

"The Locals" Itinerary

Looking for some fun ways to spend your time while you are in Bismarck-Mandan? Or maybe you just want to know the perfect dessert or souvenir location? We asked locals where their favorite spots were and we've put them together, just for you! Please double-check hours before heading over.

Where will my travel partner(s) and I have the best dining experience?

40 Steak + Seafood – Enjoy a fine meal in one of their five unique dining rooms or by the fire in the Rusty Nail Lounge. 1401 Interchange Ave, Bismarck 701-255-4040

Bistro 1100 – Great food & wine! If you want to kick-back in their bar be sure to order the Bistro Burger. 1103 E Front Ave, Bismarck 701-224-8800

Broadway Grill and Tavern – They have an awesome patio and delicious food. Some may say that the Grilled Steak Salad is amazing! 100 W Broadway Ave, Bismarck 701-751-5969

Laughing Sun Brewery – They have great local beers that they brew onsite, fantastic food, live music, axe throwing and art by local artists. All ages welcome. 1023 E Front Ave, Bismarck 701-751-3881

Old 10 – Two locations to get your fill of delicious daily specials and cold cocktails. Family friendly! 4100 N Washington St, Bismarck 701-751-0737 and 417 E Main St, Mandan 701-751-1111

Pirogue Grille – Fine dining in the heart of Bismarck. Their weekly specials and main menu can deliver Norwegian salmon to bison to octopus to walleye. If you're really lucky, you will visit when the Rhubarb Martinis are in season. 121 N 4th St, Bismarck 701-223-3770

The Paddle Trap – If you want to sit on the Missouri River, slow down, enjoy the views and indulge in great food, this is your spot. 2500 Pirates Loop, Mandan 701-202-3421

The Walrus Restaurant – WINNER – Their creative menu with mouth-watering specials and extensive beverage listing will keep you coming back. 1136 N 3rd St, Bismarck 701-250-0020

Honorable Mention: India Clay Oven – Mouth-watering north Indian cuisine. Not sure what to order or want it all? Their lunch buffet is waiting for you. 510 E Main Ave, Bismarck 701-751-2975

Where can I take the best picture that says I was really there?

Art Alley 5.5 – WINNER – Super fun, cool & colorful stop in downtown Bismarck with beautiful, impactful and quirky outdoor murals created by local and regional artists. Alley off of 5th St between Broadway Ave and Main Ave, Bismarck

Chief Looking's Village – Epic Missouri River overlook. This is one of the best views that you will get from the Bismarck side. Sunset viewing is a bonus! 2023 Burnt Boat Dr, Bismarck

Fort Abraham Lincoln State Park – This park that overlooks the Missouri and Heart rivers is breathtaking any time of day or year. Photo ops aplenty. 4480 Fort Lincoln Rd, Mandan 701-667-6340

North Dakota State Capitol & Grounds – Snap an iconic picture on the steps of the State Capitol or on the Capitol Mall. Explore the grounds for more opportunities. 600 E Boulevard Ave, Bismarck

Honorable Mention: Missouri River – Grab your travel partner and enjoy a walk or bike ride to view the beautiful trails and scenery along the Missouri River. Almost too many options for some great selfie shots! Beautiful all year long but especially in the fall.

What is the one thing we MUST do while we are there?

Visit the **Dakota Zoo** – A fun place to take your family any time of the year. They are a beautiful 90-acre zoo and we think that the best way to see it is by taking the train ride! 602 Riverside Park Rd, Bismarck 701-223-7543

Cruise the **Lewis & Clark Riverboat** – This is a great way to enjoy the Missouri River in a fun and relaxing way during the summer months. Treat yourself to one of the meal or sunset cruises. 1700 N River Rd, Bismarck 701-255-4233

Explore the **North Dakota State Heritage Center** – WINNER – A gem! All ages will become immersed in history while interactively exploring the past, present and future of North Dakota, for free. You'll learn a ton and as a perk can get some creative pics all over this place, whether on the inside or out! 612 E Boulevard Ave, Bismarck 701-328-2666

Hit the **Super Slide Amusement Park** – All age fun awaits. Race down the Super Slide, relax and play a round of mini-golf, ride a few rides or challenge your friends at the batting cages. 500 Riverside Park Rd, Bismarck 701-255-1107

Honorable Mention: Eat German cuisine – Frieds Family Restaurant will gladly serve some up for you! Fleischkuechle or Knoephla anyone? 1010 Boundary St NW, Mandan 701-667-1127

Where can we get the best coffee or tea drink?

Balancing Goat Coffee Co – Coffee, non-coffee, smoothies and a full kitchen offering the freshest breakfasts & lunches. Chicken Cobb connoisseurs agree! 2705 Sunset Dr, Mandan 701-751-0419

Brick Oven Bakery – WINNER – They have some amazing coffee, tea and other drinks, drool-worthy French pastries and daily sourdough breads. Don't make us pick our favorite treat - they are all so delish. 112 N 4th St, Bismarck 701-751-0147

Copper Dog Cafe – Good drinks with a great vibe. Waffles like you've seriously never seen and custom, hand-crafted coffee drinks. 218 W Main St, Mandan 701-751-8048

Mighty Missouri Coffee Co – Expertly roasted coffee to prep you for your next adventure. And if you think that avocado toast has had its day, they will prove you wrong. Two locations! Kirkwood Mall, Bismarck and inside the Missouri Family YMCA, 1608 N Washington St, Bismarck 701-251-0785

Honorable Mention: BittyBean Coffee – This little drive-up hut may look unassuming but don't let it fool you. It's a hidden gem that will leave you grateful for swinging by. Try anything with the pulled pork if you're hungry! 1019 E Main Ave, Bismarck 701-258-3518

Where should we go for some nightlife?

Blarney Stone – TIED WINNER – Lively Irish pub in downtown Bismarck. You will always have a great time here. Awesome drinks and amazing food, too! 408 E Main Ave, Bismarck 701-751-7512

Laughing Sun Brewery – In addition to the awesome local beers and BBQ, check out their live music line-up or practice your axe and spear throwing! 1023 E Front Ave, Bismarck 701-751-3881

LÜFT – TIED WINNER – Rooftop bar featuring fresh cocktails, craft brews with spectacular views unlike anywhere else in North Dakota! 510 E Main Ave, Bismarck 701-751-0308

Stadium Sports Bar & The Lodge – Side-by-side bars, sort of like the fraternal twins who everyone loves. Just enough sports if you love watching sports and just enough bar if you don't. Daily specials! 1247 W Divide Ave, Bismarck 701-258-4677

Honorable Mention: 510.2 Speakeasy – Hidden bar that features hand-crafted signature cocktails, delicious classics and an extensive selection of specialty spirits. Now let' see if you can find it! 510 E Main Ave, Bismarck 701-751-0308

Where can we get gourmet items for a picnic?

3Be Meats – WINNER – A seriously full-service butcher shop that offers an impressive deli with weekly specials, custom processing and a meat counter. The cheesy pickle brats are fantastic! 1700 E Main Ave, Bismarck 701-751-2807

Anima Cucina – Italian café and wine bar. Grab a personally tailored charcuterie board (artisan jams, crisps, prosciutto, cantaloupe, smoked trout, herbed cream sauces, you get the drift) for your next outing! 101 N 5th St, Bismarck 701-751-1738

Butcher Block Meats – Full service meat counter and deli, custom processing along with seafood, chicken and bundles. Awesomely priced daily lunch specials to grab & go a picnicking. 108 W Main St, Mandan 701-663-0558

Little Odessa – They are an international Eastern European grocery store that carries the special items you want when planning your menu. The unique cookies and treats will round it all out. 231 W Broadway Ave, Bismarck 701-270-1636

Honorable Mention: Pan Dulce Y Mas – Authentic Mexican bakery and store that offers daily pastries, fun candies, seasoned meats and so much more. Finger crossed that you are there when they cook up some fresh chicharrones! 517 E Main St, Mandan 701-751-7260

Where can I get the best dessert and what is it?

Anima Cucina: Brownie – And it's gluten free y'all. 101 N 5th St, Bismarck 701-751-1738

Fireflour Pizzeria + Craft Coffee Bar: **Gelato** – Flavors rotate but you'll never be disappointed. 111 N 5th St, Bismarck 701-323-9000

FOMO 10/40 Creamery: Pakistan Pistachio ice cream, Lebanon Lemon sorbet, Ethiopian Espresso ice cream – WINNER – All are dream worthy. 1501 Mapleton Ave, Bismarck 701-681-0116

Pirogue Grille: Crème Brûlée of the Day – Ridiculously good. 121 N 4th St, Bismarck 701-223-3770

Honorable Mention: Copper Dog Cafe: Strawberry Cheesecake Waffle and Cotton Candy Italian Soda – No other description needed. 218 W Main St, Mandan 701-751-8048

Where can I get a locally made souvenir?

Genuine Dakota Gift Shop inside of the Visitor Information Center – WINNER – A unique assortment of locally crafted items, a diverse mix of Pride of Dakota goods and quality Bismarck-Mandan and North Dakota-esque gifts. "ND goodies you'll actually want to keep." 1600 Burnt Boat Dr, Bismarck 701-557-7113

North Dakota Heritage Center Gift Shop – A large selection of pottery, jewelry, books, and more. Great gifts for kids, too. 612 E Boulevard Ave, Bismarck 701-328-2879

Honorable Mention: Bismarck Downtown Artist Cooperative (BDAC) – They are an art gallery and working studio space operated by and for local artists with monthly solo and group exhibits. They have stunning pieces in all price points to start or add to your collection. 222 N 4th Street, Bismarck 701-202-3400

What is a favorite outdoor activity?

Fort Abraham Lincoln State Park – More than a historic site! Go on a tour, hike or bike a trail or climb up into the blockhouses to overlook the river. 4480 Fort Lincoln Rd, Mandan 701-667-6340

Missouri River – WINNER – Get on the river and spend a the day on a sandbar. Play games, swim eat & drink and enjoy the sun with the locals! A quick internet search can help you find the current pontoon, kayak or canoe rentals that are available locally.

Parks and Trails – There are beautifully maintained parks and over 100 miles of recreational trails throughout Bismarck-Mandan. Walk, run, scooter or bike your way around. In the summer you can rent bikes and in the winter you can get your cross country skiing on. Check out all the info at bisparks.org and mandanparks.com.

Honorable Mention: Huff Hills – Winter fun! Everyone's favorite ski & snowboarding spot. Just south of Mandan at 5455 County Rd 80 701-663-6421

What is something unique about Bismarck-Mandan that the average visitor might not know about?

Bismarck Larks baseball & Bismarck Bobcat hockey games – Spanning nearly the whole year, chances are if you are visiting one of them will be playing! northwoodsleague.com/bismarck-larks/ and bismarckbobcats.com.

BisMarket – Local food, handmade items & goods, meats, produce and so very more. The Kids Market Day is the best! Saturdays from June-October. Kiwanis Park, along Sweet Ave, Bismarck

Mo's Snow Shack – Hawaiian shaved ice that will take over your dreams. They open two shacks during the summer months in Bismarck. 625 S Washington St and 3101 N 11th St 435-592-3211

The Paddle Trap – This hot spot on the Missouri River has bonus igloos set up on their patio in the winter. The coolest way to have an amazing time, meal and experience! 2500 Pirates Loop, Mandan 701-202-3421

Papa's Pumpkin Patch and the Haunted Fort – WINNERS – Two fall FAVES that locals don't miss! Not enough can be said about either of them - you really have to go all out at both. 5001 Fernwood Dr, Bismarck 701-222-1521 and 4480 Fort Lincoln Rd, Mandan 701-667-6340

Honorable Mention: Big Stick Cigar Lounge – This vintage tobacconist's swanky lounge is for you if your vibe is cigars, pipes and their accoutrements. We also hear that the bartenders are on point. 104 2nd Ave NW, Mandan 701-751-1029

