Est.<br>300 | 16      | 16        | 16      | Y        | N          | Y   |
| <b>Hampton Inn</b><br>1140 US Hwy 2 W, Kalispell, MT 59901<br>406-755-7900 or 800-HAMPTON<br>Fax: 406-755-5056<br>h.i.k.sales@centurytel.net<br>www.hamptoninn.com                        | 120            | 3             | 3,150       | 160     | 100       | 100     | Y        | N          | Y   |
| <b>Hilton Garden Inn</b><br>1840 US Hwy 93 S, Kalispell, MT 59901<br>406-756-4500 or 877-STA-YHGI<br>Fax: 406-756-4505<br>Sherri_Gerek@hilton.com<br>www.kalispell.stayhgi.com            | 144            | 9             | 14,000      | 880     | 400       | 700     | Y        | Y          | Y   |
| <b>Holiday Inn Express - Kalispell</b><br>275 Treeline Rd, Kalispell, MT 59901<br>406-755-7405<br>kbukowski@impressguest.com<br>www.kalispellhie.com                                      | 111            | 1             | 800         | -       | 15        | 15      | Y        | N          | Y   |
| <b>La Quinta Inn &amp; Suites</b><br>255 Montclair Dr, Kalispell, MT 59901<br>406-257-5255 or 800-531-5900<br>Fax: 406-257-7361<br>lq0448gm@laquinta.com<br>www.laquinta.com              | 71             | 1             | Est.<br>600 | 50      | 50        | 50      | Y        | N          | Y   |
| <b>Museum at Central School</b><br>124 Second Ave E<br>PO Box 2293, Kalispell, MT 59903<br>406-756-8381<br>Fax: 406-257-5719<br>history@yourmuseum.org<br>www.yourmuseum.org              | -              | 3             | 2,190       | 100     | 100       | 100     | Y        | N          | Y   |

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|--|----------------|---------------|-------------|---------|-----------|---------|----------|------------|-----|
| <b>Kalispell (continued)</b>   |                |               |             |         |           |         |          |            |     |
| <b>Red Lion Hotel Kalispell</b><br>20 N. Main, Kalispell, MT 59901<br>406-751-5050 or 800-325-4000<br>Fax: 406-751-5051<br>janey.zimmer@redlion.com<br>www.redlion.com                     | 170            | 10            | 10,000      | 750     | 365       | 620     | Y        | Y          | Y   |
| <b>Travelodge</b><br>350 N. Main Street, Kalispell, MT 59901<br>406-755-6123 or 800-545-6399<br>Fax: 406-755-1604<br>glaciervisual@yahoo.com<br>www.travelodge.com                         | 101            | 1             | Est.<br>300 | 20      | 20        | 20      | Y        | N          | N   |
| <b>Polson</b>  |                |               |             |         |           |         |          |            |     |
| <b>Best Western KwaTaqNuk Resort</b><br>49708 Hwy 93 East, Polson, MT 59860<br>406-883-3636 or 800-882-6363<br>Fax: 406-883-9317<br>deeann.cates@kwataqnuk.com<br>www.kwataqnuk.com        | 112            | 4             | 5,500       | 375     | 200       | 300     | Y        | Y          | Y   |
| <b>Whitefish</b>   |                |               |             |         |           |         |          |            |     |
| <b>Bar W Guest Ranch</b><br>2875 Highway 93 West<br>Whitefish, MT 59937<br>406-863-9099 or 866-828-2900<br>Fax: 406-863-9500<br>info@thebarw.com<br>www.thebarw.com                        | 10             | 1*            | 400         | 24      | 24        | 24      | N        | N          | N   |
| <b>Best Western Rocky Mountain Lodge</b><br>6510 US Hwy 93 S, Whitefish, MT 59937<br>406-862-2569 or 800-862-2569<br>Fax: 406-862-1154<br>sales@rockymtnlodge.com<br>www.rockymtnlodge.com | 79             | 2             | 2,522       | 150     | 70        | 96      | Y        | N          | Y   |
| <b>Good Medicine Lodge</b><br>537 Wisconsin Ave, Whitefish, MT 59937<br>406-862-5488 or 800-862-5488<br>Fax: 406-862-5489<br>info@goodmedicinelodge.com<br>www.goodmedicinelodge.com       | 9              | 1             | Est.<br>300 | 25      | 25        | 25      | Y        | N          |     |
| <b>Grouse Mountain Lodge</b><br>2 Fairway Dr, Whitefish, MT 59937<br>406-862-3000 or 877-223-0742<br>Fax: 406-863-2901<br>info@montanasfinest.com<br>www.grousemountainlodge.com           | 145            | 10            | 11,425      | 400     | 250       | 250     | Y        | Y          | Y   |

\* The Bar W Guest Ranch also has an outdoor covered Gazebo which can accommodate 30 people and an outside meadow for large group functions.

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|--|----------------|---------------|------------------------------|---------|-----------|---------|----------|------------|-----|
| <i>Whitefish (continued)</i>   |                |               |                              |         |           |         |          |            |     |
| <b>Kandahar – The Lodge at Whitefish Mountain Resort</b><br>3824 Whitefish Mountain Resort Road<br>PO Box 278, Whitefish, MT 59937<br>406-862-6098 or 800-862-6094<br>Fax: 406-862-6095<br>Jennifer@kandaharlodge.com<br>www.kandaharlodge.com | 50             | 2             | 1,050                        | 50      | 46        | 50      | N        | Y          | Y   |
| <b>Pine Lodge</b><br>920 Spokane Ave, Whitefish, MT 59937<br>406-862-7600 or 800-305-7463<br>Fax: 406-862-7616<br>info@thepinelodge.com<br>www.thepinelodge.com  | 76             | 1             | 700                          | 35      | 35        | 35      | Y        | Y          | N   |
| <b>Whitefish Mountain Resort</b><br>Whitefish Mountain Resort Road<br>PO Pox 1400, Whitefish, MT 59937<br>406-862-1705 or 800-234-3249<br>Fax: 406-862-1912<br>sales@bigmtn.com<br>www.skiwhitefish.com  | 500            | 6             | 8,545<br>(Winter only 1,766) | 200     | 180       | 190     | Y        | Y          | Y   |

## Convention Services

### Flathead Travel Service

Flathead Travel Service is a full service travel agency with a department to handle meetings, conventions and special events.  
 406-752-8700 or 800-388-0989  
 visitmt@flatheadtravel.com  
 www.flatheadtravel.com

### Fabulous Food Catering & Event Planning

The team at Fabulous Food is available to assist you with creative off-premise cuisine, as well as venue selection, menu design, preferred vendors, location schematics, rental selections and entertainment options.  
 406-257-4294  
 gcooley@fabulousfoodmt.com  
 www.fabulousfood.net

### Northwest Montana Wedding & Event Professionals

These wedding and event consultants and planners can coordinate all the arrangements for your family, school or club reunions, corporate or business meeting, or other events held in Northwest Montana.  
 406-752-3813 or 888-284-7828  
[info@mymontanawedding.com](mailto:info@mymontanawedding.com)  
 www.mymontanawedding.com

## Flathead Convention & Visitor Bureau

The staff of the Flathead Convention & Visitor Bureau (FCVB) is ready to help with plans for any meeting, large or small. They provide assistance with site inspections, local supplier coordination, spouse tours and activity suggestions, brochures, maps and promotional materials. Please contact the Flathead Convention & Visitor Bureau at 15 Depot, Kalispell, MT 59901, phone: 406-756-9091, fax: 406-257-2500, fcvb@fcvb.org or www.montanafatheadvalley.com.

Updated January 2010