

Hit The Trails!

Meridian Trails System

The Meridian Trails system offers you over 30 miles of trails filled with scenic beauty and several historic sites. Travel along the trails throughout the city of Yankton and Lewis & Clark Lake area! All trails in the city are paved and lighted. Trails leading to the lake area and throughout the campgrounds are all paved and some sections are lighted. Trail maps are available at the Yankton Chamber & Visitors Center. The following are locations and descriptions of the trails:

• **Arboretum Trail - 1.4 miles, 8' wide asphalt, flat grade on north half, incline on south half.**

The Arboretum Trail follows the perimeter of the Yankton High School and Summit Activities Center located at 1801 Summit St. The trail includes an arboretum with native trees, bushes, wildflowers and native grasses that are identified with numbered guideposts. An outdoor classroom with bench seating can be found near the Arbor. Recreational fields for soccer, softball and football are located along the trail, plus lighted tennis courts. The Arbor of Life and Learning sculpture, created by David Ruhnau and donated by Don and Pat Bierle, is also a feature of the trail.

• **Auld-Brokaw Trail - 2.75 miles, 10' wide concrete (Trailhead near Yankton Chamber & Visitors Center to Summit Street), moderate grade with a few slopes exceeding five percent.**

Built through the generosity of Tom Brokaw and his wife, Meredith (Auld) Brokaw, this section of trail parallels the Marne Creek through the heart of Yankton. The trail links schools, Morgen Park, Tripp Park, the Summit Activities Center and the Rotary Nature Area, where you will find the Outdoor Classroom with signs identifying native plantings. Amenities found along the trail include a pergola with a picnic area and several

benches where you can sit and relax. Hop off the trail at Webster School to explore and tour the Historic Homes District. (Tour maps of the Historic Homes District are available at the Yankton Chamber & Visitors Center.)

• **Calumet Bluff Trail - .9 miles, 8' wide primitive dirt surface, varied grade with some steep inclines.**

This trail, which is located next to the Crofton Golf Course on Highway 121, is an "out and back" trail, meaning hikers will have to backtrack to the starting point making the total hike 1.8 miles. This trail is named for the landmark where Lewis & Clark first met with the Yankton Sioux in 1804. Starting at a scenic overlook with a spectacular view of the Lewis & Clark Lake and Gavins Point Dam, you will wind through heavily wooded areas. Along the trail you will find beautiful scenery and abundant wildlife. Take this trail if you want to enjoy the tranquility of nature.

• **Chalk Bluffs Multi-Use Trail - 4.1 miles, crushed asphalt surface, varied grade including moderate to fairly steep inclines.**

This nature trail welcomes equestrian riders, hikers and mountain bikers. Beginners to the more experienced trail users can choose from three different loops with varying degrees of difficulty. The trail goes up and down the sloping bluffs overlooking Lewis & Clark Lake at the west edge of the Lewis & Clark Recreation Area in the Gavins Point Section.

• **Chief White Crane Trail - 1 mile, 9' wide crushed asphalt surface, flat grade.**

Nestled under the stately cottonwood trees near the banks of the Missouri River, this beautiful walking and bicycle trail takes you through the Chief White Crane Recreation Area and connects to the Riverside Acres development along Deer Boulevard. The trail can be used to

access several popular shoreline fishing sites and many of the park facilities. In the winter, eagles can be viewed quite frequently as they use this popular wintering site to rest and fish for food below Gavins Point Dam.

• **Corps of Discovery Welcome Center Nature Trail - 1.5 miles, primitive birthing and hiking trail.**

At the Corps of Discovery Welcome Center, located three miles south of Yankton on Highway 81, you will find a birthing and hiking trail that circles the perimeter of the grounds. The trail provides the perfect opportunity to identify and learn about plants, trees, birds and animals found naturally in this wooded area. Numbered guideposts along the trail identify various types of flora and fauna. The Welcome Center features a scenic overlook of the Missouri River Valley and free information for the surrounding attractions.

• **Fantle Memorial Park Trail - 1 mile around perimeter of park with additional interior trails, perimeter is 6' wide concrete, interior trails are 8' wide asphalt, flat grade.**

Memorial Park is located along Douglas Avenue and Mulberry Street be-

tween 19th Street and 21st Street. Enjoy a park setting on trails that circle around and crisscross through Fantle Memorial Park. This beautiful tree shaded park is home to the outdoor pool, parent/child wading pool, tennis and basketball courts.

18-hole disc golf course, sand volleyball court, eight horseshoe pits, playground equipment, picnic shelters and abundant open space. At the center of the park is a memorial to veterans who have served our country, as well as two time capsules.

• **Gavins Point Nature Trail - 1.2 miles, hiking trail, natural wood chip and dirt surface.**

Winding through native woods, across meadows and past scenic overlooks, this trail will add interest and enjoyment to your Lewis & Clark Lake visit. Through the wetlands of Gavins Bay, you may see beaver and waterfowl. Deer, turkeys, rabbits and squirrels can be found on the way to the top of Gavins Point. A scenic overlook at the top of the trail offers a beautiful view of the lake and the chalk rock bluffs along with a beautiful gazebo to rest. A shelter and interpretive panel are available for your enjoyment at the top of Gavins Point. This trail is located

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