



Chicago, IL	560 miles
Denver, CO	635 miles
Des Moines, IA	285 miles
Fargo, ND	240 miles
Kansas City, MO	380 miles
Milwaukee, WI	500 miles
Minneapolis, MN	270 miles
Omaha, NE	180 miles
Rapid City, SD	350 miles
Winnipeg, CA	470 miles

**DISTANCES TO THE NTA
CONVENTION IN
SOUTH DAKOTA**

Rich in history and natural beauty.

As the largest city in South Dakota, Sioux Falls offers everything you would expect from the best: a welcoming atmosphere, unmatched convenience, big city entertainment, and most importantly, small-town attention.

Sioux Falls is just around the corner from everyone! Located at the junction of Interstates 90 and 29, we're within a day's drive of most major Midwestern cities. Sioux Falls is served by several major airlines offering connections to over 200 domestic cities including direct flights to Minneapolis, Denver, Chicago, Salt Lake City, Atlanta, Las Vegas, Orlando, Phoenix, Los Angeles and Detroit.

Sioux Falls Regional Airport

Sioux Falls Regional Airport is served by Delta, United, American Eagle and Allegiant Air. In 2008, more than 744,000 passengers used the Sioux Falls Regional Airport.

Just minutes away from downtown and the Sioux Falls Convention Center, Sioux Falls Regional Airport serves Sioux Falls, southeast South Dakota, southwest Minnesota and northwest Iowa keeping a well-maintained airfield, a modern and efficient passenger terminal, overnight cargo, complete general aviation facilities and an international port of entry.

Parking is easily accessible just across the street from the terminal. Also, national car rental counters are available at the airport including Avis, Hertz, National/Alamo and Enterprise.

Landed in Sioux Falls

Now that you have landed at the Sioux Falls Regional Airport you are within 10-20 minutes of anywhere in the city! I-90 serves east-west traffic, while I-29 serves north-south traffic. The I-229 loop bypasses the city's business district, allowing easy access to any destination from the east side of town. The Sioux Falls Trolley is free transportation for those taxidermists and their families who wish to explore Falls Park and the historic downtown area.

A little Sioux Falls History

Part of the Louisiana Purchase, the Dakotas became part of America in 1801. Louis and Clark ventured through these parts on their famous expedition to the Pacific in 1804. But the area was already home to numerous North American tribes. **LEWIS & CLARK DID NOT MAKE IT TO SIOUX FALLS.**

In fact, the first peoples likely arrived some 1000 years prior, and by 500 BC had established a thriving culture, which is apparent today with the massive burial mounds they left in the region. While little is known of these prehistoric peoples, they were the likely ancestors of the later Lakota and Dakota tribes who lived in what is today the area of Sioux Falls. These tribes came into contact with the French fur trappers, but it was Louis and Clark, during their expedition, who noted the waterfalls on the “Soues River,” giving the area its name.

PaleoIndians arrived about 12,000 years before present when tracking mammoths and other giant mammals. People of the Late Woodland Culture arrived about 2000 years before present. They were the first to use the bow and arrow, grow maize (corn), make pottery and build burial mounds, not mounts.

Settlements did not arrive for almost another 50 years however, but with an influx of pioneers heading west the first camp was founded by land speculators, hoping to get rich with prime real estate. Fort Dakota was established in what is the present day downtown in 1865, and while the settlement gradually grew it only became a city in 1883. This followed by a boom that would last for a decade, with the city growing in size many times over. Over the next few decades the town continues to expand, and with the completion of an Interstate Highway system in the 1960s Sioux Falls became a cross roads in South Dakota, making it a true tourist destination with a rich historic past and plenty to do year round.





Splash-RAGEOUS! Indoor Waterpark

Featuring 130' Slide, Activity Pool, and Children's Water Features - Admission for 6 to Waterpark included with your stay! PLUS Kids 10 and under now have the option to order off of the kid-customized menu! Breakfast, lunch or dinner they eat for only .99 cents* **Kids \$.99 meals are only valid with the purchase of one standard breakfast, lunch, or dinner meal in the Dining Room or Lounge. *Applicable sales tax will apply

For "memories you won't find on any roadmap" . . . the NTA and Best Western Ramkota cordially invite you to come and stay with us!

Airlines providing service into Sioux Falls

Allegiant Air 800.432.3810
 America West Airlines 800.235.9292
 Delta Airlines 800.221.1212
 Northwest Airlines 800.225.2525
 United Express 800.241.6522

Time Zones

South Dakota observes both Central and Mountain times. The dividing line runs north-south roughly down the center of the state.

Accommodations

Best Western Ramkota Hotel
 3200 West Maple Street
 Sioux Falls, South Dakota 57107
 Phone: (605) 336-0650
 Fax: (605) 336-1687

- Standard Room \$89.99
- Pool Side Room \$103.99

Service & Amenities

- Heated Outdoor Pool (Seasonal)
- Hot tub
- Indoor Fitness Room
- Arcade
- Complimentary Wireless Internet in all guest rooms
- Family-friendly Restaurant
- Mustang Lounge Featuring SD Video Lottery
- Complimentary Shuttle to and from Airport as well as any Sioux Falls Location
- Complimentary, Well Lit Parking
- On-Site Guest Laundry
- Dry Cleaning Service
- Business Center Services
- 24-hour Front Desk with Safety Deposit Box Access
- ATM on-site
- 60,000 sq. ft. of Convention Facilities, Including a 29,200 sq. ft. Exhibit Hall Complex
- State-of-the-Art Amphitheaters

The Best Western Ramkota Sioux Falls South Dakota hotel is conveniently located one block east of I-29 and is easily accessible from I-90 (3 miles south) when traveling from the east or west. Just a short 10-minute ride from the Sioux Falls Regional Airport.

Directions From Sioux Falls Regional Airport (3.5 Miles)

Exit the airport onto SD-115. Turn right at West Russell Street and then right again at North Westport Avenue. Then turn left onto West Maple Street.

Directions

Directions From Points North and South

Travel on I-29 to exit 81, Russell Street. Then merge onto West Maple Street. Bear left to stay on West Maple Street.

Directions From Points East and West

Travel on I-90 to exit 396A. Merge onto I-29 South. Take exit 81 for Maple Street toward Russell Street. Turn left at West Maple Street and bear to the left to stay on West Maple Street.

Guest rooms and suites offer the following amenities



- 228 comfortable guest rooms - including 14 Luxurious Suites, Extended Stay Rooms, and Executive Business Class Rooms
- In-Room Coffee Maker, Iron & Ironing Board, and Hair Dryer
- In-Room Pay-Per-View Movies
- Over 70 Cable Channels
- Free Local Calls
- Voice Mail & Dataport
- Complimentary Wireless Internet in our guest rooms and public areas
- Splash-RAGEOUS! Indoor WaterPark featuring 130' Slide, Activity Pool and Children's Water Features - Admission for 6 to the Splash-RAGEOUS! Waterpark included in your stay!

Did someone say, "Food?"

Taxidermists and their families staying at the **Best Western Ramkota** will enjoy two great dining choices located in the hotel. The Dorchester Dining Room is a full service restaurant with a menu that is sure to please the entire family. Kid-friendly menus are available. Daily breakfast, lunch and dinner specials are offered ensuring everyone a tasty and enjoyable meal. Be sure to join the Ramkota for Sunday Brunch!

The Mustang Lounge is also full service serving drinks as well as delicious food choices. Located right off the main lobby, The Mustang is a great place to unwind after a busy day of business meetings, sightseeing, and shopping.

Did someone say PIZZA? We've got great Pizza! Rosco's Pizza is the newest addition to our dining options, serving handmade pizzas in the Dorchester Dining Room, Mustang Lounge or through room service. This quick favorite meal is a great choice when you want to catch a movie or relax in your room! The Best Western Ramkota Sioux Falls Hotel offers room service daily until 10pm.



South Dakota Facts from A TO Z

- Did you know that South Dakota is the geographic center of the U.S. (including Alaska and Hawaii)? It is known for its scenic beauty, from the beautiful Black Hills to the rugged Badlands to miles of open prairie.
- The Mount Rushmore state is also known for its harsh weather that includes drought, floods, blizzards, bone-chilling cold and tornadoes.
- Mount Rushmore is one of the largest sculptures in the world. Sixty-foot-high faces of four presidents are carved in this mount in the Black Hills. They are: Washington, Jefferson, Theodore Roosevelt and Lincoln.
- Sculptor Gutzon Borglum and 400 workers spent a total of 6 ½ years on the giant sculpture. After Borglum died, his son finished it in 1941.
- The Missouri River divides the state almost in half. Most of the crops are grown in the eastern farmlands. To the west are most of the livestock ranches and the mountains.
- Agriculture and related businesses are very important. About 90 percent of the land is used for farming or ranching.
- Banking and manufacturing of goods such as computers are also big businesses.
- The Badlands is an eerie area of jagged rocks and gullies, full of fossils.
- The Black Hills are covered with so many pine trees; the hills look black from a distance.
- The Corn Palace in Mitchell is covered with giant artworks made of thousands of bushels of corn.
- Crazy Horse, a Lakota Sioux leader, helped defeat Custer. His memorial is being carved in the Black Hills a few miles from Mount Rushmore.
- Deadwood was a blooming Wild West town, where Calamity Jane lived and Wild Bill Hickok was killed.
- Evans Plunge in Hot Springs is the largest natural indoor warm water pool in the world.
- The western Frontier and pioneer life are important parts of the state's heritage.
- The Great Plains, flat grasslands, or prairie, stretch over about two-thirds of the state.



More South Dakota Facts...

- ❖ The flag has the state seal framed by the sun on a blue background. South Dakota's nickname, "The Mount Rushmore State," circles the sun.
- ❖ The motto at the top of the seal says, "Under God the People Rule." The chimney at the left is for refining ore from mines. The farmer is plowing the fields.
- ❖ The coyote is the state animal.
- ❖ The state tree is the Black Hills spruce.
- ❖ The ring-necked pheasant is the state bird.
- ❖ Buffalo, or bison, were a very important source of food and clothing for the Sioux people. Before the Europeans came, there were about 60 million bison in North America. Today there are about 200,000. Thousands still roam free in Custer State Park in the Black Hills.



Still More about South Dakota...

- ✓ Homestake Mine in Lead first opened in 1876. It is the longest continuously operated gold mine in the world, and the largest gold mine in the U.S. Thousands of settlers rushed into the area after gold was discovered in 1874.
- ✓ The Ingalls' Homestead in De Smet is the site of Laura Ingalls Wilder's "Little Town on the Prairie." Five of her books take place in this area.
- ✓ Jewel Cave is decorated with beautiful crystals. The cave in the Black Hills make up the second longest cave system in the world.
- ✓ At the Keystone gold mine, visitors can still pan for gold.
- ✓ Lead (LEED) is the home of the Black Hills Mining Museum. There visitors can tour an exact replica of an underground mine.



- ✓ Mammoth Site in Hot Springs holds fossils of about 100 mammoths that died 26,000 years ago.
- ✓ Needles Highway, a winding, narrow, 14 mile scenic road, runs through granite tunnels and rock formations in the Black Hills.
- ✓ Oats are a major crop. South Dakota is the country's second largest producer.

- ✓ Pierre (PEER) is the state capital.
- ✓ The pasQue is the state flower.
- ✓ Reptile Gardens, near Rapid City, has the largest living reptile collection in the world.
- ✓ The Sioux, the Dakota and Lakota people, were pushed onto reservations when European settlers moved into the area. Two of the biggest Indian reservations in the U.S. are in the state. The state gets its name from the Dakota Sioux. The word "Dakota" means friends.
- ✓ Sturgis is the yearly site of the world's largest motorcycle gathering, or rally.
- ✓ Tourists play a big part in the economy. About 3 million people visit Mount Rushmore and the state's scenic wonders every year.
- ✓ Urban, or city, populations are small. Over half of the people live in rural areas. The largest city, Sioux Falls, has a population of about 100,000. The state's population is only about 700,000.
- ✓ Vermillion, site of the university, also has the Shrine to Music Museum with more than 5,000 rare instruments.
- ✓ Wheat is one of the state's main crops. Other top crops include: corn, flax, sunflowers, barley, rye, sorghum, alfalfa and soybeans. Cattle, hogs, sheep, chickens and turkeys are raised there.
- ✓ Explorers Lewis and Clark passed through the area in 1804 and 1806.
- ✓ Yankton, on the Missouri River, was once the capital of the Dakota Territory.
- ✓ "Wizard of Oz" author L. Frank Baum lived in Aberdeen. In storybook Land amusement park popular fairy tales, including the Oz stories, come to life.

