



Badlands 9 © J.R. Schnelzer, FPSA, EPSA, AFIAP

2021 Rapid City Festival Photo Tours

October 6 to October 9, 2021

By Twila Bournalon
Festival Chairman

Registration for Festival

We will be opening registration for the Rapid City Festival on April 1, 2021. Our festival starts in early October, so we want ALL of you to REGISTER on a normal schedule. This is necessary so that the proper planning can take place for a successful event. We care a great deal about the health and safety of our members. If the pandemic is unchecked closer to Festival time, you will receive a FULL REFUND for the registration and tour fees you have paid. You will also be able to register without making a payment until a later date if you follow the registration instructions.

Festival Photo Tours

Photo Tours available October 5, 2021 through October 9, 2021

This year there will be Photo Tours available every day from Tuesday, October 5, 2021 through Saturday, October 9, 2021 with a member fun night on Monday, October 4, 2021. This is part of the new format that will allow all attendees to enjoy all the photo tours and all sessions.

Membership Fun Night

We will be offering a membership fun night on Monday, October 4, 2021 with a Chuck Wagon Supper and Music Variety Show at Fort Hays. You

will step back in time at the Fort Hays Old West Town Square. We will have time to stroll along the boardwalk and take a free, self-guided tour of the *Dances with Wolves* film set and see craftsmen working with their hands every day making everything from handmade tools, ropes, bricks, tin plates, knives, and a blacksmith shop. The supper show has a Cowboy Chuck Wagon Menu and then we will be entertained by a music variety show. You will not want to miss the fun-filled evening!

Badlands National Park

The park protects 242,756 acres of sharply eroded buttes and pinnacles, along with the largest undisturbed mixed grass prairie in the United States. The mixed-grass prairie of the park is where bison, bighorn sheep, prairie dogs, and black-footed ferrets live today. The formations in the park contain sandstones, siltstones, mudstones, claystones, limestones, volcanic ash, and shale. We will be offering sunrise and sunset tours daily to the park so you can see and photograph some of the most brilliant colors of the peaks!



Badlands 9 © Ralph Durham, APSA

1880 Train Ride

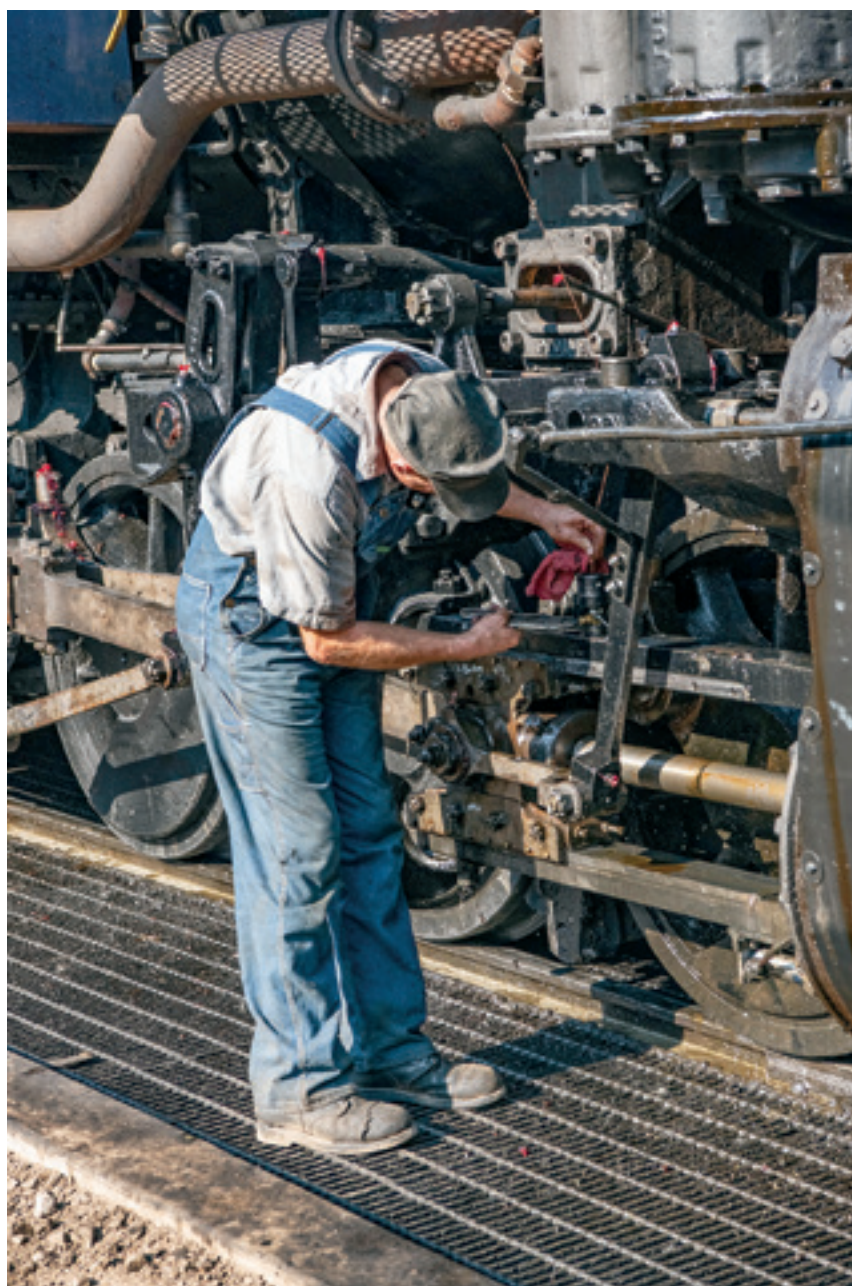
The 1880 Train is a train ride through the Black Hills of South Dakota aboard an authentic steam engine. There will be time prior to departure for photo shoots around the depot and train yard. The train will view vistas of Harney Peak and mining encampments with some of the cars having open window seating. Trains follow the original route of the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad laid down in the late 1880s to service the mines and mills between Hill City and Keystone. The Black Hills Central Railroad is the oldest continuously operating tour railroad in the nation and operates three steam and two diesel engines.

Spearfish Canyon

Spearfish Canyon is the Northern Hills' number one natural attraction. A great spot for wildlife enthusiasts, as the diverse array of plant



1880 Train © Ralph Durham, APSA



1880 © J.R. Schnelzer, FPSA, EPSA, AFIAP



Spearfish Falls © Ralph Durham, APSA

life, provides a comfortable home for deer, mountain goats, porcupines, and bobcats. The Spearfish Canyon tour will be an all-day tour through the gorge following a trail filled with many different waterfalls and some of the most beautiful scenery. The tour will stop for photo shoots at Roughlock Falls, Bridal Veil Falls, Devils Bathtub Falls, and Spearfish Falls. Some of the stops will require some hiking so you will want to wear your hiking gear to reach some of these natural beauties!

Reptile Gardens

The Reptile Gardens is an animal park that was cited in the 2014 *Guinness Book of World Records* for being the world's largest reptile zoo. It is also a large botanical garden that is full of flowers and foliage from many regions around the world. The Sky Dome at Reptile Gardens houses the world's largest collection of reptiles. There are many different exhibits at the gardens with a large variety of photographic opportunities. There are crocodiles, Cheyenne, the Bald Eagle, giant tortoises and a prairie dog town, just to name a few.

There are more locations for which we will provide information so that you can tour on your own with easy access. There is Mount Rushmore, Wall Drug, Downtown Rapid City Art Alley, the Walk of the Presidents, and more. Make plans to register early so that you will have a reserved spot for your favorite tour! ■



Spearfish Falls © J.R. Schnelzer, FPSA, EPSA, AFIAP



Reptile Gardens © Ralph Durham, APSA



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