

Summer Guide

Billings and Beyond

CONCERTS +
FESTIVALS

GOOD EATS
+ SUMMER
MENUS

GET AWAYS
+ CAMPS
AND MORE!



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MUSIC

JULY

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MUSIC

AUGUST

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22nd Jerrod Neimann
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25th "Weird Al" Yankovic
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EVENTS



5 Summer Festivals That Are One-Day Road Trips From Billings By Johnny Vincent

There's an impressive lineup of festivals and events around the region this summer. So many that you couldn't possibly catch them all. But with many close by, why not try?

Here are 5 festivals you can experience by taking a one-day road trip from Billings:

Montana Folk Festival (July 12-14, Butte, MT)

One of the largest free music festivals in the northwest will take place in Butte from Friday, July 12 through Sunday, July 14. The event features six performance stages, two marketplaces, plus a Montana Folklife Area, Family Area and food courts.

EVENTS

Summer SLAM Festival (August 3-4, Bozeman, MT)

The 9th Annual Support Local Artists and Musicians Festival will be in Bogert Park in Bozeman on Saturday, August 3 and Sunday, August 4. The event will feature artists, live musicians and performers, culinary artisans and an adult beverage libations garden.

Big Sky Classical Music Festival (August 9-11, Big Sky, MT)

One of the region's only classical music festivals will feature two free outdoor concerts at Town Center Park in Big Sky and indoor concert at Warren Miller Performing Arts Center. A youth music camp and master classes for student musicians will also be offered during the three day fest.

Crown Guitar Festival (July 31-August 3, Bozeman, MT)

Making it's Bozeman premiere this summer, the Crown Guitar Workshop and Festival plans to bring "some of the world's best guitarists to the gateway to Yellowstone National Park to perform concerts and teach students — young and old alike — the magic of playing the guitar." Tickets go on sale June 1.

Cody Stampede (July 1-4, Cody, WY)

The 100th Annual Stampede will take place in Cody this year and they're celebrating in a big way. Rodeos, parades, craft fair, food, live music, 5K and 10K run/walk and a fantastic fireworks displays on July 4. The Wild West Arts Fest will be taking place in Cody from July 2-4 as well.



Billing's Biggest

GARAGE SALE

~~~~~  
June 22nd

Have a garage sale with us or come out & shop  
hundreds of garage sales all in one place!

~~~~~  
SATURDAY | 7AM-3PM
COMMERCIAL & RESIDENTIAL BOOTHS AVAILABLE!



27 N 27TH STREET, BILLINGS | 406.248.7827

EVENTS

JUNE

7th Art Walk

Downtown, Billings

8th Strawberry Festival

Downtown, Billings

15th Plenty Coups Picnic
Day

Chief Plenty Coups State
Park

15th Food Truck Battle on
the Yellowstone

MetraPark, Billings

15th Butterfly Release, The
Compassionate Friends

Rose Park, Billings

15th Heart and Sole Run

19th Saving Our Stars:
Documenting the Montana
Night Sky

Makoshika State Park

23rd Festival of Cultures

Rocky Mountain College,
Billings

29th Art in the Park

Fort Peck, MT

30th Bison Hide-Working

Visitor Center, Chief Plenty
Coups State Park

JULY

2nd - 4th Home of Champions
Rodeo

Red Lodge

4th July 4th Celebration

Laurel, MT

12th - 14th Summerfair

Rimrock Mall, Billings

13th Montana Brews and BBQ

MetraPark, Billings

20th Mexican Fiesta and Car
Show

South Park, Billings

27th Balloons over Billings

2019 Glow and Festivities
Amend Park, Billings

27th Scavenger Hunt

Visitor Center, Chief Plenty
Coups State Park

FARMERS MARKETS

Saturdays

July 20 - Oct 5

8am - 12pm,

Downtown, Billings

GARDENERS MARKETS

Thursdays

June 13 - October 31

4:30pm - 6:30pm

South Broadway, Billings

AUGUST

2nd Art Walk

Downtown, Billings

9th - 17th Montana Fair

MetraPark Fair

Grounds, Billings

10th Native Plants:
Cultural and Biological
Significance in Crow

Country

Visitor Center, Chief
Plenty Coups State Park

30th "Burn the Point"
Parade

Downtown, Billings

31st "Burn the Point"

Classic Car Show

MetraPark Fairgrounds,
Billings

31st Annual Day of
Honor

Chief Plenty Coups
State Park

FOOD

How I Make the Perfect Burger

By Kris Edwards

I've seen and tasted many different hamburger recipes over the years, but personally I'm a purist when it comes to cooking burgers on the grill.

You can customize the toppings, but I'm going to share my favorite below.

First off, you have to start with the right meat. It needs to be 80/20. I know many are tempted to buy the extra lean stuff either for health reasons, or because they assume since it costs more it tastes better...not the case with burgers. If you start with that 93% lean stuff, you'll end up with dry, crumbly burgers. As far as seasoning the meat goes, here's all I do:

- 2 lbs of 80/20 beef
- 1/4 cup of olive oil
- salt/pepper to taste (be liberal with these. Two pounds of meat is quite a bit)



That's it! No onion soup mix, jalapenos or otherwise. Mix that up and form your patties (about 6-8 for 2 lbs. of meat). I know it sounds simple, but of all the recipes I've tried, not only does this taste best coming off the grill, but it's my most complimented burger. If you want to get fancy, you can do a leaner cut of beef, but add in pork fat.

FOOD

That will require either a butcher or a meat grinder to get it right, so I just stick with the 80/20.

Now, how do you dress it up? I'll leave the bun choice up to you, but whatever you choose, I recommend lightly toasting in on the grill. I don't like crunchy bread, but some butter on the inside and a few seconds on the grill (just enough time to get the grill marks) makes a huge difference.

As for the sauce, again, personal preference, but here's my favorite:

- 1/2 cup mayo
- 1/2 cup horseradish
- Freshly squeezed juice of 1/2 a lemon

Mix that up well. The lemon juice will thin it down quite a bit. It's not runny, but less viscous than mayonnaise.

Top the sauced burger with some good blue cheese and crispy onion strings - not breaded, just onion strips fried in canola oil.

Feel free to add lettuce and tomato, but for me, it's perfect as described.

The olive oil mixed with the 80/20 meat will produce some juicy (but not greasy) patties. The sauce goes perfect with blue cheese and the crispy onions give you the crunch and flavor that lettuce can't.



FOOD

Summer Menus

406 Local Kitchen

Our summer menu features a Primavera Pasta with house made pappardelle and a mix of fresh spring vegetables in an herb white wine buerre blanc.

Website: www.localbillings.com.

Bistecca at the Granary

For our summer menu we are introducing a few new dishes as well as reinventing a few of our Mainstays. Website: bisteccasteakhouse.com/menus.

The Fieldhouse

There is no shortage of amazing product being used this summer to make some unforgettable dishes. Gluten free, vegan, and other accommodations are always welcome. Website: thefieldhousemt.com.

Seva Kitchen

We serve thoughtfully-created, globally-inspired, small plates curated with local ingredients. Try our whipped butter, micro herbs, sourdough, flaky salt and lemon zest. Website: sevakitchen.com/menus/

Stacked

Stacked has a new menu that keeps the fan favorites like meatloaf, steaks and burgers, but brings on the summer fun in new dishes like beer battered cauliflower "wings", citrus lime snapper with zoodles and a great southern food spin with fried green tomatoes on pimento cheese and arugula on a crispy grilled hoagie. Website: Stackedamontanagrill.com

Ten at the Northern Hotel

Our new summer menu will include local and regional fresh summer fare, and our new wine list will feature different varietals and wineries. Website: www.nhten.com/#menus.

TRAVEL

Best Local Rides by Michael Foth

Bike season has finally arrived in Montana and everybody in Billings is getting out and hitting the streets on two wheels. Everyone knows about Beartooth Pass and Going-to-the-Sun Road. These are certainly awesome rides that everyone should do at least once in their lifetime. Preferably, once per summer. I'm talking about other fun, local trips that you can do in as little as an hour or so from Billings. Most locals know about these popular rides, but if you have motorcycle friends visiting Billings, what are some of your favorite places you'd tell them to ride? Here are my Top 7:

1) Billings to Laurel via Duck Creek Road. Time = minimal. The ultimate quicky. Anytime I have to travel between Laurel and Billings on the scooter, I take this route. Take the Frontage road east. Turn south on Duck Creek Rd. Cross the Yellowstone River then turn right on River Road. It's a fairly curvy, quick little rip following the river to Laurel. Watch for deer all times of the day. Fat Fender Freddy's bar is a pretty cool little stop at the end. You can turn south to Red Lodge or go do your business in Laurel and maybe head out to #2...



TRAVEL

2) Molt Road via Buffalo Trail. Time = medium. From Laurel head north past the high school and cemetery. 1st Ave turns into Buffalo Trail and winds up through some pretty scenic little canyons areas for about 10 miles until you plateau onto the open country. You'll end up at a T intersection (actually, it's a four-way if you want to continue north on gravel. This gravel road is rough and I got a flat tire with my car once. I wouldn't recommend it on a cruiser bike but go for it if that's your style or if you ride an enduro style bike). There are a couple of paved, pull-over areas near the intersection that are nice for stopping to stretch, turn off the bike and hear the quietness of Big Sky Country. Go left at the T and you'll hit the tiny town of Molt. Unfortunately, there are not really any food or drink options, as the Molt cafe closed a few years ago. Molt would be a great spot for a roadhouse-style steakhouse and bar IMO. Go right east at the T on Molt Rd and Buffalo Trail Rd, and you'll blast thru some flatland for a few miles and then a few fun curvy stretches before you drop back into the Billing west end on Rimrock Road. There can be a lot of bicyclists on this road, so don't be a douche and share the road.

3) Edgar. Time = Medium. If you don't have time to ride all the way to Red Lodge, but still want a nice relaxing cruise and maybe lunch or dinner, then the ride to Edgar is a decent little trip. From Billings, take Route #1 and turn south on 210. At Rockvale turn left at the light. The Edgar Road turn off kind of creeps up on ya. Watch for sign.

4) Pryor Loop. Time = Medium. This is a great ride, heading south of Billings on Blue Creek Road. Cross the Yellowstone River. Past Briarwood. Fun curves for 15-20 miles or so. When you get to Pryor Road you can go right into Pryor. There is not too much to do for the general public, but you could grab some sweet fireworks and come back. Or you can go left on Pryor Road. Every time I've ridden this route, there are always a ton of potholes on this stretch. You'll end up winding thru the backside of Emerald Hills and coming through Lockwood. The 2nd Shift is a popular Billings biker bar and has great bar food.

5) Columbus via Park City and Frontage Road. Time = Medium to Long. The two-lane road to Columbus is a fun ride. Take nothing but two lanes from Laurel to Park City. Pop's Tavern is a nice stop for a cold, cheap beverage and cheeseburger. Continue on two-lane to Columbus, stopping for a selfie/smoke break at that overlook just before you drop into the east end of Columbus. **CONTINUED**

TRAVEL



This relatively short ride from Billings can be extended substantially by continuing on to Absarokee / Nye / Roscoe / Fishtail / Red Lodge. Actually, one of my favorite trips. But not a short trip. Plan on 4 - 5 hours of casual riding with a mix of straights and curves if you explore past Absarokee. Lots of deer and turkey and postcard Montana views.

6) Cooney Lake. Time = Medium. Take Route #3, but instead of turning at Rockvale, keep going past Joliet and turn onto Cooney Lake Road. It's a fun little ride, with a mix of curves and straights. Depending on the time of day, the bar at Cooney may be open. Bait, beer, and maybe some basic bar food. If you are not fishing or swimming, there isn't much to really do at Cooney on a bike, other than enjoy the views.

7) Roundup. Time = Medium to Long. Highway 87 North to Roundup is not the most exciting ride on this list as far a thrill factor goes, but I do enjoy this little trip. The scenery is pleasant, the wide open spaces are kind of nice and Roundup is a good leaping-off point to either do the Big Timber loop, or continue west past White Sulphur Springs area and into Townsend or continue on the backroads to Great Falls through the Little Belts and Big Belt mountains. Cell service can be sketchy on a large portion of this route.

CAMPS

We're Living in a Golden Age of Kids Activities

By Ashley Warren

When I was a kid, I went to a lot of different summer camps. Some were for sports or dance, some were for music, but each one was a camp that specialized in one activity. That meant my parents had to find twice as many camps if I wanted to explore more than one hobby (and I did). I see summer camps today packed to the gills with multiple activities—something for a kid's brain as well as their bodies—and think to myself, I'd kinda like to be a kid again.

For example, take a look at Magic City Gymnastics' Summer Adventure Around the World. You'd think a gymnastics camp would be entertainment enough for most kids, but they are creating a summer experience. They're finding ways to enrich kids culturally as well as keep them busy.



CAMPS

Each week, the Summer Adventure “visits” a foreign country, like France, Mexico, or Egypt. This is a genius idea considering gymnastics at the summer Olympics is always one of the most popular events. During these half-day or full-day camps Magic City Gymnastics will engage your kids in activities like music, arts and crafts, and games—they’ll even teach your kids about holiday celebrations in the country they’re “visiting.” On top of all that, there’s daily gymnastics or ‘ninja’ training, too. The camps start as early as 7:30am and go as late as 5:30pm so it gives parents a chance to maintain their work schedule throughout the summer.

As an adult, I suppose taking a Pilates class and vacationing in France might come close to what these kids will do in a day, but where can I hurl myself into one of those giant foam pits? Maybe they’ll offer adult classes next year...

Here’s Magic City Gymnastics’ full summer schedule. To find out more visit magiccitygymnastics.com or call 406-221-2424.

Summer Adventure Schedule

June 3 - 6, 2019 France
June 10 - 13, 2019 Brazil
June 17 - 20, 2019 Mexico
June 24 - July 4, 2019 NO CAMPS
July 8 - 11, 2019 Australia
July 15 - 19, 2019 Japan
July 22 - 25, 2019 China
July 29 - August 2, 2019 India
August 5 - 9, 2019 Kenya
August 12 - 16 2019 Egypt

CAMPS

BILLINGS PARKS AND RECREATION

The Billings Parks and Recreation is offering, for the first time, a keyboard camp, in addition to a Rock Band Camp, Aquanutz, Girls Ninja Warrior, and a Magic City Summer Camp, designed to take advantage of all the best activities the city has to offer. Website: <https://www.billingsparks.org/programtype/youth-camps/>

MAGIC CITY GYMNASTICS

Magic City Gymnastics' Summer Adventure Around the World will feature a mix of physical and cultural activities for campers with both half-day and full-day camps available. Each week campers will "travel" to a new country. Destinations include: France, Brazil, Mexico, Australia, Japan, China, India, Kenya and Egypt. Website: <https://magiccitygymnastics.com/>

ROCKY MOUNTAIN COLLEGE

A variety of camps available with options like athletic camps including football, basketball, soccer, aviation, and volleyball, the Summer Art Academy and the Magic City Fly Fishing Camp. Website: <https://www.rocky.edu/camps>

TOWN AND COUNTRY LANES AND LOUNGE

Town & Country Lanes and Lounge is proud to once again this summer offer the national Kids Bowl Free program. Children under 18 can bowl 2 free games per day, Monday through Friday, from noon to 10pm, only paying \$2 for shoe rental. The program starts May 28, 2019 and will end August 30, 2019. Website: www.kidsbowlfree.com/tclanesmt.

YELLOWSTONE ART MUSEUM

The Yellowstone Art Museum offers their Summer Art Studio for children ages 5-12 with weekly classes in various artistic techniques. Contact Jennifer Parry at 406-256-6804 x232 or artsuitcase@artmuseum.org to register.

YMCA

Summer Camp activity rotations may include: outdoor education, arts & crafts, swimming, STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math), team building, physical activity, and camp games. For more information and to sign your child up for one, two or all the weekly adventures. Website: <https://billingsymca.org/child-care/summer-camp/>



Summer Camp 2019



Register Today!

Explore China, Mexico, Australia, Egypt, France, Kenya and more!
Discover music, art, games, gymnastics, ninja classes and more!

For more information, visit us at:
www.magiccitygymnastics.com.