A LAZY H OUTFITTERS Choteau, Montana

A Unique Wilderness Experience in the Secluded Heart of the West...

We look forward to having you join us on a spectacular summer horse pack trip in the most remarkable country in North America. The Bob Marshall Wilderness is the second largest wilderness area in the continental US which affords you many options to explore and spend time on great outdoors activities simply unavailable anywhere else. You have the choice of many different trip schedules which emphasize various primary activities including fishing, riding, and sight seeing. The travel days are filled with adventure as you travel from campsite to campsite seeing new and exciting country. On days when you don't travel there are many activities which are often limited only by your imagination. You may have the opportunity to go on a short day ride, hike up a mountain, fish the trout filled streams, or just explore around camp and find your own beautiful corner of this magnificent country.

Summer Horse Packing Trip Schedule 2024

Trip 1 – SPRINGTIME IN THE ROCKIES 5 days Closed June 23 – June 27

Spring time in the mountains is a colorful event. The mountain peaks will be covered with snow and the lower country will be a lush green. We will stay at several campsites along the Sun River. Among the highlights of this trip are Route Creek Pass, Biggs Creek Pass, and the vast open meadows of the upper Sun River. This trip is the best of all the trips for seeing big game wildlife. We can see elk, goats, moose, and bear this time of year before the summer's heat and more visitors disperse them to higher ground. The countryside at this time is resplendent in natural color with most of the wildflowers in full bloom.

Description and itinerary can be found by clicking on this link: Springtime in the Rockies

Trip 2 – FORKS OF THE SUN 7 days 5 available July 1 – July 7

This is such a special trip at the beginning of summer. This is a fantastic trip with vibrant wildflowers, snowy peaks, lush green meadows, and wildlife. This week also typically sees clear water and the beginning of the fishing season. This trip has a cadence of 2 nights at each campsite with moderate travel between sites. You will start at the Benchmark trailhead and begin working north with initial campsite at Pretty Prairie on the South Fork Sun. From there we work north to a campsite on the middle stretch of the North Fork Sun River. From there we work further upriver to Gates Park on the North Fork. Your trip concludes by crossing Headquarters Pass and ending at the headwaters of the South Fork Teton River.

Trip 3 – GATES PARK EXPLORATION

5 days

7 available

July 11 – July 15

This trip visits our Gates Park campsite on the upper Sun River and generally kicks off the peak fly fishing season. There are multiple opportunities for the horseback riders and hiking enthusiasts as we have the option to take several day hikes and day rides every day we're in camp. The options range from visiting a fire lookout tower perched atop a mountain peak (day ride) to riding through the lush valleys and hidden meadows along the river bottoms. For the fishing enthusiast the waters have cleared by this time and the summer heat is bringing out the terrestrials which the trout aggressively rise for all day long.

Description and itinerary can be found by clicking on this link: Gates Park – Sun Valley 1

Trip 4 – GATES PARK / SUN RIVER

5 days

4 available

July 19 – July 23

This trip is designed for the fishing enthusiast. We usually stay at our beautiful Gates Park campsite on the North Fork of the Sun River. There are excellent fishing opportunities from either camp. The North Fork is about 1/2 mile from camp, and on this part of the river you won't see too many other fishermen. There are also many non fishing activities possible from this campsite. These include possible day rides to the Chinese Wall & Sock Lake, Bear Top Lookout, or easy and relaxing rides along the Sun River.

Description and itinerary can be found by clicking on this link: Gates Park – Sun Valley 2

Trip 5 – NORTH CHINESE WALL

7 days

8 available

July 27 – August 2

This trip visits the spectacular and lightly traveled north end of the Chinese Wall, from Red Shale Creek to the Open Fork of the Sun. This is a great trip for scenery and some fishing along the way. We visit several different campsites on this route, each is superb and unique. One of the highlights of the trip is a our days up under the Wall, where we will camp for two nights and have time to do some serious exploration. Our last two nights are at the beautiful Gates Park camp where you will have fabulous fishing and day riding options.

Description and itinerary can be found by clicking on this link: North Chinese Wall

Trip 6 – SOUTH CHINESE WALL

8 days

2 available

August 6 – August 13

This trip explores the Chinese Wall by riding along it and opportunities to spend a day up close to the Wall exploring. This is a great scenery trip with some limited fishing opportunities. We visit several different campsites. The majority of the time is spent in the high country. Just about every day offers outstanding views. The day we ride along the Wall is easily the most scenic of any single day on our summer trip schedule. While the Chinese Wall is the highlight of the trip, the lower Sun River valley and the upper reaches of the Continental Divide near the Wall are spectacular as well.

Description and itinerary can be found by clicking on this link: South Chinese Wall

Trip 7 –GATES PARK / SUN RIVER

5 days

6 available

August 17 – August 21

We often get requests from mid-summer adventurers and fishermen for shorter trips in mid-August. Thus, we schedule a couple of 5 day trips into our beautiful camp on the North Fork of the Sun River. Mid-August is often a peak fishing time, so this is a great trip for the dry fly enthusiast. We can access multiple stretches of river any given day to spread people out and give new stretches of water to ply. For the non-fishing adventurer, there are many other options – more than can be done in the time available. These include day rides to the Chinese Wall and Sock Lake, Bear Top Lookout, Biggs Creek Meadows, or easy rides along the Sun River in any direction.

Description and itinerary can be found by clicking on this link: <u>Sun River Exploration</u>

Trip 8 – GATES PARK / SUN RIVER 6 days

8 available

August 25- August 30

This trip finishes off our season with a trip into the Gates Park camp on the upper Sun River. It focuses on the abundant riding and fishing opportunities available to us in this area. We frequently take a day ride up to the Chinese Wall and Sock Lake, as well as to Beartop Lookout. Depending on your interests, we can take several day hikes, day rides or other exploration possibilities. We also find some great rides through the lush valleys and hidden meadows along the valley floors. The fishing this time of year is spectacular and you will not be disappointed with the warm mountain weather, the fishing, or the stunning scenery.

Description and itinerary can be found by clicking on this link: Sun River – Gates Park

Trip dates can change as open trips are confirmed. Additionally, availability is subject to change as trips fill. If you see a trip you are interested in and are wondering about the different opportunities on the trip, give us a call. These descriptions are summaries and we're happy to elaborate on the activities if you give us a call.

All of our trips take place on National Forest lands. We are permitted and bonded by the federal government to operate on the Lewis & Clark and Flathead National Forests under outfitter license #558