

# Attractions

## ARMOUR

Located on U.S. Highway 281 north of Wagner.

**Armour**, a small town, is a natural place to stop and visit while visiting central South Dakota. Friendly people and supplies await you when you are heading for Lake Corsica State Recreation Area to fish, boat or just enjoy the beauty while having a picnic on the tree lined shore.

## AURORA CENTER

Located on State Roadway 42.

**Aurora Center** was built in 1880 when the extension of the railroad was coming into this area of the state. It is located close to Platte Creek and the point of interest where a stratosphere balloon landed in 1935. **Aurora Center** welcomes travelers who stop by to see this rich farmland and towering Cottonwood trees.

**Aurora Center** is located on State Roadway 42, and if you travel south to Back Country Adventure Route 560 and head east, you can visit four interesting town sites, Joubert, New Holland, Harrison and Corsica on your way to Lake Corsica State Recreation Area.

## BURKE

Located at the junction of Hwys. 47 & 18.

The city of **Burke** has an excellent city park with camp pads with electric and water hook-ups and showers in the bathrooms. Also located in the city park is the

sports complex which includes two tennis courts, an asphalt track around the football field and three baseball diamonds.

**Burke Lake** is located one mile east of town and has asphalt camp pads. There is an 18 bed motel located on Highway 18 on the west edge of **Burke**. For your dining pleasure, there are three restaurants. If passing through **Burke** during the summer, join them for their summer activities. The Cruise Night Car Show and Legion State Golf Tournament are held in June, the Burke Stampede Rodeo is held the second weekend in July, and Dog Days and a pork BBQ are held in August.

For more information on the city of **Burke**, phone (605) 775-2913.

## CHAMBERLAIN-OACOMA

Located off I-90, Exits 260, 263 & 265.

**Chamberlain-Oacoma** is nestled on the banks of the Missouri River surrounded by green rolling hills and offers visitors a variety of outdoor activities.

Lake Francis Case, a Missouri River Reservoir, provides many hours of outdoor fun. There are twenty-one species of fish, including the ever popular Walleye. Enjoy a picnic, take a paddle boat ride or go boating or jet skiing.

The **Chamberlain-Oacoma** area is well known for its variety of upland game. Pheasants, turkey, geese and ducks are hunted in the grain-rich fields surround-



Teepee Rest Stop Sculpture (photo courtesy Frank Reese)

ing the town. Big game hunters bag antelope, whitetail deer and mule deer.

There is a lot to see and do in **Chamberlain-Oacoma**. Places of interest are the Lewis & Clark Information Center on I-90 with its scenic overlook, St. Joseph Indian School and the **Akta Lakota Museum**. The **Akta Lakota Museum** contains American Indian artifacts, artwork and crafts. From there, take the Lewis & Clark Discovery Trail which is a bike path/walking

trail north to Roam Free Park which allows a person the opportunity to see wildlife along the river.

The Native American Scenic Byway, a self-guided driving tour, originates in **Chamberlain-Oacoma** and will take you to two Indian reservations. People coming to the area are welcome to experience this proud culture by attending powwows held annually during the summer months. If you have an interest in tribal gaming, both reservations have casinos.

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## American Creek Campground

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Accommodations in **Chamberlain-Oacoma** include over 12 motels, five campgrounds with many features and 13 restaurants offering fast food to leisure dining.

To learn more, contact the **Chamberlain-Oacoma Chamber of Commerce** at (605) 234-4416 or visit [www.chamberlainsd.org](http://www.chamberlainsd.org)

**AKTA LAKOTA MUSEUM AND CULTURAL CENTER**

The **Akta Lakota Museum and Cultural Center** opened in 1991 on the campus of St. Joseph's Indian School. The words "Akta Lakota," meaning "to honor" the museum is truly intended to honor and preserve the rich culture of the Lakota people, the students at St. Joseph's Indian School and the thousands who visit the museum each year.

The museum's collection features art, artifacts and educational displays that depict the proud heritage of the Lakota people. The facility is more than a traditional museum; it is an experience that provides visitors with a living lesson on the Native American way of life, both past and present. The sounds and images of our Native American Cultural Center surround visitors the moment they walk in the door.

Visitors are taken on a visual journey through the proud heritage of the Lakota people and into the excitement of contemporary Indian art. Cultural symbolism and power of the Lakota way of thinking speak through our exhibits. Artifact displays of unsurpassed quality provide a true insight into Lakota life. A thirty-six foot diorama, using actual foliage from the area, gives a sweeping view of life on the prairie from the Missouri River to the Black Hills prior to Euro-American contact. The audio/visual observation area transports the viewer into the realities of daily experiences of the Plains Indians.

Visual literacy enables each succeeding generation to learn through the art, it binds the generations together; yet, each generation finds ways to express for themselves what it means to

be Indian. The art and artifacts become a way to see those changing definitions through time.

Our Gift Shop and Collector's Gallery offer a unique selection of jewelry, star quilts, dolls, books, cards, baskets, pottery, moccasins, original art and much more. Come visit the **Akta Lakota Museum and Cultural Center** and share the culture of the Lakota people.

*(see advertisement this page)*

**FORT THOMPSON / LOWER BRULE CROW CREEK SIOUX TRIBAL TRAVEL TOUR**

*Located N. of Chamberlain on SR 50.*

**Fort Thompson** is located approximately 20 miles north of Chamberlain on State Highway 50 on the **Crow Creek Indian Reservation** and on the eastern shores of Lake Sharpe. On the western shores of the Missouri and Lake Sharpe is the **Lower Brule Indian Reservation** and the town of Lower Brule. The two Reservations together total 125,000 acres and are filled with great outdoor recreation areas and an interesting history.

Events such as the Lower Brule Fair and Powwow are held in August in the town of **Lower Brule** where you can also enjoy gaming and great food at the casino. **Fort Thompson** hosts the Crow Creek Powwow, also in August. Recreational highlights are the water sports on Lake Sharpe, a Missouri River reservoir. This is a great area for swimming, boating and water-skiing, as well as year-round fishing.

The hunting opportunities are the best in this region and attract sportsmen from around the country. Fishing and hunting packages are available through the casino in **Fort Thompson**.

The "self guided" American Indian Loop Tour is a scenic drive along the Missouri River. The highlights of the drive are a stop at the **Akta Lakota Museum** at St. Joseph's Indian School in Chamberlain. The



*The Akta Lakota Museum in Chamberlain is a tribute to the Sioux Nation, striving to preserve and promote Sioux culture. The museum houses beautiful displays of artifacts, artwork, collector's gallery and a gift shop. (photo courtesy South Dakota Tourism)*

artifacts, artwork, traditional dress and other displays are worth the trip. The tour drive takes approximately two-and-a-half hours. Maps of this tour and further information on the area is available from the **Chamberlain Chamber of Commerce** (605) 734-6541.

**EAGLE BUTTE**

*Located on U.S. Highway 212.*

**Eagle Butte** is the northern direct route to or from the Black Hills. As you travel through the vast ranchlands of South Dakota, it can be a truly interesting trip to stop and visit the locals in small



**Akta Lakota Museum & Cultural Center**

1-800-798-3452 • [www.aktalakota.org](http://www.aktalakota.org)

Open year-round • Free admission

Akta Lakota Museum & Cultural Center, located on the St. Joseph's Indian School campus, strives to preserve and promote Sioux culture through the arts and history of the people. The museum has beautifully preserved artifacts and stunning artwork. Shop the gift shop and collector's gallery for unique gifts, authentically produced by Native American artisans.







**I-90  
Chamberlain  
exit 263  
north on  
Main Street**

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