

Eastern Montana Ski Trip

WEDNESDAY

Drive from Blacktail Mountain to Lincoln, MT. 3 hrs. 6 min. (157 miles).

Blacktail Mountain Ski Area, 13990 Blacktail Rd, Lakeside, MT 59922

- Take Blacktail Rd to U.S. 93 S in Lakeside, 32 min (13.5 mi)
- Turn **RIGHT** onto **MT-82 E** at first traffic light after leaving the lake.
- Turn **RIGHT** onto **MT-35 S** at T-intersection, toward Big Fork & Polson, for just ¼ mile.
- Turn **LEFT** onto **MT-83 S** (Swan Hwy.) toward **Swan Lake, Condon, and Clearwater.**
- Turn **LEFT** at T-intersection onto **MT-200** toward **Lincoln.**
- Three Bears Motel at the entrance to Lincoln.

Lodging: Three Bears Motel, 203 Main St, Lincoln, MT. 406-362-4355, <https://threebearsmotel.com/>, Office hours: 8 am – 10:30 pm. Every room has refrigerator, microwave, coffee, and DISH TV. (Same at the Blue Sky Motel.)

Other lodging: **Blue Sky Motel**, 328 Main St, Lincoln, 406-362-4450.

<https://lincolnmontana.com/vistor-info/stay/>

Leeper's Ponderosa Motel, 110 First Ave.S., (406) 362-4333.

Lincoln Log Hotel, 101 Sleepy Hollow Ln, 406-362-4822.

Roos't, 231 Stemple Pass Rd, Lincoln,

THURSDAY

Drive from **Lincoln** to **Great Divide ski area**. 1 hour (48 miles)

Blue Sky Motel, 328 Main St, Lincoln, MT 59639

- Head east on MT-200 E/Main St toward Sleepy Hollow Ln, 11.6 miles.
- Turn right onto Flesher Pass Rd (Hwy. 270), toward Helena, 11.4 miles
- Continue onto Lincoln Rd W/Mt Hwy 279, 18.0 miles to Silver City
- Turn **RIGHT** onto Marysville Rd., follow for 6.1 miles
- Continue onto 1st St. in Marysville, 253 ft.
- Continue onto Belmont Dr. 1.7 miles
- Turn left to stay on Belmont Dr
- Destination will be on the right, 341 ft

Great Divide Ski Area, 7385 Belmont Dr, Marysville, MT 59640

GREAT DIVIDE Ski Area, <https://skigd.com/>

5 chairlifts, Vertical = 1,500'.

Open Wednesday – Sunday, 10 am -- 4 pm.

Adults = \$56, Seniors (70+) = \$26.

Drive from Great Divide to White Sulphur Springs, MT. 1 hr. 50 mins (99 m.)

- Marysville Rd. east.
- Turn **RIGHT** at STOP sign onto Lincoln Rd (heading SE)
- Turn **RIGHT** onto Hwy. 287 (south) at STOP sign and Sinclair gas station. Hwy 287 is a 4 lane freeway, and it is also **I-15**. 26 min (17.6 mi)
- Follow **I-15 S** to Helena Valley West Central. Look for Walmart on left.
- **Exit 192** from I-15 and turn **LEFT** onto Hwy 287 and **US-12 E**
- Turn **LEFT** in **Townsend** onto US-12 toward White Sulphur Springs.
- Hwy. 12 merges with Hwy. 89 North and then becomes 3rd Ave. in White Sulphur Springs. Continue straight.

Lodging:

1. **Spa Hot Springs Motel**, 202 W Main St, White Sulphur Springs, MT
<http://www.spahotsprings.com/>, 406-547-3366.
2. **Tenderfoot Cabins & Motel**, 301 W Main St, White Sulphur Springs, MT
406-547-3303 (Same number as Spa Hot Springs.)
3. **All Seasons Inn & Suites**, 808 3rd Ave SW, White Sulphur Springs, MT
<http://www.allseasonsinnandsuites.com/>, 406-547-8888.
4. **The Lodge**, 701 6th Ave SW, White Sulphur Springs, MT, 406-899-0077

FRIDAY

Drive from White Sulphur Springs to Showdown Montana. 35 min. (32 miles)

- Follow E Main Street through town.
- Follow highway 89 and 12 north for 3 miles.
- Turn onto LEFT fork (Hwy, 89) at the sign for Showdown ski area.
- Follow Hwy. 89 toward Great Falls, until it passes by the ski area.
- Turn LEFT in the middle of a long uphill section on Hwy. 89.

Showdown Montana ski area. <https://www.showdownmontana.com>

1,400' vertical. 1 triple, 2 double chairlifts,
Open Wednesday – Sunday, 9:30 am -- 4 pm. Ticket office open at 9,
Adults = \$50, Seniors (70+) = \$40. (There is no online purchase.)

Drive: Showdown to Fort Benton, MT. 1 hr. 35 min. (86 miles).

- Take Showdown Rd to US-89 N. 2 min (0.5 mi)
- Follow US-89 N to Armington Junction Rest Area, 48 min (45.0 mi)
- **LEFT** onto Hwy 87. Follow it for 2 miles.
- **RIGHT** fork onto Anaconda St. on an uphill after **Tillman Auto** (on the right) and after passing a white trailer marked "**Belt Creek Brew Pub**"
- **RIGHT** onto MT-331 at Belt. .
- Follow MT-331, Highwood Rd., and Hwy 228 to Fort Benton..

Lodging:

1. **Fort Motel**, 1809 St Charles St, Fort Benton, MT , 406-622-3312.
(Cheap motel, low rating of 2.7 stars).
2. **Grand Union Hotel**, 1 Grand Union Square, Fort Benton, 406-622-1882.
<http://www.grandunionhotel.com/> Old style hotel, 4.7 stars. \$120.
Has its own restaurant, "The Union Grille".

Next and last lodging before the ski area is at **Big Sandy, MT.**

About 34 minutes (47 miles) north-east of Fort Benton.

1. **The Motel**, 98 Judith Landing Rd, Big Sandy, MT, 406-378-2389. 4.2*
(On the right side at the entrance to Big Sandy.)

SATURDAY

Drive: Fort Benton to Bear Paw ski bowl: 1 hr. 30 min. (78 miles).
Or Big Sandy to Bear Paw ski bowl: 54 min (39.5 miles)

- **RIGHT fork** onto St. Charles St. (within a block from the motel.)
- Follow St. Charles St. as it becomes Hwy 387 North.
- **RIGHT** onto highway 87 (east or north-east) .
- Follow Hwy 87 to **Box Elder**.
- **RIGHT** onto **Box Elder Rd.** at intersection with Children alert sign, toward Stone Child College (heading east & south).
- **LEFT** onto Lower Rd.
- Follow Sangrey School Rd. Parker School Rd. and Taylor Rd (all same),
- **RIGHT** onto **Agency Rd.** (south) <== at T-intersection.
- **LEFT** (sharp east) – as Agency Rd. turns.
- **RIGHT** (south) onto Beaver Creek Rd. (Hwy. 234).

Bear Paw Ski Bowl: <https://www.showdownmontana.com>

900' vertical. 1 chairlift with a mid-mountain off-ramp,

Open Saturday – Sunday, 10:30 am -- 4 pm. **Cash only!!!**

Adults = \$25, Seniors (80+) = free. (There is no online purchase.)

There is no lodge, no cafeteria.

Bear Paw to Teton Pass ski area = 3 hr. 55 min. (203 miles).

Drive: Bear Paw to Great Falls, MT. 2 hrs. 11 min. (118 miles)

- Take Big Sandy Creek Rd, MT-234, Agency Rd.
- **LEFT** from Agency Rd. to **Taylor Rd.** at yellow warning sign.
- **RIGHT** at T-intersection, Follow Lower Rd.
- **RIGHT** at T-intersection. Follow Box Elder Rd. to **Box Elder.** 44 min (29m)
- **LEFT** onto **US-87 S** and drive for 1 hr 19 min (86.1 mi)
- **RIGHT fork** in **Great Falls** onto **Old Havre Hwy.**
- **RIGHT at traffic light (just before refinery)** onto Smelter Ave and 3rd St
- **RIGHT** onto **Central Ave W** to 11th St NW in Great Falls. 8 min (3.5 mi)

Lodging: 1. **Alberta Motel**, 1101 Central Ave West, **Great Falls**, 406-452-3467
or (866) 861-1101. <https://albertamotel.weebly.com/> \$45.

Office hours: 8 am – 9 pm. Free Wi-Fi.

2. **Stage Stop Inn**, Choteau, MT. (30 m. from Teton Pass) 406-466-5900.

SUNDAY

Drive: Great Falls to Teton Pass ski resort: 1 hr. 48 min. (85 miles).

- Central Ave. west to I-15. 2 min (0.9 mi)
- Get on I-15 N / MT-200 W / US-89 N,
- **EXIT 290** off of I-15, and Continue on US-89 N for 55 min (55.1 mi)
- **RIGHT FORK** exit onto to Fairfield & Choteau & Glacier National Park. This is still Hwy. 89.
- **4.5 miles after Choteau: LEFT** onto Teton Canyon Rd. at Teton Pass sign). Road dead-ends at Teton Pass ski resort. 48 min (29.0 mi)

Teton Pass Ski Resort: <https://www.facebook.com/SkiTetonMT>

1,000' vertical. 400 acres. 1 chairlift. (406) 466-2209

Open Friday – Sunday, 9:30 am -- 4 pm.

Adults = \$50, Season pass holders from other ski areas = \$45.

Drive: Teton Pass, MT, to Salem OR. = 13 hours 35 min. (790 miles)

Teton Pass, MT, to Missoula, MT = 3 hours 53 min. (193 miles)

- Take Teton Canyon Rd to US-89 S 1 hr 3 min (29.0 mi)
- **RIGHT onto Hwy. 89.** Then approx. 6 miles to Choteau.
- **RIGHT in Choteau**, at split in the road, onto **Division St. / Hwy. 287 S.**
- **LEFT in Augusta** onto **Manix St.** Still Hwy. 287 to Wolf Creek & Helena.
- **RIGHT at stop sign** onto MT-200 toward Lincoln, MT.
- Follow MT-200 W through Ovando, Clearwater, Potomac, to I-90.
- Exit 101 from I-90 in Missoula. 2 hr. 47 min (164 mi) from Teton Canyon.

Lodging: Econo Lodge, 4953 N Reserve St, Missoula, MT. 406-542-7550.

<https://www.choicehotels.com/montana/missoula/econo-lodge-hotels/mt048?mc=llgoxxpx> \$85.

MONDAY

Drive home. 9 hrs. 42 min. (593 miles)

Driving from Salem to WHITEFISH MT

10 hrs. 51 min. (651 miles)

- **I-90** east
- Exit 33 from I-90 at St. Regis.
- Go north-east on **Hwy. 135**.
- **LEFT onto Hwy. 200** at T-intersection shortly after **Quinn's Hot Springs**.
- **North on Hwy 200** toward Plains and Thompson Falls for just 8 miles.
- **RIGHT onto Hwy. 28** toward Kalispell. thru Elmo, Dayton, Rollins,...
- After Elmo, it's **Hwy 93**.
- **Follow Hwy. 93** through Lakeside, Somers and Kalispell to Whitefish.
- **LEFT at the first traffic light in Kalispell**, onto a bypass road.